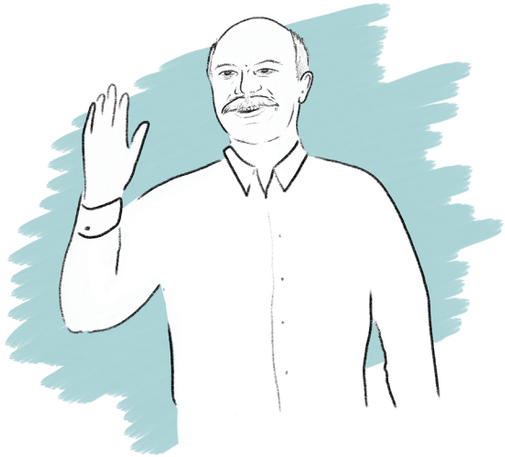
Norm can't be everywhere,
but there is someone like him at
most VA facilities across the country.



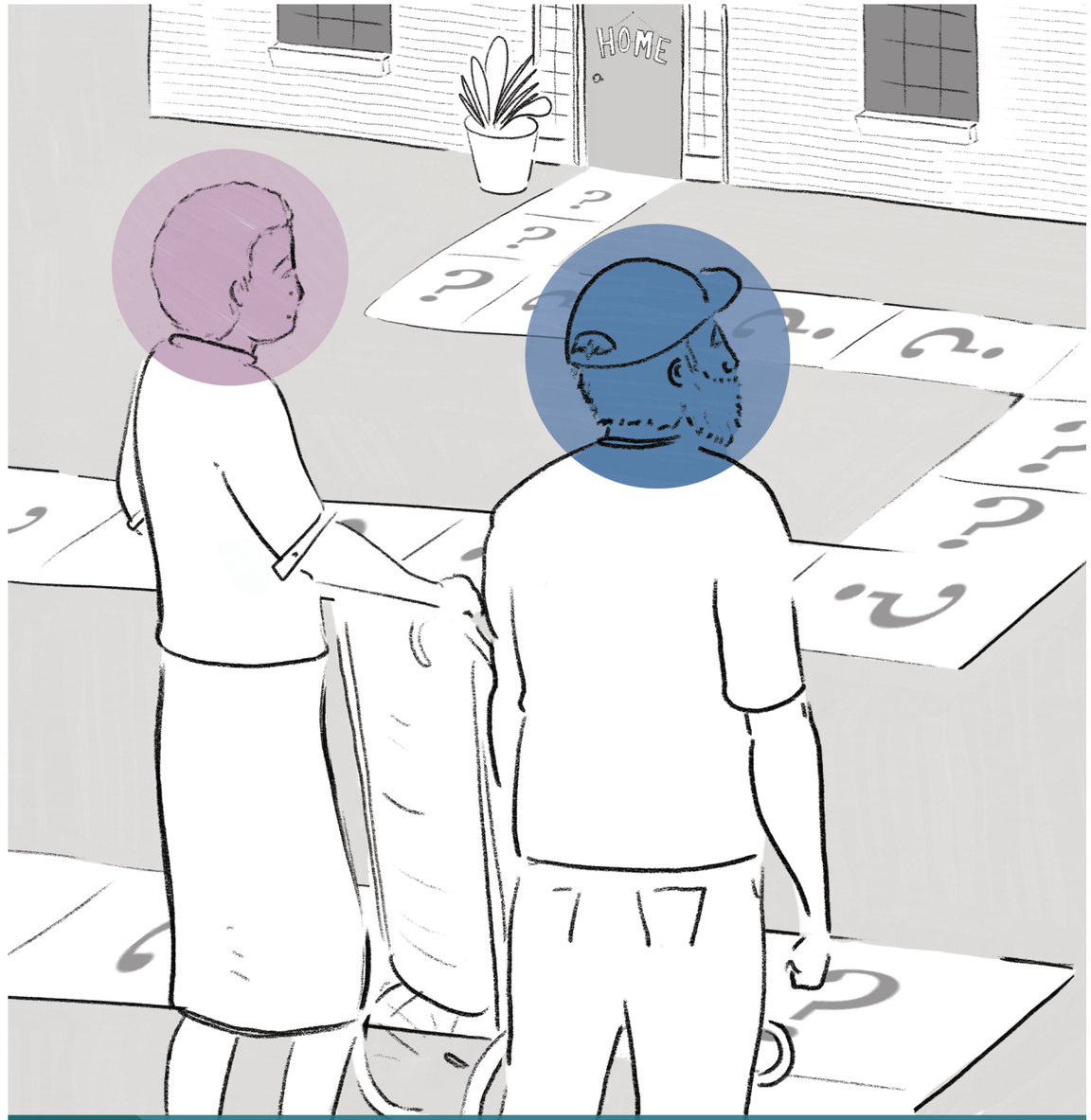
This booklet was funded by **The National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans.** (Principal Investigator: Gala True, PhD)

'Connecting with VHA Homeless Programs' was developed by a team of researchers, VHA Homeless Program staff, clinical partners, and Veterans

Produced by Ray Facundo, Meagan Cusack, Gala True, Ann Elizabeth Montgomery, Tom Byrne

Illustrated by Tyler Thompson (Approved VA Vendor)

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs



CONNECTING WITH VHA HOMELESS PROGRAMS

HOW VHA CAN HELP YOU NAVIGATE HOUSING INSTABILITY

VA | U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Having a safe, stable home allows you (and your family) to lead a healthy life. Yet, sometimes you may face issues that jeopardize your housing or leave you without a regular place to stay.



The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines homelessness as:

"an individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence..."

Notes and Important Information

VHA is part of a nationwide network of homelessness services that follow a process called **COORDINATED ENTRY**.

This basically means that no matter what office, shelter, or facility you go to for help, they will have the tools and resources to connect you to VHA and other services.



At least once a year, a VA provider will ask you questions about your living situation. If you answer that you haven't been living in a safe, stable place or that you are worried you might lose your housing in the next 60 days, your provider will offer to help you connect with someone in VHA Homeless Programs.



You don't have to accept a referral or follow up with services. Just know they are there if you need them.



MEET BARRY AND KENYA

They have both come to their local VHA Homeless Programs office to talk about what benefits and services may be available to help them.

You don't have to wait for someone to reach out. You can contact someone at your local VA to find out about what programs and services might be available to you.

Making sure you have stable housing is important.
VHA is here to help and so are other organizations in your community.

Contact the numbers below anytime, 24/7, to learn about available options

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans:
1-877-424-3838

National Domestic Violence Hotline:
1-800-799-SAFE

VA Vet Centers:
1-877-WAR-VETS

Veterans Crisis Line:
1-800-273-8255, press1

There may be other services in your community, like local shelters, food or clothing banks, community kitchens, or more. To find out, call Community Information and Referral Services:
2-1-1

DID YOU KNOW?

You may be eligible for homeless services even if you are not eligible for healthcare at the VA.

Every VA is different, so check with your local VHA Homeless Programs representative for information on the availability of these programs and eligibility requirements or visit www.va.gov/homeless.

Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans (DCHV)
Residential housing programs that provide a structured, supportive environment for veterans struggling with chronic health issues, mental health or substance use issues.

Grant and Per Diem (GPD)
Community housing programs that typically offer a room with a bed in a safe facility, and often provide on-site case-management, counseling, education, and employment services.

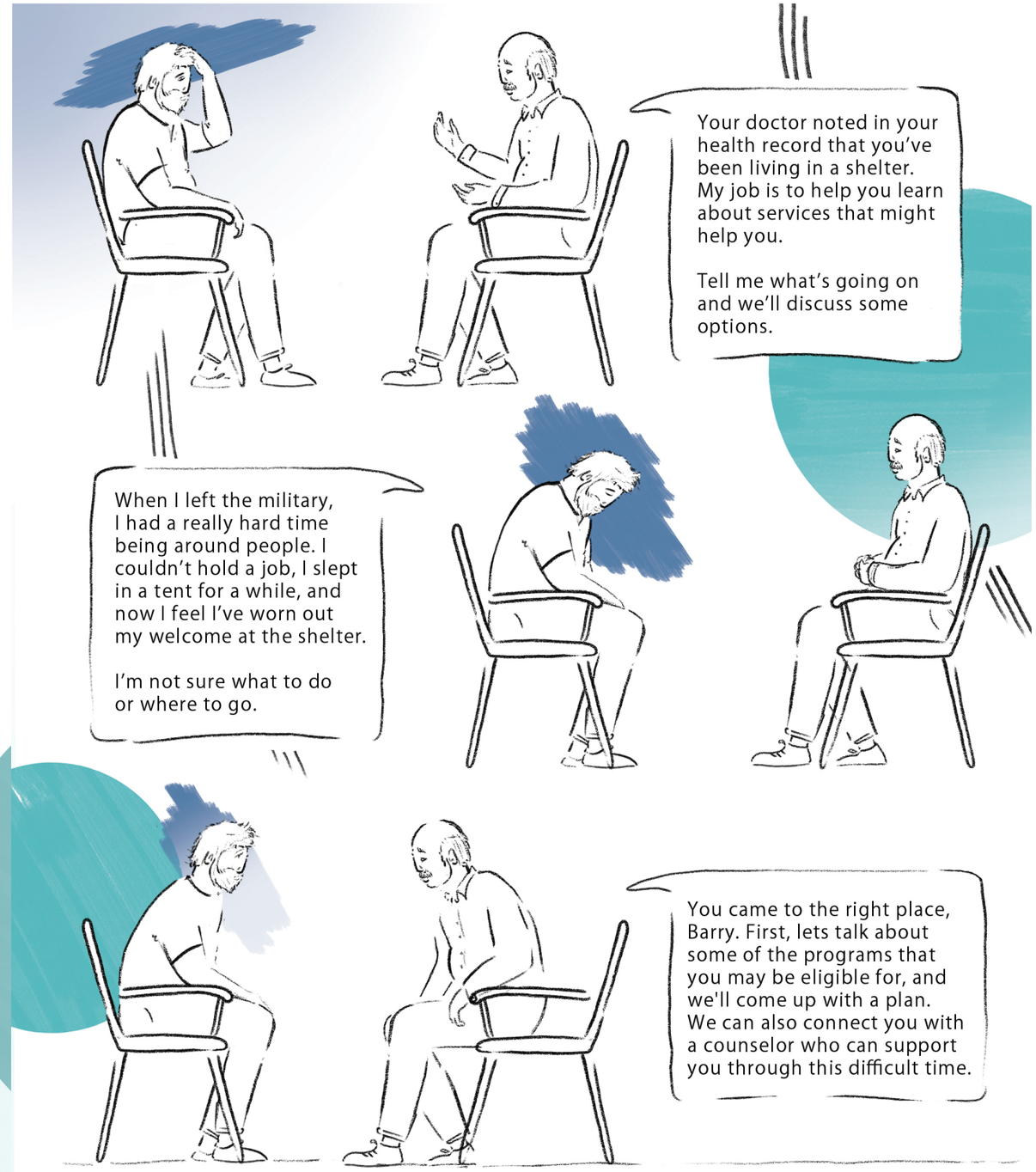
Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)
Program providing outreach, case management, and community based residential services to ensure Veterans experiencing homelessness have access to VA and community programs.

Homeless Veteran Community Employment Services (HVCES)
Employment program where VA helps you connect with community organizations and employers.

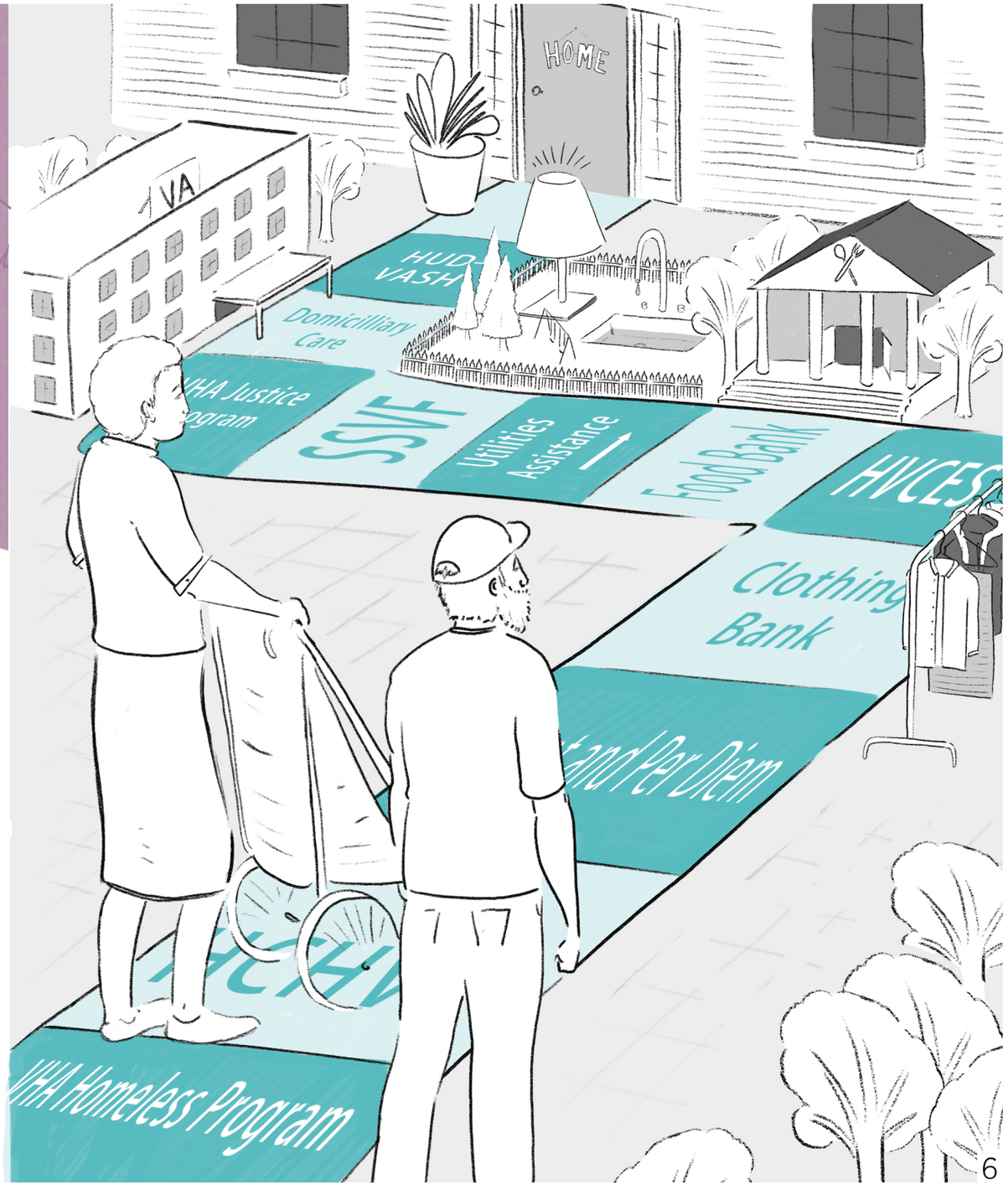
Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)
Permanent housing that combines rental assistance vouchers from HUD with VA supportive services, which can help you connect with health care, mental health treatment, substance use counseling, and other supportive services.

Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF)
Community programs funded by VA provide homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing assistance and may be able to help you with an eviction notice, or with temporary rent and utility payments, as well as connect with other services in your community.

VHA Justice Programs
Connects Veterans in homeless or mental health programs with legal services that may help them to resolve criminal justice charges and focus on treatment.




UNPAID
CARD DECLINED
I was talking with some other Vets, and they told me I should come see you. I feel like everything is falling apart. I got laid off, I just got an eviction notice, I have bills piling up and every penny has to feed my kids. I'm not sure what to do.
It's good that you came here, Kenya. You may be eligible for a few programs. While they can help quickly, they are not instant. In the meantime, have you looked for any resources in the community, like a food bank? There may be more assistance out there than you think. Some places are even specifically for women or families.


HOME
VA
HUD VASH
Domiciliary Care
VHA Justice Program
SSVF
Utilities Assistance
Food Bank
HVCES
Clothing Bank
Bus Pass/Per Diem
VHA Homeless Program