



**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Darren Hoffman**  
**(310) 751-5426**  
[dhoffman@didihirsch.org](mailto:dhoffman@didihirsch.org)

**DIDI HIRSCH MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES RECEIVES GRANT  
TO FUND TREATMENT FOR HOMELESS WOMEN VETERANS**

**Veterans Healing Initiative to Support New Services  
For Women Veterans at Via Avanta Residential Program in Pacoima, CA**

**CULVER CITY, CA April 2, 2013** -- Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services has been awarded a \$90,000 grant from the Veterans Healing Initiative (VHI) to establish services for homeless, female veterans. The program will be based at the organization's Via Avanta residential treatment center in Pacoima, CA, which serves women coping with severe mental illness and substance abuse, as well as their children. The grant will not only fund staff training, but will also underwrite treatment for uninsured female veterans.

"This grant represents a tremendous opportunity for us," said Program Director Kathleen Price, L.M.F.T.

"Our staff will get the training they need to provide the kind of care that women who have served in our armed forces deserve," Price continued. "With the help of military-experienced professionals, they will learn the best interventions out there for veterans with post-traumatic stress syndrome."

VHI is the nation's only nonprofit organization dedicated to providing veterans of all eras access to treatment for substance abuse and trauma related to combat, sexual assault and other service-related experiences. Programs in VHI's network offer veterans comprehensive care, from detox to inpatient, intensive outpatient and sober living and offer alternative pain-management therapies to help veterans' live healthier lives. VHI funds treatment, program development and expansion and peer-mentor programs as part of the recovery and reintegration process for veterans.

"The VHI application process was thorough and rigorous. We are honored by its strong vote of confidence," said Kita Curry, president and chief executive officer of Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services.

The VHI-funded services form part of Didi Hirsch's larger commitment to helping veterans and their families. With a 4-year grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the agency also has launched a community-based program to help military families cope with the effects of deployment. In partnership with a network of providers serving military families, Didi Hirsch will identify traumatized children and their parents and will bolster their coping skills, using treatments tailored to their unique needs. Curry noted, "After their sacrifices, our veterans deserve the best treatment possible without delay."

**HEADQUARTERS**

4760 S. SEPULVEDA BLVD., CULVER CITY, CA 90230-4820  
310-390-6612 24 HOUR CRISIS LINE 877-7-CRISIS info@didihirsch.org  
www.didihirsch.org

**Transforming Lives Since 1942**



###

**About Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services**

With 70 years of experience, Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services transforms lives by providing quality mental health care and substance abuse services in communities where stigma or poverty limit access. From 11 locations and 65 schools throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties, Didi Hirsch helps more than 74,000 children and adults each year, offering services that range from community education to outpatient care to residential treatment. Its Suicide Prevention Center was the first in the nation. Learn more at <http://www.didihirsch.org/>.

**HEADQUARTERS**

4760 S. SEPULVEDA BLVD., CULVER CITY, CA 90230-4820  
310-390-6612 24 HOUR CRISIS LINE 877-7-CRISIS info@didihirsch.org  
www.didihirsch.org

**Transforming Lives Since 1942**