

Memorandum



Date: August 22, 2012
To: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners
From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 
Subject: Veteran-focused Grant Opportunities

This report is in response to Commissioner Lynda Bell's directive at the July 3, 2012 Board of County Commissioners meeting, requesting that Public Housing and Community Development (PHCD) determine whether any potential grants were available from organizations that assist wounded military returning to Miami-Dade County to offset the expense of retrofitting public housing apartments for wheelchair accessibility.

The Office of Grants Coordination compiled the attached listing of currently-known veteran-focused grant opportunities from the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Housing and Urban Development as well as other nonprofit organizations. Included in this listing are the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers, which combines the Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance for homeless veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veteran Affairs. Last year, HUD awarded PHCD with 50 vouchers.

PHCD will continue to review and evaluate grant opportunities with other County departments and social services entities. Additionally, PHCD will be providing a report to the Board regarding its compliance with the Voluntary Compliance Agreement (VCA) with HUD and the status of accessible units.

If you have any questions regarding this report please contact PHCD Director Gregg Fortner at 786-469-4106.

Attachment

c: Robert A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney
Russell Benford, Deputy Mayor
Gregg Fortner, Director, PHCD

VETERAN-FOCUSED GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

<https://www.cfda.gov/index?s=program&mode=form&tab=step1&id=62ce503e8cf9439fd711fd8fc8dbefb>

VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program

Number: 64.024

Agency: Department of Veterans Affairs

Office: VA Health Administration Center

To assist public and nonprofit private entities in establishing new programs and service centers to furnish supportive services and supportive housing for homeless veterans through grants that may be used to acquire, renovate or alter facilities, and to provide per diem payments, or in-kind assistance in lieu of per diem payments, to eligible entities which established programs after November 10, 1992 that provide supportive services and supportive housing for homeless veterans. (Note: The number of vans was limited to 20 for the life of this grant. This Van Restriction has not been lifted.)

Past recipients of these funds in Miami-Dade include Camillus House, Keystone Halls, Inc., and the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs – Miami (<http://www.miami.va.gov/>).

Link to funder: <http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/GPD.asp>

Last Deadline: May 2012 (only the per diem component was solicited for funding).

I believe this grant need to be applied for by or in consort with the disabled veteran.

<https://www.cfda.gov/index?s=program&mode=form&tab=step1&id=0e9b7c9f994037ef7c590aa5b886f0b0>

Specially Adapted Housing for Disabled Veterans

Paraplegic Housing

Number: 64.106

Agency: Department of Veterans Affairs

Office: Veterans Benefits Administration

To help certain severely disabled veterans acquire a home which is suitably adapted to meet the special needs of their disabilities. The money may be used to help (1) construct a suitable home on suitable land either already owned or to be acquired by the veteran, or (2) remodel an existing home if it can be suitably adapted, or (3) acquire a suitably adapted home or reduce the outstanding mortgage on a suitably adapted home already owned by the veteran. The Special Housing Adaptations (SHA) program provides the actual cost to the veteran of certain adaptations and/or equipment, not to exceed a maximum grant of \$10,000. The home to be adapted must be owned by the veteran or by a member of the veteran's family, and the veteran must intend to continue residing there.

Link to Funder: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/sah.asp>.

Contact

For more information on the SAH grant program and eligibility criteria, please visit <http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/sah.asp>. You may also contact Brian Bixler, Chief, Specially Adapted Housing, at (571) 272-0091 or via e-mail at brian.bixler@va.gov.

These opportunities support their housing/rental needs.

<https://www.cfda.gov/index?s=program&mode=form&tab=step1&id=7fd326b074cf8e92a91f29ed2af3e168>

Veterans Homelessness Prevention Demonstration Program VHPD

Number: 14.260

Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office: Office of Community Planning and Development

The Veterans Homelessness Prevention Demonstration Program (VHPD) is to explore ways for the Federal Government to offer early intervention homelessness prevention, primarily to veterans returning from wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The authorizing statutory language for the VHPD acknowledges the increasing number of female veterans, veterans with families especially with a single head of household, as well as those from the National Guard and Reserve who are being discharged from the military and whose unique needs should be more closely examined. It is anticipated that this demonstration program will provide an opportunity to understand the unique needs of this new cohort of veterans, and will support efforts to identify, reach, and assist them to regain and maintain housing stability.

Link to Funder: <http://www.hudhre.info/VeteransAssistance/>

HUD-VASH Vouchers

The HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program combines Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). VA provides these services for participating Veterans at VA medical centers (VAMCs) and community-based outreach clinics.

Link to funder:

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/vash

<http://homedepotfoundation.org/page/applying-for-a-grant>

2012 Community Impact Grants Program new

The Home Depot Foundation has announced that it is accepting applications nonprofit 501(c)(3)

organizations, public schools, and public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their communities. The foundation is prioritizing projects that help military veterans stay in their homes comfortably. More competitive grant proposals will specifically identify projects for veterans and will include housing repairs, modifications, and weatherization work. Proposals for the following community improvement activities will be considered: repairs, refurbishments, and modifications to low-income and/or transitional veteran's housing, or community facilities (schools, community centers, senior centers, etc.); weatherizing or increasing energy efficiency of low-income and/or transitional veterans' housing, or community facilities; and planting trees or community gardens and/or landscaping community facilities that serve veterans. Grants must support work completed by community volunteers in the U.S. Only registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, tax-exempt public schools, and tax-exempt public agencies in the U.S. are eligible to apply. Grants of up to \$5,000 will be made in the form of Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools, materials, or services. Deadline: 08/13/2012

<http://est.dav.org/Grants/Default.aspx>

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Charitable Service Trust new

The Trust is dedicated to one, single purpose: building better lives for our nation's disabled veterans and their families. Our mission of service is accomplished by: 1) Making sure sick and disabled veterans have transportation to VA medical facilities for treatment; 2) Providing food and shelter and medical aid to homeless and needy veterans; 3) Meeting the special needs of veterans faced with such specific disabilities as paralysis, amputation and brain injuries; 4) Supporting physical and psychological rehabilitation projects aimed at some of America's most profoundly disabled veterans; and bringing hope to the forgotten and suffering families of disabled veterans. Priority is given to long-term service projects providing direct assistance to disabled veterans and their families. Quarterly Deadlines: January 20; April 20; July 20; and October 20.

<http://www.dvnf.org/veterans-programs/organizational-grants/>

Organizational Grants - Disabled Veterans National Foundation new

The Disabled Veterans National Foundation provides grants to like-minded organizations who provide support to disabled Veterans. Grants are offered to Veterans organizations on a case-by-case basis to better the lives of those who have returned from service. These must be used to support the mission of DVNF. Financial assistance is defined as: a. For a Veteran: Payment towards costs for housing (i.e., rent or mortgage) or associated expenses such as utilities essential to operating the home (i.e., utilities such water, electricity, and gas or expenses essential to maintaining a purchased property such as property taxes or homeowners insurance) to help prevent Veteran from becoming homeless; b. For a Veteran Service Provider: expenses to assist in providing program services, not to include overhead or organizational costs of running a

Veteran Service Office or Organization, unless special exemptions are granted by DVNF's Board of Directors. Deadline: Rolling.

<http://www.dvnf.org/veterans-programs/wellness-morale-program/>

Wellness and Morale Program - Disabled Veterans National Foundation new

The Disabled Veterans National Foundation provides shipments of in-kind contributions to Veterans organizations and Stand Down events across the country to distribute: 1) Medicine, medical supplies and equipment; 2) Food and food supplements; 3) Clothing and shoes; 4) Hygiene products; 5) Homeless shelter supplies; 6) Disaster relief supplies; and 7) Comfort kits. If your organization is equipped to unload, handle and store up to 24 pallets worth of goods, please contact funder at grants@dvnf.org.

Deadline: Open

<http://www.vvafund.org/index.html>

Veterans Support Foundation new

Veterans Support Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) Nonprofit humanitarian and educational organization founded to improve the quality of life for deserving veterans and their families. The Foundation's office is located in Silver Spring, Maryland. The main objectives of the Foundation are to: 1) To help fund nonprofit organizations in support of veteran related projects throughout the United States; 2) To assist disabled veterans and their qualifying dependents/family members; 3) To assist and provide transitional and permanent housing for homeless and at risk veterans; and 4) To enrich the lives of all veterans and their families. Annual Deadline: March 31st of every year.

<http://www.dvnf.org/veterans-programs/veterans-appreciation-grants/>

Veterans Appreciation Grants new

Grants provide a fun outing or gathering for veterans residing in state veteran's homes or in homeless living facilities throughout the entire year, not just on Veteran's Day. Our goal is to show our appreciation, while providing veterans a chance to have a good time, build morale and strengthen relationships in their home and/or care settings. Applications must be submitted by a staff member of a state veteran's home, homeless shelter servicing homeless veterans, or by a case worker at a Vet Center or another organization providing such services to Veterans. Monies will only be applied to benefit veterans and their chaperones/home administrators/care givers. Award ceiling: \$1,000. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year, and awards are first-come/first-served. Deadline: Open.

This one is not related to housing.

Ashner Family Evergreen Foundation

The Ashner Family Evergreen Foundation provides grant funding to programs serving the military community. Grant awards in 2009 ranged from \$1,000 to more than \$600,000. To apply,

begin by sending an email to the foundation. They do not have a website and prefer all initial correspondence to be through email.

Ashner Family Evergreen Foundation
2 Jericho Plz., Wing A, Ste. 111
Jericho, NY 11753-1681
E-mail: mla@wfzjericho.com

Information on funding assistance programs provided by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs for homeless veterans are accessible from: <http://www.va.gov/homeless/index.asp>.

HOUSING-RELATED GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Capital Fund

The Capital Fund provides funds to housing authorities to modernize public housing developments.

Demolition/Disposition

The Demo/Dispo program was created in an effort to help eliminate old, run down public housing.

Homeownership

A Public Housing Authority (PHA) may sell all, or a portion of, a public housing development to eligible residents or resident organizations, for purposes of homeownership, provided that a Homeownership Plan has been submitted by the PHA and has been approved by HUD.

HOPE VI

Since 1993, HOPE VI has been the engine driving the revitalization of the Nation's most distressed public housing developments by providing grants and unprecedented flexibility to address the housing and social service needs of their residents.

Moderate Rehabilitation

Provides project-based rental assistance for low income families. The program was repealed in 1991 and no new projects are authorized for development. Assistance is limited to properties previously rehabilitated pursuant to a housing assistance payments (HAP) contract between an owner and a Public Housing Agency (PHA).

Operating Fund

The Public Housing Operating Fund provides operating subsidies to housing authorities (HAs) to assist in funding the operating and maintenance expenses of their own dwellings, in accordance with Section 9 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended. The subsidies are required to help maintain services and provide minimum operating reserves.

Rental Housing Integrity Improvement Project (RHIIP)

Develops and implements plans which address HUD's high risk rental housing subsidy programs.

Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency (ROSS) and Neighborhood Networks (NN)

The ROSS program links services to public housing residents by providing grants for supportive services, resident empowerment activities and activities to assist residents in becoming economically self-sufficient.