**Coordinated Entry Partnership – Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness**

*Serving Veterans*

*November 2015*

**WHAT IS IT THAT WE NEED TO CONSIDER?**

Does someone first identify as a Veteran? Or first identify as someone with a housing crisis/homeless?

At want point in our process are we screening for Veteran Status? How are screening?

What happens when we identify someone who is a Veteran? Where and when are we referring them to Veteran-specific resources, both VA-funded and otherwise? What if someone refuses a referral?

How do we ensure that Veterans have access to all the resources available to support their stable housing, not just Veteran-specific resources? Is this important? For example, Vermont Rental Subsidy

How will Vet-specific service providers, the local lead agencies, and the other assessment partners share information? Will certain providers be expected to use ServicePoint and share baseline information with others in the local Coordinated Entry Partnership in the same way assessment partners and local lead agencies will share information? Are these agencies participating or able to participate in local coordination of services, such as housing review teams?

**PROTOCOL WHEN SERVING VETERANS as agreed November 2015**

1. Referral Partners refer to the Local Lead Agency directly, not to the VA or SSVF Provider
2. The Housing Barriers Assessment (completed by the Local Lead Agency or Assessment Partner):
   1. ASK? Have you or anyone in your household served in the military or armed services?
      1. YES, Can I refer you to the VA?
      * Yes: Local Lead Agency completes assessment, makes referral/handoff/shares assessment with local VA contact
      * No (Declines VA referral): Can I refer you to Vermont Veteran Services/Veterans Inc (SSVF providers)?
        + Yes: Local Lead Agency completes assessment, makes referral/handoff/shares assessment with provider
        + No: Local Lead Agency completes assessment, makes service connections/referrals in the normal way, may still include Vet-specific resources
3. What happens to those who are already being served by the VA, Vermont Veterans Services or Veterans Inc?
   * They should refer the client to the local lead agency for a housing barriers assessment and additional resources
   * OR, these partners become Assessment Partners and complete the Housing Barriers Assessment with clients (including HMIS entry)