

NCHV eNewsletter

September 2013



Registration Now Open for 2013 Veterans Access to Housing Summit

Summit will take place Nov. 20-21 in Chicago

On Nov. 20-21, the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV), in partnership with The Home Depot Foundation and Citi Salutes, is hosting the third annual Veterans Access to Housing Summit in Chicago, IL.

The NCHV Housing Summit brings together the major partners in improving access to affordable housing opportunities for homeless and low-income veterans. This two-day interactive training Summit will address the remaining housing challenges in the Five-Year Plan to End Veteran Homelessness and provide participants with the opportunity to learn, share and create solutions. Representatives from homeless veteran service providers, corporate partners, charitable organizations and federal agencies will lead engaging and interactive workshops and training sessions.

The Summit will better equip your agency to be an active partner in streamlined service delivery for veterans in need of rapid re-housing assistance and housing stability. It will help improve your organization's ability to facilitate faster, more efficient housing placement for veterans in your programs. With less than 1,000 days left in the Five-Year Plan, every effort must be made to think creatively about maximizing housing alternatives available in local communities.

The Summit is being hosted at the newly renovated Chicago Magnificent Mile Hotel. This hotel offers luxurious, upscale and technologically advanced services in both the guest rooms and meeting space. The reserved room block for the Summit will include complimentary wifi and access to the brand new fitness center and pool area. Be ready to reserve your room early, as the reserved room block will sell out quickly.

Registration fees are \$200 for the full event; no one day registrations will be accepted. To register online, [click here](#). To download the registration form to register by mail or fax, [click here](#). A link to reserve your room at the Chicago Magnificent Mile will be available soon on [this page](#).

Stakeholders are encouraged to register quickly, as space is limited for this event! Additional information about this event will be released as it is available.

American Legion Launches Suicide Prevention Web Center

September is Suicide Prevention Month

The American Legion has launched a new Suicide Prevention Web Center on its national website to provide veterans and their families with life-saving resources and programs during their time of transition and need. The center debuts at a time when suicide rates for U.S. veterans are among the highest – an estimated 20 veterans commit suicide every day.

The Legion's online Suicide Prevention Web Center builds on several suicide-prevention initiatives launched in recent years by the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The center houses specific suicide-prevention data, statistics, programs and resources organized for veterans, families and the community.

Additionally, information on VA's Crisis Hotline (800)-273-8255 (TALK), chat service and video testimonials from VA's Make the Connection program are accessible from the website. The Make the Connection program includes personal stories of veterans who were at risk for suicide, received help, and now they encourage other veterans to come forward and receive proper treatment.

The web center also features events and programs nationwide that recognize September as Suicide Prevention Month. Throughout the month, suicide-prevention coordinators at all 152 VA medical centers are organizing community events, hosting health fairs, leading training sessions, and working with the VA Voluntary Service to improve veterans' lives. VA is also launching a new nationwide Suicide Prevention Month public service announcement, "Talking About It Matters."

For questions about the new Suicide Prevention Web Center or American Legion veterans health-care programs and initiatives, please contact The American Legion's Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Division at var@legion.org or by phone at (202) 861-2700.

Visit [The American Legion's Suicide Prevention Web Center here](#).

Military.com Transition Center Helps Service Members Plan for Civilian Life

Tool to create Transition Action Plan, more resources

The Military.com Transition Center now features a personalized Transition Action Plan for those leaving the military, those retiring from a career in the military, and National Guard and Reserve personnel.

The Transition Action Plan tool guides the service member using a timeline that recommends specific steps to take at certain key points; whether they are leaving the service in a few months or a few years.

Early transition planning is important to ensure a smooth transition out of the armed forces. To access the Transition Action plan tool and all of the Transition Center's resources, [click here](#).

Funding Opportunities

The Lloyd A. Fry Foundation makes grants in Chicago, Illinois for a variety of purposes. An upcoming grant application deadline of Dec. 1 applies to "Employment" and "Health" programs. Homelessness prevention or reintegration programs would qualify for these two grant categories. For more information, including what the Foundation does and does not specifically fund, [click here](#).

The Rural Housing Service has announced a Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) for the Rural Community Development Initiative. Upwards of \$5 million will be disbursed to a variety of organizations that advance the mission of housing, and community and economic development. The deadline for this funding is November 12, 2013. Please refer to the Federal Register NOFA by [clicking here](#) for more information on eligibility and the application.

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