



VETERAN'S INTRODUCTION TO HUD

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Veterans and their families have been at the heart of many of the programs of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) -- even before HUD became a Federal Department. After World War II, Federal Housing Administration (FHA) mortgage insurance combined with Veteran's Administration mortgage guarantees to help returning veterans achieve the American dream and buy their own homes in record numbers. FHA mortgages and mortgage insurance and the secondary mortgage markets created through the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) have helped make home mortgages affordable for veterans and other working families. Since 1965 HUD has coordinated these and many other Federal efforts to improve housing and strengthen communities for all Americans.

Key Programs

Today HUD provides resources that are important to all Americans and their families:

- Supportive Housing for the Elderly (Section 202) advances capital to nonprofit sponsors of rental housing with supportive services.
- HOPE 3 grants provide first-time homeownership opportunities to low-income families and individuals by

providing grantees with Federal assistance to acquire and rehabilitate single family properties owned by Federal, State, and local governments and to finance their sale to eligible families at affordable prices.

- Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) enable local agencies to create a "continuum of care" for homeless people including homeless veterans. HUD's Supportive Housing Program (SHP) funds are used to provide housing and services, Shelter Plus Care (S+C) grants provide rental assistance for homeless persons with disabilities, and Single Room Occupancy (SRO) assistance is used to rehabilitate SRO dwellings and provide rental assistance, matched by services from other sources.
- The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides grants to States, cities, and counties to expand economic opportunities and help provide suitable living environments for low- and moderate-income people.
- HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) grants help jurisdictions expand the supply of decent and affordable rental and ownership housing for low- and very low-income people. HOME funds can be used to support rental assistance, first-time homebuyer and existing homeowner assistance, and new construction or rehabilitation of housing.

- Section 8 Rental Assistance helps low- and very low-income people, including veterans, afford decent rental housing, while the Section 8 homeownership program helps people use that assistance to purchase a home.
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA) addresses the needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS, including emergency housing, shared housing arrangements, apartments, SRO, and shared residences.
- Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities (Section 811) provides funding to expand the supply of supportive housing for persons with disabilities through capital advances, project rental assistance, and tenant-based rental assistance.

HUD Planning Processes

To better serve its constituents, HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) has developed a consolidated planning process that increases opportunities for veterans and other citizens to become involved in deciding how HUD program funds and other housing and development resources will be used in their communities. Although communities can tailor the planning process to fit their needs, all must bring together citizens -- explicitly including low-income and minority persons -- representatives of local institutions, community groups, and government officials

Corrections? Please help us by sending your corrections to the HUD Veteran Resource Center.



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to develop a Consolidated Plan and set priorities. In this directory, veterans' advocates will find the points of contact for agencies responsible for developing the Consolidated Plan in their State. The Consolidated Plan point of contact for your City or County can be reached by contacting the Community Development Department within each respective agency.

Community Connections Information Center

Community Connections, the information center of CPD, serves Federal, State and local agencies, nonprofit organizations, public interest groups, and others interested in housing and community development. It provides one-stop shopping" for community information resources such as copies of program regulations, descriptions of model programs, case studies of affordable housing initiatives, publications on expanding affordable housing opportunities, funding information, and training and conference announcements. Veterans' advocates may pay particular attention to the monthly HUD Calendar of Housing and Community Development Trainings and Conferences, which presents a comprehensive listing of workshops, seminars, and conferences for housing, community development, and technical assistance providers. Community Connections materials are just a free phone call away at 1-800-998-9999.

HUD on the Internet

On the Internet's World Wide Web, HUD's home page provides current information about HUD programs, housing opportunities, Executive Summaries of Consolidated Plans, and connections to a comprehensive listing of related resources. The point of contact for your community's Consolidated Plan is highlighted. In addition, you can access the local HUD Office's site through HUD's home page.

Community Connections' home page also offers recent funding and program announcements, past newsletters, and links to other useful World Wide Web pages such as the Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities (EZ/EC) home page.

If you have any suggestions about how we can improve this directory or have other comments, please contact HUDVET at (800) 998-9999, TDD (800) 483-2209, Fax, (301) 519-5027, or E-mail hudvet@hud.gov.

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