

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Open House

Ending Veteran Homelessness

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Agenda

- Homeless Definition
- VA's Plan
- Key Specialized Programs
- Where We Are Now
- Where We Are Going
- Challenges
- Questions

Homeless Definition

A *homeless person* is an individual without permanent housing who may live on the streets; stay in a shelter, mission, single room occupancy facilities, abandoned building or vehicle; or in any other unstable or non-permanent situation.

A *chronically homeless person* is defined as an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.

VA's Plan

Overarching mission: End homelessness among Veterans by the end of 2015.

Plan: The plan focuses on the prevention of homelessness, permanent supportive housing, mental health and substance use treatment, education and employment assistance. Built upon 6 strategic pillars:

- Outreach/Education
- Treatment
- Prevention
- Housing/Supportive Services
- Income/Employment/Benefits
- Community Partnerships

Key Specialized Programs

- Community Resource and Referral Centers (CRRC)
- Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans (DCHV)
- Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)
- Health Care for Reentry Veterans Services (HCRV)
- Homeless Patient Aligned Care Teams (H-PACT)
- Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program (GPD)
- Homeless Veterans Dental Program
- Homeless Veteran Supported Employment Program (HVSEP)
- Housing and Urban Development - Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program
- National Call Center for Homeless Veterans (NCCHV)
- National Homeless Registry
- Project CHALENG (Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Educations and Networking Groups) for Veterans
- Safe Havens
- Stand Downs
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment Initiative (SUD)
- Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)
- Therapeutic and Supported Employment Service (TSES) Programs
- Veterans Homeless Prevention Demonstration Program (HUD-VA Prevention Pilots)
- Veteran Justice Outreach Initiative (VJO)

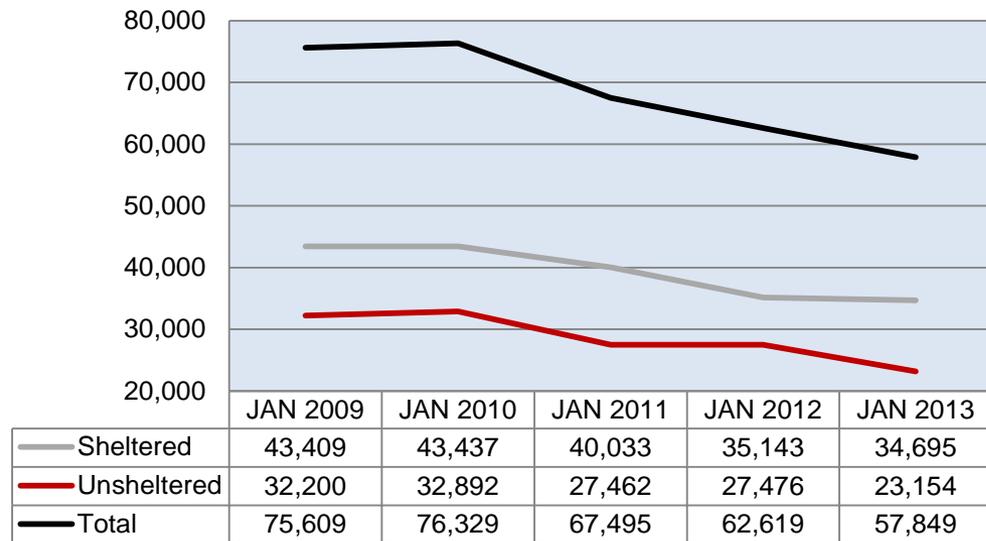
Learn more at www.va.gov/homeless

Where We Are Now

The number of Veterans who are homeless is down **23.49 percent** since 2009.



Point-In-Time Count Veteran Homelessness



Ending Veteran homelessness is achievable, but doing so is possible only with the necessary investments in effective interventions.

Where We Are Now

VHA Homeless Programs Fiscal Year 2011 to Fiscal Year 2013

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	Percent Increase FY 2011 – FY 2013
Budget	\$543,241	\$716,325	\$1,032,808	90%
Metrics				
Total Number of visits made to Veterans by VHA Homeless Programs	1,234,672	1,806,571	2,250,573	82%
Total number of Veterans served in specialized homeless or at-risk services	157,182	208,115	258,330	64%
Number of Veterans obtaining permanent housing during this fiscal year through VHA Homeless Programs (1)	18,591	34,877	38,694	108%
Total number of beds available to homeless Veterans (2)	55,885	68,738	79,800	43%
Number of Veterans assessed through VHA Homeless Programs	66,392	97,754	99,152	49%
Total Number of chronically homeless Veterans assessed through VHA Homeless Programs	22,173	31,311	34,318	55%
Number of Veterans contacted through Health Care for Homeless Veterans outreach services	98,213	119,568	146,557	49%
Number of Calls to National Call Center for Homeless Veterans	36,100	80,558	111,096	208%

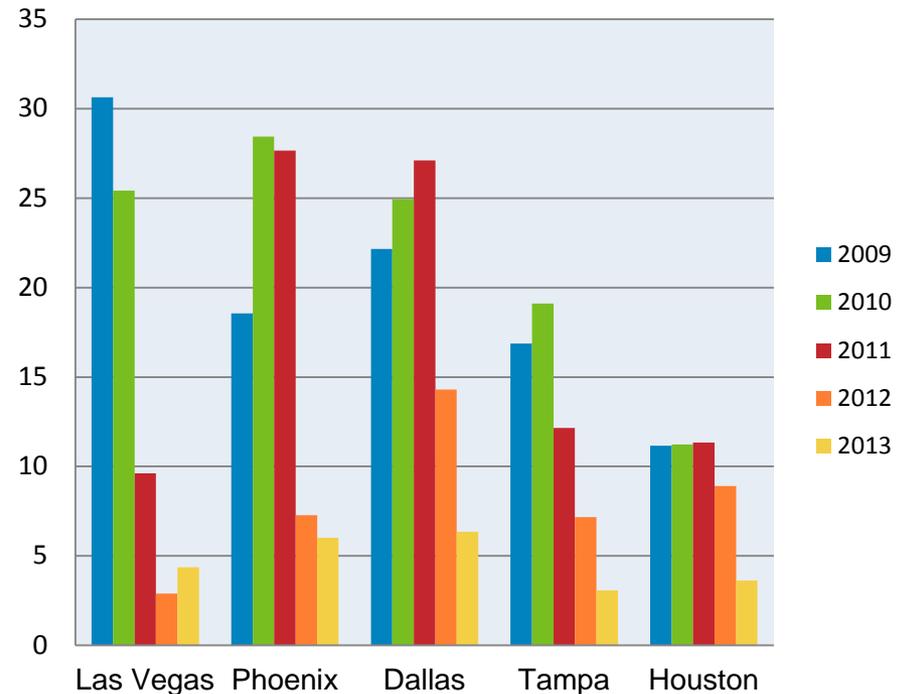
1. Includes all exits to permanent housing from CWT/TR, DCHV, GPD, SSVF, HCHV Contract Residential, and number of move-ins to HUD-VASH . FY 2013 data through August 31, 2013.

2. Includes number of operational Grant and Per Diem, HCHV Contract beds, DCHV beds and HUD-VASH vouchers allocated at the end of each FY.

Where We Are Going

- Reduce number of days from admission to public housing authority (PHA) referral.
- Complete VA and PHA applications during street outreach and at drop-in clinics.
- Encourage PHAs to accept nontraditional supplemental documentation.
- Use “navigators” to assist with completing PHA and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) paperwork and obtaining supporting documents.

Cities Successfully Reducing Number of Days from Admission to PHA by Fiscal Year



Challenges

Affordable Housing: A lack of affordable housing is one of the main reasons Veterans are homeless.

We need:

- More quality, safe, and affordable housing.
- Housing options that are near transportation and jobs.
- To offset the increasing cost of housing with down payment assistance.

Challenges

Other challenges:

- Free civil legal assistance, including eviction and foreclosure prevention, resolution of warrants and fines, and driver's license restoration.
- Deployment of new technologies to make real-time survey data and results available.
- Link Veterans ineligible for VA benefits and services to community-based housing and health care resources instead.
- Locate emergency, transitional, or permanent housing for homeless Veterans who are registered sex offenders.
- Connect Veterans with accessible and available transportation options.
- Ensure homeless Veterans have access to available training and employment services.



Questions?