



National Veterans'
Technical Assistance Center

2023 Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) Bidders' Conference

#### **Today's Presenters**





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### **HVRP Overview**

#### HVRP Overview (1 of 2)



- Employment-focused, competitive grant through the U.S. Department of Labor's Veteran, Employment and Training Service (DOL-VETS)
- Veterans receive the job training and employment services required to re-enter and be successful in the labor force
- HVRP is the only federal grant that focuses specifically on competitive employment for veterans at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness

#### HVRP Overview (2 of 2)



- Obtain high-quality career outcomes for veterans experiencing homelessness
- DOL-VETS encourages applicants to propose strategies to achieve economic opportunity, address historical inequities, and provide equitable access and outcomes to marginalized groups
- ➤ DOL-VETS requires grant recipients to provide an array of clientcentered services utilizing a case management approach that directly assists homeless veterans and provides critical linkages to a variety of support services available in their local communities

#### **HVRP** Umbrella



- HVRP includes three specific programs:
  - Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP)
  - Incarcerated Veterans' Transition Program (IVTP)
  - Homeless Women Veterans and Homeless Veterans with Children (HWVHVWC)

#### **Services Provided by HVRP**



- ➤ HVRP grant recipients address complex employment-related requirements and support necessary to meet the needs of this population through direct services or a robust referral system establishing tools, resources, and partnerships to identify, recruit, prepare, and support veterans experiencing homelessness for employment success
- Grant recipients provide job placement, job training, job development, career counseling, and resume preparation, among other services, to assist with obtaining high-quality career outcomes

#### **HVRP Core Objectives**



#### HVRP has two core objectives:

- Provide career exploration, training, placement, and supportive services to veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness, empowering them to secure good jobs in stable, high-demand occupations paying livable wages.
- Establish strong partnerships between public, private, and nonprofit organizations, especially those that employ and partner with veterans who have experienced homelessness, to deliver equitable services to marginalized veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness to assist in overcoming barriers to employment.

#### HVRP Core Services (1 of 3)



- Knowledge of Population
  - Grantees understand the unique needs of the veterans they serve and structure their services to meet those needs
- Outreach
  - Grantees use a flexible, non-threatening approach to meet veterans where they are
  - Outreach also includes activities to engage partners and employers

#### **HVRP Core Services (2 of 3)**



- Assessment/Intake
  - Grantees assess each veteran to determine program eligibility and to gauge job readiness and willingness to engage in employment services
- Case Management
  - A veteran-centered approach is used to develop an Individual Employment Plan (IEP) based on the veteran's strengths, barriers, and preferences that guide the service delivery process

#### **HVRP Core Services (3 of 3)**



- Job-Driven Training and Placement
  - Grantees provide training that is targeted to the specific industries, occupations, and skills that are in demand locally
  - Training services can be provided in-house, through community partners, or through the American Job Centers (AJC)
- Collaboration
  - Grantees collaborate with public and private partners at all levels (federal, state, local) to provide supportive services and access to housing



# National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center (NVTAC) Overview

#### NVTAC Role (1 of 2)



- Provide technical assistance designed to increase grantees' ability to establish and operate successful HVRP grants
- Support HVRP grantees throughout their period of performance to ensure that challenges are resolved quickly
- Provide effective training and peer-to-peer learning opportunities that result in increased knowledge and adoption of innovative practices among HVRP programs nationwide

#### NVTAC Role (2 of 2)



- Provide technical expertise to federal staff to assist in policy development in support of program oversight and strategic planning for the future of HVRP
- Quantify grantees' customer satisfaction and share promising practices and lessons learned



### HVRP Eligibility

#### **HVRP Program Eligibility**



To be eligible for HVRP, an individual must meet the definitions of "veteran" and either "homeless" or "at risk" of homelessness.

#### Definition of Veteran (1 of 3)



"The term 'veteran' means a person who served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, or Reserve Component (National Guard and Reserve), who meet the following criteria:

- Received a discharge or release under conditions other than dishonorable (Title 38 U.S.C. §101(18)); and
- At least one day of active duty (38 U.S.C. § 101(21)) to include time spent in basic training for active-duty members; or

#### **Definition of Veteran (2 of 3)**



Federal active duty for National Guard or Reserve members (does not include inactive or active duty for training (e.g., basic training or Advanced Individualized Training [AIT], state active duty, weekend drills, etc.), see 38 U.S.C. § 101(22), (23); or

#### **Definition of Veteran (3 of 3)**



Any period of inactive duty or active duty for training during which National Guard and Reserve members received a service-connected disability resulting from a disease or injury incurred or aggravated in line of duty (38 U.S.C. § 101(24))' (Veterans' Program Letter [VPL] 02-23 Attachment 1: Eligibility Definitions). (HVRP Eligibility FAQ, p. 1)

#### Definition of Homeless (1 of 2)



If the individual meets the HVRP definition of a veteran, the next step is to see if they meet any of the following:

- Homeless per the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (<u>HEARTH</u>) Act of 2009
  - Includes individuals who were homeless but found housing during the 60-day period preceding the date of HVRP enrollment (recently housed);
  - Includes those at imminent risk (within 14 days) of homelessness; or

#### Definition of Homeless (2 of 2)



- Participant in Partner Services
  - Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH); Tribal HUD-VASH
  - Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996
  - Transitioning from Incarceration
  - Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

(HVRP Eligibility FAQ, p. 2)

#### **Definition of At Risk**



- Under HVRP, there are two categories of 'at risk of homelessness' veterans:
  - 1. Veterans who, at program entry, are at risk of homelessness within 15–60 days (Note: Veterans who are within 14 days of homelessness are considered at "imminent risk" and are defined as homeless); and
  - 2. Veterans recently released (within the last 12 months) from incarceration who are at risk of homelessness.

(HVRP Eligibility FAQ, p. 2)

#### Determining "At Risk" Status Part 1



- > An individual or family who meets **both** criteria below:
  - Has an annual income below 30 percent of median family income for the geographical area
  - Does not have sufficient resources or support networks immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place defined in Category 1 of the "homeless" definition

## Determining "At Risk" Status Part 2 (1 of 3)



- In addition to the criteria on the previous slide, the individual or family must also meet **one** of the following criteria:
  - Has moved because of economic reasons 2 or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance
  - Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship
  - Has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance

## Determining "At Risk" Status Part 2 (2 of 3)



- Lives in a single-room occupancy (SRO) or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons
- Lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than one and a half persons per room
- Is exiting a publicly funded institution or system of care
- Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness

## Determining "At Risk" Status Part 2 (3 of 3)



- In addition to the criteria on the previous slide, the individual or family must also meet **one** of the following criteria:
  - Has moved because of economic reasons 2 or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance
  - Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship
  - Has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance
  - Lives in a hotel or motel, and the cost is not paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for lowincome individuals

(VPL 02-23, <u>Attachment 1</u>, p. 4)



### HVRP Applicant Eligibility

#### Examples of Eligible Applicants (1 of 2)



- State governments, county governments, city or township governments, special district governments, U.S territories or possessions, other state and local government agencies
- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education, private institutions of higher education
- Native American tribal governments (federally recognized), public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities, Native American tribally designated organizations
- Native American tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments)

#### **Examples of Eligible Applicants (2 of 2)**



- Nonprofits having or without a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- For-profit organizations other than small businesses, small businesses, faith-based organizations
- State and Local Workforce Development Boards (SWDBs/LWDBs) established under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

(Section III.A. of the 2023 HVRP Funding Opportunity Announcement [FOA])



### Training and Employment

#### **Job Training**



- > The FOA will include criteria pertaining to job training goals
  - Historically, a minimum of 80 percent of participants were required to receive one or more job training services, through referral or the grantee's direct services
- Life skills and financial management do not count towards the 80 percent job-training requirement

(2023 HVRP FOA)

#### **Job Training Examples**



- On-the-job training (OJT)
- Apprenticeships
- Customized job training
- Upgrading, retraining, or other work-based learning
- Occupational skills training provided by the applicant or a thirdparty training provider
- Training does not have to be a fee-based program, nor does it require the participant to obtain a certificate or license
- Qualifying free online training resources are available (2023 HVRP FOA)

## Employment and Training Programs (1 of 2)



- Must target in-demand occupations indicated in the Labor Market Information provided in the Statement of Need
- Placement into an unsubsidized apprenticeship is considered placement into employment
- Job training received by participants may be provided directly through the grant or provided to participants through partnerships with:
  - American Job Centers (AJC)
  - ➤ GI Bill
  - Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E)
  - State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) programs
  - Other training providers

(2023 HVRP FOA)

## **Employment and Training Programs** (2 of 2)



- Applicants must describe:
  - How they will develop a formal employment and job training plan based on the individual job training needs assessment for each veteran
  - Approaches to help the participant achieve self-sufficiency, including referrals to other services or programs
- Applicants must indicate how they will manage and document participant progress.
  - This evidence must reference research studies, government reports, or the applicant's experience demonstrating that the strategy yielded positive results in the past.

(2023 HVRP FOA)



### Applying for Funding

#### Applying for Funding (1 of 2)



- The HVRP grant has a three-year period of performance (For PY2024, it is July 1, 2024 June 30, 2027) and is funded incrementally on an annual basis
  - The FOA will provide the funding levels in which applicants may apply for
- When a registered applicant submits an application with Grants.gov, an electronic time stamp is generated within the system when the application is successfully received by Grants.gov
- DOL-VETS funds SD activities through a separate DOL-VETS SD application

#### Applying for Funding (2 of 2)



- Apply through Grants.gov when the FOA is released
- Read through the registration process carefully before registering
- The steps may take as long as four weeks to complete
- Time should be factored into plans for timely electronic submission to avoid unexpected delays that could result in the rejection of an application
- Grants.gov applicants can apply online using Workspace
- Paper applications and late submissions will not be accepted
- It is recommended that applications are submitted earlier than the due date to account for technology issues
- For all questions, please reach out to contact@nvtac.org



### Thank you!

Email: contact@nvtac.org

Website: <a href="https://nvtac.org">nvtac.org</a>