

# SSVF Priority 1 Community Plan

Date Completed/Revised:

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Month		Day			Year				

<b>Continuum of Care (CoC) Name:</b> Seattle/King County		CoC #: 500
<b>CoC Representative:</b> Mark Putnam		<b>Title:</b> Director - Committee to End Homelessness King County
<b>Phone/Email:</b> (206) 263-9001 Mark.Putnam@cehkc.org		
<b>Person Completing this Plan:</b> Mike Nielsen		<b>Title:</b> Special Projects Director, Community Psychiatric Clinic
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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> Interagency Council (IAC)	
Principle Members	Affiliation
Mark Putnam	Committee to End Homelessness and CoC 500 Representative
Dawn Barrett	King County Regional Veterans Initiative and lead of 25 Cities design team work group
Katherine Gerard	VA- Puget Sound
Nancy Loverin	King County Veterans Program
Stan Brownlow	Community Psychiatric Clinic- SSVF grantee
Mona Tschurwald	YWCA of Seattle King and Snohomish - SSVF grantee
Dan Wise	Catholic Community Services- SSVF grantee
Jason Johnson	City of Seattle Director, Community Support and Assistance Seattle Human Services Department

**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 planning and coordination group identified above is representative of stakeholders, decision makers, and grantees from organizations that are involved in an already broad and existing coordination effort in King County to end Veteran homelessness. The CoC participates in the 25 Cities Initiative (25C) and the Mayor of Seattle co-chairs the CoC. Seattle Mayor Ed Murray and *King County* Executive Dow Constantine have signed on with the Mayor's Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness. The The Single Adult Advisory Group is a subgroup of the Committee to End Homelessness and will be one of the core methods for ongoing review and coordination. Parallel to these meetings, team members participate in longer-scale planning efforts in coordination with the King County Regional Veterans Initiative to monitor goals, data and progress to ending Veteran homelessness in King County.

**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
Community Psychiatric Clinic P1	\$1,000,000	230	200	87
Community Psychiatric Clinic P2	\$917,602	210	168	80
YWCA Seattle P2	\$481,165	120	90	75
Catholic Community Services P2	\$75,525	44	31	70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,474,292</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>78%</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.

	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	Data not collected by this breakout	Data not collected by this breakout	Data not collected by this breakout	Data not collected by this breakout	Data not collected
Households with Children	Data not collected by this breakout	Data not collected by this breakout	Data not collected by this breakout	Data not collected by this breakout	Data not collected
<b>Total Homeless Veteran Households</b>	<b>1,548*</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>46</b>

\*These numbers may change when we receive our 2015 PIT One Night Count numbers.

**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	Data not collected	Data not collected	Data not collected	Data not collected	Data not collected	Data not collected
Households with Children	Data not collected	Data not collected	Data not collected	Data not collected	Data not collected	Data not collected
<b>Total Households</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>197</b>

**2013 PIT One Night Count – 680+ sheltered**

**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:**

Alignment and integration of effort to end homelessness among Veterans occurs within the larger Committee to End Homelessness (CEH), which establishes goals and oversees all CoC planning efforts. The CEH Single Adult Advisory Group meets monthly and reports back to the Interagency Council (IAC), which serves as the oversight body of the Committee to End Homelessness in King County. The IAC works to sponsor changes to current programs and systems; coordinate data collection, analysis and reporting; recommend policy direction to the Governing Board; and create ways to better serve people experiencing homelessness. The CoC is aligned with the Federal Veterans Five Year Plan and has established a local Five Year Plan to End Homelessness Among Veterans in King County. The CoC is evaluating additional internal methods for tracking data related to Veteran homelessness in collaboration with the Mayor’s Challenge to end Veteran homelessness.

**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.

As a result of the 25 Cities Initiative, in 2015 the CoC will implement its coordinated assessment and housing placement system for single adults (such systems already exist for families and youth/young adults). Homeless Veterans and those at imminent risk of homelessness attend the regularly scheduled Veterans Housing Options Group (VHOG). Six agencies, including all three SSVF grantees, VA Puget Sound, King County Veterans Program, and the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs screen Veterans for their current situation, needs, eligibility and next steps. Several of these providers are a part of the design team for 25 cities and will eventually incorporate the work being done through the single adult system to use the VI-SPDAT scores to triage clients to available permanent housing or other options. If SSVF is identified as the most appropriate form of assistance, case managers then follow up with the Veteran for enrollment and further assistance. Participating agencies also employ a “community based access” model for assessing and assisting clients to interim and permanent housing.

**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) Continuing comprehensive coordination with VA systems and other VA funded programs.
- c) Improving or establishing partnerships with community-based services and public/private housing providers.

King County and the CoC have already undertaken significant efforts to address each of these areas. VA has invested significant resources through HUD/VASH and other homeless initiatives in Seattle and King County. The work of the Committee to End Homelessness King County along with the creation of the King County Executive's Regional Veterans Initiative and more recently the involvement with the Mayors Challenge and 25 Cities efforts have resulted in significant local planning and coordination and subsequent infrastructure that addresses each of the areas above. The most effective use of SSVF priority 1 funds at this juncture will be to build on the goals developed through these existing coordination and planning efforts. The CoC plans to additionally focus on strengthening connections to local landlords. Improving coordination with the Executive Director of the Seattle King County Housing Development Consortium will assist in that area. The CoC also hopes to coordinate additional employment opportunities for Veterans.

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

**Strengths:**

- The Planning and Coordination Group and SSVF grantees identified above are well connected to the CoC and stakeholders in the community.
- There is an already well-established point of entry through the Veterans Housing Options Group.
- The SSVF grantees are recognized and respected providers of Veteran services in King County.
- The individuals and organizations that are members of the Planning and Coordination Group operate in a CoC with a history and commitment to serving Veterans.
- King County has launched and is actively implementing a Regional Veterans Initiative, which is charged with coordinating Veteran services throughout the County.
- CPC, as the P1 grantee and largest P2 grantee has extensive experience with SSVF as an original 2011 grantee.
- There is a strong local commitment to the "housing first" model.

**Challenges:**

- Lack of access to and capacity in the affordable housing market for Veteran households in the 30% AMI threshold.
- The experience of the other coordinated entry efforts that have already been launched in King County is evidence that navigating and coordinating the complex array of Veteran services in King County, while still establishing a coordinated entry system for single adults will face serious challenges
- Assisting all stakeholders to understand the collaborative nature of SSVF efforts.
- Reaching the most difficult to serve homeless Veterans that still qualify for services or that can be rapidly housed in the pricey King County rental market.
- Locating independent landlords with affordable rents in a very competitive market with low vacancy rates and ever increasing rents.
- Managing complex data systems and data sharing agreements among multiple partners for purposes of creating joint case plans and tracking actual placements.