

Chillicothe VAMC Veteran Homelessness Key Resources

The United States Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) is and will continue to be committed to the goal of preventing and ending Veteran homelessness.

VA and its federal and community partners strive to meet the needs of Veterans by providing services that help them secure permanent housing and achieve their full potential.

The VA Housing Programs are part of a nationwide community social services network that provides referrals to the following resources:

US Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Rental assistance plus supportive services; HUD provides eligible homeless Veterans with voucher for privately owned housing. VA case managers provide these Veteran with supportive services to help them maintain housing in the community.

Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Outreach, case management and residential treatment services to help Veterans move to stable housing.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) For very low-income Veterans, provides case management and supportive services to prevent imminent loss of a Veteran's home or identify a new housing situation for an individual and his or her family.

Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Program Provides homeless Veterans with temporary housing and supportive services until they can move to permanent housing.

Homeless Veteran Community Employment Services (HVCES) Employment Coordinators (CECs) collaborate with employers ready to hire Veteran's exiting homelessness.

Veteran Justice Outreach (VJO) and Health Care for Reentry Veterans (HCRV) Programs. Assists justice involved Veterans with access to services and community resources to prevent homelessness.

Chillicothe VAMC serving Counties:
Adams, Athens, Clinton, Fairfield, Fayette, Guernsey, Highland, Hocking, Jackson, Meigs, Noble, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton, Washington

Contact the Chillicothe Housing Program Staff:

Coordinated Entry Specialist
Ext. 16477

Housing Program Supervisor
Ext. 17705

Program Support Assistant
Ext. 16864

Veterans Justice Outreach
Ext. 16981/17355

Housing Team Hotline
740-772-7156

24 Hour Homeless Call Center Hotline:
1-877-424-3838



Chillicothe VA Medical Center
17273 State Route 104
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
(740) 773-1141 or toll-free (800) 358-8262
www.chillicothe.va.gov
Chillicothe VA 538-290 – December 2019

24 Hour Homeless Call Center Hotline: (1-877-4 AID VET) 1-877-424-3838

Helping Veterans to live in the communities they choose!



VA grant opportunities will expand landlord, tenant incentives to combat veteran homelessness



Three grant opportunities offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs will expand services and incentives already provided by the agency including one that encourages landlords to rent residences to veterans, the VA announced Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022. (VA.gov)

WASHINGTON – Three grant opportunities offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs will expand services and incentives already provided by the agency including one that encourages landlords to rent residences to veterans, the VA announced Thursday.

In September, the VA awarded \$137 million in grants to 150 nonprofits through its Supportive Services for Veteran Families program, which provides supportive and prevention services and rapid housing to veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The grants will allow nonprofits to expand their services for veterans and their families.

On Thursday, the VA announced it had three new funding opportunities for organizations to combat veteran homelessness, one is through its Supportive Services for Veteran Families program.

“We’re excited about this grant because it actually offers and includes some expanded services that we really think are going to be game-changers for us, and this includes providing more incentives that will encourage landlords to rent to veterans,” said Jill Albanese, director of clinical operations and senior adviser for the Veterans Health Administration’s homeless programs.

The other two grants are through the VA's Grants and Per Diem program, which provides transitional housing services that supply immediate shelter and case management to help veterans become housing stable. The incentives will become available to organizations that receive the grants nationwide in fiscal 2024.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development estimated in January 2021 that 19,750 veterans in a single night experienced sheltered homelessness – veterans who live in shelters.

John Kuhn, national director of the Veteran Health Administration's Supportive Services for Veteran Families program, said many of the veterans who the VA serve in the program have poor credit histories or committed crimes. This can lead landlords to reject rental applications and consider these veterans as a risk, according to the American Apartment Owners Association.

"We know in a very tight housing market that we have, we're asking landlords to take chances on our veterans," Kuhn told reporters Thursday.

A 2020 Consumer Financial Protection Bureau report found young, enlisted service members develop problems with debt or have credit score issues by the time they leave active duty. The report also found similar issues are more likely to emerge among veterans who served less than four years.

The Council on Criminal Justice released a report in August that found one-third of veterans reported having been arrested or booked into a jail at least once in their lives. The report also revealed 181,500 veterans were in prisons or jails in the United States.

"We're asking landlords in an environment where they can rent to anyone to take a chance on our folks, so we have to compensate them for that risk," Kuhn said.

The VA incentive allows organizations to pay rent up to two months to a landlord, but only if it is necessary to help a veteran remain or obtain permanent housing, and the veteran must be offered at least a one-year lease. The incentive also can be used with the VA's Supportive Services for Veteran Families program or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing vouchers, which pairs HUD's Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance with VA case management and supportive services for homeless veterans.

The tenant incentive, dubbed the General Housing Stability Assistance, funds bedding and basic kitchen supplies. However, the assistance leaves needs such as internet access unaddressed, according to the VA's notice of funding availability on the Federal Register.

Organizations can expand the assistance and provide up to \$1,000 to veterans and their families for their miscellaneous move-in expenses. The expenses include food, furniture, household items, or electronics, such as televisions. Additionally, internet or cable bills are now considered utilities.

Access to the internet is an essential component of the modern economy, comparable to utilities, according to the VA's notice of funding availability.

"Veterans without such access are put at a disadvantage in finding and applying for work opportunities, purchasing needed consumer goods at the lowest possible cost and communicating through email and other forms of social media," according to the announcement.

VA Secretary Denis McDonough said Tuesday that the VA has housed 30,914 veterans, 81% ahead of the agency's goal, as of the end of September. In February, the VA announced its goal to place at least 38,000 veterans experiencing homelessness into permanent housing for 2022.

In early October, the VA published a notice of funding opportunity for about \$11.3 million in legal services grants for veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness through the agency's Legal Services for Veterans grant program.

This new grant will allow the VA to administer legal services to veterans who are homeless or at risk of being homeless and are facing legal issues that make it difficult to maintain housing.

“These grants will provide critical resources to help veterans and their families climb out of homelessness or prevent them from falling into homelessness in the first place,” McDonough said. “Every veteran deserves a good, stable, safe home in this country they fought to defend — and these grants are a key part of making that goal a reality.”

The Chillicothe VA Medical Center Housing Programs

Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)

- △ The HCHV Housing Program provides transitional housing for homeless and at-risk Veterans
- △ Health Care is provided to these Veterans by the Chillicothe VA Medical Center and Community Based Outpatient Clinics: Lancaster, Marietta, Cambridge, Athens, Portsmouth, and Wilmington
- △ Veterans live in housing units provided by community organizations which also assist the Veteran in establishing safe, affordable, and independent housing
- △ Veterans are encouraged and supported throughout their stay to meet personal goals
- △ Case Management Services are to ensure continuity and excellence in care

Partnering with local homeless shelters and the VA Medical Center to assure safe housing and medical care for our Veterans.



Veteran Affairs Supported Housing (HUD/VASH)

- △ Coordination of Independent Living Options for Veterans
- △ Networking with community partners to find safe affordable housing in the community
- △ Promoting Veteran choice in community living
- △ Case Management Services are to ensure continuity and quality of services
- △ Health Care provided by the Chillicothe VA Medical Center and Community Based Outpatient Centers located in Lancaster, Marietta, Cambridge, Athens, and Portsmouth



Partnering with local Housing Authorities to Provide Housing



Choice Vouchers to Homeless Veterans for rental assistance to live independently in the community.

Grant and Per Diem Program (GPD)

- △ Veteran Affairs offers grants to local community organizations that provide supportive housing options for Veterans
- △ VA Grants are available to community organizations to assist Veterans to secure and keep permanent housing in the community, living independently
- △ Eligible organizations include Community Action Agencies, Housing Authorities, Faith Based and other 501-c-3 Non-profit Groups
- △ Community Providers are paid a Per Diem rate for housing and assisting participating Veterans.
- △ Case Management Services are offered to ensure continuity and quality integrated care

Partnering with community housing networks to provide grants to build or rehabilitate local housing units and to pay a daily rate for Veterans to live in the renovated buildings.



For More Information:
Phone: 740-773-1141
Toll Free: 1-800-358-8262

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Ext. 17705

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www.chillicothe.va.gov
VA Pamphlet 538-258
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The Chillicothe VA Medical Center Housing Program

Community Housing Partnerships for Our Homeless Veterans

*"Veterans living in the
communities where they
choose to live"*



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...we put Veterans first!