

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.

Beginning Thursday, April 23, 2015 the Montgomery County COC members discussed to meet monthly to provide updates on coordination of strategies such as Veteran Outreach, Landlord Outreach, HMIS Coordination and implementation of Veteran referrals through Coordinated Assessment. A Veteran subgroup would meet monthly to coordinate efforts and to track progress to end homelessness among Veterans. The team will meet to discuss: real time Veteran cases with housing and available supportive services and solutions to address unique barriers for an individual household accessing housing. The group will be able to track progress via the shared HMIS system. We will develop coordinated outreach efforts with the SSVF providers.

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
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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
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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:	2	0	2
Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless:	0	0	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?	No
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?	No
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.

Montgomery County has limited resources for those facing homelessness and so referrals to the SSVF program has been robust. Likewise the COC, VA and SSVF work closely with each other through regular communication, planning and resourcing.

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.

Prior to this ending homelessness initiative, the CoC team met once per month, but due to the nature of this cause, the navigation team has agreed to meet every week for the first few weeks, then bi-weekly thereafter (if possible). A review of community resources available (i.e., available beds at GPD, Jesus Way Shelter, Salvation Army Shelter), possibilities for emergency housing for the future, barriers to housing stability for specific veterans, getting community leaders involved, and more are all discussed at these meetings. Starting next week, each veteran's information will be brought for discussion and a plan developed for their specific housing stability. Our collective goal is to house 95 homeless veterans, based on the 2015 Point in Time Count. Resource decisions can be made through the CoC and its leadership. Policy decisions may be made through CoC, as appropriate, as well as through leverage of local government participation. Update as of July 1, 2015: The Navigation Team is still meeting on a weekly basis, and sees the need to continue throughout 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.

*****PLAN in beginning stages on the attached Discussion Guide

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:	95
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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
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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:	20	3	23
Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless:	8	1	9

***Doing a 2nd PIT time count in October

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: 1) Committed group of people on the team 2) Mayor who's very involved in this goal 3) Have a strong VA presence in this community 4) Very active CoC Director who has great community involvement 4) Have 2 participating SSVF grantees in our community Update 7/1/15: Information Sharing Agreements (Nav. Team ROI) were developed and approved by Lawyer for use. Created Rapid Response Team.

Challenge/Barrier:

Transportation

o The City has limited public transportation that does not reach all parts of the City of Tuscaloosa and does not provide access to Tuscaloosa County, Mercedes Benz, which was annexed into City limits, or Northport.

- Action Step: The CoC/Navigation Team will write a letter to the City of Tuscaloosa, Transportation Director, Russell Lawrence, identifying key areas of the City and County that are deficient of access. Update 7/1/15: Waiting on a meeting with him first; it has been requested.
- Action Step: The CoC/Navigation Team will also work with area churches and non-profits to create a plan to assist with transportation including but not limited to: using church vans or buses when able to provide community members with transportation to employment and job interviews, providing bus passes, providing transportation to/from hotels to places of employment and potential housing.

Challenge/Barrier: Lack of affordable housing

- Action Step: The CoC/Navigation Team will email/write letter(s) to City leadership/officials requesting policy changes with respect to housing affordability. With the increase in student housing providers, the City could be requested to make policy changes to reflect a percentage of units be required to participate in affordable housing based on AMI standards and household size. Update 7/1/15: Been presented and now waiting on it to go to Council.
- Action Step: The CoC/Navigation Team will work with the area's faith based community to consider alternative housing options and temporary housing. Update 7/1/15: CoC Director has met with a group from the faith-based community to discuss their involvement in obtaining affordable housing for veterans.

Challenge/Barrier: True low-barrier housing

o Much of the temporary or transitional housing is not truly low-barrier for some of the highest risk clients. For instance, if a client with a SA disorder returns to his or her unit intoxicated or has a positive drug screen, they will be asked to leave.

- The CoC/Navigation team will conduct a review of the P & P's of area shelters, PSH, and transitional housing providers and request changes to support Housing First to the greatest extent possible. Where this is not possible, the CoC/Navigation team will consider options that specifically serve the highest risk populations and create the lowest barriers possible. Update 7/1/15: Some of the Nav. Team members drove around the area to make a list of apartments and houses for rent, and realtor contact numbers. We have