

= DOL has committed to finding alternative
funding sources

Molly,

Here's a recap on where we are, how we got there, and latest info I have from DOL on Administration support for employment and training for homeless vets. Maybe more to come; we're getting some talking points from DOL that might be on point.

* Background. Authorized by the Stewart McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, HVRP began in 1988, and was financed at under \$2 million annually until 1993-95, when funding jumped to about \$5 million.

* The 1995 rescission bill zeroed out HVRP. H.R. 1158 rescinded the entire HVRP appropriation of \$5 million.

* The 1996 President's Budget (February) requested \$5 M for HVRP.

* Congress provided no FY 1996 funding for HVRP.

* The 1997 Budget requested no earmarked funding for HVRP, consistent with 1995 and 1996 action. HVRP is not authorized in 1997. The Administration has consistently supported a job training policy of consolidation of small programs within flexible grants to States that could be tailored to local needs.

* Current funding. To make up for the 1995 rescission, DOL provided 21 former HVRP grantees \$1.3 million of the \$9 million Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Program Year 1995 Veterans Employment and Training program funds (which became available in July 1995). In February, DOL signed a Memorandum of Understanding with HUD to match these JTPA funds, so HVRP funds from these two "alternative" sources currently total \$2.6 M.

[Note: Vets groups would argue that these funds are a less than perfect substitute for HVRP, because eligibility is limited to recently discharged Vietnam-era, or service-connected disabled vets; HVRP eligibility is wide open. Also, JTPA Vets funds are mostly formula grants; only about 20% of total funding is discretionary. The JTPA Vets E&T appropriation dropped from \$8.9 million in 1995 to \$7.3 million in 1996.]

* Additional alternative funding sources exist. To maintain homeless veterans services at \$5 M (without HVRP earmarked funding), DOL has several options available.

1. JTPA title IV Pilots and Demonstrations. Funding for these activities is being squeezed hard, but DOL could reorder priorities to finance HVRP projects (e.g. divert part of the \$6 M National Alliance for Business (NAB) grant to homeless vets!). On July 1st, the FY 1996 P&D appropriation of \$27 million becomes

available for obligation.

2. 1% transfer authority. FY 1996 appropriations language permits DOL to transfer up to 1% of the resources available in the appropriation to another appropriation. DOL recently used this authority to provide \$5.6 M to finance oversight of the Teamster's election, and could transfer some JTPA money (perhaps title II-A Adults or Dislocated Workers, with FY 1996 appropriations of \$850 M and \$1.1 Billion, respectively) to the A/S for Veterans for homeless veterans programs.

* Some success to report: JTPA is enrolling more homeless. The 1992 Amendments to JTPA tightened targeting in the Adult training grant to help ensure States and locals enroll the severely disadvantaged. As Assistant Secretary Tim Barnicle noted in May 7th testimony before the House Appropriations subcommittee, the JTPA Adult training grant program has increased its enrollment of homeless persons (no data is available on their veterans status) by 100% since 1992. To further encourage services to homeless vets, DOL could send out guidance to all 630 local Service Delivery Areas encouraging them to use JTPA's EXISTING homeless eligibility targeting provision to enroll homeless veterans.

* The Administration remains committed to homeless veterans. Even though earmarked funding for HVRP is not available, the Administration has expressed its willingness to continue to finance these services within available resources. In May 7th testimony before the House appropriations subcommittee on DOL's FY 1997 Budget request, DOL Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment Preston Taylor stated --

"Over the Administration's objections, earmarked funding for [HVRP] was eliminated....However, the Administration continues to support assistance for the homeless, including homeless veterans. Within discretionary JTPA resources, we have funded a cold weather area Jobs for Homeless Veterans program during fiscal year 1996, in partnership with HUD. We anticipate that, using our resources and others available within DOL and other agencies, we will be able to continue to serve homeless veterans in 1997."

7 * DOL's meeting with VSOs. According to Deputy A/S Vets Al Borrego (an attendee), the meeting was short and cordial. VSOs demanded, and DOL offered, no continued commitment to finance homeless veterans programs beyond the existing \$2.6 million DOL/HUD MOU. For her part, Deputy Secretary Metzler offered VSOs only access and a sympathetic ear. She explained the absence of HVRP in the FY 1997 Budget request as a timing problem, and VSOs were satisfied with the following story: HVRP was not authorized during the FY 97 Budget deliberations. When the President signed H.R. 2353 in February 1996 (which authorized HVRP for one year, FY

1996), it was too late to include HVRP funds in the 1997 Budget. DOL's Budget Office has not responded to my request for information about DOL's future funding for homeless vets using alternative sources.

Please let me know if you need further information.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

31-May-1996 03:01pm

TO: Molly Brostrom

FROM: Carole Kitt
Office of Mgmt and Budget, HRD

CC: Kenneth S. Apfel
CC: Barry White
CC: Maureen H. Walsh
CC: Mary I. Cassell

SUBJECT: NVTI and VETS Transfer Talking Points

National Veterans Training Institute (NVTI)

- o The FY 1997 President's Budget does not request specific funding for NVTI. Instead, VETS is looking at alternative ways of providing training at lower cost.
- o About 95 percent of the VETS-funded State staff have already attended NVTI's basic professional skills development program. Consequently, training can be carried out at a smaller scale.
- o Recognizing the importance of front-line staff and the realities of tight budgets, the choice was made to seek increased funding for State staff providing direct employment services to veterans instead of continuing NVTI. The increase in front-line staff serving veterans should mean 6,000 more jobs for veterans.

Transfer of DOL's Assistance Secretary for Veterans Employment and Training (ASVET) to Department of Veterans Affairs

- o DOL is committed to veterans programs.
 - The FY 1997 President's Budget increased funding for VETS? programs by \$8.8 million over the FY 1996 enacted level, a 5.9 percent increase.
 - The Transition Assistance Program continues to be a priority. Requested funding will permit 65 percent of separating servicemembers to participate in workshops in FY

1997, up from the projected 57 percent coverage in FY 1996.

- The internal DOL spreadsheet that led veterans service organizations to believe that DOL gave VETS low priority was misinterpreted. VETS funding appeared at the end of the spreadsheet simply because of where the account appears in the printed budget. The placement did not reflect Departmental priorities.

- o Transfer of ASVET to VA could hurt, not help, services to veterans seeking jobs.
 - VETS-funded State staff work alongside Employment Service staff funded by other DOL programs in some 1,800 local offices. Employment services need to be delivered where the job-seekers are, not in central locations.

- We believe that effective coordination across these programs and assurance of priority services to veterans is facilitated by having a single Department in charge.
- o VETS can develop effective linkages with VA without a formal transfer. An example is the recent Memorandum of Understanding between VA and DOL for DOL to provide intensive reemployment services to veterans completing vocational rehabilitation programs.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

18-Apr-1996 07:59am

TO: Molly Brostrom

FROM: Kenneth S. Apfel
Office of Mgmt and Budget, HR

CC: Jeremy D. Benami
CC: Nancy-Ann E. Min
CC: Larry R. Matlack

SUBJECT: vets

as you can see from the attached, this was an issue settled out over a year ago-- the Hill zipped the program in 95 and we did not fight for it in the "add-back" process. It's no longer getting earmarked funding in the appropriations bill and hasn't for some time. DoL continues to use discretionary money to fund it. Our story should be that DoL has to date found a way to keep it going at a lower funding level through their discretionary dollars. This is not a priority program.

*DOL/Veterans argue this is robbing Peter to Pay Paul.
What is b'down in funding to DOL VETS?
How do we assure them that veterans will continue to
be served?*

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

17-Apr-1996 07:34pm

TO: Kenneth S. Apfel

FROM: Larry R. Matlack
 Office of Mgmt and Budget, HRD

CC: Barry White
CC: Maureen H. Walsh
CC: Mary I. Cassell

SUBJECT: Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project (HVRP)

A short summary of this program's funding history follows.

* Authorized by the Stewart McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, HVRP began in 1988, and was financed at about \$1-1 1/2 million annually until 1993-1995, when funding jumped to about \$5 million.

* The FY 1995 rescission bill zeroed out HVRP. H.R. 1158 rescinded the entire HVRP appropriation of \$5 million.

* The 1996 June Balanced Budget continued the rescission action for non-GI Bill for America's Workers programs. Since the HVRP was not in that initiative, the Balanced Budget provided no financing for this program.

* Congress in the FY 1996 Labor, HHS, and Education appropriation zeroed out the program.

* To make up for the 1995 rescission, DOL provided former HVRP grantees \$1.3 million of the \$9 million Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Program Year 1995 Veterans Employment and Training Program funds (these program year funds became available on July 1, 1995). In February, DOL signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with HUD to match these JTPA funds, so HVRP grants from these two "alternative" funding sources total \$2.6 million currently. DOL would argue that JTPA money isn't a perfect substitute for HVRP because JTPA eligibility is limited to recently discharged Vietnam-era, or service-connected disabled veterans. HVRP eligibility is wide open. Still, we would argue that a categorical demo has been consolidated successfully, and that JTPA monies remain a viable alternative for HVRP grantee funds.

* The FY 1997 Budget includes no funds for HVRP, consistent with the FY 1995 and FY 1996 action.

* It is up to the Department of Labor whether to continue this program by using its discretionary JTPA dollars.



Washington, D.C. 20410

News Release

HUD NO. 96-46
Michael Zerrega (202) 708-0277 ext 118

FOR RELEASE
Wednesday
February 21, 1996

HUD AND LABOR DEPARTMENTS WILL JOINTLY FUND VETERANS' HOUSING AND TRAINING PROGRAM

The Department of Housing and Urban Development has agreed to help fund the Department of Labor's effort to help homeless veterans obtain housing, training and jobs.

The Department of Labor has made available \$1.3 million from the Job Training Partnership Act to renew Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Projects in 20 cold-weather communities. HUD will transfer to Labor \$1.3 million in homeless funds from its Supportive Housing Program to support a jointly administered veterans' program in these communities.

"These efforts have helped thousands of homeless veterans to help themselves," said HUD Secretary Henry G. Cisneros. "They have taken people off the streets and enabled them to lead secure and self-sufficient lives. HUD is pleased to be able to join the Labor Department in working to help our nation's homeless veterans."

Labor Secretary Robert B. Reich said: "Before any of us can pay our way in the world, we must have the skills to earn a decent living. For a number of years, this program has given thousands of homeless veterans a chance to train for good jobs and eventually pay for their own housing. It's a program that gives veterans both skills and a sense of accomplishment."

HUD Assistant Secretary Andrew M. Cuomo said the Labor Department's project is consistent with HUD's "continuum of care" approach, which encourages communities to provide comprehensive services such as health care, counseling, job-training and transitional housing to bring people off the streets permanently.

"Homeless people need more than a meal and a bed for the night," Cuomo said. "In this Administration, we've asked communities to work at putting homeless Americans on the road to self-sufficiency. This joint project will help homeless

--MORE

veterans get emergency care, but will also help them gain the skills they need to earn a living and be independent again."

The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Project has served more than 30,000 homeless veterans and placed 13,000 in jobs since 1987. The project helps veterans get jobs through local agencies that provide job training, counseling, substance abuse treatment, transitional housing and help with medical and other needs. The average cost of placing a homeless veteran in a job is approximately \$1,500.

Preston Taylor, Labor Assistant Secretary, said:
"Reintegration programs are designed to eliminate the six major problems veterans face: lack of transitional housing, inadequate drug and alcohol treatment, transportation problems, lack of job skills, depressed local labor markets and resistance to hiring the homeless."

#

Statement of Preston M. Taylor Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Veterans' Employment and Training
before the
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
May 7, 1996

EXCERPT

I also want to address jobs for homeless veterans. Over the Administration's objections, earmarked funding for this demonstration program was eliminated by P.L. 104-19, the FY 1995 rescission bill. However, the Administration continues to support assistance for the homeless, including homeless veterans. Within discretionary Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) resources available, we have funded a cold weather area jobs for homeless veterans program during fiscal year 1996, in partnership with the Department of Housing and Urban Development. We anticipate that, using our resources and others available within DOL and other agencies, we will be able to continue to serve homeless veterans in 1997.

President Clinton's Record on Veterans' Employment

Talking Points

President Clinton and Secretary Reich are committed to giving priority to the employment and training of veterans. This commitment is evidenced by:

Since President Clinton took office in 1993:

☐ Transition Assistance Program for soon to be veterans

- 579,000 soon to be veterans and their spouses have been trained on job search and career planning at workshops conducted at about 200 installations nationwide
- the unemployment compensation paid to recently separated service members, or UCX, has declined from \$556 million in fiscal year 1993 to \$330 million in fiscal year 1995

☐ Jobs for veterans - 1.687 million veterans found jobs through VETS programs in partnership with State Employment Security Agencies (SESAs)

- includes more than 116,000 disabled veterans
- includes over 9,800 homeless veterans
- includes over 9,500 veterans with economic barriers
- includes those helped by the Service Members Occupational Conversion and Training Act
- the unemployment rate of veterans has declined from 7.2% when President Clinton was sworn in, to a 3.4% by September 1995

☐ Enforcement

- President Clinton signed the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act of 1994, which provides enhanced protection for veterans and reserve component members

- 4,008 veterans' reemployment rights complaints have been closed
- through compliance settlements or litigation, successful veteran or reserve component complainants have received over \$2.6 million since 1993
- Assured National Guard members and reservists mobilized to support operations in Bosnia and their employers received information on reemployment rights, benefits and obligations

☐ Training

- the National Veterans' Training Institute (NVTI) has trained 7,790 providers of services to veterans

☐ President Clinton's budget requests for VETS (fiscal years 1995, 1996, 1997) total \$591.4 million.

- For two of these fiscal years, 1995 and 1996, Congressional appropriations funded VETS for a total of \$371.7 million, as opposed to \$405.3 million requested, \$34 million, or 16.2 percent less than President Clinton requested from Congress

☐ The Department of Labor's budget was cut by Congress approximately 15% from the original FY 1995 Appropriation to the FY 1996 Appropriation. The VETS' budget was cut 10.7%

☐ The original FY 1996 President's budget request for the Labor Department was cut 16.7% in the 1996 Appropriation. VETS' was cut 9.7%

☐ Establishment of the Advisory Committee on Veterans' Employment and Training

- Secretary Reich met with the Committee, which has issued recommendations on veterans' issues. It is scheduled to meet again on June 6 and 7, 1996

VETERANS ARE AND WILL REMAIN A PRIORITY DURING THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION

- ☐ Some concerns have been raised over a spreadsheet prepared by staff working on projections which was leaked outside of DOL -- but
- The location of the ASVET accounts on the Department of Labor out year table does not indicate that these activities are the lowest priority in the Department. The lines appear in the same order in which you find them in the budget and are not listed in any priority order
- We will revisit the out year numbers annually. The 1997 budget and appropriations process will only lock in funding for 1997; decisions will be made every year about specific funding levels of programs
- Also, if you look at the recent Congressional conference action and Appropriations Act for the Department of Labor, you will notice the order is the same as was in the out year table
- ☐ Veterans' issues are a high priority in the Clinton Administration, as shown by the establishment of the Advisory Committee on Veterans' Employment and Training by Secretary Reich and his meeting with the Committee
- ☐ President Clinton's FY 1997 budget request increased funding for VETS' grants by \$8.8 million over the FY 1996 enacted level, a 5.9% increase

ISSUES

- ❑ National Veterans Training Institute (NVTI) - During tight budgetary times and understanding the importance of front-line staff, the choice was made to seek a DVOP and LVER funding increase instead of continuing NVTI. The increase in front line staff serving veterans should mean 6,000 more jobs for veterans.
- ❑ Jobs for Homeless Veterans - President Clinton supports a jobs for homeless veterans program.
 - President Clinton indicated his support for a jobs for homeless veterans program during his keynote speech at the Veterans of Foreign Wars winter conference in 1995
 - President Clinton's FY 1995 budget request included a jobs for homeless veterans program, as did the FY 1995 original VETS' Appropriation
 - Congress zeroed out - rescinded - the jobs for homeless veterans program in FY 1995 during their budget reconciliation process
 - President Clinton's FY 1996 budget request included a jobs for homeless veterans program, with a funding level of \$5.011 million
 - The recent Conference action on FY 1996 Appropriations did not provide funds for the program
 - VETS, with HUD assistance, has funded a \$2.6 million jobs for homeless veterans program in cold weather areas. We anticipate that using our resources available within the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and elsewhere within DOL and other agencies, we will be able to continue to serve homeless veterans in 1997

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

LABOR BRANCH FAX SHEET

DATE: 5/3

TO: MOLLY BROSTROM

FROM: MAUREEN WALSH

COMMENTS: HERE IS LANGUAGE WE'VE DRAFTED-
PER KEN'S INSTRUCTIONS - TO MODIFY
THE 5/7 BUDGET TESTIMONY OF A/S
PRESTON TAYLOR. PLS CALL ME OR LARRY
IF YOU HAVE COMMENTS OR WOULD LIKE
TO DISCUSS.

NUMBER OF PAGES 2
(INCLUDING COVER)

CONFIRMATION: (202) 395-3262
FAX NUMBER: (202) 395-1596

I also want to address jobs for homeless veterans. Over the Administration's objections, earmarked funding for this demonstration program was eliminated by P.L. 104-19, the FY 1995 rescission bill. However, the Administration continues to support assistance for the homeless, including homeless veterans. Within discretionary Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) resources available, we have funded a cold weather area jobs for homeless veterans program during fiscal year 1996, in partnership with the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Subsequent to our action, Congress passed the FY 1996 omnibus appropriation, in which report language asked VETS to fund a program in fiscal year 1996. We anticipate that, using our resources and others available within DOL and other agencies, we will be able to continue to serve homeless veterans in 1997.

- HUD \$ was actually 95

- ASVETS

$\frac{95}{8.8} \rightarrow \frac{96 - \text{avail July}}{7.3}$

Options: (DOL has 1% transfer authority)

= OMB letting DOL do their thing

Tues →
Approps =

* next mtg → success stories

3/26 Jim Hubbard, Am. Legion

- Source of information
- Stand downs - not solution
- need #1 - shelter
- #2 - counseling

concern that ^{most are's} prov's
shelter + not other services

★ HVRP: 4,000 moved into jobs

Ken Smith: threat led
to

1/3 of male h'less → vets = Why?

JTPA: \$600M -
\$7M to VETS

Am Legion, Pittsburgh

Natl Coalition for Homeless Veterans → Linda Boone
- Tim Garin

Why is Admin
not finding
enpl. + tr for vets?

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

22-Mar-1996 04:04pm

HR 2289

TO: Molly Brostrom

FROM: Maureen H. Walsh
Office of Mgmt and Budget, HRD

SUBJECT: Homeless Vets

Got your voice-mail message. Here we go again!

Here's a quick recap of where we are on HVRP.

FY 1995

I'm sure you'll recall the program lost its 1995 funding in last year's rescission action. We did not object because it was only one of 20 DOL training and employment programs to lose some or all of its funding in rescission action totalling \$1.5 billion. We objected to the cuts to the high priority programs -- Summer Jobs, School-to-Work, Low-income adult training grants to States--but couldn't object to each and every cut.

FY 1996

DOL is planning no funding for HVRP in 1996, either under a full-year CR, or based on House and Senate approps action to date (no HVRP funding in either chamber).

FY 1997

DOL's FY 1997 budget request to OMB did not request any HVRP funds. However, in a neat trick, DOL's Budget Appeal of OMB's FY 1997 passback newly requested on February 8th \$10 M for FY 1997, citing a recently passed bill (HR 2353) that authorized HVRP at \$10 M for FY 1996. The appeal was denied on grounds that our policy is to support a consolidated, streamlined job training system, instead of small categorical carve-outs. (Besides, the program is not authorized in 1997.) DOL did not object to the appeal denial. It could be HVRP fell through the appeal cracks, but we did not hear anything else from them on funding for this program until the HUD deal came to light. The FY 1997 President's budget requests no funds for HVRP. The Budget says that 1997 is a transition year to a new consolidated system, which we expect to begin operating in 1998 (see below).

AVA extends
bill - GAP
Supported
Sweeney

The HUD MOU

I found out about this from Katherine Meredith and was quite surprised. When I asked DOL what gives, they told me in that in February, Preston Taylor, the Assistant Secretary for

Veterans Employment, decided to use \$1.3 M of Program Year 1995's \$9 M total appropriation for JTPA title IV, Part C Veterans Employment Program to provide grants to the "cold weather" homeless vets grantees. This suits us fine. ASVETS found an alternate funding source for HVRP, so it is in effect consolidated within JTPA. And by the way, JTPA is repealed in the House and Senate-passed training reform bills, currently in conference. (Only the Senate bill repeals the McKinney Act job training demo programs, however.)

HVRP program notes

You might be interested in some HVRP data I scrounged up to help the PAD respond to DOL's appeal for HVRP funding. The data show a mixed track record. In FY 1993, HVRP enrolled 8,098, placed 4,175 (52%) in jobs; three months after placement, just 1,906 (24%) remained employed. HVRP's low cost per placement of about \$716 supports short-term interventions and compares with about \$2,300 in the Job Training Partnership Act's adult training program, which includes the homeless among its target groups. The current JTPA title II-A performance standard for follow-up employment is 59%, defined as the total number of adults who left the program (terminees) who were employed (for at least 20 hrs/wk) during the 13th calendar week after termination, divided by the total number of adult terminees. The HVRP-JTPA stats aren't strictly comparable, but it's an interesting contrast.

Hope this helps. Feel free to call or e-mail me if you have any questions.

\$ 7-9M to ASVETS (JTPA funding) - part of this is discretionary -
Preston could continue to use this

Message: we've consol'd funding into JTPA +



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

Facsimile Cover Sheet

To: Molly B.
Company:
Phone: (202) 456-7028
Fax:

From:
Company: Office of the Secretary
Phone:
Fax:

Date:
Pages including this
cover page:

Comments:



Putting Veterans First

Molly,

CONGRATULATIONS! The Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) will provide testimony before the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees on March 27th. In their text they Recognize the commitment of the Administration to deal with the Homeless Veteran issue and the joint efforts of DOL, VA and HUD to preserve and develop programs. " Increasing cooperation between programs like these and various HUD resources can become models for programs aimed at the general homeless population."

Don't you love it when a plan comes together. I think this effort can be raised as a major success for the Interagency Veterans Policy Working Group. Well Done.

Bob Jones.

3/26/96

H

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: _____

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

Draft response for CHR by: _____

Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by: _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: _____

Reply using form code: _____

File: _____

Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? : ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____

Do you want to call
this 527 please.

Thanks.

The American Legion



For God and Country

★ WASHINGTON OFFICE ★ 1608 "K" STREET, N.W. ★ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006-2847 ★
(202) 861-2700 ★

November 20, 1995

*- follow up on (Hr
- touch base on issues +
work up our story*

Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco:

My participation in the White House forum on homelessness was predicated on the fact that up to one third of homeless males are veterans of service in the armed forces of the United States. While it is sad that the number of homeless people in this country is as high as it is, the number of veterans who are homeless is absolutely shameful. Most of them suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, or from alcohol and/or substance abuse brought on by the PTSD.

What I witnessed at the meeting was a certain amount of complaining at the way grant money was being parceled out. I found it extremely interesting that the one local solution which brought together different agencies in a comprehensive effort to help homeless people was described by a woman working at a hospital which is part of the Department of Veterans Affairs system. There are lessons to be learned from her experience.

I hope this will not be the last forum on this topic. I also hope that the next forum will allow for discussion on possible solutions to the plight of homeless people. The American Legion has some very relevant experience in this area and we are willing to share it. Sometimes it doesn't even require government money.

I look forward to hearing from you and I look forward to our next forum.

Sincerely,

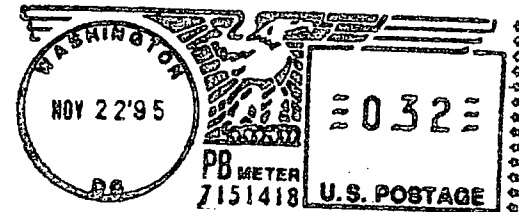
James B. Hubbard, Director
National Economic Commission

The
American
Legion



For God and Country

Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
Washington, DC 20500



- what's track record?
- why is it so cheap?
- proscript => ?

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

13-Jun-1995 03:30pm

TO: Kenneth S. Apfel
FROM: Maureen H. Walsh
Office of Mgmt and Budget, HRD
CC: Barry White
Larry R. Matlack
SUBJECT: Homeless Vets

This is FYI only.

I just fielded a call from the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, which was lobbying me for funding for DOL's Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Project (HVRP) program. Boy did they have a wrong number! I referred them to Larry Haas.

HVRP factoids:

* H.R. 1158 zeroed out HVRP's \$5 M FY 1995 appropriation. The Coalition flack told me that they met with the President around Memorial Day. They want the President to fight to keep HVRP out of a compromise rescission bill. Nancy-Ann and Larry Haas called me separately to inquire about the House HVRP rescission. Pretty high profile for such a small program! It was one of 20 programs cut in House action rescinding \$2.3 billion of DOL's employment and training programs. Notably, the Senate did not touch HVRP in its rescission.

* HVRP is not in the GI Bill (excluded because it serves a special population with unique needs.) The FY 1996 Budget would continue HVRP at 1995's financing level of \$5.011 M.

* HVRP is zeroed out in the latest FY 1996-2002 budget drill (because it is not in the GI Bill and not a restoration target).

* HVRP currently finances 24 urban and 6 rural grantees serving about 8,000 homeless vets annually and placing about 4,000 in jobs. Cost per job placement is about \$1,200 -- relatively low because few participants receive training. Counseling and job search and placement assistance predominate; many participants are job ready. The Coalition flack claims it's a money saver (don't they all?), but as I recall from a process study, job retention is grim. Fewer than 20% of all participants are in jobs 13 weeks after leaving HVRP.

* Authorized by the McKinney Act as a vets setaside within DOL's Homeless Job Training Demonstration Program, HVRP has survived the parent program. The Clinton FY 95 Budget sought \$0 for non-vets homeless job training (vs. \$5.055 M for HVRP). Since the JTPA amendments established the homeless as a target group, we had a good story to zero out this demo and "mainstream" homeless job training in JTPA title II-A.

I will assume no change, i.e. no funding for HVRP in the 1996-2005 balanced budget, unless I hear from you otherwise.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

16-Jun-1995 10:44am

TO: Douglas L. Steiger

FROM: Maureen H. Walsh
 Office of Mgmt and Budget, HRD

SUBJECT: Homeless vets

This is a heads up.

Jill Blickstein just called me to say this Homeless Coalition guy called Jack Lew. She plans to refer the call to Ken.

As you'll see in the attached e-mail, this guy called me. He's also called Joseph Firschein in the Housing Branch. I suggested he call Larry Haas or Jack Lew to make his point.

He wants somebody in a policy position to hear that the President should not accept a rescission of funding for the Homeless Vets program. I told him I am a number cruncher and do not make decisions on priorities, but that the President had to limit his restoration requests in H.R. 1158. He said he understood -- he was not entirely unreasonable.

He also said that the Coalition is looking into alternative sources of funds (in VA, maybe?) for their pet program if the next rescission bill kills it too. He sounded pretty confident that the Homeless Vets would find another source if DOL money is gone.

Could you warn Ken? And let me know if you need anything else.



NATIONAL COALITION *for* HOMELESS VETERANS

918 Pennsylvania Ave, S.E. ■ Washington, D.C. 20003 ■ 202/546-1969 ■ Fax: 202/546-2063 ■ Toll-Free: 800/VET-HELP

FAX TRANSMISSION

URGENT!

Please deliver immediately!

To: Molly Brosi, RN

From: Brian Lowinger

Date: 9/15 Time: 3:54

Comments:

Number of pages, including cover sheet: 6

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NATIONAL COALITION *for* HOMELESS VETERANS

918 Pennsylvania Ave, S.E. ■ Washington, D.C. 20003 ■ 202/546-1969 ■ Fax: 202/546-2063 ■ Toll-Free: 800/VET-HELP

September 15, 1995

Molly Drostrom, Senior Policy Analyst
Old Executive Office Building, Room 207
17th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Drostrom:

Per our conversation regarding homeless veteran employment programs, especially the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project (HVRP), enclosed please find two letters from program grantees regarding the importance of it to veterans.

I am happy to provide you with whatever other information you deem pertinent to your ongoing work on behalf of our homeless heroes.

Should you wish to contact me, I may be reached at (202) 546-1969.

Thank you for your time

Sincerely,

Stephen Chisholm
Director of Public Policy

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 31, 1995

TO: Steve Chisolm

FROM: Byron Calos

RE: HVRP in Northern California

Vietnam Veterans of California has operated two consecutive, one-year HVRP projects located in Sacramento (urban), and Eureka (rural). The Sacramento project operated on average annual funding of \$144,000, and Eureka at \$105,000, which supported a total of 5.5 staff.

The Eureka project had only two staff persons, who were responsible for outreaching and serving homeless veterans in a service delivery area consisting of over 45,000 square miles.

Since October 1993 the projects have accomplished the following:

EUREKA

- Outreach to over 1,325 homeless veterans
- Enrollment of 180 in the project
- 22 placed in employment
- Over 30% retained employment beyond 13 weeks
- Average Wage at Placement: 1993/94—\$5.60; 1994/95—\$6.43

Notes:

It is important to understand that this project operated in a rural area that has been decimated by devastating reductions in its two largest industries: fishing and lumber. Double digit unemployment was the reality for two years until early 1995; with the majority of available jobs still in entry level, minimum wage positions in the service and retail industries. This reality resulted in many of the participants obtaining \$5 an hour jobs that they could not afford to keep—this was not enough income to sustain themselves. Therefore, it was common for participants to hold three or four of these jobs until their skill levels improved, or a higher paying job for which they were qualified became available.

In addition, competition for any competitive wage job openings was fierce. Couple this with the fact that the average participant in this HVRP had a non-existent work history, no real skills for the few high paying jobs that did become available, and those with skills (e.g.

mechanic) were not able to find any openings, and it is clear that there were considerable obstacles to achieving relative high retention rates.

SACRAMENTO

- Outreach to over 867 homeless veterans
- Enrollment of 225 in the project
- 110 placed in employment
- Over 42% retained employment beyond 13 weeks
- Average Wage at Placement: 1993/94 \$6.80; 1994/95 \$7.25

Notes:

Some discussion of retention rates needs to be offered, due to an inherent programmatic factor that eliminates a sizable portion of enrollees from being counted in the annualized retention rates.

In essence, the bulk of our program job placements occur in the fourth quarter. For example the '93-'94 Sacramento HVRP placed 31% and the Eureka 34% of its enrollees in jobs during the fourth quarter. The 13-week retention goal is impossible to accomplish (12-weeks per Qtr.) because it extends beyond the contracted reporting period. Thus, a large percentage of retention rate information is completely lost.

As it is now, the need to focus on the new contract year, the small staffs, and the generally large service delivery areas are not conducive to the continued tracking of previous program year participants—many of whom will have remained employed for over 13 weeks.

GENERAL FINDINGS FOR BOTH PROGRAMS

- The average length of time each participant need to accomplish Phase One issues, which include detoxification, alcohol, drug recovery and rehabilitation, mental health counseling, and criminal justice issues, is 8 months in the rural project and 6 months in the urban project.

As is painfully clear, well over half of the program year is focused on the alleviation of commonly multiple and severe barriers to mitigation of the primary contributors to their cycle of homelessness. And once out of these rehabilitative services the participants are in no way immediately ready to obtain employment.

- Participants commonly go through three or four tax jobs (short term employment), primarily because of their long history of unemployment, the residue of substance abuse and addiction, their inability to relate to authority and their lack of marketable skills.

NSSFNS-VUB/AVRP/HHVC TEL:1-404-688-0042

Sep 02,95 15:19 No.001 P.02

ATLANTA VET RE-ENTRY PROJECT

875 M. L. KING JR. DR., ATLANTA, GA 30314

(404) 577-0093 • FAX: (404) 688-0042

MEMORANDUM

TO: Steve Chisholm
FROM: Art Barham, Director
SUBJECT: HVRP in Atlanta, Georgia
DATE: 1 September 1995

Atlanta's Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project is operated by the National Scholarship Service's Veterans Programs, known locally as, the Atlanta Vet Re-Entry Project (AVRP), under a City of Atlanta, Office of Citizens Employment and Training Contract. This contract has been in place for the past six years.

AVRP created six (6) new positions the first year (1989) and employs 14 persons now. From its inception, this project has consistently provided employment to formerly Homeless Veterans. Eleven of these former Homeless Veterans have moved on to secure permanent employment in field ranging from nursing to becoming DVOP with the State Labor Department. The average yearly cost of this project has been \$ 141,128.00. This project has developed many techniques for serving the Homeless that has been duplicated by many others project serving different categories of the homeless. These techniques include, Assessments, Individualized Service Strategies, Case Management, Orientation Workshops, Job Preparedness Training and tracking methods.

SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS:

Since January 1989 the Project has achieved the following:

- Outreached to more than 3,888 Veterans.
- Enrolled more than 1,633 Veterans.
- 890 employed in Unsubsidized environments.
- 68% retaining Employment more than 13 weeks.
- Average wage at placement \$5.75 an hour, average wage at 13 follow-up interval \$7.50 an hour with benefits.
- 578 placed in permanent Housing.
- Average cost to the Government per placement \$1,120.00. Resulting in over \$943,800.00 in Income Tax Revenues generated since project inception.

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS:

- o The Project's services has aided 109 veterans to return and complete a Post Secondary Education endeavor.
- o 22% acquiring an employment related License or Certificate of Training.
- o 78% acquiring a 2 or 4 year "Degree".
- o 29% re-connecting with family.

Contributions are deductible for income tax purposes

NSSFNS-UUB/AVRP/HHVC TEL:1-404-688-0042

Sep 02.95 15:19 No.001 P.03

Steve Chisholm
MEMO: HVRP in Atlanta, GA
Page 2

SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS:

- Three (3) months is the average length of time a participant requires to overcome obstacles and barriers to employment that are in the Human Service Support arena. These are services such as, Detoxification, Drug/Alcohol Rehabilitation and Recovery, Medical Treatment, Behavior Modification Counseling and legal issues.
- The use of Computers to maintain files on participants, track services and compile data is critical to the overall operation of the Project.
- The flexibility in Project Design and operations as provided by the U. S. Department of Labor has resulted in the ease in which this community can address the unique needs of the targeted population.
- The opportunity to use persons that have experienced Homelessness and to conduct Staff Development Training is critical to the overall success of the Project.
- The loss of this project will leave a void in providing service to this target population that no other program, endeavor or project can fill.

GENERAL FINDINGS:

When Washington uses the following formula to meet the needs of the nation's disadvantaged population, success can be realized.
The Formula:

(1) Appropriate Federal Role - Serving Veterans;
(2) Effective Service Designed by the Community to be Served -
Using persons that have experienced the plight of the Targeted Population; (3) Efficient Cost Control Measures - Employing General Business Practices that considers common sense cost allocations, flexibility in fund disbursements to actual expenditures; and (4) Linchpin - Using the Project and funds to hold other services together, filling the gap in the overall service arena and to directing participants to existing service providers.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICE

Information regarding the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project (HVRP):

FUNDING: The amount appropriated for this program in fiscal year 1995 was \$5,011,000. These funds were rescinded under Public Law 104-19 signed by the President on July 27, 1995. HVRP grantees who are currently operating programs with FY 1994 funds were recently notified that the program ends on September 30, 1995.

The Department has received many letters from the communities where the programs operate in support of continuing the program, as it is one they recognize that works. Among the letters are many from representatives of the Department of Veterans Affairs who have worked well as partners with the HVRP staff at the local level. The Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training has expressed his regret at this circumstance resulting from budget cutting measures.

Attachments:

- 1. FY 1994 Program Emphasis Statement for HVRP encouraging coordination with VA resources.**
- 2. Five year aggregate data on HVRP program performance (includes numbers served).**
- 3. Brochure describing the program.**
- 4. Information on rural HVRPs.**

FINAL

FY 1994 PROGRAM EMPHASIS STATEMENT

The Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training stresses effective coordination and cooperation among Federal agencies serving homeless veterans toward the goal of creating local "comprehensive continuums of care" to better serve homeless individuals. VETS will place particular emphasis in the FY 1994 Homeless Veterans Reintegration Projects (HVRP) on strengthening existing ties with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and forging new partnerships at the local level to benefit the target population.

HVRP grantees are asked to meet with the appropriate VA counterparts in their service area to devise an appropriate individually-tailored plan for coordination and cooperation. The VA has homeless coordinators at each of its 58 Regional Offices, 202 VET Centers, and 170 Medical Centers, as well as homeless staff at all of its programs specifically geared for homeless veterans (such as the 50 Homeless Chronically Mentally Ill Veterans program sites and the 31 Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans program sites).

It is expected that HVRP program staff will refer homeless veterans to the VA for eligibility determinations, with eligible veterans receiving VA benefits, medical and substance abuse treatment, and other services and assistance. Similarly, it is expected that the local VA facilities will be aware of and refer to the HVRP program their clients who have been discharged or otherwise could benefit from the employment, training, placement and supportive services of the HVRP program. These reciprocal arrangements should allow for better resource utilization for both parties.

Each HVRP grantee should draw up a plan for the FY 1994 grant period which spells out the mutual responsibilities, coordination efforts and any special initiatives to be undertaken with their local VA facilities and any local VA homeless programs. This plan may be bolstered by special written agreements with specific VA programs or facilities.

The following are suggested topics to be addressed, as appropriate, in the HVRP grantee/VA service area:

1. Coordinating outreach between HVRP and VA staff, especially with VA's homeless program outreach workers and with the homeless outreach staff at VA Regional Offices, so that appropriate cross-referrals might be made without duplication of services;

2. Coordinating client assessments with both parties so that information is shared and client access to available benefits, treatment, and employability development is expedited. In addition, the HVRP program might want to consider availing its staff of any training/technical assistance that might be arranged with VA staff specialists on how to work better with mentally ill or substance-abusing clients.

3. Coordinating case management services with appropriate VA staff working with the same client to the extent feasible.

4. Having VA staff participation in the Local Working Committees required by the grant and/or participation in any VA working groups on homeless issues.

5. Working with the VA Coordinators of the Supported Housing program VA has undertaken with the Department of Housing and Urban development (HUD-VASH) to facilitate client access to the HUD rental assistance vouchers designated for targeted homeless veterans, if this program is available in the grantee area.

6. Supporting Stand Downs in the local area along with the VA and actively participating in any "Homeless Veterans Mini-Summits" sponsored by the VA to foster cooperative solutions to the problems of homeless veterans.

7. Coordinating transportation efforts, especially in rural areas.

8. Exploring possible co-location of services by the two agencies as well by as other service providers.

9. Maximizing transitional housing resources in the jurisdiction.

10. Developing linkages between the HVRP program and VA's Compensated Work Therapy and Vocational Rehabilitation programs.

11. Developing or refining other innovative and practical methods of cooperation between the VA and local HVRP.

HVRP grantees are asked to state specifically in the plan the current relationships or "connection" with VA that have been made or are in place and the proposed activities which will be explored in the FY 1994 program year. Status reports of accomplishments regarding the plan should be included in the narrative section of the quarterly technical performance report as well as in the narrative section of the final report due 90 days after the program end date (December 30, 1995).

Five Year HVRP Technical Performance Summary

(PY 1988 — 1992; all Programs Aggregated)

		Total	Average	Median
1.	Number of Outreach Contacts	53,516	2,817	2,451
2.	Number of Participants Enrolled	26,402	1,390	1,139
3.	Referrals to and Enrollments in Supportive Services	108,625	5,717	3,554
4.	Referrals to and Enrollments in Employment and Training Services	29,660	1,561	1,109
5.	Direct Placements into Unsubsidized Employment	7,023	370	289
6.	Assisted Placements into Unsubsidized Employment	3,963	209	111
	Total Placements (5 & 6)	10,986	578	459
7.	Number Retaining Jobs for 13 Weeks	4,072	214	202
8.	Rate of Placement into Unsubsidized Employment		41.6%	39.2%
9.	Cost Per-Placement into Unsubsidized Employment		\$1,128.30	\$946.00
10.	Average Wage at Placement		\$6.15	\$5.94

SIX YEAR HVRP TECHNICAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY**(FY 1988 - 1993*; ALL PROGRAMS AGGREGATED)**

	TOTAL
1. NUMBER OF OUTREACH CONTACTS	72,992
2. NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED	34,648
3. REFERRALS TO AND ENROLLMENTS IN SUPPORTIVE SERVICES**	108,625
4. REFERRALS TO AND ENROLLMENTS IN EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES**	29,660
5. PARTICIPANTS COMPLETING SOCIAL REHABILITATIVE SERVICES PLAN***	8,176
6. PARTICIPANTS COMPLETING EMPLOYABILITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES PLAN***	5,436
7. DIRECT PLACEMENTS INTO UNSUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT	9,955
8. ASSISTED PLACEMENTS INTO UNSUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT	5,231
9. TOTAL PLACEMENTS (7 & 8)	15,186
10. NUMBER RETAINING JOBS FOR 13 WEEKS	6,616
11. RATE OF PLACEMENT INTO UNSUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT	44%

* Grantees funded with FY 1994 funds are currently in their third quarter of operations. The FY 1993 program is the most recently completed full program period.

** These goals reflect accomplishments in the first five years of the HVRP program. For the FY 1993 program they were replaced by the goals in items 5 & 6 above.

*** These goals became operational in FY 1993 and reflect one year of performance.



NATIONAL COALITION *for* HOMELESS VETERANS

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COMMON GROUND

The 1995 Legislative Proposals of the
NATIONAL COALITION FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

* **Veteran Opportunity Centers**

a. *need:* This country's unemployed, under-employed and homeless veterans comprise a significant, unused national asset. They have been well-trained (at taxpayer expense) and have a record of disciplined hard work and successes. Further, a wide variety of individual services exist which can help these veterans re-entry back into mainstream society. What is needed are the resources to reconnect them with their communities so that they can be empowered to return to being successful, tax paying citizens. While a number of individual programs around the country are quite successful at accomplishing this task, no funding source exists to make these programs replicable or coordinated.

b. *concept:* The Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) *Homeless Veteran Service Provider Grant and Per Diem* program needs to be reauthorized with a significant increase in funding in order to establish a national network of "Veterans' Opportunity Centers" (VetOpps) which provide opportunities for veterans to take full advantage of existing programs and supports their ability to establish their own entrepreneurial ventures. The renewal process needs to fine-tune the original act (Public Law 102-590) to facilitate the expansion of the traditional concept of homeless "drop in centers" into empowering "Opportunity Centers". Additionally, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) should be encouraged to help fund a number of these innovative centers as demonstration projects from their existing homeless moneys.

* **A Fair Share for our Homeless Heroes**

a. *need:* According to NCHV's survey-based estimate, no less than one-third of those who are truly "on the streets", are veterans. Time and time again, when HUD and other

founders of homeless programs make grants, veteran-specific programs receive vastly less than the 30% to 35% that would seem to be their fair share. Last year's funding for "Innovative Homeless Programs" and "Supportive Housing" programs provided less than 2% of their funds for veteran programs. Earlier this year, HUD announced the awards of 47 new grants to homeless programs designed to help the hard core of the homeless population. Numerous veteran service providers applied. NCHV itself applied for a demonstration "Veterans' Opportunity Center" project in southern Nevada. **Not one grant went to community organizations that provide assistance primarily to homeless veterans.** This action by HUD is in direct opposition to the Sense of Congress language adopted by Congress last year (PL 103-466; Title 10; Sec. 1005 (2)). Homeless veteran service providers do not expect more than our fair share; but we certainly don't expect to be totally ignored.

b. *concept:* NCHV supports the reintroduction and passage of Representative Bob Stump's (AZ) resolution that clearly states that homeless veteran programs should receive a proportionate share of federal funds -- this time with language added that takes moneys from agencies that do not support veteran-specific programs and transfer them to the VA to be contracted out to community based groups.

*** HUD Homeless Block Granting/Veteran Service Provider representation**

a. *need:* HUD created a block-granting process for future delivery of homeless services. A bill to implement this was nearly passed by Congress last fall and is expected to be passed in a similar form this year.

b. *concept:* It is critical that if this bill passes, it once again includes language that: 1) requires the appointment of a veteran service provider to each of the local boards; 2) requires that each applicant include in the plans it submits to HUD the specific efforts that will be undertaken for veterans; and 3) when the Secretary makes his/her annual report to Congress, that the specific steps taken on behalf of homeless veterans be addressed.

The receipt of funds by an applicant should be dependent on the development and implementation of these plans.

*** Commission on Today's American Veterans**

a. *need:* From the Continental Congress' support of General Washington's army through today's \$35+ billion spent on veterans programs, this nation has always stood behind its veterans. Veteran benefits and services have expanded over time, especially since the end of World War II. However, growth has been instituted without complimentary evaluation and modernization of the overall concept of veteran benefits.

b. *concept:* NCHV proposes that Congress implement and fund an independent study of the role of veterans and veteran benefits in America. The purpose would be to provide a zero-based evaluation of what has worked and a look at future options for veteran benefits. Its purpose would be to rethink and elevate the discussion of veteran issues and to contemporize our country's thinking about veterans.

* **Department of Labor's HVRP program: save/increase funding/transfer**

a. *need:* the Department of Labor's (DoL) *Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project* of the Veterans' Employment and Training Services (most recently authorized in PL 102-590) is providing a substantial amount of service with a minimal \$5 million budget. HVRP provides the key element missing from most homeless programs: job placement. This unique program has a record of getting things done for homeless veterans -- getting them off the streets, off welfare and back into mainstream society as taxpayers.

Unfortunately, the House recently passed a Rescission bill that wiped out this valuable program. The version of this bill that came out of the Senate last month **did not** rescind these critical funds. Further, both the Republican and Democratic bills on job training also abolish HVRP and lump its moneys into state-block grants.

b. *concept:* HVRP should NOT be included in the job training reorganization aspect of the Welfare Reform initiative. It is unique and meets specific needs and should not be turned over to the states. The following four steps should be taken:

- 1) The rescission of FY 95 funding for HVRP as passed by the House of Representatives should be struck in Conference committee so the program can continue as is for this year;
- 2) The FY 96 funding should be increased to \$10 million to allow up to 30 new urban and rural communities to compete for grants, and for expansion of existing, successful programs;
- 3) The oversight of HVRP should be transferred from DoL to the VA with the understanding that the program will be run as it is now and existing contracts will be honored;
- 4) The administration of HVRP should be contracted out to a national, not-for-profit {IRC 501(c)(3)} corporation with expertise and experience in working with homeless veterans at a cost not to exceed 5% of the total funding.

*** Department of Education's Veterans Upward Bound: save/increase funding/transfer**

a. *need:* In a similar fashion, there is a relatively small program, **Veterans Upward Bound**, in the Department of Education (DoE) (PL 102-325; Sec. 402) that provides grants to local groups to help veterans with education-related issues. The ultimate answer to homelessness is a job, but for many, a job requires additional education. This program has shown that it can provide the critical assistance to help veterans complete college. This education helps to ensure that veterans can achieve well-paying jobs -- and never again need government assistance.

b. *concept:* The Veterans Upward Bound program is lost within DoE's vast bureaucracy. It needs to be placed into an environment that both knows and understands the problems facing homeless veterans. Further, Veterans Upward Bound funds are contracted out to community based, non-profit groups much like DoL's *HVRP* and VA's *Grant & Per Diem* program. In fact, many applicants apply for funding from all three -- through three separate, duplicating, wasteful application processes. We propose:

1) The FY 96 funding should be increased to \$10 million to allow up to new urban and rural communities to compete for grants, and for expansion of existing, successful programs;

2) The oversight of Veterans Upward Bound should be transferred from the Department of Education to the Department of Veterans Affairs with the understanding that the program will be run as it is now and existing contracts will be honored;

3) The administration of Veterans Upward Bound should be contracted out to a national, not-for-profit {IRC 501(c)(3)} corporation with expertise and experience in working with homeless veterans at a cost not to exceed 5% of the total funding.

*** Surplus Property Priority**

a. *need:* When decisions are made related to the disposal of government surplus properties (such as furniture, sleeping bags, clothing, machinery, vehicles, etc.) certain groups have a high priority established. NCHV believes that community based, homeless veteran providers and StandDowns deserve the same priority as ROTC, Boy Scout, Camp Fire, Red Cross units and schools.

b. *concept:* We ask that NCHV-certified, community based, homeless veteran service groups be established as such a priority group (Service Educational Activities) and not have to buy taxpayer purchased materials at market prices from state agencies. Those items that were purchased by the military, for use by military personnel, now can be used to assist homeless veterans reintegrate themselves back into society.

*** Veteran Service Provider Revolving Loan Fund**

a. *need:* Unquestionably, for many veterans, their ability to re-enter the productive work force is severely limited by the lack of affordable, clean, safe and sober transitional housing. While nearly all government homeless programs provide one-time grants, veterans believe (and can document based on the L.A. VETS model) that they can develop transitional housing programs that are self-supporting. What is needed for this to be undertaken nationally is the availability of the initial start-up, pre-development dollars to help local programs secure long-term, low interest loans.

b. *concept:* NCHV proposes the creation of a *Veteran Service Providers Revolving Loan Fund*. This would be a one-time appropriation of \$3 million from existing McKinney funds that would be used to provide the pre-development dollars (in loans of up to \$75,000) for community based groups to develop a comprehensive plan for acquisition, renovation, and start-up costs for programs that can demonstrate their ability to repay these funds once they are fully operational.

*** Federal Emergency Management Agency Board Membership**

a. *need:* The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) *Food and Shelter Grant Program* states that it makes special emphasis on the identification of and assistance to homeless veterans. However, NCHV's analysis of their recent budgets shows that even though at least 1/3 of the homeless are veterans, less than 1 per cent of the Food and Shelter Grant Programs allocations specifically aided homeless veteran programs. NCHV does not believe that this is intentional or malicious, but, rather, that it is the result of a lack of input from the veteran service community.

b. *concept:* NCHV supports legislation that would place a representative from the homeless veteran service provider community on FEMA's national and local allocation board.

*** SouthEast Asia Trade Preference and Business Support**

a. *need:* As the United States and the governments of VietNam, Cambodia and Laos continue down the path of normalization of diplomatic and business relations, there are

significant numbers of veterans (particularly veterans who served in those countries) who desire the chance take advantage of those opportunities.

b. *concept:* As commerce is developed with these nations, NCHV supports a specific preference for contracts, grants, loans and technical support for veterans and veteran-owned firms. A particular ranking should exist for combat-wounded and in-country veterans.

*** Continued National Service for Veterans**

a. *need:* The US veteran population is a highly skilled and diverse group of men and women who have already lived a life dedicated to national service. In many cases, they have sacrificed greatly to uphold the values upon which this nation stands. National service, as embodied in the efforts of the Corporation for National Service (CNS), should be a natural option when their military career has ended due to retirement, discharge, disability or illness.

b. *concept:* NCHV supports the reauthorization and adequate funding for the CNS' AmeriCorps*USA, AmeriCorps*VISTA and National Civilian Community Corps programs. Further, specific language should be included which makes a the recruitment of veterans as members and use of surplus military facilities a priority within these organizations.

*** Death with Dignity**

a. *need:* The most humane -- and most cost efficient -- way to provide care for terminally ill individuals is through community based hospice programs. The ability to die in the comfort of one's own home is a dignity all should be provided. Unfortunately, only a handful of V.A. Medical Centers have been able to work out a relationship with a local hospice to provide such care in a collaborative manner. Further, the very concept of home care is impossible for a veteran who is homeless.

b. *concept:* NCHV strongly supports passage of **S. 612, The Veterans' Hospice Care Services Act of 1995** -- with the addition of language that specifically addresses the unique needs of terminally ill, homeless veterans. Further, according to the fair share concept, at least one of the pilot hospice projects funded under this act should be specifically for homeless veterans.

Employment and Training Service through effective administration, coordination, and monitoring has worked to assure the success of the HVRP.

The Accomplishments

The HVRP programs have proven to be very successful in helping homeless veterans. During four years of program operation, HVRP provided services to 22,000 eligible enrollees, and of those enrollees, it has assisted over 9,000 in becoming employed and moving toward a more mainstream life.

The local HVRP programs are quite small in terms of direct funding, but their impact is by no means insignificant. In addition to services provided directly, local programs have been able to identify and coordinate the delivery of an array of much needed services in their communities. Homeless people, more so than most other groups, are not aware of the services that might be available to them through a variety of non-profit, local, state, and Federal sources. Local HVRP programs have often been able to serve as the "hub of the wheel" of services provided to homeless veterans. By combining responsive services with client

advocacy, HVRP has obtained remarkable results for those homeless vets served by the project.



For more information write to:
VETS, U.S. Department of
Labor, Washington, D.C.
20210, or phone (202)
219-9110.

THE HOMELESS VETERANS REINTEGRATION PROJECT

HELPING
HOMELESS
VETERANS
TO A BETTER
FUTURE



Veterans' Employment and
Training Service

U.S. Department of Labor

An Overview

The Homeless Veteran's Reintegration Project (HVRP) has helped thousands of homeless veterans get back into the mainstream of society. Programs in cities across the country are operated mainly by local veterans' organizations under grants from the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS). Funding is provided under the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 (McKinney Act).

The Problem

The disruption as well as the physical and mental trauma of war-time has brought about a situation where a good number of veterans who served this country in Vietnam, Grenada, and Desert Storm, and at other times, have been unsuccessful in getting into the mainstream of our society in terms of finding and keeping regular employment and in terms of their personal lives.

These veterans suffer from what our society calls "homelessness". Each veteran is an individual with his or her own set of problems which they, without outside help, cannot bring under control. They need help to get into the mainstream or to be able to function at the best level possible.

They are called homeless but that is just a part of it. They suffer from a wide range of problems, from lack of full-time employment to deteriorating family relationships, which are often manifested through both the lack of housing and a steady job. Some common problems have been observed. A substantial proportion of these homeless people have histories of substance abuse, some suffer from chronic health problems, and others have long term psychological problems.

The Project

The McKinney Act established HVRP and designated the Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service as the agency responsible for the program.

Through a competitive process, grantees were chosen in 17 major cities across the country. They began operating in 1988 with the grantees, often State Employment Service Agencies or Private Industry Councils, contracting actual program operations to local service agencies. Subsequent HVRP grants were made and will continue to be made on a competitive basis.

The local operating agencies are staffed by dedicated personnel who are in touch with local veterans and homelessness issues.

A key HVRP feature was taking the programs to homeless vets in need of help. This was done by fielding outreach efforts (staffed by veterans who had experienced homelessness themselves) to go out on the streets and into the shelters and soup kitchens to find those veterans wanting and needing help. Those enrolled were provided services and employment assistance, to become job ready, and find jobs.

In subsequent years, HVRP programs have used previously homeless veterans in various staff positions, particularly as outreach workers and peer counselors, so that service plans will identify and be responsive to real client needs.

Local HVRP programs operating with quite limited resources, averaging \$100,000, provide important counseling, employment, and training services, but they rely on other programs such as the VETS Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program, and the Department of Veterans Affairs Homeless Chronically Mentally Ill Program, along with housing and community homeless programs, to provide a full sequence of services.

Going beyond the basic HVRP features, grantees were encouraged to plan for specific needs in their communities and to identify other resources which can be woven into the program. Many other services are provided, and programmatic linkages with ten or more programs is not uncommon. The Veteran's

SPIRIT

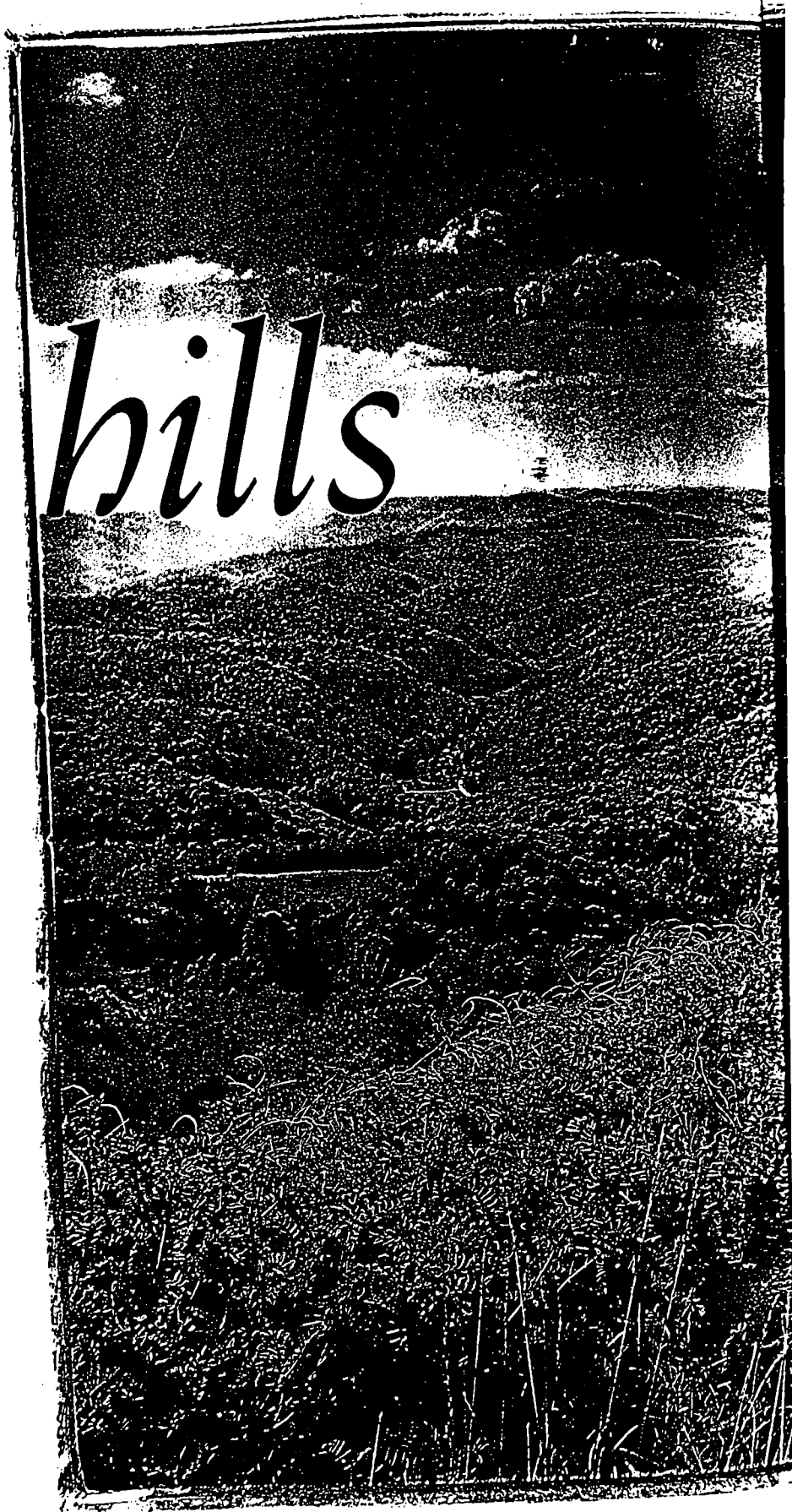
The Magazine of Volunteers of America • Summer 1995



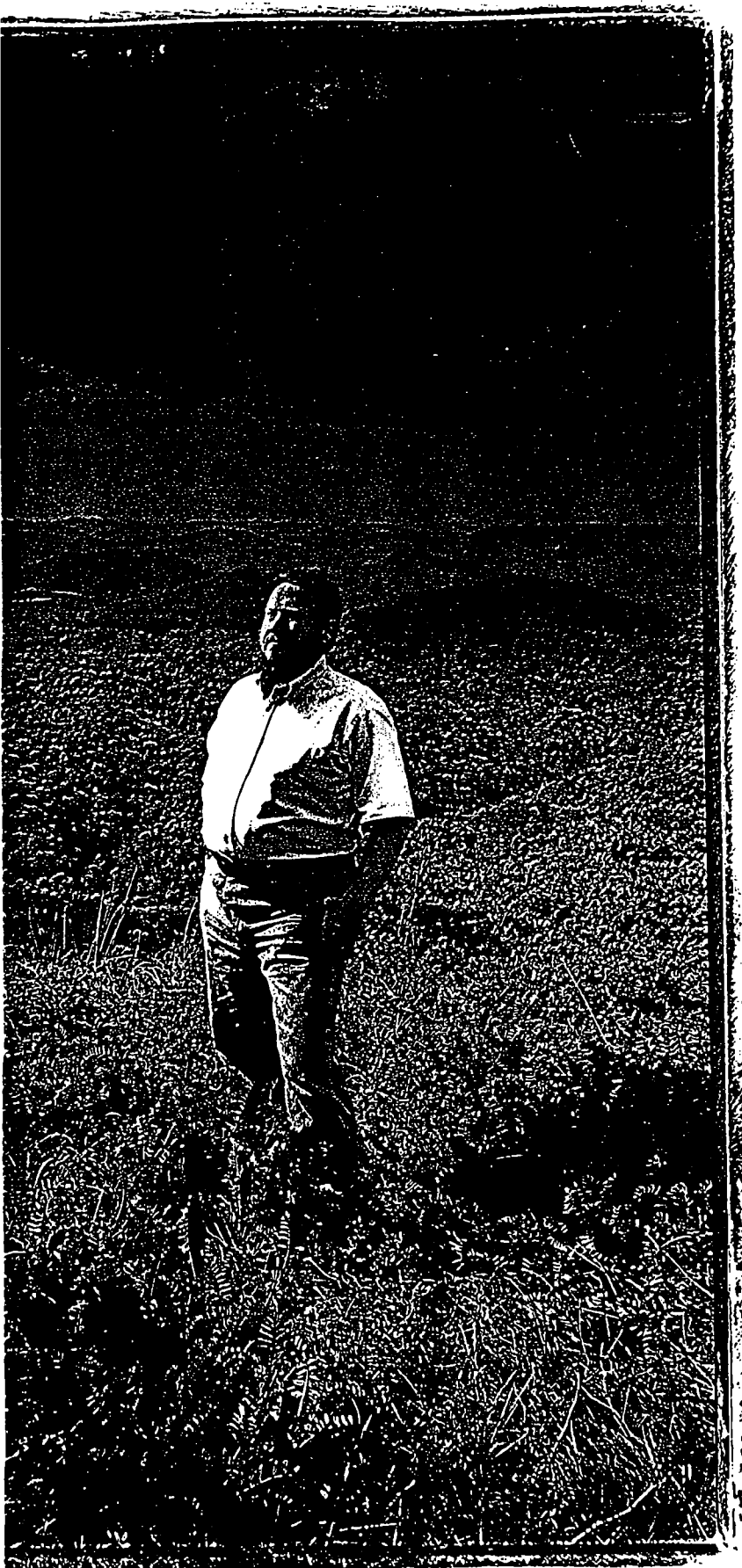
*IN THIS ISSUE • Homeless veterans in Appalachia • Historic buildings and human service
Corrections programs unite mothers and children • Poems by Jimmy Carter*

home
TO THE

hills



PHOTOGRAPHY BY LEE THOMAS

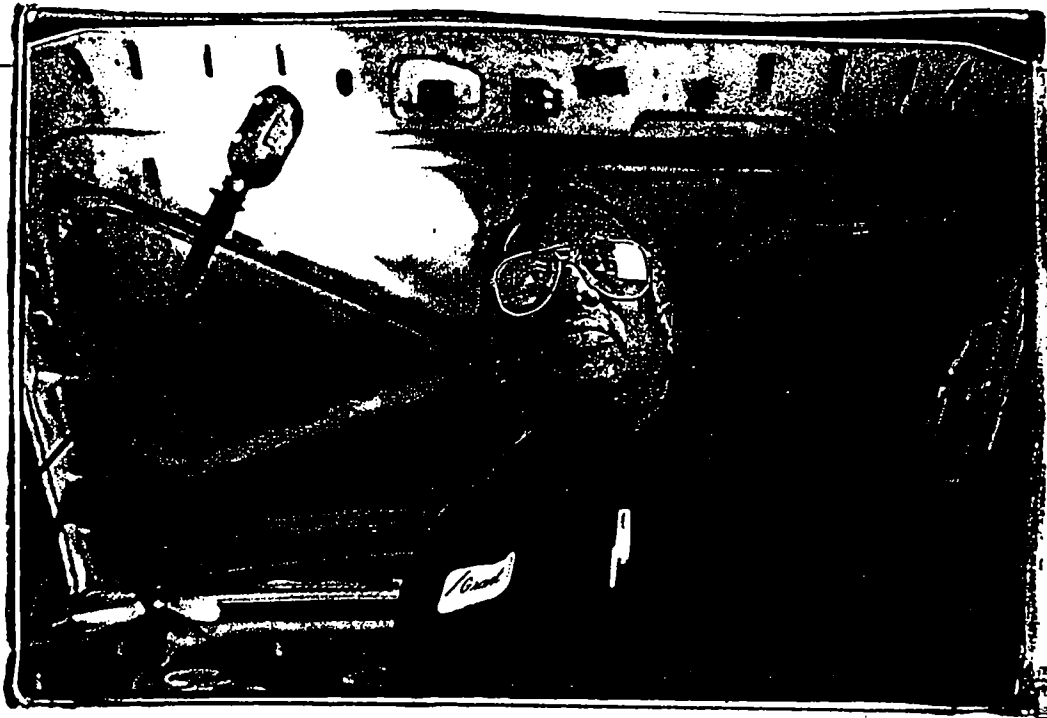


BY CONNIE HOLMAN

*After military service,
many veterans return to
hard times in Appalachia.
Volunteers of America
of Kentucky lends a
helping hand.*

*Alex Carroll scours the hills of Eastern Kentucky finding
jobs for homeless veterans.*

Vietnam veteran Grant Rickmon learned of the program through a newspaper ad. Alex Carroll helped him start an auto repair business. "I always stop by their office to say 'hi.' They've helped me so much," he says.



Like the veterans he helps these days, Alex Carroll came home to the rugged hills of Eastern Kentucky after his military service ended.

Life promised to be pretty easy for the 49-year-old veteran. He had regular pensions from 23 years' U.S. Army service and seven years' federal civil service. He was welcomed back to a close-knit, extended family.

And he had plans to build a log home on land he owned in a quiet hollow.

"When I get two or three of these hills wrapped around me, I can hide from the rat race," Carroll said on a sunny afternoon as he drove a visitor up and down the winding, coal-dusted back roads of Floyd and Pike Counties.

But many returning veterans are not so lucky, as Carroll discovered first-hand in 1993 when he joined Volunteers of America of Kentucky as an outreach worker in the Veterans in Progress (V.I.P.) program.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, the program helps homeless veterans find work and housing, and to stabilize sometimes shaky lives.

It was a perfect match for Carroll,

who has masters' degrees in management and human relations.

Besides, he said, "I wanted to work with veterans."

Now program manager, Carroll supervises a staff of two part-time case workers and a student intern. They work out of a former drive-through liquor store in Prestonburg, Kentucky, next to the Blue Sky Motel.

Most days, however, Carroll and his staff are on the road working with veterans and employers in 14 rural counties, covering 22,000 square miles. Carroll travels his beat in a 1986 Ford van. It has 297,000 miles on it, he says proudly, and many more to go.

The physical and social isolation of this part of Appalachia makes the job impossible for anyone but an "insider" like Carroll. Most of his clients live in remote mountain hollows, or "hollers." Many do not have regular mail delivery.

To find veterans, Carroll relies on loose networks of friends and relatives, and small help-wanted ads in the area's weekly newspapers. Jobless veterans can call him collect and the process begins.

"We have to verify that the client is a

veteran, is unemployed and has a problem with housing," Carroll explained.

"They have to be homeless or in imminent risk of becoming homeless."

But homelessness has different definitions among the proud people of Eastern Kentucky.

"A few people recognize the term and can

deal with it emotionally," Carroll said. "They recognize that they are in fact 'homeless' if they're sleeping in their car or out behind the courthouse. But if they're sleeping in a run-down room at the back of Mama's place, they don't feel homeless."

Claude Ratliff, a veterans representative for the Kentucky Employment Services Department, agrees.

"Homelessness in Eastern Kentucky isn't anything like Washington, or Louisville or San Francisco," Ratliff said. "It's hidden from the public because people can bunk with their relatives. They're not out on the street."

Still, Carroll's clients often wear out their welcome, especially if they have been unemployed for a long time or have other problems such as chronic drinking.

Sometimes Carroll can convince relatives to extend a little more hospitality. Or, the program finds funds for deposit and first months' rent or a room across the road at The Blue Sky.

Once a veteran's housing needs are



Lon E. Westfall found work hauling coal.

met, the focus shifts to the job search.

"A lot of times they're not prepared for work. We concentrate on job readiness. A resume, commercial driver's license, personal transportation, whatever it takes," he said.

In the first year, the program placed 38 veterans in permanent jobs, mostly in the high-wage coal mining industry. This

year's goal is 44 jobs.

Volunteers of America provides up to \$350 for each veteran who needs the training, licenses or medical exams required for jobs in the mines or hauling coal.

"In the coal business, if you're not certified going in, don't even bother to apply," said David Burgess, owner of Burgess Mine Safety Training in Pike County.

His company has trained several V.I.P. clients for jobs paying \$8 to \$9 an hour for surface operations, and \$16 to \$19 an hour for underground work.

Burgess is only too glad to help.

"Personally, he (Carroll) is doing what I'd like to be doing. Someone ought to look after our veterans," he said.

Looking after clients often extends beyond their initial employment, such as the truck driver who lost his job when charged with driving under the influence.

"After that, his entire system collapsed," Carroll said. "His wife left him and he was evicted. He lived with a

"Homelessness in Eastern Kentucky is hidden from the public. People can bunk with their relatives. They're not out on the street."



Elkhorn City veteran Roger Thacker now has a commercial drivers license, the passport to high-wage employment.

girlfriend for a while, then she threw him out," he said.

Carroll spent six months working with the man to overcome his drinking problem and re-gain his license. When he couldn't afford new prescription

eyeglasses for the exam, Carroll found help through the Kentucky Vision Project and another human service agency. Eventually, the man got his license and was able to go back to work.

"Alex is like that. A bulldog," said Cynthia Winborn, division director of Volunteers of America of Eastern Kentucky. "He keeps up with peo-

ple and when they're discouraged, he's always there."

Outwardly comfortable and settled, Carroll is not embarrassed to say he relates to client problems from his own experience of hard times.

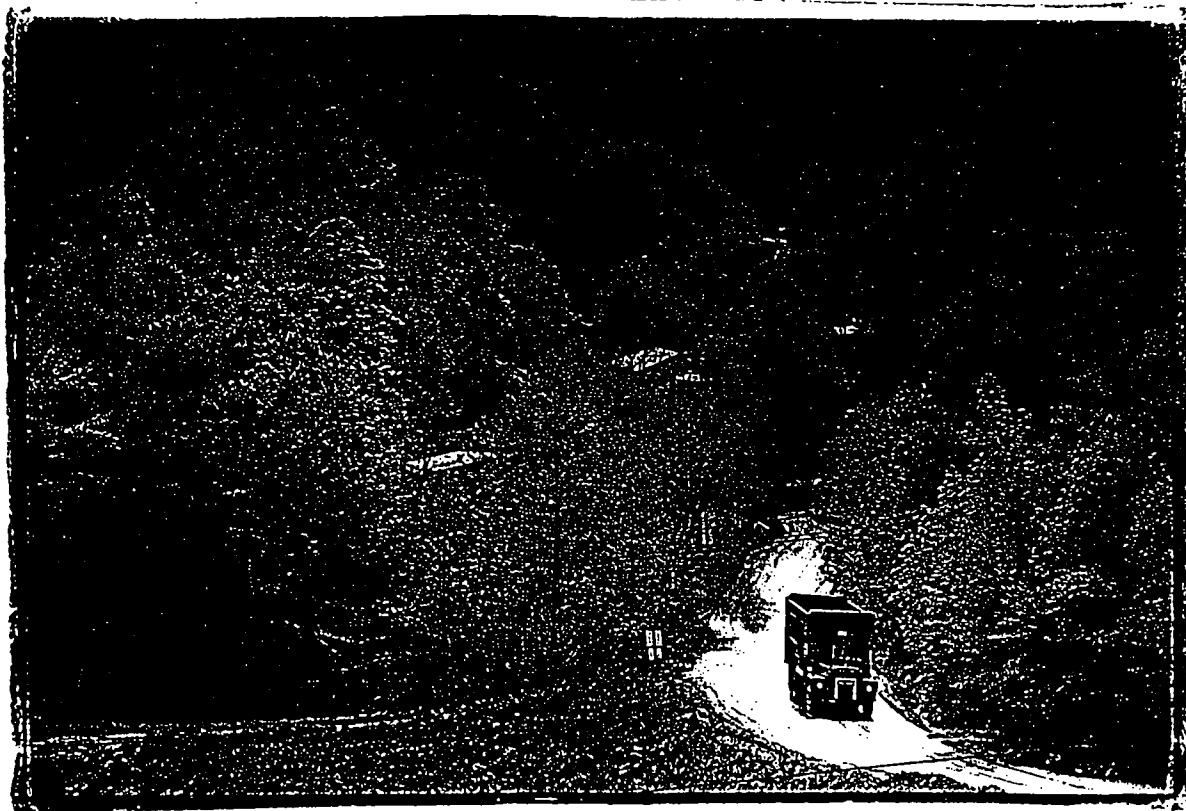
"I've been through bankruptcy. I've been divorced. I've had my life fall apart," he said. "It does pass, even if you can't see a way out at the time."

And he shows a profound respect for the grit and courage of veterans coping with the problems of civilian life.

"I see them in situations in which I would have collapsed long before they did," he said.

Connie Holman is a freelance writer in Lexington, Kentucky.

"In the coal business, if you're not certified going in, don't even bother to apply."



Career-training helps vets with drive start down road to finding new job

By LAURA BROWN

As a widower with a 17-year-old hearing-impaired daughter to support, Richard Tobin needed a new job when he was laid off after 30 years in the construction industry.

"I'm too old to do this kind of work," Tobin explained. "I needed a career change."

So the 53-year-old Air Force veteran from Holbrook joined a 12-week training program at the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans to learn how to drive a bus.

In a few weeks, Tobin and his classmates will graduate with commercial driver's licenses in hand and a variety of high-paying jobs within their reach, as part of the innovative "Vet-Tech" program at the shelter.

The free job-training program funded by the U.S. Department of Labor also offers veterans classes in a range of computer skills and repair work, culinary arts and security work.

All 24 graduates of the last bus driving class were placed in jobs, said Program Manager William T. Malone.

'I needed a career change.'

— Richard Tobin

Most of the bus driving students, like Tobin, commute into Boston each day for classes.

Although part of the course involves classroom instruction, the students also practice driving a decommissioned MBTA bus and other vehicles.

Cedric Lednum, 34, said he's willing to drive "anything that has a wheel" when he finishes the course.

The Navy veteran has been working as a mechanic in Fall River, but wanted to find a better-paying career.

"The jobs in Fall River don't pay top dollar," he said.

Otis Bell, a 53-year-old Vietnam veteran from Brockton, said he was floundering after the company where he worked as a computer analyst moved its operations too far away for him to commute easily.

"I took the bus driving program because I thought it was something I could enjoy and be more or less my own boss," he said.

Other students in the class include retired police officers, former security guards, construction workers and a baker, ranging in age from Air Force veteran Frankie DeVito, who is 31, to Bell and Tobin at 53.

All of the students had high praise for their instructor, Navy veteran Robert F. Irwin, who has been driving buses and training new drivers for 30 years.

They also credited members of the MBTA Carmen's Union, who have helped out with the course.

Carmen's Union President Richard Murphy, a former Marine who was hired at the T off a veteran's list, said he believes the discipline veterans learn in the service is valuable training for a skill such as bus driving, where mistakes can cost lives.

Carmen's board member Dan Dykens, a Vietnam veteran, suggested the MBTA could save money on training by hiring graduates of the Vet Tech course.

HVRP

U.S. Department of Labor Program Highlights



Fact Sheet No. OASVET 95-6

HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROJECTS

The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Projects (HVRP) program was established by the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 and is administered by the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS).

The emphasis on helping homeless veterans get and retain jobs is enhanced by linking with other providers, such as veterans' affairs offices and medical facilities, Job Training Partnership Act entities and social service agencies. These providers offer access to benefits, substance abuse treatment, job training, transitional housing and other services needed to stabilize the homeless veteran and remove such barriers to employment as lack of clothing, medical care and job skills.

The HVRP program uses veterans who have experienced homelessness themselves to reach out to homeless veterans. They go into the streets, shelters, soup kitchens, and other places to encourage homeless veterans to take advantage of available services and advise them of the HVRP program. The goal is to get homeless veterans off the street and into gainful employment, with emphasis on long-term job retention.

An important characteristic of homeless veterans, identified when the original program was designed, is their underutilization of existing services, benefits, and entitlements, including those available from the Department of Veterans Affairs, which could help them obtain employment and reintegration into the social mainstream.

The unique aspect of the HVRP program is the use of formerly homeless veterans who know how to approach and win the confidence and trust of other homeless veterans.

Past HVRP programs have provided participation data and survey information which indicate that unemployment, not lack of affordable housing, is the chief cause of homelessness. Six main barriers to employment were identified: (1) lack of transitional housing; (2) inadequate drug and alcohol treatment services; (3) transportation problems; (4) lack of job skills; (5) a depressed local job market; and (6) resistance to hiring the homeless.

For more information on the HVRP program and other Department of Labor efforts to help homeless veterans, write to:

Veterans' Employment and Training Service
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. (S-1316)
Washington, D.C. 20210



NATIONAL COALITION *for* HOMELESS VETERANS

918 Pennsylvania Ave, S.E. ■ Washington, D.C. 20003 ■ 202/546-1969 ■ Fax: 202/546-2063 ■ Toll-Free: 800/VET-HELP

H.V.R.P.: JOB PLACEMENT THAT WORKS FOR VETERANS

BACKGROUND: The Homeless Veteran Reintegration Project (HVRP) is administered by the Department of Labor's Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS). HVRP is a job placement program begun in FY 1989, with \$1.9 million, to provide grants to community-based groups that employ flexible and innovative approaches to assist homeless, unemployed veterans reenter the workforce. Local programs offer employment and job-readiness services to place these veterans directly into paying jobs. Such programs have a proven track record of success. They provide a hand-up to these men and women that returns them to the mainstream of tax-paying citizens. HVRP projects end human suffering and engender success and independence in an efficient and cost effective manner.

HVRP (most recently authorized in PL 1202-590) is providing a substantial amount of service with a minimal, \$5 million budget. HVRP provides the key element missing from most homeless programming; job placement. It has a record of getting things done for homeless veterans -- getting them off the streets, off welfare, and back into mainstream society as taxpayers.

Unfortunately, the Congress passed a Recission bill that wiped out this valuable program. The version of this bill that came out of the Senate did not rescind these critical funds. We applaud the president's veto of this bill that would have killed HVRP. This program should NOT be included in the in the final compromise Recission bill. The following four points should be made in defense of America's most successful job placement program:

- HVRP is Unique; it is not duplicative of any other program at the federal or state level of government.
- HVRP is an appropriate role for the federal government. HVRP puts American veterans back to work.
- HVRP works. It is the most effective job placement program anywhere. It places veterans in jobs on a highly cost-effective cost basis.
- HVRP is the linchpin for homeless veteran service providers programs. It is the glue that holds together these programs and puts American veterans back to work. Without a job placement program, homeless veteran service providers are at best shelters.

7/18 Goal for H'less Vets

- 50% of H'less vets

start down → 10/27-29

employment

→ HARP - \$5M
- job placement

60-70% → jobs

retention

DOL → \$5 M in discretionary

6/50/vets
apps ~~off~~ ended

- Sunny Mtgn

- ignored

VVA

- Bill Cranford

VSO → fair share

→ summer mgs

→ Goal on homeless

- auth'd + approved next yr
- 25 hrs from Congress
- many from field
- Portant shop mg's
w/ Reich
(Goal for H'less → \$10M
Eileen Cramer)

H. V. R. P. & Job Retention

* The retention rates (the percentage of participants who have held a specific job for a set period of time) for HVRP programs around the country are greater than the retention rates of E.T.A. and J.T.P.A. programs -- at a fraction of the cost -- and with a population with significantly more obstacles and barriers to employment.

- evidence?

* The data collection process at DoL has been one that terminated at the end of each contract year. Thus, any individual placed in a job during the final quarter of the contract year could not be counted as "retained" since they could not achieve the 13 week benchmark by the time the data collection ended.

* Many veterans come to HVRP with acute drug/alcohol issues that require long-term and intensive intervention before any type of job readiness can be established. Then, the individual goes through a process of preparation for employment and a job search. Therefore, the bulk of HVRP placements often occur in fourth quarter (12 weeks) when retention (13 weeks) is arithmetically impossible to accomplish. Note: this short-term tracking of retention has been changed by DoL to allow for tracking beyond the contract year -- a change that is now being implemented -- and not reflected in any existing data.

* The very concept of job retention is not realistic for this population in the post-industrial, service-sector job world. In many cases, the veterans are coming to HVRP from the depths of homelessness. Their first job -- the one HVRP staff help them get -- is often **transitional** in nature. It is to help the individual get stabilized, get a revenue stream, get an apartment, get decent clothes, get back in the routine of work and to take care of pressing matters. Yes, they sometimes leave these entry-level positions within a month or two-- but often to move to better-paying, more responsible jobs that they are qualified for. Remember, we are talking about veterans -- skilled, trained and capable of earning a good living. They need the helping hand of HVRP to get them back into mainstream society.

* DoL's tracking of job retention only determines whether an individual has stayed in one specific job for a given time -- not whether or not an individual continues to be employed. We're certainly happy for the vet to leave a low skill/low pay job for one they are better qualified for -- even if it means a program's retention rate drops.

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

918 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20003
(202) 546-1969 (800) VET-HELP Fax: (202) 546-1969

September 20, 1995

Molly Brostrom, Sr. Policy Analyst
The White House
Old Executive Office Building, Room 207
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Brostrom:

Enclosed please find additional information regarding the Homeless Veteran Reintegration Project (HVRP).

Should you wish to obtain more materials regarding HVRP and its importance to homeless veterans, please do not hesitate to call me. I may be reached at (202) 546-1969.

Thank you for your time and concern for America's more than 270,000 homeless veterans.

Sincerely,

Stephen Chisholm
Director of Public Policy

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

918 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20003
(202) 546-1969 (800) VET-HELP Fax: (202) 546-1969

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- HVRP is the linchpin for homeless veteran service providers programs. It is the glue that holds together these programs and puts American veterans back to work. Without a job placement program, homeless veteran service providers are at best shelters.
- Under HVRP's superior job retention rate, over half of its participants have quickly returned to the workforce.

3-15-96
Vol. 61 No. 52
Pages 10871-10878

Friday
March 15, 1996

Register

Briefings on How To Use the Federal Register
For information on briefings in Washington, DC and Raleigh, NC, see announcement on the inside cover of this issue.

- HUD funding for
HURF
- DOE funding
already set -
targeted to
cold climates

WY95-10 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-10)
 WY95-11 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-11)
 WY95-12 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-12)
 WY95-13 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-13)
 WY95-14 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-14)
 WY95-15 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-15)
 WY95-16 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-16)
 WY95-17 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-17)
 WY95-18 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-18)
 WY95-19 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-19)
 WY95-20 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-20)
 WY95-21 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-21)
 WY95-22 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-22)
 WY95-23 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-23)
 WY95-24 (Feb. 10, 1995) (WY96-24)

New General Wage Determination Decisions

The number of the decisions added to the Government Printing Office document entitled "General Wage Determination Issued Under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts" are listed by Volume and State:

Volume VI

California

CA960041 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 CA960042 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 CA960043 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 CA960044 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 CA960045 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 CA960046 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 CA960047 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 CA960048 (Mar. 15, 1996)

Modification to General Wage Determination Decisions

The number of decisions listed in the Government Printing Office document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts" being modified are listed by Volume and State. Dates of publication in the Federal Register are in parentheses following the decisions being modified.

Volume I

Massachusetts

MA960001 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 MA960007 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 MA960019 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 MA960069 (Mar. 15, 1996)

New York

NY960069 (Mar. 15, 1996)

Volume V

Iowa

IA960005 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 IA960015 (Mar. 15, 1996)
 IA960017 (Mar. 15, 1996)

Kansas

KS960006 (Mar. 15, 1996)

Volume VI

Oregon

OR960017 (Mar. 15, 1996)

Washington

WA960009 (Mar. 15, 1996)

General Wage Determination Publication

General wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and Related

Acts, including those noted above, may be found in the Government Printing Office (GPO) document entitled "General Wage Determinations Issued Under The Davis-Bacon And Related Acts". This publication is available at each of the 50 Regional Government Depository Libraries and many of the 1,400 Government Depository Libraries across the country.

The General wage determinations issued under the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts are available electronically by subscription to the FedWorld Bulletin Board System of the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) of the U.S. Department of Commerce at (703) 487-4630.

Hard-copy subscriptions may be purchased from: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, (202) 512-1800.

When ordering hard-copy subscription(s), be sure to specify the State(s) of interest, since subscriptions may be ordered for any or all of the six separate volumes, arranged by State. Subscriptions include an annual edition (issued in January or February) which includes all current general wage determinations for the States covered by each volume. Throughout the remainder of the year, regular weekly updates will be distributed to subscribers.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 8th day of March, 1996.

Philip J. Gloss,

Chief, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.

[FR Doc. 96-6036 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-27-M

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment and Training

Homeless Veterans Employment and Training Program; Notice of Availability of Funds

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training, DOL.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds (NOAF).

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the availability of \$1.3 million for applications for assistance in providing employment, training, supportive and transitional housing services for eligible homeless veterans. This notice sets forth the procedures for obtaining an application for funds for the operation of a Homeless Veterans Employment and Training Program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and administered

by HUD, Office of Committee Planning and Development and the Department of Labor (DOL), Office of Veterans Employment and Training through grants with State and local public agencies and nonprofit organizations. Funds will be awarded competitively.

CLOSING DATE: The closing date for receipt of a completed application package in response to this notice is April 15, 1996.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the application package and instructions for completion may be obtained by written request directed to: U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Procurement Services, Rm. N5416, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington D.C. 20210, Attention: Grants Specialist Lisa Harvey, Telephone (202) 219-9355, or U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, Rm. 7266, 451 7th Street, S.W., Washington D.C. 20410, Attention Paul B. Dornan, Telephone (202) 708-1226, Reference SGA 96-03.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Substantive Description

(a) Authority

Funds available for this program are authorized by Title IV, Subtitle C, Supportive Housing Program, of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, (Pub. L. 100-77). Funds made available under this NOAF are subject to the statutory requirements for the use of these funds as specified above and in accordance with the provisions of the Job Training Partnership Act (Pub. L. 97-300) Title IV, Part C, Veterans Employment Programs, (29 U.S.C. 1721).

(b) Purpose

The purpose of this NOAF is to fund projects and activities that enhance the employability of homeless veterans. Successful grantees will provide supportive services to this target group, with the focus on employment and training service, to enable these veterans to obtain jobs leading to economic self-sufficiency. Emphasis is also upon placing such veterans into transitional and permanent housing through coordination of community resources.

Under the "continuum of care" approach fostered by HUD and other Federal agencies, achievement of independent living is a major goal in serving persons who are homeless. This is linked to the fostering of employment opportunities in the community as well as the enhancement of the individual participants' skills. Services proposed by the applicant should result to the extent possible in homeless veterans

becoming successful wage earners and taxpayers. Specific activities proposed to achieve these goals and outcomes will be addressed in the narrative portion of the application.

(c) Funding Availability

Approximately \$1.3 million is available under this NOAF. The funding source is the Supportive Housing Program authorized under Title IV, Subtitle c, of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. Project Funding will range from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per grant. Between 20 and 25 projects will be funded. Projects are targeted to begin on May 15, 1996, for a period of nine to twelve months.

(d) Eligible Applicants

Entities which are eligible to submit applications for funding to provide services to homeless veterans are (1) State and local public agencies which have demonstrated effectiveness in serving homeless veterans providing employment and training services and (2) nonprofit organizations who have demonstrated effectiveness in operating programs/projects serving homeless veterans by providing employment and training related services.

"Local public agency" refers to any public agency of a general purpose in a political subdivision of a State which has the power to levy taxes, spend funds, and has general corporate and police powers. This typically refers to cities and counties.

All eligible applicants must demonstrate prior experience in successfully operating an employment and training program for homeless veterans; have proven capacity to manage Federal grants; and will provide the necessary linkages for services.

II. Application Requirements

The application instructions will include a more detailed program description, program guidelines, and approach to implementation. The application package will consist of a standard application for federal assistance form (SF 424), a narrative description of proposed activities and current services, a detailed budget, and required certification.

III. Applicant Selection Process

Criteria for identifying the most promising and effective proposals will be applied, and it is anticipated that between 20 and 25 applicants will be identified as potential grantees. Selection criteria will be based on the following core items: Need for the project—15 points; Quality of the project and employment and training

goals—25 points; Capacity and experience in carrying out similar past projects—25 points; Community coordination and linkages, especially as they relate to HUD's "continuum of care" concept—20 points; and Cost effectiveness to include leveraging of other community resources—15 points. The application package provides more specific detail on the rating criteria. HUD and DOL staff will coordinate in the identification and selection of grantees to provide services to homeless veterans.

IV. HUD Reform Act Requirements

Technical Deficiencies

To the extent permitted by law, HUD and DOL may advise applicants of technical deficiencies in the applications and permit them to be corrected. Due to the requirements of the HUD Reform Act and DOL procurement policy Federal staff are limited in the assistance they are permitted to provide regarding applications for grants. The assistance and advice that can be provided includes such activities as explaining and responding to questions about program regulation, identification of those parts of an application that need substantive improvement, the dates by which decisions will be made and procedures that are required to be performed to process an application. This does not include advising the applicant how to make improvements.

In addition, any information published in the *Federal Register* and in this NOAF, and any information made public through a means other than the *Federal Register*, may be discussed.

Prohibition Against Advance Disclosure of Funding Decisions

The HUD Reform Act also restrains HUD employees involved in the review of applications from providing advance information to any person (other than an authorized employee of HUD) concerning funding decisions, or from otherwise giving any applicant an unfair competitive advantage.

Accountability in the Provision of HUD Assistance: Documentation and Public Access Requirements

The HUD Reform Act contains a number of provisions that are designed to ensure greater accountability and integrity in the provision of certain types of assistance. The requirements of section 102 of the ACT apply to assistance awarded under this NOAF.

(I) Documentation and Public Access Requirements: documentation and other information regarding each application

submitted pursuant to the NOAF will be sufficient to indicate the basis upon which assistance was provided or denied. This material, including any letters of support, will be made available for public inspection for a five year period beginning not less than 30 days after the award of the assistance. Material will be made available in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 522).

(II) Disclosures: HUD will make available to the public for five years all applicant disclosure reports (HUD Form 2880) submitted in connection with this NOAF. Update reports (also form 2880) will be made available along with the applicant disclosure reports, but in case for a period of less than three years.

The U.S. Department of Labor Grant Officer will insure the integrity of this competition and will ensure awards are made in accordance with appropriate U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations and the criteria specified above.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 7th day of March, 1996.

Lawrence J. Kuss,

Grant Officer, Office of Procurement Services.

[FR Doc. 96-6256 Filed 3-14-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-79-M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Special Emphasis Panel in Biological Sciences; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation (NSF) announces the following meeting.

Name: Special Emphasis panel in biological Sciences (#1754).

Date and time: April 1-3, 1996; 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Place: National Science Foundation, Room 310, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA.

Type of Meeting: Closed.

Contact person: Fred Stollnitz, Program Officer for Cross-directorate Activities in the Division of Integrative Biology and Neuroscience, Room 685, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230. Telephone: (703) 306-1413.

Purpose of Meeting: To provide advice and recommendations concerning proposals submitted to NSF for financial support.

Agenda: To review and evaluate Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) proposals as part of the selection process for awards.

Reason For Closing: The proposals being reviewed include information of a proprietary or confidential nature, including technical information, financial data, such as salaries; and personal information.