

Monthly Newsletter

September 2026



NEWS



New Federal Toolkit Highlights Treatment, Recovery, and Self-Sufficiency

Federal agencies have released the [Best Practices Toolkit: Addressing Homelessness and Addiction Through Treatment First](#) to help state and local leaders address the intersection of homelessness and addiction. On August 12th, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced the release of the toolkit offering practical, evidence-based strategies to connect people experiencing homelessness and addiction with treatment, recovery support, housing, employment, and other services that promote stability and self-sufficiency.

For Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) providers, the resource may be useful when serving veterans whose substance use or behavioral health needs create barriers to employment. While HVRP providers do not provide clinical treatment, they can help identify barriers, make appropriate referrals, coordinate with community partners, and support veterans as they work toward employment and greater stability. [Explore the Treatment First Toolkit and announcement.](#)



Investing in the Skilled Trades: A New Opportunity for Workforce Partnerships

As infrastructure investment grows across the United States, the construction and skilled trades industries are facing increasing demand for qualified workers. [Stanley Black & Decker recently announced](#) plans to invest \$1 billion in the U.S. through 2028 to advance innovation, strengthen manufacturing, and expand access to training. The company is also committing \$60 million through 2030 through its DEWALT Grow the Trades initiative to expand skilled trades training and create new pathways to careers in the industry.

For HVRP grant recipients, this investment highlights potential opportunities to connect veterans with growing skilled trades careers. Veterans bring valuable transferable skills from military service, including technical experience, problem-solving, teamwork, and familiarity with tools and equipment, that can support transitions into construction, manufacturing, and other skilled occupations. HVRP providers can use information about emerging training investments and employer needs to identify training providers, apprenticeship opportunities, and employer partners in their communities and help veterans access pathways to in-demand careers.

RESOURCES

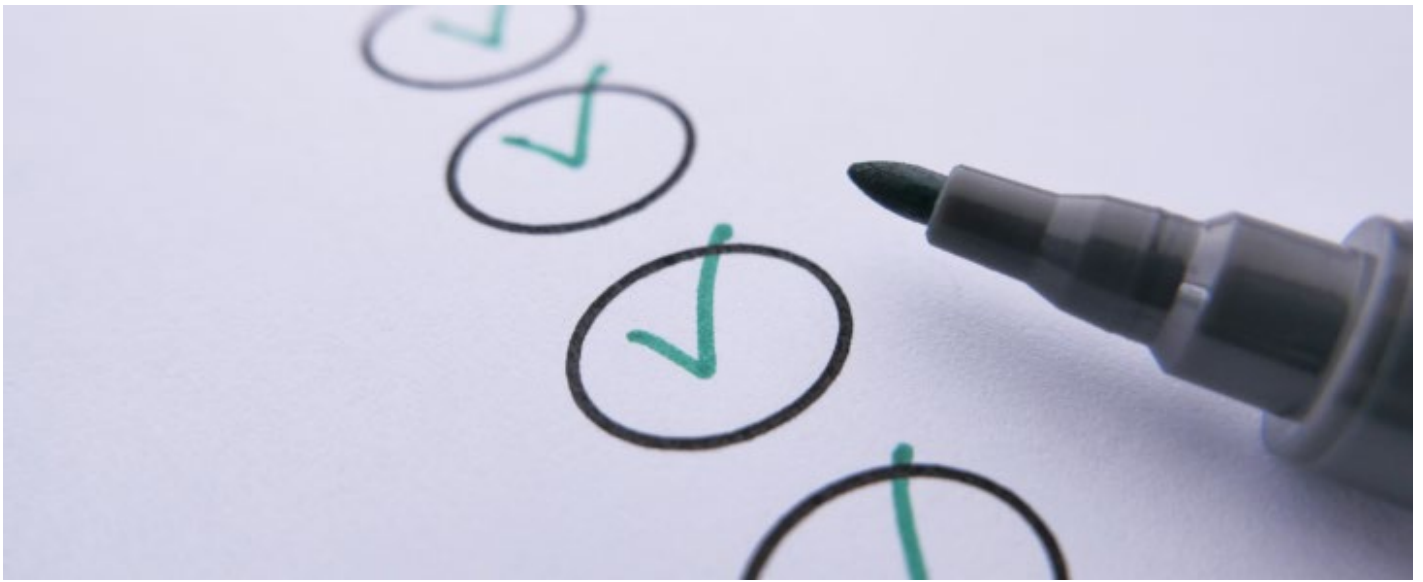




New Rural Health Toolkit Can Help Identify Community Partnerships

The Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility Technical Assistance Center (CCAM-TAC) is a national technical assistance center funded through a cooperative agreement with the Federal Transit Administration and operated by the Community Transportation Association of America. CCAM-TAC has [launched a new toolkit](#) to help communities understand and engage with the Rural Health Transformation (RHT) Program, a federal investment directing \$50 billion to rural health systems between 2026 and 2030. The toolkit includes an Interactive State Map & Strategy Resource Guide with state-specific information on RHT awards, transformation strategies, funding opportunities, RFPs, and implementation resources. These tools can help community organizations identify emerging investments and opportunities to strengthen local health and social service systems.

For HVRP grant recipients serving veterans in rural communities, the toolkit may be a useful resource for identifying potential partners and services that can address barriers to employment. Rural veterans may face challenges accessing health care, transportation, behavioral health services, and other supports that affect their ability to obtain and maintain employment. HVRP providers can use the state-specific information to better understand local investments, identify organizations involved in rural health initiatives, and explore opportunities to build partnerships or connect veterans with available resources.



Better Tracking, Better Follow-Up: Are You Capturing the Information You Need?

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) provides a [PY2026 HVRP Participant Tracking Sheet](#) to help grant recipients organize key participant information related to enrollment, employment placement, exit, and follow-up for the VETS Grantee Reporting System. Building a consistent tracking process from the start can help staff maintain accurate records, monitor participant progress, and identify information that may be missing before reporting deadlines.

For HVRP grant recipients, effective participant tracking can do more than support reporting, it can strengthen case management and follow-up. A well-organized tracking system can help staff identify veterans who may need additional services, monitor employment outcomes, stay on top of follow-up activities, and recognize trends across participants. Grant recipients can use the DOL tracking sheet as a starting point for developing a process that works for their organization and ensures the information needed for both quality service delivery and accurate reporting is captured consistently.



Strengthening Employer Partnerships to Improve Veteran Employment Outcomes

Employer relationships can be one of the most valuable tools HVRP providers have for helping veterans move into employment. A [U.S. Department of Labor implementation study](#) found that HVRP grant recipients used a range of strategies to identify employers, including online research, cold calls, contacts with human resources staff, and job fairs. The study also found that some programs went beyond making referrals by maintaining ongoing relationships with employers, following up after veterans applied, and advocating for participants.

For HVRP grant recipients, this points to a more intentional approach to employer outreach: build the relationship before you need the job opening. Start by identifying employers whose workforce needs align with the skills and goals of the veterans you serve, then learn what those employers are looking for and establish a point of contact. When a qualified veteran is ready to apply, make a targeted referral and follow up with the employer. Continue the relationship after placement to strengthen the partnership and create future opportunities. A strong employer network can help HVRP providers move from simply responding to job openings to building a pipeline of employment opportunities for veterans.

Do you have a success story you would like to share? If you are a grant recipient who helped a veteran who is struggling with housing or employment, we would love to hear from you at nvtac@dol.gov.

Outreach at the National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center

The National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center outreach coach is available to provide information, answer questions, and guide interested organizations through the process of getting involved with the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program. If you know of organizations that could benefit from learning

more about Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program, you can refer them to National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center Outreach Coach Miranda Moffat at:

Moffat.Miranda.M@dol.gov
(734) 406-7525

Pardon our dust...

The National Veterans' Technical Assistance Center Newsletter is presently working on ensuring the accuracy of our distribution list. To stop receiving our newsletter, click the unsubscribe link and confirm your preference.

Unsubscribe

