



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Housing Authority of the City of Aurora Awarded 15 HUD-VASH Vouchers**

June 3, 2016 - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded the Housing Authority of the City of Aurora (AHA) 15 HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers, valued at \$96,660. The HUD-VASH program provides rental assistance and case management services to homeless Veterans and their families. AHA now administers a total of 100 HUD-VASH vouchers.

For the past six years, AHA has worked closely with VA Medical Centers (VAMC) to administer the HUD-VASH voucher program; housing assistance is provided by AHA and continuing case management and clinical services is provided by the VA at VAMCs and community-based outreach clinics.

Homeless Veterans apply for the voucher at their VAMC and if the applicant is approved by the VA, the VA will then forward their application to AHA to determine eligibility for the HUD-VASH voucher program. AHA holds an orientation for the Veterans to cover program guidelines and issue vouchers. The rental assistance portion of the VASH voucher program is administered in the same way as the Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) program: participants lease units from private landlords who participate in the program. Private landlords are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the consistency of payments and accountability the high-performing Housing Authority provides and offer their units to Veterans in need.

“Housing homeless Veterans is a priority,” said Craig Maraschky, Executive Director at AHA. “We aggressively pursue additional VASH vouchers to help our homeless Veterans secure permanent and stable housing. Private landlords are a fundamental component to the success of this program and we ask that they consider renting their units out to Vets who will continue to receive case management services.”

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