

SSVF Priority 1 Community Plan

Date Completed/Revised:

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Month			Day			Year			

Continuum of Care(CoC) Name: San Francisco		CoC #:501
CoC Representative: Megan Owens-Faught		Title: Analyst
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Person Completing this Plan: Megan Owens-Faught		Title: Analyst
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1. Primary Planning and Coordination Group: Identify the primary group responsible for planning and coordinating efforts to prevent and end homelessness among Veterans in the CoC. Identify the principal members of this group and their affiliation.

Primary Group Name: 25 – Cities Veterans Work Group	
Principle Members	Affiliation
Devra Edelman	Deputy Director, Hamilton Family Center (Priority 1 Grantee)
Keely McCave	Program Director, Hamilton Family Center
Dave Lopez	Deputy Director, Swords to Plowshares (Priority 1 Grantee)
Megan Owens-Faught	San Francisco Human Services Agency - CoC
Dennis Moore	HUD-VASH Social Work Supervisor
Miriam Beyer	HUD-VASH Social Work Supervisor
Kathryn Sherrill	VA Assistant Chief, Social Work Service
Tramecia Garner	Director of Residential Programs, Swords to Plowshares
Jillian Clark	Senior Social Worker – Team Leader, Enhanced Housing First HUD-VASH Team
Jazmin Breaux	Program Manager, Veterans Services – Brilliant Corners
Travis Klingelberg	HUD-VASH Social Worker – Brilliant Corners
Emily Cohen	Director of Programs – Project Homeless Connect
Shan Yue	Assistant CVSO/Program Supervisor
Randall Flagg	Outreach Coordinator, Swords to Plowshares
Rann Parker	Community Liaison, San Francisco Homeless Outreach Team
Erica Doyle	VA Grant and Per Diem Liaison, Program Coordinator
Steven Harris	SSVF Community Coordinator, Swords to Plowshares

2. Ongoing Review and Coordination: Briefly describe how often (e.g., monthly) the above group or a related review/coordination group meets to review Veterans who are homeless, track progress toward re-housing, and coordinate efforts. Include a summary of what information is reviewed during these meetings.

San Francisco has a long history of working to end veteran homelessness. Since 2012, key stakeholders have worked together to address the needs of homeless veterans in San Francisco through the Homes-for-Heroes initiative—an active standing collaboration born of the 100,000 Homes Campaign to end veteran homelessness. The Homes for Heroes team includes leaders from the CoC, VAMC, Department of Public Health, Human Services Agency, PHA, and key non-profit providers. Most recently, San Francisco was selected to participate in the 25-Cities Campaign to end homelessness among veterans by the end of 2015. From this, we have created a 25-Cities Working Group that has brought together the SF CoC; HomeBase, the VA (HUD-VASH, GPD), SSVF grantees, CVSIO and community partners.

This group meets weekly in order to dialogue, strategize and execute the plan in ending homelessness among veterans. Looking at data provided by HMIS and VA, this group looks for and identifies resources, makes community linkages; and is working continuously on identifying homeless veterans and linking them to RRH services. We will review number of veteran households that have been housed, number of households to be housed, inventory of housing (PSH, VASH and RRH) stock and any other pertinent HomeBase, VA and SSVF information and updates.

We track the progress through our Coordinated Assessment Tracking system, HomeLink. Through this system, we can track progress and ensure veterans do not fall through the cracks and follow them from homelessness to permanently housed.

3. SSVF Grantees Serving CoC Geography: Identify each SSVF funded agency serving Veterans in the CoC geography and each SSVF total grant award amount for FY15, including priority 1 (“surge”), 2 (renewals), and 3 (other new) awards. If one agency has multiple awards, list each separately. Pro-rate a grant award amount if the award covers more than one CoC geography. Include the projected annual number of households each grantee can serve and the total number of households across all grantees.

Grantee Agency Name	Grant Amount	Total Annual Projected Households	Total Annual Projected Households: Rapid Re-Housing	% of Total Households to be Assisted with Rapid Re-Housing
Hamilton Family Center	\$849,866.50	50	40	80%
Swords to Plowshares	\$758,519	205	144	70%
Swords to Plowshares	\$1,700,000	340	272	80%
TOTAL	\$3,308,385.50	595	456	76%

4. Annual Demand and Need for Rapid Re-Housing Assistance: Using the *Veterans Demand Analysis and Progress Tracking Tool* or other demand analysis data agreed to by the primary group above, identify:

- The most recent actual or projected annual unduplicated number of homeless Veterans (on street and/or who access emergency shelter, Safe Havens, or transitional housing, including GPD) in the CoC geography, by household type
- The number of those Veterans who will need rapid re-housing assistance to exit homelessness
- The number of Veterans needing rapid re-housing assistance who are projected to be eligible for SSVF RRH assistance.

	Annual Unduplicated Homeless Veteran Households	Estimated # of Needing RRH (a)	Projected # to be Assisted with SSVF RRH (b)	Projected # to be Assisted with Other RRH (c)	Gap (a-(b+c))
Households without Children	594	445	431	14	0
Households with Children	41	27	25	2	0
Total Homeless Veteran Households	635	472	456	16	0

5. CoC Goals for Ending Homelessness among Veterans: List the CoC's goals for ending Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 (fill in additional related goals the CoC has determined, if relevant).

What are the CoC's goals for the estimated number of Veterans, including chronically homeless Veterans, who will be homeless as of the night of the January 2016 PIT Count?

	All Homeless Veteran Households (including CH)			Chronically Homeless Veteran Households		
	Sheltered	Unsheltered	TOTAL	Sheltered	Unsheltered	TOTAL
Households without Children	200	290	0	75	100	0
Households with Children	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Households	200	290	0	75	100	0

Has the CoC established other goals related to preventing and ending homelessness among Veterans by the end of 2015? Yes No

If "Yes", please describe:

Our local strategic plan, developed in 2013, calls for a reduction of veteran homelessness by at least 30% annually. The plan calls for improved housing access and housing services for veterans, as well as increasing the percentage of disabled homeless adults who access disability benefits, including veteran's benefits, to 80%. Preventing and ending Veteran homelessness is also central to the city's broader efforts to prevent and end homelessness generally, including ensuring that no homeless household is barred from housing and reducing the number evictions from permanent supportive and other subsidized housing to less than 10%.

6. SSVF Integration into CoC Coordinated Assessment System: Briefly describe how Veterans access SSVF assistance (across all SSVF grantees) via the CoC's coordinated assessment system (e.g., "All Veterans who present to the CoC coordinated assessment center are screened for their current situation, needs, and SSVF eligibility. Then....). If not yet fully developed, describe your plans and implementation timeframe. Specifically address:

- a) How Veterans who present for shelter are screened and diverted to SSVF homelessness prevention assistance when they have somewhere safe and appropriate to stay that night.
- b) How Veterans who become literally homeless are screened and triaged to SSVF rapid re-housing assistance as soon as possible once it is clear the Veteran is unable to resolve their homelessness without assistance.

The LHCB has adopted the VI-SPDAT as our screening and assessment tool. This tool has been in operation in San Francisco since May 2014. Using the VI-SPDAT, we have been able to assess all homeless and chronically homeless veterans in San Francisco and match them with the appropriate services, including GPD, HUD-VASH/PSH and RRH, as well as CoC and local resources. A registry week was held in August 2014 where teams of staff and volunteers assessed unsheltered veterans over a three-night period of time. The results from this have enabled the LHCB to identify and coordinate services for these individuals.

Veterans who present at shelters, drop-in centers and through street outreach will be assessed through the VI-SPDAT. Once their assessment has been completed, the veteran will be referred to one of the two SSVF grantees that operate three SSVF Programs in the CoC.

We will utilize the same processes as described above for those veteran families who have become or who have been literally homeless; a "warm hand-off" (referral) to an SSVF grantee will be made in an effort to shorten the length of time homeless.

These efforts align with the goals of the LHCB Strategic Plan to expand access and coordination of the homeless emergency response system, and to improve access to housing and housing services by addressing the unique needs of veterans experiencing homelessness.

7. Long-Term System Improvements: Briefly describe how the CoC plans to utilize SSVF Priority 1 and all other SSVF funding over the next three years to foster long-term system improvements and optimization so that homelessness is prevented whenever possible and when it does occur, it is rare and brief. Specifically address areas for improvement related to:

- a) Further integrating SSVF assistance into the CoC's planning, oversight processes and coordinated assessment system.
- b) Ensuring comprehensive coordination with VA systems and other VA funded programs.
- c) Improving or establishing partnerships with community-based services and public/private housing providers.

The integration of all SSVF assistance within the CoC will not only improve but will enhance the CoC's mission on ending homelessness. The 25-Cities Veterans Work Group has been tasked with continuing the LHCB Strategic Plan, monitoring and evaluating the goals and making recommendations to the CoC when necessary. The coordinated assessment tool has provided greater accessibility to SSVF resources will result in shorter lengths of time veteran families may experience homelessness as well as achieving the LHCB Strategic Plan in San Francisco County.

Coordination with the VA is very active in San Francisco, and will continue to strengthen with their participation in the weekly 25-Cities Work Group meetings.

The LHCB Strategic Plan Framework identifies veterans experiencing homelessness as a key target population for reducing the number of people who are homeless. Using coordinated assessment, the CoC will prioritize and target supportive housing and other resources to provide the appropriate level of support to end homelessness for veterans within the CoC. In addition to connecting veterans with appropriate housing resources, the LHCB Strategic Plan goals include connecting veterans with veteran-specific benefits, employment training, and employment opportunities.

The LHCB and veterans team will improve partnerships with community-based services by developing a strategic approach to the distribution and allocation of CoC resources among all homeless populations. For example, while our Strategic Plan calls for a 10% annual reduction in homelessness, it also calls for a 30% annual reduction in veteran homelessness. By focusing resources on key populations like veterans, we expect to have a greater effect on the capacity and efficiency of the homeless system as a whole. Ending homelessness among veterans will lead to ending homelessness among all.

The improvement and establishment with public/private housing providers will be driven through the 25-Cities Veterans Work Group. The SSVF Program grantees have already developed strategies on landlord relationship building. Viewing housing providers as "customers" will be essential in providing outstanding "customer service" to them as we work with side-by-side on ending homelessness among veteran families. We will offer resources such as Representative Payee Services in which their rental revenues are just about guaranteed; as well as retention and follow-up services to continue engagement with the veteran families and to maintain support to the housing providers and landlords.

8. Other Strengths and Challenges: Briefly describe any additional strengths and/or challenges relevant to your achieving VA and local goals.

San Francisco is fortunate to have a robust and diverse mature non-profit sector and a variety of active local government partners focused on homelessness. This provides a diverse set of stakeholders interested in improving the living circumstances that homeless veterans experience and ending veteran homelessness. This also adds a challenge in coordinating all efforts.