



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF COOK COUNTY ENCOURAGES HOMELESS VETERANS TO SIGN UP FOR RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Freedom Path Housing Applications Available to Qualified Homeless Veterans on April 24

CHICAGO – The Housing Authority of Cook County (HACC) is partnering with the Alliance to End Homelessness to accept housing applications for the new Freedom Path housing community. Freedom Path is the latest apartment complex to open its doors under the Hines VA Hospital's housing program to keep veterans housed.

Since 2008, the HACC's Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) voucher program has assisted the VA Hospital with support services to help veterans transition to permanent housing. VASH combines rental assistance for homeless veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs. More than 400 veterans and their families have been housed through the program.

To end homelessness among veterans, the HACC is working in partnership with the VA Hospital to identify resources and develop strategies for rapid rehousing.

"Our service members deserve our help as they try to rebuild a life of stability," said HACC Executive Director Richard J. Monocchio. "So many of these forgotten heroes are unemployed and homeless and need rental assistance and other human services resources that we have to help them achieve a better quality of life," he added.

The Hines VA Freedom Path Housing complex will be opening this summer at 5000 South 5th Avenue, Building 240 on the grounds of the Hines VA. Veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of being homeless are eligible to complete the pre-application process. Pre-applications are being accepted on **April 24th from 9 am to noon ONLY and must be hand-delivered**. Space is limited with 72 project based units and Veterans who qualify will be accepted in order of vulnerability.

Freedom Path pre-application can be located on the HACC website under Forms at www.thehacc.org. Veterans who qualify will be accepted in order of vulnerability. Please contact Corinne Steimer, LCSW (708) 202-4615 or Don Donahue, LCSW, HUD VASH clinical manager (708) 202-4952 with any additional questions.

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