# VIRTUAL LEARNING CLASSROOM

Session 1: Introduction to HVRP and NVTAC: Veteran Outreach

National Veterans' NVTAC Technical Assistance Center

November 8, 2021

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### NATIONAL VETERANS' TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (NVTAC)

#### **Class Schedule**

|   | Date     | Торіс  | Lead Instructors |
|---|----------|--|------------------|
| • | 11/8/21  | Introduction to HVRP and NVTAC: Veteran<br>Outreach  | Ade and Cindy    |
|   | 11/10/21 | Assessment, Case Management, and Addressing Barriers | Nicole and Ade   |
|   | 11/15/21 | Partnership and Collaboration                        | Cindy and Cori   |
|   | 11/17/21 | Training, Placement, and Retention                   | Cori and Cindy   |



#### Meet Your NVTAC Team



Ade Adeniji, Project Manager co-lead BOS/CHI



Nicole LaCorte-Klein co-lead BOS/CHI



Cindy Borden Lead ATL, PHL, SF



Cori Di Biase Lead DAL



Amy Miller co-lead CHI



### Introduce Yourself

- Using the "Chat" interface, please tell us your name, agency, state, and how long you've worked on the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP).
- Please send this (and all chats) to "All Participants."





- A contract with the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)
- In partnership with Atlas Research and the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV)
- Our mandate is to provide training and technical assistance to the 148 active HVRP grantees nationwide



#### **NVTAC Subject Matter Expertise**

#### Outreach to veterans

#### Building partnerships

# Veteran assessment & planning

Working with the AJC & JVSG (DVOP & LVER) staff

#### Career placements

Employer services & partnerships

Training & career pathways

#### Supporting retention



#### **NVTAC Services**

- Virtual training & technical assistance
- Community of practice
- Occasional webinars
- Documentation of best practices
- Monthly newsletters & bulletins as needed
- NVTAC.org





# WHAT IS HVRP?



- The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP), the Homeless Female Veterans and Veterans with Families Program (HFVVWF), and the Incarcerated Veterans Transition Program (IVTP)
- Competitive grant administered by DOL-VETS
- Authorized under 38 U.S.C. Sections 2021, 2021(a), and 2023



The purpose of HVRP is to:

- Provide services to reintegrate homeless veterans into the labor force, and
- Stimulate the development of effective service delivery systems that will address the complex problems facing homeless veterans



### Core Components of HVRP (1)

| Participant<br>Outreach &<br>Engagement | Grantees use a flexible, low-barrier, and nonthreatening approach to identify, meet, and connect with veterans.                                |
|---|--|
| Intake &<br>Assessment                  | Grantees assess each veteran to determine program eligibility and to gauge the veteran's readiness for and interest in employment services.    |
| Case Management                         | Grantees use a veteran-centered approach to develop an Individual<br>Employment Plan based on individual strengths, barriers, and preferences. |



## Core Components of HVRP (2)

| Employment & Job<br>Training         | Grantees provide training that is targeted to the specific industries,<br>occupations, and skills that are in demand locally. Training services can<br>be provided in-house, through partners in the community, online, or at<br>the American Job Center (AJC). |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Linkages & Support<br>Services       | Grantees collaborate with public and private partners at all levels (federal, state, local) to provide access to housing and supportive services.   |
| Employment<br>Adjustment<br>Services | Grantees provide ongoing support to track participant outcomes and promote job retention.   |
| Employer<br>Engagement               | Grantees identify and engage with public and private employers in their communities with a focus on growth industries.  |





# ELIGIBILITY

# HVRP Eligibility

- Veteran
  - One day *active duty*
  - Discharge other than dishonorable

#### And

Homeless (includes recently housed in last 60 days)

#### Or

 Participating in partner service (HUD-VASH, SSVF, etc.) or other category of eligibility

#### Or

• At risk of homelessness in the next 60 days

#### And

Would benefit from HVRP employment services





### HVRP Eligibility – A Closer Look

#### Who does HVRP serve?

- Veteran
- Homeless
- Partner service participants/other eligibility categories
- At risk of homelessness
- Special programs
  - HFVVWF
  - IVTP
- Needs employment



- Step 1: Veteran status
- Step 2: Homeless
- Step 3: Participant in partner services
- Step 4: At risk of homelessness\*
- Step 5: Need or would benefit from employment services

\*limited to 10% of planned yearly enrollments without GOTR approval



Step 1: Veteran status

Verify veteran status first:

- At least one day of active duty • Clearly indicated on DD-214\*
  - Basic counts, even if not completed (active duty only)
  - National Guard and Reserve must have been federally activated for duty not including training
- Discharge other than dishonorable



#### Step 2: Homeless

- Homeless
  - Per the HEARTH Act



- Includes those at imminent risk (within 14 days) of homelessness
- Also includes individuals who were homeless but found housing during the 60-day period preceding the date of HVRP enrollment (recently housed)



Step 3: Participant in partner services or other categories of eligibility

- Participant in partner services
  - HUD-VASH; Tribal HUD-VASH
  - Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996
  - $_{\odot}$  SSVF prevention or rapid rehousing
- Other categories of eligibility
  - $_{\odot}$  Transitioning from incarceration
  - Recently released from incarceration



#### Step 4: At risk of homelessness

 Is the veteran at risk of homelessness within the next 15–60 days?



Printable Calendars From Axnent.com

- Losing residence within 60 days of the date of application
- No subsequent residence has been identified
- Lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing

Today is November 8, so a veteran at risk of homelessness between November 26 and January 7 meets this definition. If the veteran is at risk of homelessness between today and November 25, he or she is at "imminent risk" and meets the definition of homeless (Step 2).



# **Special Population Programs**

#### HFVVWF

 To be eligible for services under HFVVWF, a veteran must meet the basic HVRP eligibility requirements and be female or a homeless veteran with a dependent child.

#### IVTP

- Veterans transitioning from incarceration:
  - A veteran who is a resident of a penal institution, or an institution that provides long-term care for mental illness; and
  - Is at risk for homelessness absent referral and counseling services provided under the program. VETS considers "at risk" to include that the veteran is scheduled to be released from such institution within 12 months.
- Recently released from incarceration
  - For purposes of determining a veteran's eligibility for the HVRP programs, VETS considers "recently released from incarceration" to mean a veteran released from incarceration in the last 12 months.



Step 5: Need or would benefit from employment services

 HVRP is an employment program – Eligibility does not necessarily equal enrollment



#### Documentation

- Verify veteran status first If an individual doesn't meet this definition, homeless status is irrelevant
  - Per GO Memo 01-21 Change 1, HVRP grantees may use HINQ or SQUARES in lieu of the DD-214 through June 30, 2022
  - Some of the other programs may allow non-veterans (by HVRP definition) to participate
- No more than 10% of planned enrollments can come from the at-risk category unless approved by GOTR
- Self-attestation can be used as a limited resource







# **VETERAN OUTREACH**

#### Veteran Outreach

The four Ps:

- Purpose
- Process
- Partnership
- Pandemic



#### Veteran Outreach: Purpose

- To identify and engage veterans who may be eligible to participate in the program
  - $\circ$  Person-centered
  - Emphasize building rapport and trust
- Reach as many veterans as possible within your service delivery area
  - Some veterans won't be eligible or a good fit for HVRP
  - $\circ~$  Cast your net wide
- There is no HVRP without veterans!



#### Veteran Outreach: Process

- Two primary channels for veteran outreach:
  - Directly identifying and engaging veterans who may be eligible for HVRP; and
  - Building awareness of your program with veterans, service providers, employers, and other partners to cultivate referrals
    - Visibility
    - Presence
    - Partnership



### Veteran Outreach: Process

- Create a plan:
  - Target audience
  - $\circ$  Message
  - Timing
  - $\circ$  Location
  - $\circ$  Methods
  - $\circ~$  Follow up
- Outreach is both a marketing activity, and one requiring direct engagement with veterans



#### Veteran Outreach: Partnership

- HVRP is part of a larger system for veterans experiencing homelessness
- Referrals are essential to successful outreach
- Coordinated outreach efforts benefit veterans and the programs that serve them



#### Veteran Outreach: Pandemic

- Changed the way outreach is conducted
  - Limited ability to do street outreach
  - Referral and service delivery partner challenges
- Additional resources impacted ability to identify and engage veterans in HVRP
- Resulted in creative solutions and approaches
  - Virtual outreach



We want to hear from you!

Raise your hand to come off mute and share your experience:

- How do you approach outreach in your community and ensure you are reaching all communities in your service region?
- What strategies do you use to engage hard-to-reach, very-low-income veterans in your region?
- What outreach have you engaged in with state agencies, local government, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and other providers in the community?



What has worked well?

What have you tried that didn't work?

#### Contact

#### **Boston Region**

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#### Atlanta, Philadelphia, and San Francisco Regions

Cindy Borden: <a href="mailto:cborden@nchv.org">cborden@nchv.org</a>



#### HVRP Definition – Homeless per HEARTH

According to 42 U.S.C. 11302(a-b), as amended by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009, the definition of homeless is:

- A person who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence;
- A person living in a supervised public or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living arrangements;
- A person who resided in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation and who is exiting an institution where he or she temporarily resided;
- A person with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;



#### HVRP Definition – Homeless per HEARTH

- An individual who will imminently lose his or her housing, has no subsequent residence identified, and who lacks the resources or support network needed to obtain other permanent housing;
- Unaccompanied youth and homeless families with children and youth defined as homeless under other federal statutes who have experienced a long period without permanent housing; have experienced persistent instability as measured by frequent moves over such period; and can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities, chronic physical health or mental health conditions, substance addiction, histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse, the presence of a child or youth with a disability, or multiple barriers to employment; or



#### HVRP Definition – Homeless per HEARTH

 An individual or family who is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions in the individual's or family's current housing situation, including where the health and safety of children are jeopardized, and who have no other residence and lack the resources or support network to obtain other permanent housing.



#### **Recently Housed**

#### Title 38:

To expedite the reintegration into the labor force of-

 homeless veterans (including those who were homeless but found housing during the 60-day period preceding enrollment)





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