



## NEWS RELEASE

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### San Bernardino County gains help in housing veterans

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The Housing Authority has the ability to subsidize housing for 457 homeless veterans, 50 more now, thanks to a recent \$409,800 grant awarded to the Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino (HACSB) by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Second to Los Angeles County, San Bernardino County received the second largest funding allocation in the state.

HUD and the VA provide funding for homeless veterans through its Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH). This is a coordinated effort by HUD, local Veterans Affairs Medical Centers (VAMC) and Housing Authorities across the country to provide permanent housing for homeless veterans. Veterans participating in the HUD-VASH program rent privately-owned housing and generally contribute 30 percent of their income toward rent. The Veteran's Administration (VA) offers eligible homeless veterans clinical and supportive services through its medical centers across the country.

HACSB is proud to partner with the Loma Linda Veterans Affairs Medical Center to provide this valuable program to our local homeless veteran population. The VASH vouchers awarded to HACSB over the past six years have offered a lifeline of supportive services through the VA coupled with housing by HACSB.

"The overwhelming response from our Congressional leaders and County supervisors in adding resources to accomplish this mission is nothing short of amazing. We have gone from more than 2,600 vets on the streets in our county a few years ago to less than 140 now thanks to the laudable teamwork of many," said Daniel Nackerman, HACSB's Executive Director.

On the local level, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors unanimously launched a final mission to end veteran homelessness in the county at a special meeting held in July 2015. Since that declaration, the remaining number of vets to be housed is less than 140. With the announcement of another granted jointly by the U.S. Veterans Administration and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the overall war to end veteran homelessness in San Bernardino County will soon be won.

HACSB and Loma Linda VAMC have made a great strategic partnership in supporting and providing assistance to our county's homeless veteran population and have contributed to reducing the number of homeless veterans.