

## **NCHV eNewsletter**

**June 2014**



### **NCHV Needs Your Input: Survey on PTSD's Impact on Veteran Homelessness in Your Community**

**Please respond by Friday, June 20, 2014**

NCHV Members and Partners in Service,

NCHV continuously seeks to better understand the challenges that lead to veteran homelessness. These challenges may be faced by the veteran, by the service provider, or even by your larger service network. By better understanding the local challenges, we can more successfully push for comprehensive solutions. We know that a large number of homeless veterans are impacted by trauma and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). We are asking for your help to more fully understand the needs associated with this issue. Please share your expertise and knowledge by [completing this online survey](#).

The survey should take approximately 10 minutes. It is our goal to use the results of this survey to help community-based service providers improve how they address trauma and PTSD among homeless veterans. Thank you for your time and your work in service to veterans experiencing homelessness.

Please complete the survey by Friday, June 20.

---

### **2014 NCHV Annual Conference Presentations Now Online**

**Stay tuned to NCHV Annual Conference page for more post-conference resources**

Thank you to all who attended the 2014 NCHV Annual Conference, "Bridging the Gap," and helped make it such a success. All available session presentations are being posted to the [NCHV Annual Conference page](#) as we receive them, so check back regularly if the presentation you are looking for is not posted yet.

Other items coming soon to the Annual Conference page include: NCHV Awards highlights, key session spotlight articles, and other information and resources.

---

### **Veterans Poverty and Opportunity Profile**

**New resource from Half in Ten Campaign and NCHV**

The Half In Ten Campaign, in partnership with the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, has created a new one-page resource about veterans in poverty. This resource lays out a variety of quick facts and statistics about veterans in poverty, and the variety of challenges they face currently. It may be a useful resource for you as you go about your own advocacy at the local and state levels, or in your fundraising endeavors. From the Poverty and Opportunity Profile:

"Veterans have made great sacrifices for our country; they protected and served the nation, yet many return home and struggle with poverty and economic insecurity. There are roughly 22.5 million veterans in the U.S., many of whom are above the retirement age, with more than 1.4 million living in poverty. While the overall unemployment rate for veterans is lower than the national average and has been steadily declining during the recovery, the unemployment rate for recent veterans remains high, at 10.1 percent in September 2013. However, for veterans able to find civilian jobs, 1 in 10 don't make a living wage. Fortunately veteran homelessness has seen a 24% decrease since 2010, but there are thousands still struggling and more that are hungry. We must address the special needs of the fastest growing contingent of economically insecure veterans, namely single parents of whom a majority are women. We must continue to enable veterans to enjoy the same opportunities and success as all Americans, which they certainly deserve."

To view the Veteran's Poverty and Opportunity Profile, [click here](#).

---

## **Housing First: How Evidence Drives Solutions to Homelessness**

### **USICH Policy Director writes about Housing First presentation from NCHV Annual Conference**

Eric Grumdahl, Policy Director for the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), presented "Resources to Implement Housing First" at the 2014 NCHV Annual Conference. Along with representatives from the National Alliance to End Homelessness, Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness, Swords to Plowshares and the New England Center for Homeless Veterans, Grumdahl provided an evidence-based case for the continued emphasis on Housing First in the campaign to end veteran homelessness.

Grumdahl wrote a blog post for the USICH blog, giving an overview of information from his presentation and highlighting the Department of Veterans Affairs' efforts to institute Housing First across all of its programs. To read Grumdahl's blog post, "Housing First: How Evidence Drives Solutions to Homelessness," [click here](#).

---

## **VA Homeless Patient Aligned Care Team (H-PACT) Program Update**

### **Update on "No Wrong Door" system of care**

The VA Homeless Patient Aligned Care Team Program, H-PACT, was established in January 2012 to provide a coordinated "medical home" specifically tailored to the needs of homeless veterans. Interdisciplinary teams of doctors, nurses, and case managers respond to the ongoing and evolving medical, mental health, and substance abuse needs of homeless veterans entering the VA system. The program serves as a conduit for treatment engagement and involvement in VA Homeless Programs and clinical services and supports through a "no wrong door" policy. It is designed to provide the care necessary to keep veterans in housing and prevent a return to homelessness.

H-PACTs now serve over 10,000 veterans in 44 VA facilities across all 21 Veteran Integrated Service Networks in the country. The program continues to demonstrate substantial (25-30%) reductions in emergency department use and hospitalizations (25%) among some of the most complex and difficult-to-care-for patients in the VA system. It has also helped them secure and maintain housing.

[Read the H-PACT Update here.](#)

---

## Funding Opportunities

**The Duke Energy Foundation** provides grants to nonprofit organizations serving Duke Energy communities. The Foundation's giving is focused in the areas of environment, economic development, education, and community vitality. Grants will only be considered for organizations serving the people in Duke Energy's service areas in Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. For more information, [click here](#).

**The Opus Community Foundation** is committed to strengthening communities in which Opus Bank operates (in California and Washington) by providing grants in the following areas: affordable housing and community revitalization, education and financial literacy, community health and human services, and the arts. Grant applications are accepted on a rolling basis and grants funded range from \$500 to \$25,000. Most grants are around \$5,000. For more information, [click here](#).

---

This eNewsletter is funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. For the latest news, resources and grant information, visit our website at [www.nchv.org](http://www.nchv.org).

### **National Coalition for Homeless Veterans**

333 1/2 Pennsylvania Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
202-546-1969 or toll-free 1-800-VET-HELP

---