

VAB Agenda – April 10, 2025

- I. Call to Order, Pledge, Invocation, Roll Call (action)**
- II. Approval of March 13, 2025 minutes (action)**
- III. Committee Reports (info)**
- IV. Consolidated Plan Presentation (info)**
- V. CCVAC Presentation (info)**
- VI. February 2025 Contractor and Fund Reports (info)**
- VII. Code of Conduct Discussion and Approval (action)**
- VIII. Old Business (info)**
- IX. New Business (info)**
- X. Open Forum (info)**
- XI. Adjourn**



Agenda Item I. Call to Order/Pledge/Invocation/Roll Call



Agenda Item II. Approval of March 13th minutes

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes An advisory board to the Clark County Council March 13, 2025

Chair: Bob Nichols Vice Chair: Kelly Jones Secretary: Bruce Maas

Meeting called to order.

Roll Call: [Bold script indicates presence at meeting; italics indicates excused]

POST	PRIMARY	ALTERNATE
40 et 8	Bob Brennan	
American Legion #14	Gene Couture	
American Legion #44	<i>Charles Ingalls</i>	
American Legion #168	Bob Nichols	
American Legion #176	Michael Gibson	Jonathan Frederick
American Veterans #6	John Lovejoy	<i>Vanise Pratt</i>
DAV Chapter #4	Bruce Maas	<i>Roy Day</i>
Korean War Assoc. #321	Patrick Locke	Earl Edwards
Marine Corps League #826	Steve Slegers	
VFV #4278	Shannon Roberts	<i>Thomas Brandt</i>
VFV #7824	Greg Gilbertson	Stewart Bauer
Vietnam Vets #512	Greg Whitson	<i>Nick Herber</i>
Members at Large	Kelly Jones	
	Bryan McGillis	
	Tonya Wark	
	Tamara Elam	
	Michael Langsdorf	
	Lloyd Bowman	
	Buck Marr	
	Joe Fettig	

Clark County Representative: Abby Molloy, Nooreen Ebrahim, Alissa Page

Guests: Judy Russel, Sharon Tyre, and Sonja Woods (Clark County Veterans Assistance Center), Veronica Roberts (Washington Department of Veteran Affairs, Women's Veterans Committee), Ron Brandon (Veterans Refugee Support Organization), Tony Sprague (Office of Marie Glusenkamp-Perez), Ron Powers (Retired Clark College Professor)

Invocation

Remembrance of Bill Turley and Royce Pollard.

Executive Session

Start Time 2:06 p.m. without the presence of legal counsel. Potential to reinstate Ron Brandon. End time was 2:23 p.m. with after-action.

Vote on Ron Brandon Reinstatement

Ron Brandon discussed his military and service within the veteran community. He apologized for the email that was sent to the board and other parties. His opposition to the RCW change presented at the last Veterans Advisory Board meeting was shared.

The board discussed the need for a letter of intent prior to reinstatement, with staff clarifying that a letter can be turned in after the vote is taken if necessary.

Roll vote was taken to reinstate Ron Brandon, with 3 members in favor and 12 opposed. The request to reinstate Ron Brandon was denied. Three members abstained from voting.

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes An advisory board to the Clark County Council March 13, 2025

Approval of February 13, 2025 meeting minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion by Kelly Jones that was seconded by Tamara Elam. Approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

Appeals: None

Policies and Procedures: 3.4.3 will be updated to state that two consecutive months of rent and utilities can be subsidized instead of having the two months of support occur nonconsecutively.

A motion was made to adopt the proposed change to 3.4.3 by Buck Marr and seconded by Gene Couture. Approved unanimously.

Nominations: None

Member Roles and Responsibilities and OMPA training

- Staff presented on the expectations that VAB members are expected to uphold. The board represents the community rather than individual views.
- Guidance to be an effective member of the board was given, including attending meetings, reviewing meeting materials, communicate respectfully with other members, and be willing to compromise when necessary.
- Governing laws were discussed, and members were encouraged to review the board bylaws for in depth review of laws.
- Board members must disclose any conflict of interest and uphold state ethics law.
- It is recommended and best practice for board members to contact Clark County communication staff when speaking with media outlets and the public so a coordinated message can be shared.
- The board watched a video that reviewed Robert's Rules of Order when making a motion.
- Board members can be penalized up to \$500 for the first offense of the Open Public Meetings Act, with increasing financial repercussions with repeated offenses.
- A self-guided training was shared with board members that discusses the rules and regulations to uphold when serving on a governmental board.
- Currently, there is not a Code of Conduct for the Veterans Advisory Board. It has been recommended by legal council that one is created. Board members were encouraged to join the Policy and Procedures Task Force if they would like to participate in drafting the code.

Questions and Comments:

Q: Is there a sample document for the Code of Conduct?

A: Yes, the Community Action Advisory Board's Code of Conduct will act as a starting point.

Q: Can staff send the sample document to the board?

A: Staff will do so after the meeting.

January 2025 Contractor & Fund Reports and 2024 Year-End Fund Reports

- CCVAC: 45 Veterans served in January, services totaling \$17,919.91. 38 male veterans, 6 female veterans, 1 widow, 0 other veterans. 18 denials, 0 subject to appeal. 630 visits to the center for essentials and food, 1,035 sack breakfasts/lunches provided and 54 food boxes provided. 4,503 total pounds of food. 716.5 volunteer hours, totaling \$29,376.50 in value.
- Free Clinic: 1 Veterans served in January. Services totaled \$655 in value; billed \$727.54.
- WDVA: Fourth quarter- 665 claims, 85% "batting average", \$779,314 VA payments
- VA Fund: January revenue: \$5,119.34; expenditures: \$39,662.66 fund balance: \$488,552.39.
- In 2024, the Veteran's Fund revenue was \$946,546.16 and spent \$992,466.99. The net decrease for the year was \$45,920.83 and the fund balance starting January 2025 was \$523,508.16.

Clark County Veterans Assistance Center Updates

- Gala is on June 21st. If board members have auction items, the center is accepting donations.



Agenda Item III. Committee Reports

 **Appeals – Gene Couture**

 **Policies and Procedures – Kelly Jones**

 **Nominations – Bruce Maas**



Consolidated Plan Presentation

Elizabeth McNannay





**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT
&
HOME PROGRAM**

Veterans Advisory Board

April 10, 2025

AGENDA



Overview of
Entitlement Funds



Overview of
Consolidated Plan



Next Steps



Feedback

ENTITLEMENT COMMUNITIES



An entitlement community **is a city in a metropolitan area with a population of 50,000 or more, a principal city of a metropolitan area, or an urban county with a population of at least 200,000** that receives an annual allocation funds directly from HUD under the Entitlement Program.



Entitlement Programs provide annual grants on a **formula basis** to entitled cities and counties to develop viable urban communities.



ENTITLEMENT FUNDS

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

- Funds housing and community development activities
- Targets households at or below 80% AMI

HOME Investment Partnership (HOME)

- Funds housing activities (homebuyer or rental development; TBRA)
- Targets households at or below 80% AMI for home ownership; at least 90% of rental units must be filled with households at or below 60% AMI

2024 INCOME LIMITS

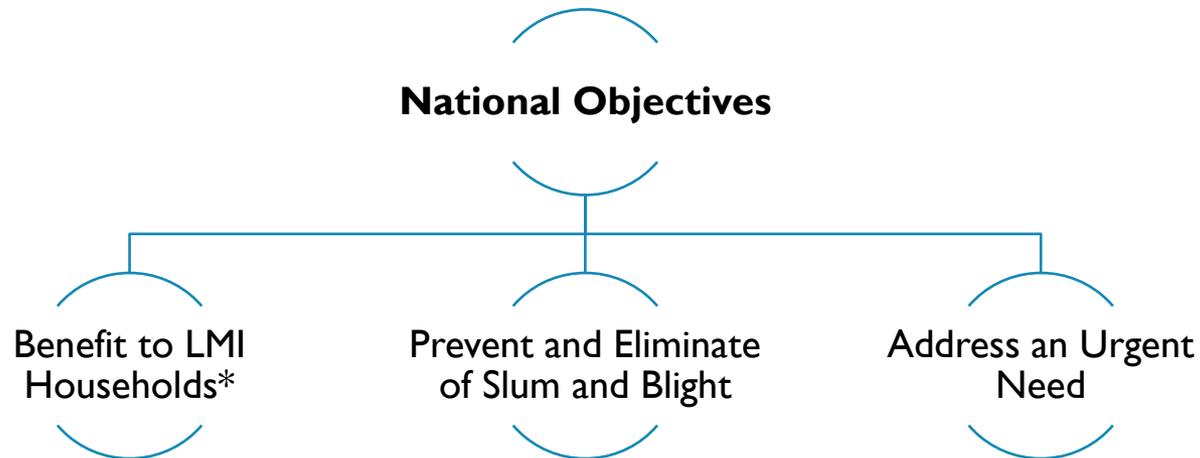
MSA CDBG Income Limits at 80% AMI

HOME Income Limits at 60% AMI

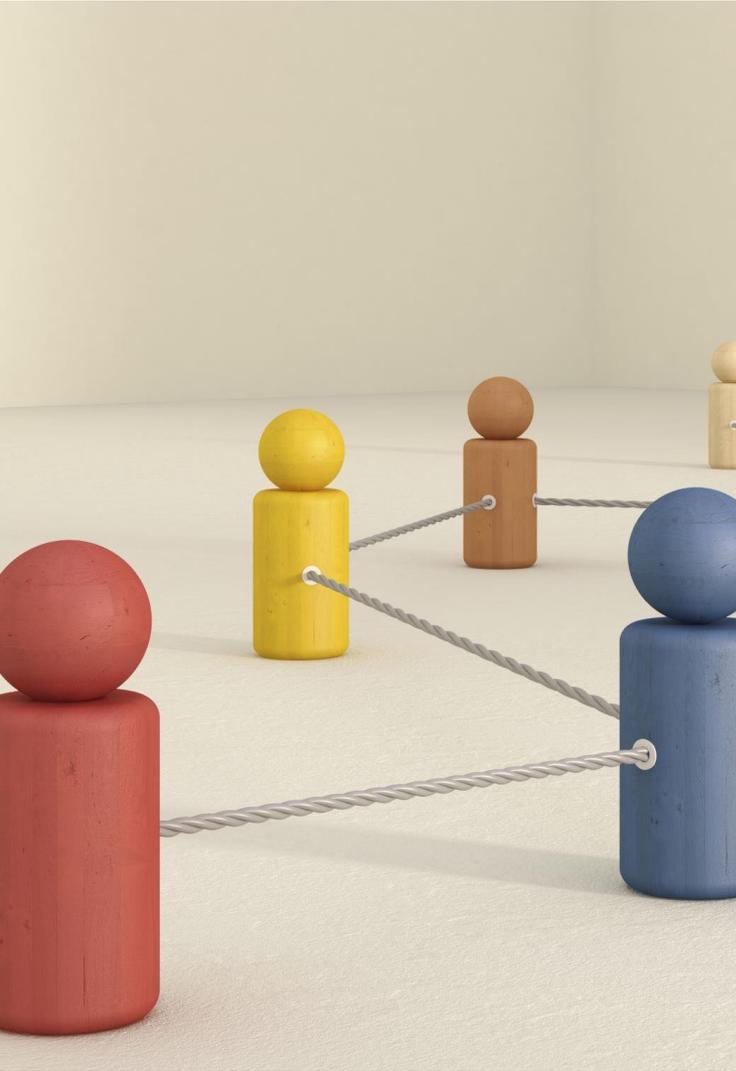
Household Size	60%	80%
• 1 member	\$49,560	\$66,100
• 2 members	\$56,640	\$75,550
• 3 members	\$63,720	\$85,000
• 4 members	\$70,800	\$94,400
• 5 members	\$76,500	\$102,000
• 6 members	\$82,140	\$109,550
• 7 members	\$87,840	\$117,100
• 8 members	\$93,480	\$124,650

CDBG PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The primary objective of CDBG is the development of viable urban communities, *principally for low/mod persons, through decent housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunity.*



*70% of CDBG must benefit LMI HH's



CDBG CORE PRINCIPLES

- Benefit low- and moderate- income persons and communities
- Community Participation
- Leveraging and Partners
- Strategic and Targeted Investment

CDBG ELIGIBILITY

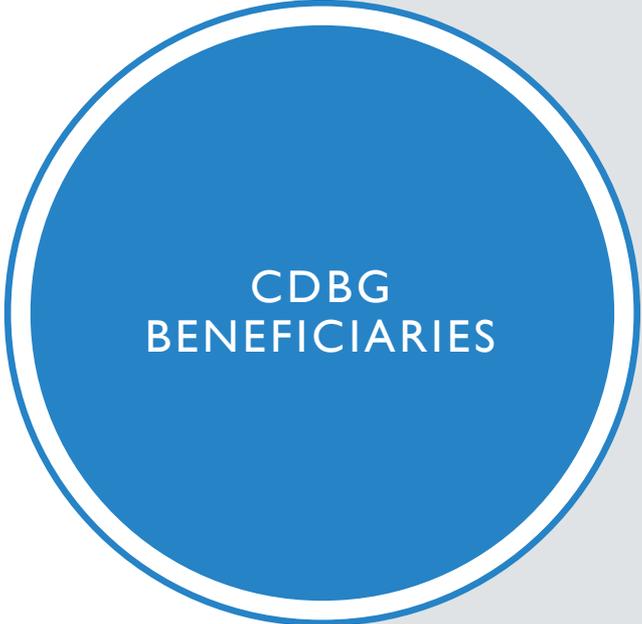
Eligible examples include, but are not limited to:

- *Housing Rehabilitation*
- *Economic Development*
- *Public Service Activities:*
 - *Counseling services*
 - *Subsistence payments*
 - *Childcare*
 - *DV services*
 - *Homeless services*
- *Public Facilities*
- *Planning*
- **Must meet an eligible matrix code**

Ineligible examples include, but are not limited to:

- *Fundraising*
- *Expenses required to carry out the regular responsibilities of local government*
- *Income payments*
- *Buildings or portions thereof, used for general conduct of government*
- *Purchase of equipment, fixtures, motor vehicles, furnishings or other personal property*
- *Maintenance and repairs*

- Activities affecting **multi-family structures** or **public facilities**, including infrastructure must guarantee at least 51% low- and moderate-income benefit
- Those activities relating to **single family developments** must serve 100% low and moderate income
- Many Jurisdictions require public service providers to serve 100% LMI clientele w/ CDBG funding
- **No project is eligible if there is not at least 51% low to moderate income benefit**



CDBG
BENEFICIARIES



HOME PROGRAM OVERVIEW

HOME is the largest federal block grant to state and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households.

Eligible projects include:

- Building, buying, and/or rehabilitating affordable housing for rent or homeownership
- Providing direct rental assistance (Tenant Based Rental Assistance)

- **CDBG: 2024 Award \$1,567,719**
 - Planning & Administration (20% cap)
 - Public Service (15% cap)

- **HOME: 2024 Award \$527,824**
 - Planning & Administration (10% cap)



FUNDING
CATEGORIES

DEVELOPING A
CONSOLIDATED &
ANNUAL
ACTION PLAN





CONSOLIDATED PLAN COMPONENTS

- Executive summary, lead organization information, consultation process, public meetings and comments
- Housing and homeless needs assessment
- Housing market analysis
- Five-Year Strategic Plan
- One-year Action Plan

UTILIZING
FUNDING

Needs

Goals

Projects

Activities



NEED

- Create a Suitable Living Environment

GOAL

- Public Facilities and Public Infrastructure

PROJECT

- Public Infrastructure Improvements to Benefit LMI Clark County Residents

ACTIVITY

- N Parkway Avenue Sidewalks in Battle Ground

NEXT STEPS



HOUSING OUR VETERANS



39 Veterans experiencing homelessness in January 2024

25% Decrease from 2023

(PIT Count Data)



More **robust collaboration** between **Council for the Homeless and Clark County VA**

(Homeless Crisis System Report)

PRELIMINARY SURVEY RESULTS

HOUSING

- Affordable, safe
- Addresses a continuum: from shelter beds to permanent housing choices
- Services and shelter for those fleeing DV

"More affordable housing and apartments. A single parent with 2 children cannot sustain a 2-bedroom apartment that is \$1700 and it is challenging finding anything cheaper / safer than that. **We need more shelter space and resources as well as motel vouchers.** It would be great if there were **apartments for folks who have more barriers** like evictions, rental debt, low credit, not enough rental history, etc. to still get housed."

"There is a **gap in housing** for people with **complex medical and mental health needs.**"

HEALTHCARE

- Timely access to medical and behavioral healthcare
- Low barrier access

"...[w]e hear about access to mental health and medical services. The system itself feels too cumbersome. Appointments are scheduled far out; **people need help now.**"

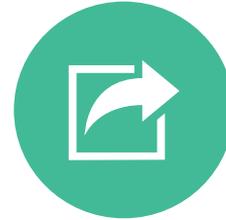
FEEDBACK



QUESTIONS OR
COMMENTS:
TODAY



TAKE THE SURVEY:
THROUGH MAY 10TH



SHARE THE SURVEY:
THROUGH MAY 10TH



OFFER PUBLIC COMMENT
(DRAFT SCHEDULE)
APRIL 4TH – MAY 6TH

THANK YOU

If you have comments or questions, please reach out.

Elizabeth McNannay

elizabeth@resourceconsultants.org

Clark County Veterans Assistance Center Presentation

Judy Russel



CLARK COUNTY VETERANS' ASSISTANCE CENTER



CLARK COUNTY VETERANS' ASSISTANCE CENTER

1305 COLUMBIA STREET

VANCOUVER, WA 98660



Veterans Partnering With Community for Veterans

MISSION STATEMENTS

THE CLARK COUNTY VETERANS' ASSISTANCE CENTER'S MISSION IS TO:

1. PROVIDE A WELCOMING AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT
2. ASSIST VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN OBTAINING BENEFITS, SERVICES, AND RESOURCES TO MEET THEIR BASIC NEEDS.
3. SUPPORT THE REINTEGRATION OF VETERANS INTO THE COMMUNITY



CLARK COUNTY VETERANS' ASSISTANCE CENTER

Our Services

- Financial aid Veteran's Assistance Fund
- Assistance with VA claims and benefits
- Free clothing
- Free food for hungry Veterans in need –
 - BREAKFAST/LUNCH DAILY
 - MONTHLY FOOD BOXES
 - HOLIDAY MEALS – Thanksgiving & Christmas
- Free hygiene items: Toiletries, etc.



- Outdoor equipment:
 - backpacks, sleeping bags, etc.
- Back to School – School Supplies
- Christmas Toy Store

Hair Cuts and More!



CLARK COUNTY VETERANS' ASSISTANCE CENTER

FUNDRAISING FOR CHANGE:

- NEW BUILDING

- ADDING SERVICES:
 - a) MENTAL HEALTH
 - b) CASE MANAGEMENT
 - c) GROW OUTREACH
 - d) MORE VSO'S

VSO'S – only two in Clark County – 6 month waiting list

CCVAC – applies for grants to aid in following:

- Heating
- Housing
- Food
- Other

Helping our Heroes Grant – Annual Fundraiser for Oregon and SWW Veterans.

Clark County Veterans Assistance Fund

Veterans Assistance Program Can Help With:

- Two month's rent or security deposit
- Utilities Assistance
- Food, hygiene, and cleaning supplies – amount based on the number of people in the household
- Storage
- Prescription drugs – up to \$600 in a 12-month period
- Dental Assistance
- Gas Vouchers
- Food Vouchers
- Clothing Allowance
- Burial/Cremation up to \$2,000 to include any type of discharge
- Clothing/Tools/Licensing up to \$800 in a 12-month period
- Auto Repair – up to \$2,000 in a 12-month period
- Certain criteria must be met to qualify for the above



**CLARK COUNTY
VETERANS
ASSISTANCE CENTER**

Veterans Partnering with Community for Veterans

OTHER VETFUND SERVICES

HOMELESS VETERANS' SERVICES FUND

FROM HOMELESS TO HOUSED



CCVAC STANDDOWN



HOW YOU CAN HELP US HELP OUR VETERANS

DONATE....THE CENTER NEEDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT, SUPPLIES, AND DONATIONS. IF YOU WISH TO DONATE MONEY, MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE

TO: CLARK COUNTY VETERANS ASSISTANCE CENTER OR CCVAC
1305 COLUMBIA STREET, VANCOUVER WA 98660

CCVAC IS A 501 (c)3 NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE WITH A CREDIT CARD THROUGH THE PAYPAL LINK ON OUR WEBSITE.

VOLUNTEER...DONATE YOUR TIME, SKILLS, AND TALENTS

CONTACT INFORMATION

WEBSITE: [HTTP://WWW.CCVAC.NET](http://www.ccvac.net)

EMAIL: CCVAC@CCVAC.NET

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

360-693-7030

CCVAC CURRENT BUILDING





THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION

Agenda Item VI. February 2025 Contractor Reports

• **CCVAC**

- 55 Veterans served in February, services totaling \$34,044.97
- 45 male Veterans, 8 female Veterans, 1 widow, and 0 others served
- 15 denials, 0 subject to appeal
- 584 visits to the center for essentials and food. 862 sack breakfasts and lunches and 44 food boxes provided. 3,396 total pounds of food provided
- 543.5 volunteer hours, totaling \$22,283.50 in value

• **Free Clinic**

- 3 veterans served in February. Services totaled \$1,607 in value. Billed \$736.76.

• **Fund**

- January revenue: \$47,609.55; expenditures: \$74,535.62
- Fund balance: \$462,038.50 (\$26,926.07 decrease from last month)



Code of Conduct Discussion and Approval

Bob Nichols



Agenda Items X. – XII.

- **Old Business**
- **New Business**
- **Open Forum**
- **Adjourn**

Next meeting: May 8, 2025

