



Supportive Services for Veteran Families
@
The University of Vermont



The Veteran's Administration has made ending homelessness among Veteran's a top priority.

SSVF @ UVM & The Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) team from the VA, along with Easter Seals Vermont and Pathways Vermont and other Veteran Service organizations work in coordinated partnership to meet the Veteran's needs.



Overview:

- VA Funded Grant program (Federal Dollars)
- 1 of 2 SSVF programs in Vermont (Vet's Inc)
- Provides a range of supportive services designed to promote housing stability
- Serves very low-income Veterans and their families
- Rapidly Re-houses homeless Veteran families and works to prevent homelessness for those at imminent risk



SSVF @ UVM supports a Housing First Approach in addressing and ending homelessness

- Low barriers
- Veteran Choice
- Access to supportive services



Eligibility

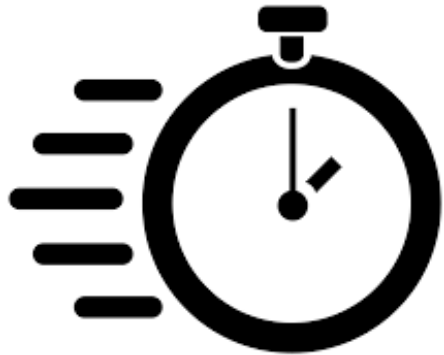
- Must have had one day of active duty: Service members who did not complete Basic Training are eligible.
- Must have very low or extremely low income;
 - <50% of AMI for the town they live in (very low)
 - <30% of AMI for the town they live in (extremely low)
- Housing Status; Literally homeless or at risk of being homeless – HUD Definitions



Veteran Families are provided:

- **outreach**: description of services, identifying Veteran families, eligibility screening and evaluation, education and engagement
- **case management**:
 - Housing coordination: finding appropriate housing, leasing process, landlord negotiations and support
 - Service coordination: housing stability plans, budgeting and assistance with obtaining VA benefits, SSI/SSDI and other resources
- **temporary financial assistance**: (not guaranteed); rental payments, security deposits, utility payments, utility deposits, moving or storage payments, car repairs, general housing stability, emergency supplies, child care, transportation costs

Rapid Resolution Defined



- Rapid Resolution is an intervention designed to **prevent immediate entry** into homelessness or **immediately resolve** a household's homelessness once they enter shelter, transitional housing or an unsheltered situation.
- RR includes both Diversion and Rapid Exit strategies with the aim of ensuring **homelessness is avoided or as brief as possible when it does occur.**
- RR is a **system-wide intervention and can be used for all populations,** not just Veterans.

Benefits of Rapid Resolution

Households/Clients

- **Immediate safe alternate housing** arrangements
- **Empowers people** by focusing on strengths
- Helps households **avoid the trauma** of homelessness
- Helps with **family reunification**
- Can lead to **faster housing connections** even when situation can't be rapidly resolved

Crisis Response System

- **Reduces inflow into system and increases rapid exits**
- **Reduces waitlists** for permanent housing
- Helps the system to **prioritize the most intensive housing resources**
- Alternative resolution to housing crisis when most of communities **lack affordable housing resources**
- Ensures those assisted with housing resources **have no alternatives**



How to Contact Us?

SSVF @ UVM

Toll Free: 844-820-3232

802-656-3232

Veterans Crisis Line: 800-273-8255



United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

Vermont Veterans Committee





Vermont Veterans Committee

- In existence since 2015; consists of representatives from multiple statewide VSOs
- Veterans committee – works to coordinate services and housing for Veterans and their families throughout Vermont within the framework of Coordinated Entry & in partnership with local and state CoCs
- Leading the statewide effort to achieve the goal of ending Veteran Homelessness in 2019
- Manage and support action to service all identified Veterans from a coordinated by name list



Vermont Veterans Committee

1. Develop Policies and Procedures – standardize processes to ensure the Veterans Committee can continue to serve Veterans throughout VT in the future
2. Work to revise & streamline policies & procedures
3. Continue to work closely with the two federally recognized CoCs to enhance partnerships
4. Improve Data Collection. Timely, accurate data is critical to our success
5. Build our systems to end Veterans Homelessness



Questions?