

25 Years **NCHV Annual Conference**
Thank You May 27-29
1990- for **Your Service** Washington,
2015 **D.C.**



TEAM DEPOT

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To Stop Homelessness

Team Depot is proud to partner with NCHV and its members to address veteran homelessness.

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DOING MORE. SERVING OTHERS.



25

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Conference Schedule Overview

Wednesday, May 27
 7:00 a.m. - Sign-in table opens, breakfast provided
 9:00 a.m. - Opening Session begins
 11:15 a.m. - NCHV Members Meeting begins
 Noon - Networking lunch (lunch provided)
 1:30 p.m. - Afternoon sessions begin
 1:30 p.m. - Public Policy session begins

Thursday, May 28
 7:00 a.m. - Sign-in table opens, breakfast provided
 8:00 a.m. - Morning Plenary begins
 9:00 a.m. - Morning sessions begin
 11:45 a.m. - Lunch on own
 1:15 p.m. - Afternoon sessions begin
 5:00 p.m. - NCHV Awards and Anniversary Celebration

Friday, May 29
 8:00 a.m. - Sign-in table opens, breakfast provided
 9:00 a.m. - Morning sessions begin
 11:45 a.m. - Conference concludes

See full schedule on page 5.

Opening Doors Zero:2016 Stand Down
 Five-Year Plan Homeless Court Grant and Per Diem
 Mayors Challenge Housing First SSVF Accessibility
 25 Cities Initiative Rapid Re-housing 2015 NCHV Annual Conference | 2

Welcome to Washington, D.C., and the 2015 NCHV Annual Conference, “25 Years: Thank You for Your Service!” And we do thank you for your service, from those who have been with us from the beginning to those who are new to our national coalition charging toward our national goal of ending veteran homelessness by the end of 2015.

Twenty-five years ago, and even five years ago, ending veteran homelessness may have seemed more like a noble cause or a worthy fight that saw small measures of progress, but seeing a true end took great foresight and imagination.

Here we are, in the final year of our nation’s Five-Year Plan to End Veteran Homelessness, with major U.S. cities declaring that they have reached functional zero, and many more communities making progress to meet that goal in the coming months.

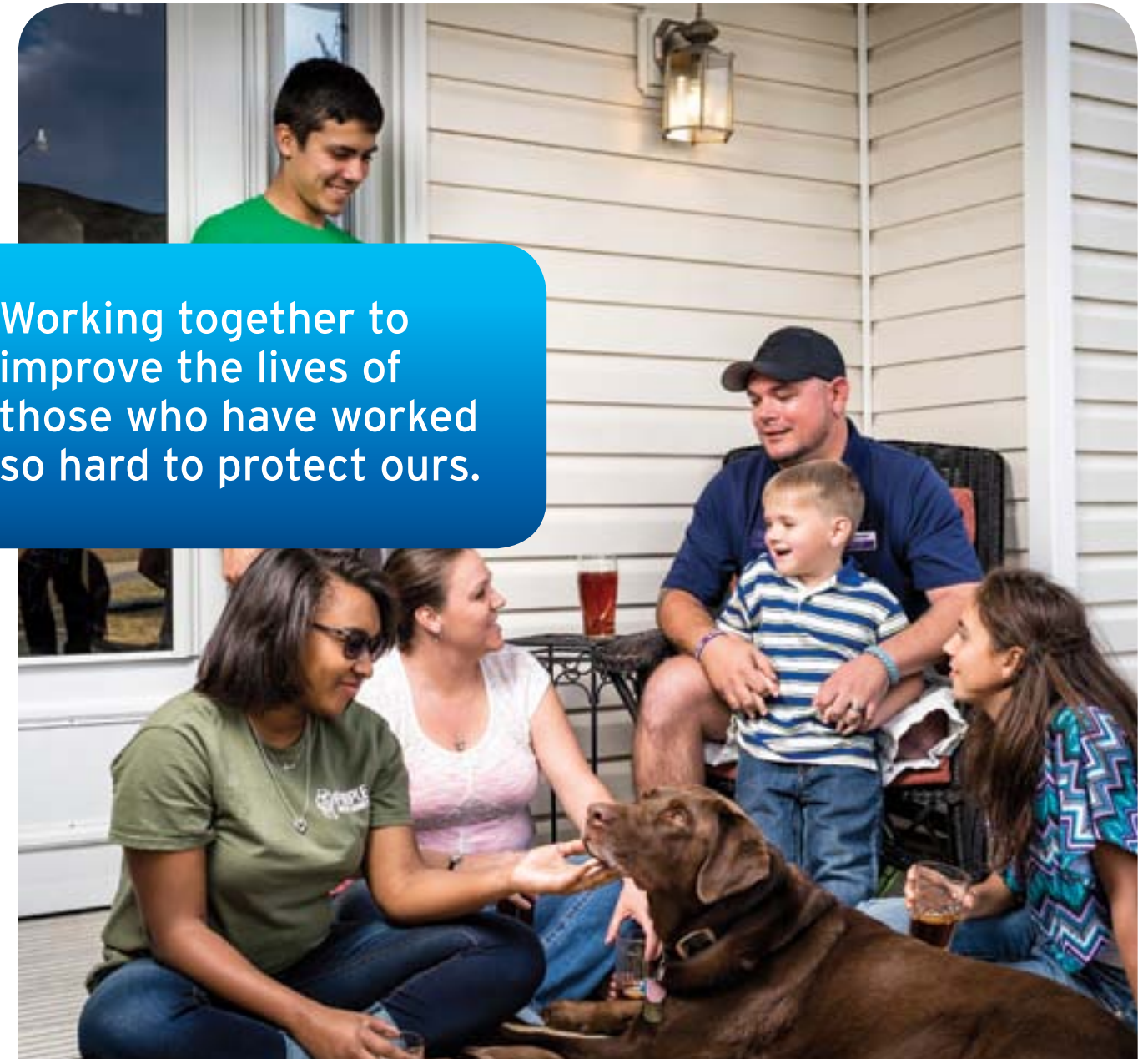
That success would not be possible without each of the service providers, federal, state, and local government partners, housing developers, corporate partners, nonprofit allies, and other stakeholders that gather here. We thank all of you for your part in bringing us to this event.

But we are not here to celebrate, we are here to continue that progress, to gear up and march on toward the end goal of reaching functional zero across the country. You may come to this year’s Conference with questions, roadblocks, or sticking points that are holding your community back from reaching zero.
We’re glad you’re here!

We have assembled our largest ever faculty of expert presenters who come from all walks of life and all types of communities. They are here to share how they faced and worked through challenges in their communities, to discuss your challenges and successes, and to help you go back home with proven strategies to get veterans off the street and into housing.

We’re counting on you to engage in all that is offered here, and also to help us with your feedback so we can work to continue national progress by taking your concerns and struggles to our Federal partners and Congress. Let’s reach zero and move forward into 2016 with a plan in place to maintain the resources and services needed to end and prevent veteran homelessness once and for all.

Thank you for your service, and thank you for joining us!



Working together to improve the lives of those who have worked so hard to protect ours.

Citi is proud to partner with the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans in its efforts to end homelessness among veterans.

Citi SalutesSM supports veteran servicing organizations and nonprofit partners dedicated to serving the men and women who have sacrificed for our country.

Learn more at citalalutes.com.



Veteran Treatment Court HUD-VASH
Rapid Re-housing SSVF Coordinated Assessment
Saving Lives, Restoring Hope

Wednesday, May 27

7:00 a.m.
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
11:15 a.m. - Noon
12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Constitution Foyer	Constitution Ballroom
Sign-in Opens	
	Breakfast
	Opening Session
	Membership Meeting
	NCHV Luncheon

Constitution A/B	Latrobe	Bullfinch/Renwick	Wilson/Roosevelt
Public Policy Forum	A6 - HVRP Only: Retention Bootcamps	NCHV Founders' Forum	A8 - DOL-VETS Programs: Engaging American Job Centers
		B6 - Serving Minority Veterans	A7 - Money Management and Employment Tools



Thursday, May 28

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
8:00 a.m. - 8:40 a.m.

Constitution Foyer	Constitution A/B
Breakfast	
	Morning Plenary



	Burnham	Constitution A	Constitution D	Constitution E	Constitution B	Constitution C	Wilson/Roosevelt
9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	A1 - Expediting SOAR	B1 - State of Care for Homeless Veterans with HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C	C1 - Working Within Levels of Government	D5 - Making Systems Talk: HMIS and Data Tracking	C7 - Integrating SSVF and GPD	A2 - Ticket to Work	F1 - Bridging the Divide Between Social Services & Legal Services
10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	A4 - The Role of HVRP in Ending Homelessness	B2 - Traumatic Brain Injury: Addressing Co-occurring Challenges	C4 - The Mayors Challenge	D2 - Centralized Planning and Coordinated Assessment	C2 - Case Studies of Internal Change	E1 - Setting Foundation: National Housing Trust	F2 - Connected Communities: SSVF and Legal Services
1:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	A3 - Keeping the Connection: Serving Aging and Young Veterans	B4 - Emerging Clinical Needs: The National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans	C1 - Working Within Levels of Government (repeat)	D4 - Intersecting Grants and Data: Federal Grant User Forum	C7 - Integrating SSVF and GPD (repeat)	E3 - Transforming Transitional Housing	F3 - Opening Access through Discharge Upgrades
2:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	D3 - Using Gaps Analysis and CHALENG	B5 - Deploying Creative Community Interventions	C4 - The Mayors Challenge (repeat)	D1 - U.S. Census Bureau Statistics For Veterans Use	C6 - Making Change in Rural Areas	A5 - VA Employment Tools and Programs	F4 - Criminal Law: Successes from Veterans Treatment and Homeless Court Systems

	Constitution Foyer	Constitution C/D/E	Constitution A/B
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Cocktail Reception		
6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.		NCHV Awards Ceremony	
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.			25th Anniversary Celebration



Friday, May 29

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Constitution Foyer
Breakfast

	Burnham	Penn Quarter A/B	Constitution D	Constitution E	Constitution B	Constitution C	Wilson/Roosevelt
9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	A6 - HVRP Only: Retention Bootcamps	C6 - Making Change in Rural Areas (repeat)	C8 - Zero: 2016	E2 - Creating New Permanent Housing	B3 - Trauma-Informed Care: A Framework for Enhancing Service Delivery	E4 - Housing First	F5 - Child Support Issues
10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.		F6 - Managing Veteran Consumer Debt	C8 - Zero: 2016 (repeat)	E2 - Creating New Permanent Housing (repeat)	B3 - Trauma-Informed Care: A Framework for Enhancing Service Delivery (repeat)	C5 - Creating Local Partnerships to Fill the Gaps	C3 - Using a Peer Driven Model to Deliver Integrated Care



Keynote Speaker:
Robert McDonald
 Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs

Opening Session
 Wednesday, May 27

Robert A. McDonald was nominated by President Obama to serve as the eighth Secretary of Veterans Affairs and was confirmed by the United States Senate on July 29, 2014.

Prior to joining VA, Secretary McDonald was Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of The Procter & Gamble Company (P&G). Under his leadership, P&G significantly recalibrated its product portfolio; expanded its marketing footprint, adding nearly one billion people to its global customer base; and grew the firm's organic sales by an average of three percent per year. This growth was reflected in P&G's stock price, which rose from \$51.10 the day he became CEO to \$81.64 on the day his last quarterly results were announced—a 60 percent increase from 2009 to 2013.

During his tenure, P&G was widely recognized for its leader development prowess. In 2012, Chief Executive Magazine named it the best company for developing leader talent. The Hay Group, a global management consulting firm, consistently cited P&G in its top-tier listing of the Best Companies for Leadership Study.

The company received recognition for its environmental and social sustainability initiatives, including receipt of the Department of State's Award for Corporate Excellence for P&G's operations in Pakistan and Nigeria. In addition, using the company's innovative water purification packets, P&G committed itself to the 2020 goal of "saving one life every hour" by annually providing two billion liters of clean drinking water to people in the world's developing countries.

An Army veteran, McDonald served with the 82nd Airborne Division; completed Jungle, Arctic, and Desert Warfare training; and earned the Ranger tab, the Expert Infantryman Badge, and Senior Parachutist wings. Upon leaving military service, Captain McDonald was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

Secretary McDonald graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in the top 2 percent of the Class of 1975. He served as the Brigade Adjutant for the Corps of Cadets and was recognized by The Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufacturing, and Commerce as the most distinguished graduate in academics, leadership, and physical education. He earned an MBA from the University of Utah in 1978.

The Secretary is personally committed to values-based leadership and to improving the lives of others. He and his wife, Diane, are the founders of the McDonald Cadet Leadership Conference at West Point—a biennial gathering that brings together the best and brightest young minds from the best universities around the world and pairs them with senior business, NGO, and government leaders in a multi-day, interactive learning experience.

The recipient of numerous leadership awards and honorary degrees, in 2014, Secretary McDonald was awarded the Public Service Star by the President of the Republic of Singapore for his work in helping to shape Singapore's development as an international hub for connecting global companies with Asian firms and enterprises.



Keynote Speaker:
Christopher Lu
 Deputy Secretary, Department of Labor

Morning Plenary
 Thursday, May 28

Chris Lu was sworn in as the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Labor on April 4, 2014, after being confirmed unanimously by the U.S. Senate. He serves as the chief operating officer of a 17,000-employee organization that works to create greater opportunities for all Americans.

During his career in public service, Lu has worked in all three branches of the federal government. From 2009 to 2013, Lu served as the White House Cabinet Secretary and Assistant to the President. In this role, he was President Obama's primary liaison to the federal departments and agencies, helping to coordinate policy and communications strategy.

As one of the highest-ranking Asian Americans in the Obama Administration, Lu was also the Co-Chair of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.



Prior to his service in the White House, Lu worked for then-Senator Obama, first as the Legislative Director, and then as the Acting Chief of Staff. After the 2008 Presidential election, Lu was the Executive Director of the Presidential transition planning efforts.

Lu's government experience includes eight years working for Rep. Henry Waxman as the Deputy Chief Counsel of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and serving as a law clerk for Judge Robert E. Cowen on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. He began his legal career as a litigation attorney at Sidley Austin in Washington, D.C.

In addition to his government service, Lu has been a fellow at the Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, the University of Chicago Institute of Politics, and the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress.

He is also the co-editor of the book, *Triumphs and Tragedies of the Modern Congress*.

Lu is a magna cum laude graduate of Princeton University and cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School, and the recipient of an honorary doctorate degree from MacMurray College. He is married to Katie Thomson, the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation.



Keynote Speaker:
Matthew Doherty
 Executive Director
 U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

Morning Plenary
 Thursday, May 28

Matthew Doherty is the Executive Director of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH). Doherty is responsible for the implementation of *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*, an effort that includes the coordination of Federal homelessness policies and strategies among 19 Federal departments and agencies, as well as partnerships with State and local communities, nonprofits, and the private sector. Under his leadership, USICH provides technical assistance and support to communities across the country, building systems of care that ensure individuals, families, youth, and veterans are able to obtain or regain perma-

nent housing as quickly as possible and access services to remain stably housed.

Doherty brings to his role more than 22 years of experience in both the private and public sectors, focused on the creation of housing, services programs, and economic opportunities for disadvantaged communities and households. Previously, he served as the Director of National Initiatives at USICH, leading partnerships with other federal agencies for the implementation of national initiatives and guiding the work of USICH's Regional Coordinators.



Corporate Partner:
KC Choi
 Program Director, Citi Salutes

Opening Session
 Wednesday, May 27

Kyung 'KC' Choi, senior vice president and program director for Citi Salutes, leads Citi's efforts to ensure its programs, products and partnerships support the veteran and military community.

Citi Salutes, (Citisalutes.com), is a company-wide effort to coordinate activities with internal and external stakeholders to empower veterans, active-duty military, and their

families with the tools they need to realize their professional and personal ambitions.

Currently a Commander in the U.S. Navy Reserves, Choi serves as a Public Affairs Officer for the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Public Affairs. He also served on active duty as a media officer for U.S. Central Command and deputy director for the Navy's Office of Information Northeast.



Public Policy Forum

1:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
 Wednesday, May 27

The Public Policy Forum will cover an expanded series of topics this year. To begin this afternoon-long session, NCHV Board members and staff will present a policy update, including the latest on pending legislation. This will include the latest on the appropriations process. In addition, NCHV staff will provide background information to aid in your advocacy, including important players on the Hill with regard to homeless veteran legislation. The second half of the session will be devoted to our federal partners from VA, DOL, and HUD. These representatives will present their own updates on matters of homelessness and housing policy, and answer questions from attendees.

Anthony Love, Senior Advisor and Director of Community Engagement, VHA Homeless Programs, Department of Veterans Affairs

Becky Primeaux, Director, Housing Voucher Management and Operations Division, Department of Housing and Urban Development

Ann Oliva, Director, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, Department of Housing and Urban Development

Lisa Pape, National Director of Homeless Programs, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs

Teresa Gerton, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Department of Labor



Corporate Partner:
Heather Prill Pritchard
 Senior Manager, The Home Depot Foundation

Opening Session
 Wednesday, May 27

Heather Pritchard is the Senior Manager of National Partnerships and Atlanta Hometown Giving for The Home Depot Foundation. Pritchard strategically manages and builds relationships with national nonprofit organizations as well as funding and relationship building with nonprofits in The Home Depot's hometown of Atlanta, GA. Prior to joining the Foundation, Pritchard was the Director of Program Investment with the United Way of Greenville

County, where she provided strategic direction and guidance to the \$6.2 million program investment process as well as capacity building for numerous nonprofits. She has served on several boards including: City of Greenville Housing Authority, Humane Society, the Nonprofit Alliance, and the national AmeriCorps Alums board.



National Partner:
Linda Kaufman
 National Movement Manager,
 Community Solutions

Opening Session
 Wednesday, May 27

Linda Kaufman is the National Movement Manager with the Zero: 2016 team. This nationwide initiative has a goal of helping participating communities end veteran and chronic homelessness by the end of 2016. She is continuing to coordinate recruitment efforts.

Kaufman will also continue with Community Solutions doing legacy work with other communities. Kaufman has worked in homeless services in D.C. since the mid-1980s, most recently as Chief Operating Officer of Pathways to Housing DC.

She was also the Director of Homeless Services at the Downtown Business Improvement District, and served at the Director of Adult Services for the DC Department of Mental Health. In addition to her work to end homelessness in D.C., she is also involved in other issues of social justice in the City. Kaufman received a Masters of Divinity at Virginia Theological Seminary, is ordained as an Episcopal priest, and ministers at St. Stephen and the Incarnation Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C.

25

NCHV Founders



Founders' Forum

Join NCHV Co-founders Bill Elmore, Michael Blecker, Ralph Cooper, and Robert Van Keuren in a special session at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, in Bullfinch/Renwick.

During the Founders' Forum, hear from these men who in 1990 formed the National Coalition of Homeless Veteran Service Providers, the organization which we today know as NCHV.

NCHV's co-founders will discuss their vision and mission as they saw it 25 years ago, and offer their perspectives as they have seen the organization and homeless veteran assistance movement grow and change over the years. They will not only look back to the early days of NCHV and the ensuing two and a half decades, but also offer their take on where we go from here as we approach the end of the Five-Year Plan.

The founders will also appear at the NCHV Membership Meeting, the NCHV Awards Ceremony, and be in attendance throughout the week to help us celebrate 25 years and dig in to finish the mission they began in 1990.



**Thank You
 For Stepping Up.**

heroes deserve not only homes,
but hope.



Honored to Support
 The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans



NCHV Co-Founder: Bill Elmore

Membership Meeting
Wednesday, May 27

Bill Elmore has a distinguished career as a successful local and national veterans program and policy change agent.

He was the co-creator and Executive Director of the NFP St. Louis Area Veterans Service Center, where he started as a work study student in 1974. Elmore helped develop the community based “One Stop St. Louis Area Veterans Service Center.” He helped draft the organizations first grant application, and secured and managed more than 50 grants over 21 years, providing job placement and other assistance to thousands of veterans and their family members. He served as Executive Director of the Center until 1995.

In 1989, shortly before co-founding NCHV, Elmore created the first transitional housing program for homeless veterans on VA Hospital grounds in the country, NFP’s Vet House.

Elmore was the first Chairman and Legislative Liaison for NCHV from its founding in 1990 through 1994. During this time, Elmore helped create and implement the VA Homeless Veterans Grant and Per Diem program, still a key program in serving veterans in crisis today. He was also instrumental in saving the Department of Labor Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) from being dissolved during that time.

In 1995, Elmore designed the first private sector Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business procurement program in the nation for Southwestern Bell Telephone Corporation (now AT&T).

He was hired into the Senior Executive Service in 1997, where he created Federal government-wide Veterans Entrepreneurship programs and policies. Elmore served in this role through 2012.

From 1983 until 2000, he was also a self-employed small business owner. Data Force Associates provided services including military records research and acquisition, and veterans program and policy design.

Elmore served in the U.S. Air Force, receiving an honorable discharge in 1972.



NCHV Co-Founder: Michael Blecker Executive Director, Swords to Plowshares

Membership Meeting
Wednesday, May 27

Michael Blecker joined Swords to Plowshares as a benefits claims advocate in 1976, only two years after its founding by a group of Vietnam veterans concerned about the unmet needs of Vietnam War veterans. In 1979, one year before post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) was officially recognized, Blecker represented one of the first veterans to be granted service connected disability benefits for PTSD from the Department of Veterans Affairs Board of Veterans Appeals.

Blecker became the Executive Director in 1982 when Swords to Plowshares was operating on an annual budget of \$75,000 and primarily funded through a single grant from the Department of Labor. Since then, he has overseen the growth of Swords to Plowshares which now operates on an annual budget of \$11 million from diverse funding streams. Under his leadership, Swords to Plowshares has expanded to provide a continuum of direct services: peer counseling for post-traumatic stress disorder and substance-abuse problems; transitional and permanent supportive housing programs; employment and training services; legal services; and direct advocacy. Swords to Plowshares is regarded as a national model for veteran services and recognized for its expert leadership and advocacy work to improve the systems of care veterans rely on.

Blecker’s knowledge of veterans’ services and veterans’ rights is widely recognized. In 2002, he was appointed to the VA Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans, a fifteen-member committee created by the federal Department of Veterans Affairs to advise the Secretary of the VA on a variety of issues, and served until 2006. In 2001, he served on the State of California Senate Bi-Partisan Task Force on Homelessness. From 1996 through 1998, Blecker

served on the Commission on Service Members and Veterans Transition Assistance, a twelve-member congressionally chartered commission that made recommendations to Congress about service member and veterans’ benefits and programs.

Blecker is co-founder and Vice President of the California Association of Veterans Service Agencies, and a founding member of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. He was involved in the landmark case in the 1970s that recognized post-traumatic stress disorder as a war-related condition. He was a member of the National Agent Orange Settlement Advisory Board (1984-1986), and he continues to serve on a variety of boards and task forces related to veterans and homelessness.

In 2005, he spearheaded the Iraq Veteran Project to provide direct services and extensive information, education and policy development nationwide. The Coalition of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans grew out of this project and coordinated a national network of organizations providing services for veterans of the current wars.

Blecker served in the U.S. Army combat infantry in Vietnam from 1967 to 1970. He holds a J.D. degree from New College of California School of Law and a BA degree with Honors from UC Berkeley.



NCHV Co-Founder:
Ralph Cooper
 Community & Residential Veteran
 Services Coordinator, Cloudbreak Houston

Membership Meeting
 Wednesday, May 27



NCHV Co-Founder:
Robert Van Keuren

Membership Meeting
 Wednesday, May 27

Ralph Cooper is Community and Residential Veteran Services Coordinator at Cloudbreak Houston, LLC., the largest developer of housing for homeless veterans in the nation.

He is also President of Brewcoop Business Enterprises, located in Houston, Texas. Cooper previously served as Executive Director of Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse, Inc. (VBC) in Roxbury, Massachusetts, a nonprofit agency.

VBC provided a wide range of services to all veterans and their families, especially veterans of color, from the Greater Roxbury area of Boston.

Cooper is a co-founder and member of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, and an appointed member of the VA Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans.

He is also a Life Member of Vietnam Veterans of America, is a Life Member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, serves on the Executive Committee of the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans Braintrust, and has received various awards for his work as an advocate for veterans.

Cooper was honored by NCHV with the Thomas Wynn Sr. Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2009.



Robert Van Keuren is a decorated Vietnam combat veteran - a recipient of the Purple Heart, and the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V". He participated in 202 combat missions as machine gunner on river patrol boats with the U.S. Navy from 1969-1970.

Van Keuren has been a strong advocate and pioneer for homeless and at-risk veterans for over 30 years.

He served as Executive Director of the Vietnam Veterans of San Diego during its initial expansion as a major provider of services to homeless and dually addicted veterans in Southern California.

Van Keuren, along with Dr. Jon Nachison, founded the national homeless veterans Stand Down movement and has facilitated the program's replication across the country since its inception. Over 200 homeless veteran Stand Downs are held every year in communities all around the nation.

In 1990, Van Keuren helped found the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans.

Continuing his career in service to homeless veterans, Van Keuren was the Homeless Veterans Program Coordinator for the VA Healthcare Network Upstate New York (VISN 2) from 1993 until 2011.

Van Keuren was selected as the first chairman of the congressionally mandated VA Secretary's Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans from 2001 to 2006.

He was a recipient of the 2011 National Coalition for Homeless Veterans Thomas Wynn Sr. Memorial Award for

Lifetime Achievement in recognition of his over 30 years of work, leadership, and advocacy on behalf of homeless veterans and their families.

In May of 2014, Van Keuren Square, a permanent affordable housing program for homeless veterans in Syracuse, held its grand opening in honor of its namesake, Robert Van Keuren.



Jerald Washington Memorial Founders' Award



The **Jerald Washington Memorial Founders' Award** is the highest honor bestowed in the homeless veteran assistance community. The award honors the memory of Jerald Washington, former organizer of veteran assistance programs in Florida and Tennessee, and a co-founder of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. The award is presented to an individual who embodies the spirit of service and sacrifice displayed by Washington throughout his career, and acknowledges that person's special place in the history of the homeless veteran assistance movement.

Jerald "Jerry" Washington returned home to Tennessee from the Vietnam War and dedicated the remainder of his life to teaching and serving veterans, especially those who were experiencing difficulty readjusting to civilian life after serving in combat. He taught political science at the University of Tennessee and Sul Ross University in Texas, but he will be remembered most for his work to help homeless veterans.

Washington proudly served as one of NCHV's leaders from the organization's founding in 1990 until he died in 2001. He established Base Camp Inc., in Nashville, Tennessee, and the Veterans Community Leadership Corporation in Jacksonville, Florida. He served as president of Vietnam Veterans of America-Tennessee Chapter, and of the Northeast Florida Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Inc., in Jacksonville. During his term of service, NCHV grew from 16 community-based organizations to a coalition of hundreds of service providers and Federal partners reaching across America. He was driven by his unconditional devotion to all of this nation's veterans in need, and remains an inspiration to all who knew and served with him.



2002

**Eileen Conners,
U.S. Department of
Labor**



2003

**Raymond Boland,
Wisconsin Department
of Veterans Affairs**



2004

**Thomas Wynn Sr.,
Center for Veterans
Issues**



2005

**Linda Boone,
National Coalition for
Homeless Veterans**



2005

**Peter Dougherty,
U.S. Department of
Veterans Affairs**



2006

**Rep. Lane Evans,
House Committee on
Veterans Affairs**



2007

**Charles "Chick"
Ciccolella, U.S.
Department of Labor**



2008

**Mark Johnston,
U.S. Department of
Housing and Urban
Development**



2009

**President
Barack Obama**



2010

**Secretary
Eric Shinseki,
U.S. Department of
Veterans Affairs**



2011

**Secretary
Shaun Donovan,
U.S. Department of
Housing and Urban
Development**



2012

**President Barack and
First Lady Michelle
Obama**



2013

**Peter Dougherty,
U.S. Department of
Veterans Affairs**



2014

**The Home Depot and
The Home Depot
Foundation**



2015 Jerald Washington Memorial Founders' Award

Michelle Obama, Jill Biden
First Lady, Second Lady of the United States

NCHV Awards
Thursday, May 28

First Lady Michelle Obama and Second Lady Jill Biden's Joining Forces Initiative, launched in 2011, calls all Americans to rally around service members, veterans, and their families to support them through wellness, education, and employment opportunities. Joining Forces works hand in hand with the public and private sector to ensure that service members, veterans, and their families have the tools they need to succeed throughout their lives.

This initiative has created a mainstream surge of support for veteran education, employment, and wellness, providing new resources, contact points, and partnerships that help our veterans access whatever support they may need as they transition from military life. This is homelessness prevention at work, and the impact of Joining Forces on that front is immeasurable.

On June 14, 2014, First Lady Obama, along with Joining Forces, USICH, HUD, VA, and the National League of Cities, announced the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness. This challenge to end veteran homelessness in every city in the nation by the end of 2015 led to Mayor Mitch Landrieu announcing that New Orleans had reached that goal ... one year ahead of schedule at the end of 2014. Other cities large and small are on track to end veteran homelessness on the 2015 timeline.



The urgency inspired by the Mayors Challenge has changed the landscape of the homeless veteran assistance movement. As we look ahead many ask, "Can America end veteran homelessness?" But this matter has now changed from an "if" to a "when," thanks in no small part to the vast support network spurred on by Joining Forces and the drive inspired at the local level by the Mayors Challenge.



SUPERHEROES
have extraordinary powers.

It takes vision and dedication to change people's lives for the better.

National Equity Fund and its partners along with organizations like the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans are changing lives each day by creating affordable veterans' housing that includes supportive services.

Through our *Bring Them HOMES* initiative, we have created 40 additional supportive housing developments—that represents 2,500 new homes for veterans across America since 2012.

Extraordinary things happen when you have great partners.

BE EXTRAORDINARY.

Debbie Burkart
National Vice President Supportive Housing
(312) 543-9584 | dburkart@nefinc.org

National Equity Fund 
an affiliate of LISC

25

NCHV Awards

Thursday, May 28

5:00 p.m. | Cocktail Reception | Constitution Foyer

6:00 p.m. | NCHV Awards Ceremony | Constitution C/D/E

6:30 p.m. | 25th Anniversary Celebration | Constitution A/B

All Conference participants will be provided with one drink ticket good for one cocktail, wine, beer, or soda during the Cocktail Reception or Anniversary Celebration. A cash bar will also be available.

Thomas Wynn Sr. Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement

To a person whose career reflects a strong devotion to bringing attention and services to homeless veterans.

Outstanding Member Award

To the NCHV member that has demonstrated leadership in coalition building.

Meritorious Service Award

To a person who exemplifies service to NCHV, its members, and homeless veterans in general.

Unsung Hero Award

To a person who has contributed to the recognition of the homeless veteran issue in a supporting or unrecognized leadership role.

Department of Labor Staff Award

To a DOL staff member who has exhibited a strong commitment to the service of homeless veterans.

Department of Veterans Affairs Staff Award

To a VA staff member who has exhibited a strong commitment to the service of homeless veterans.

Corporate Partnership Award

To a corporation whose contributions have helped increase the effectiveness of the homeless veterans movement.

Public Policy Award

To a public policy partner who has displayed a strong commitment to advancing legislation that serves homeless veterans.



Helping homeless veterans get off the streets isn't something we simply talk about.

It's something we do.

Whether it's personally going to Skid Row in Los Angeles to help homeless veterans understand the VA benefits and services available to them, donating furniture and computers to a VA homeless shelter in New Jersey, providing clean and stable housing in Pennsylvania to give veterans a chance to get back to work, handing out socks and personal hygiene items in Louisiana, or turning a Legion post into a residence and training facility in Connecticut, The American Legion reaches out every day, in person, to get veterans back on their feet. We help them one by one, in hopes that one day, there will be no one left to assist.



THE AMERICAN LEGION
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Session Descriptions

Track A – Supporting Stability: Income and Employment

A1 - Expediting SOAR

To get to zero by the end of this year, your programs will need to help veterans maximize their income using every approach in the toolbox. Social Security disability benefits are critical sources of income for veterans with disabling mental or physical health conditions, and lead to increased housing stability and improved healthcare outcomes. SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR), is a federal program sponsored by SAMHSA to increase access to disability benefits among people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. This presentation will also feature qualitative and quantitative results from SOAR collaborations with SSVF grantees. Participants will receive materials with guidance on implementing SOAR, a detailed issue brief on SSI/SSDI for veterans with examples of successful models, and will be linked with their state or local SOAR programs.

A2 - Ticket to Work

Organizations seeking creative ways to fill funding gaps and connect veterans to increased income can come learn more about the Social Security Administration Ticket to Work Program (TTW). Agencies offering employment services to homeless veterans receiving SSI/SSDI benefits can generate revenue by becoming an Employment Network (EN). In this session, learn more about TTW and the qualifications and process for becoming an EN. Participants should be prepared to think critically about their own agency's employment services model to assess their ability to thrive as a TTW EN. Current HVRP grantees and applicants are encouraged to participate! This session will empower participants to think through how their agency can benefit from becoming a Ticket to Work EN.

A3 - Keeping the Connection: Serving Aging and Young Veterans

To get to zero, we need to help veterans maximize their income using mainstream employment programs and services. This presentation will describe how your veterans' employment programs can co-enroll with a local Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), doubling efforts and resources to place veterans into jobs reflecting their skills, abilities and interests. This session will show you how to use technology effectively to engage with and support the employment goals of veterans with limited technology skills. Experts will introduce you to ways to stretch your dollars to support businesses, staff training, and client needs through the use of technology.

A4 - The Role of HVRP in Ending Homelessness

Effectively ending veteran homelessness this year requires that communities thoroughly integrate agencies providing employ-



ment services into local planning efforts. In many communities, the employment services are provided by Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program (HVRP) grantees. In this session, you will learn from representatives from several successful agencies with HVRP who connect veterans to stability through training and employment. Experts in this session will describe employment counseling strategies that help homeless job seekers better utilize targeted job searches. Learn how employment case managers can improve outcomes in job placement, retention, and earned wages.

A5 - VA Employment Tools and Programs

To support the drive to December, the Department of Veterans Affairs has rolled out a series of tools and resources to support employment goals of transitioning veterans. In this session, the VA's experts on veteran employment will outline the new resources supporting veterans' employment. Participants should come prepared to think critically about how they can supplement their current employment services for veterans who are homeless and at risk using these new resources.

A6 - HVRP Only: Retention Bootcamps

These sessions required pre-registration and are only for current HVRP staff members. For more details, contact the TA Center team at hvrp@nchv.org.

A7 - Money Management and Employment Tools

For many transitioning veterans and aging veterans with long experiences with homelessness, lack of experience with budgeting and money management can lead to relapse and backsliding when a first paycheck comes in. To help you support these veterans, the experts in this session will provide you with tools and strategies to help veterans in your programs improve their money management and budgeting skills.

A8 - DOL-VETS Programs: Engaging American Job Centers

Access to a livable wage can open doors to new housing opportunities for homeless and at risk veterans in your programs. Most case managers and clinical team, however, struggle to bridge the gap between veterans and employers in their communities. In this session, expert partners at the Department of Labor will share insight on their programs and tools supporting employment for homeless and vulnerable veterans. Learn strategies for engaging and connecting to these programs in your community, and how you can access free resources to support competitive employment.

Track B – Improving Health Outcomes

B1 - State of Care for Homeless Veterans with HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C

Especially for aging and chronically homeless veterans, chronic illness management will support housing stability and successful movement off the streets. This session will highlight new developments in VHA's HIV and Hepatitis C prevention and care practices for homeless veterans. Homeless veterans are at particular risk for both of these infections. The VHA is the largest provider of HIV and Hepatitis C care in the nation and has made tremendous strides in promoting prevention and care for the veterans we serve. This session will provide a detailed overview of HIV and chronic Hepatitis C care in VHA and how VHA resources are being utilized to improve the care we provide to homeless veterans.

B2 - Traumatic Brain Injury: Addressing Co-Occurring Challenges

Veterans with long histories of homelessness struggle with severe co-occurring disabilities, sometimes including multiple mild brain injuries. However, because of common symptoms with PTSD, some service providers working with homeless veterans may not be aware that the individuals they are serving are living with a brain injury. This presentation will offer suggestions on how providers can aid homeless veterans in engaging and benefiting from programs and services by deploying accommodations and supports that can help negate brain injury related barriers. Experts will outline the relationship between substance use, mental health disorders and traumatic brain injury.

B3 - Trauma-Informed Care

Rates of trauma in the lives of veterans experiencing homelessness, particularly women veterans, are high. To help veterans with trauma histories be successful in housing placement, we must create service environments that are trauma informed. Increasingly, "trauma-informed care" is identified as a best practice for addressing trauma at an organizational level. This session includes an introduction to trauma-informed care and

Community Solutions congratulates the
National Coalition for Homeless Veterans
on 25 years of service!



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why this approach is critical to serving veterans experiencing homelessness, strategies for integrating trauma-informed care, lessons from organizations that have adopted this approach, and unique considerations for serving women veterans. Participants will learn how a trauma-informed approach can enhance service delivery to veterans. Come learn how to identify steps you can take to adopt this approach.

B4 - Emerging Clinical Needs: The National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans

Smart community plans are informed by data about needs and gaps. Participants in NCHV's Annual Conference are privileged to be joined by several of the nation's top researchers working on homeless veteran programs. Expert researchers from the National Center on Homelessness among Veterans will share groundbreaking data and trends in veteran homelessness in this session. Learn how trends in veteran homelessness, including changes in homelessness for aging and OIF/OEF veterans, can impact the services you provide.

B5 - Deploying Creative Community Interventions

Creative community interventions are the heartbeat of progress in our communities. Overcome the remaining hurdles standing in the way of an end to veteran homelessness with these thoughtful approaches to services. Effectively ending veteran homelessness requires out of the box thinking, and this panel provides several innovative examples of community interven-



tions to serve veterans in need. Learn strategies that can reduce the time from engagement to housing placement. Expert presenters in this session will showcase examples from their communities, including HUD-VASH contracted case management and Stand Down.

B6 - Serving Minority Veterans

Over the past twenty five years, demographic data has shown that the homeless population, regardless of veteran status, includes a large percentage of African American individuals. This session will review demographic data of the past twenty-five years, explore and examine baseline information, and provide an assessment of homelessness among black veterans. Panelists will offer a special update on legislative initiatives and Federal agency efforts aimed specifically at addressing both homelessness and health-related issues among African American veterans.

Track C – Transforming Systems

C1 - Working within Levels of Government

To be successful this year, multiple levels of government must work together to coordinate and expand outreach and services to homeless veterans by pooling the community's collective resources to draw more veterans in need to the VA for housing, benefits, and treatment. This presentation will detail how several providers across the country are integrating these levels. Experts will discuss strategies for connecting and managing municipal, county, regional, and state level units of government, while connecting this network to efforts led by Federal and nonprofit partners. They will outline how the connection between VA and VA grantee programs is strengthened through regular group training, and show how connecting to the state Department of Veteran Affairs can promote improved outreach and services.

C2 - Case Studies of Internal Change

Community progress starts with the strengths of individual partners. Sometimes, effectiveness in our communities requires that agencies adapt internally and rethink internal processes and protocols to be a successful partner in ending veteran homelessness. In this session, experts will share insights on how they created change within their organizations to improve their ability to respond to service gaps. They will share how they improved their organizations sustainability while maximizing successes, all while lowering barriers to care. Panelists will provide tools for addressing the increasingly complex task of creating and maintaining case notes for all levels of case managers.

C3 - Using a Peer-Driven Model to Deliver Integrated Care

In many communities, the unique role of peer-support “navigators” has been the backbone to veterans maintaining housing and ongoing efforts to rapidly house eligible veterans who experience homelessness. The presentation will outline the central role that Peer-Support staff played throughout the programs across the country. Experts will provide helpful tips on how to replicate similar efforts in other communities.

C4 - The Mayor's Challenge

Learn how to make the most of the many different initiatives aimed at ending veteran homelessness this year taking place in communities across the country! Expert panelists in this session will share insights and results from the Mayor's Challenge, with guidance on contacting your Mayor to get them on board. Learn how the Mayor's Challenge can work on the state level: experts will show how the state of Virginia has galvanized a statewide effort on ending homelessness for veterans, including developing a state action plan, engaging key leaders in the state, and strengthening and developing relationships with federal and state partners. Learn how to harness this Challenge in your city: experts will show how the Mayors in Salt Lake City and Phoenix have played pivotal roles in ending chronic veteran homelessness in those cities.

C5 - Creating Local Partnerships to Fill the Gaps

The strongest community plans are only effective when local partnerships are solid and focused on the same goal. Forward progress requires that we think creatively about the impact of individual partners, the barriers holding back their involvement, and the benefit of creative engagements. Learn to build help when it isn't there. Experts in this session will provide strategies for fostering and maintaining local partnerships, even with nontraditional partners. Panelists will provide examples of how co-located and coordinated partners can support wrap-around services and combat NIMBYism.

C6 - Making Change in Rural Areas

Ending veteran homelessness this year requires us to look closely at the needs of vulnerable veterans in rural areas. Veterans facing homelessness in rural areas face unique and sometimes daunting challenges, both for the veterans and for the agencies that serve them. In this session, you can learn strategies for accessing mainstream rural housing resources to serve veterans for coordinating services in rural areas. Experts will give strategies for maximizing transitional housing to promote a rapid move into housing stability, using technology to keep veterans engaged, and connecting veterans to permanent housing stability using SSVF.

C7 - Integrating SSVF and GPD

In this groundbreaking session, the program leads of both the SSVF and GPD programs will be available to provide guidance to GPD and SSVF agencies on how best to integrate transitional housing in rapid rehousing services. Come prepared to think critically about your agency's role in the housing placement spectrum. This session will be repeated, and only those who have a seat at a table will be permitted to stay in the room. There will be NO overflow or standing space in these sessions so please plan accordingly.

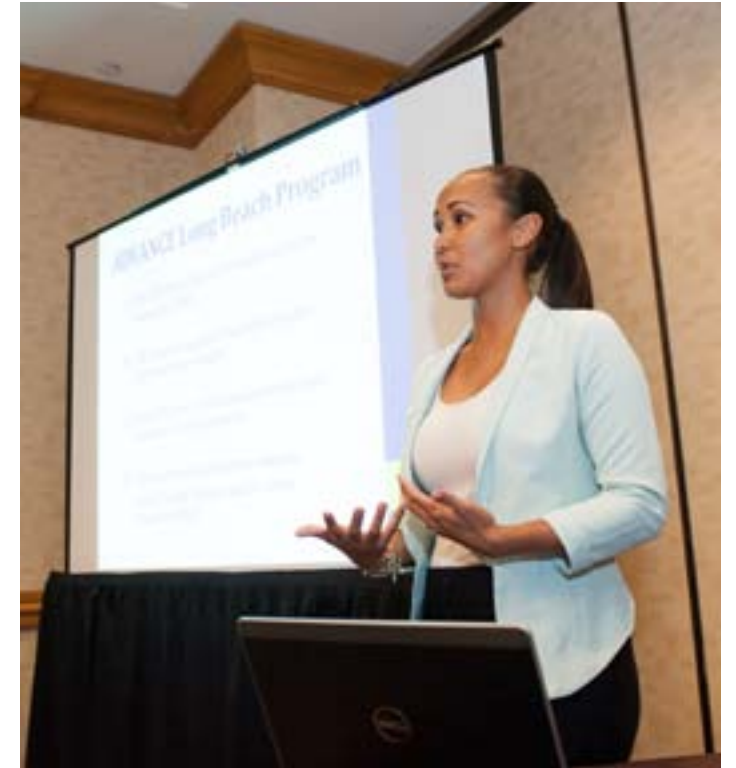
C8 - Zero: 2016

What we learn in ending veteran homelessness this year will help our communities end homelessness for all persons experiencing homelessness. In this session, experts will unpack how the national effort to end veteran homelessness this year ripples into efforts to end chronic homelessness by the end of 2016. Learn more about the tools and strategies employed by 25 Cities and Zero: 2016 communities to move veterans rapidly into permanent housing using improved systems.

Track D – Rethinking Data, Improving Targeting

D1 - U.S. Census Bureau Statistics for Veterans Use

Statistics and data are crucial for outreach, planning, and understanding the communities served. The U.S. Census Bureau collects data on veterans, including homeless veterans, during the Decennial census. This data elucidates useful insights on the differences between the veteran and the civilian populations, including indicators related to health, employment, demographics, and housing status. Participants in this session will learn about the wealth of statistics available related to support your work the tools available and how use them to access the data, and how to use those tools for accessing statistics for business planning, grant, and proposal writing.



D2 - Centralized Planning and Coordinated Assessment

To maximize the impact of the resources devoted to ending veteran homelessness this year, communities must ensure that assessment is standardized and focused on achieving sustainable permanent housing as rapidly as possible. In this session, experts will show you how to successfully adopt and integrate a coordinated assessment tool with your SSVF Program and utilize coordinated systems to place veteran families into appropriate housing that meets their needs. You should expect to be challenged to think out of the box as we explore the implementation of policies and procedures with assessment designs and implementation. This session will explore the ability to be innovative when incorporating the coordinated assessment required for eligibility determination and program entry with information systems assessments.

D3 - Using Gaps Analysis and CHALENG

Local plans informed by comprehensive data drives success, and this year you can learn how best to use this data to get your community to zero using the resources you have. This engaging session with VA expert researchers will take a deep dive into the gaps analysis and CHALENG tools to help you understand gaps and needs in your local communities. These experts will help you to define what the data says about the local need, with a focus on smaller communities that do not have access to the intensive planning support of larger service areas. Come prepared with your local and VISN data!



cause of homelessness, and the housing challenges that homeless people face. In response to this ELI housing crisis, several pioneering state housing agencies have furthered innovations designing new financing models to create integrated permanent supportive housing affordable to ELI households within their state LIHTC housing policies. This session would explain three of these ELI housing financing strategies and profile states that have utilized them, including how they can inform strategies for the future use of new federal National Housing Trust Fund resources, a program primarily targeted to ELI housing that is scheduled to be allocated to the states in 2016.

E2 - Creating New Permanent Supportive Housing

In communities across the country, affordable housing access is severely limited due to low vacancy rates and high rental costs, even when community agencies have strong landlord relationships. In these areas, new construction must fill the gap between need and availability of affordable housing options for homeless veterans. In this session, participants will hear a case study of an agency that has successfully created new supportive housing units in a high need area. Learn strategies for gaining strong community and stakeholder support, utilizing tax credits to support development, and financing new projects with minimal debt burden.

E3 - Transforming Transitional Housing

Transitional housing programs remain an essential resource for many homeless veterans as a means for transitioning to permanent housing. With the emphasis on and availability of rapid rehousing and permanent housing programs, it is important to maximize the connectivity to transitional housing programs. In some locations, agencies have chosen to transform the program to enhance effectiveness and remain a viable option within the continuum of care. Expert panelists will share the journey of evolving models that promote rapid rehousing through research and best practices. They will define how they have found success by lowering barriers to entry and integrating transitional housing into the full housing continuum. Participants in this session will hear how some agencies have adapted their program structure and services to ensure transitional housing remains an effective resource for the current homeless veteran population while meeting the goal of rapidly transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing.

E4 - Housing First

The drive to December is fueled by successful implementation of Housing First principles. However, several communities and local partners struggle to understand the basic principles and practices required for high fidelity to Housing First principles.

D4 - Intersecting Grants and Data: Federal Grant User Forum

Successfully ending veteran homelessness this year requires that your agency maximize time spent with veterans and minimize time spent with reports. This engaging grantee-led panel will discuss regarding best practices, challenges, and solutions from grantees who have successfully implemented multiple federal grants (GPD, SSVF, HVRP, HUD) and kept the focus on the veteran first. You should come prepared to ask and answer questions, engage in frank conversations, and share other best ideas and solutions with other session participants. This session is intended to be a forum to troubleshoot with participants around these issues.

D5 - Making Systems Talk: HMIS and Data Tracking

Local agencies coordinating multiple funding streams and using several data management and tracking resources run the risk of some high risk veterans falling through the cracks this year. To help you integrate these tracking and data systems, this session will include a case study approach to showcase how one agency integrated their data systems to keep track of veterans in their community. Presenters in this session will share how they have been able to make HMIS speak to other data systems.

Track E – Building the Housing Continuum

E1 - Set Foundations: National Housing Trust

Access to affordable housing remains the most critical and acute challenge we face in ending veteran homelessness this year. There is a severe shortage of rental housing that is affordable and available for the nation's 10.3 million Extremely Low Income (ELI) households (e.g. households with incomes between 0-30 percent of Area Median Income). This fact underscores a major

Do you worry your community may be implementing “Housing Only” instead of Housing First? Do veterans in your community often return quickly to the streets after placement? Come to this session to engage with expert implementers and researchers who can help you troubleshoot these challenges.

Track F – Bridging Legal Barriers

F1 - Bridging the Divide between Social Services and Legal Services

Experienced service providers see daily the barriers homeless veterans face because of their legal histories. However, in most communities, there exists a divide between the agencies serving homeless veterans and the legal community that could assist those veterans. In this interactive session, experts from the legal community will provide concrete strategies for engaging with specific legal partners. Bridge the divide!

F2 - Connected Communities: SSVF and Legal Services

For those veterans still on the streets, compounding legal issues often serve as intractable barriers to rapid permanent housing placement. SSVF grantees may be the veteran's access point to care, but the success of that relationship can often lie on the SSVF grantee's ability to provide needed legal services. In this session, you can learn from pioneers in the integration of SSVF and legal services. Be prepared to think creatively about how you can rapidly integrate legal care into your SSVF program.

F3 - Opening Access through Discharge Upgrades

Maximizing the number of veterans eligible for VA services requires that we take a hard look at discharge status. With new Department of Defense support for discharge upgrades and a high percentage of homeless veterans with discharge statuses other than honorable, we must embrace all possible avenues to help veterans upgrade their discharge statuses to improve and expand service eligibility. This panel of experts will show you how they are opening up this access for veterans across the country.

F4 - Criminal Law: Successes from Veterans Treatment and Homeless Court Systems

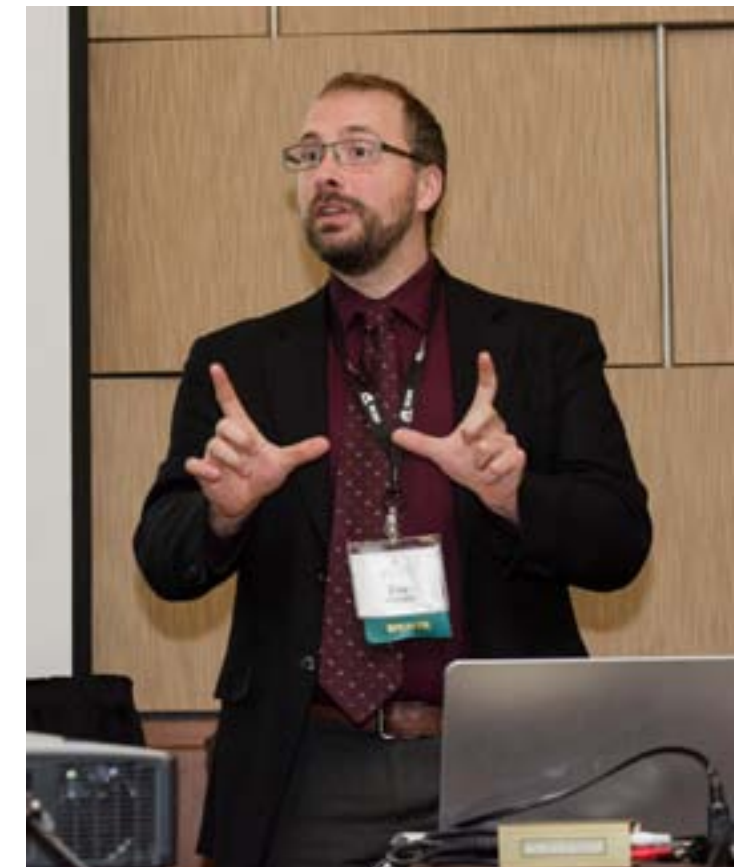
Starting with the first Homeless Court Program nearly 30 years ago, local agencies saw the critical connection between homeless services and legal aid. This connection point serves as a launching point to community reintegration and a move against recidivism within the criminal justice system. In this engaging session, come learn from expert implementers who can show you strategies for supporting veterans with criminal charges and challenging legal histories serving as barriers to care. With a rise in criminal and violent offenses within the veteran population, the time to act to create a strong connection to criminal law services is now.

F5 - Child Support Issues

Veterans with long homeless histories are often our most challenging clients, especially those who must face a backlog of child support payments after they begin to engage with services. Expert presenters in this session will give guidance on navigating this sensitive and challenging barrier to reintegration.

F6 - Managing Veteran Consumer Debt

Homeless veterans who have been focused on daily survival must often face the daunting consumer debt that precipitated and aggravated their homelessness. For those veterans with limited budgeting and income management experience, the sudden connection to employment income and benefits through their engagement with your program can lead to relapse or continued mounting debt if not addressed constructively. In this session, expert panelists will help you identify strategies and resources for helping veterans in your programs to address their daunting consumer debt, with a focus on creating plans for successful community reintegration.



Presenter and Speaker Bios

Adam Gibbs, Communications Manager, Zero: 2016, Community Solutions

Adam Gibbs serves as the Communications Manager for Zero: 2016. In this role, he works with the Zero: 2016 team and member communities to develop and coordinate messaging for the initiative. He also serves as spokesperson and media liaison for Zero: 2016. Prior to joining Community Solutions, Gibbs helped create and implement public relations campaigns for a variety of nonprofit, issue advocacy, and political organizations. Gibbs is a veteran of the 2008 and 2012 Obama campaigns, as well as the 2012 Democratic National Convention and 57th Presidential Inauguration. He holds a BA in Political Science from NC State University.

Allison Ulrich, Principal and Managing Member/Housing Policy and Development Consultant, Ulrich Consulting

Allison Ulrich is principal and managing member of Ulrich Consulting, a California limited liability company dedicated to providing a broad array of management and housing policy consulting services. The scope of Ulrich's work with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has spanned across several VA programs including HUD-VASH, Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV), Grant & Per Diem (GPD), and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF). She possesses over 10 years of policy and advocacy experience addressing issues faced by low-income, homeless, at-risk, and otherwise marginalized populations. Ulrich holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of California at Davis and a JD from Santa Clara University School of Law. She is an active member of the State Bar of California and a dedicated housing advocate.

Amy Wallish, Founder/CEO, Full Circle Employment Solutions

Amy Wallish is the Founder/CEO of Full Circle Employment Solutions which is a leading provider of benefits counseling and employment services for people with disabilities. She is an innovative training professional passionate about encouraging people in their return to work and gaining financial freedom. Wallish has trained across the country on Social Security benefits and asset development. She has an MBA and is trained through Social Security Administration as a Community Work Incentive Coordinator.

Anastasia B. Edmonston, Traumatic Brain Injury and Person Centered Planning Trainer, Maryland Behavioral Health Administration

Anastasia Edmonston has worked in the field of brain injury rehabilitation since 1983. She has worked on a variety of brain injury initiatives for the Maryland Behavioral Health Administration since 2003 including: TBI Resource Coordination Project Director and case manager for both the TBI Medicaid Waiver and the Brain Injury Transitions Pilot Program. Since September 2012, Edmonston has served as the Traumatic Brain Injury and Person Centered Planning Trainer under Maryland's Money Follows the Person and Balancing Incentive Projects. In addition,



she is a certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor, teaching both the Adult and Older Adult curriculums.

Ann Marie Oliva, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Needs, Acting Director, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, Department of Housing and Urban Development

Ann Marie Oliva is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Needs, which oversees the Office of HIV/AIDS Housing and the Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS), the office that manages HUD's homeless programs. Oliva has been with the Department and was the Director of SNAPS from May 2007 through July 2014. As Director of SNAPS, Oliva managed a portfolio of over 8,000 competitive and formula grants with an annual budget of over \$2 billion. In her tenure at HUD, Oliva has managed the design and implementation of the \$1.5 billion Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program and the overhaul of HUD's homeless program portfolio as part of implementation of the HEARTH Act.

Anthony Love, Senior Advisor and Director of Community Engagement, VHA Homeless Programs, Department of Veterans Affairs

Anthony Love serves as Senior Advisor for Veterans Healthcare Administration for Homeless Programs working out of the Department of Veterans Affairs National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans. In this role, he provides advice to the National Director of VHA Homeless Programs on operational and strategic opportunities, as well as identifies and recommends best practices related to homeless solutions, community, state and local government engagement, as well as facilitates alignment of VHA Operations and Research functions.

Bill Boyer, Peer Support Supervisor, Community Bridges

Bill Boyer served in the US Army 10th Mountain Light Infantry Division from 1994-1999. Upon his return home, Boyer struggled with reintegration, leading to an addiction to substances, losing custody of his son, and winding up in prison. Boyer found recovery and has been sober for over 10 years. He was given a second chance at employment with Community Bridges, and later promoted to becoming a Community Bridges H3-Vet Peer Navigator, connecting fellow vets to housing, support, and recovery. Boyer and his team have helped to house over 250 formerly homeless veterans in permanent supportive housing.

Bill Darnell, Grants Manager, Ohio Valley Goodwill

Bill Darnell is a retired US Air Force flight officer, who saw service world-wide in his 20-year career as a flight instructor, flight evaluator, and planning officer in both strategic and tactical missions. After retiring, he worked in county government as a human services case manager and as a unit manager in Adult Protective Services. Additionally, he has managed a homeless shelter that included a VA GPD dormitory, and an alcohol and drug recovery program. Currently, Darnell is a manager for Ohio Valley Goodwill and oversees their homeless programs which include SSVE, SSVF Priority One, HUD, and DOL units. He has an MA in counseling and an MSW. Darnell is licensed as an LISW-S in Ohio and has over 20 years of experience working with the homeless families and veterans.

Bill Dubose, Director of Clinical Services, Veterans Resource Centers of America

Bill Dubose is the Director of Clinical Services for Veterans Resource Centers of America. His main areas of responsibility are the agencies HCHV contracts and ensuring clinical and administrative compliance with all state and federal guidelines pertaining to mental health, as well as guiding the clinical direction of the agency. Dubose holds a Bachelor's degree in Cellular Biology and a Masters degree in Counseling Psychology, both from Humboldt State University in Northern California. He served in the US Army during the Persian Gulf War as an Infantryman assigned to the 1st/502nd Infantry, 101st Airborne Division. He later served as paratrooper with the LRSD, attached to the 311th Military Intelligence Battalion. He is Airborne and Ranger qualified and has several decorations for his military service, which ended in 1994.

Brad Bridwell, Director of Community Development, Cloudbreak Communities, NCHV Board Member

Brad Bridwell has over 16 years of experience working with homeless individuals. He has dedicated the past 13 years to specifically assisting homeless veterans to successfully reintegrate back into their communities. Bridwell is currently the Director of Community Development for Cloudbreak Communities, a special needs housing developer for homeless veterans that has developed over 2400 units of housing for veterans. Previously, he was employed as Arizona's first Homeless Veterans Services Coordinator at the Arizona Department of Veterans Services

and was responsible for coalescing stakeholders to create, implement and evaluate the State's effort to end homelessness among veterans. Bridwell served as a key leader in Project H3: Home, Health, Hope; a local implementation of the 100,000 Homes Campaign, uncovering critical innovations in "Housing First" models for people experiencing long-term homelessness and who are medically vulnerable and has played a key leadership role in Project H3 VETS, Maricopa County's initiative to end chronic homelessness among veterans.

Bret Anderson, President, H2 Communications, LLC

Bret Anderson has been facilitating career development decision making for more than a decade for hard to place youth and adult job seekers. Currently as a senior trainer with NVTI Training Solutions he has designed and developed more than 14 courses that focus on the transition from military to civilian life process and the complications of career development for the veteran population. He is currently focusing on employment retention strategies for the homeless, incarcerated, and long-term unemployed job seeker. He is one of the leading researchers and curriculum developers for the topic of employment retention for the hard to place and has more than 25 years of experience in working with HVRP and American Job Center leadership and staff. Anderson is completing his doctorate in counseling psychology (ABD) and is a GCDF, OWDS, and OERS.

Bridget Stillwell Kennedy, MSW, Director of Social Work Services, Middlesex County, NJ

For the past 25 years, Bridget Stillwell Kennedy has been the Director of Social Work Services for Middlesex County, NJ. She now manages all Social Service activity in the Middlesex County Department of Community Services, Office of Human Services, Division of Housing/Community Development & Social Services. She holds a BA in American Social History from Boston College University and an MSW degree in Administration, Planning, and Policy from Rutgers University's School of Social Work. Prior to working for the County, she worked for the Boston Redevelopment Authority, the New York City Mayor's Office of Ethnic Affairs, Catholic Charities/Archdiocese of New York, the City of New Brunswick, and New Brunswick Tomorrow.

C. Andrew McCawley, President and Chief Executive Officer, New England Center for Homeless Veterans

Andrew McCawley joined the NECHV in June of 2010 after a 30-year career in the US Navy as a Naval Officer and Aviator. He commanded a Navy fighter squadron and two ships, including the aircraft carrier USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN, CVN72. He earned his BS in Naval Architecture from the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, an MS in Aeronautical Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, and graduated from the US Naval Test Pilot School. In 2001, he completed the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard School of Business. Following active duty, McCawley worked in the aerospace and defense industry, most recently as the Vice President, Afghanistan Program for Alenia North America.

Carlos Gonzalez, Managing Director of Program Development and Evaluation, PATH

Carlos Gonzalez joined the PATH Family of Agencies in December 2009, and currently serves as the Managing Director of Program Development and Evaluation. He oversees the quality assurance team that conducts regular internal program reviews and audits in conjunction with PATH's program managers. Prior to joining PATH, he worked with the County of Los Angeles GAIN Case Management program. As Program Manager, he oversaw programs for job training and placement, education services, case management, and client/community outreach for the County's Welfare-to-Work program in the East and West San Fernando Valley Regions. Gonzalez holds a BA in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

Carol Salter, Assistant Vice President, Workforce Development, Easter Seals

Carol A. Salter has over 32 years providing employment and training services to individuals with significant disabilities and other barriers to employment. She currently serves as Assistant Vice President, Workforce Development, and National Director of the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) for Easter Seals, Inc., administering SCSEP in eight states with Easter Seals affiliate organizations as subcontractors. Salter has worked extensively and collaboratively with America's Career Centers in over 30 states, promoting seamless service delivery models and collocation agreements for programs serving populations with significant barriers to employment.



Caroline Meehan, MPP, Program & Research Manager, Volunteers of America

Caroline Meehan is the Program & Research Manager at Volunteers of America's National Office in Washington, D.C. In this role, she works directly with the Executive Vice President for Military Communities/Chief Medical Officer in the innovation and expansion of VOA's services to its five target populations, including veterans and families. Meehan also provides support for the National Outcomes Project and other efforts to enhance VOA's research and evaluation initiatives. Prior to joining VOA, she worked in the Major Gifts office at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and as Assistant Director of Development for N Street Village, both in Washington, D.C. She holds a BA in history from the University of Notre Dame and an Master of Public Policy degree from the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan.

Cathie L. Hughes, Founder & President, Hughes Collaborative CoC Services

Cathie Hughes is the Founder and President of Hughes CCoC Services, a 501c3 nonprofit organization, focused on the integration of technologies to improve efficiencies and outcomes for collaborative Continuum of Care services serving vulnerable and at-risk populations. She is the Founder and past CEO of SW-WRAP (2007-2015), a 501c3 nonprofit community-based organization, which promoted and facilitated community-based, collaborative, Continuum of Care programs and access to community resources among agencies and service providers in rural and frontier communities through Wyoming and surrounding states. With 25 years of background in Information Management, Technology, Policy and Systems Engineering, Hughes is able to bring her expertise to the fields of social services, behavioral health and health care services. In 2013, Hughes implemented the SSVF program throughout the entire state of Wyoming and 28 counties in Western Nebraska, served on Wyoming Governor's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness Committee, and co-authored Wyoming's "A Home for Everyone" (2015).

Dana Niemela, Manager, Veteran Services, Denver Department of Human Services

Dana Niemela is a nationally recognized expert in veteran services and is the Manager of Veteran Services for the City and County of Denver at the Department of Human Services. Through her work with the City, Niemela has built an extensive network of supportive services to meet the needs of homeless veterans in the Denver Metro area, specifically supporting HVRP. The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans recognized the Denver Department of Human Services as an Outstanding Member in 2013 for the efforts led by Niemela in the HVRP program. Niemela received the Unsung Hero Award for her work as Homeless Coordinator for VFW Post 1, where she started Operation Holiday Heroes, a public-private partnership that provides community connection and support for homeless and formerly homeless veterans during the holiday season.

Daniel Farrell, Vice President of Programs, HELP USA

Daniel Farrell is the Vice President of Programs at HELP USA, a nonprofit provider with over 40 programs nationwide that provides transitional and permanent housing to this country's homeless and formerly homeless adults and families. Farrell is responsible for multiple transitional housing, shelter and homeless prevention/rapid rehousing programs in New York City, Philadelphia and Las Vegas with revenues exceeding \$45 million, serving over 10,000 homeless or at-risk single adults and families each year.

Darryl J. Vincent, Chief Operating Officer, U.S. VETS

Darryl J. Vincent has been with U.S.VETS for 11 years. As the Chief Operating Officer, he is directly responsible for the supervision of Executive Directors at all 11 sites, along with national administration of the overall operations of U.S.VETS. As a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, Vincent has a sincere compassion for the veteran community. After his military service, he went on to receive his Bachelor's degree in Human Services, is a Certified Substance Abuse Counselor, and holds a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of New England. During Vincent's leadership in Hawaii he was recognized as one of the "10 people who made a difference in Hawaii" in the year 2007. In 2008, he was awarded the NCHV Unsung Hero Award. He also served as the Chairperson for the entire CoC from 2010-2013 providing testimony at the state and federal levels to advocate for services for veterans and all homeless population in Hawaii.

Dave Lopez, Deputy Director for Programs & Operations, Swords to Plowshares

Dave Lopez is the Deputy Director for Programs & Operations for Swords to Plowshares and oversees the Supportive Services Programs that include the Employment & Training Services Units in San Francisco and Oakland, the Front Line Drop-in Health & Social Services unit and three SSVF Programs. He has done a lot of community work in the strategic planning and launch of the 25-Cities initiative, Coordinated Assessment Tool, client registry, CAHP System as well as the coordination of SSVF services within the CoC's that the two Priority 1 SSVF Programs operate in. He is responsible for ensuring that the comprehensive services at Swords are integrated and meet the needs of veterans. He also oversees the agency's HMIS data standards and integration in coordination with our IT Department.

David A. Pennington of Veterans Integration Program, Longview Housing Authority

David Pennington is the Program Operations Manager of the Veterans Integration Program of Longview Housing Authority which covers four rural counties in southwest Washington State. His experience covers over 20 years of service to veterans. Pennington is a US Marine Corps veteran who served as a Rifleman during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He has worked for Longview Housing Authority since 2011, where he is responsible for the daily operations of four VA-funded programs

which have housed approximately 100 homeless veterans in the last 12 months.

David Jones, Account Specialist, Ticket to Work

David Jones has been an Account Specialist for Social Security's Ticket to Work program for the past seven years. In this capacity, he provides training and consulting services to Employment Networks contracted with Social Security. He also volunteers as one of the founding Board members at Capital Clubhouse; a Mental Health Agency that is based off Clubhouse International Standards. Jones holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from Humboldt State University.

David Ross, National Director of HIV, Hepatitis, and Public Health Pathogens Programs, Department of Veterans Affairs

Dr. David Ross received his MD and PhD (Biochemistry) from the New York University School of Medicine. After completing a categorical internal medicine residency at NYU, Ross received fellowship training in infectious diseases at Yale University School of Medicine, and subsequently was a member of the faculty there. He served as a medical officer for 10 years at the Food and Drug Administration, first as a medical reviewer and team leader in FDA's Division of Anti-Infective Drug Products, and then as deputy director of the FDA office reviewing therapeutic biologic products and as associate director of FDA's Office of Oncology Drug Products. Since 2006, Ross has served as National Director of HIV, Hepatitis, and Public Health Pathogens Programs at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Dazara D. Ware, Senior Project Associate at Policy Research Associates, SAMHSA SOAR Technical Assistance Center

Dazara D. Ware is Senior Project Associate at Policy Research Associates (PRA) for the SAMHSA SOAR Technical Assistance Center. Prior to joining PRA, she served as the state of Georgia's SOAR Program Coordinator and State Team Lead at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). While there, she led a pilot program to implement SOAR in Georgia's state hospitals, jails, and prisons to promote successful transitions to community living. Under her leadership, the Georgia Department of Corrections employed multifunctional officers to assist offenders with Social Security disability applications prior to release and the Georgia DBHDD assigned a benefits specialist to each state hospital. The results include a statewide approval rate of 74 percent on initial applications within an average of 118 days. Ware provides technical support to 11 states and serves as the subject matter expert in implementing the SOAR model in criminal justice settings.

Dee Albritton, Fast Forward

Dee Albritton has worked with homeless for over 30 years. Her focus is the role of technology in the lives of at-risk populations. She teaches Internet Safety with the Cyber Crimes division of the Police Department. She has published several articles on the role of technology in employment and the importance of partnerships in the employment of at-risk populations, includ-



nates, and helps develop best practices for ensuring all veterans have a place to call home. Harig-Blaine has worked on the issues of homelessness and affordable housing for more than 12 years at the national and local levels. Prior to joining the National League of Cities, he was the Director of State Coalitions for the National Low Income Housing Coalition. His work on the issues started as an outreach worker in Boston, where he also helped run a soup kitchen. In Lowell, MA he ran a coalition of community stakeholders working to prevent homelessness. He has a BS in Political Science from St. Mary's College of Maryland and a Master's in Public Policy with a concentration in housing and economic policy from George Mason University.

Jeff Doyle, VISN 6 Homeless Coordinator, Department of Veteran Affairs

Jeff Doyle is the Department of Veteran Affairs VISN 6 Homeless Coordinator and has been since 2010. He started working for VA in 2000 in New Mexico. He has served as a grant reviewer in the past for both the GPD and SSVF grants. He has also presented on topics of outreach, improving access of medical services and rural engagement for homeless veterans. Doyle has a Master's of Social Work from New Mexico Highlands. Prior to working at VA, he worked at local homeless shelters and at a HealthCare for the Homeless clinic. His work at these nonprofit agencies has led to a strong appreciation of the importance of collaboration between government agencies and community partners.

Jeffery Quarles, Director, Grant and Per Diem National Program Office, Department of Veterans Affairs

Jeffery Quarles has served as Director at the Grant and Per Diem (GPD) National Program Office in Tampa, Florida, since February 2012. As Director, he is responsible for overall management and administration of the GPD program nationally, and ensures GPD-funded, community-based programs provide quality services compliant with existing laws and regulations. Prior to this, Quarles was Clinical Manager for the GPD Program National Program Office from 2006 until accepting his new role in 2012. During his 21-year VA career, Quarles has had increasing responsibilities within the Department. He has directed vocational rehabilitation programs and residential services at the Cleveland VA Medical Center and served as the VISN 10 Network Homeless Coordinator from 2000 to 2006.

Jen Elder, Senior Project Associate, SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Technical Assistance Center

Jen Elder is a Senior Project Associate for the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Technical Assistance Center at Policy Research Associates. She provides direct technical assistance to 12 states and specializes in utilizing SOAR with veterans and collaborations between federal, state, and community stakeholders to end veteran homelessness. Elder provides national technical assistance to the VA's SSVF, HUD-VASH, and H-PACT programs, as well as other organizations serving veterans who have disabling conditions. Her previous experience

includes coordinating street outreach and shelter services for chronically homeless individuals in Nashville, TN and London, UK, as well as developing organizational policy and training guidelines for emergency shelter staff.

Jennifer Knapp, Supervisory Social Worker, Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV), Department of Veterans Affairs

Jennifer Knapp, LCSW, Supervisory Social Worker for the HCHV program at the VA Palo Alto Healthcare System (VA-PAHCS), has worked for VA since 2008. Prior to working for HCHV her experience included inpatient psychiatry, intensive case management for high utilizers of community emergency departments, and counseling at local Vet Centers. Since 2010, Knapp has been a GPD Liaison for VAPAHCS and in 2014 Knapp became the HCHV Supervisory Social Worker. Knapp won the Gratitude Award from the community for her work with community partners as a VA liaison.

Jessica Blue-Howells, National Coordinator, Healthcare for Reentry Veterans Program, National CHALENG Program Manager, Department of Veterans Affairs

Jessica Blue-Howells, MSW, oversees VA's national prison outreach effort, which has contacted over 43,000 veterans in approximately 1,000 US state and federal prisons. In her role with CHALENG, Blue-Howells oversees national input from over 10,000 veterans and homeless service providers annually about issues among homeless veterans to help communities identify unmet needs. Prior to these positions, Blue-Howells worked in direct services for homeless veterans, focusing on evaluation of services, local VA-community partnership development, and development of peer services.

James M. Yates, Senior Associate, Technical Assistance Collaborative

James M. Yates is a Senior Associate at TAC. He has over 20 years of experience in the nonprofit and public sectors advocating and supporting the development of housing and programs for low-income, homeless and disabled individuals and families. He possesses expertise in housing development, real estate finance, community planning, federal programs and regulations, program development and grant writing. Yates has demonstrated expertise in affordable housing real estate finance. He also has extensive experience in veterans housing issues and is currently a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army National Guard. His work includes a special focus on the VA's SSVF and GPD programs. He has performed three overseas deployments in key leadership positions supporting both Operation Joint Endeavor (Bosnia) and Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan).

Jim Zenner, Senior Program Manager, Volunteers of America LA

Jim Zenner, MSW is Senior Program Manager at VOALA. He came to VOALA originally as a client dealing with bouts of depression and overwhelmed with traumatic memories from his deployment to Iraq. VOALA housed and supported him

in 2009 while he received services from VA. After getting back on his feet, Zenner completed a social work program at USC's Military Social Work Program. He was hired by VOALA in 2010 to run the Hollywood Veterans Center, an empowerment-based transitional housing program specifically designed for OEF/OIF veterans with visible and invisible wounds from combat. He is a tireless advocate of veteran peer services in the L.A. area and has received recognition locally and nationally for his leadership in this capacity.

Joe Belden, Deputy Executive Director, Housing Assistance Council

Joe Belden is Deputy Executive Director of the Housing Assistance Council (HAC), a national nonprofit provider of loans, grants, research, information, training, and technical assistance for affordable rural housing. Previously a research associate at HAC, he has also worked for the Department of Agriculture, on Capitol Hill, and for several policy-oriented research organizations in Washington, D.C. Belden is the co-author of *Housing in Rural America: Building Affordable and Inclusive Communities* and *Dirt Rich, Dirt Poor: America's Food and Farm Crisis*. He is a graduate of the University of Texas-Austin and the Baylor University Law School. He also served three years in the US Army as a battalion personnel and supply clerk.

John Briggs, Community Liaison, Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries

John Briggs of Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries in Cincinnati is a Vietnam veteran who has been working with homeless vets since 1992 when Cincinnati began its HVRP program. He has also worked extensively with HUD, the Continuum of Care projects, and now SSVF. His specialties are bringing agencies together to help veterans, maneuvering all types of housing, and working with IT data systems. He has been chairman of the HMIS Committee in Cincinnati since 2001, and serves on the board of the group regulating homelessness in Cincinnati. He received one an NCHV Unsung Hero Award in 2011.

John Kuhn, National Director, Homeless Prevention, Department of Veterans Affairs

John Kuhn has led the development and launch of the Supported Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, VA's homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing initiative. SSVF has provided hundreds of millions of dollars in grants to community organizations assisting homeless and at-risk veteran families. Prior to working with SSVF, Kuhn authored VA's CHALENG Report, a community assessment on the needs of homeless veterans, and he introduced a new survey which now includes feedback from thousands of homeless and formerly homeless veterans. Earlier in his career, Kuhn led VA homeless programs in New Jersey, for which he received national recognition regarding his development of innovative employment, housing, and treatment services.

ing "The Changing Role of Technology in the Employment Process," and "Creative Responses to Critical Problems" in Solutions Magazine. She chairs the Transportation Committee of the Mayor's Veteran's Committee.

Dennis Culhane, Director of Research, National Center on Homelessness among Veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs

Dennis Culhane is the Dana and Andrew Stone Professor of Social Policy at the School of Social Policy and Practice at The University of Pennsylvania, a Senior Research Associate at the Center for Population Studies, and the Director of Research for the National Center on Homelessness among Veterans at the Department of Veterans Affairs. Culhane is a nationally recognized social science researcher with primary expertise in the field of homelessness. He is a leader in the integration of administrative data for research and directs the Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy initiative, a MacArthur-funded project to promote the development of integrated database systems by state and local governments for policy analysis and systems reform. Culhane's work has resulted in federal legislation requiring all cities and states to develop administrative data systems for tracking homeless services in order to receive HUD funding. His work has also been instrumental in a national shift in how cities address chronic homelessness and family homelessness.

Elisha Harig-Blaine, Senior Housing Associate, National League of Cities

Elisha Harig-Blaine leads the National League of Cities' work on housing for veterans with disabilities. As part of NLC's Center for Research and Innovation, Harig-Blaine identifies, dissemi-

Jonathan E. Sherin, Executive Vice President for Military Communities/Chief Medical Officer, Volunteers of America

Jonathan Sherin currently serves as executive vice president for military communities as well as chief medical officer for Volunteers of America (VOA). In these roles, he oversees the expansion and innovation of services to our nation's service members and their families. Dr. Sherin conceptualized VOA's new Battle-Buddy-Bridge (B3) program that trains veterans as peer support specialists and then equips them as community resource navigators empowered to assist their peers in accessing critical resources. Sherin is a leading authority on the care of veterans struggling with mental health issues in particular and reintegration challenges in general.

Jonathan Castillo, LISW, Director of Veteran Services, PATH

Jonathan Castillo joined the PATH Family of Agencies in March, 2014 as the Director of Veteran Services. He has direct oversight for the overall administrative and management functions of the veteran programs. Prior to joining the PATH Family of Agencies, Castillo began his social work career as a children's social worker for Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services. He eventually joined the Greater Los Angeles VA Medical Center and served homeless veterans in the HUD-VASH program as an Associate Coordinator and Social Work Supervisor. He earned his Bachelor of Social Work degree from Azusa Pacific University and his Master of Science in Social Work Administration from Case Western Reserve University. Castillo became a Licensed Independent Social Worker in 2013.

Jonelle Glubke, Program Director, Minneapolis VA Homeless Programs, Minneapolis VA Community Resource and Referral Center

Jonelle Glubke, LICSW, serves as the Program Director for the Minneapolis VA Homeless Programs and the Minneapolis VA Community Resource and Referral Center. Glubke has worked within the Mental Health Service Line at the Minneapolis VA Health Care System for the last 14 years. She specifically worked with the Addictive Disorder Section, providing individual, family and group therapy to veterans who have chemical and mental health needs. During the last 10 years, Glubke has had an active role on various committees within the Minneapolis VA Medical Center and in the community in improving access and developing innovative services for veterans. She has specialized in developing and overseeing services for veterans experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness since 2006. She is responsible for ensuring effective services and programs are provided to veterans that include outreach and education, prevention services, treatment, transitional and permanent housing options and employment/benefits.

Kate Seif, Program and Policy Analyst, National Alliance to End Homelessness

Kate Seif serves as a Program and Policy Analyst focused on veterans at the Alliance. In this capacity, Seif works with the Administration, Congress, and partners across the country to

determine the best practices and policies for preventing and ending homelessness among veterans. Prior to her current role, she served as the Alliance's Policy Outreach Coordinator and previously as the Assistant to the President at the Alliance. Seif graduated from Boston University with a BA in political science and a minor in international relations.

Kathleen A. Vitalis, President/CEO, Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans

Kathleen Vitalis is the President/CEO of Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV). Her responsibilities include managing the day-to-day activities of the statewide organization including fiscal responsibilities and budgeting, coordinating three regional programs, analyzing the needs of current programs and recommending enhancements, and managing all grant activity and reporting. She is the key interface for foundation giving and development activities. Prior to her employment with MACV, Vitalis worked for AT&T/NCR holding a variety of positions from Software Programmer/Systems Analyst to Product Manager and Senior Marketing Research Consultant. She holds a BS in Marketing and Finance from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota.

Kathleen Guarino, Director of Training, The National Center on Family Homelessness at American Institutes for Research

Kathleen Guarino is Director of Training at The National Center on Family Homelessness at American Institutes for Research, where she develops programs, resources, and training curricula to support organizations to provide trauma-informed care. Guarino's work includes a specific focus on meeting the needs of women veterans and veterans experiencing trauma and homelessness. She is the author of Trauma-Informed Care for Women Veterans Experiencing Homelessness, a guide for community-based organizations. Commissioned by the Department of Labor Women's Bureau and released in July of 2011, the guide is included in the White House Strengthening Our Military Families report as a strategy for serving female veterans and helping organizations create trauma-informed environments. She recently completed a first-of-its-kind, multi-site demonstration project to pilot trauma-informed care in community-based agencies serving women veterans who are homeless as part of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation Mental Health & Well-Being Initiative.

Ken Fenner, Director, Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program and Veterans Workforce Investment Program, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Department of Labor

Ken Fenner has 15 years of professional experience in state and federal government working for the State of Maryland and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Fenner served as a vocational rehabilitation counselor and a unit manager when working for the Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services serving the universal population of disabled persons seeking reintegration into the labor force. During his tenure at the Department of



Veterans Affairs, Fenner served as a vocational rehabilitation specialist specializing in placing the severe and chronically mentally ill veterans while working for the Compensated Work Therapy Unit at the Washington, D.C. VA Medical Center. He has also served as a vocational rehabilitation counselor and an employment coordinator for VBA's VR&E program. Currently, Fenner manages the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program and the Veterans Workforce Investment Program for the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) of the Department of Labor (DOL). Fenner is a former Marine Corps aviation ordinance man who served during the first Persian Gulf War.

Kevin A. Ward, Senior Vice President, Finance and Strategy & Chief Financial Officer, New England Center for Homeless Veterans

Kevin Ward joined the New England Center for Homeless Veterans in 2003 and oversees the accounting, budgeting, strategic planning, information technology, grants and contracts, treasury, and payroll functions at the Center. He received a BS in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from North Adams State College. He has achieved the designation of Fellow in the Health Care Financial Management Association, a Certified Manager in Patient Accounts and has successfully completed his CPA exam.

Kevin Driscoll, Assistant Director of Workforce Opportunities, Jericho Project

Kevin Driscoll is the Assistant Director of Workforce Opportunities at Jericho Project. He oversees Jericho Project's workforce programs that provide services to veterans, including an HVRP grant. Driscoll has worked in multiple capacities in the social

services and has been providing vocational services to disadvantaged populations in New York City for eight years. He holds a Master of Science in Cognitive Psychology from Rutgers University, where he worked for the Center for the Study of Health Beliefs and Behavior.

Kimberley Cook, Executive Director, U.S.VETS – Barber's Point

Kim Cook was born and raised on the island of O'ahu in Honolulu, Hawaii and has dedicated a number of years to serving the veteran community. She received her Psy.D. degree in Clinical Psychology from Argosy University – Hawaii in 2008 and joined U.S.VETS in 2009 as the facility's Clinical Director. In 2012 she was named as the site's Executive Director, managing facilities and programs which house nearly 850 veterans nightly. As a strong advocate for providing quality holistic wellness treatment, Dr. Cook has led her team to developing innovative treatment modalities to the veterans and service members that they serve. After working many years in the nonprofit sector with children with Autism, adults with severe mental illnesses, and in the field of chemical dependency, her professional interests include psychosocial factors of post-deployment, suicide prevention and intervention, diverse and marginalized populations and indigenous healing and cultural practices.

Kristine DiNardo, Vice President of Clinical Services, New England Center for Homeless Veterans

Kristine DiNardo, Med, LMHC, MFT, is Vice President of Clinical Services at the New England Center for Homeless Veterans (NECHV). Beginning her work as Clinical Case Manager for veterans with co-occurring disorders in May of 2001, she now

oversees a clinical staff of 45, and 13 specialized behavioral health and housing programs. DiNardo has over 30 years of experience in human services, education, training and management. Her clinical experience includes work in trauma, domestic violence, family therapy, mental health and addictions counseling, and clinical supervision.

Lisa Pape, National Director of Homeless Programs, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs

Lisa M. Pape, LISW, serves as the National Director of Homeless Programs for the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) within VA. In this capacity, Pape is responsible for ensuring effective implementation of the Department's Five-Year Plan to End Veteran Homelessness. Her primary efforts include implementation of homeless programs across the field that provide prevention services, outreach, treatment, transitional and permanent housing solutions and supportive services. She is responsible for executing a \$1 billion budget for specialized homeless services. Her focus is on operationalizing plans and approaches designed to most effectively meet the needs of our nation's veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Lorenzo McFarland, Senior Program Manager for HIV, Hepatitis, and Public Health Pathogens Programs, Department of Veterans Affairs

Dr. Lorenzo McFarland served 20 years in the US Air Force, retiring at the rank of Master Sergeant. His duty assignments include Zaragoza Spain, Aviano Italy, Minot North Dakota, and San Antonio Texas. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, and Air Force Achievement Medal, three oak leaf clusters. He holds Master's degrees in Public Health and Social Work, and a Doctorate in Health Administration. McFarland is a senior program manager for HIV, Hepatitis, and Public Health Pathogens Programs at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Marta Budu-Arthur, Program Director for SSVF, New England Center for Homeless Veterans

Marta Budu-Arthur joined the staff of the New England Center for Homeless Veterans (NECHV) in September of 2013 as Program Director for SSVF. Her background includes 20 years as a clinician, clinical director, and senior administrator, working with mentally ill children and families. Budu-Arthur has developed and implemented the SSVF program at NECHV, working closely with three subcontracting agencies: Home-Start, Project Place, and Veterans Transition House. She has taken a leadership role in working to end veteran homelessness with the Boston CoC as chair of the Supportive Services Committee.



Mary Clark, Coordinator, SSVF Program, United Way of Greater Atlanta

Mary Clark serves as a Coordinator for the SSVF program at United Way of Greater Atlanta. The SSVF program provides temporary housing assistance with case management to veteran families that are at-risk to homelessness, or are currently homeless in the greater Atlanta area. Clark coordinates the efforts of SSVF team members and community partners to ensure clients have access to community resources like SSI/SSDI Benefits and assists with ongoing outreach activities. Prior to her time with the SSVF program, she worked as a Benefits Specialist utilizing the SOAR process to connect homeless individuals to SSI/SSDI benefits and income.

Matt Leslie, Director of Housing Development for Veterans, Virginia Department of Veterans Services and the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP)

As the Director of Housing Development for Veterans, Matt Leslie provides statewide coordination of homeless and housing services for the Virginia Department of Veterans Services and the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP). DVS does not maintain any housing for veterans directly, however Leslie helps communities collaboratively develop and enhance services for veterans through partnership and support from Federal and State entities. He is also co-chairman of the Governor's Homeless Coordinating Council Veterans Subcommittee.

Melanie Zamora, Director of Housing Programs, The Road Home

Melanie Zamora is the Director of Housing Programs at The Road Home in Salt Lake City, UT. She has worked in homeless services for 16 years. Melanie directs programs that include ending homelessness for veterans, families and individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. Melanie has a Master's degree in Public Administration and a Graduate Certificate in Conflict Resolution and Mediation from the University of Utah. Undergraduate degrees include a major in Creative Writing and Spanish Literature.

Melissa Stipa, Account Specialist, Ticket to Work

Melissa Stipa is an Account Specialist for Social Security's Ticket to Work program. She has worked on the program for one and a half years, developing and training Employment Networks to effectively assist Social Security beneficiaries return to work and pursue financial independence. She holds a Bachelor of Social Work and Master of Social Work degree from George Mason University. Stipa served in the Army National Guard for six years and is a combat veteran.

Michael J. Palumbo III, Outreach Specialist and Lead Job Developer, Easter Seals Veteran Services

Michael Palumbo serves as an Outreach Specialist and Lead Job Developer for Easter Seals Homeless Female Veterans and Veterans with Families Program grant through DOL-VETS. In this capacity he assists program case managers and their clients with identifying and securing employment and training opportunities in the Northern Virginia, D.C., and Maryland service areas. He also organizes and leads job search training session and job fairs for existing and potential new program participants. Prior to this role, Palumbo provided on-site management, policy, and technical support under a \$10 million contract with DOL-VETS and directly served the Competitive Grants Program Lead for homeless veterans.

Michael Tomlinson, HMIS Administrator, PA-605 Erie City and County Continuum of Care

Michael Tomlinson is the HMIS Administrator for the PA-605 Erie City and County Continuum of Care, beginning in that role in November 2013. He was born and raised in Erie, PA and has spent most of his adult life there. He graduated from Edinboro University with a degree in Psychology in 2011 with a focus on research of the psychology of creativity, and found employment with Keystone Research Corporation focusing on their research of arts in education, and also their research on public housing and community building. From there, he moved to EUMA to become Erie County's HMIS Administrator.

Nathaniel Saltz, Program Director, Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans

Nathaniel Saltz has been serving veterans experiencing homelessness as a MACV staff member since 2003. He has served as an HVRP Case Manager, GPD Program Coordinator, and Program Director. His duties within the organization have included operating and case managing veterans in a VA GPD program, coordinating 10 annual Minnesota Stand Down events, and statewide rollout and oversight of grant programs. Saltz has also been active with MACV in the community on behalf of veterans. He is currently serving on multiple Homeless Continuum of Care committees and homeless concerns groups. He has lead implementation of the MACV statewide rollout of SSVF and has served as a mentor for new SSVF programs. He has a Bachelor's degree in Technical Communication from Metropolitan State University.

Nesreen Khashan, Data Dissemination Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau

Nesreen Khashan is a Data Dissemination Specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau, serving Maryland and the Metro D.C. area. She's worked with the Census Bureau for nearly five years, three in her current role, and two spent earlier in her career helping Maryland get ready for the 2010 Census. Khashan provides presentations and workshops to the business community, local and state governments, nonprofits, educational institutions, the media and other stakeholders, to help them understand what Census Bureau data are available and how to access them.

Patricia Wolschon, Director of Homeless Programming, John D. Dingell VA Medical Center

Patricia Wolschon is the Director of Homeless Programming for the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit. She is a Board Officer of the Homeless Action Network of Detroit and a member of the Oakland Alliance for Housing Board of Oakland County. She also serves on the Michigan Interagency Council on Homelessness. Wolschon has a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Social Work. She has been a professional social worker functioning as a clinician, instructor, and administrator for over 30 years in both the private and public sectors.

Rachael Dietkus Miller, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program Coordinator and Supervisor, VA Illiana Health Care System

Rachael Dietkus Miller is the Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program Coordinator and Supervisor for VA Illiana Health Care System in Danville, Illinois. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and earned both her BA in Sociology and MSW from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She began her tenure with VHA as a macro-level social work intern in 2010 with the Health Care for Homeless Veterans program. Miller has over 15 years of leadership experience working with local to national nonprofit organizations, and recently completed a 120-day detail as a regional coordinator with the SSVF program office.

Ray Pennie, Vice President of Business Development, ClearPoint Credit Counseling Solutions

Ray Pennie is ClearPoint's Vice President of Business Development. He is responsible for managing a national business development team that expands ClearPoint's mission of "consumer health through financial education" to underserved economic groups, including low- to moderate- income populations, Hispanics, veterans, and older Americans. His team is instrumental in developing new and diverse revenue streams by forming strategic alliances with national corporations and nonprofits to further expand the agency's footprint and reach. He has more than 28 years of experience in the banking sector, working in commercial and residential lending and asset management. Before beginning his career in banking, Pennie served for six years in the US Navy as a Cryptologic Technical Operator.

**Renato Izquieta, Attorney,
Legal Aid Society of Orange County**

Renato Izquieta is a staff attorney at the Legal Aid Society of Orange County (LASOC). Izquieta started his career in legal services in 1997. At the LASOC, Izquieta works in the litigation department, assisting low-income clients with civil legal issues such as family law, landlord-tenant, public benefits, consumer matters, IRS tax, and a variety of other civil legal issues. He also supervises the Homeless and Veteran's Project at LASOC. He provides direct services to the homeless and is a collaborative partner of Orange County's Homeless Court.

Ron E. Armstead, Executive Director for the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans BrainTrust

Ron E. Armstead, is the Executive Director for the Congressional Black Caucus Veterans BrainTrust (CBCVB) located in Washington, D.C., and a past consultant to the late Secretary Jesse Brown's VA Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans. He has served as Executive Director of the CBCVB since its inception in 1988, first under Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-NY), and currently under Reps. Corrine Brown (D-FL), new Ranking Member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, and Sanford Bishop, Jr. (D-GA), Ranking Democratic Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Co-Chair of the bi-partisan Congressional Military Families Caucus. Under his leadership, the Veterans BrainTrust has expanded from its small core group to become one of the premiere forums for policy debate between veterans and representatives of government in the country.

Rossina Schroeer-Santiago, HVRP Employment Case Manager, Denver Department of Human Services

Rossina Schroeer-Santiago is an OIF/OEF veteran of the US Army and currently serves as the Employment Case Manager for HVRP at the Denver Department of Human Services. She has served the active military and veteran community by providing transitional services to separating personnel, family programming to Guard and Reserve personnel, Community Based Healthcare Coordination for Wounded Warriors, and recently completed a Wounded Warrior Congressional Fellowship in Veteran Constituent Services. She is currently in pursuit of her MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Argosy University - Denver, with an emphasis on Career Counseling, substance abuse, and trauma.

**Rosye Cloud, Senior Employment Advisor,
Veterans Benefits Administration**

Rosye Cloud was appointed on July 28, 2013, as the Senior Employment Advisor for the Veterans Benefits Administration Office of Economic Opportunity. Her focus for VA is to increase meaningful employment opportunities and professional mobility of veterans and their family members. Prior to her appointment to VA, Cloud served as White House Policy Director for Veterans, Wounded Warriors, and Military Families. As part of the National Security and Domestic Policy Council team, she

directed policy formulation for issues affecting veteran health, wellness, education and employment. She served as the Administration's Cross-Agency Priority Goal Lead for Veteran Career Readiness. Cloud supported a Military and Veterans Mental Health Interagency Task Force, playing a key role in the initial recommendations provided to the President on strategies to improve mental health and substance abuse treatment services for veterans, service members and their families.

**Sara Sommarstrom,
Vetlaw Director,
Minnesota Assistance
Council for Veterans**

Sara Sommarstrom currently serves as the Vetlaw Director for the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, working with attorneys and non-lawyers across the state of Minnesota to remove and reduce legal barriers to stability for veterans experiencing homelessness and other life crises. Sommarstrom is a 2005 graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School and recipient of the Excellence in Public Service Award, given to one member of the graduating class annually. After graduation, she served two years as an Equal Justice Works/AmeriCorps Fellow with the Minnesota Justice Foundation (MJF) before joining the staff of MJF full-time as a staff attorney and ultimately program director. She is a member of the ABA Commission on Homelessness and Poverty in addition to serving on several state and local bar association committees.



**Shalimar T. Cabrera, Executive Director,
U.S.VETS - Las Vegas**

Shalimar Cabrera is the Executive Director for the Las Vegas sites of United States Veterans Initiative (U.S.VETS), a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the successful transition of military veterans and their families. With over 12 years of nonprofit management experience, Cabrera has been commended for her innovative leadership in the field of homeless veteran services. Cabrera began her career in homeless veteran services as an Outreach Specialist, bringing veterans off the streets and out of the deserts, camps, and tunnels of Las Vegas and into transitional and permanent housing. She then went on to lead a state AmeriCorps Program that celebrated the highest Member retention among other awards in the State of Nevada for four

years, before accepting a promotion to lead the National AmeriCorps Program of U.S.VETS across multiple U.S. cities. Cabrera has now been serving as Executive Director of U.S.VETS - Las Vegas for the last seven years, managing a multi-million dollar budget and supervising a team of over 50 staff who provide services in two residential facilities for over 250 individual veterans, plus one veteran service center and scattered site programs in Las Vegas to assist over 500 veteran households annually.

**Shane Groen, Special Initiatives Director,
Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness**

Shane Groen is the Special Initiatives Director for the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness. He currently manages Project H3 Vets, the local implementation of the national 100,000 Homes Campaign. Project H3 Vets has gained national recognition for implementing a number of innovative practices and has housed 265 chronically homeless veterans to date. As a result of this initiative and the broad community support it received, Phoenix was the first city in the country to reach functional zero with its chronically homeless veteran population. Groen is a veteran of the United States Navy and has an MBA in Management from Western International University.

Stacy Studebaker, LCSW, Coordinator for the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Program, VA Palo Alto Healthcare System (VAPAHCS)

Stacy Studebaker, LCSW, is the Coordinator for the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) program at the VA Palo Alto Healthcare System (VAPAHCS), and has worked for the VA since 1997. Prior to working for VAPAHCS her experience included working in both the San Francisco and Northern California VA coordinating Hospice, Home Health Aid and Community Nursing Home programs respectively. Prior to joining the VA she worked at various nonprofits focusing on substance abuse in the general population. Since 2008, Studebaker has been a GPD Liaison for VAPAHCS and in 2011 she became the HCHV Coordinator and has managed its administrative and clinical responsibilities. In addition, she provides oversight to the multiple initiatives which HCHV is responsible for, including the National Call Center, SSVF, Stand Down, and CHALENG and Outreach.

**Steve Binder, Deputy Public Defender,
San Diego Office of the Primary Public Defender**

Steve Binder is a deputy public defender with the San Diego Office of the Primary Public Defender, where he has practiced

since 1988. He co-founded the Homeless Court Program (HCP) in 1989 and the Veterans Treatment Review Calendar (VTRC) in 2011. He represented the first VTRC participants to receive Restorative Relief under Penal Code 1170.9(h) in California. Binder also authored a grant request for Department of Justice/Bureau of Justice Assistance funding for the HCP. In May 2013, Binder received the Thomas Wynn Sr. Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement from the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. In November 2009, he received the VA Secretary's Award for Achievement in Service to Homeless Veterans from Eric Shinseki in Washington, D.C.



Tori Lyon, Executive Director, Jericho Project

Tori Lyon joined Jericho Project in 1996 as the Director of Development. In 1999, she was promoted to Associate Executive Director and in 2005 became Jericho's third Executive Director. Her experience includes nearly 20 years in the supportive housing industry with responsibility for strategic planning, fundraising, housing and program development, and executive management. Prior to joining Jericho Project, Lyon was the Grants Manager at Bailey House, a supportive housing program for people living with HIV/AIDS.

**Tramecia Garner, Director of Residential Programs,
Swords to Plowshares**

Tramecia Garner is the Director of Residential Programs at Swords to Plowshares and oversees their residential programs, including two transitional housing programs for homeless veterans suffering with substance use and mental health issues and three permanent supportive housing sites. She has been working for Swords to Plowshares since March of 2010 and has over five years experience working with the veteran population, starting with her internship in 2008 at the Atlanta Vet Center.



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