

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) FY 2015 Annual Report



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
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Washington, D.C. 20420



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About This Report

This report covers the fourth grant period for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, and includes awards made in 2014 for the FY 2015 period (October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015). The report summarizes the results obtained by the 407 SSVF grantees funded for FY 2015, and is intended to inform Congress and the public about the important work of these grantees in helping to prevent and end homelessness among our nation's Veterans. A full list of SSVF grantees operating in FY 2015 appears in Appendix 1.

Information for this report uses data reported by grantees through local Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) and subsequently provided to VA via monthly uploads to the SSVF's HMIS data repository. Additional information was obtained from grantee quarterly reports, and from surveys of SSVF program participants.

The rapid growth and evolution of the SSVF program and its data collection methods over the last year have made it impractical or unfeasible to present comparison data across all three years of the SSVF program in every instance. Where it is possible to do that, we have done so in this report.

The first section of the report provides national trends on homelessness and Veteran homelessness, and this is followed by an overview of the SSVF program.

Section 2 provides a funding overview of the SSVF program's expenditures, grantee coverage, and households served in FY 2015, based on aggregated data from all 407 SSVF grantees. This section also describes the types and distribution of homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing services delivered.

Section 3 presents information about who was served in the fourth year of the program, including the housing status and living situation of participants when they entered the program, and their demographic characteristics.

Section 4 presents the results of the program, including the success rate of participants in retaining or securing permanent housing when they exited the program, as well as participants' gains in income, and their interaction with other key VA programs.

Section 5 summarizes grantees' progress in implementing new SSVF programs nationwide, and how VA supported grantees with early implementation and service delivery issues throughout the grant year, including targeting SSVF to those Veterans and their families who were the most in need, and in promoting rapid re-housing and prevention best practices .

Finally, Section 6 discusses the next steps for the SSVF in improving outcomes, increasing community integration, coordinating entry systems, and in tracking progress towards effectively ending Veteran homelessness according to federally-defined criteria and benchmarks.

Executive Summary

Homelessness among Veterans is a problem of national importance. While Veterans constituted only 9 percent of the U.S. adult population in 2015, they made up 11 percent of the U.S. homeless adult population.^{1,2} In 2010, President Barack Obama and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the federal government's goal to end Veteran homelessness. The target completion date for this federal goal is December 2016. Published by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), this goal was announced as part of our nation's first plan to prevent and end homelessness, "Opening Doors."³ It was under this important mandate that the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program began providing targeted housing assistance and services on October 1, 2011.⁴ In concert with other key resources for homeless Veterans, such as the jointly administered Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program, SSVF has provided communities with the resources necessary to reduce the number of homeless Veterans by 47 percent between 2010 and 2016.⁵

One of the critical tools for ending homelessness among Veterans has been SSVF, which has grown significantly since its inception and whose growth corresponds with year-to-year decreases in Veteran homelessness. In the first year of the program (FY 2012), approximately \$60 million in SSVF funding was awarded to 85 grantees in 40 states and the District of Columbia. By FY 2015, approximately \$391 million in SSVF grant funding was awarded (on an annualized basis) to 407 grantees serving all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and three U.S. territories. Grantees funded in FY 2015 provided SSVF services in 400 of the 415 Continuums of Care (CoCs) nationwide. In FY 2015, VA also began supplemental three-year funding awards for 71 high-priority ("Priority 1") communities with high concentrations of homeless Veterans, in an unprecedented "surge" effort to end Veterans' homelessness in these communities. The total amount available for Priority 1 communities for the three-year period is \$289 million. At the time of this report's publication, approximately \$396 million was budgeted for 383 SSVF grantees in FY 2016, providing services in 387 of 405 CoCs.

Priority 1 funding awards were contingent on support from local CoCs and VA Network Homeless Coordinators, to ensure strategic coordination of this critical one-time resource. Consistent with this targeted approach in priority communities, SSVF began a national community planning initiative that

¹ Veterans Health Administration Support Service Center (FY 2015) and United States Census Bureau (2014).

² Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) 2015, Part 1.

³ The Opening Doors federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness was released in June 2010 by President Barack Obama. The plan includes the federal goal of ending chronic and Veteran homelessness. More information about this strategic plan can be found at the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness's Opening Doors webpage: http://usich.gov/opening_doors/

⁴ The SSVF program is authorized by 38 U.S.C. 2044. VA implements the program by regulations in 38 CFR part 62. SSVF funding award periods follow the federal Fiscal Year, which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30.

⁵ "Obama Administration Announces Nearly 50 Percent Decline in Veteran Homelessness," U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, August 1, 2016, retrieved at http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/press/press_releases_media_advisories/2016/HUDNo_16-117.

engaged all SSVF grantees in local efforts designed to develop locally responsive systems of care. It was expected that these local planning efforts would include evidence-based practices emerging as critical interventions in ending homelessness among Veterans. The SSVF community planning initiative drew on lessons learned from VA's 2014 "25 Cities Initiative", launched to assist CoCs with the establishment and implementation of their coordinated entry and housing placement systems for homeless Veterans and persons who are chronically homeless. SSVF grantees have actively participated in the 25 Cities Initiative to help strategically coordinate SSVF resources with other community resources and initiatives intended to end Veteran homelessness.

The VA focused its FY 2015 program implementation and supports efforts on promoting consistency, quality and effectiveness of SSVF services based on established and emerging evidence and leveraging the growing expertise of SSVF grantees. The VA also diversified its technical assistance efforts this year by providing guidance and resources to support broader community coordination and planning, including creation of local leadership groups and development and refinement of community-specific plans designed to achieve the federal criteria and benchmarks for ending homelessness among Veterans.⁶ To support these efforts and more robust technical assistance, the VA also provided new and updated data-informed tools, regional trainings, and a revamped web-based learning platform (SSVF University) to make resources more accessible.

Since SSVF's inception in FY 2012, the program has served a cumulative total of 238,711 Veterans⁷ and increased the number of Veterans served by an average of 75 percent each year: 19,854 Veterans were served in FY 2012, 39,649 in FY 2013, 79,035 in FY 2014, and 100,173 in FY 2015. Sixty-four percent of Veterans received rapid re-housing assistance over the four years, while 37 percent received homelessness prevention assistance. One percent of Veterans received both assistance types during the four years of SSVF operations. SSVF continues to prioritize the delivery of services to currently homeless Veteran households, with the percentage of Veterans receiving rapid re-housing assistance rising to sixty-nine percent in FY 2015.

Over the first four years of the program 165,589 Veterans exited SSVF, with 78 percent (129,970) successfully exiting to permanent housing. Among Veterans exiting from SSVF homelessness prevention assistance, 87 percent exited to permanent housing after participating in SSVF services for an average of 96 days. Meanwhile, 73 percent of Veterans who were homeless and received rapid re-housing assistance exited to permanent housing, after participating for an average of 109 days.

Since its inception, SSVF's rapid re-housing assistance has become a substantial component of the United States' crisis response system for literally homeless Veterans. In FY 2015, approximately 52 percent (69,419) of all sheltered homeless Veterans were assisted to exit homelessness by an SSVF rapid re-housing program.

⁶ "Criteria and Benchmarks for Achieving the Goal of Ending Veteran Homelessness", United State Interagency Council on Homelessness, retrieved September 25, 2016, <https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/criteria-for-ending-veteran-homelessness>.

⁷ Across SSVF program years, it is not currently possible to un-duplicate service data. The "cumulative total" represents the sum of the Veterans served each program year.

Key FY 2015 findings and results:

- SSVF served 100,173 Veterans in FY 2015 and 161,532 people overall. Sixty-nine percent of Veterans (69,419) participated in rapid re-housing services, 32 percent of Veterans (32,503) participated in homelessness prevention services, and 1 percent of Veterans (1,749) participated in both service types.
- The average length of participation in SSVF among the 73,012 Veterans who exited the program was less than 4 months (110 days). For Veterans exiting from SSVF rapid re-housing assistance the average length of participation was also about 4 months (116 days), while it was just over 3 months (99 days) for those who exited SSVF homelessness prevention.
- More than half (56 percent, or 56,381) of the 100,173 Veteran participants in the program had a disabling condition. By comparison, 51 percent of Veterans in shelters are disabled, indicating that SSVF is serving a complex population with high barriers to housing placement.
 - Of the 59,689 SSVF Veterans exiting the program who received VA Health Care System services, many reported being treated for serious health and mental health conditions, including: cardiovascular disease (41 percent), a substance use disorder (35 percent), post-traumatic stress disorder (16 percent), and major depressive disorder (15 percent).
- Fourteen percent (14,136) of Veterans served were women – the highest proportion of women Veterans served in any VA homeless initiative.
- More than half (56 percent) of 100,173 Veterans served by SSVF were in minority racial or ethnic groups, compared to 48 percent of Veterans in shelters nationwide.
- Nearly one quarter (23 percent, or 36,927) of all those served were dependent children. SSVF provided support to help keep Veteran families together.
- The majority of Veterans (53 percent) served by SSVF were between the ages of 45 and 61.
- Seventy percent (70,640) of the 101,216 Veteran households served earned less than 30 percent of the median income for their area and household size when they entered the SSVF program.⁸
- Veterans with no income (19,822) and those earning \$1 to \$500 in monthly income at entry (8,056) still achieved a relatively high rate of success in obtaining or remaining in permanent housing at exit: 75 percent and 79 percent for each group, respectively.
- One-quarter (25 percent) of Veterans with no income at entry left SSVF with monthly income (5,025). For Veterans entering SSVF with monthly incomes of just \$1 to \$500 per month, a net 1,164 left the program with higher incomes (14 percent).
- Among 6,077 participants completing satisfaction surveys, 79 percent said they would definitely recommend another Veteran or friend in need to their SSVF provider.

⁸ The total numbers of households served can exceed the number of Veterans served, as SSVF grantees are allowed to continue services to non-Veteran households (typically including dependent children and a caregiver) that are created when the Veteran is separated from the household. New SSVF regulations published on February 24, 2015 expanded the resources available to such non-Veteran households in the event of separation when it is the result of domestic violence.

SSVF Rapid Re-Housing:

- SSVF assisted a total of 69,419 literally homeless Veterans. Nationwide, an estimated 53 percent of all homeless sheltered Veterans received help from SSVF in exiting homelessness.
- Of the literally homeless Veterans who received rapid re-housing services, 44 percent were living in unsheltered situations (including outdoor and vehicle locations) at entry.
- Five out of every 7 Veterans (71 percent) exiting SSVF rapid re-housing programs successfully ended their homelessness and moved into permanent housing (35,660).
- More than one-third (35 percent) of literally homeless Veterans who were assisted by SSVF to obtain permanent housing were able to do so in 14 days or less. The average time from program entry to permanent housing for homeless Veterans who exited the program was 118 days.
- The average length of participation in SSVF rapid re-housing among the 49,880 Veterans who exited during FY 2015 was 116 days.

SSVF Homelessness Prevention:

- SSVF assisted a total of 32,503 Veterans who were at-risk of literal homelessness.
- Of the Veterans who received homelessness prevention services and entered the program from housed situations, 78 percent were in rental units and 18 percent were living with family or friends at entry.
- Six out of every 7 Veterans (85 percent) exiting SSVF homelessness prevention assistance maintained their housing unit or found other permanent housing (21,231) and successfully avoided shelter or the streets.
- The average length of participation in SSVF homelessness prevention among the 24,896 who exited during FY 2015 was 99 days.

Improvements in outcomes rely on capacity-building and coordination across multiple providers and systems. SSVF has placed great emphasis on integrating its services with those of other community providers. Through SSVF's participation in local Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) and a requirement that grantees actively engage in community planning through coordinated entry, VA seeks to ensure that CoCs are developing data-driven plans to end homelessness among Veterans. SSVF involvement in CoC-based community planning fosters a consistent focus on the needs of homeless and at-risk Veterans.

Together with their community partners, VA and SSVF grantees are demonstrating that high-impact, successful interventions can help dramatically reduce homelessness and assist low-income Veteran families in avoiding or exiting homelessness and regaining housing stability.

1. Introduction

This is the fourth Annual Report for the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program. The report describes the SSVF program and provides an overview of FY 2015 grantees (funds awarded through the FY 2014 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)), and their activities. The main focus of the report, however, is on the Veterans and their families who were assisted by SSVF programs. The report describes the demographics of SSVF program participants, their living situations prior to participation in SSVF, and their housing outcomes and connections to resources and mainstream benefits post-program exit, in order to support continued stability.

1.1 Impact on National Trends

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), on a single night in January 2016, there were 39,471 homeless Veterans in the U.S. This is a decrease of 47 percent since 2010.⁹ Between October 1, 2014, and September 30, 2015, an estimated one out of every 170 Veterans nationwide (132,847 Veterans) stayed in an emergency shelter or a transitional housing program – an 11 percent decrease since 2009.¹⁰

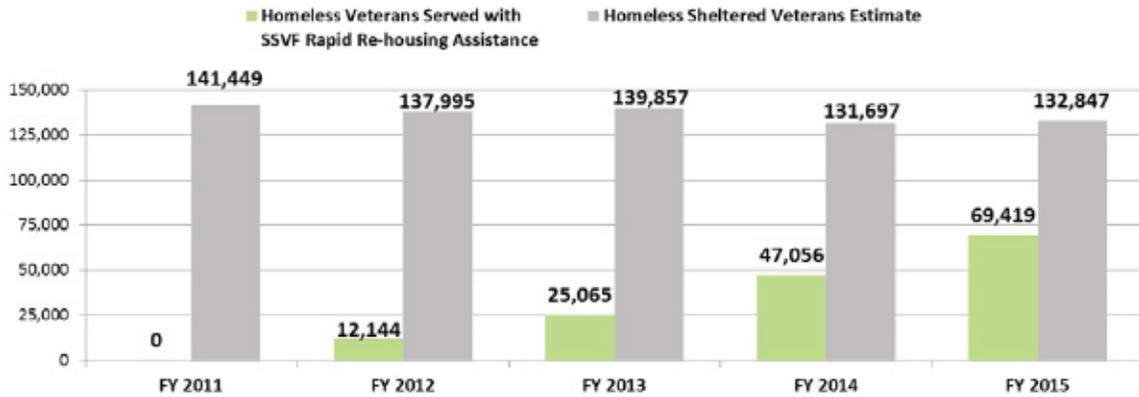
SSVF has been a critical resource for helping to re-tool local homelessness crisis response systems to better meet the needs of Veterans in crisis. Following evidence-based practices, SSVF assistance is focused on needs directly related to ending a Veteran family's homelessness, or preventing it in cases where a Veteran family is at imminent risk of becoming homeless. SSVF grantees employ Housing First approaches to efficiently resolve housing crises, and are expected to actively participate in local coordinated entry systems established by Continuums of Care (CoCs). This approach is backed by a number of studies conducted over the last two decades. The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) states, "the Housing First model differs from traditional models that require participants to complete a treatment program or otherwise demonstrate 'housing readiness' before being given the opportunity to live in community-based permanent housing.... Finishing the job of ending Veterans homelessness will require the widespread adoption of evidence-based best practices such as Housing First."¹¹

⁹ See note 5.

¹⁰ HUD's AHAR 2015, Part 2.

¹¹ Ending Homelessness among Veterans: A Report by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, February 2013.

Exhibit 1: SSVF Rapid Re-housing and Annual Homeless Sheltered Veterans, FY 2011-2015¹²



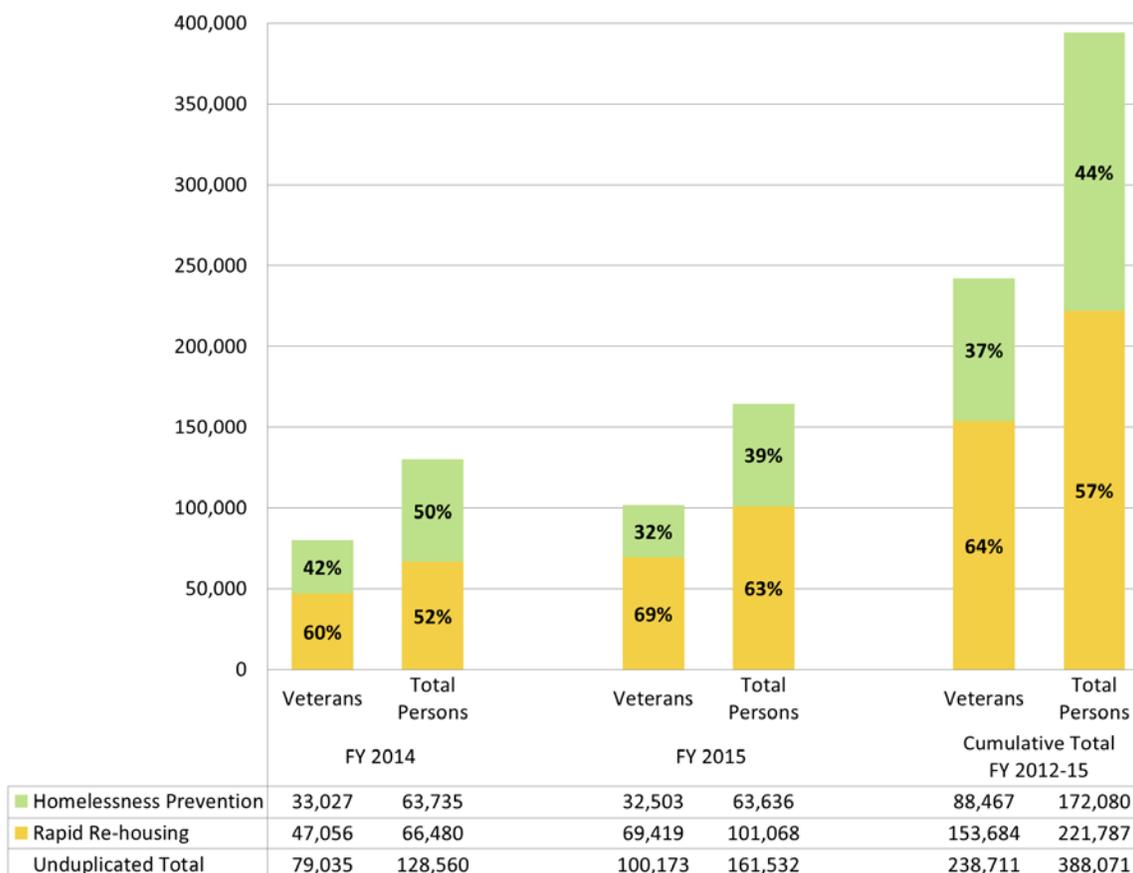
SOURCE: 1) SSVF-HMIS Repository Data; 2) AHAR.

With each passing year since its inception in FY 2012, SSVF rapid re-housing assistance has become a larger and more central part of the United States’ response to the needs of literally homeless Veterans. In FY 2012, roughly 9 percent of all sheltered homeless Veterans (12,144) received help from SSVF rapid re-housing to exit homelessness. This doubled in FY 2013 to 18 percent (25,065) and doubled again in FY 2014 to 36 percent (47,056) of all sheltered homeless Veterans. In FY 2015, an estimated 52 percent of all homeless sheltered Veterans received help from SSVF in exiting homelessness.¹³

¹² AHAR Part 2 estimates only include sheltered homeless Veterans. Unsheltered Veterans who do not use shelter at any point during the year are not accounted for. However, this is believed to be a relatively small number of Veterans.

¹³ This estimate is based on FY 2015 AHAR data.

Exhibit 2: SSVF Veterans and Total Persons Served by Housing Assistance Type, FY 2012-2015^{14,15}



SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

SSVF has played an increasing role in preventing and ending Veteran homelessness. As shown in Exhibit 2, 42 percent Veterans served by SSVF over the past four years were served during FY 2015.

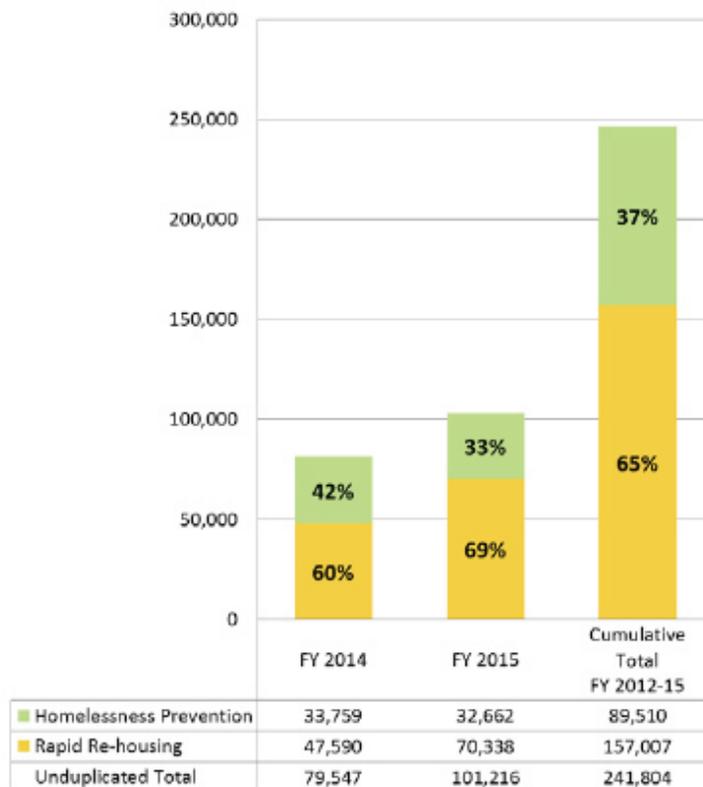
Of the Veterans served in FY 2015, 69,419 (69 percent) were literally homeless at entry into SSVF, and received rapid re-housing assistance; the remaining 32,503 Veterans (32 percent) were imminently at risk of literal homelessness at program entry, and received homelessness prevention assistance. The last year has seen an increased proportion of rapid re-housing assistance compared to prior years as grantees, and their community partners increasingly sought to maximize the use of

¹⁴ Within each program year, rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention data are unduplicated. Only a small percentage of persons, Veterans, and households received both types of housing assistance. Across program years, it is not currently possible to un-duplicate service data.

¹⁵ In FY 2015, 1 percent of Veterans (1,749) and 2 percent of persons (3,172) received both homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance. This phenomenon occurs at similar levels in the prior two years. For this reason, the sum of homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance percentages sometimes exceeds the 100 percent level.

SSVF to assist every homeless Veteran in quickly exiting homelessness to permanent housing if they had no other means for resolving their crisis.

Exhibit 3: SSVF Households Served by Housing Assistance Type, FY 2012-2015¹⁶



SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

SSVF assisted 101,216 Veteran households consisting of over 161,000 people in the fourth year of program operations. The number of Veteran households served by SSVF grantees increased by more than a quarter (+27 percent) over the previous year, as did the number of total persons served (+26 percent), from 128,560 to 161,532.

In FY 2015, grantees provided rapid re-housing services to 70,338 homeless Veteran households comprising 101,067 persons, through partnerships with emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, street outreach, and other homeless assistance providers, as well as VA homeless services such as the Grant and Per Diem (GPD) and Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) programs. Grantees provided homelessness prevention assistance to 32,662 Veteran households consisting of 63,636 persons. A small number of households received both assistance types.

Over the last four years of the SSVF program, grantees assisted 241,804 households, consisting of 388,071 people. Sixty-five percent of SSVF households received rapid re-housing assistance over the

¹⁶ See note 7.

four years, while 37 percent received homelessness prevention assistance. Two percent of households received both assistance types.¹⁷

At the household level, SSVF has seen a modest shift in its resources from homelessness prevention toward rapid re-housing over the last year. In FY 2015, grantees were successful in reaching SSVF households who were homeless, with 69 percent of households receiving rapid re-housing assistance for their homeless situations, an increase from 60 percent in FY 2014. One-third of FY 2015 SSVF households received homelessness prevention assistance, a decrease from 42 percent in FY 2014 and less than the cumulative SSVF total of 37 percent. Two percent of FY 2015 households received both rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention assistance, which was consistent all SSVF program years.

Households served with homelessness prevention assistance were more likely to have children, and a higher proportion of single Veterans were assisted with rapid re-housing; therefore, a lower percentage of persons received rapid re-housing compared with total households. The average Veteran household size has remained fairly consistent across all four program years, ranging between 1.5 and 1.6 persons per household.

1.2 SSVF Overview

SSVF is designed to rapidly re-house homeless Veteran families and prevent homelessness for those at imminent risk due to a housing crisis. SSVF helps stabilize Veteran families once their crisis is resolved, with short-term financial assistance, case management, and linkages to VA and community-based services and housing assistance. SSVF success is dependent on the use of a Housing First approach. This proven model focuses on helping individuals and families access and sustain permanent rental housing as quickly as possible and without precondition, while facilitating access to needed health care, employment, legal services, and other supports to sustain permanent housing and improve one's quality of life. This broad range of services are offered both to address barriers to housing placement and to sustain Veteran families in housing once the presenting housing crisis has been addressed.

SSVF is also different than some other VA programs, in that it provides services to the entire family, not just the Veteran. Eligible program participants may be single Veterans or families in which the head of household, or the spouse of the head of household, is a Veteran. This capability allows SSVF to provide assistance to family members that can aid the Veteran's entire household. For instance, SSVF can help a Veteran's disabled partner gain employment and/or benefits, bringing additional income into the household. Similarly, children can be linked to needed child care services that allow parents to seek and keep employment. Such assistance to family members can be vital in resolving a Veteran's housing crisis, help keep families intact, and prevents the traumatization and long term consequences associated with youth homelessness.

To be eligible for SSVF, Veteran families must be low-income and either homeless or imminently at risk of homelessness. Additionally, SSVF prioritizes assistance for certain target populations. For grants awarded in FY 2015, these priorities included:

¹⁷ See note 8.

- Veteran families earning less than 30 percent of area median income
- Veterans with at least one dependent family member
- Veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan
- Veteran families located in a community not currently served by an SSVF grantee¹⁸
- Veteran families located in a community, as defined by HUD's CoC, where current level of SSVF services is not sufficient to meet demand of Category 2 and 3 (currently homeless) Veteran families
- Veteran families located in rural areas or on Indian tribal property

SSVF grantees assist participants by providing a range of supportive services designed to resolve the immediate crisis and promote housing stability. Grantees are required to provide the following supportive services to Veteran families:

- Outreach services
- Case management services
- Assistance in obtaining VA benefits: assistance in obtaining any benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs which the Veteran may be eligible to receive, including, but not limited to: vocational and rehabilitation counseling, employment and training service, educational assistance, and healthcare services
- Assistance in obtaining and coordinating the provision of other public benefits available in the grantee's area or community, including:
 - Health care services (including obtaining health insurance)
 - Daily living services
 - Personal financial planning
 - Transportation services
 - Income support services
 - Fiduciary and representative payee services
 - Legal services to assist the Veteran family with issues that interfere with the family's ability to obtain or retain housing or supportive services
 - Child care
 - Housing counseling
 - Other services necessary for maintaining independent living

In addition to the required supportive services, SSVF emphasizes housing stabilization and helping participants develop a plan for preventing future housing instability. Grantees may also assist

¹⁸ This priority uses the Continuum of Care geography, as established by HUD, as the definition for the term "community."

Section 1: Introduction

participants by providing Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA), including rental assistance, security or utility deposits, moving costs, or emergency supplies. TFA is paid directly to a third party on behalf of a participant for rental assistance, utility fee payment assistance, security or utility deposits, moving costs, child care, transportation, emergency supplies, emergency housing, and general housing assistance, as necessary and within program limits. All grantees have incorporated TFA into their available services.

2. SSVF Funding Overview

This section provides an overview of SSVF grant awards, expenditures and assistance provided by grantees to serve Veterans and their families. The data provided in this section is aggregated from the FY 2014 quarterly financial and narrative reports submitted by grantees to the VA.

2.1 SSVF Grant Funding

Exhibit 4: Growth in SSVF Geographic Coverage by Continuum of Care (CoC), FY 2012-2016

| | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | FY 2015 | FY 2016 |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| U.S. States and Territories Served | 40 states and District of Columbia | 49 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico | 50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands | 50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and Guam | 50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and Guam |
| CoCs Served (% of total CoCs) | n.a. | 261 (62%) | 375 (89%) | 400 (96%) | 387 (96%) ¹⁹ |
| Grants | 85 | 151 | 319 | 407 ²⁰ | 383 ²¹ |
| Households Served | 21,111 | 39,930 | 79,547 | 101,216 | n.a. |
| Funding Level | \$59,313,413* Actual Expenditures | \$99,043,780* Actual Expenditures | \$241,065,813* Actual Expenditures | \$373,346,267* Actual Expenditures | \$396,000,000 Budgeted |

* Grantees received extensions for some of their grant awards. For that reason, some of the budgeted funds were spent in the following fiscal year. In FY 2014, \$55 million budgeted for use was spent in FY 2015.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

VA has expended \$373 million in FY 2015 to support grants in 407 grantees serving all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and all U.S. territories with CoCs. The average program cost was \$3,689 per SSVF household in FY 2015.

¹⁹ Primarily due to CoC mergers, by the beginning of FY 2016, there were a total of 405 CoCs, a reduction of ten from the beginning of FY 2015.

²⁰ Funding for FY 2015 grantees has been released in two phases. The first set of grantees began serving Veteran households on October 1, 2014, and consisted of 383 grantees, including surge funding for 56 of 78 high-priority communities. The second set of grantees included surge funding for 24 grantees in 15 high-priority communities.

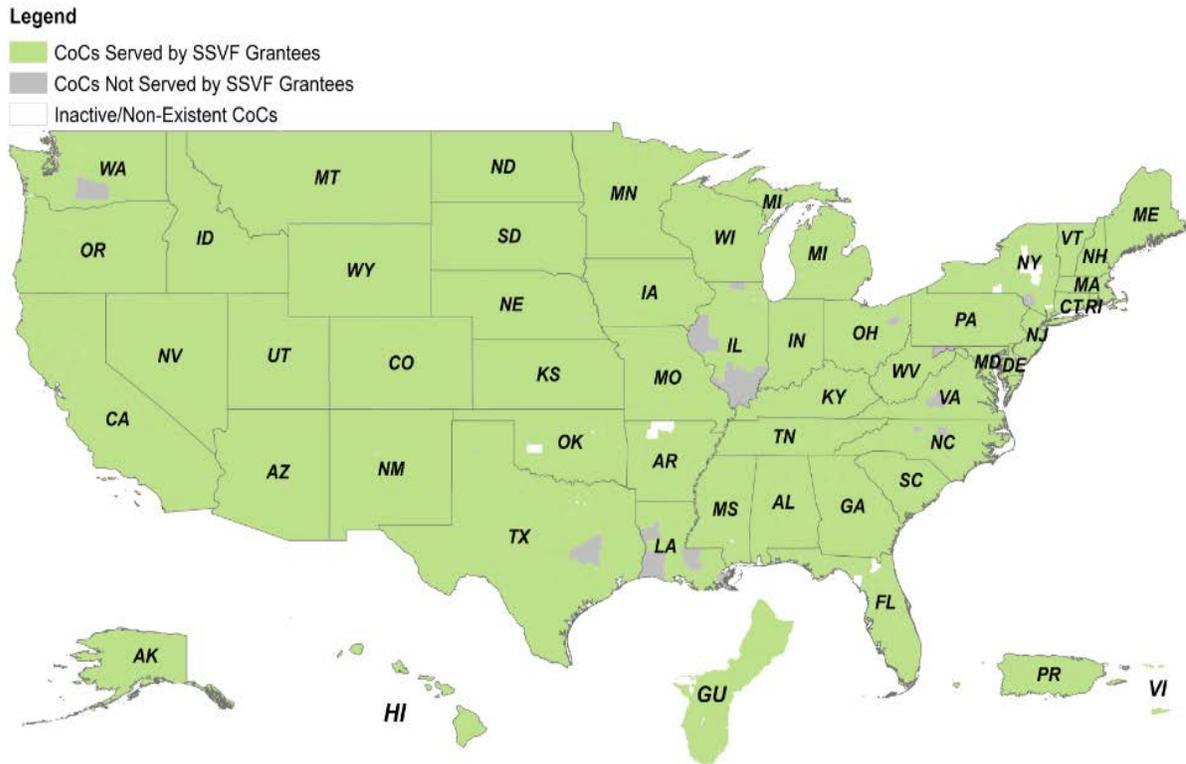
²¹ The reduction in SSVF grantees from FY 2015 to FY 2016 was primarily as result of contract consolidations. There was no overall reduction in the scope and scale of SSVF assistance to Veterans as a result of these consolidations.

Section 2: SSVF Funding Overview

For full-year FY 2015 grantees, annual expenditures ranged in size from \$118,222 to \$2,670,464. The average expenditure size was nearly \$1 million (\$969,159) for those grantees. Overall, that comprised a 378 percent increase in the number of grantees, with a 529 percent increase in expenditures over the first year of the program, and a 55 percent increase in expenditures over the last year.

SSVF funding increases have led to a significant expansion of geographic coverage of grantees since the program's inception.

Exhibit 5: Geographic Coverage of SSVF Grantees, FY 2016



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

In FY 2012, there were SSVF programs operating in 40 states and the District of Columbia. By FY 2015, grantee coverage expanded to include all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. In FY 2016 (FY 2015 NOFA awards), SSVF maintained its comprehensive national coverage.

2.2 Financial Expenditures

SSVF grantee underspending decreased in FY 2015. By year's end grantees reached 89 percent of their projected and activity-level budgets, compared to only 72 percent at the end of FY 2014. Of 407 total grantees, 315 were eligible for three-month extensions (as the remainder were Priority 1 grantees with a 3-year budget) to complete their grant agreements. Of those 315 grantees on year-to-end budgets, 128 requested grant extensions, with 99 percent of all awarded funds being expended by January 2016.

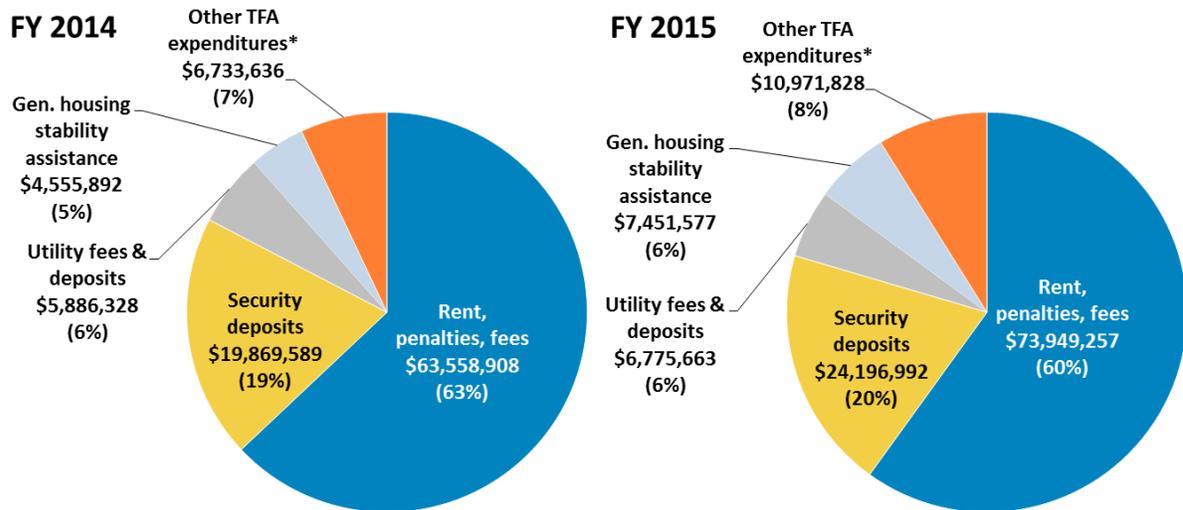
In FY 2015, SSVF grantees spent the largest share of award funds (57 percent) on staff and labor costs for case management, outreach, and program management, with the second largest share on TFA (34 percent).²²

As established in the SSVF NOFA, grantees are not allowed to expend more than 50 percent of grant funds on TFA. VA established this limit to ensure that program services would consist of more than emergency financial aid, and that Veterans would receive assistance designed to sustain housing once their immediate homelessness or imminent risk of homelessness was resolved. Since SSVF interventions are generally brief (the average intervention was 90 days), providers are expected to develop housing stability plans that may include ongoing VA and/or community services after exit from SSVF, to help Veteran households sustain their housing beyond the short-term intervention and the potential financial assistance SSVF offers. Less than one-tenth (9 percent) of grantee expenditures were used for administrative costs.

²² Due to limitations of data on program expenses, the information in this paragraph includes some FY 2015 grantee expenditure extension funds beyond the end of the FY 2015 program year, which ended on September 30, 2015.

2.3 Temporary Financial Assistance

Exhibit 6: TFA Expenditures by Type, FY 2014-2015²³



*Other TFA expenditures include transportation, emergency housing assistance, moving costs, child care, and other costs. Each of these specific expenditure types were less than 3 percent of total TFA costs in FY 2014-2015.

SOURCE: SSVF– Financial reports.

Rent-related assistance was the largest TFA category for both program years, consisting of 63 percent in FY 2014 and 60 percent in FY 2015. Security deposit assistance made up the second largest TFA expenditure in FY 2015, at 20 percent of the total, followed by utility fees and deposits (6 percent) and general housing stability assistance (6 percent). The remaining categories combined made up 8 percent of expenditures.

Overall, the proportional distribution of TFA expenditures among FY 2015 SSVF grantees was fairly consistent with that of prior year grantees. The decreased percentage in rent-related TFA expenditures from 63 percent in FY 2014 to 60 percent in FY 2015 was the largest change.

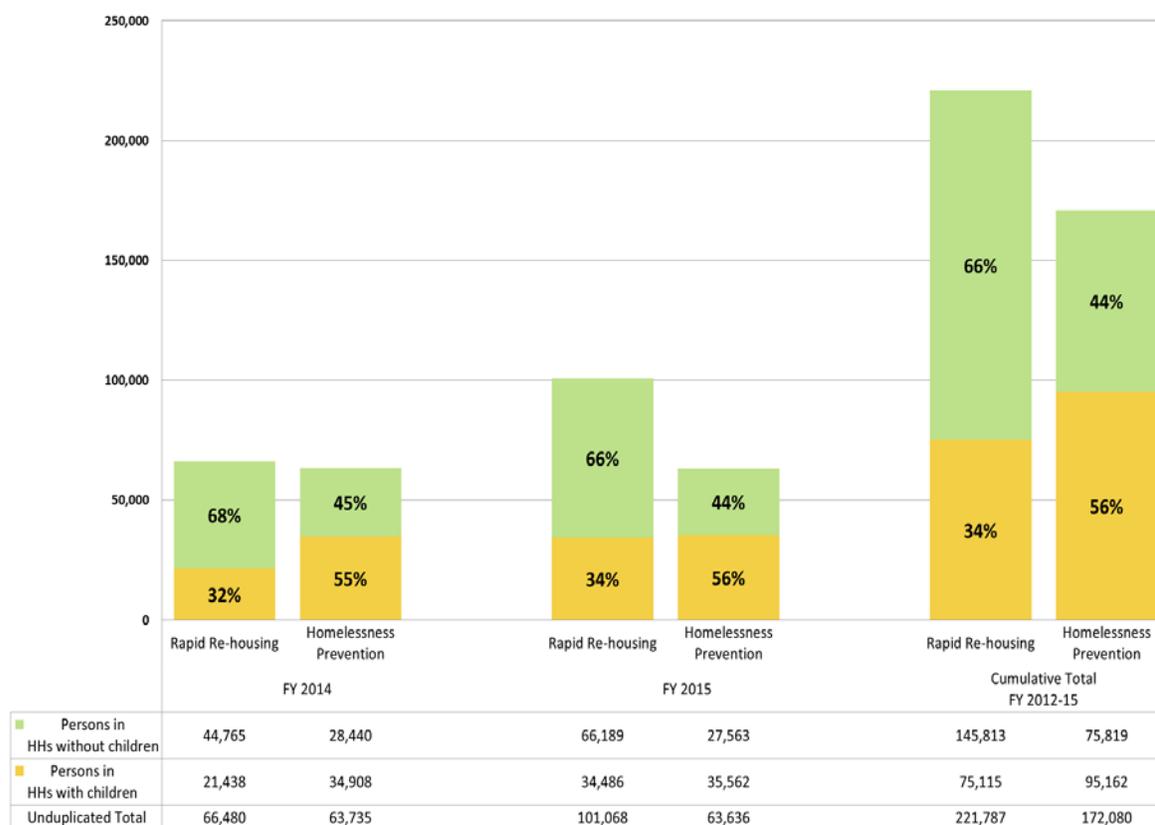
²³ The detailed TFA expense data in this subsection does not include grantee extension funds beyond the end of the fiscal year. As noted in the prior footnote, section 2.2 of this report does include some grantee extension data beyond the end of the fiscal year.

3. SSVF Participants and Their Characteristics

This section describes SSVF participants and their demographic characteristics, including their prior living situations, household type, age, disability status, race, and ethnicity. In addition, enrollment levels for target populations from FY 2015 awarded grants are examined.

3.1 Overview of Persons and Household Types Served

Exhibit 7: SSVF Persons Served by Household Type, FY 2012-2015^{24,25}



SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

Since the program’s inception, most persons in households without children (66 percent, or 145,813) assisted by SSVF have been literally homeless and received rapid re-housing assistance, while most persons in households with children (56 percent or 95,162) served by SSVF have been at risk and received homelessness prevention assistance. FY 2015 household utilization rates between rapid re-

²⁴ Less than one percent of persons were in both household types or were in households of unknown type. Persons in households of unknown type are not shown in Exhibit 7.

²⁵ See note 7.

Section 3: SSVF Participants and Their Characteristics

housing and homelessness prevention match the cumulative utilization patterns over the life of the program.

3.2 Target Populations

Grantees reported the number of households served according to VA's target population priorities for FY 2015 grantees. These included:

- Veteran households earning less than 30 percent of area median income
- Veterans with at least one dependent family member
- Households with one or more female Veterans
- Returning Veterans from Afghanistan and/or Iraq

Across all grantees, approximately 70 percent of households served were reported to have incomes less than 30 percent of area median income (AMI) for their household size at program entry. About one-in-five (19 percent or 18,984) Veteran households served by SSVF had at least one dependent child (under 18 at program entry), including 36,927 children (23 percent of all clients). Additionally, 15 percent of SSVF Veterans served in Iraq or Afghanistan.

These figures indicate that the program met its goals in targeting very low-income Veteran families, Veteran families with dependents, and those who served in Afghanistan and Iraq..



Tracey Staff is a third generation military Veteran who grew up on army bases all over the world. Ms. Staff signed up for the United States Air Force before her high school graduation.

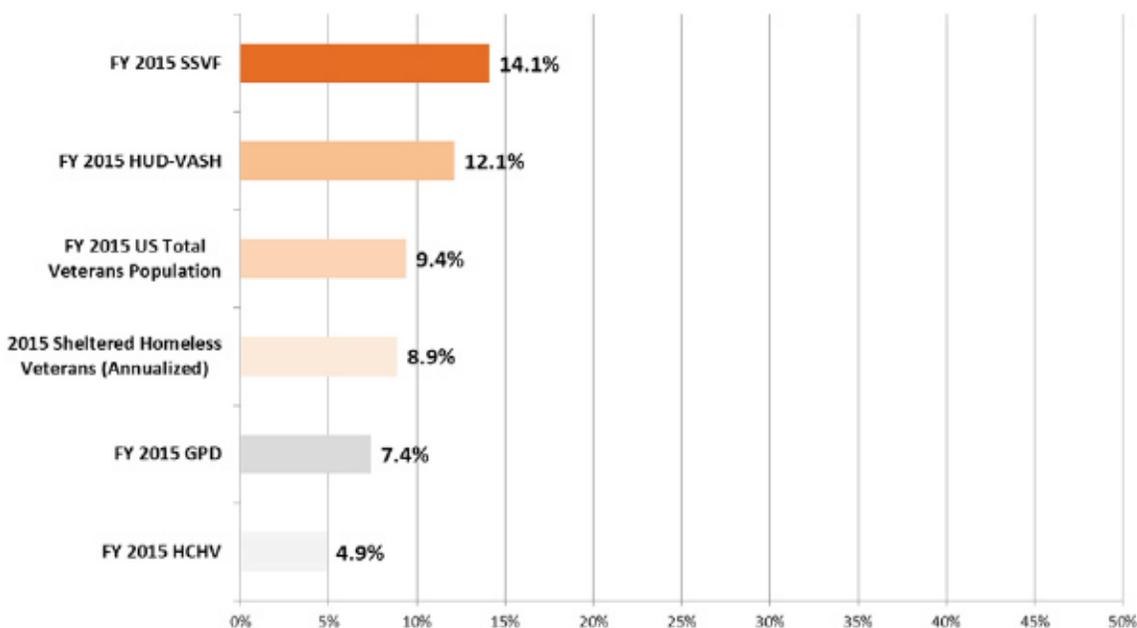
While living in Houston, Ms. Staff found it challenging to independently find employment that would provide her the income and schedule to meet her family's needs after her military service. Without employment, she struggled to find and remain stably housed for herself and her son apart from being doubled up with friends of her family.

Ms. Staff's journey to success began with a referral to Goodwill Industries of Houston. She became an active participant in the SSVF's homelessness prevention program and in Goodwill's female Veterans employment program. Her regular meetings with Employment Specialist and SSVF Case Manager helped her develop renewed confidence and purpose. As a result, Ms. Staff was able to find employment in Goodwill's Veteran Services Office in a job that supports her and she has been able to sustain her permanent housing.

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Section 3: SSVF Participants and Their Characteristics

Exhibit 8: Percentage of Women Veterans Among Veteran Populations²⁶



SOURCES: 1) SSVF- HMIS Repository; 2) VA Office of the Actuary; 3) Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR); 4) VA Homeless Management Evaluation System (HOMES).

SSVF has served the highest proportion of women of any VA homeless initiative for each of the past three years. This may be due, in part, to the greater number of households with children served with SSVF homelessness prevention assistance. Overall, 14.1 percent of Veterans served by SSVF in FY 2015 were women (14,136) – significantly higher than the percentage of female Veterans served nationally in shelter programs (8.9 percent).

²⁶ Aside from SSVF, there are three other national VA homeless programs included in this exhibit:

HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program provides permanent supportive housing; Grant and Per Diem (GPD) is a transitional housing program; and Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) programs include outreach, health care, and treatment and rehabilitative services, along with emergency shelter and safe haven residential assistance.

Additional information about these homelessness programs can be found on the VA homelessness web page at: <http://www.va.gov/homeless/>

Related Research

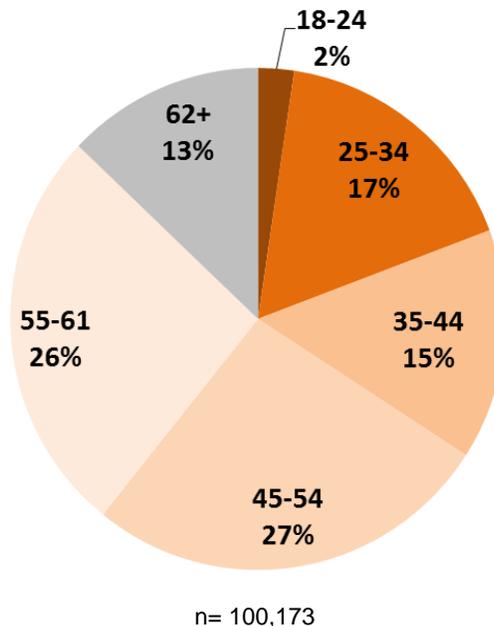
This study examined the demographic-level influences on reports of Veteran homelessness or imminent risk of homelessness. By using the VA’s universal screening tool for Veterans receiving VHA health care, more than 1.5 million Veteran records were screened for positive indicators of homeless or at risk of homelessness status.

Women Veterans receiving VHA health care were screened as homeless or at risk of homelessness 2.7 percent of the time compared to 1.7 percent of the time for male Veterans. Women Veterans aged 35 to 54 years, Black, and unmarried were more likely than the average woman Veteran to be screened as at risk of homelessness, while overall Black and unmarried women Veterans were more likely to be homeless than the average woman Veteran. For male Veterans, the greatest predictors of both homelessness and risk were Black race and unmarried status. Among both genders, receiving VA disability compensation was associated with lesser odds of being homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Montgomery, A. E., Dichter, M. E., Thomasson, et. al., C. B. (2015). Demographic characteristics associated with homelessness and risk among female and male Veterans accessing VHA Outpatient Care. *Women's Health Issues*, 25(1), 42-48. Retrieved from <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25498763>.

3.3 Participant Demographics

Exhibit 9: Veterans Served by Age Group, FY 2015



SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

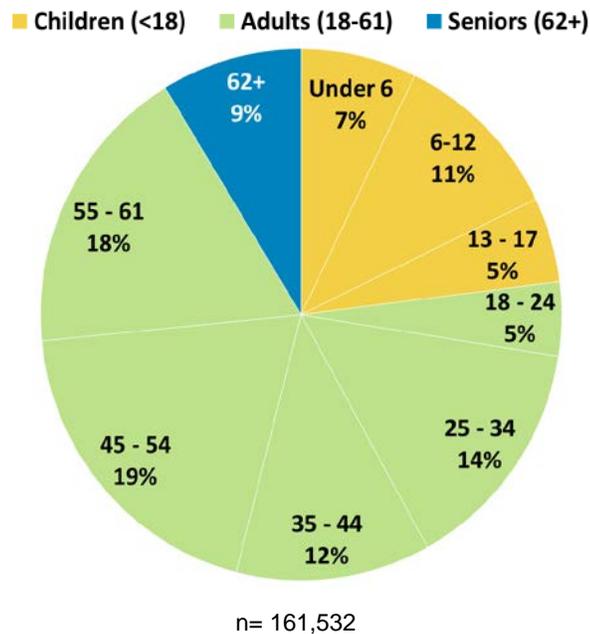
Section 3: SSVF Participants and Their Characteristics

The majority of Veterans served by SSVF were between the ages of 45-61 (53 percent). At the younger end of the spectrum, about one-fifth of Veterans served were age 34 or younger at program entry (19 percent). At the older end of the age spectrum, one-in-eight Veterans served were age 62 or above (13 percent) at program entry.

The distribution of Veterans served by SSVF grantees during FY 2015 closely reflects the latest national sheltered Veteran population data (FY 2015). Those similarities likely indicate that SSVF grantees' outreach strategies have successfully matched homeless and at-risk Veterans across all age groups with SSVF assistance.

SSVF Veterans in households without children were older than Veterans in households with children: a majority of Veterans (75 percent) in households without children were age 45 and older, while the majority of Veterans (67 percent) in households with children were between the ages of 25 and 44. At 42 percent, younger Veterans (18-34 years old) were three times as prevalent in SSVF households with children compared to in households without children at 14 percent.

Exhibit 10: SSVF Persons Served by Age, FY 2015

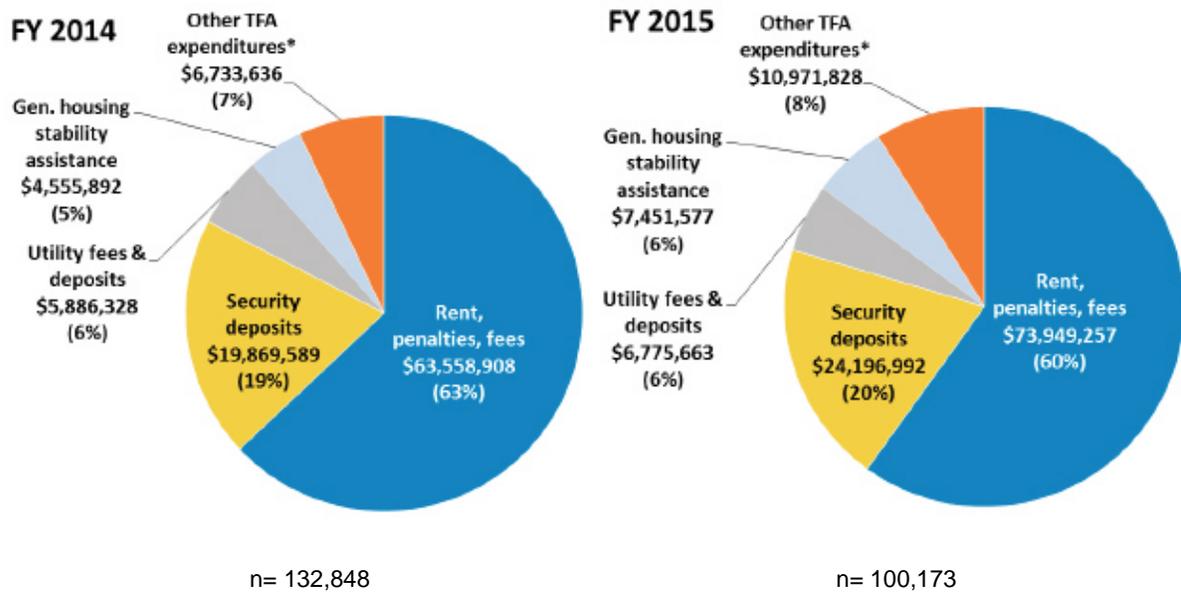


SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

The ages of participants served in FY 2015 were distributed broadly across every age group. Adult clients between the ages of 18 and 61 represented nearly 70 percent of all clients served, while children under the age of 18 represented nearly one quarter of persons served. Children under the age of 13 were more common than teens in households with children. Persons between the ages of 18 and 24 were the least numerous of all SSVF program participants.

Section 3: SSVF Participants and Their Characteristics

Exhibit 11: Veterans Served by Race



SOURCE: 1) AHAR; 2) SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

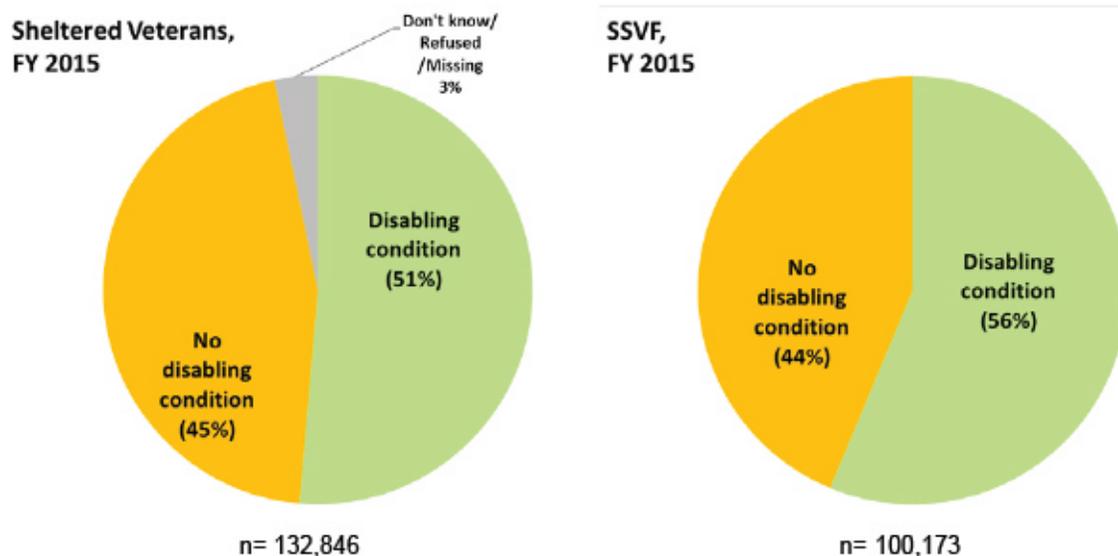
The vast majority of SSVF Veterans served were white/non-Hispanic (44 percent) or black/African-American (45 percent). Among all SSVF Veterans, the remaining 11 percent were spread across persons of white/Hispanic origin (6 percent), multiple races (2 percent), American Indian or Alaskan Native (2 percent), and less than 1 percent each of Asians and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders. Overall, 56 percent of Veterans served were in minority racial or ethnic groups, while the remaining 44 percent of Veterans were White/Non-Hispanic.

SSVF served a greater percentage of Veterans in minority racial or ethnic groups than Veterans served in shelters nationwide (56 percent versus 50 percent). On the whole, that suggests that SSVF providers are doing well in their efforts to avoid disparities in service provision to racial and ethnic minority groups.²⁷

²⁷ AHAR 2015, Part 2.

Section 3: SSVF Participants and Their Characteristics

Exhibit 12: Disability Status for SSVF Veterans²⁸



SOURCE: 1) AHAR; 2) SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

More than half (56 percent, or 56,381) of all Veterans assisted through SSVF had a disabling condition.²⁹ Disability rates for Veterans receiving rapid re-housing (57 percent) was higher than for Veterans receiving homelessness prevention (45 percent).

The disability rate for SSVF was 5 percentage points higher than that of all sheltered homeless Veterans (56 percent versus 51 percent). Among SSVF rapid re-housing Veterans, the disability rate was 6 percentage points higher than that of all sheltered homeless Veterans, which suggests that SSVF providers are targeting assistance to Veterans who may have greater barriers to obtaining housing without the re-housing assistance offered by SSVF. Overall, SSVF Veterans have disability

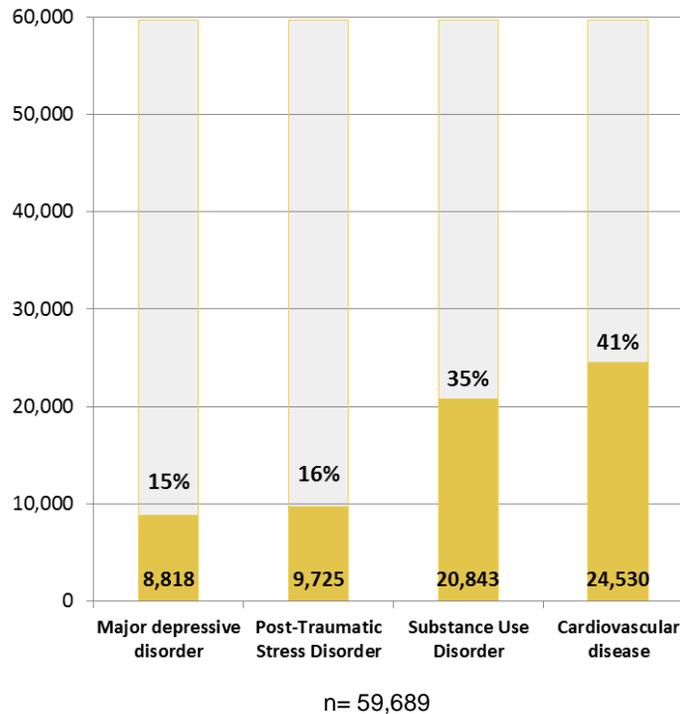
²⁸ Due to the limitations in the SSVF-HMIS Repository reporting system for FY 2015, the percentages of Veterans with “no disabling condition,” “don’t know,” “refused,” and “missing” was not available for inclusion in this exhibit. For that reason, “no disabling condition” SSVF Veterans shown in this exhibit is equivalent to the total Veterans served minus Veterans with “disabling conditions.” Additionally, the percentage total for “no disabling condition” presented in this exhibit includes an unknown percentage of “don’t know,” “refused,” and “missing” responses. As such, the “no disabling condition” percentage is likely a slight overestimate. In FY 2014, only 1 percent of Veterans had “don’t know,” “refused,” or “missing” responses.

²⁹ People with one or more of the following conditions were identified as having a disabling condition: (1) the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) or any conditions arising from the etiological agency for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV); (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment caused by alcohol or drug abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, or brain injury that is [a] expected to be of long-continued or of indefinite duration, [b] substantially impedes an individual’s ability to live independently, and [c] could be improved by the provision of more suitable housing conditions.; (3) a developmental disability as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 15002); or (4) for Veterans, a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act. This definition comes from the 2014 HMIS Data Standards Revised Notice (May 2014), which was in effect for FY 2015 grantees entering disability condition data into HMIS.

Section 3: SSVF Participants and Their Characteristics

rates twice that of the total U.S. Veteran population (28 percent) and 1.3 times higher than the disability rate among the U.S. adult homeless population (42 percent).³⁰

Exhibit 13: Major Health Problems Among Veterans Exiting SSVF and Engaged with Veterans Health Administration, FY 2015



SOURCE: Veterans Health Administration Support Service Center.

Exhibit 13 shows the major health problems found among Veterans who both exited SSVF during FY 2015 and received services from the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). Of the 73,012 Veterans who exited SSVF in FY 2015, 59,689 were documented to have received VHA services.

Two-fifths (41 percent) of these Veterans had a history of cardiovascular disease, 35 percent had a substance use disorder, 16 percent had post-traumatic stress disorder, and 15 percent had a major depressive disorder.

3.4 Prior Living Situations and System Coordination

The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act amendment to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act mandates that CoCs establish coordinated entry systems that feature a standardized access and assessment process for all clients, and a coordinated referral process for clients to receive prevention, emergency shelter, permanent housing, or other related homelessness assistance. Increasingly, stakeholders are using information regarding the movement of persons into and out of homelessness assistance programs and homelessness itself to drive coordinated entry system planning efforts by CoCs. SSVF has placed great emphasis on

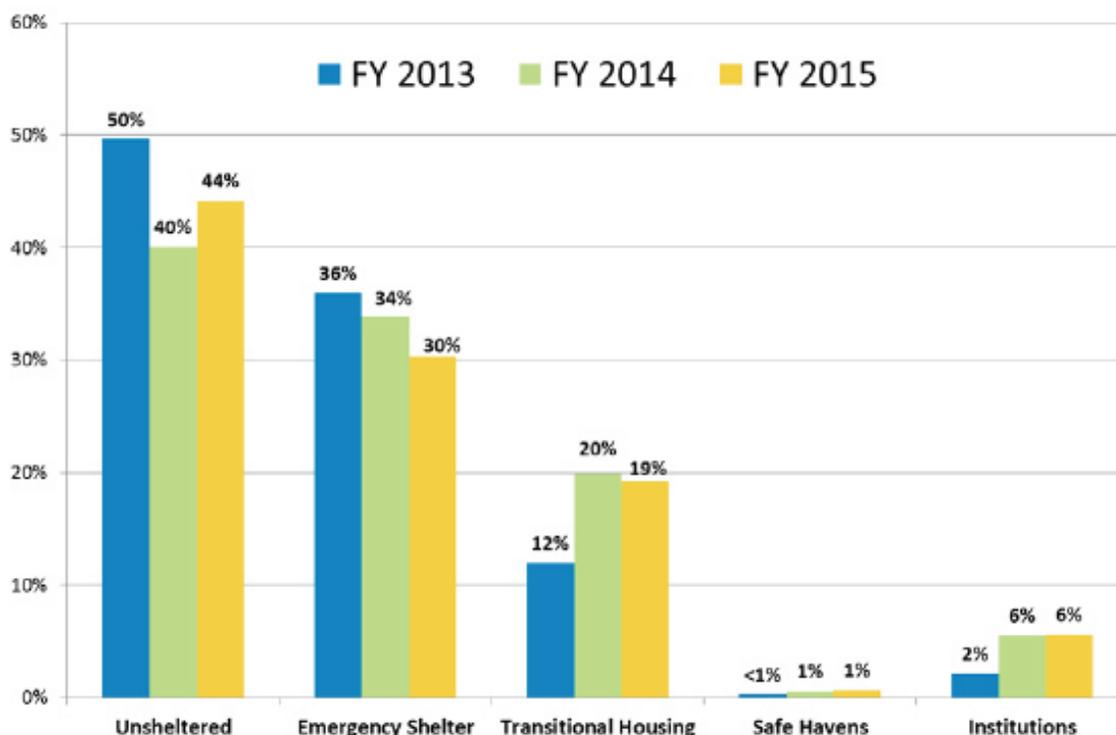
³⁰ See note 10.

Section 3: SSVF Participants and Their Characteristics

integrating its services with those of other community providers. Through participation in local HMIS and a requirement that grantees actively engage in community planning and coordinated entry systems, VA seeks to ensure that SSVF is integrated into local planning and systems to efficiently and effectively meet the needs of homeless Veterans. This integration fosters a consistent focus on the needs of homeless and at-risk Veterans.

The following two exhibits provide a window into the living situation of Veterans the night before being admitted into an SSVF program (i.e., “prior living situation”), as well as SSVF’s increasing role relative to the crisis response system for homeless Veterans.

Exhibit 14: Prior Living Situations of Veterans Receiving SSVF Rapid Re-housing Assistance, FY 2013-2015³¹



SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

Over the last three years, the largest proportion of Veterans who received rapid re-housing assistance from literally homeless situations came directly from unsheltered situations (including outdoor and vehicle locations).

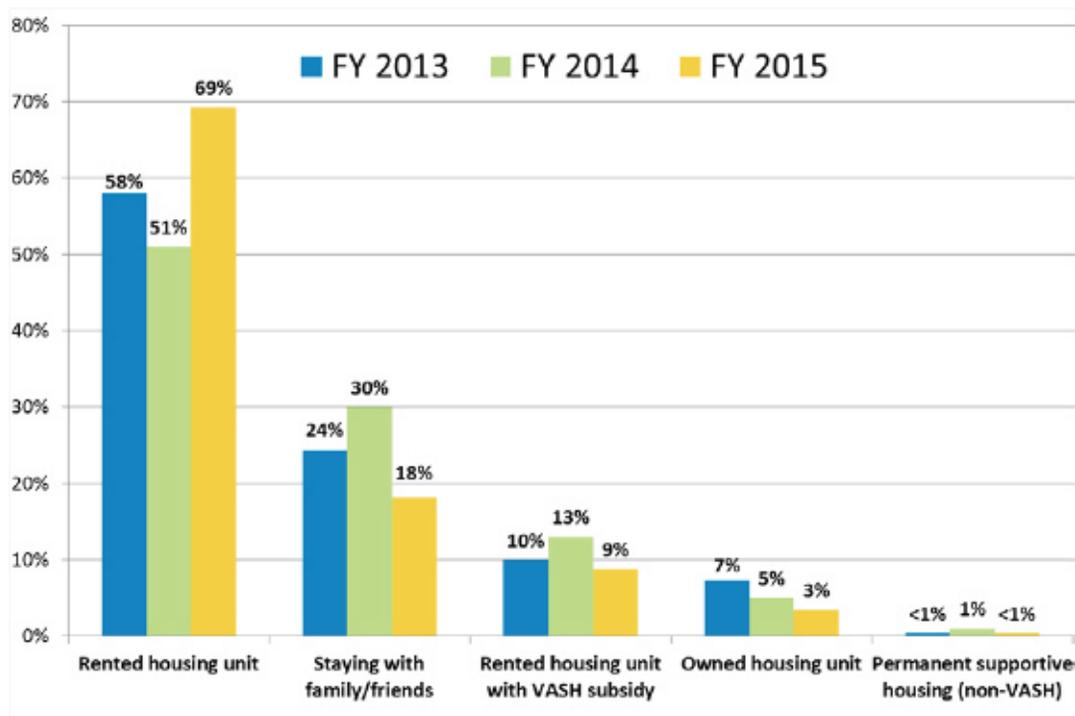
³¹ This exhibit includes only Veterans who entered SSVF and received rapid re-housing from homeless situations. The datasets from FY 2013, FY 2014 and FY 2015 exclude 5,911, 10,313 and 14,548 Veterans, respectively, with erroneous or missing data, including Veterans with prior living situations marked as a permanent housing location, “other” (e.g., missing or blank), “don’t know,” or “refused.”

Additionally, some of the Veterans in this exhibit participated in SSVF during a prior year. Those Veterans’ prior living situations may appear in more than one of the datasets, as they were active clients during both time periods. This data is not de-duplicated between years.

Section 3: SSVF Participants and Their Characteristics

At the same time, the proportion of Veterans receiving rapid re-housing assistance from transitional housing has increased (+7 percent), while Veterans entering from emergency shelter has decreased (-6 percent). Meanwhile, the proportion of rapid re-housing Veterans coming directly from Safe Haven and institutional programs saw little change.

Exhibit 15: Prior Living Situations of Veterans Receiving SSVF Homelessness Prevention Assistance, FY 2013-2015³²



SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

In FY 2015, the majority of Veterans (69 percent) assisted by SSVF homelessness prevention programs were residing in a rental housing unit at the time of program entry. Another 18 percent of these Veterans were staying in housing units owned or rented by family or friends. Nine percent of Veterans entered the program while staying in a rental unit subsidized with a HUD-VASH voucher, which is a form of permanent supportive housing, while less than 1 percent were in a non-VASH permanent supportive housing unit at entry to SSVF homelessness prevention. The remaining 3 percent came from a housing unit that the household owned.

Over the last year, Veteran homelessness prevention entries from rental housing units increased (+18 percent) while entries from Veterans staying with family or friends decreased (-12 percent). Additionally, there has been a consistent decrease in the percentage of Veterans coming from housing units they owned since FY 2013.

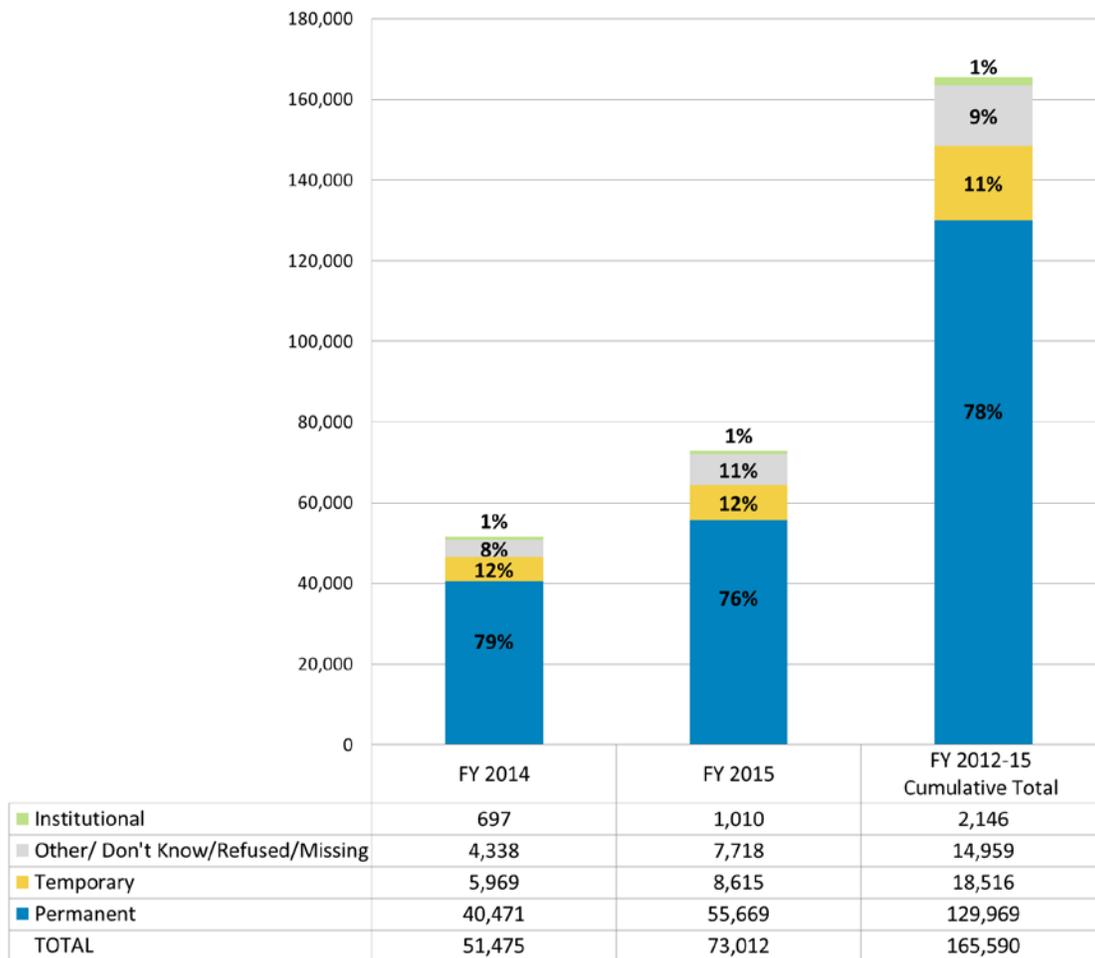
³² This exhibit only includes Veterans who entered SSVF and received homelessness prevention assistance who were living in housing units at program entry, including those staying in housing units rented or owned by friends or family. These datasets exclude Veterans with prior living situations recorded as “Other,” “Client doesn’t know,” “Client refused,” clients erroneously coded as homeless, and those with missing data.

4. SSVF Program Results

This section describes the outcomes participants achieved as a result of SSVF assistance. Key results tracked include housing outcomes, income changes, and participant satisfaction with SSVF assistance.

4.1 Housing Outcomes

Exhibit 16: Veteran Program Exits by Housing Outcome, FY 2012-2015



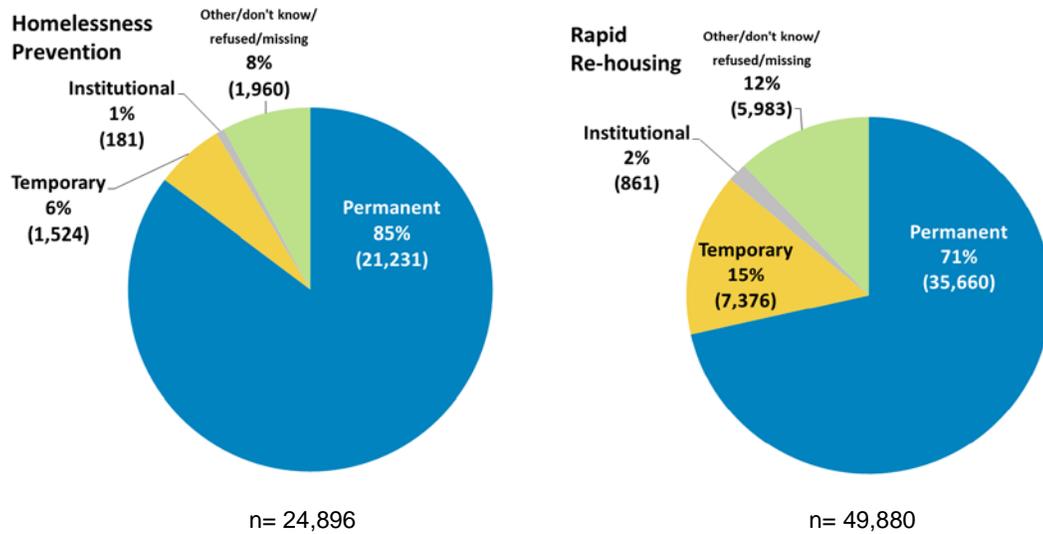
SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

Since SSVF's inception, 165,590 Veterans have exited SSVF, with 129,969 (78 percent) of them having successfully exited to PH destinations.³³ Of the 18,516 Veterans (11 percent) who exited to temporary destinations, 6,155 (4 percent of total) went to stay with friends or family temporarily, 8,784 (5 percent of total) went to sheltered homeless programs, and 3,199 (2 percent) were reported to have exited to unsheltered locations. Just one percent (2,146) went to institutional destinations,

³³ Across SSVF program years, it is not currently possible to un-duplicate service data. The "cumulative total" represents the sum of the Veterans served each program year.

including general hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, substance abuse treatment facilities, jail, or prison. The remaining 14,959 Veteran exiters (9 percent) went to unknown or other destinations.

Exhibit 17: Veteran Exits by Housing Outcome and Assistance Type, FY 2015



SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

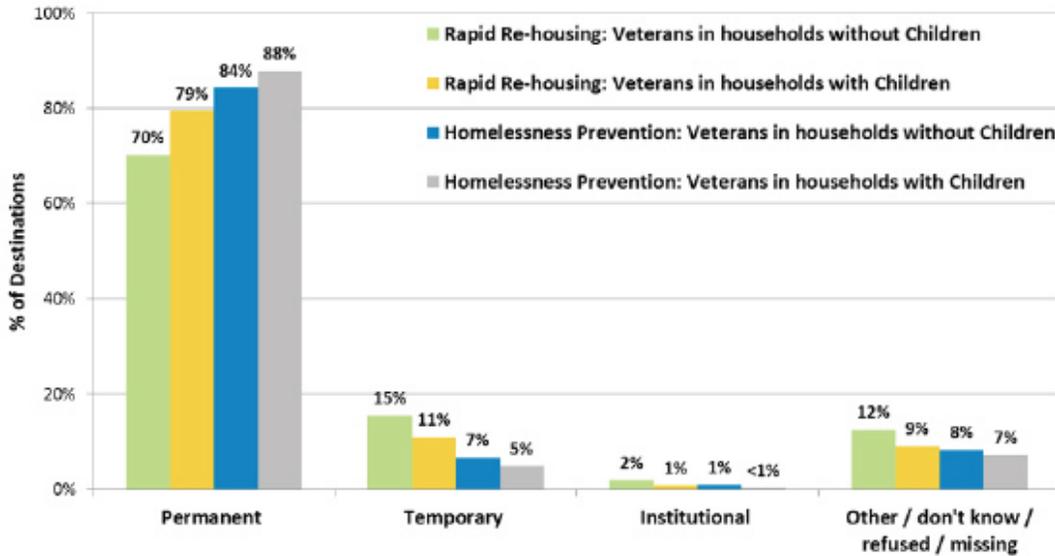
As shown in Exhibit 17, about 6 out of every 7 Veterans exiting SSVF homelessness prevention assistance maintained their housing unit or found other permanent housing (85 percent or 21,231 Veterans). Meanwhile, about 5 out of every 7 Veterans exiting SSVF rapid re-housing programs successfully ended their homelessness and moved into permanent housing (71 percent or 35,660).

Of the 15 percent of rapid re-housing Veterans who exited to temporary destinations, 4 percent (1,748) are known to have exited into unsheltered homelessness situations. Likewise, of the 6 percent of homelessness prevention Veterans who exited to temporary destinations, less than 1 percent (150) exited to unsheltered homelessness situations. For both homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing Veterans, the most common temporary exit destination was to housing with family or friends (4 percent for both assistance types, or 899 for homelessness prevention and 1,995 for rapid re-housing).

A 57-year-old Veteran in Mississippi was homeless for 2 years, and was eventually referred to SSVF. When the SSVF case manager first met with him, he discovered he had applied for Social Security disability benefits several months earlier, but had not followed up on the application. With his assistance, he was able to complete his application and also applied for VA benefits and food stamps. With his disability benefits and assistance from SSVF, he was able to secure housing, is now able to afford an apartment, has enough money to meet his other needs, and has a much higher quality of life.

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Exhibit 18: Veteran Household Type by Housing Outcome, FY 2015



n= 55,669

SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

Of rapid re-housing Veterans who exited SSVF, 79 percent in households with children went to permanent housing destinations at exit, compared to 70 percent in households without children. The differential was less apparent for homelessness prevention Veteran exiters, with 88 percent of Veterans in households with children remaining in or moving to a permanent housing destination, compared to 84 percent of Veterans in households without children.

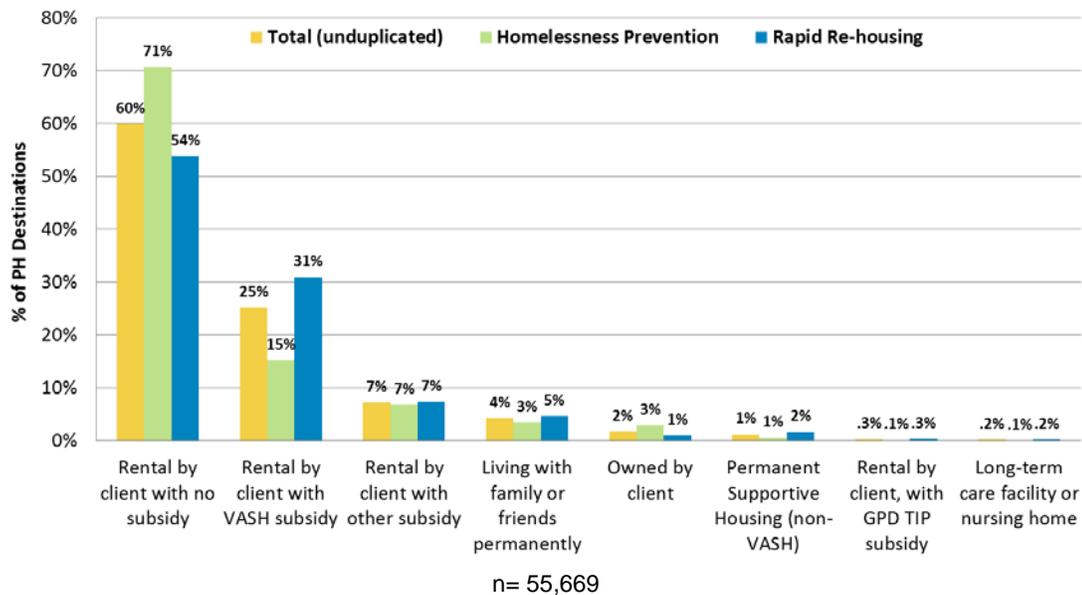
Overall, SSVF program outcomes continue to suggest that the supports and services provided through SSVF programs are successful in helping Veteran families find or regain stable housing regardless of household type or assistance type.

Related Research

This large-scale study documents how families fared about 37 months after random assignment to one of four interventions: community-based rapid re-housing (CBRR), project-based transitional housing (PBTH), permanent housing subsidy, and usual care. The study examines family outcomes in five domains: housing stability; family preservation; adult well-being; child well-being; and self-sufficiency. The study found strong, positive effects on housing outcomes for families offered a long-term housing subsidy. Offers of long-term housing subsidies also caused improvements in other aspects of family well-being. The study found that assignment to CBRR had the lowest cost of the interventions examined, with the effects on housing stability equivalent to usual care. PBTH led to modest reductions in homelessness compared with usual care during the time when some families were in transitional housing, but had no other effects on family well-being.

Gubits, D., Shinn, M., Bell, S., et al (2016). Family Options Study: 3-Year Impacts of Housing and Services Interventions for Homeless Families. United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. Retrieved from <http://www.abtassociates.com/NewsReleases/2016/What-Helps-Families-Who-Are-Experiencing-Homelessn.aspx>.

Exhibit 19: PH Destinations of Veteran PH Exiters, FY 2015



SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

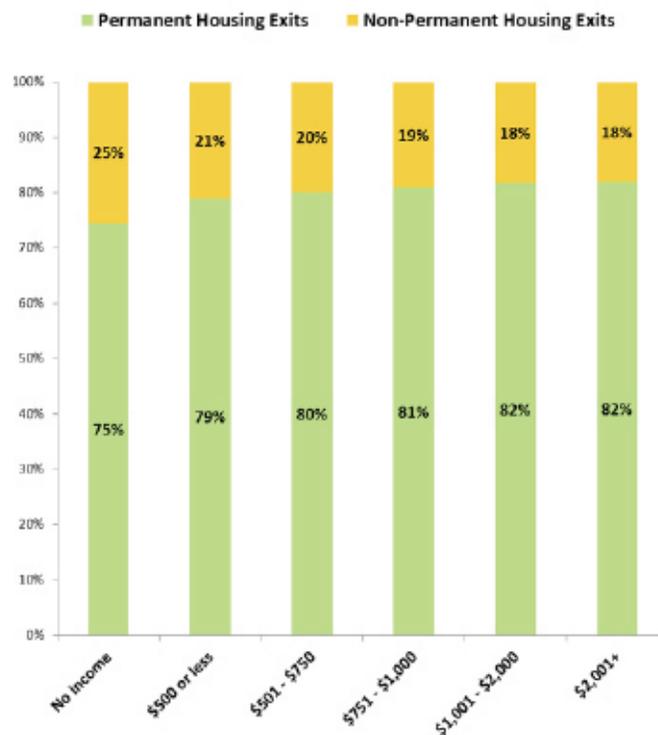
Among all Veterans who successfully exited to PH in FY 2015, three in five (60 percent) were in unsubsidized rental housing at program exit. One quarter of Veterans with a successful exit (25 percent) remained in or moved to a rental unit with a HUD-VASH subsidy.. Housing units with other housing subsidy programs accounted for 7 percent of permanent housing exits. Only 4 percent exited SSVF to live permanently with family or friends. All four other permanent housing destinations

Section 4: SSVF Program Results

accounted for less than 4 percent of these exits, including owned by client (2 percent), non-VASH permanent supportive housing (1 percent), rental by client with VA Grant and Per Diem Transition in Place subsidy (0.3 percent), and long-term care facility or nursing home (0.2 percent).

There were key housing destination differences between rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention, but these were consistent with the expectation that Veterans who become homeless often have greater long-term service needs than Veterans able to avoid homelessness. As shown in Exhibit 19, 71 percent of Veterans who received homelessness prevention assistance successfully moved to or retained unsubsidized rental housing, compared to 54 percent of Veterans exiting rapid re-housing to permanent housing. By nearly the same differential, 31 percent of Veterans who successfully exited from rapid re-housing went to a rental unit with a HUD-VASH subsidy, compared to just 15 percent of those Veterans who received homelessness prevention support.

Exhibit 20: PH Success Rates by Monthly Income at Program Entry Among Veterans Served, FY 2015³⁴



n= 73,012

SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

In full alignment with the Opening Doors strategic plan and the Housing First approach, VA expects grantees to serve Veterans at the highest risk of becoming or remaining literally homeless without SSVF assistance.³⁵ Often, this means accepting Veterans who may have little or no income and have

³⁴ Data is for Veterans who exited SSVF programs and does not include income changes experienced by other non-Veteran household members.

³⁵ See note 3.

Section 4: SSVF Program Results

multiple barriers to housing stability. As shown in Exhibit 20, while Veterans with higher income had higher successful housing outcome rates, Veterans with no income and those earning \$500 or less monthly still achieved a relatively high rate of success, at 75 percent and 79 percent, respectively. In fact, the difference in permanent housing placement success between Veterans who entered SSVF with earnings of \$500 or less per month and those who entered with more than \$2,000 in monthly income was only 3 percent.

Overall, these results are consistent with findings from previous years and support progressive engagement and assistance approaches expected among SSVF grantees.. This approach allows SSVF grantees to enroll Veterans with little or no income and other housing barriers and then progressively assist them with increasing or decreasing amounts of assistance as needed and desired to remain in housing. Where assistance across programs is well-integrated, grantees are able to enroll and assist participants knowing that, while a rapid re-housing intervention may succeed and result in no further need for housing or service supports, access to a permanent supportive housing intervention, such as HUD-VASH, can be facilitated to assure housing stability.

4.2 Length of Participation

Exhibit 21: Average Length of Participation of Veteran Exiters by Assistance Type, FY 2013-2015

| | <i>Homelessness Prevention</i> | <i>Rapid Re-housing</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| FY 2013 | 97 days | 105 days | 101 days |
| FY 2014 | 93 days | 104 days | 99 days |
| FY 2015 | 99 days | 116 days | 110 days |

SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data

The average length of participation for SSVF Veterans who received homelessness prevention and those who received rapid re-housing were similar in FY 2015, at 99 days and 116 days, respectively.

Overall, the average length of participation for SSVF was 110 days. This was an increase of 9 days since FY 2013 and 11 days since FY 2014. These increases were largely driven rises in the rapid re-housing average length of participation (+11 days from FY 2013 and +12 days from FY 2014), while homelessness prevention showed a more modest rise (+2 days from FY 2013 and +4 days from FY 2014). Such increases are likely attributable to a combination of factors, including better targeting to higher barrier households and the ongoing challenge of helping Veterans find and sustain suitable permanent housing in high cost, low vacancy housing markets.

The shrinking availability of affordable housing has been a growing challenge for SSVF grantees' working to quickly re-house Veterans experiencing homelessness. To mitigate this issue, the SSVF Program Office has directed technical assistance resources towards helping grantees improve their landlord engagement, recruitment, and local coordinated entry system efforts.³⁶

³⁶ Additional information on SSVF's efforts to improve coordinated entry system participation and landlord engagement can be found in sections 5 and 6 of this report.

Exhibit 22: Comparison of Veteran Exiters by Assistance Type, FY 2015

| <i>Assistance Type</i> | <i>Length of Participation</i> | <i>Percentage Who Received Assistance</i> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Homelessness Prevention | 90 days or less | 52% |
| | 91 to 180 days | 37% |
| | 181 days or more | 11% |
| Rapid Re-Housing | 90 days or less | 45% |
| | 91 to 180 days | 37% |
| | 181 days or more | 18% |

n= 73,012

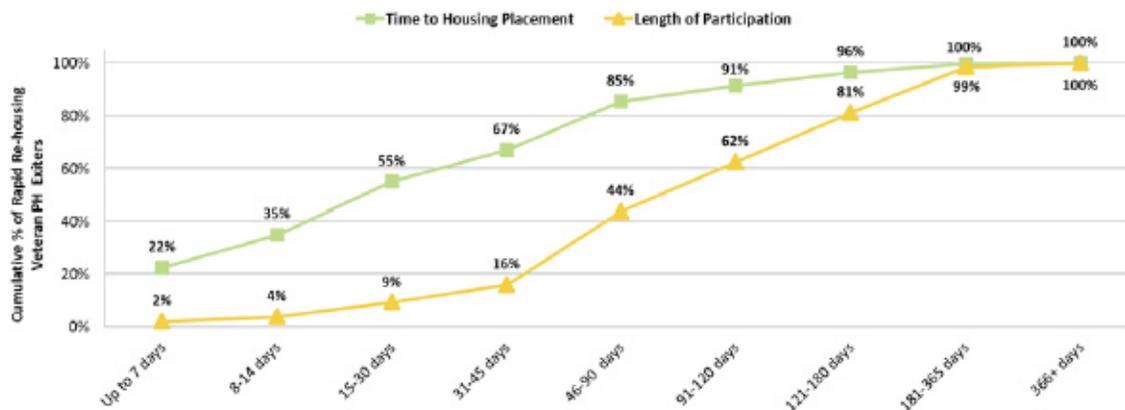
SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

Of the 23,384 Veterans who received SSVF homelessness prevention assistance and exited the program in FY 2015, slightly more than half were enrolled in the program for 90 days or less, and slightly less than half exited after 90 days. Just one in ten (11 percent) exiting Veterans who received homelessness prevention assistance participated for 181 days or more.

The length of participation distribution is similar for the 46,813 Veterans who exited after receiving rapid re-housing assistance. A slightly lower proportion of these Veterans left in 90 days or less, the same proportion stayed 91 to 180 days, and a higher proportion exited after 181 days or more.

Since FY 2014, this distribution has shifted somewhat towards longer lengths of participation for Veterans exiting rapid re-housing. The proportion of rapid re-housing Veterans who exited in 181 days or more rose from 13 percent to 18 percent, while those in the 90 days or less group fell 2 percent and those in the 91 to 180 days group was down 3 percent. However, among Veterans exiters who received homelessness prevention assistance, there was no significant change in the length of participation distribution over the last year.

Exhibit 23: Time to Housing Placement and Length of Participation among Rapid Re-housing Veteran Exiters, FY 2015³⁷



SOURCE: SSVF-HMIS Repository Data.

Starting in FY 2015, SSVF grantees began tracking the date of residential (permanent housing) move-in for literally homeless Veterans receiving rapid re-housing assistance. In conjunction with measuring length of participation, this allows a deeper examination of program efficiency related to the time between program enrollment and permanent housing placement. This new measure assists VA and researchers to understand the timing dynamics of successful rapid re-housing placements.

As shown in Exhibit 23, the permanent housing (PH) placement date for Veterans usually occurs months ahead of exit from SSVF. For those Veterans who successfully exited SSVF rapid re-housing to PH in FY 2015, it took an average of 45 days to exit homelessness to PH and, on average, another 73 days to exit the program. Put another way, the average Veteran successfully assisted with SSVF rapid re-housing spent 118 days enrolled in SSVF, with a little more than one-third of their program time spent working with SSVF to find and secure permanent housing, and slightly less than two thirds of their program time receiving case management, rental assistance, and other tenancy supports from SSVF while stabilizing in permanent housing.

More than half (55 percent) of all PH placements occur within 30 days and 35 percent of rapid re-housing Veterans who exited to PH were placed into a PH situation in 14 days or less. Nearly one-third (30 percent) of these Veterans were placed into PH between 31 and 90 days (about 1 to 3 months) and another 6 percent of these Veterans were placed into PH in 91 to 120 days (about 3 to 4 months). For the remaining 9 percent of these Veterans, it took 121 days or more to be placed into PH.

Less than half (44 percent) of Veterans exiting to PH with rapid re-housing assistance were enrolled in SSVF for 90 days or less (about 3 months or less). Another 38 percent of these Veterans were enrolled in SSVF for 91 to 180 days (about 3 to 6 months). Less than one-fifth of Veterans (18

³⁷ Time to housing data was not reported for 17,075 (49 percent) of the 34,857 Veterans who exited to PH destinations that received rapid re-housing assistance. This is likely due to this being a new data element effective 10/1/2014 and not yet fully integrated into grantee staff data collection protocols.

percent) were enrolled in SSVF for 181 days or more, including just 1 percent who were enrolled for more than one year.

Related Research

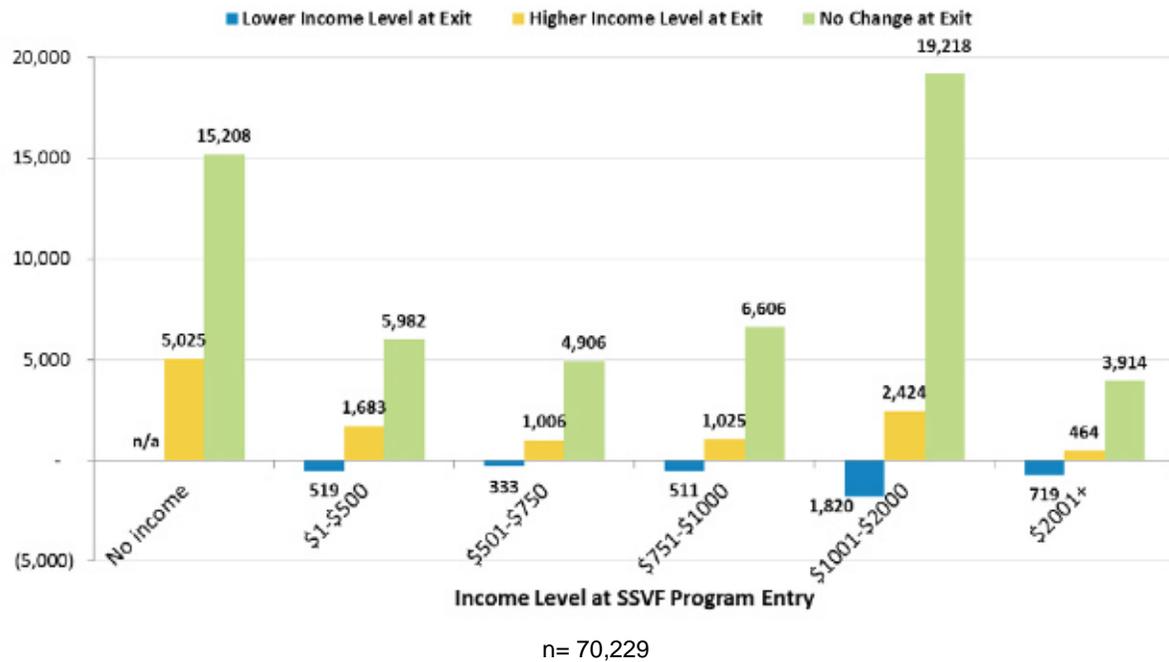
This study assesses the extent and predictors of subsequent homelessness among exiting SSVF Veterans during FY 2012 and FY 2013 as measured by returns to VA homeless assistance programs. Among Veterans who exited from SSVF rapid re-housing in households without children, 16 percent experienced an episode of homelessness within 1 year post-SSVF exit, and 26.6 percent by 2 years post-exit; the comparable figures at those follow-up times for Veterans in households with children were 9.4 percent and 15.5 percent, respectively. Relatively fewer Veteran households receiving homelessness prevention services experienced an episode of homelessness at 1 and 2 years post-SSVF exit. For Veterans in households with children who exited from SSVF homelessness prevention, only 6.5 percent within 1 year, and 10.9 percent within 2 years, experienced an episode of homelessness post-SSVF exit; the comparable figures at those follow-up times for Veterans in households without children were 10.3 percent and 17.9 percent, respectively.

Veteran-level characteristics, such as age, gender, prior homelessness experiences, and recent engagement with VA healthcare, were generally more salient predictors of homelessness following SSVF exit than variables measuring SSVF program factors or community-level housing market conditions.

Byrne, T., Treglia, D., Culhane, D. P., Kuhn, J., and Kane, V. (2015). Predictors of Homelessness Among Families and Single Adults After Exit From Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Programs: Evidence From the Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program. *Housing Policy Debate*, 26(1), 252-275. Retrieved from http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/ssvf/docs/2015_Byrne_et_al_SSVF.pdf.

4.3 Income and Financial Stability Outcomes

Exhibit 24: Changes in Veteran Monthly Income from Entry, FY 2015³⁸



SOURCE: SSVF- HMIS Repository Data.

SSVF, by design, is a short-term, targeted intervention focused on maximizing Veteran households' ability to obtain and retain permanent housing. It is expected that most participants will not experience significant changes in their financial situation during program participation, though interventions begun during SSVF participation may result in income gains after program exit (such gains are not included in this analysis). Grantees are required to assess participant income, identify VA and non-VA benefits participants may be eligible for, and assist them in obtaining those benefits, and helping Veterans and other adult family members identify opportunities to obtain or increase income from employment.

Most of the improvement in Veteran income at exit occurred with entrants at the lowest income levels. One-quarter of Veterans with no income at entry left SSVF with some amount of monthly income (5,025). Among Veterans entering SSVF with monthly incomes of just \$1 to \$500 per month, a total of 1,164 left the program with higher incomes (14 percent). For Veterans entering the program with monthly income levels between \$501 and \$750, 673 left SSVF with a higher income (11 percent). Among those with monthly income at entry of \$751 to \$2,000, 4 percent experienced increased income by the time of program exit.

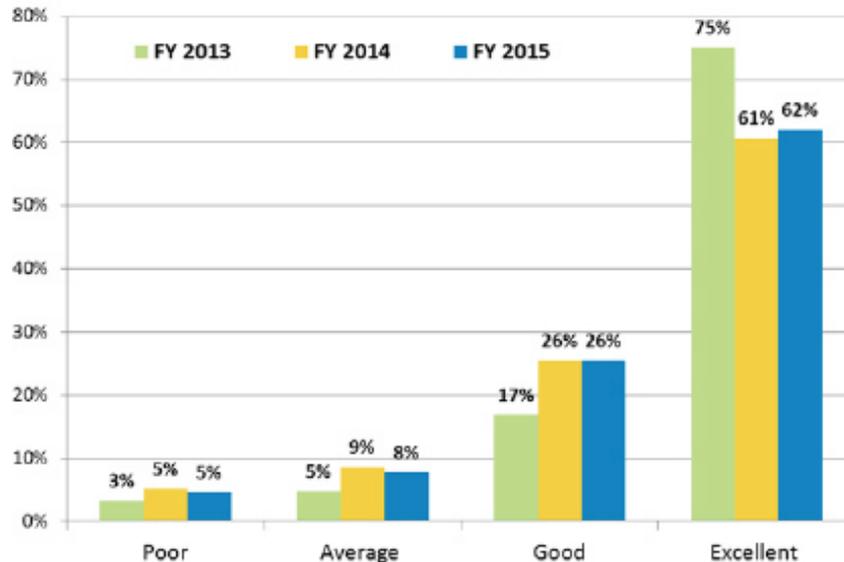
³⁸ This exhibit includes cash income sources only. Non-cash benefits, such as the Supplemental Food Assistance Program (i.e., food stamps) are excluded from the figures in this exhibit.

4.3.1 Satisfaction of Veterans Targeted by the Program

SSVF grantees must provide each adult participant with a VA-designated satisfaction survey within 45 to 60 days of the participant's entry into the grantee's program, and again within 30 days of the participant's pending exit from the grantee's program. In FY 2015, 6,077 participants completed satisfaction surveys.

Four-fifths (82 percent) of respondents reported needing case management services, while 90 percent reported receiving them, regardless of need. Nine-in-ten (89 percent) respondents reported needing rental assistance; two-thirds reported needing housing counseling (67 percent); more than half reported needing security and utility deposits (63 percent), utility fee payment assistance (56 percent), income support (55 percent), and VA benefits (54 percent). Less than half said they needed transportation (40 percent), personal financial planning services (39 percent), daily living services (36 percent), health care (34 percent), moving costs (32 percent) and emergency supply services (31 percent). Fewer than 25 percent of participants reported needing money to pay legal services and child care services.

At entry, 80 percent of respondents reported having difficulty in paying housing costs due to decreasing income. This was usually because of a significant change in employment status, such as loss of work, in the year before they requested help from the provider. Corresponding, the share of persons who exited the program and reported that they struggled to pay housing costs was nearly half as low, at 43 percent, suggesting that SSVF programs were successful in quickly reducing a major factor in housing instability.

Exhibit 25: Participant Overall Quality Ratings for Their SSVF Provider, FY 2013-2015³⁹

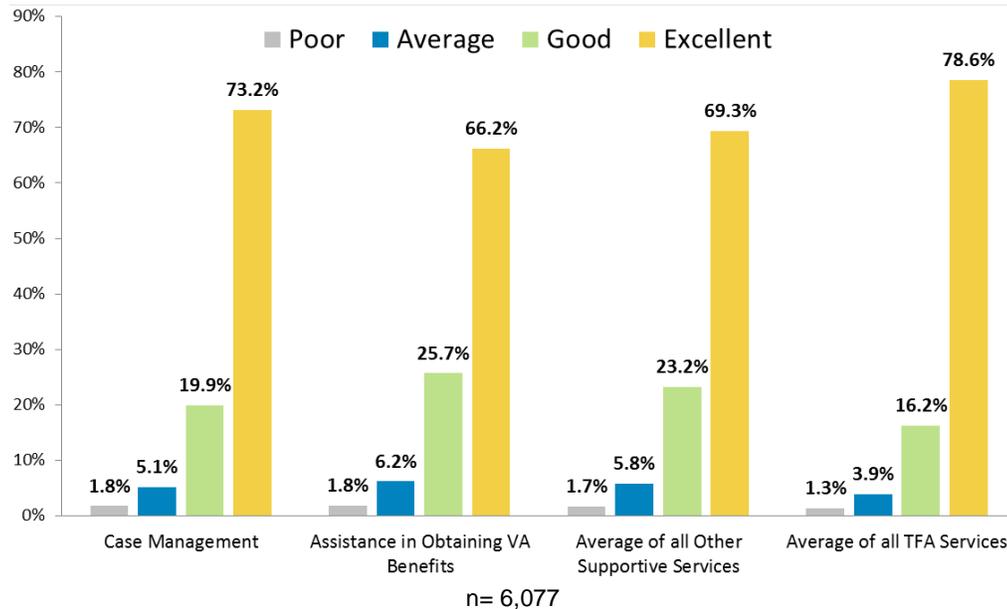
SOURCE: SSVF- Participant satisfaction surveys.

Eighty-four percent of adult respondents rated the overall quality of services as “Excellent” or “Good” in FY 2015, a slight decrease from FY 2013. Correspondingly, 13 percent of adult respondents rated the overall quality of services as “Average” or “Poor,” which represents a slight increase from FY 2013. There was virtually no change on this measure over the last year.

The largest changes since FY 2013 occurred in the “Excellent” and “Good” response categories, which largely offset each other with -13 percent and +9 percent changes, respectively.

Overall, a large proportion of participants indicated satisfaction with SSVF’s ability to meet their housing needs. Of the 85 percent who reported that their SSVF provider involved them in creating an individualized housing stabilization plan, 95 percent felt that the housing plan fit their needs.

³⁹ The scale used in FY 2013 was somewhat different than the scale used in subsequent years. In order to allow a useful comparison between FY 2013 and subsequent years’ data, prior year responses were matched with their closest FY 2014/2015 response in this exhibit. In FY 2013, the choices were, “Extremely Poor,” “Below Average,” “Average,” “Above Average,” and “Excellent.” “Extremely Poor” and “Below Average” FY 2013 responses were combined and matched to the “Poor” response for FY 2014 and FY 2015. The FY 2013 response for “Above Average” was matched to the “Good” response for FY 2014 and FY 2015.

Exhibit 26: Participant Rating of Service Quality, FY 2015

SOURCE: SSVF- Participant satisfaction surveys.

Overall, respondents' ratings of specific services were higher than their overall quality rankings of their SSVF providers (as shown in Exhibit 26). TFA assistance received the highest rating, with 95 percent of respondents indicating that the service was "Excellent" or "Good." Case management services, assistance obtaining VA benefits, and the average of all other supportive services each had 93 percent of respondents indicating that the service was "Excellent" or "Good."

4.3.2 SSVF and the SOAR Initiative

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) Outreach, Access, and Recovery Initiative (SOAR Initiative) is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to help enroll eligible adults who are either homeless or at risk of homelessness into SSI and SSDI. To qualify, enrollees must have a mental illness or a co-occurring substance use disorder. A reliable and sizable income source, such as SSI or SSDI benefits, often makes the difference between obtaining or retaining housing, rather than becoming or staying homeless. The SOAR Initiative has shown impressive results in overcoming the barriers that have traditionally made it difficult for homeless persons to obtain SSI/SSDI, including a lack of medical, employment, and educational history. Since the SOAR Initiative's nationwide rollout began in 2006, disability determination approval rates rose from 10-15 percent among homeless persons who did not receive assistance on the initial application, to 65 percent on initial application for homeless persons who did receive SOAR assistance.⁴⁰

⁴⁰ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, "2014 SOAR Outcomes Summary," retrieved September, 24, 2016, http://soarworks.prainc.com/sites/soarworks.prainc.com/files/SOAR_Outcomes_2014.pdf.

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Recognizing the value of the SOAR Initiative, VA initiated an effort to encourage SSVF grantees to complete SOAR training classes. As of September 2015, more than half of SSVF grantees were using the SOAR model, with 14 percent of grantees having an SSVF-funded dedicated SOAR benefits specialist. Overall, 40 percent of grantees reported that they had SOAR trained staff, with an average of 2.3 trained SOAR staffers for those grantees.⁴¹

VA intends to closely monitor SSVF grantee involvement in the SOAR Initiative. In the next SSVF Annual Report, updated information will be provided on grantee SSI/SSDI outcomes as well as their involvement in the SOAR Initiative.

⁴¹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, “SOAR and Supportive Services for Veteran Families,” retrieved September, 24, 2016, <https://soarworks.prainc.com/article/soar-and-ssvf>.

5. SSVF Program Implementation and Technical Assistance

The SSVF program continued to expand in FY 2015, incorporating 92 new Priority 1 grantees in 71 “surge” communities, in addition to renewal awards (Priority 2) and other first time awards (Priority 3). The result was a total of 407 SSVF grant awards nationwide as of October 1, 2014, with a much larger emphasis on assisting grantees, in collaboration with local VA and community partners, with using SSVF as a primary resource for preventing and ending homelessness among Veterans.

Correspondingly, technical assistance (TA) in this fourth year of SSVF program implementation focused on a number of efforts to promote consistency, quality, and effectiveness of SSVF services based on established and emerging evidence, and leveraging the growing expertise of SSVF grantees. The SSVF program diversified TA efforts this year to focus on broader community planning and engagement efforts at the local level. VA and its TA partners worked closely to incorporate SSVF TA into the federal planning efforts related to ending homelessness among Veterans, and positioned SSVF as a key, driving force toward that end in local communities.

5.1 Supporting Program Implementation and Ongoing Quality Improvement

FY 2015 is the fourth year of operations for the SSVF program and, while some grantees have been funded all four years, others have only been operational for one or two program years. Consequently, technical assistance efforts have been modified to account for a wider range of grantee needs. Further, the release of three year, non-renewable Priority 1 surge grants necessitated a robust TA effort to support grantees in taking their programs to scale and integrating those resources into local community and system planning efforts.

Compliance and Quality Improvement

The SSVF program continued to provide program-level technical assistance to VA-identified grantees experiencing more significant compliance or program practice deficiencies. VA SSVF Regional Coordinators in consultation with TA staff and monitoring staff, also sought to identify critical training needs for 1-to-1 and regional-based technical assistance. FY 2015 was the second year that SSVF compliance monitoring was conducted by technical assistance contractors; this shift in monitoring responsibilities gave VA SSVF Regional Coordinators more of an opportunity to engage in direct technical assistance support with their grantees. Furthermore, VA SSVF Regional Coordinators, technical assistance staff, and monitoring staff focused on internal coordination to ensure that monitoring results and trends were identified and could be addressed as part of the larger technical assistance and training framework. Monitors, who conducted 334 visits during the fiscal year, became a valuable resource to VA both in regards to compliance needs as well as identifying challenges related to program practices and employing SSVF’s core principles. The collaborative nature of this work allowed VA to prioritize compliance and practice areas that needed the most attention and support across grantees, and that supported ongoing compliance, quality improvement and performance.

Tools, Products and Trainings

The coordinated approach to TA delivery directly informed training efforts and activities related to creating tools and products, such as revisions to the SSVF Program Guide (re-published March 2015)

Section 5: SSVF Program Implementation and Technical Assistance

and other document templates grantees may access through the SSVF University. As an example, VA produced an SSVF Grantee Orientation Guide, which compiled a series of basic resources and modules to be used by new grantees, or new staff with existing grantees, to ensure basic program understanding and consistency with the regulatory and policy requirements, as well as promising practices, of SSVF. VA offered technical assistance opportunities that were focused on meeting unique grantee needs based on their program implementation progress, their status in meeting contractual obligations to date, involvement in local planning efforts, and an assessment of outcome data from the first three years of the program. SSVF Regional Coordinators offered ongoing support for grantees through monthly regional conference calls supported by technical assistance staff and monthly national webinars covering various topical areas and program policy updates. The SSVF program also hosted national webinars, which typically included between 400-500 attendees, and which were delivered at key points in the year when important issues or topics needed to be addressed.

Data-Informed Planning

Similar to using monitoring to help focus technical assistance, VA was also able to use outcome data – both local and national – to inform training and technical assistance. Given SSVF is a relatively new program, reliable outcome data was difficult to access until the beginning of the third year of operation. In the fall of 2015, with support from the National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans, VA produced and provided a webinar covering a study of SSVF titled “Predictors of Homelessness Following Exit from the Supportive Services for Veterans Families Program.” This study and other program data helped inform VA on policy and program priorities around targeting and using assistance in a progressive manner, which are intended to enhance SSVF’s ability to meet its goals over the longer term. Further, SSVF now represents one of the most comprehensive and timely data sets related to rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention in the country; this puts VA and the SSVF program in a unique position to use SSVF data to better understand these interventions, the Veterans and families they serve, and cost-effective strategies for preventing and ending homelessness. This data-informed approach continues to guide technical assistance and implementation support activities, and will prove to be more valuable as the program is sustained in the coming years.

Policy Response to Veteran Needs

VA has used the data and monitoring results noted above, as well as direct feedback from SSVF grantees and assisted Veteran families, to inform policy recommendations. VA published its final SSVF Rule in early 2015 which addressed some of the gaps identified in SSVF and aims to enhance the level and quality of services provided by the program. The SSVF Final Rule is a direct reflection of identified needs in the field and the recognition that certain initial program requirements of SSVF made it difficult for SSVF grantees to facilitate positive housing outcomes with the Veteran families they served. As an example, the SSVF Final Rule increased the maximum amount of assistance for those households whose income is below 30 percent of area median income, a change designed to ensure that extremely low income households are given more time to address their unique housing barriers before being exited from the program. By taking into account program data, monitoring results, feedback from grantees, and input from technical assistance staff, VA was able to make informed, practical suggestions for ways to improve SSVF over the long-term and within its regulator boundaries.

Related Research

This study examined more than 27,000 Veterans who screened positively for being homeless or at-risk of homelessness between November 2012 and January 2013 during VHA patient visits. In examining this cohort, the study aimed to assess the proportion of VHA patients who received homeless or social work services within six months of a positive screen for homelessness or risk in the VHA, and the demographic and clinical characteristics that predicted services utilization.

The study found that a majority of the cohort did, in fact, receive VA-funded and tracked services within six months. However, VA services utilization differed by sex. For male Veterans, being younger, unmarried, not service-connected/Medicaid-eligible, and having a medical or behavioral health condition were predictors for having received services. Whereas for female Veterans, having a substance abuse diagnosis and psychosis predicted receipt of services, while being unmarried, increased the odds of using services among those screening positive for homelessness. Female Veterans with PTSD diagnoses increased the likelihood of receiving services for women at-risk of homelessness.

Montgomery, A. E., Dichter, M. E., Thomasson, A. M., and Roberts, C. B. (2015). Services Receipt Following Veteran Outpatients' Positive Screen for Homelessness. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. Retrieved from [http://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797\(15\)00416-X/abstract](http://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797(15)00416-X/abstract).

5.2 Community Planning and Coordination

FY 2015 included an infusion of program resources with three year, non-renewable grants in 71 high priority communities across the county. As a result, VA devoted significant TA resources to support grantees in their efforts to better coordinate assistance with local VA, CoC and community partners, establish meaningful plans to prevent and end homelessness among Veterans, and develop and implement community-wide strategies to accomplish their plans. VA recognizes that there are a number of focused initiatives throughout the country aiming to end Veteran and chronic homelessness in the coming years. As one of the primary federally-funded interventions for Veterans experiencing a housing crisis, VA sees SSVF participation in community planning efforts as an imperative to achieving both national and local goals. VA encouraged and strongly supported SSVF grantees in their efforts to fully integrate with other VA homeless programs and their community's CoC planning body.

SSVF Community Plan Summaries

In fall 2014, the SSVF Program Office began tracking grantee and community partner progress related to developing and executing plans designed to effectively end homelessness among Veterans. These tracking efforts were first initiated with grantees in priority 1 communities and then expanded

Section 5: SSVF Program Implementation and Technical Assistance

to include all grantees and the communities they serve in early 2015. These Community Plan summaries are now requested approximately every quarter and assist VA in understanding to what extent communities have a functioning leadership group, a local plan with actionable strategies, and practices that comport to with the criteria and benchmarks published by federal partners for effectively ending homelessness among Veterans.⁴² Community plan summaries are publically available on the SSVF University website at www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf/index.asp?page=ssvf_university/community_coordination_and_plans.

Community plan summaries, particularly with respect to Priority 1 surge communities, ensure that SSVF plays a key role in local efforts. The VA designed the SSVF surge funds and resulting technical assistance efforts to enhance current planning efforts and provide a forum for SSVF grantees to engage directly with other community and public partners. This focus promoted the expectation that SSVF resources are used as efficiently and effectively as possible and that Veterans who do experience homelessness are quickly connected to permanent housing with complimentary, community-based supportive services. And, while technical assistance related to coordination was initially prompted by the desire to achieve the highest impact in communities receiving Priority 1 surge funding, the VA also broadened technical assistance related to community planning and effective integration of SSVF to all SSVF grantees nationwide to ensure that SSVF plays a pivotal role in ending homelessness among Veterans in every single community nationwide. The VA offered this technical assistance across multiple forums, as discussed below.

Direct Coordination Support

Beginning in October 2014 and continuing throughout the fiscal year, VA released a series of tools and products to support SSVF grantees in their role in local community planning efforts. VA made these planning tools widely available, by posting them on SSVF University and distributing via email. These planning tools included an End Homelessness Among Veterans 1-page brief, a Community Planning Discussion Guide for local use, the SSVF Community Plan Summary Template, the Veteran Demand Analysis and Tracking Tool, the VA Gap Analysis CoC and SSVF editions, and a set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) related to community planning and coordination. In addition, VA also sponsored webinar broadcasts to accompany the role-out of these tools.

Concurrent to the development of these resources and broadcasts, VA provided technical assistance directly to each of the 76 Priority 1 surge communities through a series of conference calls conducted between October 2014 and January 2015. These calls allowed VA to gauge the level of progress for each local community, and prioritize ongoing direct 1:1 TA efforts moving forward. Beginning in January 2015, VA offered direct technical assistance, both remotely and on-site, to Priority 1 surge communities who did not have other technical assistance available or who needed further assistance in reaching their local goals. While direct TA was targeted to SSVF grantees, other relevant VA and community partners were included to ensure a comprehensive approach that fostered strong program practices, community engagement opportunities, strategic resource commitments, data-informed goal setting, and the ability to monitor system-level performance. This direct TA continues to be delivered and is tracked on a monthly basis by VA and its TA providers.

⁴² “Criteria and Benchmarks for Achieving the Goal of Ending Veteran Homelessness”, United State Interagency Council on Homelessness, retrieved September 25, 2016, <https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/criteria-for-ending-veteran-homelessness>.

Section 5: SSVF Program Implementation and Technical Assistance

To complement its efforts around community planning, VA also held two SSVF Program Launch Events in December 2014 with identical content and areas of focus. These events utilized a combination of didactic and supported peer-to-peer sharing, with subject matter expertise from TA staff, SSVF VA personnel, and the National Directors from Grant and Per Diem, HUD-VASH, and the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans programs. The Launch events covered a range of sessions including a barrier busting panel with VA leadership, peer-driven community planning sessions, presentations related to coordinating with VA programs and local continuums of care, system performance measurement strategies, and an overview of SSVF's role in coordinated entry and broader community efforts to end homelessness among Veterans.

During late winter 2015, VA then held a series of Regional Meetings for SSVF grantees. These meetings were organized along two tracks: one for grantees serving Priority 1 surge communities and the other focused on grantees not in a Priority 1 community. These meetings were well attended with 749 grantee staff participants. Generally, these meetings sought to promote SSVF leadership at the local level and deliver guidance and training relevant to community coordination and, the intersection of SSVF with other VA programs. They relied, again, on peer-driven problem-solving and overall action step planning for FY 2015. VA also planned and delivered community-focused meetings for grantees and partners in New York City and Los Angeles as those two communities face unique challenges and opportunities in their efforts to end homelessness among Veterans.

In April 2015, VA reconvened all Priority 1 Surge grantees, including new grantees who were awarded during a supplementary round of Priority 1 grants in early 2015, for a community planning and strategy Launch event that sought to leverage and build upon the lessons learned during the fall of 2014 and winter 2015. This event reinforced the themes and guidance related to SSVF's role in each community's pursuit of goals relevant to ending homelessness among Veterans, and provided a forum for basic instruction, training, and peer sharing around developing community plans, strategies to accomplish those plans, and relevant SSVF program practices.

The VA sponsored a second round of regional meetings in summer 2015 in each of the nine SSVF regions. These events sought to build on the existing capacity of SSVF grantees and provide a forum for guided training and peer sharing with a primary focus on practical strategies for (1) developing and maintaining robust housing partnerships, (2) ensuring rapid movement from homelessness to permanent housing, and (3) operationalizing key principles of a progressive engagement service approach in rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention programs. This round of meetings also included distinguished grantees based on the urban and rural communities they serve, with participants grouped based on geography type. This allowed for more targeted learning based on grantees' local conditions and situations. The regional meetings used a blended learning approach by employing didactic presentations mixed with small group discussions/activities and large group reflections.

Grantee Feedback

Evaluations collected at the conclusion of each event/meeting provided overwhelmingly positive feedback about each event's success in increasing participants' understanding and provided valuable insight into grantees' training needs, which further informed technical assistance planning. SSVF TA providers delivered reports of each event summarizing grantee evaluation feedback and comments. These reports were shared with VA staff and leadership and were used to help guide TA planning efforts throughout the year.

5.3 Practice Standards and Accreditation

As was discussed in the FY 2013 and FY 2014 Annual Reports, VA continued to emphasize the importance of SSVF grantees using the SSVF practice standards to guide program design and fidelity to the SSVF core practices. The SSVF standards describe core program features and evidence-based practices around rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention across a range of program elements. Once published in FY 2013, VA was able to share the SSVF standards with three primary accreditation bodies – Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), the Council on Accreditation (COA) and the Joint Commission. This complemented the FY 2013, FY 2014 and FY 2015 program Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs), which allowed for multi-year funding awards for grantees accredited through CARF or COA. Further, in FY 2014, VA and other key stakeholders participated on an International Standards Advisory Committee (ISAC) with CARF to draft a new set of Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing standards that have since been incorporated into CARF’s Employment and Community Standards accreditation process. The SSVF standards were a basis for ISAC’s discussions; CARF formally incorporate these new standards into its accreditation process on January 1, 2015. During this same period, COA also developed and adopted updated standards pertaining to rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention with input from the SSVF Program Office, VA technical assistance providers, and other subject matter experts. As of the publication of this Annual Report, 68 grantees have pursued and received accreditation from CARF and/or COA. The VA considers accreditation a clear demonstration that these grantees operate their organizations and programs with a distinct level of professionalism and fidelity to SSVF’s model.

5.4 SSVF University

In fall 2013, VA launched “[SSVF University](#)” – an on-line learning platform for grantees covering program requirements and practices and providing a comprehensive library of training resources, tools and relevant resources. In FY 2015, VA continued to emphasize the value of SSVF University and sought to enhance the platform’s user interface and capacity to deliver impactful training resources. To inform the planning and implementation of SSVF University, VA released an electronic survey in FY 2014 and held one focus group with SSVF grantees seeking feedback on how this web-based learning platform could best meet their needs. That survey, along with discussions and feedback from VA and TA personnel, led to a full review in FY 2015 of the site’s resources and the overall design and functionality of the site. Throughout FY 2015, VA and its TA partners developed a refined, simpler organizational schema for the website and consolidated the general SSVF program landing page at VA.gov with the University to create a single destination for all SSVF Program regulations, announcements, resources and tools. The site’s new design greatly simplified the navigational flow and allowed for clearer delineations between program requirements, policies and practices. The new version of the website launched in September 2015.

5.5 Next Steps and Looking Forward to FY 2016

With the release of FY 2015 Priority 1 surge grants and the progress made by all SSVF grantees across the country, VA has positioned SSVF and its related TA for even greater impact moving

Section 5: SSVF Program Implementation and Technical Assistance

forward in FY 2016. In the coming fiscal year, VA will continue to leverage its resources to provide comprehensive, program-based technical assistance while also emphasizing SSVF's unique role in leading and supporting local efforts to end homelessness among Veterans. VA has designed the surge funds and resulting technical assistance efforts to enhance current planning efforts and facilitate integration among SSVF grantees and other community and public partners.

In particular, VA will work closely with other VA Homeless Programs and federal partners, namely, HUD and USICH, to ensure a coherent, coordinated approach to supporting community-level efforts to end homelessness among Veterans. This includes cross-agency TA planning and implementation and the adoption of a common set of strategies for ensuring homelessness among Veterans is rare, brief and non-reoccurring. SSVF TA providers are also engaged with HUD in planning additional TA support called "Vets@Home." This will allow for a consistent approach to TA and support relevant to ending homelessness among Veterans across federal programs and initiatives. Finally, SSVF will continue to issue guidance and training to support the growing need for targeted, effective homelessness prevention services.

6. Conclusion

6.1 Increasing Community Integration

With awards announced in the fourth program year, SSVF grantee coverage in FY 2016 reached 96 percent of all CoC areas. That coverage level gives SSVF grantees new and continuing opportunities to participate in CoC efforts to create and refine coordinated entry systems that feature a standardized access and assessment process for all Veterans needing assistance, and a coordinated referral process to receive prevention, emergency shelter, permanent housing placement and stabilization assistance, or other related services.

In FY 2015, the Priority 1 SSVF “Surge” NOFA began to infuse significant program resources into priority communities with higher numbers of literally homeless Veterans by providing an additional three-year, non-renewable grant. Ultimately, 71 high-priority communities received this funding. As noted in Section 5, VA is actively devoting additional technical assistance resources toward efforts related to coordination, community collaboration, and achievement of expanded SSVF permanent housing placement targets.

To that end, Community Plan surveys have been a useful tool over the past year to help SSVF grantees engage more meaningfully with community providers. Periodic surveys are requested by the SSVF Program office as a way to understand what goals grantees and their local VA and CoC partners have established related to meeting the federal criteria and benchmarks, as well as specific system and programmatic efforts being undertaken to accomplish these goals. Surveys include brief summary information around in-reach efforts to make Veterans’ shelter stays shorter and more effective, outreach efforts to more strategically help Veterans escape unsheltered homelessness, and, more broadly, on continuous coordinated entry system planning and system change efforts.

As one of the primary interventions for Veterans experiencing a housing crisis, VA sees SSVF participation in community planning efforts as critical to achieving these goals. VA and TA staff support SSVF grantees in these efforts to ensure that they are: fully integrating their services with other VA programs; creating sustained partnerships with landlords and community employment networks; making data-informed, strategic decisions on how to allocate their resources; and participating in their community’s CoC planning body and Veterans leadership group. Further, these efforts allow SSVF grantees to leverage their resources by helping to shape CoC planning efforts. Through grantee involvement in coordinated entry and other planning efforts, CoCs will maintain a focus on homeless and at-risk Veterans to include those who cannot, because of eligibility, be served by VA. Such collaboration is critical if VA is to reach its goal of ending homelessness among Veterans.

Housing Market Challenges and Landlord Engagement

The dwindling supply of affordable housing has been a burgeoning challenge for the rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention efforts of SSVF grantees. By 2014, the overall national rental housing vacancy rate hit a 30-year low at 7.1 percent. Meanwhile, in the affordable housing market, there was only 1 affordable rental unit for every 3.2 extremely low-income renters (incomes at or below 30

percent of area median).⁴³ Housing market conditions are even more extreme in coastal and other communities where there are also higher counts of Veterans experiencing homelessness.

To mitigate this challenge, SSVF grantees are expanding their leadership roles by assisting their local partners with landlord engagement strategies. SSVF grantees' extensive experience in rapidly re-housing Veterans often positions them as local experts in how to recruit and retain private landlords and other local housing partners. For coordinated entry systems to operate effectively for Veterans and others, investment in greater system capacity to recruit and retain an array of landlord partners is needed, along with greater coordination of landlord relationships across providers. In most communities, SSVF is demonstrating how to operationalize such practices and SSVF providers are often leading the way in scaling up such practices across local homeless crisis response systems.

6.2 SSVF Integration with Other VA Homeless Programs

SSVF program staff work closely with all other VA homeless assistance programs to integrate efforts and assure streamlined access to homeless assistance for Veterans experiencing homelessness and more rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing. The increasing use of GPD beds as bridge housing for Veterans receiving SSVF's rapid re-housing services is one key example of this integration effort. Bridge housing can help address a Veteran's immediate need for safety and shelter, and reduce the need for time-consuming street outreach to keep in contact with the Veteran during the housing lease-up phase. Through late-September 2016, 137 GPD programs have submitted scope of work changes to incorporate bridge housing.

VA has also added an "SSVF VA Medical Center Point of Contact" (POC) at every VA Medical Center. The POC serves as an educator and liaison between community providers and VA. As an educator, the POC disseminates information to VA staff across all programs and services about the benefits and services offered by SSVF. Likewise, as a liaison, the POC improves coordination between SSVF providers and local VA programs. This new resource for SSVF grantees improves grantees' ability to provide crucial VA support to Veteran households during perhaps their most difficult times.

6.3 Tracking Progress and Next Steps

VA will continue to leverage its resources to provide comprehensive program-based technical assistance, while also emphasizing SSVF's unique role in local efforts to end homelessness among Veterans. The surge funds and resulting technical assistance efforts are designed to enhance current planning efforts and provide a forum for SSVF grantees to engage directly with other community and public partners. This focus will ensure that SSVF resources are used as efficiently and effectively as possible to ensure that homelessness is prevented where possible, Veterans are never forced to live on the street; and that Veterans who do experience homelessness are quickly reconnected to permanent housing with complementary, community-based supportive services. While technical assistance related to coordination is particularly important for grantees and their VA and CoC partners in Priority 1 communities, all SSVF grantees are provided community planning support to ensure that

⁴³ Fernald, Marcia, et al, "The State of the Nation's Housing, 2016," *Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University*, 2016, retrieved September 25, 2016, http://www.jchs.harvard.edu/research/state_nations_housing.

SSVF plays a pivotal role in ending homelessness among Veterans in every single community nationwide.

In October 2015, VA and USICH took the important step of publicly defining criteria and related performance benchmarks for ending homelessness among Veterans.⁴⁴ This information is crucial in helping prioritize federal and local efforts to end and prevent Veteran homelessness. There are five criteria for achieving the goal of ending Veteran homelessness:

1. The community has identified all veterans experiencing homelessness.
2. The community provides shelter immediately to any veteran experiencing unsheltered homelessness who wants it.
3. The community only provides service-intensive transitional housing in limited instances.
4. The community has capacity to assist veterans to swiftly move into permanent housing.
5. The community has resources, plans, and system capacity in place should any veteran become homeless or be at risk of homelessness in the future.

The partnerships forged and homelessness resources provided over the last four years between VA, SSVF providers, and CoCs have yielded some noteworthy achievements. As of September 2016, 2 states and 29 communities (spanning 16 counties and 19 cities) successfully ended Veteran homelessness by meeting the federal criteria and related benchmarks. SSVF played a significant role in most of these communities' achievements.⁴⁵

Virginia is a good example of the scale of SSVF's role in ending Veteran homelessness. Virginia was the first state to officially end Veteran homelessness. In FY 2015, 1,432 homeless Veterans were housed statewide.⁴⁶ SSVF providers made at least 461 of those housing placements.⁴⁷ An additional 263 Veterans at-risk of homelessness exited SSVF homelessness prevention programs having successfully exited to permanent housing situations.⁴⁸

Over the next year, SSVF will continue to collaborate and innovate with local community providers, Veterans, and other key stakeholders to end Veteran homelessness. This means bringing the number of people experiencing homelessness down by connecting them to permanent housing and ensuring that homelessness in the future is prevented whenever possible or is otherwise a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience.

⁴⁴ See note 6.

⁴⁵ For a complete listing of the 29 communities that met the federal criteria on ending Veteran homelessness, see the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness webpage on HUD's website: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/veteran_information/mayors_challenge/

⁴⁶ "Virginia is the First State in the Nation to Functionally End Veteran Homelessness," Office of the Governor, Virginia, November 11, 2016.

⁴⁷ Due to the limitations in the SSVF-HMIS Repository reporting system for FY 2015, 5 grants that served more than one state, including Virginia, were excluded from the state-wide SSVF housing placement total. The limitation only allowed for one-state SSVF grants to be included in the state-wide total.

⁴⁸ See note 48.



Allen Evans bravely served our country in the U.S. Navy on the U.S.S. Hitchiti (1973-77). By the time Allen and his wife came to participate in Mental Health America's SSVF program, he had an eviction notice in hand with no employment. Allen was diagnosed with cancer earlier in the year, and was unable to continue working as a truck driver, forcing the family to survive on Allen's small disability payment. After tapping out the resources of family, friends, and church, the couple visited numerous social service agencies for help, only to be turned away. SSVF was Allen's last stop.

Working with the landlord, the SSVF program helped Allen and his wife avoid an eviction, with a plan to downsize to a more affordable unit in the same complex. By the time Allen and his wife exited from the program, Allen had secured a non-service-connected disability award from the VA, sufficient to meet the couple's needs. In addition, Allen has successfully completed his cancer treatments, and is looking forward to the day when he can return to work.

CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES

Appendix 1 **FY 2015 SSVF Grantees**

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Aletheia House, Inc. | 14-AL-154 | \$1,230,504 | Alabama |
| Family Endeavors, Inc. | 14-AL-155 | \$2,247,040 | Alabama |
| Housing First, Inc. | 12-AL-002 | \$1,438,809 | Alabama |
| United Way of Central Alabama | 14-AL-153 | \$2,175,885 | Alabama |
| | | \$7,092,238 | Alabama Total |
| Catholic Social Services | 12-AK-001 | \$600,677 | Alaska |
| Fairbanks Rescue Mission, Inc. | 14-AK-152 | \$263,564 | Alaska |
| | | \$864,241 | Alaska Total |
| American National Red Cross Southern Arizona Chapter | 13-AZ-087 | \$1,118,809 | Arizona |
| Catholic Charities Community Services, Inc. | 14-AZ-160 | \$1,431,559 | Arizona |
| National Community Health Partners | 14-AZ-157 | \$1,136,602 | Arizona |
| Primavera Foundation | 12-AZ-004 | \$1,125,671 | Arizona |
| United Methodist Outreach Ministries | 12-AZ-003 | \$823,160 | Arizona |
| United States Veterans Initiative | 14-AZ-159 | \$1,100,679 | Arizona |
| Vietnam Veterans of California, Inc. (Sacramento Veterans Resource) | 14-AZ-158 | \$2,102,334 | Arizona |
| | | \$8,838,813 | Arizona Total |
| St. Francis House, Inc. | 13-AR-086 | \$623,540 | Arkansas |
| | | \$623,540 | Arkansas Total |
| 1736 Family Crisis Center | 14-CA-324 | \$2,653,635 | California |
| Abode Services | 12-CA-012 | \$2,670,464 | California |
| Berkeley Food and Housing Project | 14-CA-175 | \$1,145,581 | California |
| California Veterans Assistance Foundation, Inc. | C15-CA-604A | \$526,666 | California |
| California Veterans Assistance Foundation, Inc. | 13-CA-090 | \$452,699 | California |
| Carrillo Counseling Services, Inc. (DBA New Beginnings) | 14-CA-163 | \$398,149 | California |
| Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Stockton | 14-CA-177 | \$707,458 | California |
| Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County, Inc. | C15-CA-614A | \$564,600 | California |
| Community Catalysts of California | C2015-CA-601D | \$284,958 | California |

| Grantee | Grant Number | Grant Funds Spent | State |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Community Catalysts of California | 12-CA-019 | \$1,820,359 | California |
| East Bay Community Recovery Project | 14-CA-164 | \$1,170,725 | California |
| East Oakland Community Project | 14-CA-167 | \$1,078,528 | California |
| Emergency Housing Consortium of Santa Clara County | 12-CA-010 | \$219,849 | California |
| Families in Transition of Santa Cruz County, Inc. | 14-CA-169 | \$548,328 | California |
| Good Samaritan Shelter | C15-CA-614B | \$151,660 | California |
| Goodwill Industries of Santa Clara County | 12-CA-013 | \$412,688 | California |
| Hamilton Family Center | C15-CA-501B | \$52,342 | California |
| HomeFirst Services of Santa Clara County (formerly EHC LifeBuilders) | C15-CA-500A | \$273,267 | California |
| Housing Resource Center of Monterey County | C15-CA-506A | \$831,004 | California |
| Housing Resource Center of Monterey County | 14-CA-161 | \$569,142 | California |
| InnVision Shelter Network (formerly Shelter Network of San Mateo) | 12-CA-015 | \$913,701 | California |
| Interfaith Community Services, Inc. | C15-CA-601B | \$741,546 | California |
| Knowledge, Education for Your Success, Inc. | 14-CA-170 | \$629,621 | California |
| Lighthouse Treatment Center | C15-CA-608B | \$350,808 | California |
| Lighthouse Treatment Center | 14-CA-171 | \$565,284 | California |
| Mental Health America of Los Angeles | C2015-CA-600E | \$161,174 | California |
| Mental Health America of Los Angeles | 12-CA-005 | \$1,133,738 | California |
| Mental Health America of Los Angeles | 13-CA-088 | \$735,870 | California |
| New Directions, Inc. | C2015-CA-600B | \$254,119 | California |
| New Directions, Inc. | 12-CA-007 | \$1,153,711 | California |
| PATH (People Assisting the Homeless) | C2015-CA-600C | \$273,006 | California |
| PATH (People Assisting the Homeless) | 12-CA-014 | \$1,877,606 | California |
| Salvation Army, a California Corporation | 12-CA-017 | \$1,753,340 | California |
| San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, Inc. | 14-CA-162 | \$191,323 | California |
| Shelter, Inc. of Contra Costa County | 12-CA-016 | \$874,852 | California |
| Sunnyvale Community Services | C2015-CA-500B | \$15,652 | California |
| Swords to Plowshares | C15-CA-501A | \$1,392,078 | California |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Swords to Plowshares | C15-CA-502A | \$859,437 | California |
| Swords to Plowshares | 15-CA-091 | \$1,842,981 | California |
| The Salvation Army, a California Corporation | C2015-CA-600H | \$242,671 | California |
| United States Veterans Initiative | C15-CA-606A | \$1,129,067 | California |
| United States Veterans Initiative | C15-CA-608A | \$332,269 | California |
| United States Veterans Initiative | C15-CA-609A | \$157,842 | California |
| United States Veterans Initiative | 12-CA-008 | \$863,802 | California |
| United States Veterans Initiative | 13-CA-089 | \$678,597 | California |
| Victory Village, Inc. | 15-CA-322 | \$467,349 | California |
| Vietnam Veterans of California, Inc. (Sacramento Veterans Resource) | C2015-CA-504A | \$228,473 | California |
| Vietnam Veterans of California, Inc. (Sacramento Veterans Resource) | C2015-CA-508A | \$226,572 | California |
| Vietnam Veterans of California, Inc. (Sacramento Veterans Resource) | 12-CA-009 | \$2,038,165 | California |
| Vietnam Veterans of California, Inc. (Sacramento Veterans Resource) | 14-CA-172 | \$2,009,385 | California |
| Vietnam Veterans of San Diego | C15-CA-601A | \$589,852 | California |
| Vietnam Veterans of San Diego | 14-CA-173 | \$950,569 | California |
| Volunteers of America of Greater Sacramento and Northern Nevada, Inc. | 12-CA-018 | \$1,261,174 | California |
| Volunteers of America of Los Angeles, Inc. | C15-CA-602B | \$705,801 | California |
| Volunteers of America of Los Angeles, Inc. | C2015-CA-600A | \$122,846 | California |
| Volunteers of America of Los Angeles, Inc. | 12-CA-006 | \$2,184,155 | California |
| Volunteers of America of Los Angeles, Inc. | 14-CA-176 | \$2,011,397 | California |
| Volunteers of America Southwest California Inc. | C2015-CA-601B | \$172,816 | California |
| WestCare California, Inc. | C15-CA-514B | \$845,037 | California |
| WestCare California, Inc. | 12-CA-011 | \$2,205,224 | California |
| | | \$51,675,014 | California Total |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Rocky Mountain Human Services (dba Denver Options, Inc.) | C15-CO-504A | \$953,702 | Colorado |
| Volunteers of America Colorado Branch, Inc. | C15-CO-503A | \$652,131 | Colorado |
| | | \$1,605,833 | Colorado Total |
| Columbus House, Inc. | 14-CT-178 | \$1,775,107 | Connecticut |
| Community Renewal Team, Inc. | 12-CT-021 | \$550,352 | Connecticut |
| The Workplace, Inc. | 13-CT-093 | \$1,514,640 | Connecticut |
| | | \$3,840,099 | Connecticut Total |
| Connections Community Support Programs, Inc. | 13-DE-095 | \$922,874 | Delaware |
| | | \$922,874 | Delaware Total |
| Friendship Place | C2015-DC-500B | \$305,646 | District of Columbia |
| | | \$305,646 | District of Columbia Total |
| Advocate Program, Inc. | 12-FL-024 | \$1,736,026 | Florida |
| American Red Cross, Lee County Chapter | 13-FL-097 | \$267,975 | Florida |
| Big Bend Homeless Coalition, Inc. | 14-FL-179 | \$1,164,538 | Florida |
| Carrfour Supportive Housing, Inc. | C15-FL-600A | \$662,440 | Florida |
| Carrfour Supportive Housing, Inc. | 12-FL-025 | \$1,981,337 | Florida |
| Clark's House, Inc. | 14-FL-180 | \$828,742 | Florida |
| Community Coalition on Homelessness Corporation | 14-FL-182 | \$175,914 | Florida |
| Emergency Services & Homeless Coalition, Inc. | C15-FL-510A | \$573,145 | Florida |
| Emergency Services & Homeless Coalition, Inc. | 15-FL-324 | \$1,178,121 | Florida |
| Faith, Hope, Love, Charity, Inc. | 13-FL-096 | \$966,197 | Florida |
| Family Endeavors, Inc. | 14-FL-185 | \$2,131,879 | Florida |
| Homeless Services Network of Central Florida, Inc. | C15-FL-507A | \$792,589 | Florida |
| Homeless Services Network of Central Florida, Inc. | 12-FL-023 | \$1,209,026 | Florida |
| Jewish Family & Children's Service of Sarasota-Manatee, Inc. | 12-FL-028 | \$1,180,011 | Florida |
| Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. | 14-FL-184 | \$1,194,415 | Florida |
| Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation | C15-FL-504A | \$1,000,000 | Florida |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation | 13-FL-098 | \$435,629 | Florida |
| Society of St. Vincent de Paul, South Pinellas, Inc. | C15-FL-502A | \$3,021,283 | Florida |
| Society of St. Vincent de Paul, South Pinellas, Inc. | C2015-FL-519A | \$300,361 | Florida |
| Society of St. Vincent de Paul, South Pinellas, Inc. | 13-FL-099 | \$1,498,158 | Florida |
| Society of St. Vincent de Paul, South Pinellas, Inc. | 15-FL-323 | \$1,380,007 | Florida |
| Tampa CrossRoads | C15-FL-501B | \$1,004,018 | Florida |
| Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council, Inc. | 14-FL-322 | \$258,915 | Florida |
| United Way of Broward County | 14-FL-181 | \$2,163,096 | Florida |
| Volunteers of America of Florida, Inc. | C15-FL-513A | \$805,620 | Florida |
| Volunteers of America of Florida, Inc. | 14-FL-187 | \$1,232,963 | Florida |
| | | \$29,142,405 | Florida Total |
| Action Ministries, Inc. | 13-GA-101 | \$1,030,424 | Georgia |
| Central Savannah River Area Economic Opportunity Authority, Inc. (CSRA EOA) | 12-GA-029 | \$853,604 | Georgia |
| Decatur Cooperative Ministry, Inc. | 13-GA-102 | \$584,204 | Georgia |
| Project Community Connections, Inc. | C15-GA-500A | \$490,075 | Georgia |
| Project Community Connections, Inc. | C15-GA-508A | \$229,007 | Georgia |
| Travelers Aid of Metropolitan Atlanta, Inc. | C15-GA-500B | \$387,737 | Georgia |
| Travelers Aid of Metropolitan Atlanta, Inc. | C15-GA-508B | \$189,129 | Georgia |
| Travelers Aid of Metropolitan Atlanta, Inc. | 14-GA-188 | \$1,142,747 | Georgia |
| United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta | 14-GA-189 | \$1,976,994 | Georgia |
| Volunteers of America Southeast, Inc. | 15-GA-325 | \$664,857 | Georgia |
| | | \$7,548,778 | Georgia Total |
| WestCare Pacific Islands, Inc. | 15-GU-326 | \$616,484 | Guam |
| | | \$616,484 | Guam Total |
| Catholic Charities Hawaii | C15-HI-501B | \$431,020 | Hawaii |
| Catholic Charities Hawaii | 12-HI-030 | \$1,197,534 | Hawaii |
| United States Veterans Initiative | C15-HI-501A | \$284,660 | Hawaii |
| United States Veterans Initiative | 14-HI-190 | \$837,974 | Hawaii |
| | | \$2,751,189 | Hawaii Total |
| El-Ada, Inc. | 12-ID-032 | \$275,645 | Idaho |
| South Central Community Action Partnership, Inc. | 14-ID-193 | \$237,070 | Idaho |
| | | \$512,716 | Idaho Total |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Associates of Chicago Urban Day School Inc. | C2015-IL-510F | \$364,243 | Illinois |
| Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago | C15-IL-511A | \$437,654 | Illinois |
| Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago | 14-IL-198 | \$1,074,298 | Illinois |
| Chestnut Health Systems, Inc. | 14-IL-197 | \$518,634 | Illinois |
| Featherfist, Inc. | 14-IL-194 | \$1,598,279 | Illinois |
| Heartland Human Care Services, Inc. | 13-IL-105 | \$1,286,200 | Illinois |
| Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans, Inc. | 14-IL-196 | \$429,278 | Illinois |
| Partners in Community Building, Inc. | 14-IL-195 | \$605,469 | Illinois |
| Salvation Army, an Illinois Corporation | 13-IL-104 | \$1,637,586 | Illinois |
| Thresholds | 12-IL-033 | \$834,319 | Illinois |
| Volunteers of America of Illinois | C2015-IL-510C | \$158,714 | Illinois |
| Volunteers of America of Illinois | 12-IL-034 | \$1,570,057 | Illinois |
| | | \$10,514,732 | Illinois Total |
| Community Action of Northeast Indiana | 13-IN-106 | \$444,517 | Indiana |
| InteCare, Inc. | 14-IN-200 | \$1,579,196 | Indiana |
| Lafayette Transitional Housing Center, Inc. | 14-IN-199 | \$246,550 | Indiana |
| United Way of Central Indiana, Inc. | C15-IN-503A | \$664,008 | Indiana |
| United Way of Central Indiana, Inc. | 12-IN-035 | \$1,367,970 | Indiana |
| Volunteers of America of Indiana, Inc. | 15-IN-201 | \$1,085,390 | Indiana |
| | | \$5,387,632 | Indiana Total |
| Family Alliance for Veterans of America | 14-IA-191 | \$790,703 | Iowa |
| Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc. | 15-IA-192 | \$1,139,794 | Iowa |
| Primary Health Care, Inc. | 13-IA-103 | \$662,220 | Iowa |
| | | \$2,592,717 | Iowa Total |
| Catholic Charities, Inc. (Diocese of Wichita) | 14-KS-322 | \$296,278 | Kansas |
| ReStart, Inc. | C15-KS-501A | \$310,670 | Kansas |
| Salvation Army, an Illinois Corporation | C15-KS-501B | \$235,746 | Kansas |
| Salvation Army, an Illinois Corporation | 12-KS-036 | \$597,819 | Kansas |
| | | \$1,440,513 | Kansas Total |
| Kentucky River Foothills Development Council, Inc. | 14-KY-204 | \$1,164,568 | Kentucky |
| Volunteers of America of Kentucky, Inc. | C15-KY-501A | \$530,669 | Kentucky |
| | | \$1,695,237 | Kentucky Total |
| Elle Foundation | 14-LA-207 | \$758,344 | Louisiana |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Hope Center, Inc. | 14-LA-205 | \$1,757,747 | Louisiana |
| Start Corporation | 14-LA-208 | \$681,727 | Louisiana |
| The Shepherd Center of Central Louisiana, Inc. | 14-LA-206 | \$275,984 | Louisiana |
| Volunteers of America of Greater New Orleans | 12-LA-038 | \$2,084,281 | Louisiana |
| Wellspring Alliance for Families, Inc. | 12-LA-039 | \$762,331 | Louisiana |
| | | \$6,320,415 | Louisiana Total |
| Preble Street | 12-ME-043 | \$1,651,846 | Maine |
| | | \$1,651,846 | Maine Total |
| Alliance, Inc. | 12-MD-042 | \$2,094,996 | Maryland |
| Diakonia Inc. | 14-MD-216 | \$243,349 | Maryland |
| New Vision House of Hope, Inc. | 14-MD-215 | \$752,670 | Maryland |
| Project PLASE, Inc. | 14-MD-214 | \$1,619,901 | Maryland |
| St. James A.M.E. Zion Church-Zion House | 14-MD-217 | \$391,885 | Maryland |
| Three Oaks Homeless Shelter, Inc. | 13-MD-107 | \$248,170 | Maryland |
| | | \$5,350,970 | Maryland Total |
| Lynn Housing Authority Development Group, Inc. | 14-MA-210 | \$582,563 | Massachusetts |
| Soldier On, Inc. | C15-MA-507A | \$374,419 | Massachusetts |
| Soldier On, Inc. | 14-MA-212 | \$948,344 | Massachusetts |
| Veterans Northeast Outreach Center, Inc. | 14-MA-209 | \$2,196,038 | Massachusetts |
| Veterans, Inc. | C15-MA-506A | \$871,992 | Massachusetts |
| Vietnam Veterans Workshop, Inc. | C15-MA-500A | \$508,954 | Massachusetts |
| Vietnam Veterans Workshop, Inc. | 14-MA-211 | \$1,241,617 | Massachusetts |
| Volunteers of America of Massachusetts, Inc. | 12-MA-040 | \$1,489,003 | Massachusetts |
| Volunteers of America of Massachusetts, Inc. | 14-MA-213 | \$862,265 | Massachusetts |
| | | \$9,075,196 | Massachusetts Total |
| Alger Marquette Community Action Board | 15-MI-328 | \$353,254 | Michigan |
| Bluewater Center for Independent Living | 14-MI-218 | \$664,137 | Michigan |
| Community Action Agency | 14-MI-220 | \$721,532 | Michigan |
| Community Rebuilders | 14-MI-223 | \$344,542 | Michigan |
| Housing Services for Eaton County | 14-MI-224 | \$200,037 | Michigan |
| Mid Michigan Community Action Agency, Inc. | 14-MI-222 | \$583,319 | Michigan |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Neighborhood Legal Services (dba Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Services) | 14-MI-225 | \$1,410,877 | Michigan |
| Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency, Inc. | 13-MI-108 | \$636,274 | Michigan |
| Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency | 14-MI-221 | \$334,613 | Michigan |
| Southwest Counseling Solutions | 12-MI-045 | \$1,472,051 | Michigan |
| Training & Treatment Innovations, Inc. | 14-MI-219 | \$1,217,351 | Michigan |
| Volunteers of America Michigan, Inc. | C15-MI-501A | \$874,483 | Michigan |
| Volunteers of America Michigan, Inc. | 14-MI-226 | \$1,292,102 | Michigan |
| Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency | 12-MI-044 | \$730,412 | Michigan |
| | | \$10,834,984 | Michigan Total |
| Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans | C15-MN-500A | \$321,776 | Minnesota |
| Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans | 12-MN-046 | \$1,536,498 | Minnesota |
| Tri-County Action Program, Inc. | 14-MN-227 | \$231,465 | Minnesota |
| | | \$2,089,739 | Minnesota Total |
| Catholic Charities, Inc. (Diocese of Jackson) | 14-MS-234 | \$460,538 | Mississippi |
| Hancock Resource Center (HRC) | 14-MS-232 | \$191,330 | Mississippi |
| Mississippi United to End Homelessness, Inc. | 14-MS-231 | \$165,158 | Mississippi |
| PTEH, Inc. | 15-MS-331 | \$250,000 | Mississippi |
| Region XII Commission on Mental Health & Retardation (Pine Belt Mental Health) | 13-MS-111 | \$881,417 | Mississippi |
| Soldier On of Delaware, Inc. | 14-MS-233 | \$2,595,621 | Mississippi |
| | | \$4,544,064 | Mississippi Total |
| Catholic Charities of Kansas City - St Joseph, Inc. | 13-MO-110 | \$731,014 | Missouri |
| Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, Inc. | 15-MO-330 | \$620,238 | Missouri |
| Pathways Community Behavioral Healthcare, Inc. | 14-MO-230 | \$506,886 | Missouri |
| Phoenix Programs, Inc. | 14-MO-229 | \$231,897 | Missouri |
| ReStart, Inc. | C15-MO-604B | \$479,354 | Missouri |
| Salvation Army, an Illinois Corporation | C15-MO-604A | \$220,535 | Missouri |
| Salvation Army, an Illinois Corporation | 13-MO-109 | \$595,902 | Missouri |
| St. Patrick Center | 12-MO-048 | \$1,032,929 | Missouri |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| St. Patrick Center | 15-MO-329 | \$333,956 | Missouri |
| The Kitchen, Inc. | 14-MO-228 | \$525,606 | Missouri |
| Welcome Home, Inc. | 13-MO-047 | \$191,145 | Missouri |
| | | \$5,469,463 | Missouri Total |
| Volunteers of America Northern Rockies | C2015-MT-500B | \$494,864 | Montana |
| Volunteers of America Northern Rockies | 13-MT-113 | \$675,260 | Montana |
| | | \$1,170,124 | Montana Total |
| Appalachian Regional Coalition on Homelessness (ARCH) | 13-ZZ-138 | \$2,481,164 | Multiple States |
| Blue Mountain Action Council | 13-ZZ-147 | \$927,440 | Multiple States |
| Centerstone of Tennessee, Inc. | 12-ZZ-070 | \$2,042,313 | Multiple States |
| Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. | 15-ZZ-340 | \$731,526 | Multiple States |
| Community Action Partnership | 14-ZZ-319 | \$1,055,765 | Multiple States |
| Community Action Partnership | 14-ZZ-320 | \$814,644 | Multiple States |
| Community Action Partnership | 14-ZZ-321 | \$1,028,730 | Multiple States |
| Friendship Place | 13-ZZ-094 | \$2,049,472 | Multiple States |
| Healing BALM of Northeast Florida, Inc. | 14-ZZ-310 | \$1,356,679 | Multiple States |
| Homeless Veterans Fellowship | 14-ZZ-317 | \$331,303 | Multiple States |
| Housing Counseling Services | 14-ZZ-313 | \$1,087,845 | Multiple States |
| Humility of Mary Shelter, Inc. | 12-ZZ-031 | \$272,767 | Multiple States |
| Northwest Florida Comprehensive Services for Children, Inc. | 12-ZZ-026 | \$1,201,673 | Multiple States |
| Operation Renewed Hope | 14-ZZ-318 | \$504,731 | Multiple States |
| Operation Stand Down Rhode Island | 13-ZZ-133 | \$1,062,178 | Multiple States |
| Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center, Inc. | 15-ZZ-341 | \$800,000 | Multiple States |
| Rocky Mountain Human Services (dba Denver Options, Inc.) | 12-ZZ-020 | \$2,334,749 | Multiple States |
| Southwest Wyoming Recovery Access Programs | 15-ZZ-339 | \$1,306,185 | Multiple States |
| The Alston Wilkes Society (AWS, Alston Wilkes Veterans Home) | 13-ZZ-134 | \$1,537,025 | Multiple States |
| Together, Inc. of Metropolitan Omaha | 14-ZZ-311 | \$276,907 | Multiple States |
| Transition Projects, Inc. | 15-ZZ-127 | \$1,359,608 | Multiple States |
| Transitional Living Services, Inc. | 14-ZZ-308 | \$364,436 | Multiple States |
| United States Veterans Initiative | 14-ZZ-314 | \$2,271,188 | Multiple States |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| University of Vermont and State Agricultural College | 13-ZZ-145 | \$1,256,050 | Multiple States |
| Veterans, Inc. | 12-ZZ-041 | \$2,002,191 | Multiple States |
| Volunteers of America Colorado Branch, Inc. | 13-ZZ-092 | \$2,352,921 | Multiple States |
| Volunteers of America of Kentucky, Inc. | 15-ZZ-037 | \$1,374,064 | Multiple States |
| Volunteers of America of Kentucky, Inc. | 15-ZZ-315 | \$1,365,674 | Multiple States |
| | | \$35,549,228 | Multiple States Total |
| Blue Valley Community Action, Inc. | 14-NE-239 | \$133,110 | Nebraska |
| Central Nebraska Community Services | 12-NE-052 | \$194,323 | Nebraska |
| Northeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership | 14-NE-238 | \$196,500 | Nebraska |
| | | \$523,933 | Nebraska Total |
| HELP Social Service Corporation | C2015-NV-500D | \$229,155 | Nevada |
| HELP Social Service Corporation | 14-NV-248 | \$972,915 | Nevada |
| Salvation Army, a California Corporation | 13-NV-118 | \$559,315 | Nevada |
| United States Veterans Initiative | C15-NV-500B | \$993,899 | Nevada |
| United States Veterans Initiative | 13-NV-056 | \$1,292,483 | Nevada |
| United States Veterans Initiative (dba U.S. VETS - Las Vegas) | C2015-NV-500E | \$49,238 | Nevada |
| Vietnam Veterans of California, Inc. (Sacramento Veterans Resource) | 13-NV-117 | \$2,049,242 | Nevada |
| | | \$6,146,248 | Nevada Total |
| Harbor Homes, Inc. | 13-NH-115 | \$1,132,795 | New Hampshire |
| Southwestern Community Services, Inc. | 14-NH-240 | \$273,083 | New Hampshire |
| | | \$1,405,878 | New Hampshire Total |
| Catholic Charities Dioceses of Camden, Inc. | 12-NJ-053 | \$1,350,441 | New Jersey |
| Catholic Family and Community Service | 14-NJ-242 | \$1,724,836 | New Jersey |
| Community Hope, Inc. | 12-NJ-054 | \$1,982,932 | New Jersey |
| Community Hope, Inc. | 14-NJ-241 | \$1,025,006 | New Jersey |
| North Hudson Community Action Corporation | 14-NJ-243 | \$893,146 | New Jersey |
| Soldier On, Inc. | 13-NJ-116 | \$2,266,635 | New Jersey |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Soldier On, Inc. | 14-NJ-244 | \$2,639,409 | New Jersey |
| | | \$11,882,404 | New Jersey Total |
| Goodwill Industries of New Mexico | 12-NM-055 | \$1,095,539 | New Mexico |
| Mesilla Valley Community of Hope | 14-NM-247 | \$118,222 | New Mexico |
| New Mexico Veterans Integration Centers | 14-NM-246 | \$864,602 | New Mexico |
| | | \$2,078,362 | New Mexico Total |
| Albany Housing Coalition, Inc. | 14-NY-256 | \$282,540 | New York |
| Black Veterans for Social Justice, Inc. | 15-NY-252 | \$1,933,503 | New York |
| Catholic Charities of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse NY | 13-NY-119 | \$546,764 | New York |
| Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk, Inc. | 14-NY-254 | \$1,444,499 | New York |
| HELP Social Service Corporation | C15-NY-600B | \$807,040 | New York |
| HELP Social Service Corporation | 12-NY-060 | \$1,584,228 | New York |
| Hudson River Housing, Inc. | 13-NY-122 | \$577,355 | New York |
| Institute for Community Living, Inc. | 13-NY-120 | \$1,662,436 | New York |
| PathStone Corporation | 14-NY-253 | \$229,545 | New York |
| Samaritan Village, Inc. | 12-NY-061 | \$2,019,043 | New York |
| Saratoga County Rural Preservation Company, Inc. | 14-NY-251 | \$521,444 | New York |
| Services for the UnderServed, Inc. | C15-NY-600A | \$1,107,715 | New York |
| Services for the UnderServed, Inc. | C15-NY-603A | \$392,146 | New York |
| Services for the UnderServed, Inc. | 12-NY-062 | \$1,103,465 | New York |
| Services for the UnderServed, Inc. | 14-NY-257 | \$2,013,108 | New York |
| Soldier On of Delaware, Inc. | 13-NY-121 | \$1,989,226 | New York |
| Soldier On, Inc. | 12-NY-058 | \$2,014,668 | New York |
| The Jericho Project | 14-NY-250 | \$1,426,867 | New York |
| Utica Center for Development, Inc. | 14-NY-249 | \$449,184 | New York |
| Veterans Outreach Center, Inc. | 12-NY-057 | \$1,114,161 | New York |
| Veterans Outreach Center, Inc. | 14-NY-258 | \$881,259 | New York |
| Volunteers of America-Greater New York, Inc. | 14-NY-259 | \$1,597,376 | New York |
| Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. (WestCOP) | 12-NY-063 | \$2,105,789 | New York |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | \$27,803,361 | New York Total |
| Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry | 13-NC-114 | \$788,674 | North Carolina |
| Community Link Programs of Travelers Aid Society of Central Carolinas, Inc. | 14-NC-236 | \$1,376,935 | North Carolina |
| Family Endeavors, Inc. | C15-NC-511B | \$828,911 | North Carolina |
| Family Endeavors, Inc. | 14-NC-235 | \$2,074,010 | North Carolina |
| Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina | C15-NC-501A | \$436,157 | North Carolina |
| Passage Home Inc. | 12-NC-050 | \$325,781 | North Carolina |
| United Way of Forsyth County, Inc. | 12-NC-049 | \$1,099,473 | North Carolina |
| Volunteers of America of the Carolinas, Inc. | C15-NC-507A | \$524,070 | North Carolina |
| Volunteers of America of the Carolinas, Inc. | 14-NC-237 | \$1,005,372 | North Carolina |
| Volunteers of America of the Carolinas, Inc. | 15-NC-332 | \$395,235 | North Carolina |
| | | \$8,854,618 | North Carolina Total |
| North Dakota Coalition of Homeless People, Inc. | 12-ND-051 | \$1,100,573 | North Dakota |
| | | \$1,100,573 | North Dakota Total |
| Community Action Agency of Columbiana County, Inc. | 14-OH-264 | \$149,676 | Ohio |
| Community Action Program Corporation of Washington-Morgan Counties, Ohio | 14-OH-265 | \$570,968 | Ohio |
| Community Support Services, Inc. | 14-OH-267 | \$368,254 | Ohio |
| Faith Mission, Inc. | 14-OH-266 | \$471,333 | Ohio |
| Family & Community Services, Inc. | 14-OH-262 | \$847,649 | Ohio |
| Licking County Coalition for Housing | 14-OH-261 | \$309,162 | Ohio |
| Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio | 15-OH-333 | \$300,337 | Ohio |
| Maumee Valley Guidance Center | 13-OH-124 | \$292,184 | Ohio |
| Mental Health Services for Homeless Persons, Inc. | 12-OH-064 | \$1,653,242 | Ohio |
| Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center, Inc. | C15-OH-500A | \$326,052 | Ohio |
| Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries Rehabilitation Center, Inc. | 13-OH-123 | \$992,626 | Ohio |
| Salvation Army, a New York Corporation | 14-OH-268 | \$606,674 | Ohio |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| St. Vincent de Paul Social Services, Inc. | 14-OH-260 | \$925,682 | Ohio |
| Talbert House, Inc. | C15-OH-500B | \$258,025 | Ohio |
| Talbert House, Inc. | 14-OH-263 | \$573,277 | Ohio |
| Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio | C15-OH-502B | \$1,229,810 | Ohio |
| Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio | C15-OH-505A | \$816,586 | Ohio |
| Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio | 14-OH-269 | \$1,330,715 | Ohio |
| | | \$12,022,251 | Ohio Total |
| Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa, Inc. | 12-OK-065 | \$1,978,931 | Oklahoma |
| Goodwill Industries of Central Oklahoma, Inc. | 14-OK-271 | \$1,619,046 | Oklahoma |
| KI BOISE Community Action Foundation Inc. | 14-OK-270 | \$1,571,378 | Oklahoma |
| | | \$5,169,356 | Oklahoma Total |
| Access | C2015-OR-502B | \$232,946 | Oregon |
| Access | 13-OR-128 | \$670,951 | Oregon |
| Central Oregon Veteran's Outreach | 13-OR-126 | \$313,000 | Oregon |
| Community Action Partnership of Oregon (CAPO) | C2015-OR-505A | \$130,223 | Oregon |
| Community Action Team, Inc. | 13-OR-125 | \$960,251 | Oregon |
| Easter Seals Oregon | 14-OR-272 | \$513,355 | Oregon |
| St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc. | C15-OR-500A | \$856,238 | Oregon |
| St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc. | 12-OR-066 | \$260,759 | Oregon |
| Transition Projects, Inc. | C15-OR-501A | \$1,217,689 | Oregon |
| | | \$5,155,412 | Oregon Total |
| Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Allentown | 14-PA-281 | \$178,191 | Pennsylvania |
| Commission on Economic Opportunity | 15-PA-068 | \$584,300 | Pennsylvania |
| Community Action Agency of Delaware County, Inc. | 14-PA-276 | \$402,960 | Pennsylvania |
| Community Hope, Inc. | 14-PA-279 | \$2,242,043 | Pennsylvania |
| Impact Services Corporation | C15-PA-500A | \$558,848 | Pennsylvania |
| Lawrence County Social Services, Inc. | 14-PA-277 | \$846,026 | Pennsylvania |
| Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living, Inc. | 13-PA-131 | \$230,795 | Pennsylvania |
| Opportunity House | 13-PA-130 | \$742,946 | Pennsylvania |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center, Inc. | 14-PA-278 | \$925,132 | Pennsylvania |
| Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service & Education Center, Inc. | 15-PA-334 | \$469,310 | Pennsylvania |
| Project H.O.M.E. | 12-PA-067 | \$2,485,086 | Pennsylvania |
| Soldier On of Delaware, Inc. | 14-PA-280 | \$2,398,984 | Pennsylvania |
| Utility Emergency Services Fund | 14-PA-274 | \$1,235,720 | Pennsylvania |
| Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania, Inc. | 13-PA-129 | \$2,032,908 | Pennsylvania |
| Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania, Inc. | 14-PA-282 | \$652,393 | Pennsylvania |
| YWCA of Greater Harrisburg | 14-PA-273 | \$289,872 | Pennsylvania |
| | | \$16,275,514 | Pennsylvania Total |
| Casa del Peregrino Aguadilla, Inc. | C15-PR-503A | \$178,619 | Puerto Rico |
| Casa del Peregrino Aguadilla, Inc. | 13-PR-132 | \$319,092 | Puerto Rico |
| | | \$497,711 | Puerto Rico Total |
| Eastern Carolina Homeless Organization, Inc. | C15-SC-503A | \$922,035 | South Carolina |
| One-Eighty Place (formerly Crisis Ministries) | C2015-SC-502B | \$349,335 | South Carolina |
| One-Eighty Place (formerly Crisis Ministries) | 12-SC-069 | \$2,309,102 | South Carolina |
| | | \$3,580,472 | South Carolina Total |
| Cornerstone Rescue Mission | 13-SD-136 | \$750,136 | South Dakota |
| | | \$750,136 | South Dakota Total |
| Catholic Charities, Inc. (dba Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Memphis, Inc.) | 14-TN-287 | \$1,063,781 | Tennessee |
| Centerstone of Tennessee, Inc. | C15-TN-504A | \$555,507 | Tennessee |
| Memphis Area Legal Services, Inc. | 14-TN-283 | \$487,068 | Tennessee |
| Operation Stand Down Tennessee | 14-TN-285 | \$857,840 | Tennessee |
| Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System | 14-TN-284 | \$880,645 | Tennessee |
| West Tennessee Legal Services, Inc. | 13-TN-139 | \$289,158 | Tennessee |
| | | \$4,134,000 | Tennessee Total |
| Aliviane, Inc. | 12-TX-073 | \$872,421 | Texas |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| American GI Forum National Veterans Outreach Program, Inc. | C15-TX-603A | \$613,826 | Texas |
| American GI Forum National Veterans Outreach Program, Inc. | 14-TX-292 | \$2,142,298 | Texas |
| Career and Recovery Resources, Inc. | 12-TX-076 | \$881,917 | Texas |
| Caritas of Austin | 12-TX-072 | \$508,472 | Texas |
| Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth, Inc. | 12-TX-075 | \$1,182,198 | Texas |
| Families in Crisis, Inc. | 12-TX-071 | \$660,433 | Texas |
| Family Endeavors, Inc. | C15-TX-601A | \$610,505 | Texas |
| Family Endeavors, Inc. | C2015-TX-607H | \$607,693 | Texas |
| Family Endeavors, Inc. | 12-TX-074 | \$2,135,019 | Texas |
| Family Endeavors, Inc. | 15-TX-335 | \$1,217,690 | Texas |
| Front Steps, Inc. | C15-TX-503A | \$376,313 | Texas |
| Goodwill Industries of Houston, Inc. | 13-TX-142 | \$1,225,209 | Texas |
| Lubbock Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Center (dba StarCare Specialty Health System) | C2015-TX-607G | \$135,258 | Texas |
| Neighborhood Centers Inc. | 14-TX-290 | \$1,750,727 | Texas |
| Sabine Valley Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Center | 14-TX-293 | \$304,796 | Texas |
| Salvation Army, a Georgia Corporation | 13-TX-140 | \$1,099,804 | Texas |
| United States Veterans Initiative | 14-TX-288 | \$584,363 | Texas |
| Urban League of Greater Dallas & North Central Texas, Inc. | 14-TX-291 | \$1,093,756 | Texas |
| Volunteers of America Texas, Inc. | C2015-TX-607B | \$83,340 | Texas |
| West Central Texas Regional Foundation | 15-TX-141 | \$989,775 | Texas |
| | | \$19,075,813 | Texas Total |
| The Road Home | 15-UT-336 | \$840,824 | Utah |
| | | \$840,824 | Utah Total |
| The Methodist Training and Outreach Center, Inc. | 14-VI-299 | \$342,427 | Virgin Islands |
| | | \$342,427 | Virgin Islands Total |
| Office of Human Affairs, Inc. | 14-VA-296 | \$219,225 | Virginia |
| Quin Rivers, Inc. | 14-VA-295 | \$165,162 | Virginia |
| Quin Rivers, Inc. | 15-VA-337 | \$71,634 | Virginia |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Southeastern Tidewater Opportunity Project of Hampton Roads | 14-VA-298 | \$415,076 | Virginia |
| Total Action Against Poverty | 14-VA-294 | \$399,373 | Virginia |
| Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation | 14-VA-297 | \$886,585 | Virginia |
| Virginia Supportive Housing | 12-VA-077 | \$1,438,820 | Virginia |
| Volunteers of America Chesapeake | 13-VA-144 | \$560,376 | Virginia |
| | | \$4,156,252 | Virginia Total |
| Catholic Charities of Yakima | 13-WA-149 | \$175,925 | Washington |
| Catholic Community Services of Western Washington | C15-WA-503A | \$518,339 | Washington |
| Catholic Community Services of Western Washington | 13-WA-146 | \$740,930 | Washington |
| Community Psychiatric Clinic | C15-WA-500A | \$495,425 | Washington |
| Community Psychiatric Clinic | 12-WA-078 | \$819,884 | Washington |
| Goodwill Industries of the Inland Northwest | C15-WA-502A | \$707,967 | Washington |
| Goodwill Industries of the Inland Northwest | 14-WA-301 | \$1,363,964 | Washington |
| HopeSource | 15-WA-338 | \$784,086 | Washington |
| Metropolitan Development Council | C15-WA-503B | \$450,167 | Washington |
| Metropolitan Development Council | C2015-WA-501E | \$234,648 | Washington |
| Metropolitan Development Council | 14-WA-300 | \$1,899,920 | Washington |
| Oppportunity Council | 12-WA-079 | \$692,074 | Washington |
| YWCA of Seattle - King County - Snohomish County | 13-WA-148 | \$399,040 | Washington |
| | | \$9,282,369 | Washington Total |
| Helping Heroes, Inc. | 14-WV-304 | \$203,522 | West Virginia |
| Roark-Sullivan Lifeway Center, Inc. | 12-WV-081 | \$278,642 | West Virginia |
| The Greater Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless, Inc. | 14-WV-303 | \$142,008 | West Virginia |
| West Virginia Community Action Partnerships | 14-WV-305 | \$2,414,083 | West Virginia |
| | | \$3,038,254 | West Virginia Total |
| Center for Veterans Issues, Ltd. | C15-WI-501A | \$1,026,603 | Wisconsin |

| <i>Grantee</i> | <i>Grant Number</i> | <i>Grant Funds Spent</i> | <i>State</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Center for Veterans Issues, Ltd. | 12-WI-080 | \$1,894,427 | Wisconsin |
| Community Action Coalition for South Central Wisconsin, Inc. | 13-WI-151 | \$312,566 | Wisconsin |
| Indianhead Community Action Agency | 14-WI-302 | \$217,117 | Wisconsin |
| Veterans Assistance Foundation, Inc. | 13-WI-150 | \$619,140 | Wisconsin |
| | | \$4,069,853 | Wisconsin Total |
| Southwest Wyoming Recovery Access Programs | 14-WY-307 | \$1,410,572 | Wyoming |
| | | \$1,410,572 | Wyoming Total |
| | | \$369,623,321* | U.S. Total |

* The “U.S. Total” of “Grant Funds Spent” in this exhibit excludes rollover spending from non-renewed FY 2014 grants in FY 2015 totaling \$3,722,945 (1 percent) of total FY 2015 expenditures.

SOURCES: SSVF– Financial reports

Appendix 2 Data Sources

SSVF Program Data Sources

1. HMIS Repository Data
2. Grantee financial reports
3. Participant satisfaction surveys
4. HOMES
5. Veterans Health Administration Support Service Center, Office of Information and Analytics

Information for this report was obtained through the SSVF data repository hosted by VA. The repository stores data on program participants collected and entered by grantees into local HMIS. Data is then uploaded from local HMIS to the data repository. This report also includes aggregated data from grantee quarterly reports submitted to VA, and aggregated responses to program participant satisfaction surveys completed by SSVF participants nationwide and submitted to VA.

HOMES is an administrative database that tracks use of VA specialized homeless programs, to assess the housing outcomes of Veterans served by SSVF following their exit from the program.

Other Data Sources

1. Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)
 - a. 2015 AHAR: Part 1 - PIT Estimates of Homelessness:
<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4832/2015-ahar-part-1-pit-estimates-of-homelessness/>
 - b. 2015 AHAR: Part 2 - Estimates of Homelessness in the U.S.:
<https://www.hudexchange.info/hdx/guides/ahar/>
2. VA Office of the Actuary
 - a. FY 2015 Datasets: Age/Gender (Living) and Period Served (Living):
http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Veteran_Population.asp
3. United States Census Bureau
 - a. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to December 1, 2016 (NST-EST2015-01), 2015.
<http://www.census.gov/popest/data/national/totals/2015/index.html>

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Further Information

For general information about the SSVF program, such as federal program rules, NOFA materials, grantee lists, and reports, see the SSVF landing page at: <http://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp>.

For SSVF grantees seeking to develop, implement, and improve their program, VA has established the [SSVF University](#) as an online resource. The site includes:

- *Community coordination and planning* tools, such as federal guidance and tools on documenting and planning to end Veteran homelessness, a gaps analysis tool, resource trackers, and tools for updating community plans to end Veteran homelessness and align SSVF resources.
- *User guides and staff development materials*, including, guides that outline key decisions and effective practices for four key staffing types, and staff orientation and development resources.
- *Practice areas and resources* information about the practice of delivering effective and efficient homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance for Veterans and their families. There are five Practice Areas, each of which includes:
 - ✓ SSVF practice standards
 - ✓ Guidance on key elements of effective practices
 - ✓ Training resources, including links to relevant training produced by VA, HUD, and other entities
 - ✓ Toolkits with links to forms, templates, checklists, etc., that can be adapted or adopted by rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention programs
- *Dynamic libraries*, including, Veterans and homelessness research, SSVF webinars and program updates, and SSVF Launch and Regional meeting materials.