



**NATIONAL WEBINAR
Supplemental NOFA Utilization
February 9, 2024**

[Link to Recording](#)

Agenda

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Supplemental NOFA Review
- III. Program Office Requirements & Expectations
- IV. Compliance Considerations
- V. HMIS Data Entry Requirement
- VI. Considerations Since Role Out
- VII. Questions/Discussion



Introductions

- Cindy Spencer, Supervisory Regional Coordinator
- Rico Aiello, Compliance Project Manager



Housekeeping



Up to 90 minutes



Slides & handouts
are in the chat
section & will be
sent after the
webinar



Recording,
Handouts &
Slides will be
sent via email



Submit questions
in the question
box or any time
at ssvf@va.gov



Supplemental NOFA Review

Key Elements



- Enhanced housing navigation services for HUD-VASH Programs
- Created landlord incentive opportunities worth up to 2-months rent
- Created tenant incentive opportunities worth up to \$1000
- Increased AMI limit to 80%

Housing Navigation



SSVF grantees hire navigators to provide housing navigation to enrolled HUD-VASH Veteran families

- Coordinate with existing housing navigators your local HUD-VASH team may already have
- Grantee Housing Navigators are **fully** dedicated to support housing navigation for referred HUD-VASH families
- Grantees fully enroll referred Veteran families for navigation and other appropriate supports (coordination with HUD-VASH to ensure non-duplication of services)
- Grantees are fully educated about HUD HSQ requirements to ensure allowable unit selection
- Strategic planning meeting with SSVF, HUD-VASH and PHAs may be appropriate

Coordination



SSVF Grantees, in partnership with their local HUD-VASH program(s), should develop a written plan that includes the following:

- A process for accepting HUD-VASH referrals for navigation services
- A timeline for accepting referrals and enrolling Veterans into SSVF services
- An agreed upon Housing Navigation Model (see next slide)
- An identified point of contact (POC) for both SSVF and HUD-VASH programs
- Clearly defined roles and responsibilities for both programs throughout the referral process, engagement and service delivery process and transitioning from SSVF to HUD-VASH
- A set time and location for case conferencing. Case conferencing.

Housing Navigation Models



- *Unit Acquisition*
 - Includes: locating vacant units; engaging landlords to educate them about the HUD-VASH Program; facilitating a connection between HUD-VASH staff and Veteran families.
- *Direct Housing Navigation*
 - Includes: Working directly with the Veteran family to identify housing; supports the completion of applications; and supports move-in needs to the unit.
 - NOTE:
 - This may also include helping Veteran families with obtaining the documents necessary for the PHA referral (otherwise known as “document ready”)
 - This may also include returning Requests For Tenancy Approval form to the PHA once housing unit is selected
- *Mixed Navigation Services*
 - SSVF grantees and HUD-VASH Programs, case conference each referral to determine which program will provide services.

Landlord Incentives



Grantees may need to utilize landlord incentives to overcome housing barriers

- May be offered with a 1-year lease commitment from landlord (month-to-month lease does not qualify)
- Payment to landlord may be up to 2-months rent for the unit
- Can be used in conjunction with a double security deposit
- Grantee must document justification for incentive in case file

Landlord considerations:

- Incentives can be provided to the same landlord for each 1-year lease commitment executed with each Veteran household
- Housing that is targeted to low-income and/or high barrier populations would not be appropriate for utilization of landlord incentive options.

NOTE: Landlord incentives are now open to ALL SSVF enrollments regardless of VA Medical Center catchment area. However, incentives being charged to the supplemental award must be within the identified catchment area identified in the SNOFA application.

Tenant Incentives



Grantees may use the incentive to support engagement with the Veteran household and used to support sustainability.

Tenant Incentive:

- Are only available after move-in for lease of at least 1-year
- With some restrictions, grantee may provide up to \$1000 for each Veteran household and may be used to improve their quality of life
- Is in addition to General Housing Stability Assistance (GHSA) and is much more flexible
- Grantees may purchase items directly or set up merchant account
 - Identify process to ensure items are obtained by grantees and Veteran actually received those items.
 - Gift cards is still unallowable
 - No bulk purchasing that is not directly tied to a Veteran household

NOTE: Tenant incentives are now open to ALL SSVF enrollments regardless of VA Medical Center catchment area. However, incentives being charged to the supplemental award must be within the identified catchment area identified in the NOFA application.

Increase to 80% AMI



SSVF Grantees may now serve anyone in their service area that has an income less than 80% Area Median Income (AMI).

SSVF Grantees are encouraged to:

- Understand the local Veteran population and housing demands to determine how best to prioritize resources.
- Have direct communication with local HUD-VASH Program to determine if PHA's servicing their vouchers also serve up to 80% AMI
 - This can be an opportunity to enhance coordination efforts that support Veterans
- Have direct communication with VA Homeless Programs and community partners to ensure everyone is aware of the new income limits (\geq 80% AMI)
 - Ensure clear communication about prioritization or resources



Program Office Requirements & Expectations

Requirements



- SNOFA funded Housing Navigators exclusively for HUD-VASH
- Housing Navigation for HUD-VASH exclusive to VAMC catchment areas approved in your application
- At least 80% of the funds must be used for literally homeless Veteran households

Expectations



- Grantees are expected to coordinate with SSVF grantees in their shared geography
- Grantees are expected to coordinate with HUD-VASH around planning and resources.
- Budgeting:
 - 4-year non-recurring award
 - 40-50% housing navigator staff
 - 40-50% landlord and tenant incentives
 - Up to 10% admin costs
- Additional TFA Planning:
 - TFA supports needed by Veterans receiving housing navigation services can be supported through grantee's traditional award.
 - Funding may not be utilized to serve Veterans outside the identified service area. Grantees may use traditional award to support other Veteran households.



Compliance Considerations

Landlord Incentives



- Prioritization should focus on tenant screening barriers (credit, criminal history, income) as they impact access to housing
- Training staff on incentive parameters and limitations, including justification of “high risk” and necessity for incentive to secure unit
- Identify request and issuance process that is responsive to housing demand with your finance department
- Develop internal process with finance to discuss spending projections compared to actual expenditures, on a regular basis
 - Track expenses and consider process to identify trends in utilization of incentives

Veteran Incentives



Veteran Incentives are:

- Intended to be used to address quality of life. It allows grantees to offer Veterans comforts most would expect in independent living.
 - These will be different than GHSA allowances
 - Establish relationship with local or online vendors to direct Veterans for common items
- Consider items that could move with the Veteran should they move to a new unit in the future

Veteran Incentives - Documentation Requirements



Documentation required for case file:

- Identify policies and procedures to obtain items on behalf of the Veteran
- Identify policies and procedures to obtain receipts/invoices from purchase
- Identify policies and procedures to obtain acknowledgement of receipt from Veteran

Tenant Incentives



For Consideration	Not for Consideration
Appliances (Microwave, Refrigerator, Dishwasher, Air conditioner, etc.) above and beyond GHSA Food	Entertainment activities
Furniture (Bed, Sofa, Dresser, Coffee Table, etc.)	Art/Antiques
Electronic Equipment (Computer, Television, Laptop, electronic reading device etc.)	Jewels and Gems
Rugs and Carpets	Collections
Recreational items such as bikes, sports or exercise	Weapons
Educational items such as books or items needed for Veteran household	Other items prohibited by law
Hobby materials such as crafts, games.	

Financial Status as of January 2024



All Supplemental NOFA expenses should be drawn from account 20zz-zz-zzz-LT in HHS Payment Management System (PMS)

Funding Source	4-year Award	Drawn as of January 2024	Remaining as of January 2024	Percent Drawn	End Date
Supplemental NOFA	\$ 138,302,979	\$ 24,017,823	\$ 114,285,155	17%	9/30/26



HMIS Data Entry Requirement

HMIS Data Entry Requirement



V3 Financial Assistance – SSVF

Header	Instruction
Element Name	Financial Assistance – SSVF
Field 1 & Response	Start Date of Financial Assistance <i>([date field])</i>

Field 3 & Responses	Financial Assistance Type
1	Rental assistance
4	Utility fee payment assistance
2	Security deposit
3	Utility deposit
5	Moving costs
8	Transportation services: tokens/vouchers
9	Transportation services: vehicle repair/maintenance
10	Child care
12	General housing stability assistance
14	Emergency housing assistance
15	Shallow subsidy financial assistance
16	Food assistance
17	Landlord incentive
18	Tenant incentive



Q & A