# American Veteran



# Housing Services



## **AVHS & Landlords Working Together Can Help**

Thirteen percent of U.S. adults who are homeless have served in the military—a significant number, given that Veterans represent just 7 percent of the overall population. VA is working diligently to end Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015, and you can help. If you have a rental property, consider participating in a program that has helped tens of thousands of Veterans and their families overcome the challenges of homelessness and lead independent lives.

### What Is HUD-VASH?

The HUD - Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program is a collaborative effort among the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and local public housing authorities. Under HUD-VASH (VA Supportive Housing), eligible low-income Veterans receive a Section 8 rental voucher plus case management and supportive services from VA.

### Benefits for YOU as a Landlord

- Guaranteed income: See reliable monthly rental payments through the local housing authority and fair market rent (or above) on your property.
- STRONG Demand for units in most markets: Most markets have a constant need for housing for their Veterans with HUD VASH Vouchers.
- Annual property recertification: Third-party inspections help to maintain quality.
- Benefit of VA services: Ongoing case management provides a safety net for tenants and lowers default risks. Our Onsite "Veteran Service Officer" provides additional support once the threshold VASH Tenant occupancy is reached.
- A chance to honor those who served: HUD-VASH landlords are part of the solution to ending homelessness among Veterans, who sacrificed so much to keep our country safe and free.



#### Become a HUD-VASH Landlord With AVHS in Five Easy Steps

- Contact American Veteran Housing Services to fill out the required paperwork, secure a spot on a list of approved HUD-VASH properties, and find out more about the HUD-VASH program.
- 2. Schedule a HUD Housing Quality Standards inspection to make sure your property is up to code.
- 3. Let AVHS promote your property to the Veterans Administration as one that accepts HUD-VASH vouchers. AVHS acts as the liaison between you and the VA Case Worker.
- 4. Screen tenants and have them approved by the housing authority.
- 5. Have your tenant review and sign your lease. Initial lease terms are generally 12 months and can't be broken without the owner's approval.

#### Other Ways to Serve Veterans Who Are Homeless or At Risk of Homelessness

- Consider waiving application fees and/or security deposits for Veterans who were homeless.
- Organizations like The Home Depot Foundation and Habitat for Humanity have programs and resources dedicated to building and renovating homes for Veterans. Learn more at va.gov/homeless/landlords.asp.
- If a Veteran you know is homeless, at imminent risk of becoming homeless, or in crisis, refer him or her to VA. Make the Call to 877-4AID-VET (877-424-3838) or chat online at va.gov/homeless. Trained, supportive professionals are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to connect Veterans with the care they need to get back on their feet.

#### **Get Ahead of Your Housing Inspection**

Addressing important maintenance issues can help your property pass a housing inspection the first time around.

#### Make sure your unit has:

- Working smoke alarm(s)
- Proper ventilation in bathrooms (window or fan)
- Connected utilities
- A functional stove and refrigerator
- A window in every bedroom that can stay open without props
- A working water heater discharge line and pop/relief valves
- Handrails for steps
- Secure railings for porches and balconies

#### Make sure your unit does not have:

- Broken or missing locks
- Broken or missing windows
- Bugs or vermin
- Tripping hazards on the floor
- Exposed electrical wiring
- Chipping or peeling paint inside or outside



Contact AVHS - NOW!!! (888) 390-3223 www.AmVetHousing.com

