Homeless Programs
Six Points of Intervention

- Outreach and Education
- Treatment (Enhancement of Services)
- Prevention
- Housing and Supportive Services
- Income/Employment/Benefits
- Community Partnerships
# VISN-7 Homeless Programs

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Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)

• Core of the program is its outreach component.
• To the most vulnerable and those not currently receiving services.
  – Engaging them in treatment
  – Engaging them in rehabilitation programs
Chronic Homeless Definition

• Homeless Individual with a disability.
• Lives in place not meant for human habitation, safe haven or emergency shelter; and
• Homeless continuously for at least 12 months
• Or Four (4) separate episodes of homelessness within the last three (3) years.
• The combined occasions equal 12 months with separating occasions of at least 7 consecutive nights of not living in place not meant for human habitation.
Community Referral and Resource Center

- Centralized services with community partners.
  - Assessment of needs
  - Referrals
  - Housing
  - Employment
  - Benefits
  - Education
  - Showers
  - Laundry
Grant and Per Diem

• Transitional Housing: Six Housing Models
  – Bridge Housing – Short term stay with pre-identified housing destinations.
  – Low Demand – low demand/harm reduction model to better accommodate chronically homeless Veterans and Veterans who were unsuccessful in traditional treatment settings.
  – Hospital to Housing – Housing and recuperative care for homeless Veterans who have been medically hospitalized.
Grant and Per Diem

Transitional Housing: Six Housing Models

• Clinical Treatment – Veterans with specific MH and/or SUD diagnosis
• Service-Intensive Transitional Housing – Provides stabilization prior to permanent housing.
• Service Centers – Provides services and information to engage and aid in obtaining housing and services.
Grant and Per Diem

• VISN-7 transitional housing models:
  – Atlanta
    • Gateway 46 beds– SI
    • Mary Hall Freedom House 17 beds – (Applying)
    • Salvation Army – 10 BH; 44 CT; 10 SI
  – Augusta
    • 16 beds (applying)
  – Charleston
    • 180 Place Female 7 beds- BH; Male 35 beds-BH &5 LD
  – Columbia
    • Alston Wilkes 4 beds – LD; 14 CT
    • Christ Central 4 beds – Hosp. to home; 82 SI
Work Therapy Programs

• Provides clinical vocational rehabilitation to older Veterans with substance use disorder, mental illness and/or co-occurring physical impairments to obtain and maintain meaningful employment.
  – Compensated Work Therapy
  – Supported Employment
HUD-VASH

- Joint Supportive Housing Program with VA and Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- HUD provides the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV).
- VA provides case management services.
- Veteran must be in need and willing to receive case management services.
HUD-VASH Vouchers in VISN 7

- Atlanta – 1958
- Augusta – 237
- Birmingham – 606
- Charleston – 649
- Columbia – 549
- Dublin – 200
- Central Alabama – 306
- Tuscaloosa – 267

**VISN Total – 4772**
HUD-VASH Priority

• Chronic Homeless
  – First Priority: Disability with long periods of episodic homelessness and severe service needs.
  – Second Priority: Disability with severe service needs.
  – Third Priority: Disability, comes from places not meant for human habitation, emergency shelters without severe service needs.
  – Fourth Priority: Disability coming from transitional housing
HUD-VASH Priority

• Women with children.
• Aging Veterans.
• Veterans with debilitating clinical condition that does not meet formal disability criteria.
• Veterans with extensive homeless history that does not meet other criteria.
Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)

- Community partners who received a grant from the VA.
- Provides supportive service to very low-income families in, or transitioning to permanent housing.
- Provide supportive services designed to promote housing stability.
- Utility and security deposit assistance.
Veteran Justice Outreach Program

• Outreach to assist Veterans in avoiding unnecessary criminalization.
• Veterans have history of mental health and/or substance abuse disorders.
• VJO intervenes in the first intercept point of arrest.
Health Care for Re-Entry Veterans

• Veterans who are returning to the community after incarceration.

• Conduct outreach/assessment while incarcerated six months before release date.

• Engage in treatment and rehabilitation to:
  – Prevent homelessness
  – Readjust to community life
    – Promote successful community integration of reentry Veterans
Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans

- Provides 27/7, time limited residential rehabilitation and treatment services to homeless Veterans.

- Services include:
  - Medical
  - Psychiatric
  - Substance use disorder treatment
National Homeless Call Center

- 24/7 Homeless Hotline for Veterans and families.
- Prevention and homeless assistance.
- 877-4AID-VET
  (1-877-434-3838)
Veterans Benefits Administration Outreach Program (VBA)

- Full-time VBA Homeless Veterans Outreach Coordinators (HVOC) at 20 Regional Offices (RO) with the largest Veteran populations.

- Georgia: Christo Robinson - 404-929-5648
- Alabama: Phillip Wilson – 334-213-3302 x3633
- Columbia: Canace Veal – 803-647-2444 x3181
  - Peter Lloyd – 803-647-2444 x2983
  - Elijah Profit – 803-647-2444 x2929
  - Teacia Fisher – 803-647-2444 x 2656

- HVOC List
Veteran Resources

• VA website
  – www.va.gov
• VA Benefits
  – 1-800-827-1000
• Education
  – GI Bill: 1-888-442-4551
• Insurance
  – SGLI and VGLI: 1-800-419-1473
  – Other VA Life Insurance programs: 1-800-669-8477
• Homeless Hotline
  – 1-877-4-AIDVET
• eBenefits
  – www.ebenefits.va.gov
VA Homeless Program
Contact Information

• Patricia Bradford – Network Homeless Coordinator: Patricia.Bradford@va.gov

• Jenifer Turner-Reid – Deputy Network Homeless Coordinator: Jenifer.turner-reid@va.gov

• 1-803-647-5818