

SSVF: Community Plan Summary

Date Completed/Revised: 9/15/2015

Continuum of Care Name:	Montana Statewide CoC	CoC Number:	MT-500
CoC Representative:	Bob Buzzas	Title:	CoC Chair
Phone/Email:	406-586-1572 / bobbuzzas@gmail.com		
Person Completing this Summary:	Scott Powers	Title:	SSVF Program Director
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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:	MT CoC
Principal Members	Affiliation
Sheri Boelter	Dist 7 MT Sub CoC, Billings
Brian Steffen	Dist 1, 2, 3 MT Sub CoC, Glendive
Diane Getten	Dist 4 MT Sub CoC, Havre
Karla Seaman	Dist 5 MT Sub CoC, Great Falls
Vacant	Dist 6 MT SubCoC, Lewistown
Julie Serstad	Dist 8 MT Sub CoC, Helena
Sara Savage	Dist 9 MT Sub CoC, Bozeman
Chris Krager	Dist 10 MT Sub CoC, Kalispell
Patty Murphy	Dist 11, MT Sub CoC, Missoula
Revonda Stordahl	Dist 12, MT Sub CoC, Butte

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.

Most of the Montana Sub CoCs meet on a bi monthly basis to work on community plans to end homelessness and coordinate care for the homeless population. While in the sub CoC meetings SSVF Team Members have addressed the need to properly define functional zero to minimize confusion. We have suggested a more frequent meeting to assist in our goal to end Veteran homelessness. Each Sub CoC then report back to the Montana CoC Chair on items discussed. Sub-CoC's have identified the need to implement a combined assessment to aid in the path to reach functional zero within the local communities. Items that have been discussed and requested action with our Balance of State CoC Chair are: 1. Update on the plan to eliminate Veteran unsheltered homeless 2. Attaining a master list of homeless Veterans from the VA Homeless Program office 3. Attaining the list of homeless Veterans waiting for entry into GPD Programs. The CoC chair has connected with state wide community partners concerning the implementation of the community plan and collaboration with the SSVF Program to end Veteran homelessness by the end of the year.

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:	205
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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):	5	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:	63	142	205
Of number above, how many will also be counted as chronically homeless:	20	47	67

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 continue to be the constant and open dialog between the, CoC, VA and other Community Partners to achieve functional zero. The Volunteers of America Northern Rockies SSVF program actively collaborates with the State CoC as well as the Sub CoCs to continually update the Community Plan. Other strengths include having strong relationships in our local communities throughout the State of Montana to include Landlords, Housing Authorities, GPD and numerous homeless shelters. More coordination and increase referrals have assisted in helping Veterans receive services sooner that have resulted in decreasing the number of days Veterans are homeless.

Unique challenges presented in our Statewide COC are various local Sub-COC's have been dissolved and are starting to reestablish in certain locations in the State of Montana. We also have been actively involved with trying to gather community partners to reestablish the sub CoC meetings. We will continue to work with VA to develop a list of homeless Veterans to house unsheltered Veterans. We have identified the need to increase communication between the local sub COC's. Finally, the challenge of having one large statewide COC with a very large geographic area to cover has increased the difficulty in completing the plan. The implementation of the new SSVF P1 grant in the State of Montana has greatly enhanced our ability to reach communities that we have not reached prior to grant implementation. Volunteers of America SSVF Program grant communication with the CoC chair has increased which has resulted in needed action. Besides reviewing progress towards overall goals we continually work hard to develop state wide list of current literally homeless Veterans.