



# Homelessness Prevention BASICS

SSVF Fall 2016  
Regional Meetings

# SSVF Homelessness Prevention: Lessons Learned

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- Homelessness prevention is not the same as eviction prevention
- Establishing basic eligibility is most important and most difficult
  - Qualified Veterans who will be literally homeless (on street or in shelter) but for SSVF assistance
- When \$ and capacity is limited: prioritize assistance for Veterans with more urgent needs, greater housing barrier and vulnerabilities

# SSVF Homelessness Prevention Paradigm

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## **SSVF INELIGIBLE**

At-Risk of Housing Loss, but not Literal Homelessness

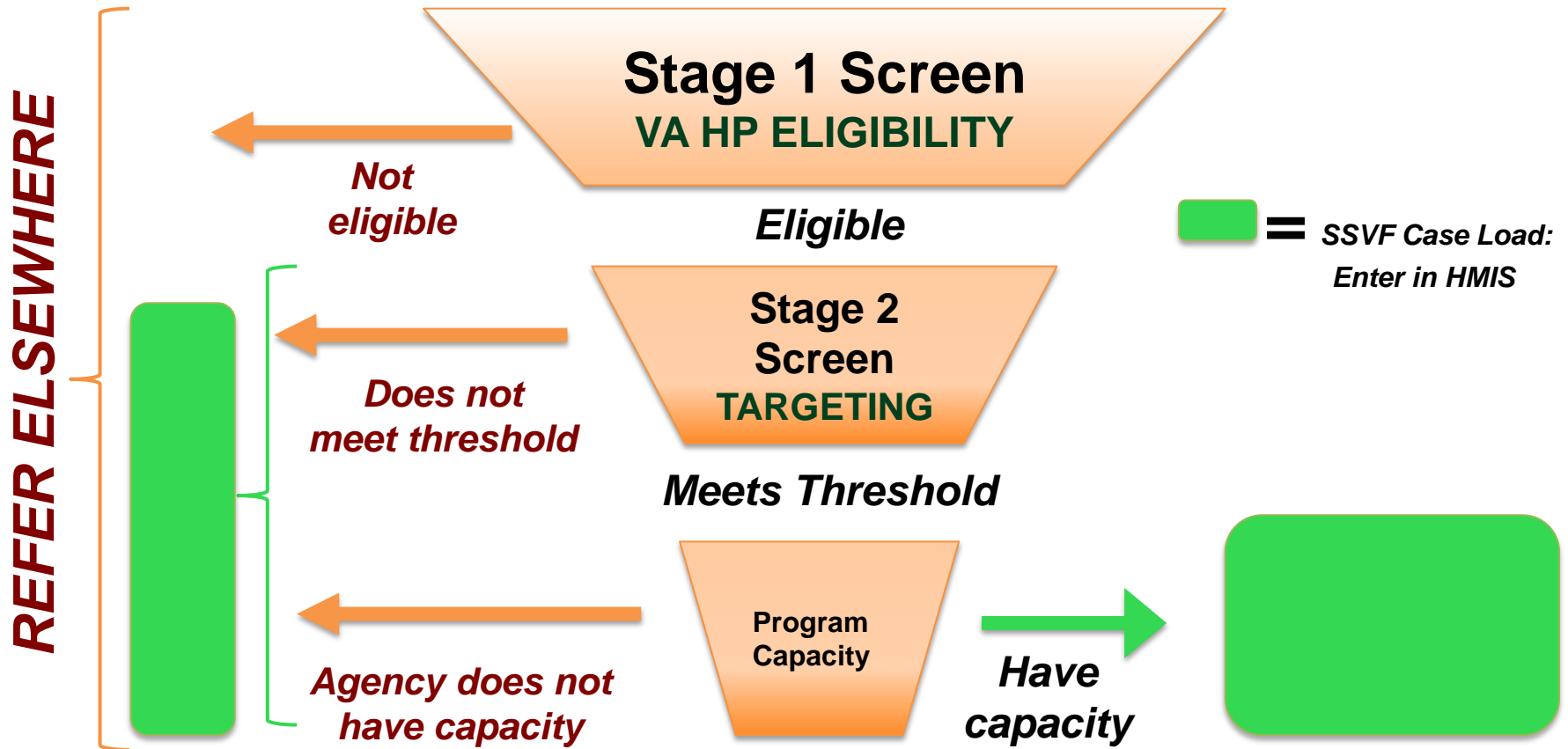
## **SSVF ELIGIBLE**

Imminent Risk (<30 Days) of Literal Homelessness

## **SSVF PRIORITY:**

Most Urgent,  
Greatest  
Vulnerability &  
Barriers

# SSVF Homelessness Prevention: Eligibility Screening & Targeting Flow



# Homelessness Prevention

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You've already heard about the philosophy of RRH and the core components: housing identification, financial assistance and case management.

- Full-Support HP: All available assistance
- Light-Touch HP: All assistance *EXCEPT* financial assistance (unless funded by another non-SSVF source)

# Practice: Scoring 2 Cases (Rafael and Lynda)

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- Each table will use the new SSVF HP Screening Form to score Rafael and Lynda.
- Is either eligible for SSVF assistance? IF SO:
- Based on their *targeting score* and the program's threshold score, what level of SSVF assistance would s/he receive:
  - Full-support HP** (with Temporary Financial Assistance)
  - or
  - Light-touch HP** (without TFA)
- We will then discuss in the full group.

# Rafael

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1. Is he eligible?
2. What is his Targeting Score?
3. Based on his score and the program's threshold, does Rafael qualify for light touch or full support?

# Lynda

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1. Is she eligible?
2. What is her Targeting Score?
3. Based on her score and the program's threshold, does Lynda qualify for light touch or full support?



# WHEN SCREENING

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- All questions must be explored and answered in Stages 1 and 2
- Screening and assessment is more art than science, especially related to other housing options and resources
- Targeting criteria and score for each assisted Veteran (light touch or full HP) must be entered in HMIS

# HP Housing Plan

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**First Step: *Can and should* the current housing be preserved? What does the client want?**

- If temporarily sharing housing, could/should this arrangement be continued? What would it take for host (and landlord) to agree
- If recently left housing, has landlord rented the unit; would LL let client move back in if arrears could be paid and other lease issues resolved?
- If still in housing but with eviction, would landlord rescind eviction in exchange for payment of arrears and tenancy/landlord supports?

# Preserve Housing

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## What is necessary to preserve housing?

- **Money:** Payment of arrears
- **Negotiations with host:** Defining roles, rules, who pays what
- **Negotiations with host's landlord:** Will LL allow client to be added to the lease? Any adjustment to the rent?
- **Negotiations with current LL:** Payment of arrears? Resolve lease violations?

# Preserve Housing?

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1. Determine the costs of housing, income, need for arrears, subsidy: is it feasible?
2. Stabilize the housing situation through negotiations, payments
3. Determine landlord and tenancy supports, referrals that may be needed
4. Define Housing Plan
5. Implement Plan, update as needed

# When Relocation is Necessary

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**IF HOUSING CAN'T OR SHOULDN'T BE RETAINED,**  
the steps are virtually identical with Rapid Re-Housing:

- Define client preferences and housing options, including costs vs. income
- Housing Plan
- Housing search
- Housing start-up costs and subsidy needed
- Tenancy and landlord supports
- Other services

# Putting it all Together

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Each table: Develop a homelessness prevention plan for Rafael and one plan for Lynda.

Remember: is the plan light-touch or full-support?

You have 30 minutes and then we'll discuss

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# QUESTIONS?

*What additional guidance or clarification regarding the revised screener would be helpful?*