Halfway Home: Progress in the Plan to End Veteran Homelessness

Register now for 2012 NCHV Annual Conference, May 30 to June 1 in Washington, D.C.

The 2012 NCHV Annual Conference, titled "Halfway Home: Progress in the Plan to End Veteran Homelessness," will be held May 30 to June 1, 2012, in Washington, D.C. As the entire homeless veteran service community convenes, we will take stock of progress at the halfway point in the Five-Year Plan to End Veteran Homelessness and set a course to meet the ultimate goal of eliminating homelessness among veterans by 2015.

Join us for the most important homeless veteran-specific event of the year. After three days of training and networking, you will leave the 2012 NCHV Annual Conference prepared to continue leading the charge to end veteran homelessness in your community. Among the three days of intense training will be four tracks of special emphasis:

- "Department of Veterans Affairs: Finishing the Plan to End Veteran Homelessness"
- "Community Engagement: The Power of Partnerships"
- "Target Populations: Meeting Unique Needs"
- "Legal Services: Overcoming Barriers to Independent Living"

This year's conference will be held at the Grand Hyatt Washington, 1000 H Street NW, Washington, D.C. A block of rooms has been reserved for conference attendees at a discounted rate of $224 per night. These rooms sell out every year, so please make your reservations as soon as possible to ensure you receive the discounted rate. To make your reservations at the Grand Hyatt, click here.

Registration fees for the 2012 NCHV Annual Conference are $395 for NCHV members and $475 for non-members. The fee for one-day registration is $220 for NCHV members and $250 for non-members. Registration forms received after May 14 will be charged a $35 late fee. Download the registration form here.

VA Conference Calls Focused on Grant and Per Diem NOFA

Presented by the VA GPD Office

The Department of Veterans Affairs Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Office will be offering conference calls to review the current GPD Notice of Fund Availability (NOFA). The target audience for the calls is potential applicants. Each call will cover the same material, so it is only necessary to attend one of the calls listed below. A PowerPoint presentation on the material that will be covered during the call is available by clicking here. For questions on the NOFA, you may email the VA Grant and Per Diem Program; program officials will address as many questions as possible during the conference calls.

The dates and times for upcoming calls are as follows:

- March 22, 11 a.m. EDT
- March 29, 1 p.m. EDT
The calls will last 80 minutes, with 200 lines for each call available on a first-come basis. The toll-free dial-in number for the calls is 1-800-767-1750, access code 60737.

For more information on these calls or the Grant and Per Diem Program, click here.

**Ending Homelessness: How Banks Can Finance Permanent Supportive Housing**

*Webinar presented by USICH and Office of the Comptroller of the Currency*

This joint webinar co-hosted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) will provide an overview of bank financing of permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness. The speakers will provide background information on the characteristics of homelessness, especially chronic homelessness, and its high cost to communities around the country. They will address how banks can finance more permanent supportive housing by investing in low-income housing tax credits and investing in pre-development loan pools. Speakers will also address Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) consideration for bankers providing financing to developers of permanent supportive housing.

The webinar will take place Wednesday, April 25, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. EDT. To register for the webinar, click here.

**HUD Awards $201 Million in Continuum of Care Awards**

*Awarded to 731 new local homeless programs across the country*

On March 13, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan awarded nearly $201 million to 731 new local homeless programs across the country. This funding provides critically needed emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent support for individuals and families, and is a significant part of the Obama Administration's strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness.

"This funding represents the Obama Administration's financial commitment to Opening Doors' vision of ending chronic and veterans homelessness by 2015, family homelessness by 2020, and setting us on a path to end all types of homelessness. It also reinforces our pledge to work in partnership with local communities to further innovative public-private partnerships," said USICH Executive Director Barbara Poppe.

HUD recently awarded $1.47 billion to renew funding to more than 7,100 existing local homeless programs operating across the United States. That funding ensured housing and service programs remained operating in 2012. The grants announced on March 13 will support new local programs never-before funded by HUD.

According to the latest data reported by more than 3,000 cities and counties throughout the country, homelessness declined 2.1 percent between 2010 and 2011 and a remarkable 12 percent among veterans.

To view the full list of programs receiving funding, click here. To read the full press release from HUD, click here.

**2012 NCHV Awards Nominations**

*Call for entries for Annual NCHV Awards*

NCHV members are invited to nominate deserving individuals and organizations for the following awards. Winners will be honored at the NCHV Annual Awards Banquet in Washington, D.C., during the 2012 Annual Conference. For more information, visit our conference webpage.

- **Outstanding Member**
  
  To the NCHV member that has demonstrated leadership
in coalition building.

- **Partnership Award**
  To a person or organization (not an NCHV member) who has contributed to the development of partnerships to expand the services available for homeless veterans.

- **Public Policy Award**
  To a local or state person or organization for influencing or implementing public policy to benefit homeless veterans.

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

- **Departments of Veterans Affairs and Labor Staff Awards**

Fax your nomination – in the form of a letter explaining why the nominee is deserving of which award – to 202-546-2063, or email to rbrown@nchv.org.

**Funding Opportunities**

**Toyota** is proud to partner with nonprofit organizations across the country in the local communities where Toyota’s employees live and work. This includes supporting arts and culture, civic and community issues, health and human services, and leadership development. Application guidelines and procedures vary based on geographic region. For more information, click here.

**The US Airways Community Foundation** is accepting capital campaign grant applications from nonprofits in targeted regions. The Foundation will support multi-year capital campaigns for 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations located and providing services in the major metropolitan areas of Charlotte (Mecklenberg County); Philadelphia (Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties); Phoenix (Maricopa County); and Washington, D.C. (Alexandria, Arlington, District of Columbia, Fairfax-Falls Church, Loudoun, Montgomery, Prince George's, and Prince William counties).

Grants will be awarded to formal campaigns related to constructing or remodeling a current or new building for nonprofit organizations whose missions support one of the Foundation’s three focus areas: arts, education, and human services. The next deadline for applications is April 1. For more information, click here.

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**National Coalition for Homeless Veterans**

333 ½ Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20003-1148

**Mission:** The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans will end homelessness among veterans by shaping public policy, promoting collaboration, and building the capacity of service providers.

This newsletter is sent to members of NCHV. If you would like to be removed from our list, please send an email to jdriscoll@nchv.org. You can subscribe or view past issues here.