

Highlights
VA Grant and Per Diem Program
Providers Operational Call
December 11, 2006

New Legislation:

There is new legislation that is proposed that would establish permanency for the GPD program. Although the legislation has not yet passed, there is a good chance it may be signed soon.

Continuing Resolution:

VA is currently under a Continuing Resolution (CR) which means that 2007 budgets for the Department have not yet been confirmed. The GPD program is able to continue paying per diem for those providers serving veterans, however, any new funding announcements may be delayed until the CR is lifted.

2007 Inspections:

Inspections will be conducted by your liaisons and VA inspection teams between January and March of 2007. Inspection procedures have been enhanced for this next round. Providers will be asked to provide documentation regarding how they are meeting their goals in the original proposals. If goals are not being met, providers will be asked for procedures that have or will be put in place to meet the goals. Also, providers will be given a copy of the final inspection reports. Inspection teams will be following up on any deficiencies noted in the reports.

Notices of Funding Availability:

VA hopes to announce additional NOFAs for 2007, although these announcements may be delayed because of the CR. Pending budget determinations, NOFAs may be announced for Technical Assistance, Special Needs, Capital Grants, and/or "Per-Diem-Only" awards. Additional information will be available on future calls.

HMIS:

Many providers that are part of a local HUD Continuum of Care are being asked to participate in the HMIS system. If HUD is requiring providers to give information on program participants in the HMIS system, it is up to each provider to decide if they give this information on their participants. If they have questions, they should consult with HUD. It should be noted that any information on veteran participants should not be given without consulting with your liaison. Your liaison should provide guidance based on information from the VA medical center privacy officer.