

# Grant and Per Diem Program Transition in Place

2012 Veteran Access to Housing Summit

# Grant and Per Diem Background

- Purpose to promote the development of Supportive Housing/and or Supportive Services to homeless veterans.
  - Partnerships with Non-profits or local government organizations.
  - Transitional housing (up to 24 months) or Service Centers.

# Grant and Per Diem Background

- Goal of GPD funded projects
  - Achieve residential stability
  - Increase skill level and/or income
  - Achieve greater self determination

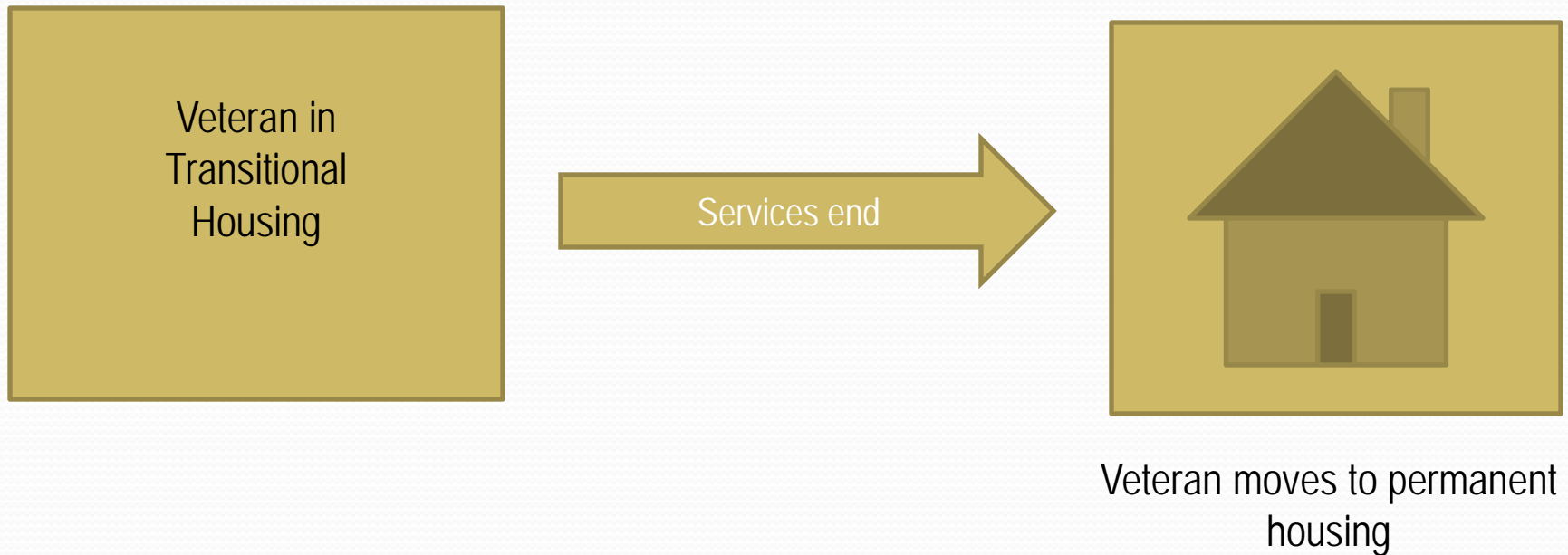
# Grant and Per Diem Background

- First projects were awarded in 1994.
- 14, 777 transitional housing beds
  - 5,706 Per Diem Only transitional housing beds.
  - 9,071 Capital grant transitional housing beds.
- We still have over 1,600 transitional housing beds in development.
- Based on community need and design
  - Projects as small as one bed as large as over 200

# Background

- VA has been exploring models and new services within these programs.
  - Low demand and emergency housing in HCHV.
  - Housing First Teams in HUD-VASH.
  - Rapid re-housing and prevention through SSVF.
  - Using supported employment model in CWT with VA homeless teams through HVSEP
- FY 12 GPD has first NOFA which has Transition in Place Model as a priority.

# Traditional Transitional Housing



# Transition in Place



Veteran receives services for up to 24 months. Veteran remains stays in housing at service end.

# Program Design Considerations

- Traditional Transitional Housing.
  - Time limited
  - Services focus on readiness for housing
  - Housing ranges from various congregate living settings to individual units
- Transition in Place
  - Time limited
  - Services focus on sustaining housing
  - Living unit for the individual and/or family receiving services

# Program Design Considerations

- Housing owned by the organization versus leased by the organization.
  - Negotiating with landlord
  - Consider housing specialist role
- Scattered site versus single location
  - Logistics in support
  - Logistics in site approval
  - Consumer choice in location

# Program Design Considerations

- Plan for Veteran while awaiting placement in TIP.
- Services that are centered on the needs of the consumer (Veteran)
  - Takes into consideration, their needs and desires, their living environment
- Community based services
- Coordinated with other service providers (VA, other staff within your agency or other community providers)

# Program Design Considerations

- Focus on housing retention services.
  - Achieving and sustaining housing is primary focus.
- Engagement of Veterans
  - Assessment for service needs
  - Encouraging Veterans to set specific personal goals
  - Flexible services design to meet Veteran needs
    - Type and intensity of services based on Veteran needs that change over time
    - Availability of on-call staff for support and response to crisis

# Program Design Considerations

- Home visits – different process considerations from facility based monitoring
  - Supporting daily activities involved in maintaining a household
  - Support for activities living in the community
    - Awareness of public transportation
    - Where laundry is done
    - Where is the grocery store, library, community center
- Developing support systems and involvement in community

# Program Design Considerations

- Focus on income sustainability or increase in income.
  - Benefits counseling/case management
    - VBA
    - SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR)
      - *federal program to help states and communities increase access to Social Security disability benefits for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and who have mental illnesses or other co-occurring disorders*
  - Employment Services that encourage engagement, personal choice, lowers barriers to participation

# Program Design Considerations

- Personal planning.
  - Relapse prevention and response
  - Development of natural supports as well as professional supports
  - Openly discuss the challenges associated with the transitions that will occur when living on their own
  - Communicating potential consequences of bad decisions

# The Road Ahead

- Awards announced
- Award packages go out
- National Conference calls
- Programs will begin to come up within 90 days
- Additional conference calls/training to support implementation and program considerations
  - Transition in Place
  - Working with Substance Use Disorder Issues.
  - Employment Services for Homeless Veterans.

# The Road Ahead

- Implement the current Transition in Place (TIP) under the current legislation and regulations.
  - Recognize various limitations
- Explore opportunities for legislative alternatives to make TIP more user friendly
- Lessons learned
  - Continue to explore opportunities for model/best practices within existing programs