



**Snohomish County**  
**Office of the Executive**  
**Aaron Reardon**  
*County Executive*

## **Media Advisory–July 26, 2007**

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### County to conduct 2007 CHALENG survey

The Snohomish County Veteran's Assistance Fund Program in conjunction with the Veteran's Administration Puget Sound Health Care System (VAPSHCS) will conduct the 2007 CHALENG survey July 30, at 1 p.m., in the Snohomish County Campus Administration East Building, in first floor conference room F-103.

Project CHALENG (Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups) for Veterans, is designed to enhance the continuum of services for homeless veterans provided by the local VA medical center and regional offices.

Since 1993, the CHALENG survey has utilized data from King and Pierce County but not included Snohomish County. The survey is used in the annual national report to establish funding needs for veterans residing in Snohomish County communities.

“Snohomish County is home to the third largest population of veterans in Washington State,” said County Executive Aaron Reardon. “It is important the (County) Veterans' Assistance Fund outreach accurately identifies need and assists local homeless veterans achieve self-sufficiency.”

The County Veterans' Assistance Fund provides limited emergency financial assistance for honorably discharged veterans, veterans' widows, and qualified dependents for alcohol and drug assessment and treatment at a VA Medical Center, outreach to veterans at home or incarcerated and assistance in filing for VA benefits.

Project CHALENG's specific legislative requirements of local VA medical center and regional office directors include assessment of the needs of local homeless veterans; coordination with state and local government, appropriate federal and non-governmental community organizations serving the homeless population; taking action to meet the needs of homeless veterans and development of an information program.

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