



Truman VA Bulletin

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“Last year, more than 92,000 homeless Veterans were served by VA’s specialized homeless programs...”

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Ranks of Homeless Veterans Drop

The number of Veterans homeless on a typical night dropped 18 percent as VA entered the second year of its campaign to eliminate homelessness among Veterans within five years. VA’s Community Homeless Local Education and Networking Groups (CHALENG), which conducts a widely cited, annual census of homeless Veterans, estimated 107,000 Veterans were homeless each night last year. That figure was 131,000 in 2008 and 154,000 in 2007.

VA has approximately 4,000 agreements with community partners. Last year, more than 92,000 homeless Veterans were served by VA’s specialized homeless programs. That was an increase of 15 percent from the previous year. An important program that has helped Veterans leave homelessness began in June 2008 when VA partnered with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). VA provides dedicated case management to homeless Veterans and HUD provides housing vouchers to Veterans and their families. Since the HUD-VA Supported Housing (HUD-VASH) program began,

20,000 housing vouchers have been given to homeless Veterans across the country. Truman VA staff has been recognized for successful management and expansion of this program. A total of 49 local homeless Veterans have been provided housing through this program.

A recent study of Veterans discharged from VA-funded residential rehabilitation and transitional housing programs indicated that 79 percent remained housed one year after discharge. Many homeless Veterans are treated in VA mental health programs. National policies on suicide prevention, medication management and substance abuse have improved the lives of homeless Veterans.

Information about the CHALENG

process and previous CHALENG reports about homelessness can be found at the following Website:

<http://www1.va.gov/HOMELESS/challeng.asp>.



OI&T Corner: Software Licensing



Not all software is copyright protected. Some software can be distributed or modified without violating the law. Such software, often called Freeware, is usually intended for individual use and cannot be sold or used for profit. Sometimes Freeware is referred to as non-proprietary software, which means no single person or company owns the rights to the software. It is available for free, though sometimes there may be a few restrictions.

OpenOffice is a good example of Freeware and is similar to Microsoft Office except it is available for anyone to download for free. It is also possible to see and modify **OpenOffice** program source code, which is the actual blueprint for the software program.

Shareware is similar to Freeware but access to the program might be restricted to a trial period. After the trial period expires, continued access would depend on purchasing the program. Many companies have devised ways to make the software stop working when the trial period ends. Other companies, like RealNetworks, offer trial versions of pared-down proprietary software as an enticement to upgrade to the pay-version.

How do you know if software is Freeware, Shareware, or Proprietary? During software installation, you may be required to click OK to agree to the terms of an electronic End-User License Agreement (EULA). EULAs are legal contracts and it is always a good idea to read and/or print the document. The license agreement defines what you can and cannot do with the software.

What is the difference between a single license and an enterprise license? If you purchase Microsoft Word, you are purchasing a single license and the software can legally be installed on one computer for personal use. An enterprise license is purchased when multiple copies of the same software program is needed. Instead of purchasing 400 single license copies of Microsoft Word, a business might purchase an enterprise license that allows installation of the same program on 400 computers. A good example of enterprise licensing is the VA's agreement with Microsoft. Through a VA-Microsoft enterprise license agreement, VA employees may purchase some Microsoft software products through the Home Use Program (HUP). Please remember that the software purchased via the

HUP program is a single end user license.

Freeware

Free software available with few restrictions that may be shared, modified or copied. Should not be sold or used for profit.

Shareware

Free software with a defined window of availability and/or limited conditions. Trial versions give users a preview of proprietary software with the intention of selling the proprietary version.

Proprietary

Most common type of software. Proprietary software is owned by a single person or company. Access and use is restricted. To determine if software is Freeware, Shareware or Proprietary, consult the electronic End-User License Agreement (EULA).

Winter Sports Clinic Kicks Off in Colorado



On Sunday, March 28, **Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki** kicked off the National Disabled Veterans Win-

ter Sports Clinic in Snowmass Village, Colo., the largest adaptive event of its kind in the world. The clinic, sponsored by VA and Disabled American Veterans (DAV), teaches Veterans with disabilities about adaptive Alpine and Nordic skiing. It also introduces them to a number of other adaptive recreational activities and sports. For many newly injured Veterans, the

clinic offers their first experience in winter sports and gives them the inspiration to take their rehabilitation to a higher level.

Chris Clemens, local Veteran and Truman VA volunteer, competed for the first time at the winter sports event. He was the sole representative from Truman VA.

Women Vet Committee Welcomes Missourian

Six new members, including **Karen Etzler**, Women Veteran Coordinator for the Missouri Veterans Commission, have been appointed to the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans. Established in 1983, this national advisory committee makes recommendations to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for administrative and legislative changes.

Women Veterans are one of the fastest growing segments of the Veteran population. Approximately 1.8 million out of a total of 23 million Veterans are women, which is nearly eight

percent of the total Veteran population. At the present time, women Veterans comprise nearly five percent of all Veterans using VA health care services. VA estimates that, by 2020, women Veterans will comprise 10 percent of the Veteran population.

Here are a couple of key points related to VA health care for women Veterans:

- VA's health care for women exceeds that of other health care systems on the Health Care Effectiveness Data and Information Set, which is

used by more than 90 percent of the country's health plans to measure performance.

- VA has full-time women Veterans program managers at each VA medical center to ensure the coordination and comfort of women seeking VA care.

For more information about services provided to women Veterans at Truman VA and other related activities, contact **Amanda Barnes**, Women Veterans Program Manager, at extension 56457.

“Women Veterans are one of the fastest growing segments of the Veteran Population...”

CENSUS 2010 REMINDER

Yesterday, April 1, was the United States Census Day. If you have not already done so, please complete and return the census form. Here are a few benefits of census data for Veterans:

Census data directly affect how more than \$400 billion per year in federal funding is distributed to state, local and tribal governments. Those that have served in the military have a particular stake in the 2010 Census as it relates to resource distribution.

An accurate census count helps to determine education opportunities, job training programs, housing needs and forecasting, and planning for health programs, clinics and short- and long-term care facilities for people with disabilities.





800 Hospital Drive
Columbia, Missouri 65201

VOLUNTARY LEAVE TRANSFER

Garrett Falls (FM) and **Tracey Hurd** (FIN) have been approved for the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. Contact **Lena Warren** (HR) for information.

JEFFERSON CITY CBOC ACKNOWLEDGED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

A Representative of the National Cell Phones for Soldiers program recently acknowledged the efforts of the Jefferson City CBOC for donating nearly 500 retired cell phones to the program. The national program collects and recycles old cell phones in order to purchase calling cards, which are distributed to thousands of soldiers. The calling cards enable military personnel to connect with their families as soon as they arrive in the U.S. or as they are getting ready to deploy. Congratulations to **Melissa Langley**, who coordinated the effort, and the rest of the Jefferson City CBOC staff!

New Employees - March 29, 2010



WELCOME: **Heather Galloway**, Occupational Therapist Trainee (Not Pictured) ★ **Eric Orta**, Medical Support Assistant (PS) ★ **Danae Terrell**, Medical Technologist (CS)

FAREWELL (Not Pictured): **Jon Buswell, RN**, Staff Nurse (PS) ★ **James Clasby**, Program Support Assistant (HAS) ★ **Janet Eichenberger**, Respiratory Therapist (SC) ★ **Tami Fitzgerald**, Medical Support Assistant (BH) ★ **Russell Tandy, RN**, Staff Nurse (PS)

SERVICE PIN RECIPIENTS:

35-Years

Thomas D. Berkley,
Electronics Mechanic (FM)

Susan M. Burpo,
Medical Technologist (CS)

25-Years

Steven L. Koepfel, RN,
Staff Nurse (BH)

Rebecca J. Miera,
Prosthetic Clerk (CS)

Carole M. Simon, RPh,
Pharmacist (Pharmacy)

20-Years

Shala S. Asal, RPh,
Pharmacist (Pharmacy)

15-Years

Bill F. Ardrey, LPN (PS)

Margaret A. Gray, RN,
Staff Nurse (PS)

Christine M. Lewis-Thoelke, LPN (PS)

Susan R. Payton-Reynolds, RN, Staff Nurse (PS)

Christine T. Walker, Supervisory Medical Technologist

10-Years

Martha A. Fritter,
Medical Technologist (CS)

Joe M. Spence,
IT Specialist (OI&T)

Dale A. Stodgell,
Supply Technician (Logistics)

5-Years

Patrick A. Griffiths, Materials Handler (Logistics)

Lisa A. Lacey, DO,
Staff Psychiatrist (BH)

ENJOY YOUR FREEDOM? THANK A VETERAN!