

# HUD – VASH and Project Based Vouchers

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INTEGRATED  
OPERATIONS  
PLATFORM

# What is HUD-VASH?

- Collaborative program with HUD, who provides Housing Choice Vouchers allocated to participating Public Housing Authorities (PHA) to assist with rental payments.
- VA provides clinical case management and services to assist Veterans to obtain and sustain permanent housing while also assisting Veterans with access to treatment and other supportive services that promote their quality of life.
- Operates utilizing the principles of Housing First.
- Targets and prioritizes the chronically homeless and most vulnerable homeless Veterans first.
- Primary goal is to move Veterans and their families out of homelessness into permanent supportive housing while promoting maximum Veteran recovery and independence in the community.



# Basic Program Information

- Contributor to a 50% drop in Veteran homelessness since 2010
  - Ongoing bipartisan support.
- Between fiscal year (FY) 2008 and FY20 there have been approximately 101,000 HUD-VASH vouchers funded by Congress.
  - 2,500 shelved for Project Based Voucher (PBV) development.
  - 6,000 in hands of Veterans.
  - 11,000 currently unleased and available for use.
- VA currently has approximately 4,100 staff funded to work in HUD-VASH (not including contracts), with almost 700 vacancies.



# Voucher Types

- Tenant-Based Vouchers
  - Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV)
  - The HCV program allows very-low income families to choose and lease or purchase safe, decent, and affordable privately-owned rental housing.
- Project-Based Vouchers
  - Component of the PHA's housing support program.
  - PHA enters into an assistance contract with the owner of a property for a specified number of units and for a specified term.
  - Assistance is tied to the rental unit.
  - Vouchers can be an important part of financing.



# Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016 (HOTMA)

- HOTMA authorizes PHAs to project-base Family Unification Program (FUP) and HUD-VASH vouchers **without requiring additional HUD approval**.
- PBV units supported by HUD-VASH vouchers will not count against the PHA's PBV program cap, as long as the vouchers remain under PBV HAP contract for the designated project.
  - This means that a PHA will exclude these PBV HUD-VASH units from both the numerator and the denominator when calculating the number of authorized ACC units that are available for project-basing (Attachment F, (4), (b), pg35).
- All other HUD-VASH vouchers, including non-set aside HUD-VASH vouchers that a PHA chooses to project-base, are subject to the percentage limitations.



# Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016 (HOTMA) – 2

- PHAs conduct their HUD-VASH programs in conjunction with the Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC).
- The VAMC must make supportive services available to individuals receiving HUD-VASH assistance.
- Thus, when a PHA chooses to project-base its HUD-VASH vouchers, it must ensure the VAMC will continue to make supportive services available to the HUD-VASH families.
  - Permanent dedicated supportive services are an important benefit of project basing in HUD-VASH.
- When a PHA chooses to project-base their HUD-VASH vouchers, they must ensure they have the support of the partnering VAMC.
  - The PHA should maintain this documentation of support for their records.

