



SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED

ADVISORY BOARD

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June 13, 2023

Chairman Van Orden, Ranking Member Levin, I submit this statement for the record to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity's Legislative Hearing on behalf of Inglewood which has provided Grant and Per Diem services in Inglewood since 1993. Our organization currently is operating 220 number of beds.

We thank you for the bipartisan work your committee partook in to enhance the per diem rate during the public health emergency. During the health emergency, our nightly per diem rate increased to \$164.67 per night from our pre-pandemic rate of \$54.89. This allowed us to provide medical staff to test residents and house those in need of isolation in hotels for veterans staying in our program.

The recent decrease at the end of the PHE dropped our rate to \$64.52. This has required us to reduce our supportive medical services and reduce supportive staff that are vital to our intake and assessment process such as intake specialists and case managers.

We appreciate the intent of H.R. 3848, to restore section 4201 assistance, which has been critical, and to increase the per diem rate to \$133%. However, having this ceiling on funding would still require us to decrease vital services such as medical support and supportive services like our food assistance. Many of our veterans are deficient in funds for food at the end of the month, having additional funding helped us feed those veterans who would have normally experienced severe food insecurities.

We support access to reimbursement in H.R. 491 to allow us to restore levels of services and supports the veterans we serve have earned, and the level of services that are required to successfully operate this grant.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 310.743.9123.

Sincerely,

Jessica Gholson, MA LMFT
Executive Director
U.S VETS – Inglewood
jgholson@usvets.org



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