# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS' (VA) CALENDAR YEAR (CY) 2023 VETERAN HOMELESSNESS NATIONAL GOALS OFFICE HOURS
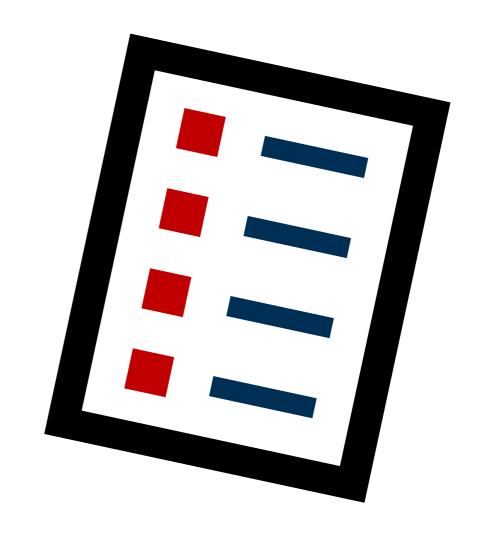
**VHA Homeless Programs Office**

**April 6, 2023**

- VA's Homelessness Goals for CY 2023

- Tracking Progress

- Technical Specifications

- Q&A and Next Steps

# VA'S HOMELESSNESS GOALS FOR CY 2023

## Goal 1: Consistency in Permanent Housing

- VA will house at least 38,000 more individual Veterans in CY 2023.

## Goal 2: Prevention of Returns to Homelessness

- VA will accomplish the ambitious goal of ensuring that at least 95% of Veterans housed during this initiative stay housed.
- At the end of CY 2023, VA will ensure that at least 90% of Veterans who returned to homelessness are rehoused or on a path to rehousing.

## Goal 3: Engagement of Unsheltered Veterans

- VA will accomplish the ambitious goal of engaging with at least 28,000 unsheltered Veterans in CY 2023, an increase of 10% from CY 2022.
- In addition, VA intends to decrease the number of unsheltered Veterans counted in the 2024 Point-in-Time Count by 15%.

# TRACKING PROGRESS

- **Phase 1:** The initial release of the [Homeless Programs CY 2023 Goals Dashboard](#) is now available.

- **Phase 2:** An Insights Tab will be added. This tab will provide additional information on the three CY 2023 Goals.

VHA Homeless Programs
*Business Intelligence*

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**VISN, VAMC:** All

**Homeless Programs CY 2023 Goals**

📄 Report Guide  ✉ HPO Business Intelligence

In Calendar Year (CY) 2023, VA set three goals in continued commitment toward ending Veteran homelessness:

- **Permanent Housing:** VA will house <u>no less than 38,000</u> individual Veterans in CY 2023.
- **Prevention of Returns to Homelessness:** For Veterans who become permanently housed in CY 2023, <u>no more than 5%</u> return to homelessness. Of those who return to homelessness in CY 2023, <u>no less than 90%</u> will be re-housed or placed on a pathway to re-housing in CY 2023.
- **Engagement with Unsheltered Veterans:** Nationally, VA will increase outreach to and engage with <u>no less than 28,000</u> unsheltered Veterans.

**CY 2023 Goals**

- The dashboard defaults to a National view. A specific VISN and VAMC can be selected on the top left of the Dashboard.

- On the top right of the Dashboard is a link to a <u>Report Guide</u>. This guide provides data definitions and VAMC-specific goals.

- The CY 2023 Dashboard will refresh mid-month, displaying CY data through the previous month (reporting month).

- There are three sections (one for each goal) displaying progress made through the current reporting month.
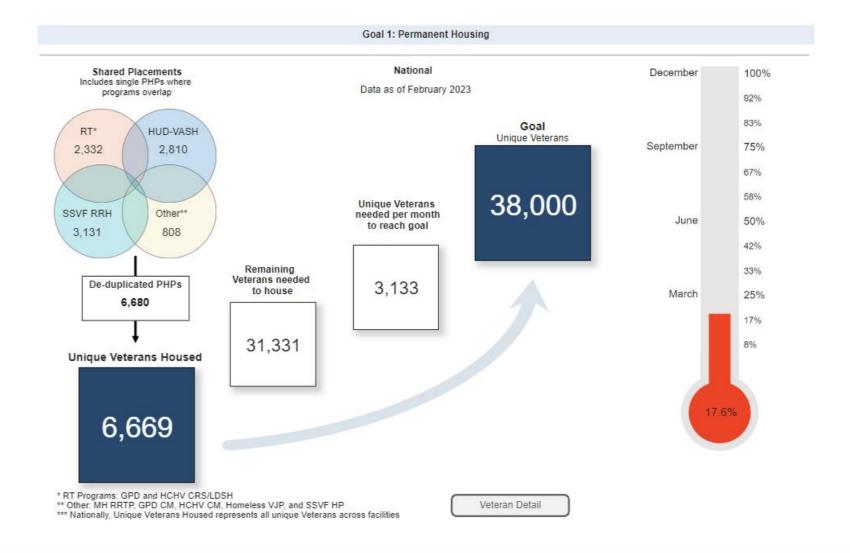
**Unique Veterans Housed**

Nationally, unique Veterans housed represents all unique Veterans across facilities.

# GOAL : PREVENTION OF RETURNS TO HOMELESSNESS

The second goal starts with the Unique Veterans Housed in CY 2023 from the first goal.

**Goal 2: Prevention of Returns to Homelessness**

**Prevention of Returns to Homelessness:** For Veterans who become permanently housed in CY 2023, no more than 5% return to homelessness. Of those who return to homelessness in CY 2023, no less than 90% will be re-housed or placed on a pathway to re-housing in CY 2023.
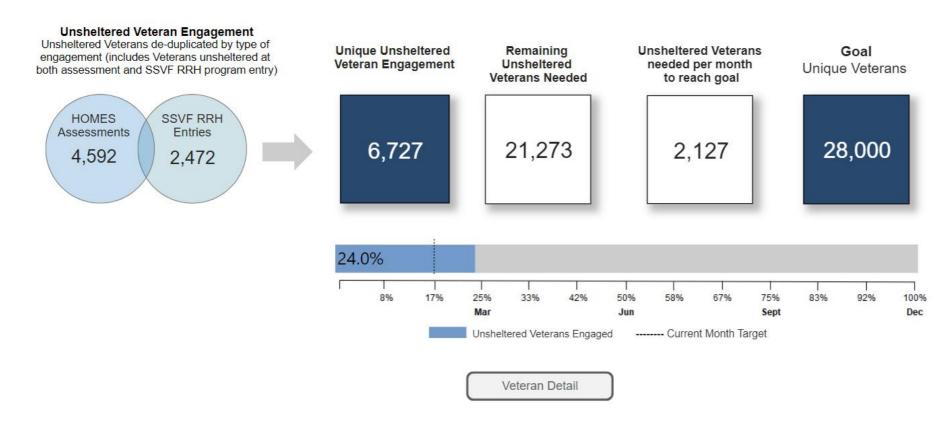
**National**
Data as of February 2023

**Veterans Housed in CY 2023**

6,669

**Returns to Homelessness**

64 — 1.0% ✓

Goal: <= 5%

**Re-housed or placed on a Pathway to Re-housing in CY 2023**

53 — 82.8% !

Goal: >= 90%

Veteran Detail

## Goal 3: Engagement with Unsheltered Veterans

**Engagement with Unsheltered Veterans:** Nationally, VA will increase outreach to and engage with no less than 28,000 unique unsheltered Veterans
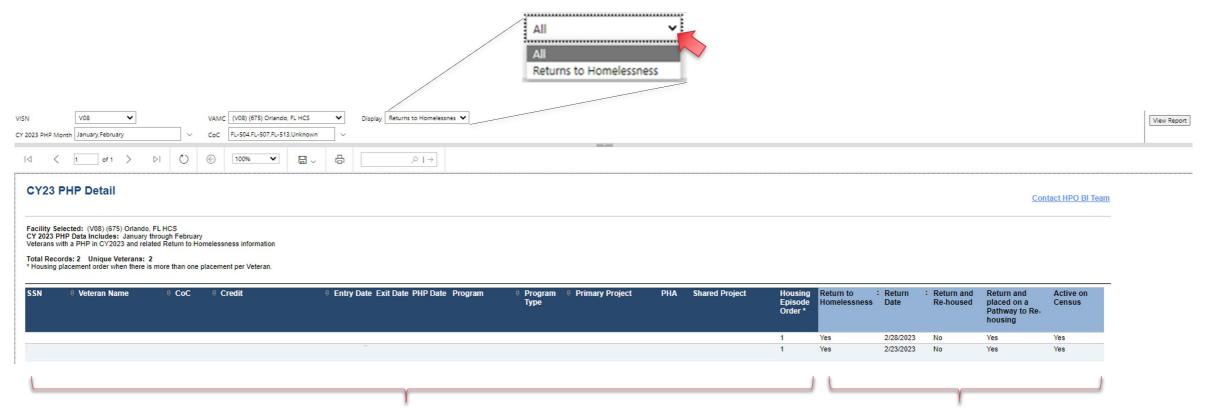
### National
Data as of February 2023

**Unsheltered Veteran Engagement**
Unsheltered Veterans de-duplicated by type of engagement (includes Veterans unsheltered at both assessment and SSVF RRH program entry)

HOMES Assessments
**4,592**

SSVF RRH Entries
**2,472**

| Unique Unsheltered Veteran Engagement | Remaining Unsheltered Veterans Needed | Unsheltered Veterans needed per month to reach goal | Goal Unique Veterans |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6,727 | 21,273 | 2,127 | 28,000 |

**24.0%**

| 8% | 17% | 25% | 33% | 42% | 50% | 58% | 67% | 75% | 83% | 92% | 100% |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Mar | | | Jun | | | Sept | | | Dec |

■ Unsheltered Veterans Engaged   ------ Current Month Target

Veteran Detail

# VETERAN LEVEL DETAIL



Permanent Housing Details

Returns to Homelessness Details

# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- Following the same methodology as the CY 2022 goal, credit for Veterans placed in permanent housing by the following programs will count toward this goal:
  - All Grant and Per Diem (GPD) grant models (excluding GPD Case Management)
  - Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Contracted Residential Services (CRS)
  - HCHV Low Demand Safe Haven (LDSH)
  - HCHV Case Management (CM)
  - Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)
  - Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Rapid Rehousing (RRH)
  - Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment (MHRRTP) Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans (DCHV) and Compensated Work Therapy-Transitional Residence (CWT-TR) bed types
  - GPD CM (for those Veterans who were homeless at entry)
  - SSVF Homeless Prevention (HP) (for Veterans homeless at entry)
  - Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) (for Veterans homeless at assessment)
  - Health Care for Reentry Veterans (HCRV) (for Veterans homeless at assessment)
  - MHRRTP Substance Use Disorder (SUD), Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
  - General bed types (for Veterans homeless at screening).

- Permanent housing includes the following destinations:
  - Housing owned by Veteran, no ongoing housing subsidy
  - Housing owned by Veteran, with ongoing housing subsidy
  - Housing rented by Veteran, no ongoing housing subsidy
  - Housing rented by Veteran with HUD-VASH voucher
  - Housing rented by Veteran with a non-HUD-VASH housing subsidy
  - Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons (such as a Continuum of Care project or Shelter+Care)
  - Staying or living with family, permanent tenure
  - Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure
  - Rental by the client, with GPD Transition-in-Place housing subsidy
  - Moved from one Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA)-funded project to HOPWA PH
  - Rental by the client, with RRH or equivalent subsidy
  - Host Home (non-crisis)
  - Rental by the client, with Housing Choice Voucher (tenant or project-based)
  - Rental by the client in a public housing unit

- Permanent housing destinations are credited from the following sources:
  - VA Homeless Operations Management and Evaluation System (HOMES)
  - Homeless Management Information (HMIS) SSVF Repository
  - Northeast Program Evaluation Center (NEPEC)

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- Returns are defined by re-engagement in VA Homeless Programs.
  - Re-engagement is identified by a housing status of "literally homeless" at the time of HOMES assessment (for HUD-VASH, GPD, HCHV CRS/LDSH, HCHV CM, HCRV, and VJO) or at SSVF program entry where the Veteran's living situation at entry was sheltered or unsheltered homeless.
  - To account for date variances in service coordination, HOMES assessments and SSVF HMIS entries occurring within a 14-day window of the permanent housing placement date will not be considered returns.
- Of those returning to homelessness during CY 2023, according to the specifications above, at least 90% will be re-housed or on a pathway to re-housing, evidenced by either:
  - A return to permanent housing (re-housed) defined as any exit to a permanent destination from HUD-VASH, HCHV CRS/LDSH, HCHV CM, GPD (not including GPD CM), HCRV, or VJO after the return date, or an SSVF or HUD-VASH move-in date after the return date.
  - A pathway to permanent housing defined as evidence of re-engagement in VA homeless services during CY 2023. A pathway includes:
    - Current service enrollment in a VA homeless program that provides direct housing support. These programs include HUD-VASH, GPD (not including GPD CM), HCHV CRS/LDSH, HCHV CM, and SSVF. Veterans are considered currently enrolled if a valid entry date is documented and no exit date is documented, or
    - Entry into a VA housing program, including HUD-VASH, GPD (not including GPD CM), HCHV CRS/LDSH, HCHV CM, and SSVF.

- An unsheltered engagement is defined as:
  - Assessments conducted during CY 2023 in which Veterans spent at least 1 night in a place not meant for habitation in the 30 days prior to assessment as documented on a HOMES Assessment, OR
  - SSVF RRH program enrollments during CY 2023 in which Veterans were considered unsheltered at the time of program entry as documented in the HMIS SSVF Repository.

- Targets are established at the VAMC level and are based on 80% of assessments completed for unsheltered Veterans during FY 2019 (pre-COVID-19 assessment levels), except for VAMCs with a more than 50% difference between the 3-year unsheltered Point-in-Time (PIT) count average and the 3-year average number of unsheltered Veterans assessed (including Palo Alto, San Francisco, and Northern California).

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## NEXT STEPS

- Visit the [Homeless Programs CY 2023 Goals Dashboard](#) and review your local targets.
  - Dashboard visuals can be exported to share with your stakeholders.

- Review the [Technical Manual – Veteran Homelessness Goals for Calendar Year 2023](#) (internal to VA) or [VA's 2023 Homelessness Goals Technical Specifications](#) (publicly available).

- Set up meetings with your Grant and Per Diem grantees, Supportive Services for Veteran Families grantees, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Contracted Residential Services providers, and other relevant stakeholders (e.g., public housing authorities, Continuum of Care partners, Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs) to discuss and develop local plans to achieve your local goals.

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# Q&A AND NEXT STEPS

- The recording of this call will be posted to the VHA Homeless Programs Hub in the coming days and VA.gov/Homeless.

- Join our Office Hours calls on the first Thursdays of the month at 3:00 p.m. Eastern / 2:00 p.m. Central / 11:00 p.m. Mountain / 12:00 p.m. Pacific / 9:00 a.m. Hawaii.
  - Our next call will be on **Thursday, May 4, 2023**.
  - For questions, please email VHA11HPO38kGoalSupport@va.gov.

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." – Margaret Mead*

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