



NATIONAL COALITION *for* HOMELESS VETERANS

Effectiveness of Permanent Housing Program FY 2012 Report

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

[Full Report](#)

Overview of Supportive Services for Veterans and their Families (SSVF):

- Homelessness prevention and rapid-housing are the two key actions associated with the SSVF program. **“Of the 14,511 adults served who exited the program in FY 2012, 84 percent had a successful outcome and exited to permanent housing.”**
- HPRP, though a blueprint for its successor, dwarfed SSVF in terms of the money it received for programming. In addition, rapid rehousing characterized SSVF from its beginning. Homelessness prevention, on the other hand, weighed more heavily as HPRP started.
- Despite the initial technical challenges that surfaced for grant recipients, SSVF was celebrated for its positive outcomes. **“In FY 2012, the SSVF program served 21,111 Veteran households, comprised of 32,676 people.”**

A Snapshot of Demographics:

- The following breaks down the locations of grants: 52% in “Urban only” places, 32% in “Urban and Rural”, 11% in “Urban, Rural and Tribal”, and 5% in “Rural only”.
- Sixty-nine percent of all participants fell within the 18 to 61 age range. Twenty-four percent were children 17 or younger. The elderly cohort was 7%.
- Disabled adults were a major demographic at 46.2 percent.

First Year Feedback:

- SSVF programs received widespread positive ratings from a majority of participants (87 percent). The largest area receiving calls for improvement, though marginal, was “Assistance in obtaining VA Benefits”.
- VA-backed technical assistance was a built-in component to SSVF. Housing First proved difficult for service providers and technical assistance became a critical need. Interpersonal discussions and online presentations helped service providers resolve many of their problems.
- Determining client priority for program entry was another part of the learning process for grantees. In addition, knowing how to properly interact with the HUD-VASH program was confusing for SSVF grantees. A screening tool and communication engagement with the VA, respectively, helped alleviate these issues.

Source: Effectiveness of Permanent Housing Program FY 2012 Report. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Washington, DC. From http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/SSVF/Effectiveness_of_SSVF_Program_Report_FY2012.pdf.