

## NCHV eNewsletter

September 2014



### Schedule Overview for the 2014 NCHV Veterans Access to Housing Summit Now Available, Register Today!

Nov. 13-14 in New Orleans

**[Download the 2014 NCHV Veterans Access to Housing Summit brochure](#)**, which features an overview of the schedule for the event, Summit objectives, and hotel information.

Join NCHV and our community partners at the 2014 NCHV Veterans Access to Housing Summit, taking place Nov. 13-14 in New Orleans.

Stakeholders are encouraged to register quickly, as space is limited for this event.



**To register online, [click here](#). To download the registration form to return by mail or fax, [click here](#). To reserve your room in the discounted room block at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans, [click here](#).**

The discounted room rates are: Single Occupancy: \$151; Double Occupancy: \$171; Triple Occupancy: \$191; Quadruple Occupancy: \$211. This is a significant discount from the regular room rate, so be sure to reserve your room before the discounted block sells out!

#### **More details:**

Several interactive workshops will allow you to:

- Give your local perspective on changing Federal programs,
- Develop concrete action items for approaching local stakeholders, and
- Learn about new funding mechanisms to increase your community's housing stock.

Expert panelists will share engagement strategies and outcomes from 25 Cities, Zero: 2016, the Mayor's Initiative, and other coordinated local efforts to end veteran homelessness. Take advantage of this opportunity to work directly with the change-makers and experts in housing development for homeless and at-risk veterans!

Check back on the [Housing Summit web page](#) for updates. The Summit will run from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 13, and from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Friday, Nov. 14. Please join us for

a reception to meet key stakeholders on Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. A Housing Summit program will be available in the coming weeks.

**More about our host city:**

New Orleans is nationally recognized for their extraordinary progress in alleviating homelessness. The city's efforts to end veteran homelessness show ingenuity, creativity and dedication. Over the past two years, veteran homelessness dropped 66 percent, a fact made all the more impressive given the city's spike in homelessness after Hurricane Katrina.

Earlier this summer, Mayor Mitch Landrieu announced the City of New Orleans' drive to be the first city in the country to end all veteran homelessness by 2014. "The President sent out a clarion call that this is not who we are as a nation and that we need to come together as one people to make sure that all the veterans have what they need, from housing to health care to jobs," Mayor Landrieu said at a ceremony on the 4th of July. New Orleans has already shown this dedication as an active member of the VA's 25 Cities Initiative. This effort is an example of the success possible when a community merges ending veteran homelessness into its overall homelessness plan.

New Orleans provides us with fitting surroundings for the NCHV Housing Summit to discuss what is possible as we strive to ensure affordable housing access for all veterans experiencing homelessness. Representatives from New Orleans have been invited to share their strategies, victories and challenges with Summit attendees.

---

## **HUD Announces Availability of \$1.83 Billion in CoC Funds**

**Submission deadline is Oct. 30, 2014**

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has announced the availability of \$1.83 billion in funds for the Continuum of Care (CoC) program. HUD will set aside approximately \$40 million for a permanent supportive housing bonus to create new dedicated permanent supportive housing to serve the chronically homeless.

The CoC Program is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and to optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Applicants should review and follow the steps as outlined in the NOFA to ensure that applications are complete and submitted in a timely manner.

For more information and to view the full NOFA, [click here](#).

---

## **Helping Homeless Veterans Make the Connection with Available Resources**

**"You will find with treatment, your whole life changes." – Don, Veteran of the Vietnam War**

No matter your situation, it is never too late to reach out for support. Don, a U.S. Army Veteran, medevaced injured soldiers as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam. When Don came home from service, he

drank to try and keep the nightmares at bay. He lost his job, and legal troubles and homelessness led him to VA. He was then diagnosed with PTSD and began treatment. By reaching out for support, Don found the strength to get his life on track, and is no longer homeless.

The **Make the Connection** campaign features stories of resilience and recovery like Don's — from veterans of every age, experience, and service era. **Make the Connection** connects veterans and their families with mental health information and services to discover ways to live more fulfilling lives. Videos of veterans and their loved ones are at the heart of the campaign.

In addition to finding support at [MakeTheConnection.net](http://www.MakeTheConnection.net), you can also connect with care through a mental health professional or staff members at your local VA Medical Center or Vet Center. Don made the connection, and so can you. **Make the Connection** is a program run by VA.

Don's story: [www.MakeTheConnection.net/Stories/story.aspx?story\\_id=447](http://www.MakeTheConnection.net/Stories/story.aspx?story_id=447)

**Make the Connection** home page: [www.MakeTheConnection.net](http://www.MakeTheConnection.net)

**Make the Connection** Facebook: [www.facebook.com/VeteransMTC](https://www.facebook.com/VeteransMTC)

**Make the Connection** YouTube: [www.youtube.com/VeteransMTC](http://www.youtube.com/VeteransMTC)

---

## NCHV Launches Updated TA Center Page on Website

New features include map of all HVRP grantees, "At Your Service" video series

NCHV is excited to announce the launch of our updated [TA Center page](#) on our website! Be sure to check out the enhanced home of the NCHVTA Center for a streamlined experience in learning about and accessing NCHV's TA services.

The new page features a user-friendly setup broken into four categories based on what information you're looking for: Who We Are, Who We Serve, What We Do, and What You Can Do Now. All of the helpful resources we featured before, as well as exciting new additions, can be found through these sections.

One new addition to this page, accessible through the Best Practices section, is the "[At Your Service](#)" [Best Practices video series](#). During the 2014 NCHV Annual Conference, the NVTAC, a partnership between NCHV's TA Center and Advocates for Human Potential to serve HVRP grantees, conducted a series of focus group sessions with experienced HVRP grantees. We asked them challenging questions to unpack what they do to be successful in their work. We asked them to think critically about their role and how their organizations have changed over time to meet new and pressing needs. These sessions were recorded and compiled into videos surrounding key topics that arose through the interviews. The new TA Center page offers 13 of these videos providing insights from Best Practice HVRP programs around the country on a variety of topics that impact all grantees.

Another new addition to the TA Center page is a searchable map of all current HVRP grantees, a key resource for finding the services closest to you. See this and explore a host of other information, resources, and actions you can take by visiting the new [TA Center page](#).

---

## Funding Opportunities

**The Sunoco Foundation** supports the belief that Sunoco's success is determined not only by investing in our business, but also by investing in the communities the company serves. The Sunoco

Foundation aligns giving and business strategy with focus on three key areas: Fueling Minds: educate and develop skills for the workforce; Fueling the Planet: promote environmental stewardship and responsibility; and Fueling Communities: make them great places to live and work. The Foundation has a three-part application process, which begins with an eligibility quiz and submitting a letter of inquiry. For more information, [click here](#).

**The Windermere Foundation** is a nonprofit organization created by Windermere Real Estate for the purpose of raising and distributing funds to support low-income and homeless assistance programs for families throughout the western U.S. All funds must be distributed through an eligible nonprofit organization and readily tracked back to the families and children being served. Application deadlines vary by location. 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