

U.S Department of Veterans Affairs 2023 Permanent Housing Conference

A One Team Approach - Reaching Our Goals Together

Sit at a Table Based on Your Nametag Color!



Choose **VA**

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Welcome!

Adrienne Nash Meléndez

National Director, Supportive Services for Veteran Families

Opening Remarks: Acknowledge, Reflect, Forward Together

Calendar Year Goals 2023 (January-December)

1. Place at least 38,000 Veterans experiencing homelessness into permanent housing. Congratulations!
2. Ensure at least 95% of Veterans housed in 2023 do not return to homelessness during the year. Of those who do return to homelessness, VA will ensure that at least 90% are rehoused or are on a path to rehousing by the end of 2023.
3. Engage with at least 28,000 unsheltered Veterans to help them obtain housing and other wrap around services.

Vision of the Homeless Program Office (HPO)

- End homelessness for all Veterans and their families using evidence-based, innovative practices, and partnerships to provide access to permanent housing, and deliver services that are Veteran-centered, equitable, and inclusive, leading to personal empowerment and increased independence

- **One Team: Together**
 - What is your favorite team (personal or professional)?
 - What did it look like (characteristics)?
 - How did it make you feel?
 - Why was it your favorite?

VA Homeless Programs Leadership Panel

- **Cindy Spencer**, Regional Coordinator Supervisor – Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)
- **Deborah Lee**, Regional Coordinator – HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)
- **Steven Tillman**, Special Assignment – Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program (HCHV)
- **Samantha Loving-Cruz**, National Program Manager – Homeless Veteran Community Employment Services (HVCEs)
- **Sean Clark**, National Director – Veterans Justice Program (VJP)

Jennifer Colbert, Regional Coordinator Supervisor – SSVF (Moderator)

Conference Agenda and Logistics

Today!

- Choose three breakout sessions for the rest of today.
- Repeat breakout are noted on your agenda

Tomorrow!

- Tomorrow, begin in the large plenary room.
- Regional One Team sessions tomorrow.
- SSVF and HUD-VASH will split into separate spaces tomorrow afternoon.

If you are pursuing Continuing Education Credits, you MUST check in with iLead (near registration) both days!

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Welcome Back!

One Team Approach Lessons Learned

Greater LA VA Health Care System

A One Team Approach to Ending Homelessness Among Veterans

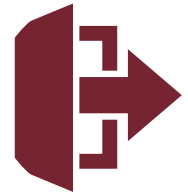
Priorities for a One Team Approach



Permanent Housing Placements and HUD-VASH Voucher Utilization: Develop or expand strategies to increase utilization and housing placements



Unsheltered Homelessness: Develop or expand strategies to increase outreach and resolve encampments



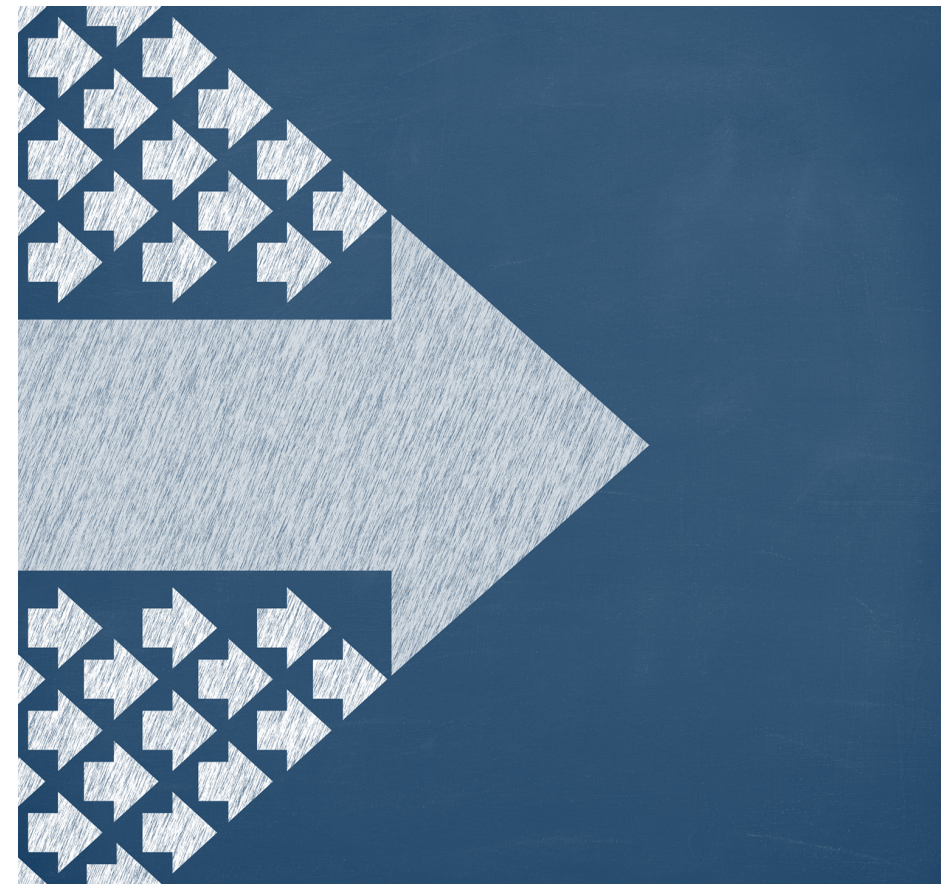
Returns to Homelessness: Coordinate programs to prevent recurring homelessness



Operationalize Housing First: Low barrier and housing-focused

Shared Principles of the One Team Approach

- Not one resource left untouched – **Include All Programs and Services**
- Not “my” Veteran – **Our Veteran**
- Action oriented assessments that immediately connect Veterans to safe options and housing pathways or resources
- Active, ongoing communication across programs on policy changes, service availability, Veteran needs and other key information



Key Infrastructure Domains

- Complete, active, managed **By Name List** of all Veterans experiencing homelessness in the community
- Deliberate **Case Conferencing** focused on barrier-busting specific Veteran cases, inclusive of all relevant VA and non-VA partners
- **Veteran Leadership Teams** and decisions making structures and communication channels with cross-program representation and voices of lived experience
- Leveraging **program flexibilities**, allowable co-enrollments and complimentary service packages and referrals

First...

Pink Sticky Notes

Write down one specific challenge or concern you have with the idea of the “One Team” approach.

Next...

Yellow Sticky Notes

Write down one specific strength or opportunity your community already does well in the context of the “One Team” approach.

And Finally...

Puzzle Pieces

Write down 1-2 sentences on what you think your specific role is within your community to help implement the “One Team” approach.

Next Steps

Transition to breakout rooms based on color of sticker on your name tag! Take your sticky notes and puzzle pieces with you!