

**National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center (NVTAC)
Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) Community of Practice (CoP)
HVRP Year in Review
Thursday, December 18, 2025, 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. ET**

NVTAC Staff

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Key Points

- **Introduction**
 - NVTAC provided an introduction to the Technical Assistance Coaches and discussed presenters for the session.
 - NVTAC staff reminded attendees that, while best practices would be discussed during the presentation, it is imperative that grant recipients consult with their Grant Officer's Technical Representative (GOTR) before implementing any proposed strategies.
 - NVTAC introduced the topic and purpose of today's COP: a reflection of the past year's activities, key takeaways, and what to expect for 2026.
- **Current State of Veteran Homelessness**
 - **Key Statistics**
 - A point-in-time (PIT) count conducted in January 2024 revealed that there were 32,882 veterans who were experiencing homelessness in the United States, which was a nearly eight percent decrease from the 35,574 veterans experiencing homelessness in 2023.
 - Since tracking began in 2009, veteran homelessness has reached its lowest point, with a significant decline of 55.6 percent from 2010 to 2024.
- **HVRP Data Snapshot**
 - **HVRP Program Year 2023 Data**
 - Total participants served: 15,974
 - Total number of participants co-enrolled at American Job Centers (AJC): 11,706
 - Average hourly wage at placement: \$19.44
 - Placement rate (exit-based): 63.0 percent
 - Placement rate – episodically homeless (exit-based): 63.9 percent
 - Number of grant recipients served by NVTAC from November 18, 2023, through November 17, 2024: 242

- **Program Highlights of 2025**

- **Question: What accomplishments or successes stood out for your HVRP program this year:**

- Answer: Our organization started a new grant in central Oregon that has had significant success in building partnerships within our community.
 - Answer: Our program exceeded our job placement goal by 30 percent in quarter (Q) 1 of this year.
 - Answer: Our success was connecting participants to the compensated work therapy (CWT) program through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).
 - Answer: Our program made over 100 outreach connections between April 2025 and December 2025.
 - Answer: We received a call from a formerly unhoused veteran who went through our program, and the veteran shared that he is now ready to buy a house.
 - Answer: Several of our veterans have accepted positions in the pay range of \$65,000 to \$100,000 per year.

- **Key Challenges**

- **Question: Where did you experience the biggest hurdles?**

- Answer: Job retention for veterans who have been out of work for a long period of time continues to be a challenge.
 - Answer: We struggle with enrolling participants into training programs.
 - Answer: Motivating veterans to follow through with leads continues to be a challenge.
 - Answer: We struggle with finding appropriate and eligible candidates for our program and then having them fall out of contact when things get difficult.
 - Answer: Transportation in rural areas is difficult.
 - Answer: It is difficult to assist veterans who have other, outside challenges like addiction or mental health challenges.

- **Innovations, Adjustments, or New Approaches**

- **Question: What did you try this year that made a difference?**

- Answer: We offered more on-base transition training (OBTT) workshops.
 - Answer: We host weekly mock interviews.
 - Answer: We built relationships with welfare medical offices, and our new case manager has strong connections to the VA.
 - Answer: We engage with the Veterans' Treatment Courts in eastern Kentucky.
 - Answer: We provide our own transportation, when appropriate, to job-related events.

- **Partnerships That Made a Difference**
 - **Question: Which employment, housing, or community partnerships strengthened your program?**
 - Answer: We work with rapid rehousing.
 - Answer: We work with a training program that pays for commercial driver's license (CDL) training, especially for justice-involved students.
 - Answer: We work closely with our state and U.S. Department of Labor.
 - Answer: Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) has been a great resource.
 - Answer: The Sacramento Stand Down for Homeless Veterans.
 - Answer: Working with the California AJC, the Employment Development Department (EDD) has helped.
- **Veteran Engagement and Outreach Wins**
 - **Question: What are some veteran engagement and outreach wins your HVRP has experienced?**
 - Answer: One grant recipient records engagement with community partners and shares it across their social media platforms to highlight these activities. This helps them to engage with younger veterans.
 - Answer: We are always looking for church and community partners who are willing to share our information.
 - Answer: We engage with the American Legion and other veteran service organizations.
 - Answer: We participate in VA Surge events.
 - **Last year at NVTAC**
 - Over the past year, NVTAC has provided extensive resources to HVRP grant recipients to assist in strengthening their service delivery. These include:
 - Multiple quick guide microlearnings
 - A grant recipient panel
 - Peer-to-peer sessions
 - An updated menu of services on the NVTAC website
 - Updated resources on the NVTAC website
 - An updated active HVRP grants map
 - Proactive outreach efforts
 - Individualized technical assistance (TA) for grant recipients
 - Participation in the National and Regional Post-Award Conferences
 - Facilitation of the HVRP Bidders' Conference
 - Virtual Learning Courses (VLC)
 - Grant recipient leadership training modules
 - All-Site HVRP Bootcamps with NVTAC
 - Participant Training Desk Guide

- Trainings on the requesting and reading of the Department of Defense Form 214 (DD-214)
 - Combined HVRP Program Guide and Welcome Packet
- **Question: What Would You Like to See Next Year?**
 - Answer: We look forward to utilizing NVTAC's HVRP training for new staff.
 - Answer: Suggestions for participants in challenging employer environments.
 - Answer: Clarification on how to help partners understand program eligibility.
 - Answer: Allow workshops to qualify as participant training.
- **Looking Into Next Year**
 - **Next Year**
 - NVTAC has a lot of content in development and planned for 2026, including:
 - Schedule more peer-to-peer sessions and microlearnings
 - Continue to revamp the NVTAC website
 - Expand content regarding outreach to justice-involved veterans
 - Enhance and continue HVRP grant recipient support
 - Work with high-performing grant recipients
 - Update microlearnings on the DD-214 training, including new guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) and the National Archives
 - Offer ongoing support and training to Regional VETS staff
 - Continue to emphasize promising and best practices
 - Develop micro- and macro-level assistance for grant recipients
 - Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) training
 - Develop new content topics for grant recipients
 - Grant recipient feedback sessions
 - **Focus Areas for the Next Year**
 - There will be several key areas of focus for 2026 that will be consistent across all grant recipients and will be a focus for NVTAC during technical assistance. These are:
 - Placements
 - Participant training
 - Enrollments
 - Outreach strategies
 - Community partnership development
 - With both partner agencies and employers
 - **Tips and Tricks Looking into the New Year**
 - Your past performance in meeting your planned goals is seriously looked at when you decide to re-apply for HVRP funding in the future.

- Your HVRP performance goals are cumulative, and you—the grant recipient—set the goals for your grant in your application for funding. These are not set by NVTAC or VETS.
 - It is important that you are proactive in receiving NVTAC TA and get out in front of any possible challenges that may arise.
 - Having a good, positive relationship with your GOTR and maintaining regular, consistent communication is a best practice for ensuring programmatic success with your HVRP.
- **Question: What are some CoP topics you would like to see in 2026?**
 - Answer: Employment engagement luncheon ideas or strategies to recognize employers.
- **Question: What are some tips and lessons learned from 2025?**
 - Answer: We found that having Starlink devices assisted us in maintaining communication with our participants after a hurricane took out a lot of cell phone towers in North Carolina. This allowed us to check on our veterans and continue to provide services and resources to them, even when regular communication was difficult through traditional means.
- **Key Resources from NVTAC**
 - These resources can assist you in the performance of your daily activities and can benefit your staff in key areas:
 - [Training and Webinars – National Veterans’ Technical Assistance Center](#)
 - [Microlearning Video – Requesting a DD-214](#)
 - [Microlearning Video – Reading a DD-214](#)
 - [Microlearning Video – Using the HVRP Eligibility Tool](#)
 - [Microlearning Video – HVRP Placement Strategies](#)
 - [Microlearning Video – HVRP Verification of Employment](#)
 - [Microlearning Video – Building and Maintaining Relationships with HVRP Partner Programs](#)
 - [Microlearning Video – Hiring an HVRP Case Manager](#)
 - [Microlearning Video – Disaster Preparedness for Veteran Service Providers](#)
 - [Microlearning Video – Veteran Entrepreneurship](#)
- **Active Policy Guidance**
 - These resources provide the legal guidance and regulatory information that govern HVRP and HVRP activities and can be found on the U.S. Department of Labor’s Policy Guidance Page:
 - [Policy Guidance | U.S. Department of Labor](#)
 - [VPL 06-24: HVRP Requirements and Functions](#)
 - [VPL 04-24: HVRP Award Amendments](#)
 - [VPL 04-24 Attachment A: HVRP Award Amendments Attachment A – Technical Assistance Guide \(TAG\)](#)
 - [VPL 02-25: HVRP Performance, Management, and Reporting](#)
 - [VPL 02-25 Attachment 1: HVRP Corrective Action Plan TAG](#)

▫ [VPL 02-25 Attachment 2: HVRP High Risk Designations TAG](#)

- **Resources – General**

- These resources are general resources that can assist HVRP staff in developing comprehensive service referrals for program participants:
 - [VA](#)
 - [GI Bill Comparison Tool](#)
 - [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\) Emergency Food and Shelter Program](#)
 - [American Association of Retired Persons \(AARP\) Community Service Employment Program](#)
 - [DOL – Senior Community Service Employment Program](#)
 - [Reentry Employment Opportunities \(REO\)](#)

- **Resources – Housing Assistance**

- These resources can assist program staff with finding the right housing fit for veterans depending on their individual needs:
 - [HUD Exchange](#)
 - [CoC Program](#)
 - [Coordinated Entry](#)
 - [HUD-VASH](#)
 - [SSVF](#)
 - [Grant and Per Diem Program \(GPD\)](#)

Conclusion

NVTAC provided an extensive menu of new content, individualized TA, and beneficial guidance for both prospective grant applicants and existing grant recipients throughout 2025. Through the feedback and expertise of grant recipients who perform the duties of HVRP every day, working directly with our nation’s veterans, NVTAC is prepared to bring new best and promising practices to grant recipients in 2026.

You can review the presentation recording here: [NVTAC HVRP CoP December 18, 2025: HVRP Year in Review](#)