



**VA**  
**HUD-VASH**  
**Program**

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# HUD-VASH Background

- Five-year plan to eliminate homelessness among Veterans
- VA and HUD established high priority performance goals that measured the impact on Veteran homelessness
- The plan focused on coordinated and collaborative efforts from
  - Community partners
  - Local, state and federal government agencies



# HUD-VASH Background

- The nation's largest supported permanent housing initiative:
  - Collaboration between VA and HUD
  - VA provides clinical case management that promotes and maintains recovery and housing stability
  - HUD provides Housing Choice Vouchers

# GA. HUD-VASH VOUCHERS

PHA	VOUCHERS ALLOCATED
City of Atlanta	270
Marietta	174
City of Decatur	250
East Point	50
College Park	30
DeKalb	716
NW Ga.	20
DCA - Atlanta	329

PHA	VOUCHERS ALLOCATED
Augusta	158
DCA - Augusta	79
Macon	18
DCA- Dublin	200
Savannah	137
DCA – Charleston	51
Columbus	60
Carrollton	114
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,655</b>



# Housing First Model

- Permanent housing with supportive & treatment service to homeless individuals or families,
- No requirements for treatment participation prior to housing
- Priority and focus is **on housing**



# Chronical Homeless Definition

- A chronically Homeless Veteran is defined as:
  - A Veteran who meets the HUD's definition of having a disability who
    - lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter;
    - has been homeless and living in one of these places continuously for at least 12 months;
    - OR on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years, as long as the combined occasions equal at least 12 months and each break in homelessness separating the occasions included at least 7 consecutive nights of not living in one of the aforementioned places.



# HUD-VASH Priority Groups

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Homeless persons with a disability with long periods of episodic homelessness and severe service needs.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Homeless persons with a disability with severe service needs.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Homeless persons with a disability living in places not meant for human habitation, safe havens or emergency shelters, without severe service needs.
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Homeless persons with a disability coming from transitional housing.



# HUD-VASH Priority Groups

- 5<sup>th</sup> – Additional VA Populations
  - Women, those with children
  - Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OEF/OIF/OND)
  - Aging Veterans
  - Veterans with a debilitating clinical condition that does not meet formal disability criteria
  - Veterans with an extensive homeless history that does not meet other criteria above





# Case Management Services

- Clinical Case Management Team is responsible for:
  - Determining clinical eligibility and homeless status through acuity scale
  - Identify need for case management services
  - Agreement to participate in HUD-VASH
  - Assisting Veterans who are chronically homeless



# Case Management Services

- Clinical multi-disciplinary team
  - Social Worker
  - Peer Specialist
  - Registered Nurse
  - Licensed Practical Nurse
  - Housing Specialist
  - Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist
  - Employment Specialist
  - Recreation Therapist



# HUD-VASH Eligibility Expansion

- The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 ([PL 116-283](#)), included provisions expanding eligibility for HUD-VASH.
- Other Than Honorable (OTH)
  - A bad conduct discharge can result from a general court-martial or a special court-martial.
    - A person with a bad conduct discharge from a general court martial is not a “veteran” as defined in 38 USC § 2002 (b) and is thus ineligible to participate based on that period of service.
    - A person with a bad conduct discharge from a special court-martial is a “veteran” as defined in 38 USC § 2002 (b) and thus is eligible to participate.



# HUD-VASH SPECIAL HOUSING TYPES

According to research conducted by the VA National Center on Homelessness, there is growing evidence of an aging trend among homeless Veterans who are at considerable risk of entering the homeless system of care



# Special Housing Types

HUD-VASH and GEC programs are exploring options for model development based on existing use HUD Public Housing Authority (PHA) special housing types and existing GEC residential care programs where Veterans can utilize their voucher to cover the cost of housing in the following programs:

- **Medical Foster Home**
- **Home Assisted Living**
- **Community Residential Care**
- **Adult Care Homes**





Medical Forster Care



# Community Residential Care







Assisted Living Facilities



A two-story white house with a gabled roof and a small dormer window. The house features a front porch with white columns and a decorative railing. A concrete ramp with white railings leads up to the porch. The house is surrounded by green grass, trees, and a clear blue sky. A large white circle with a blue outline is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text "ADULT CARE HOMES".

# ADULT CARE HOMES





# Supportive Services for Veterans Families

## Hope Atlanta

Latricia Nation, Director of Veterans  
Services