

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 team meets weekly (Fridays) to review and track the progress of each homeless Veteran until they are permanently housed. Every homeless veteran is identified by name and kept on a list that is distributed each week. Every week there are updates given on the status of each person identified on the list and whomever is working with that individual will provide information as well as time lines / barriers to getting them housed. Barriers are identified as related to each homeless Veteran on an individual basis. The team then decides which level of service can best meet that particular Veteran's needs to resolve any barriers related to rapidly re-housing that Veteran. The veteran stays on that list until it has been confirmed through the meetings that the individual is housed. Through our weekly meetings we have been able to build strong relationships and communication occurs throughout the week, in between meetings, to help address any barriers that have been identified.

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)*.

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|-------------------------|-----|
| Estimated Annual Total: | 308 |
|-------------------------|-----|

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: | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 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? | 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.

There are plans to further integrate SSVF into the CoC's planning, oversight and coordinated assessment process. Since SSVF programs are represented in each week's meetings, we are there to further educate and provide guidance on the benefits of SSVF program to our veteran homeless population.

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 Greater New Orleans Veterans Navigators are homeless service providers within the CoC that strategize each week how to navigate homeless Veterans to eligible services and programs to end homelessness for each Veteran identified within the CoC. The meetings continue to be conducted each Monday afternoon and are lead by the CoC. All SSVF providers, representatives from community shelters, Veteran Affairs, various CoC programs, and homeless service providers participate in this meeting. At the meetings, committee members continue to review HMIS data that captures Veterans who have become homeless and/or currently homeless living in a place not meant for habitation. Each homeless Veteran is tracked on a secure Google Doc which allows the group to review and refer the homeless Veteran to permanent housing and/or other available supportive services. The group continues to strategizes solutions to address unique barriers for permanent housing on an individual basis. Each Veteran's case is reviewed to monitor contact, ability to link to VASH or PSH assistance, and referral to other supports as identified. Regularly, emails, follow-up calls, and/or texts continue to be sent out by CoC staff when a homeless person identifies themselves as a Veteran. SSVF providers and other community providers then triage the homeless Veteran to ensure immediate services can be provided as soon as possible, which demonstrate a procedure under the functional zero system. This time also offers the group to find solutions to service barriers, share information in regards to landlord outreach, review vocational opportunities, and share new resources available to Veterans in the community of Greater New Orleans. The group has worked collaboratively to develop the community plan. Greater New Orleans evolve processes in order to meet the needs of the Veteran population and to ensure the streamline process illustrate a seamless transition for Veteran households.

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)*.

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| Estimated Annual Total: | 517 |
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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 |
|---|----|------|

| 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: | 31 | 5 | 36 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 10 | 3 | 13 |

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-always? | Under Dev |
| 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.

We continue to have a committed local leadership with the Mayor's Office in the City of New Orleans, which is currently working through a strategy to commit 200 Housing Choice Vouchers to assist Veterans with stable and permanent housing. In addition, the local CoC is strong with its commitment to the project by agreeing to prioritize CoC permanent and rapid re-housing resources for Veterans who may not qualify for VASH or VHA benefits. The City of New Orleans has also reached out to local VFW, Veteran organizations, and active Military to volunteer resources and time for assistance with homeless outreach, donation of goods and houseware items, assistance with Veterans move in, and peer assistance for Veterans in need. The leadership provided by the CoC and the Mayor's Office have bridged a gap with the local Veteran Affairs and Department of Housing and Urban Development offices to find solutions to service and housing barriers for homeless Veterans. With the CoC and SSVF, we have embraced Housing First and Harm Reduction principles to afford each Veteran experiencing homelessness an opportunity for permanent housing.

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 primary planning and coordination group convened in response to the Baton Rouge Mayor's accepting the Mayor's Challenge. The group is working to develop systematic strategies for solving veteran homelessness: (a) The implementation of a centralized tracking system, which includes a tool to merge data from HMIS and VA systems, the identification of a permanent custodian for the data, and a written procedure and process for updating and tracking information. (b) The implementation and identification of an outreach process, which includes a clear and agreed upon definition of the target population and strategies for effective outreach and engagement. (b) The implementation of a rapid response system, which includes a written process identifying emergency, transitional, permanent housing resources, identifying standard assessment tools and referral processes, identifying resources to remove barriers to assistance, and identifying a timeline to move veterans along a continuum of assistance. And (c) the implementation of a resource and service matrix to formalize and coordinate wrap-around services. Planning committee meets monthly. In addition to these strategies, the group worked with local veteran service providers to plan and host a Stand Down. The CoC intends to host a similar Stand Down yearly.

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)*.

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| Estimated Annual Total: | 175 |
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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): | 120 | 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: | 40 | 0 | 40 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 10 | 0 | 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? | 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? | 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.

Strengths: (a) The core partners are well-connected and well established stakeholders in the CoC. (b) There is a well-established point of entry through the One Stop Homeless Services Center (multi-agency entry system) providing basic needs and specialized services. (c) VOA, St. Vincent DePaul, and the VA provide robust outreach that meets and engages Veterans in community settings. (d) VOA, as the local SSVF grantee, is a recognized and respected veteran service provider in the greater Baton Rouge area. And (e) There is a strong local commitment to the "housing first" model, and an equally strong commitment to addressing chronic homelessness.

Challenges: (a) The geography of the CoC is both urban and rural: a medium-sized urban center in Baton Rouge with surrounding rural parishes. This creates service delivery challenges - including, challenges to effective outreach, housing placements, and coordination of services. (b) The emergency shelter options for families with children are limited in our CoC. And (c) there significant privacy challenges to managing and sharing data (particularly between service providers and the VA) which affects our CoC's ability to coordinate assessment and 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.

The Board of Directors for the CoC meets quarterly to review progress toward CoC goals including the goal of ending Veteran homelessness by 2015. Action steps to achieve this goal were developed and adopted by the Board during a 2013 planning process. Progress on each action step is reviewed at each quarterly meeting. Information reviewed during these meetings includes the status of the CoC's SSVF and GPD programs' progress toward CoC plan goals including increasing bed capacity to targeted CoC levels. Continuation of ongoing outreach is also reviewed throughout the project period. The CoC has one SSVF program serving the entire CoC area. That program provides leadership and monitoring of the day-to-day efforts to end Vet homelessness including conducting outreach, identifying homeless Vets/Vet families by name, and seeing a Housing Plan for each is created or providing referrals to appropriate programs that will do so.

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)*.

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|-------------------------|-----|
| Estimated Annual Total: | 173 |
|-------------------------|-----|

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): | 15 | 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: | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 1 | 0 | 1 |

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? | 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.

Strengths include a very aggressive outreach and engagement process conducted by the CoC's SSVF program; sufficient SSVF resources to serve those Vets/Vet families that qualify for SSVF; deep commitment across the CoC to ending Vet homelessness. Challenges: very limited stock of affordable housing in the CoC area; extremely high poverty rate across the CoC area -- among the highest in the US in some parishes (counties) in the CoC; limited community resources to serve the 56% percent of persons in the CoC; area including homeless persons including Vets; lack of public transportation in 11 of the CoC's 12 service area parishes, so that programs serving homeless Vets must provide or pay for transportation of homeless Vets being served to appointments, medical care, etc.; distance to the nearest VAMC which is outside the CoC area, over 100 miles away for most area Vets; extremely high unemployment in the CoC area -- typically highest in the state

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.

Service providers within the CoC will strategize each month how to navigate homeless Veterans to eligible services and programs to end homelessness for each Veteran identified within the CoC. The meetings will be conducted at the Terrebonne Parish Library on the 4th Monday of each month. The local SSVF provider, representatives from community shelters and CoC programs, and homeless service providers will participate in this meeting. At the meetings, we will review HMIS data that captures Veterans who have become homeless and/or currently homeless living in a place not meant for habitation. Each homeless Veteran will be tracked on an encrypted spreadsheet which will allow the group to review and refer the homeless Veteran to permanent housing and/or other available supportive services. The group will also strategize solutions to address unique barriers for permanent housing on an individual basis. Each Veteran's case will be reviewed to monitor contact, ability to link to VASH or PSH assistance, and referral to other supports as identified. Regularly, emails, follow-up calls, and/or texts will be sent out by intake workers when a homeless person identifies themselves as a Veteran. The SSVF provider and other community providers then triage the homeless Veteran to ensure immediate services can be provided as soon as possible, which would demonstrate a procedure to maintain under the functional zero system.

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)*.

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|-------------------------|-----|
| Estimated Annual Total: | 125 |
|-------------------------|-----|

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: | 31 | 5 | 36 |
| Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless: | 10 | 3 | 13 |

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? | No |
| 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-always? | Under Dev |
| 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.

The CoC has reached out to local VFW, Veteran organizations, and active Military to volunteer resources and time for assistance with homeless outreach, donation of goods and houseware items, assistance with Veterans move in, and peer assistance for Veterans in need. A local Rotary Club is in the process of donating household items to assist veterans as they move into permanent housing.