

# SSVF Priority 1 Community Plan

Date Completed/Revised:

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Month			Day			Year			

<b>Continuum of Care (CoC) Name: Volusia and Flagler Counties</b>		<b>CoC #: FL-504</b>
<b>CoC Representative:</b> Lisa Hamilton		<b>Title:</b> Executive Director, Volusia/ Flagler Coalition for the Homeless, CoC Lead Agency
<b>Phone/Email:</b> 386-279-0029 lhamilton@vfcch.org		
<b>Person Completing this Plan:</b> Joni Casillas		<b>Title:</b> Director of Development, The Salvation Army- Daytona Beach
<b>Phone/Email:</b> 904-209-8684 Joni_Casillas@uss.salvationarmy.org		

**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.

<b>Primary Group Name: SSVF Community Partnership Committee</b>	
<b>Principle Members</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Joni Casillas	The Salvation Army – Daytona Beach, CoC Board
Lisa Hamilton	Volusia/Flagler Homeless Coalition- CoC Lead Agency
Milissa Extrom	CoC Board V. P> & Flagler Homeless Task Force - chair
Jeff White	Stewart Marchment ACT Behavioral
Kim Shontz	VA- Daytona Medical Center
Dr. Pamela Jackson-Smith	Flagler County Public Schools
Ray Salazar	United Way of Volusia/Flagler Counties and 2-1-1
Pamela Woods	Volusia Public Schools
Ken Mueller	VA - Homeless Program Manager -Orlando VA.
Michael Barr	TEAM Flagler
Joe Mayer	Flagler County Commissioners
Janet Nickels	Flagler County Human Services
Gary Shimun	Daytona Beach Deputy City Manager
Dru Driscoll	Daytona Beach Fire Department Chief
Michael Boyd	Flagler Housing Authority
Susan Clark	Neighborhood Center- DeLand
Nate McLaughlin	Flagler County Commissioners
Pam Andrews	Volusia/Flagler Homeless Coalition- CoC Lead Agency
Robin King	Career Source Flagler/Volusia
Anthony Deobil	The Salvation Army – Daytona Beach
Nikki Barfield	VA- Network Homeless Coordinator
Ivelisse Cancel	The Salvation Army – Daytona Beach
Mike Cornell	The Salvation Army – Daytona Beach
Patti Shevlin	VA- Daytona Medical Center
Troy Ray	Halifax Urban Ministries

**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.

The above SSVF Community Partnership Committee (CPC) meets monthly as the Primary Group and also as a standing committee of the Volusia/ Flagler Continuum of Care. This committee reviews as standing items:

- Status of SSVF Integration into Coordinated Assessment System (using the VI SPDAT)- this includes use of common release of information, to allow VA Homeless Operations data to be entered into HMIS and also, a coordinated referral process
- Improving SSVF Coordination with other Community Assistance Programs,
- Strategies to Increase Affordable Housing,
- Developing Short Term Housing when Housing Placement is not Immediately Available,
- Other Needs ( mental health, drug treatment and mentoring),
- Using other RRH programs for Veterans ineligible for SSVF,
- Discussion of how Veterans are Moving through the CoC System (using the Demand Analysis Tracking Tool)

and following Continuous Quality Improvement methods discuss with SSVF and HUD VASH Case Managers:

- Common Problem Issues
- Problem Cases

The last two items above, Common Problem Issues and Problem Cases are also presented weekly thru ongoing case conferencing calls of frontline SSVF and HUD VASH Case Managers reviewing a Registry of Homeless Veterans tracking when each is put on list, is placed or leaves area and is removed from list ( includes establishment of Triage Acuity Scale based on an Index for Vulnerability, the registry timeframe and gatekeeper)

**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
The Salvation Army- Daytona Beach	\$1,000,000	400	240	60%
The Salvation Army- Daytona Beach	\$410,328	250	150	60%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,410,328</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>390</b>	

**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.

	<b>Annual Unduplicated Homeless Veteran Households</b>	<b>Estimated # of Needing RRH (a)</b>	<b>Projected # to be Assisted with SSVF RRH (b)</b>	<b>Projected # to be Assisted with Other RRH (c)</b>	<b>Gap (a-(b+c))</b>
Households without Children	719	467	300	106	61
Households with Children	262	170	90	50	30
<b>Total Homeless Veteran Households</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>91</b>

**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).

The Volusia-Flagler Continuum of Care CoC Action Plan includes the following goals and actions:

1. Goal: End veteran homelessness in Volusia and Flagler Counties: Actions: Increase point-in-time count effort to identify veterans. Increase outreach to identify homeless veterans. Increase emergency shelter or temporary housing available to veterans. Increase the number of CoC-funded beds available to veterans through preferences and referrals. Seek preferences for veteran placement with Public Housing Authority programs. Increase HUD VASH vouchers if available. Implement preferences for chronically homeless veterans in CoC-funded PSH. Implement VI SPDAT or other prioritization tool to identify and rapidly refer veterans to appropriate programs. Implement coordinated assessment system ensuring that veterans have access to appropriate services and housing. VFCoC Steering Committee and SSVF Community Partnership prepare and present monthly/quarterly progress reports toward ending veteran homelessness.
2. Goal: Align VFCoC efforts to end veteran homelessness with the Veterans Administration and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF). Action: Collaborate with the local Veterans Administration to align plans, goals, and data collection. Recruit a VA representative to the VFCoC Board and/or committees. Establish and maintain regular meetings.
3. Goal: Ensure that veterans with a housing crisis are able to quickly access the resources needed to obtain and maintain housing stability. Actions: Implement prioritization tool and coordinated intake, assessment, and referral.
4. Goal: Ensure that all agencies working with local veterans have information regarding available rapid rehousing programs. Action: Update 211, community resource guides, provide resource guides to veterans
5. Goal: Develop numeric goals to end veteran homelessness. Actions: Establish rosters of homeless veterans for Flagler and Volusia County during the week of the 2015 CoC point-in-time count. Use the PIT data and the Veterans Demand Analysis and Progress Tracking Tool to develop numeric goals to establish numeric goals for each County. Identify housing for the homeless veterans identified to end veteran homelessness in each County. The SSVF Community Partnership will make monthly presentations and submit reports showing the number of veterans housed, the number remaining homeless, and other relevant data to the VFCoC Steering Committee and membership.

**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?**

1. Goal: Reach and maintain functional zero level of veteran homelessness by January 2016.
2. Goal: Maintain coordinated assessment system to identify, assess, and connect veterans to appropriate assistance. Actions: Identify veterans during point-in-time count, outreach, and via coordinated intake. Connect veterans to case manager or intake worker for assessment, referral, and follow-up.

	All Homeless Veteran Households (including CH)			Chronically Homeless Veteran Households		
	Sheltered	Unsheltered	TOTAL	Sheltered	Unsheltered	TOTAL
Households without Children	15	15	30	7	10	17
Households with Children	2	0	2	1	0	1
<b>Total Households</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>

**Has the CoC established other goals related to preventing and ending homelessness among Veterans by the end of 2015?**

If “Yes”, please describe:

**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.

VFCoC is developing its coordinated assessment system and plans to implement the system in phases across 2015-16. VFCoC outreach workers and SSVF case managers will implement use of the VI SPDAT to prioritize veterans for assistance in early 2015. Currently, a veteran who presents with a need for shelter is directed to Salvation Army for shelter or SSVF screening. Volusia-Flagler is a relatively small CoC and the Salvation Army is well-established as the provider of assistance for homeless veterans. Therefore, veterans seeking assistance for homeless prevention or who experience homelessness are currently diverted to Salvation Army through referrals from Flagler and Volusia County Assistance offices, the VA, veteran’s organizations, the 2-1-1 Hotline, CoC-funded programs, and the faith community. The CoC and HMIS lead agency are working on programming the SSVF Screening Tool questions into the CoC assessment prior to implementation of the VI SPDAT. This will streamline SSVF referrals and further educate CoC participating agencies to the goal of ending veteran homelessness by 2015.

The SSVF Community Partnership Committee (CPC) has developed a protocol for housing homeless veterans and families that cannot access existing emergency shelter. Donated funds are used to house families in hotels for short periods. COC is currently working on shelter options with churches in Flagler County.

**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.

Though the leadership of SSVF Community Partnership Committee (CPC) as the lead community planning/oversight group for community coordination for SSVF Priority 1 funding and by establishing it as a standing committee of the CoC, we plan to foster long-term system improvements by utilizing SSVF Priority 1 and other SSVF funding to:

a) it will enable the VFCoC to develop its coordinated assessment system and strengthen the overall CoC service delivery process. VFCoC will implement coordinated assessment in 2015. It will assist with the establishment of the coordinated assessment process by utilizing SSVF funds to pay for additional costs incurred to:

- integrate the SSVF Screening Tool into the Coordinated Assessment Tool, VI SPDAT
- use common release of information form to allow VA Homeless Operations data entered into HMIS
- use a coordinated referral system

b) ensuring comprehensive coordination with VA systems and other VA funded programs:

- through VA HUD VASH and Network Homeless Coordinators representation on SSVF CPC
- Common Problem Issues and Problem Cases as SSVF CPC standing monthly agenda items
- weekly case conferencing calls of frontline SSVF and HUD VASH Case Managers reviewing and tracking Registry of Homeless Veterans

c) improving or establishing partnerships with community-based services and public/private housing providers

- lack of affordable housing (especially Flagler County)- personally re-contacting public housing authority directors to attend or send representation to SSVF CPC to help mitigate
- strengthening list of contacts and places for short term housing when housing placement not immediately available; churches,, North Street for families and Salvation Army shelter for singles are making short term sheltering of Veterans a priority and discounted weekly hotel rates (Red Roof Inn, Best Western and Microtel)
- using other RRH programs including Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP), FPL Care to Share and TECO Assistance funds for those Veterans ineligible for SSVF

As previously mentioned, VFCoC plans to utilize SSVF Priority 1 and other SSVF funding to develop its coordinated assessment system and strengthen the CoC planning, service delivery, and performance evaluation processes. VFCoC will implement coordinated assessment in 2015. In addition to its importance as a tool to end veteran homelessness, SSVF is a critically important program to improving the VFCoC system as we work to meet the goals of Opening Doors and continue to reduce episodes of homelessness in the long-term. The VFCoC is nearing completion of its 2015-2019 Strategic Plan that is a goal, and outcome-based plan to prevent and end homelessness for all populations

The SSVF program has increased participation in the CoC in the last 2 years and energized the veteran community and CoC collaboration to prevent and end homelessness for veterans. The Salvation Army has developed a strong foundation of partnerships with community partners and significantly increased the network of private housing providers willing to work with veterans in need of RRH.

The SSVF Priority I resources and partners are an impetus for the VFCoC to improve the planning and oversight process, fully implement coordinated assessment, expand use of the HMIS, and align with the VA and VA-funded programs.

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

Additional strengths to our achieving VA and local goals include:

- SMA Behavioral will begin “Open Access” March 1, 2015-(no appointment/accepts walk-ins) for both mental health and drug treatment care in Flagler and Volusia
- The Daytona VA Clinic has recently added a nurse practitioner serving as “gatekeeper” (keeps scheduling moving), provides outpatient care and now also offers peer support with recent addition of Outreach Worker.

Additional challenge to our achieving VA and local goals

- lack of affordable housing (especially Flagler County)- Flagler County Task Force to End Homelessness has made this a priority to address and it’s chair, Milissa Extrom an active member of SSVF Community Partnership Committee. We intend to work collaboratively to mitigate this deficit