

Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans Meeting
January 31- February 1, 2008
810 Vermont Ave. NW
Washington DC 20420
Room: 630

The Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans met on January 31-February 1, 2008 at 810 Vermont Ave. NW Room: 630.

Committee Members Present:

Chairman George Basher
Roosevelt Thompson
Sam Galbreath
Ralph Cooper
Joseph Smith
Kathy Spearman
Craig Burnette
Joseph Autry
Carlos Martinez
Charles Battaglia
Ron Chamrin
Paul Moore (special consultant)

Committee Members Absent:

Sandy Miller
Leslie Lightfoot
Raymond Boland

Peter Dougherty, the Committee's Designated Federal Official (DFO) was present

Thursday, January 31, 2008

Chairman George Basher called the meeting to order at 8:15 AM. Briefed members on meeting priorities and reviewed the agenda.

Secretary Peake

Gave brief remarks and answered questions of concern from committee members

Pete Dougherty

Briefed members on new legislative bill S2273 on supportive services

Committee members received their annual ethics briefing.

Presentation

Cynthia Janus, VACO Library

Briefed on library services available to committee members

Ex Officio Reports

Charles Ciccolella, Assistant Secretary, of Department of Labor (DOL)

Briefed on new initiative to have employment representatives at service centers

Mark Johnston, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Special Needs Assistance Program (HUD)

Briefed on prevention of homelessness as a high priority and funding for emergency shelters

HUD has a growing concern over supportive services

Gave statistics on projects and applications

Keith Pedigo, Associate Deputy Under Secretary (VBA)

Emphasized the decrease process times of claims from 182 days to 169.

Melissa G. Pardue, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Services Policy Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (HHS)

Briefed on programs for homeless and data collected by states

Discussed Task Force workgroups initiative

Presentation

Ira R. Katz, Deputy Chief Patient Care Services

Briefed on mental Health issues and successes and the strategic plan:

Involves 6 components and one deals with homelessness

Ready access to well facility

Hiring of peer specialist

Deputy Secretary Mansfield

Gave brief remarks and answered questions of concern from committee members

Ex Officio Reports continued

Bryant Monroe, Project Manager Office of Economic Adjustment (DoD)

Two thirds of the way through BRAC process

Briefed on Outreach Plan:

Joint Family assistance program/counselors

Mary Ellen Hombs, Deputy Director United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

Briefed on veteran strategy plans that should have veterans focus
New levels of partnership with Mayors

The Committee adjourned at 4:30 PM

Friday, February 1, 2008

Chairman George Basher called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

The Honorable Michael J. Kussman MD, Under Secretary for Health

Gave brief remarks and answered questions of concern from committee members

Working Groups

Committee broke away in Working Groups to develop recommendations for annual report.

The Committee adjourned at 4:00 pm.