



# Best Practices: Housing Options for Homeless and At Risk Veterans

NCHV TA Center Teleconference

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# Agenda

- Outlining the Challenge
- Federal Programs to Meet Housing Needs
- Beyond Federal Funding
- Challenges for HVRP Grantees
- Best Practices Project
- HVRP Grantees: Albany Housing Coalition and VLP
- NCHV's Housing Portal



# Outlining the Challenge

## ■ By the Numbers:

- PIT count: **62,619**
  - 56 percent sheltered (emergency or transitional housing)
  - 44 percent unsheltered
- Annual count (2011): **144,842**
- 2011 and 2012 counts: changes to sheltered and unsheltered veterans counts in CoCs

# Outlining the Challenge

## ■ By the Numbers (cont.):

- 2% of homeless veterans are part of a family
- Veterans currently at-risk
  - 1.4 million veterans in poverty
  - An additional 1.4 million veterans near the poverty line
  - 1 in 9 veterans in poverty experiences homelessness
- Female veterans are twice as likely to be homeless as female non-veterans
  - 1,380 in FY 2006
  - 3,328 in FY 2010



# Outlining the Challenge

- Understanding the Numbers:
  - Decreases and the “invisible decreases”
    - SSVF and HPRP
  - Consolidated reporting:
    - CHALENG Report
    - Annual Homeless Assessment Report
    - National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans’ Homeless Registry

# Outlining the Challenge

Table 6. Top Ten Highest *Unmet* Needs Identified by Consumers, FY 2008 - 2010.

2008	2009	2010
1. Welfare payments	1. Welfare payments	1. Welfare payments
2. Child care	2. Legal assistance for child support issues	2. Child care
3. Legal assistance for child support issues	3. Long-term, permanent housing	3. Legal assistance for child support issues
4. Guardianship (financial)	4. Child care	4. Family reconciliation assistance
5. Family reconciliation assistance	5. SSI/SSD process	5. Guardianship (financial)
6. Long-term, permanent housing	6. Legal assistance for outstanding warrants/fines	6. Legal assistance for outstanding warrants/fines
7. SSI/SSD process	7. Guardianship (financial)	7. SSI/SSD process
8. Legal assistance for outstanding warrants/fines	8. Family reconciliation assistance	8. Credit Counseling
9. Credit counseling	9. Job training	9. Job Training
10. Re-entry services for incarcerated Veterans	10. VA disability/pension	10. Legal assistance to help restore a driver's license

Table 7. Top Ten Highest *Unmet* Needs Identified by VA and Community Providers, FY 2008 - 2010.

2008	2009	2010
1. Child care	1. Child care	1. Child care
2. Long-term, permanent housing	2. Legal assistance for outstanding warrants/fines	2. Legal assistance for child support issues
3. Legal assistance for outstanding warrants/fines	3. Legal assistance for child support issues	3. Legal assistance for outstanding warrants/fines
4. Legal assistance for child support issues	4. Family reconciliation assistance	4. Family reconciliation assistance
5. Family reconciliation assistance	5. Long-term, permanent housing	5. Legal assistance to help restore a driver's license
6. Dental care	6. Credit counseling	6. Credit counseling
7. Credit counseling	7. Dental care	7. Long-term, permanent housing
8. Re-entry services for incarcerated Veterans	8. Help managing money	8. Dental care
9. Help managing money	9. Re-entry services for incarcerated Veterans	9. Help managing money
10. Guardianship (financial)	10. Guardianship (financial)	10. Guardianship (financial)

# Federal Programs to Meet Housing Needs

- Permanent Housing (Independent)
- Permanent Supportive Housing:
  - housing that is designed to provide housing (project- and tenant-based) and supportive services on a long-term basis for homeless people, many of whom have disabilities
- Transitional Housing:
  - a type of housing where homeless people may stay and receive supportive services for up to 24 months, and which are designed to enable them to move into permanent housing
- Emergency Shelter:
  - a facility whose primary purpose is to provide temporary shelter for homeless persons

Long-term

Length of Intervention

Short-term



# Federal Programs to Meet Housing Needs

## ■ HUD-VASH

- Housing for 60,000 chronically homeless veterans
- Project Based versus Tenant Based Vouchers
- 97% of veterans living in PSH are individuals
- 4% of veterans accessed transitional housing prior to entering PSH
- Common destinations for veterans exiting PSH:
  - rented housing unit:33%
  - living with a relative or friend:14%
  - an institutional setting:14%



# Federal Programs to Meet Housing Needs

## ■ Grant and Per Diem:

- Over 100,000 veterans served by GPD since 1994
- Programs exist in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam
- Approximately 700 operational projects
- Approximately 14,000 active transitional housing beds

## ■ Transitional housing:

- Longer stays in transitional housing associated with:
  - higher levels of educational attainment
  - Increased employment at time of move out
  - Greater likelihood of long-term continued employment



# Federal Programs to Meet Housing Needs

- Grant and Per Diem: Transition in Place
  - Applications were due March 30, 2012
    - If you do not receive funding, ask for feedback!
  - Time limited funding
  - \$20 million available
- Goals of TIP:
  - Transitional housing as a stepping stone, not end goal
  - Housing stability
  - Expedited placement into independent housing When a veteran no longer needs the intensive case management services of GPD, the services move on, while the veteran stays



# Federal Programs to Meet Housing Needs

- Overall housing resources
  - 701,184 beds in 2012
- Continuums of Care
  - Consolidation of programs under one CoC grant application
  - Introductory Guide to the Interim Rule
  - Webinar today at 3:30 pm EST!
  - Components:
    - Supportive Housing program
    - Shelter Plus Care program
    - Moderate Rehabilitation/Single Room Occupancy (SRO) program

# Federal Programs to Meet Housing Needs

## ■ Prevention Programs:

### ○ Supportive Services for Veteran Families

#### ■ New 2012 grantees:

[http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/SSVF/FY2012\\_SSVF\\_Awards\\_7172012\\_2.pdf](http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/SSVF/FY2012_SSVF_Awards_7172012_2.pdf)

#### ■ SSVF grantees encouraged to connect with GPD programs in their communities

#### ■ Current GPD participants may qualify for SSVF program services under Category 2: Rapid Re-Housing

### ○ HPRP

### ○ VHPD



# Beyond Federal Funding

## ■ Engaging philanthropy

- The Home Depot Foundation
- Team Depots
- Housing Trusts
- Habitat for Humanity
- Role of community organizations

## ■ Community partners in development

- Landlords/Property managers
- Service providers
- Voucher holders/consumers
- Public Housing Authority (PHAs)
- Neighbors/Community Associations (NIMBYism)

## ■ Alternative funding

- Philanthropy
- State and County Funding
- Low Income Housing Tax Credits

# Challenges Faced by HVRP Grantees

## ■ Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP)

### ○ Goals of HVRP

- Gainful employment for participants: Income stability removes barriers to independent living
- Strengthened service delivery networks

### ○ Unique services of HVRP grantees to support GPD participants

- Connectivity to Social Security Administration benefits and VA benefits
- Connectivity to DVOPs/LVERs
- Stand Down

## ■ Overlapping Programs

- Overlapping and restricted eligibility
- Changes at the end of the Program Year
- GPD is always allowed

# Challenges Faced by HVRP Grantees

- Lack of funding to support children
  - Child care
  - Housing options
  - Transportation services
- Lack of housing options for families
  - Costs of providing safe and secure transitional housing
  - Traditional individual models
  - Limited HUD-VASH eligibility; Section 8 waiting lists
- Outreach, placement and employment retention tied to housing stability
- Contracted case management
- Pressure for rapid transition from GPD

# *Best Practices for Promising HVRP Grantees Publication*

- Released in 2012
- Profiles of 20 HVRP grantees
- Services broken down by category:
  - Employment and Training
  - Housing Services
  - Supportive Services
  - Legal Services
  - Partners
  - Reported Results

# Resources

- **ESG state contacts:** <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/states>
- **ESG Fact Sheet:** [http://www.hudhre.info/index.cfm?do=viewESG\\_SolutionsPrgm](http://www.hudhre.info/index.cfm?do=viewESG_SolutionsPrgm)
- **HEARTH Homeless definition final rule:**  
[http://www.hudhre.info/documents/HEARTH\\_HomelessDefinition\\_FinalRule.pdf](http://www.hudhre.info/documents/HEARTH_HomelessDefinition_FinalRule.pdf)
- **Guidebook for Developing Permanent Supportive Housing for Homeless Veterans:**  
<http://www.nchv.org/docs/CSHVeteransDevelopmentGuidebook2008FINAL.pdf>
- **Report on the Veteran Access to Housing Summit:**  
<http://www.nchv.org/page.cfm?id=337>
- **SSVF Grantees (FY 2011):**  
[http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/SSVF\\_Program\\_FY\\_2011\\_Grant\\_Award\\_List.pdf](http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/SSVF_Program_FY_2011_Grant_Award_List.pdf)
- **Public Housing Authority contacts:**  
[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/p\\_ha/contacts](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/p_ha/contacts)
- **Contact information:**
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# Albany Housing Coalition

# Albany Housing Coalition Inc.

Albany, New York



## **Housing Resources for Homeless Veterans**

## **A Localized Community Response**

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**REMEMBERING AND SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED**

# Homeless Veteran

Shelter Friend VA Homeless VA DomCommunity VetTrak

INTAKE / Assessment

## Housing

VA E Hsg

Per Diem Hsg

Permanent Supportive

Shelter+ Care 40 units

AHC Apts.

VASH

## Employment

HVRP

NYS LVER/DVOP

## Legal

Pro Bono

Attorneys

## Benefits

NYS Benefits

## Peer Support

Volunteer

**REMEMBERING AND SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED**

# Housing Resources

- Local COC Programs agencies / programs
  - Subsidized rents
  - Security, back rent assistance
  - [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/homeless/programs/coc](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/homeless/programs/coc)
- Local Community Development (CDBG)
  - Emergency Shelter grants
- Housing Authority
- Local Shelter + Care Program
- VA SSVF
- HUD and State development funds



# Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania



# Corporate Connection - NCHV

# CORPORATE CONNECTION

- Engages the private sector in joining the campaign to end veteran homelessness by 2015
- Serves as the information and facilitation portal for businesses, provides individualized consulting, and highlights the financial, social, and environmental benefits of working with community organizations on behalf of homeless veterans





# VETERANS HOUSING PORTAL

- Presents information on how businesses, community-based organizations, and local, state and federal agencies can utilize abandoned and foreclosed properties to help bring an end to veteran homelessness
- Developed template for foreclosed and vacant single family housing units to be utilized for homeless veterans
- Inspired by 2012 Veterans Access to Housing Summit, hosted by NCHV in San Antonio, TX





# VETERANS HOUSING PORTAL

- Converting Foreclosed and Vacant Properties to Support Homeless Veterans: Single-Housing-Unit Template
  - Provides proven strategies for facilitating property acquisition of single-family units and resources from the community that can be leveraged to facilitate, support, and maintain permanent housing placement for homeless veterans
- Resources
  - Highlights major housing reports, housing data and information from across the country, and organizations and other institutions that will support housing homeless veterans
- Case Studies
  - Provide examples and models of the nonprofit, philanthropic, private, and public sector working together to provide housing opportunities for low-income, homeless, and disabled veterans



# HOUSING RESOURCES

- Housing Assistance Council
  - New initiative on affordable housing for rural veterans
  - Supports local nonprofit housing development organizations that meet or help meet the affordable housing needs of veterans in rural areas, includes low-income, elderly and disabled veterans with home repair and rehab needs, and homeless veterans
- National Community Stabilization Trust (Stabilization Trust)
  - The Stabilization Trust is a national nonprofit organization working with the nation's largest financial institutions and local housing providers across the U.S. to reclaim neighborhoods hard hit by high levels of foreclosure and abandonment
  - Ensures local housing providers have the right tools to transform empty, foreclosed properties into community assets that increase the stock of affordable ownership and rental housing for working families



# HOUSING RESOURCES, CONT.

- US Department of Agriculture Rural Development
  - Housing and Community Facilities Programs helps rural communities and individuals by providing loans and grants for housing and community facilities
  - Funding is available for single family homes, apartments for low-income persons or the elderly, nursing homes, and more
- BridgeBilt
  - Connects local housing organizations to business and financial resources that provide time and capital necessary to make a significant impact and revitalize local communities
  - Provides acquisition, rehabilitation, financing, and leasing of distressed single family residences to support local housing providers working with the Stabilization Trust

# NEXT STEPS

- Please visit [www.NCHV.org](http://www.NCHV.org) and click on the Corporate Connection
- Sign up for the monthly newsletter, latest updates and available resources on the **Action** page
- Read: *Converting Foreclosed and Vacant Properties to Support Homeless Veterans: Single-Housing-Unit Template*
- Contact Andrew Geary at 202-546-1969 or [ageary@nchv.org](mailto:ageary@nchv.org) for further information