

2. Ongoing Review and Coordination: Briefly describe how often (e.g., monthly) the above group meets to review progress and coordinate efforts. Include a summary of what information is reviewed during these meetings.

This workgroup meets bi-monthly. The workgroup reviews progress on increasing Rapid Re-housing (RRH) assistance and identifying additional eligible literally homeless vets; reports on success/challenges in current SSVF grant implementation; reviews progress on quarterly PH placements; reviews progress on any specific activities/tasks identified in previous meetings or as part of this community plan.

3. Annual Demand, Goals, and Strategies for Achieving and Sustaining Functional Zero: Identify the estimated number of Veterans who are homeless annually and the community/CoC goals and strategies for achieving a functional end to Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 (overall community/CoC goals, not just SSVF grantees). If one or more of the goals and strategies below have not yet been established for the community, leave blank and identify the date by which they will be established. See the **Ending Homelessness Among Veterans Overview** for additional guidance.

3A. Estimated Annual Number of Homeless Veterans: Identify the total unduplicated number of Veterans expected to be homeless in 2015 using data from the SSVF Edition of the Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 or data assumptions that have already been adopted by the community, such as the *VA CoC Gaps Analysis Tool (GAT)*.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Estimated Annual Total: | 884 |
|--------------------------------|-----|

3B. Community/CoC Goals: Identify your community's/CoC's key goals and targets.

A. Permanent Housing Placement Target & SSVF Rapid Re-Housing Placement Target:
 Complete and attach *SSVF Edition of Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 OR an CoC Gaps Analysis Tool – Strategy 4 (SSVF) Worksheet*

| | | |
|---|----|------|
| B. Length of Time Homeless Goal (max or average days): | 60 | days |
|---|----|------|

| C. January 2016 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Goal | Sheltered | Unsheltered | Total |
|--|-----------|-------------|-------|
| Number of Veterans expected to be counted as homeless during the CoC's January 2016 PIT count: | 200 | 25 | 225 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 27 | 3 | 30 |

3C. Implementation Strategies: What strategies are being used to achieve and sustain functional zero?

| | Yes/No/Under Dev |
|--|------------------|
| A. Has your community identified every Veteran who is homeless right now by name? | Yes |
| Is this list updated regularly? | Under Dev |
| Is this list reviewed at least bi-weekly by key community partners to ensure Veterans have a permanent housing plan and those plans are achieved? | Under Dev |
| B. Does every Veteran who is homeless now have a Housing Plan and access to safe (and low barrier as needed) shelter and/or permanent housing? | Under Dev |
| C. Is every Veteran who becomes homeless rapidly engaged and offered shelter and/or housing that meets their needs? | Yes |
| If so, is this true no matter where they are initially engaged in your community or what shelter or unsheltered location they may be in? | Under Dev |
| D. Are sufficient SSVF resources allocated to ensure there are no RRH gaps or turn-aways? | Yes |
| E. Are you using SSVF to rapidly re-house Veterans who are waiting on VASH or other PSH assistance if VASH/PSH is not available immediately or in near future? | Yes |

4. Other Strengths and Challenges: Briefly describe any additional strengths and/or challenges relevant to your achieving VA and local goals.

Regarding Length of Stay (LOS) goal - In the Ohio Balance of State Continuum of Care (BoSCoC), homeless vets generally have a LOS in emergency shelter programs of 35 days, and a LOS in transitional housing programs of 175 days. However, HCHV and GPD programs in the Ohio BoSCoC both have significantly longer length of stay (closer to 200 days for shelter and closer to 300 days for TH). Our CoC will continue to try to work with these programs to reduce lengths of stay and connect homeless vets with RRH resources as quickly as possible, but we will need significant help from the VA to help encourage or require this focus on shortening lengths of time homeless. An ongoing challenge for the Ohio BoSCoC is trying to coordinate and implement strategies and practices consistently across an 80 county CoC. Moreover, there is tremendous diversity among our counties in terms of access to resources, provider capacity, and understanding of available resources, which makes implementation of CoC-wide plan difficult. Lastly, the Ohio BoSCoC is working to ensure all counties in the CoC are served by an existing SSVF grantee; however, making additional resources available to those grantees expanding service areas would greatly increase our success in housing homeless veterans.

Update: Each grantee within the Ohio Balance of State COC have agreed to compile a list of every homeless vet in their service area by July 31, 2015. Once those lists are created they will be updated at least bi-weekly by each grantee. These lists will be discussed on the next Ohio Balance of State COC Community Planning call in August. We will continue to update this plan as changes are made.

2. Ongoing Review and Coordination: Briefly describe how often (e.g., monthly) the above group meets to review progress and coordinate efforts. Include a summary of what information is reviewed during these meetings.

The CoC VA workgroup meeting is held monthly (4th Tuesday of month). The most recent meeting involved the SSVF TA-Joyce McAlpine. Reviewed in the meeting was updates to the community plan, the veteran list, and GPD. The CoC also reported that the Coordinated Assessment Tool is still in progress and that a TA to assist with launching the tool will be onboard August 2015.

3. Annual Demand, Goals, and Strategies for Achieving and Sustaining Functional Zero: Identify the estimated number of Veterans who are homeless annually and the community/CoC goals and strategies for achieving a functional end to Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 (overall community/CoC goals, not just SSVF grantees). If one or more of the goals and strategies below have not yet been established for the community, leave blank and identify the date by which they will be established. See the *Ending Homelessness Among Veterans Overview* for additional guidance.

3A. Estimated Annual Number of Homeless Veterans: Identify the total unduplicated number of Veterans expected to be homeless in 2015 using data from the SSVF Edition of the Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 or data assumptions that have already been adopted by the community, such as the *VA CoC Gaps Analysis Tool (GAT)*.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Estimated Annual Total: | 729 |
|--------------------------------|-----|

3B. Community/CoC Goals: Identify your community's/CoC's key goals and targets.

A. Permanent Housing Placement Target & SSVF Rapid Re-Housing Placement Target:
Complete and attach *SSVF Edition of Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 OR an CoC Gaps Analysis Tool – Strategy 4 (SSVF) Worksheet*

| | | |
|---|----|------|
| B. Length of Time Homeless Goal (max or average days): | 30 | days |
|---|----|------|

| C. January 2016 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Goal | Sheltered | Unsheltered | Total |
|--|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Number of Veterans expected to be counted as homeless during the CoC's January 2016 PIT count: | 165 | | 165 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 10 | | 10 |

3C. Implementation Strategies: What strategies are being used to achieve and sustain functional zero?

| | Yes/No/Under Dev |
|--|------------------|
| A. Has your community identified every Veteran who is homeless right now by name? | Yes |
| Is this list updated regularly? | Yes |
| Is this list reviewed at least bi-weekly by key community partners to ensure Veterans have a permanent housing plan and those plans are achieved? | Yes |
| B. Does every Veteran who is homeless now have a Housing Plan and access to safe (and low barrier as needed) shelter and/or permanent housing? | Yes |
| C. Is every Veteran who becomes homeless rapidly engaged and offered shelter and/or housing that meets their needs? | Yes |
| If so, is this true no matter where they are initially engaged in your community or what shelter or unsheltered location they may be in? | Yes |
| D. Are sufficient SSVF resources allocated to ensure there are no RRH gaps or turn-aways? | Yes |
| E. Are you using SSVF to rapidly re-house Veterans who are waiting on VASH or other PSH assistance if VASH/PSH is not available immediately or in near future? | Yes |

4. Other Strengths and Challenges: Briefly describe any additional strengths and/or challenges relevant to your achieving VA and local goals.

Update: The CoC VA workgroup is continuing to meet monthly to discuss and update the Veteran's list. We are working to secure formal sharing agreements with agencies that do outreach and whose information we'd like to capture on our homeless veteran list. We have maintained close partnerships with VA Outreach, CoC, and Path teams and having them verify names on the list and closely watching our chronically homeless veterans. Currently, we are in the process of defining what functional zero means to our community and having some tough discussions around our GPD programs.

2. Ongoing Review and Coordination: Briefly describe how often (e.g., monthly) the above group meets to review progress and coordinate efforts. Include a summary of what information is reviewed during these meetings.

The Lucas County COC meets monthly to assess the needs of the Lucas County homeless population. Staff attends COC meetings to update community on SSVF PH placements, referral process for RRH clients and identifying needs in the community for Veterans.

3. Annual Demand, Goals, and Strategies for Achieving and Sustaining Functional Zero: Identify the estimated number of Veterans who are homeless annually and the community/CoC goals and strategies for achieving a functional end to Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 (overall community/CoC goals, not just SSVF grantees). If one or more of the goals and strategies below have not yet been established for the community, leave blank and identify the date by which they will be established. See the **Ending Homelessness Among Veterans Overview** for additional guidance.

3A. Estimated Annual Number of Homeless Veterans: Identify the total unduplicated number of Veterans expected to be homeless in 2015 using data from the SSVF Edition of the Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 or data assumptions that have already been adopted by the community, such as the *VA CoC Gaps Analysis Tool (GAT)*.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Estimated Annual Total: | 141 |
|--------------------------------|-----|

3B. Community/CoC Goals: Identify your community's/CoC's key goals and targets.

A. Permanent Housing Placement Target & SSVF Rapid Re-Housing Placement Target:
 Complete and attach *SSVF Edition of Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 OR an CoC Gaps Analysis Tool – Strategy 4 (SSVF) Worksheet*

| | | |
|---|----|------|
| B. Length of Time Homeless Goal (max or average days): | 45 | days |
|---|----|------|

| C. January 2016 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Goal | Sheltered | Unsheltered | Total |
|--|-----------|-------------|-------|
| Number of Veterans expected to be counted as homeless during the CoC's January 2016 PIT count: | 43 | 0 | 43 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 6 | 0 | 6 |

3C. Implementation Strategies: What strategies are being used to achieve and sustain functional zero?

| | Yes/No/Under Dev |
|--|------------------|
| A. Has your community identified every Veteran who is homeless right now by name? | Under Dev |
| | |
| B. Does every Veteran who is homeless now have a Housing Plan and access to safe (and low barrier as needed) shelter and/or permanent housing? | Yes |
| C. Is every Veteran who becomes homeless rapidly engaged and offered shelter and/or housing that meets their needs? | Yes |
| If so, is this true no matter where they are initially engaged in your community or what shelter or unsheltered location they may be in? | Yes |
| D. Are sufficient SSVF resources allocated to ensure there are no RRH gaps or turn-aways? | Yes |
| E. Are you using SSVF to rapidly re-house Veterans who are waiting on VASH or other PSH assistance if VASH/PSH is not available immediately or in near future? | Yes |

4. Other Strengths and Challenges: Briefly describe any additional strengths and/or challenges relevant to your achieving VA and local goals.

Lucas County is part of the local 211 coordinated assessment. Veterans can gain referrals to shelter beds and SSVF assistance quickly. The local VA has intergrated SSVF into their ongoing assessments to ensure that all Veterans are screened through SSVF. SSVF does not turn away any RRH eligible clients. Length of Stay goal: Currently in Lucas County, Veterans are staying in shelter for 180 days and GPD for 239 days. The COC and SSVF will work with local GPD and shelters to reduce the length of stay by connecting Veterans with RRH resources quickly. Commons At Garden Lake, a Supported Housing Project for Veterans in Lucas County will offer 75 permanent housing units for VA and Non VA Eligible homeless veterans. CAGL will open in September 2015. Veterans who carry a "Lifetime" sex offender registry will have no access to subsidy or housing projects due to their convictions and these veterans will continue to be homeless. Update: Every Veteran on the Master List that wishes to obtain permanent housing has a housing plan. Some Veterans do not wish to receive services at this time and have been given information on resources should they choose permanent housing. The Master List for Lucas County remains under development. Community partners are working together to coordinate the list and Veterans have been identified.

2. Ongoing Review and Coordination: Briefly describe how often (e.g., monthly) the above group meets to review progress and coordinate efforts. Include a summary of what information is reviewed during these meetings.

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

3. Annual Demand, Goals, and Strategies for Achieving and Sustaining Functional Zero: Identify the estimated number of Veterans who are homeless annually and the community/CoC goals and strategies for achieving a functional end to Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 (overall community/CoC goals, not just SSVF grantees). If one or more of the goals and strategies below have not yet been established for the community, leave blank and identify the date by which they will be established. See the **Ending Homelessness Among Veterans Overview** for additional guidance.

3A. Estimated Annual Number of Homeless Veterans: Identify the total unduplicated number of Veterans expected to be homeless in 2015 using data from the SSVF Edition of the Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 or data assumptions that have already been adopted by the community, such as the *VA CoC Gaps Analysis Tool (GAT)*.

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Estimated Annual Total: | |
|--------------------------------|--|

3B. Community/CoC Goals: Identify your community's/CoC's key goals and targets.

| |
|---|
| <p>A. Permanent Housing Placement Target & SSVF Rapid Re-Housing Placement Target: Complete and attach <i>SSVF Edition of Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 OR an CoC Gaps Analysis Tool – Strategy 4 (SSVF) Worksheet</i></p> |
|---|

| | | |
|---|----|------|
| B. Length of Time Homeless Goal (max or average days): | 60 | days |
|---|----|------|

| C. January 2016 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Goal | Sheltered | Unsheltered | Total |
|--|-----------|-------------|-------|
| Number of Veterans expected to be counted as homeless during the CoC's January 2016 PIT count: | | | 0 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | | | 0 |

3C. Implementation Strategies: What strategies are being used to achieve and sustain functional zero?

| | Yes/No/Under Dev |
|--|------------------|
| A. Has your community identified every Veteran who is homeless right now by name? | Yes |
| Is this list updated regularly? | Yes |
| Is this list reviewed at least bi-weekly by key community partners to ensure Veterans have a permanent housing plan and those plans are achieved? | Under Dev |
| B. Does every Veteran who is homeless now have a Housing Plan and access to safe (and low barrier as needed) shelter and/or permanent housing? | Yes |
| C. Is every Veteran who becomes homeless rapidly engaged and offered shelter and/or housing that meets their needs? | Yes |
| If so, is this true no matter where they are initially engaged in your community or what shelter or unsheltered location they may be in? | Yes |
| D. Are sufficient SSVF resources allocated to ensure there are no RRH gaps or turn-aways? | Yes |
| E. Are you using SSVF to rapidly re-house Veterans who are waiting on VASH or other PSH assistance if VASH/PSH is not available immediately or in near future? | Under Dev |

4. Other Strengths and Challenges: Briefly describe any additional strengths and/or challenges relevant to your achieving VA and local goals.

(A.3.) Providers are working on creating/fine-tuning a new report for HMIS that will pull and organize more accurate data. We are also continuing to work through the details of entering Domiciliary residents into HMIS so that we can generate a complete and comprehensive list. Once we have that, we plan to review that list regularly at an existing bi-weekly providers meeting. (E.) The local VA and SSVF providers have had preliminary discussions about using SSVF to bridge veterans into VASH. A formal meeting to work out the details of the process is scheduled for July 1.

SSVF: Community Plan Summary

Date Completed/Revised: 7/1/2015

| | | | |
|--|---|--------------------|--------|
| Continuum of Care Name: | Columbus/Franklin County CoC | CoC Number: | OH-503 |
| CoC Representative: | Title: | | |
| Arica Morgan | Program Director, Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio | | |
| Phone/Email: | | | |
| 614-629-9960 / arica.morgan@voago.org | | | |
| Person Completing this Summary: | Title: | | |
| Arica Morgan | Program Director, Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio | | |
| Phone/Email: | | | |
| 614-629-9960 - arica.morgan@voago.org | | | |

1. Primary Planning and Coordination Group: Identify the primary group responsible for planning and coordinating efforts to prevent and end homelessness among Veterans in the CoC. List the principal members of this group and their affiliation.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|
| Primary Group Name: | Coalition of Veteran Organizations | | |
| Principal Members | Affiliation | | |
| Twanna Roper | LSS - Faith Mission SSVF | | |
| Vic Ward | LSS - Faith Mission | | |
| Arica Morgan | Volunteers of America Greater Ohio - SSVF | | |
| Shameikia Smith | Volunteers of America Greater Ohio - VRC | | |
| Deb Rambo | Maryhaven Inc. | | |
| David O'Brien/Marcus Salter | Access Ohio - Navigators | | |
| J. Kerr | YMCA of Central Ohio | | |
| Emily Beavers | Southeast Inc. | | |
| Carl Landry | Veterans Administration | | |
| Stacey Potts | Veterans Administration | | |
| Bonnie Crawford | Veterans Administration | | |
| Amy Price | Community Shelter Board | | |
| Keisha Hunley-Jenkins | City of Columbus (Mayor's Challenge) | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

2. Ongoing Review and Coordination: Briefly describe how often (e.g., monthly) the above group meets to review progress and coordinate efforts. Include a summary of what information is reviewed during these meetings.

For an eight week period at the start of 2015 we met weekly to start the planning process. During that time and continuing to present, the VA has distributed a weekly count of the number of veteran known to be homeless, how many are VHA eligible, how many are at each shelter/provider or on the street, and how many have a housing plan in place. These numbers were not linked to individual veterans, just totals in each category. Currently we are meeting sporadically and having conference calls when appropriate. Beginning in May we plan to have weekly coordination meetings among VA, SSVF, VAEH, GPD, and HUD VASH providers to link specific Veterans with housing resources and appropriate providers. During these meetings we hope to keep an updated list of identified homeless veterans, tracking who their primary provider is, whether they have a housing plan, and their housing outcomes.

UPDATE: We have developed a “by name list” for Franklin County. We will be hosting an online meeting on July 10th to review the meeting and to discuss collaboration.

3. Annual Demand, Goals, and Strategies for Achieving and Sustaining Functional Zero: Identify the estimated number of Veterans who are homeless annually and the community/CoC goals and strategies for achieving a functional end to Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 (overall community/CoC goals, not just SSVF grantees). If one or more of the goals and strategies below have not yet been established for the community, leave blank and identify the date by which they will be established. See the **Ending Homelessness Among Veterans Overview** for additional guidance.

3A. Estimated Annual Number of Homeless Veterans: Identify the total unduplicated number of Veterans expected to be homeless in 2015 using data from the SSVF Edition of the Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 or data assumptions that have already been adopted by the community, such as the *VA CoC Gaps Analysis Tool (GAT)*.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Estimated Annual Total: | 625 |
|--------------------------------|-----|

3B. Community/CoC Goals: Identify your community’s/CoC’s key goals and targets.

A. Permanent Housing Placement Target & SSVF Rapid Re-Housing Placement Target:
 Complete and attach *SSVF Edition of Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 OR an CoC Gaps Analysis Tool – Strategy 4 (SSVF) Worksheet*

| | | |
|---|----|------|
| B. Length of Time Homeless Goal (max or average days): | 30 | days |
|---|----|------|

| C. January 2016 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Goal | Sheltered | Unsheltered | Total |
|--|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Number of Veterans expected to be counted as homeless during the CoC’s January 2016 PIT count: | 79 | 0 | 79 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 8 | 0 | 8 |

3C. Implementation Strategies: What strategies are being used to achieve and sustain functional zero?

| | Yes/No/Under Dev |
|--|------------------|
| A. Has your community identified every Veteran who is homeless right now by name? | Yes |
| Is this list updated regularly? | Yes |
| Is this list reviewed at least bi-weekly by key community partners to ensure Veterans have a permanent housing plan and those plans are achieved? | Yes |
| B. Does every Veteran who is homeless now have a Housing Plan and access to safe (and low barrier as needed) shelter and/or permanent housing? | Yes |
| C. Is every Veteran who becomes homeless rapidly engaged and offered shelter and/or housing that meets their needs? | Yes |
| If so, is this true no matter where they are initially engaged in your community or what shelter or unsheltered location they may be in? | Yes |
| D. Are sufficient SSVF resources allocated to ensure there are no RRH gaps or turn-aways? | Yes |
| E. Are you using SSVF to rapidly re-house Veterans who are waiting on VASH or other PSH assistance if VASH/PSH is not available immediately or in near future? | Yes |

4. Other Strengths and Challenges: Briefly describe any additional strengths and/or challenges relevant to your achieving VA and local goals.

Strengths-Ongoing participation in Mayor's Challenge. Good cooperation among SSVF providers & VA. On the verge of having a SSN level list of all literally homeless Veterans in CoC.

Challenges-logistics of data sharing and coordination releases of information.

UPDATE: Strengths-Ongoing participation in Mayor's Challenge. Good cooperation among SSVF providers & VA. Developed a list of actual Veterans and have been updating the status weekly.

2. Ongoing Review and Coordination: Briefly describe how often (e.g., monthly) the above group meets to review progress and coordinate efforts. Include a summary of what information is reviewed during these meetings.

The Mahoning County Veterans Work Group meets on the fourth Thursday of every month in Youngstown, Ohio. Strategies on how to reach a functional zero in the county, along with program updates and agency resource information, is shared. Information is also discussed about locations of unsheltered homeless veterans and the outreach efforts that have been conducted. Group members also discuss and review current veteran households that are shared between programs. These cases are reviewed to collect recommendations and find solutions to meet each veteran family's specific needs and provide wrap-around services to improve their overall housing stability. In addition, HUD VASH, VA Outreach, and SSVF staff meet weekly regarding the coordination of referrals, outreach efforts, service outcomes, interventions and progress with current Veterans. This helps to ensure a higher level of coordination and seamless service delivery.

Housing issues among Veterans will be addressed at the monthly CoC meetings as an ongoing agenda item to ensure that all agencies who may encounter Veterans in need are collaborating to reach a functional zero level. Community beds will be identified as well as overall numbers served and dollars spent will be reported on during this meeting.

3. Annual Demand, Goals, and Strategies for Achieving and Sustaining Functional Zero: Identify the estimated number of Veterans who are homeless annually and the community/CoC goals and strategies for achieving a functional end to Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 (overall community/CoC goals, not just SSVF grantees). If one or more of the goals and strategies below have not yet been established for the community, leave blank and identify the date by which they will be established. See the **Ending Homelessness Among Veterans Overview** for additional guidance.

3A. Estimated Annual Number of Homeless Veterans: Identify the total unduplicated number of Veterans expected to be homeless in 2015 using data from the SSVF Edition of the Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 or data assumptions that have already been adopted by the community, such as the *VA CoC Gaps Analysis Tool (GAT)*.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Estimated Annual Total: | 148 |
|--------------------------------|-----|

3B. Community/CoC Goals: Identify your community's/CoC's key goals and targets.

A. Permanent Housing Placement Target & SSVF Rapid Re-Housing Placement Target:
Complete and attach *SSVF Edition of Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 OR an CoC Gaps Analysis Tool – Strategy 4 (SSVF) Worksheet*

| | | |
|---|----|------|
| B. Length of Time Homeless Goal (max or average days): | 30 | days |
|---|----|------|

| C. January 2016 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Goal | Sheltered | Unsheltered | Total |
|--|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Number of Veterans expected to be counted as homeless during the CoC's January 2016 PIT count: | 25 | 0 | 25 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 8 | 0 | 8 |

3C. Implementation Strategies: What strategies are being used to achieve and sustain functional zero?

| | Yes/No/Under Dev |
|--|------------------|
| A. Has your community identified every Veteran who is homeless right now by name? | Yes |
| Is this list updated regularly? | Yes |
| Is this list reviewed at least bi-weekly by key community partners to ensure Veterans have a permanent housing plan and those plans are achieved? | Yes |
| B. Does every Veteran who is homeless now have a Housing Plan and access to safe (and low barrier as needed) shelter and/or permanent housing? | Under Dev |
| C. Is every Veteran who becomes homeless rapidly engaged and offered shelter and/or housing that meets their needs? | Yes |
| If so, is this true no matter where they are initially engaged in your community or what shelter or unsheltered location they may be in? | Under Dev |
| D. Are sufficient SSVF resources allocated to ensure there are no RRH gaps or turn-aways? | Yes |
| E. Are you using SSVF to rapidly re-house Veterans who are waiting on VASH or other PSH assistance if VASH/PSH is not available immediately or in near future? | Yes |

4. Other Strengths and Challenges: Briefly describe any additional strengths and/or challenges relevant to your achieving VA and local goals.

Update: The community is making positive strides to achieve VA and local goals. The Veterans Workgroup continues to have a good, productive working relationship among it's members. Members are coordinating more closely with the local COC also. When homeless veterans present at emergency or housing programs, they are referred to shelter or housing accordingly. The work group needs to intensify outreach to ensure that everyone in the community would know where to refer a homeless veteran. Family and Community Services is in the process of hiring a second SSVF Veterans Advocate to the county in order to increase outreach efforts to engage homeless veterans and to increase service provision. The workgroup members now have access to a sharable master list of all homeless veterans that are identified and are making efforts to add names to the list. The members will be able to add newly identified homeless veterans, update if the veteran has a housing plan in place, and also add the date when permanent housing is achieved for each veteran. The workgroup will need to work towards identifying all available and potential housing stock in the county and set goals and timelines as appropriate.

2. Ongoing Review and Coordination: Briefly describe how often (e.g., monthly) the above group meets to review progress and coordinate efforts. Include a summary of what information is reviewed during these meetings.

The VA-CoC Coordination Team, a group composed of SSVF Grantees, VA staff, CoC staff, VA and homeless system service providers will meet bi-weekly to check in regarding the coordination of referrals, service outcomes and housing plans for homeless veterans. HMIS data generated by the SSVF grantees and the CoC staff will be used to track and verify information. Monthly, the leadership from the SSVF Grantees, VA and CoC will meet to discuss policy and procedural recommendations to improve housing connectivity and access for veterans. At the monthly meetings overall numbers served and dollars spent will be reported and monitored. On a quarterly basis, this group will review overall referrals, outcomes, grant spending and adjust the SSVF implementation strategy to maximize the number of veterans served.

3. Annual Demand, Goals, and Strategies for Achieving and Sustaining Functional Zero: Identify the estimated number of Veterans who are homeless annually and the community/CoC goals and strategies for achieving a functional end to Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 (overall community/CoC goals, not just SSVF grantees). If one or more of the goals and strategies below have not yet been established for the community, leave blank and identify the date by which they will be established. See the *Ending Homelessness Among Veterans Overview* for additional guidance.

3A. Estimated Annual Number of Homeless Veterans: Identify the total unduplicated number of Veterans expected to be homeless in 2015 using data from the SSVF Edition of the Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 or data assumptions that have already been adopted by the community, such as the *VA CoC Gaps Analysis Tool (GAT)*.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Estimated Annual Total: | 291 |
|--------------------------------|-----|

3B. Community/CoC Goals: Identify your community's/CoC's key goals and targets.

A. Permanent Housing Placement Target & SSVF Rapid Re-Housing Placement Target:
Complete and attach *SSVF Edition of Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 OR an CoC Gaps Analysis Tool – Strategy 4 (SSVF) Worksheet*

| | | |
|---|----|------|
| B. Length of Time Homeless Goal (max or average days): | 30 | days |
|---|----|------|

| C. January 2016 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Goal | Sheltered | Unsheltered | Total |
|--|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Number of Veterans expected to be counted as homeless during the CoC's January 2016 PIT count: | 68 | 0 | 68 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 15 | 0 | 15 |

3C. Implementation Strategies: What strategies are being used to achieve and sustain functional zero?

| | Yes/No/Under Dev |
|--|------------------|
| A. Has your community identified every Veteran who is homeless right now by name? | yes |
| Is this list updated regularly? | yes |
| Is this list reviewed at least bi-weekly by key community partners to ensure Veterans have a permanent housing plan and those plans are achieved? | yes |
| B. Does every Veteran who is homeless now have a Housing Plan and access to safe (and low barrier as needed) shelter and/or permanent housing? | Under Dev |
| C. Is every Veteran who becomes homeless rapidly engaged and offered shelter and/or housing that meets their needs? | Yes |
| If so, is this true no matter where they are initially engaged in your community or what shelter or unsheltered location they may be in? | Yes |
| D. Are sufficient SSVF resources allocated to ensure there are no RRH gaps or turn-aways? | Yes |
| E. Are you using SSVF to rapidly re-house Veterans who are waiting on VASH or other PSH assistance if VASH/PSH is not available immediately or in near future? | Yes |

4. Other Strengths and Challenges: Briefly describe any additional strengths and/or challenges relevant to your achieving VA and local goals.

Strengths 1. The CoC meets regularly with SSVF providers and the VA to discuss homeless veterans by name not yet housed and to discuss strategies to address their needs. 2. The Montgomery County CoC has had SSVF services for the past year therefore the community is aware of the rapid rehousing and prevention services. 3. The Priority 1 grantee has expertise in coordinating SSVF services in communities with more than one SSVF provider. Challenges. 1. The centralized assessment tool is lengthy and very time consuming to administer, consequently many homeless veterans are identified, but not always assessed and referred for services before leaving the shelter. 2. The referral process is slowed down when veterans are waiting for DD214 document. If someone identifies as a veteran the referral should be made without the DD214 so that the organizations can determine eligibility through alternative documents.

SSVF: Community Plan Summary

Date Completed/Revised: 7/1/2015

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Continuum of Care Name: | Akron/Barberton/Summit County CoC | CoC Number: | OH-506 |
| CoC Representative: | Helen Tomic | Title: | City of Akron, Comprehensive Planning Administrator |
| Phone/Email: | | | |

330-375-2090/ htomic@akronohio.gov

| | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|--|
| Person Completing this Summary: | Trish Symons | Title: | SSVF Outreach Worker, Community Support Services, Inc. |
| Phone/Email: | | | |

[330-762-4663/symonpat@cssbh.org](mailto:symonpat@cssbh.org)

- 1. Primary Planning and Coordination Group:** Identify the primary group responsible for planning and coordinating efforts to prevent and end homelessness among Veterans in the CoC. List the principal members of this group and their affiliation.

| | |
|---|--|
| Primary Group Name: | OH-506 |
| Principal Members | Affiliation |
| Jenn Matlack, Star Mitchell, Matt Slater | Family and Community Services, Inc. - SSVF/GPD |
| Keith Stahl, Tim Edgar, Trish Symons, Annaliese Russell | Community Support Services, Inc. - SSVF |
| Nellie Rogers | VA CRRC |
| Joe Scalise, Crystal Murphy | Info Line, Inc. |
| Robert Giannone | Veteran's Service Commission, Summit County |
| Diane Waite, Ron Copen | VA Hud-Vash |
| Darrell Hill, Richard Romaniuk | VA Safe Haven |
| Jim Cole | Haven of Rest |
| Jeff Wilhite | Family Promise |
| Anne Face | Battered Women's Shelter |
| Grady Appleton | East Akron Neighborhood Development |
| Megan Ward | OMCDC/Community Health Center |
| Melissa Massey-Flinn | HM Life Opportunity Services |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

2. Ongoing Review and Coordination: Briefly describe how often (e.g., monthly) the above group meets to review progress and coordinate efforts. Include a summary of what information is reviewed during these meetings.

A sub group of the above larger group (SSVF Grantees, VA CRRC Staff, Info Line Staff) coordinate in a bi-weekly meeting to check-in regarding the coordination of referrals, service outcomes, and interventions and progress with current Veterans. Additional community partner members will occasionally attend including management staff from the local GPD program as well as staff from the VA PRRC. During these coordination meeting, new referrals are identified and outreach efforts are discussed. Perhaps most importantly, current cases are reviewed to collect recommendations and find solutions to meet each Veteran's specific needs and provide wrap-around services to improve their overall housing stability.

In addition, the SSVF grantees meet monthly with the VA Safe Haven staff to identify potential referrals and coordinate services provided to the Veteran's staying at the VA Safe Haven. Linkages and referrals with outside partners are made and case management is provided by the SSVF grantees focusing on stabilizing the Veteran's current housing crisis.

Finally, housing issues among Veterans will be addressed at the quarterly CoC Steering Committee Meetings as an ongoing agenda item to ensure that all agencies who may encounter Veterans in need are collaborating to reach a functional zero level. Community beds will be identified as well as overall numbers served and dollars spent will be reported on during this meeting.

3. Annual Demand, Goals, and Strategies for Achieving and Sustaining Functional Zero: Identify the estimated number of Veterans who are homeless annually and the community/CoC goals and strategies for achieving a functional end to Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 (overall community/CoC goals, not just SSVF grantees). If one or more of the goals and strategies below have not yet been established for the community, leave blank and identify the date by which they will be established. See the **Ending Homelessness Among Veterans Overview** for additional guidance.

3A. Estimated Annual Number of Homeless Veterans: Identify the total unduplicated number of Veterans expected to be homeless in 2015 using data from the SSVF Edition of the Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 or data assumptions that have already been adopted by the community, such as the *VA CoC Gaps Analysis Tool (GAT)*.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Estimated Annual Total: | 222 |
|--------------------------------|-----|

3B. Community/CoC Goals: Identify your community's/CoC's key goals and targets.

A. Permanent Housing Placement Target & SSVF Rapid Re-Housing Placement Target:
Complete and attach *SSVF Edition of Veteran Homelessness Gaps Analysis Tool FY15Q3 OR an CoC Gaps Analysis Tool – Strategy 4 (SSVF) Worksheet*

| | | |
|---|----|------|
| B. Length of Time Homeless Goal (max or average days): | 30 | days |
|---|----|------|

| C. January 2016 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Goal | Sheltered | Unsheltered | Total |
|--|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Number of Veterans expected to be counted as homeless during the CoC's January 2016 PIT count: | 51 | 45 | 96 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 17 | 15 | 32 |

3C. Implementation Strategies: What strategies are being used to achieve and sustain functional zero?

| | Yes/No/Under Dev |
|--|------------------|
| A. Has your community identified every Veteran who is homeless right now by name? | Yes |
| Is this list updated regularly? | Yes |
| Is this list reviewed at least bi-weekly by key community partners to ensure Veterans have a permanent housing plan and those plans are achieved? | Yes |
| B. Does every Veteran who is homeless now have a Housing Plan and access to safe (and low barrier as needed) shelter and/or permanent housing? | Under Dev |
| C. Is every Veteran who becomes homeless rapidly engaged and offered shelter and/or housing that meets their needs? | Yes |
| If so, is this true no matter where they are initially engaged in your community or what shelter or unsheltered location they may be in? | Yes |
| D. Are sufficient SSVF resources allocated to ensure there are no RRH gaps or turn-aways? | Yes |
| E. Are you using SSVF to rapidly re-house Veterans who are waiting on VASH or other PSH assistance if VASH/PSH is not available immediately or in near future? | Yes |

4. Other Strengths and Challenges: Briefly describe any additional strengths and/or challenges relevant to your achieving VA and local goals.

When analyzing the strengths and challenges presented by the current structure of the SSVF program, perhaps the greatest strength is the high level of cooperation and coordination between partner agencies and VA staff. Area agencies are excellent in being available and providing point-of-contacts to share information and resources, triage services, and expedite the process for delivering services to at-risk Veterans. SSVF staff have an excellent rapport with the VA staff at the CRRC, the local housing authority, and the local shelters, for example, making the referral process as smooth as possible. In addition, the SSVF grantees have been successful at developing an excellent rapport with local landlords who are happy to work with the program and assist in housing local Veterans. Another strength includes the outreaching efforts with the SSVF Program having a strong presence at the local shelters, the CRRC, the VA Safe Haven, and the local Homeless Outreach Center, to name a few.

Even though there is a high level of cooperation and collaboration between partner agencies, the length of time of the waitlists for permanent supportive housing and the housing choice voucher present a challenge for the SSVF grantees. Even though the Veterans move to the top of the waitlist for subsidized housing, it can still take time and the SSVF funds bridging the Veteran household into permanent housing can at times not be enough, putting the Veteran household at risk of becoming homeless again. At this time, both SSVF grantees are experiencing the need to preserve TFA and targeting those with the greatest need can be challenging. Additionally, like many communities, the amount of affordable and safe housing can present a challenge for the SSVF grantees. Finally, successful engagement with distrusting Veterans can pose a challenge when trying to rapidly rehousing a Veteran household within 30 days of enrollment.

3CA:Summit County continues to formalize the way in which homeless veterans are tracked and linked so there is consistent data on who needs served. Both SSVF programs (who also have GPD programs) and the CRRC staff meet biweekly to review the current veteran's cases. This allows tracking of those veterans who are enrolled/engaged with SSVF, active with the CRRC but not linked with SSVF yet, or in GPD programs (but may not be eligible for SSVF) to be identified and discussed on a regular basis. 3CB: Summit County is also formalizing the process to ensure that every vet has a housing plan to meet their needs. This has always been done with all vets served in SSVF; the only outliers are those in GPD programs that may be over budget for SSVF or who do not want SSVF services. Those vets will most likely complete a housing plan with the GPD providers, but this process is still in the planning stage.