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## **HANO Receives Additional HUD-VASH Allocation to Provide 22 Housing Vouchers for Homeless Veterans**

**New Orleans, LA (June 16, 2016)** - The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) today announced the award of an additional \$141,504 for the 2016 fiscal year by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program to fund vouchers for homeless veterans identified in Orleans Parish. HANO will utilize the additional funding to provide 22 housing vouchers to homeless veterans in partnership with the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System.

"HANO takes great pride in continuing the commitment of providing affordable and sustainable housing for the brave men and women who served our country," said HANO Executive Director Gregg Fortner. "We look forward to our continued partnership with HUD, and acknowledge the Department for their relentless efforts in addressing veteran homelessness within our community."

In 2011, HANO distributed 100 VASH vouchers to homeless veterans identified by Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System, aiding the national call to offer clinical assistance to the men and women who served our country. Between 2012 and 2015, HANO's allocation increased to a total of 321 VASH vouchers available for distribution. Prior to HANO's recent allocation, the VASH inventory consisted of 250 VASH vouchers currently under lease, 47 VASH voucher holders awaiting placement in eligible housing units, and 24 VASH vouchers available for distribution. Effective August 1, 2016, the additional 22 vouchers awarded to HANO will increase the cumulative allocation to 343, totaling the entire VASH inventory to \$2.88 million.

The HUD-VASH program is designed to assist homeless veterans in locating permanent housing through HUD's rental assistance program and connects them with case management and clinical services at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers in the community. The eligible veterans will be identified by the VA, and referred to HANO to determine their income eligibility and facilitate leasing dwelling units that accommodates the family's needs.

For more information on the HUD-VASH program, visit [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov) or [www.hano.org](http://www.hano.org).