

Transforming the Transitional Programs

NCHV

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Transitional

- ◆ Transitional Housing and Programs are changing
- ◆ Traditional programming is not always best or needed
- ◆ Who is transitional appropriate for?
- ◆ How do we modify transitional housing to fit needs and to remain a resource that is needed?

The push for PH placements

- ◆ HUD VASH: Veterans being directly placed in PH and/or using TH as a “emergency placement” while housing is located
- ◆ SSVF: Can give financial assistance and case management for up to 9 months, so why put in transitional (especially if average stay in TH less than 9 months?)
- ◆ TIP: placing in PH unit that vet will take over eventually.
- ◆ There are no new TH programs funded thru HUD or VA

How do we modify our TH

- ◆ What veteran population is appropriate to be fast tracked to PH?
 - ◆ Cannot or will not adhere to program rules
 - ◆ Veterans needs temp help to get job and live on own
 - ◆ Bridge beds to Housing First clients

Who does our traditional Transitional (VIP) work for?

- **Treatment Track:** those veterans who have a desire to be clean and sober but are unable to do on their own in IOP treatment, or living on own and need communal living support
 - **Modified Treatment:** does not meet criteria for treatment but staff deem some form of treatment is beneficial
- **Mental health:** those veteran who have a desire to stabilize mental health but are unable to do on outpatient, day hospital or own residence basis.
- **Main track:** need long term communal support to get soft/living skills to live on own
 - **Modified Main:** Physically disabled does not need treatment but never going back to work and does not have sustainable income

New Tracks:

- ♦ **Assessment/Emergency Beds (Bridge)** (30 -75 days): low barriers assess next step for veterans which may be PH, VASH, TH, Treatment. (this is a track only if cannot get funded outside of per diem)
- ♦ **Rapid rehousing/SSVF (Bridge in per diem):** (75-90 days) days: whole focus is finding housing & other supportive services that assist in obtaining housing
 - ♦ Enroll in SSVF and work with them while being placed in PH
- **Education track** (Transitional up to 2 years average stay 7 months): for veterans who are attending job training/will obtain certification that will enhance career goals – must be obtained within 6 months of enrollment

All tracks

- **Treatment Track** (Traditional VIP: up to 2 years average stay is 9 months)
- **Modified Treatment** (Traditional VIP up to 2 years average stay is 9 months)
- **Wellness Track** (Traditional VIP: up to 2 years average stay is 7 months)
- **Main Track** (Traditional VIP: up to 2 years average stay is 6 months)
- **Alternate Track** (Traditional up to 2 years average stay 7 months)
 - Physically disabled does not need treatment but never going back to work

All Tracks (Con't)

- **Assessment/Emergency** (30 days-75 days max) (in or out of per diem will follow same rules.
 - It's only a track in VIP if cannot fund outside.
- ◆ **Rapid Rehousing SSVF track** (75-90 days)
 - ***Main track and Rapid rehousing differentiate by person needing and wanting communal environment to gain living and soft skills to live on own ****
- **Education track** (VIP up to 2 years average stay 9 months): Attending school 6 month completion leading to sustained employment

Treatment Track

ELIGIBILITY

- ♦ Assessed to have a substance abuse issue or a dual diagnosis that requires attendance in a structured substance abuse treatment program and has desire for such setting

REQUIREMENTS

- ♦ Complete community service & assigned workstation
- ♦ Complete New Client Orientation
- ♦ Attend substance abuse treatment as recommended from assessment & maintain compliance until completion
- ♦ Attend on-site sobriety maintenance classes

Treatment Track

REQUIREMENTS cont.

- ♦ Complete class requirement according to phase
- ♦ Pay occupancy fees once income has been received
- ♦ Meet CM 1x/week until transition from program
- ♦ Compliance with all U.S.VETS program rules & regulations
- ♦ Remain compliant according to U.S.VETS Substance Use Policy (Revised June 2014)

Modified Treatment Track

ELIGIBILITY

- ◆ Does not meet criteria for a substance abuse or a dual diagnosis but requires sobriety support in a structured environment

REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ Complete community service & assigned workstation
- ◆ Complete New Client Orientation
- ◆ Attend substance abuse treatment as recommended from assessment & maintain compliance until completion
- ◆ Maintain sobriety maintenance plan in conjunction with Individual Action Plan

Modified Treatment

REQUIREMENTS cont.

- ♦ Pay occupancy fees once income has been received
- ♦ Complete class requirement according to phase
- ♦ Meet CM 1x/week until transition from program
- ♦ Compliance with all U.S.VETS program rules & regulations
- ♦ Remain compliant according to U.S.VETS Substance Use Policy (Revised June 2014)

Wellness

ELIGIBILITY

- ♦ Assessed to have a mental health condition without a co-occurring substance abuse disorder and one who needs a structured program to address & stabilize current mental health condition with positive supports

REQUIREMENTS

- ♦ Complete community service
- ♦ Participate in assigned workstations
- ♦ Completion of New Client Orientation
- ♦ Complete initial mental health assessment

Wellness

REQUIREMENTS cont.

- ♦ Complete 20 weeks program to include:
 - ♦ Stabilization Phase: 10 weeks (3x/week group based treatment; 1x/week individual treatment)
 - ♦ Maintenance Phase: 10 weeks (1x/week group based treatment @ U.S.VETS)
- ♦ Meet U.S.VETS class requirement
- ♦ Pay occupancy fees once income has been received
- ♦ Meet CM 1x/week until transition from program
- ♦ Compliance with all U.S.VETS program rules & regulations

Main Track

ELIGIBILITY

- ♦ Employable and willing to go to work
- ♦ Does not require a period of stabilization, whether through substance abuse or mental health treatment

REQUIREMENTS

- ♦ Complete community service
- ♦ Willing to go to work
- ♦ Completion of New Client Orientation
- ♦ Complete Main Track Readiness Class

Main Track

REQUIREMENTS cont.

- ◆ 5 verifiable job contacts/day, as determined by phase
- ◆ Fulfill site class requirements, as determined by phase
- ◆ Pay occupancy fees
- ◆ Meet with CM as defined by client individual action plan
- ◆ Compliance with all U.S.VETS program rules & regulations

Alternate Track

ELIGIBILITY

- ♦ Assessed to have a diagnosable disability that impacts one's ability to return to work
- ♦ Requires a stabilization period in order to increase income, from benefits, to transition to permanent housing

REQUIREMENTS

- ♦ Complete community service & assigned workstation
- ♦ Complete New Client Orientation
- ♦ Verifiable documentation from a medical/mental health provider that deems individual unable to return to work

Alternate Track

REQUIREMENTS cont.

- ♦ Develop & maintain income & housing maintenance plan in conjunction with Individual Action Plan
- ♦ Complete class requirement according to phase
- ♦ Pay occupancy fees once income has been received
- ♦ Meet CM 1x/week until transition from program
- ♦ Compliance with all U.S.VETS program rules & regulations

Assessment Track/Emergency (Bridge Beds)

ELIGIBILITY

- ♦ No established housing plan
- ♦ No current program enrollment
- ♦ Assessment required to determine appropriate resources or referrals needed

REQUIREMENTS

- ♦ Participate in intensive case management
- ♦ Participate in community service
- ♦ Comply with curfew and bed checks
- ♦ Sign in/out of facility
- ♦ Compliance with all U.S.VETS program rules & regulations

Rapid Rehousing Track

ELIGIBILITY

- ◆ Desire and ability to move to permanent housing
- ◆ Have an identified housing plan
- ◆ Proof of or pending financial stability
- ◆ Capacity for independent living

Rapid Rehousing

REQUIREMENTS

- ♦ Vulnerability Assessment Tool administered within 7 days
- ♦ Meet with case manager, focused on housing placement, as needed
- ♦ Coordinate with other community programs if applicable
- ♦ Create a housing transition plan
- ♦ Transition to permanent housing within 75-90 days
- ♦ Compliance with all U.S.VETS program rules & regulations

Education Track

◆ ELIGIBILITY

- ◆ Requires job training or certifications to enhance career opportunities
- ◆ Must be short term (6 months or less)

◆ REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ Participate in case management
- ◆ Development of Income and Housing Stabilization Plan
- ◆ Approved course of study that leads to job placement
- ◆ Proof of attendance and satisfactory completion of studies
- ◆ Periodic proof of performance
- ◆ Participates in site community service

Education Track

REQUIREMENTS cont.

- ◆ Sign in/out of facility
- ◆ Comply with curfew and bed checks
- ◆ Compliance with all U.S.VETS program rules & regulations

Outcomes

Since adopting modification in transitional in October 2014 overall program performance:

- **PH placement rate:**
 - July 2013- June 2014: 66%
 - October 2014 – April 2015: 72%
- **Sobriety:**
 - July 2013- June 2014: 81%
 - October 2014 – April 2015: 84%

Outcomes

- **Occupancy:**
 - July 2013- June 2014: 92%
 - October 2014 – April 2015: 93%
- **Median Stay:**
 - July 2013- June 2014: 139 days
 - October 2014 – April 2015: 99.5 days

Outcomes

- **Job Placement:**
 - July 2013- June 2014: 82
 - October 2014 – April 2015: 66
- **Increased Income:**
 - July 2013- June 2014: 56%
 - October 2014 – April 2015: 56%

Substance Use Policy

Emergency Housing

- ◆ Screening and assessment is conducted and Emergency Housing placement has been determined the most suitable housing placement for the client.
- ◆ If Emergency Housing model is embedded in U.S.VETS Transitional Housing program, Transitional Housing substance use policy is enforced
- ◆ If Emergency Housing program is located in a location that is separate from its Transitional Housing program, Permanent Housing substance use policy is enforced

Substance Use Policy

Transitional Housing

- ◆ Screening and assessment is conducted and Transitional Housing placement has been determined the most suitable housing placement for the client
- ◆ Possession or use of substances of any kind on property is prohibited and client will be discharged with a clinical treatment plan
- ◆ Client will submit to UA/BA testing upon entry in to program and throughout program stay

Substance Abuse Policy

Transitional Housing cont.

- ♦ If positive UA/BA sample is produced after initial UA/BA, client is placed in a safe room upon Clinical Director's approval or referred to an appropriate location (i.e., detox) in order to ensure the safety of the intoxicated client and the community
- ♦ If positive UA/BA sample produced during program stay, clinical team conducts immediate follow up with client in order to employ the most appropriate clinical intervention in accordance with program rules & client's individual action plan to address substance use

Substance Abuse Policy

Transitional Housing cont.

- ◆ Clinical interventions include:
 - ◆ Referral to substance use assessment by a substance abuse provider to determine treatment option/intervention
 - ◆ Discharge with referral to appropriate level of care
- ◆ Programmatic corrective action plan includes:
 - ◆ Sobriety support classes
 - ◆ Peer facilitation
 - ◆ Intensive Outpatient Treatment

Substance Abuse Policy

Transitional Housing cont.

- ◆ After 3 positive UA/BAs are produced, discharge recommendations will be provided to the client to a more appropriate program. The Clinical Director reserves the ability to extend the interventions beyond 3 violations of a positive UA/BA after collaborative discussion with the clinical team.

Substance Abuse Policy

Permanent Housing

- ♦ UA/BA is not conducted upon entry in to program or throughout the duration of program, but will be available upon client's request
- ♦ If positive UA/BA is produced, an appropriate therapeutic intervention is employed to address client's clinical needs.
- ♦ Substance use in common areas is prohibited and use in private dwellings is not encouraged as the goal is a safe and sober living environment