

# SSVF Priority 1 Community Plan

Date Completed/Revised:

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Month			Day			Year			

<b>Continuum of Care (CoC) Name:</b>		CoC #: MN-500
CoC Representative: Allan Henden		Title: Principal Planning Analyst
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Person Completing this Plan: Nathaniel Saltz		Title: Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans Program Director
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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.

<b>Primary Group Name:</b>	
<b>Principle Members</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Nathaniel Saltz	Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans
Kathleen Vitalis	Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans
Matthew Ayres	Hennepin County Office to End Homelessness
Jonelle Glubke	Minneapolis VAHCS – CRRC
Allan Henden	Hennepin County Continuum of Care

**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 Twin Cities Metro is beginning a registry of homeless veterans, including sheltered and unsheltered veterans, in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties. This is expanding to a statewide registry. Leadership has been meeting regularly to discuss implementation of the registry and strategies for housing veterans on the registry. This was implemented before the end of 2014, and direct service outreach staff, including MACV staff, meet bi-weekly to review individual veterans on the registry to assess connection to appropriate services and progress towards housing. It has had great initial success with getting homeless veterans connected with appropriate interventions and 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
Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (2)	\$50,000	25	15	60%
Minnesota Assistance Council for	\$1,000,000	175	105	60%



Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans has been involved in the Coordinated Assessment implementation throughout the state of Minnesota. The Hennepin CoC Coordinated Assessment system is not yet operational but is scheduled to come online in the next few months, and we have submitted our Rapid Rehousing program for inclusion. MACV sits on the CoC committee to ensure discussion of resources for veterans. In addition to Coordinated Assessment, the Veteran Registry will be tracking homeless veterans in the community and assessing for appropriate placement into SSVF Rapid Rehousing program. In conjunction with the Registry, additional veteran specific questions are being added to shelter intake forms to bring veterans into the support system specific to their program eligibility. MACV has developed MOUs with outreach partners in the CoC to find and engage homeless veterans.

**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.

- a) MACV President/CEO Kathleen Vitalis is the current statewide HMIS Governing Group Chair, and has been key in developing the systems of Coordinated Assessment coming online in Minnesota.
- b) MACV outreach staff have regular outreach hours at the Minneapolis VAHCS CRRC. We partner closely with the HUD-VASH, operate a GPD Program within the CoC, and coordinate with other GPD programs. MACV also partners closely with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs and the Hennepin County Veteran Service Office, who are aware of and refer to our programs, including SSVF.
- c) Through our SSVF Surge Grant, MACV has developed MOUs with St. Stephens Street Outreach and Prevention teams, Catholic Charities Rapid Rehousing, Community Action Partnership of suburban Hennepin for outreach and case management, and the Salvation Army for SOAR and public benefit applications.

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

One of our strengths is that MACV has served veterans in the Hennepin CoC for 25 years. During that time we have developed many partnerships within the CoC and the veteran's community. We have been hosting a StandDown event in the CoC which has been running for 22 years, and has helped us strengthen and develop partnerships and a strong presence within the continuum. Challenges include having two SSVF grants which cover the same geography and the need to modify our goal for numbers served in our statewide renewal grant as a result of the Surge grant. Another challenge is a late start. Because the Surge grant was not announced until 9/30/2014, staff hiring was not able to be hired and trained by 10/1/2014. We do not expect to be fully implemented until 1/1/2015.