Save the Date: 2015 NCHV Annual Conference
May 27-29, 2015 in Washington, D.C.

As we begin the final year of the Five-Year Plan to End Homelessness, it's time to mark your calendars for what promises to be one of the most anticipated NCHV Annual Conferences in our organization's history! Help us mark 25 years of NCHV with special events and tributes throughout the conference.

This three-day training event will feature sessions covering a wide range of topics to support your community's efforts to end veteran homelessness by the end of 2015. You'll hear the latest updates and be able to give feedback to leaders from our partners at VA, DOL, HUD, and more.

Mark your calendar for May 27-29, 2015 at the Grand Hyatt Washington! Registration will open with more details soon, stay tuned to the NCHV Annual Conference page on our website for the latest updates.

NCHV Joins New Orleans Partners in Announcing the First Major City to End Veteran Homelessness
Mayor Landrieu responds to Mayors Challenge

On Jan. 7, 2015, NCHV joined New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu and community partners at a press conference to announce that New Orleans has become the first major U.S. city to end veteran homelessness. In response to First Lady Michelle Obama's Mayors Challenge to End Homelessness by the end of 2015, New Orleans set out to be the first to meet that goal and did so a year early. Read the press release from the event here.

This announcement sets a benchmark for the nation, and is an exciting way to start the final year of the Five-Year Plan to End Veteran Homelessness. The success in New Orleans is a testament to the fact that we can eliminate veteran homelessness in our nation if all the right partners come together with a sharp focus on making it happen.

Read more about New Orleans' accomplishment, and NCHV Executive Director Baylee Crone's remarks from the press conference, in the latest post on Coalition Call, NCHV's official blog.
Important Information for Upcoming Point in Time Count

Be sure to be involved in the process in your community

Each year, with support from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), communities across the country conduct a Point-in-Time (PIT) count of homeless individuals on a single night in January. Volunteers and providers in the area will interview and count the number of individuals that they find on the street. These volunteers ask a series of questions to gather demographic data, including veteran status. This data helps drive funding distributions and targeting of resources to local communities.

How to get involved and information you should know:

1. Each Continuum of Care (CoC) chooses its own date for the PIT count, but typically the PIT count occurs towards the end of January. Contact your local CoC main point of contact to find out how to get involved. You can find out who your CoC contact is by visiting the [HUD Exchange website](https://www.hudexchange.info) and searching under "About Grantees."

2. Some of the guidelines on data collection have changed. If you are involved in the execution of your PIT count, make sure to read the information on those changes in the HUD notice released in October.

3. To streamline the PIT count, HUD released a mobile app for the 2015 surveys. The app can be found through the Apple store and Google Play. [The mobile app information is also on the website](https://www.hudexchange.info).

4. HUD has released several tools to support PIT counts. [You can find these tools on the HUD Exchange website](https://www.hudexchange.info).

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Funding Opportunities

**BAE Systems** makes charitable gifts, grants, and matching gifts – as well as offering corporate sponsorship – for organizations that serve veterans and their families, or military members. They accept applications from programs anywhere in the U.S., but have a focus on areas where their company has a presence. The next application deadline is Feb. 28, 2015. To learn more, [click here](https://www.bae.com/our-company/community). Relevant information for applications can be found in the PDF downloads available at the top right hand corner of this webpage.

**The Bank of America Charitable Foundation** is investing $2 billion over 10 years to find long-term solutions to problems. In 2015, their three funding priorities are workforce development and education, community development, and basic human services. The open period for their workforce development and education grants is Jan. 20 to Feb. 13. The open period for community development grants is April 20 to May 8. The open period for basic human services grants related to alleviating hunger is July 20 – Aug. 7. For more information, [click here](https://www.bankofamerica.com/about/corporate-social-responsibility/charitable-giving/).