

Veterans Inc. to Receive Federal Funding from Department of Labor through State Partnership

Worcester, Mass., July 2, 2009 – This week Veterans Inc. was selected to receive \$265,000 dollars from a Department of Labor grant through a partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services. Earlier this year the state's Department of Veterans' Services reached out to Veterans Inc. to collaborate in an application for a competitive grant under the U.S. Department of Labor's Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP). HVRP grants are designed to assist homeless veterans with reintegration into the workforce through occupational, classroom and on-the-job training, as well as job search and placement assistance and follow-up services.

"Funding like this is absolutely critical in a time when the need for veterans programs is increasing and funding is shrinking," said Lt. Colonel Vincent Perrone (Ret.), President of Veterans Inc. Veterans Inc. was one of many state veterans programs that recently saw significant cuts to their state funding for fiscal year 2010.

"While I understand the serious economic pressures, we can not afford to ignore the needs of our neediest veterans," said Denis Leary, LCSW, Veterans Inc.'s Executive Director. "[Their needs] will not disappear even if funding for homeless veterans programs declines. Instead, [veterans] needs will be addressed through much more costly systems such as emergency rooms, inpatient psychiatric care, jails, non-veteran homeless shelters and prisons."

Veterans Inc. has provided housing and support services for veterans and families across New England for nearly two decades and recently received the *2009 Outstanding Member Award* from the National Coalition for Homeless veterans for its successes in veterans rehabilitation. Today, Veterans Inc. operates over 200 beds for veterans housing, with additional supportive housing programs being developed in other states to meet the needs of veterans and their families. Veterans Inc. has an 85% success rate, one of the highest in the nation, for transitioning clients out of homelessness

Through Veterans Inc.'s partnerships with Veterans organizations, private companies, state and federal agencies and your donations, Veterans Inc. is able to continue to meet the growing needs of all generations of veterans and their families.

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