

Meet Sue!

Sue is a Veteran who served in the Air Force. She was honorably discharged in 1989. She quickly found a job near her hometown, where she has been living ever since. Sue is no longer married and her children have grown and moved away. She has changed jobs several times but has hit hard financial times in the last few years and has received an eviction notice for her one bedroom apartment. She wants to stay in her apartment, but she cannot afford the rent. Her children are unable to help financially and she does not want to leave town as she likes her job. She hears about SSVF at the local VAMC, and is interested in any housing solution that lets her have her own space and keeps her in town. Sue is screened by SSVF and found to be eligible for HP services (no other alternatives and will become homeless but for the assistance) and she passes the grantee's HP Threshold Score.

Meet Terence!

Client 2: Terence is a 47 year old who lived most of his life on the road as trucker until a medical issue took him off the road. Terence had a difficult time dealing with being home after years of "freedom on the road" as he put it, and subsequently developed a substance use disorder. Terence tried to maintain his own place, but he was evicted a couple of years ago and has spent nights in his car and crashing on friends' couches since then. He does odd jobs for some income. An outreach worker spoke to him when they spotted him sleeping in his car and he indicated he is interested in a more permanent housing situation. Terence is now on the local by-name list, waiting for a housing situation that works for him.

Meet Liliana!

Client 3: Liliana is an Army Veteran who received an "other than honorable" discharge 12 years ago. She lost her job recently. She had been sharing a two bedroom apartment with a roommate, but the roommate recently moved out of town to take a new job. She couldn't afford the apartment herself and spoke with an SSVF case manager a few days after being admitted to the local shelter. She would prefer not to live alone, but isn't sure what her options are. She has a medium sized dog and the shelter has said she cannot stay very long with if she has a pet with her.

Meet a Roommate!

Magda is in her 30s, has a job and lives in a 2 bedroom house that she rents. She is a smoker (but not in the house) and likes to have friends over for low-key parties and game nights every couple of weeks. She works an office job, but needs a roommate to cover half the rent and half the utilities. Her house doesn't allow pets over 80 lbs.

Meet a Roommate!

Anne recently fell on hard times and had to move out of her one bedroom apartment into an emergency shelter. Before she went to shelter, she had lived by herself for a number of years. She has been in shelter for a couple of weeks and is working with a case manager to find a more permanent housing placement. The case manager suspects that Anne may have a substance abuse issue, but they have not discussed it openly.

Meet a Roommate!

Justin is a Veteran who has received a HUD-VASH voucher. He's currently looking for a unit and mentioned to his case manager that he liked living with people. He has kids who do not live with him, but sometimes come over to visit. He works the night shift at a local convenience store once or twice a week. Justin likes to keep his apartment clean and ordered.

Meet a Roommate!

Kamal owns a house with multiple bedrooms and has been renting out rooms on Airbnb. He would like to move to more long term renters and heard about shared housing while volunteering at a local shelter. He currently has two rooms available, which can be locked to secure a Veteran's things. He is happy to create separate leases and include utilities in the rent. He has house rules that he has set up to support his sobriety, but he does allow smoking cigarettes on the back porch.

Meet a Roommate!

Nick lived in his car for a few years, but was able to be rapidly rehoused to a one bedroom apartment approximately 9 months ago. Nick was exited from the program, but often calls up his former case manager to check in. He recently complained that he was lonely and his lease was almost up and he was thinking of moving to a bigger apartment if he could find a roommate. Nick has a cat and has found a job where he can work from home.

Meet a Roommate!

Dina travels quite a bit for work, but has an extra room in her apartment. She is looking for a roommate who will take good care of the apartment while she is gone. She is happy to be social with the roommate, but doesn't want them throwing wild parties when she is traveling. She would prefer no pets, but is willing to make it work with the right person. She would also prefer to only have a female roommate.

Meet a Roommate!

David has been moving between shelter and sleeping in parks for the last 4 years. Outreach workers have spoken with him and David indicated recently that he's interested in finding a more permanent home. David has decided to move into the local emergency shelter while looking for an apartment. David has been talking to other people in the shelter about possibly living together. He's open to living with one or more people and would prefer to move into someone who has had experiences similar to his.

Sue's Rent:

The rent for the unit that the roommates will live in \$2000 a month total. Rent reasonableness is \$1500 for similar units in the same neighborhood. Is the rent reasonable? How much is Sue's rent?

Terence's Rent

The rent for the unit that the roommates will live in is \$1500 a month total. Rent reasonableness is \$1600 for similar units in the same neighborhood. Is this rent reasonable? How much is Terence's rent?

Liliana's Rent

Client 3: The rent for the unit the roommates will live in is \$950 a month total. Rent reasonableness is \$2000 for similar units in the same neighborhood. Is this rent reasonable? How much is Liliana's rent?

Stumbling Block: Smoking

Oh no! One of the roommates has started smoking in the house. They say they have limited it to their bedroom, but the smell is definitely in the common areas. When the roommate was asked to move the smoking to outside, the roommate said they would, but it seems like they haven't. What should the case manager do?

Stumbling Block: Bad Schedules

About a month or so after the roommates moved into their unit, one of the roommates had their work schedule switched. Now the roommate is coming home around 1am and usually wants to relax, cooking food and watching TV, before sleeping late into the morning. This is resulting in each roommate creating noise while the other sleeps, either during the night or first thing in the morning. Neither of them are sleeping well and it's leading to verbal fights. What should the case manager do?

Stumbling Block: Not Paying Rent (Due to Loss of Income)

A couple of months into signing a lease and moving in together, one of the roommates lost their job, which was their main source of income. Without another job lined up, the roommate isn't sure that they can pay their rent in another month or so. This may result in the newly unemployed roommate from being evicted. What should the case manager do?

Stumbling Block: Not Cleaning Up

The roommates started off ok, but a few weeks into living together, the roommates have started arguing about chores and who needs to clean up the common areas. One of the roommates tends to leave things like dishes and clothes lying around the common areas and the other roommate is sick of picking up after them. The roommates had a verbal agreement on cleaning up and doing chores, but one of the roommates doesn't feel it is being honored. What should the case manager do?

Stumbling Block: Not Contributing to Agreed Upon Household Costs

The roommates have moved in together and are getting along well. An organization stepped in and helped them with the initial costs of setting up the apartment. Now a few months in, one of the roommates has noticed that they are the only one who has been purchasing household items like paper towels, toilet paper, and condiments. The roommates had agreed to split these costs evenly, but the other roommate won't help pay for the purchases, saying they weren't discussed ahead of time and they don't have enough money for them. What should the case manager do?