NCHV eNewsletter March 2015



NCHV Founders to Help Commemorate 25 Years of Service at 2015 Annual Conference, Register Today!

May 27-29 in Washington, D.C.



Register online for the 2015 NCHV Annual Conference, or download a registration form to return by fax or mail.

We are proud to announce that four of the founders of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans will help us commemorate 25 years of service at the 2015 NCHV Annual Conference. The vision these men shared when they founded this Coalition in 1990 is now a national priority recognized by the President of the United States. Our nation is on the brink of ending veteran homelessness thanks to these individuals whose vision sparked a historic course of action and change.

Please join us for a Founders Forum during this year's NCHV Membership Meeting. All Annual Conference participants, including NCHV Member agencies, will be invited to hear from our founders. They will share their insights on where we came from, and also where we are going as a movement. Join us in thanking them for their service!

The 2015 NCHV Annual Conference will be held May 27-29, 2015, at the Grand Hyatt in Washington, D.C. This year is NCHV's 25th anniversary and we want to thank you, the NCHV members and partner agencies, for your work over the last 25 years.

We have secured a discounted block of rooms at the Grand Hyatt for conference attendees. This block sells out every year and is a substantial discount compared to other local options. Be sure to book your room well in advance! Click here to make your reservation at the discounted rate.

Call for Nominations: Annual NCHV Awards

To be presented at the Annual NCHV Awards Ceremony, May 28 in Washington, D.C.

Each year, NCHV honors the commitment and service of a few of the many deserving organizations and individuals helping homeless veterans across the nation. We are now accepting nominations for the following awards:

- Outstanding Member to an NCHV member organization whose programs, partnerships, and people combine to create extraordinary results
- Partnership Award to an organization or individual whose work building effective partnerships exemplifies creativity and collaboration
- **Public Policy Award** to an elected official whose record shows strong commitment and action in measures to help homeless veterans
- **Unsung Hero Award** to an individual whose efforts go above and beyond expectations, who expects nothing in return and demonstrates a hero's heart for homeless veterans
- **Department of Veterans Affairs Staff Award** to a Department of Veterans Affairs staff member who exhibits extraordinary commitment to homeless veterans and service providers
- **Department of Labor Staff Award** to a Department of Labor staff member who exhibits extraordinary commitment to homeless veterans and service providers

Please submit a one- to two-page letter of nomination including the nominee's name, title, and which award you are nominating for by email to rbrown@nchv.org no later than April 20, 2015.

President Visits Phoenix VAMC: Site of Change for VA, Homeless Vets

Remarks following roundtable event highlight importance of Choice Act

On March 13, President Barack Obama visited the Phoenix VA Medical Center for a roundtable discussion with Department of Veterans Affairs executives, members of Arizona's congressional delegation, veterans advocates, and hospital administrators and health care workers.

After the meeting, Obama delivered remarks about improving care for veterans at the Phoenix VAMC as well as throughout VA. He touted the efforts of Congress and VA Secretary Bob McDonald to make meaningful improvements through the Choice Act and MyVA to address the wait time issues that were discovered at the facility. He also pointed out that each of the veterans at the medical center that he had spoken with had told him that once they were able to receive care, that care was outstanding.

Phoenix is a shining example of the success of the Five-Year Plan to End Veteran Homelessness. Last year, Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton made the historic announcement that the city had housed all of its chronically homeless veterans.

In February, NCHV met with Mayor Stanton and was informed that Phoenix is on track to end veteran homelessness by the end of 2015. We applaud the providers in Phoenix and Mayor Stanton for his leadership.

To read the President's remarks following the VA roundtable, click here.

For more information on the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness, click here.

Employer TA Center Presents Webinar on Accommodating Employees with Mental Health Disabilities in Higher Education April 23, 1:00-2:00 PM EDT

The Office of Disability Employment Policy-funded Employer TA Center, located at The Viscardi Center, in coordination with the Higher Education Recruitment Consortium, will be presenting a webinar titled Accommodating Employees with Mental Health Disabilities in Higher Education on **April 23, 1:00-2:00 PM EDT**.

In this webinar, participants will learn why, how and when to accommodate employees with mental health disabilities in the higher education employment setting. In addition to addressing the legal framework for the provision of such accommodations, speakers will provide practical guidance and strategies higher education HR professionals can use to respond confidently to reasonable accommodation requests from employees across all sectors of their institution and develop a well-planned process that will lead to sound decisions. Several real-life accommodation situations and solutions from colleges and universities across the country will also be presented.

To register for this webinar, click here.

Funding Opportunities

The Charles A. Frueauff Foundation awards grants to education, human services, and health-related causes around the country. Applications for the spring cycle are currently being accepted until March 23, and first-time grantseekers will need to fill out a preliminary survey. For more information, click here.

The Laura J. Niles Foundation supports efforts to improve the lives of people in the northeastern United States. The Foundation assists individuals and facilities in leading responsible and productive lives by enabling them to help themselves, with a special focus on assisting the underprivileged and individuals with disabilities. The Foundation accepts applications throughout the year. For more information, <u>click here</u>.

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National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

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