



HUD AWARDS HOUSING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY \$2.96 MILLION TO SUPPORT HOMELESS VETERANS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DeKalb County, GA. - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded the Housing Authority of DeKalb County (HADDC) with \$2,965,620.00 to support 350 rental assistance vouchers for homeless veterans under the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program. HUD announced the award at a press conference held on July 31, 2008.

On December 26, 2007, the initiative known as the HUD-VASH program was authorized pursuant to Division K, Title II, of The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (Pub. Law 110-161) ("2008 Appropriation Act"). HUD was awarded seventy-five million dollars (\$75,000,000) in Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program funding to provide rental assistance under a supportive housing program for homeless veterans. The HUD-VASH program combines HUD HCV rental assistance for homeless veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) at its medical centers and in the community.

HADC will work in partnership with the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) to assist eligible homeless veterans who are receiving case management services from the Atlanta VAMC in locating and maintaining decent, safe and affordable housing. The VA estimates 2,049 homeless veterans live in Fulton, DeKalb and Clayton counties.

HADC Executive Director Sterling Bethea said HADC will commence issuing the new vouchers in September.

Veterans participating in the program will be eligible for a rental-assistance voucher that will assist with rental costs. Veterans are required to use 30 percent of their income on rent, and the voucher will pay the remainder.

Mr. Bethea explained that housing is restricted to locations near a VA medical center so that veterans will continue to receive treatment and that rents must conform to HUD's maximum subsidy formula.