Ending Veteran Homelessness in Montgomery County

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[Image of presenters]
“Operational Definition of Ending Veteran Homelessness”
An end to Veteran homelessness does not mean that no Veteran will ever experience a housing crisis again. Changing economic realities, the unpredictability of life and or unsafe or unwelcoming family environments may create situations where Veterans experience or are at-risk of homelessness.

“Operational Definition of Ending Veteran Homelessness”
An end to homelessness means that every community will have a systematic response in place that ensures homelessness is prevented whenever possible or is otherwise a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience.

Federal Benchmarks
- 0 Chronically and Long-term Homeless Veterans
- Average Length of Time Homeless for Veterans Less than 90 days
- The # of homeless Veterans moving into Permanent housing is greater than or equal to newly homeless Veterans
- Service Intensive Transitional Housing is used in limited instances
Montgomery County Veteran Homeless Point-in-Time Count Data

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Veteran Resources for Shelter & Housing

Overview of VA Homeless Programs
**Goals of the VA Homeless Programs**

Help Eligible Veterans:
- Meet basic needs such as food, clothing, and temporary shelter.
- Find affordable housing.
- Find jobs.
- Refer Veterans for medical, mental health, and substance abuse care at the VA Medical Center.
- Provide case management, including providing information, support and linkages to needed services.

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**HCHV Emergency Contract Housing**

- The HCHV Program currently has 15 contract beds at Holt Street Miracle Center.
- Length of Stay: 60-90 days
- Case Management by VA Homeless Outreach for Discharge Planning

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**Grant & Per Diem (GPD) Transitional Housing Program**
What is unique about GPD

- Grant and Per Diem provides housing and supportive services for not only the honorable discharged veteran but veterans with less than honorable discharges. (The exception being dishonorable discharges).

Grant and Per Diem Program - Transitional Housing

- There are a total of 50 GPD beds in Montgomery County:
  - 25 Bridge beds
  - 10 Clinical beds
  - 15 Service Intensive

- Volunteers Of America (located on the Dayton VA Campus)

HUD-VASH

Housing and Urban Development VA Supported Housing
HUD-VASH Background

• HUD-VASH = Housing + Supported Services

The nation’s largest supported permanent housing initiative combines:
  – HUD Housing Choice Vouchers (PHA)
  – VA Case Management services that promote and maintain recovery and housing stability.

HUD-VASH Program

• The Dayton VAMC has a total of 225 active vouchers.
  • 35 vouchers added in 2008
  • 25 vouchers added in 2010
  • 25 vouchers added in 2011
  • 25 vouchers added in 2012
  • 35 vouchers added in 2013 (15 Darke County)
  • 12 vouchers added in 2015 (12 Shelby County)
  • 53 vouchers added in 2015
  • 15 vouchers added in 2016

• VA Case Management is ongoing, giving the Veterans the necessary supports to be successful tenants, productive and healthy citizens.

Who is ineligible for HUD-VASH?

• Veteran/family that exceeds the HUD income limits.

• Veteran who is a lifetime registered sex offender under a State sex offender registration program.
Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF)

- Provide temporary financial assistance and other services to veterans or veterans and their families that are currently homeless or at risk of losing their housing.

- 2 Grantees
  - St. Vincent DePaul-Montgomery and surrounding Counties
  - Volunteers of America-Montgomery County only

Other HCHV Supportive Services...

- Community Employment Coordinator (CEC)
- Social Service Representative

CoC Resources for Veterans

- Immediate access to Emergency Shelter
- PATH Street Outreach
- Transitional Housing*
- Permanent Supportive Housing*

* Options for ineligible veterans
**Local Strategies & Collective Impact**

- **Common Agenda**
  - Joint VA-CoC Plan to End Veteran Homelessness
  - Adopting Shared By-Name List of Homeless Veterans
  - Mayor’s Challenge

- **Shared Measurement**
  - Federal Benchmarks & Criteria
  - Annual Point-in-Time Count

- **Mutually reinforcing activities**
  - 45 Day Challenge
  - Housing Placement Boot camp
  - Landlord Recruitment & Appreciation

- **Continuous Communication**
  - Bi-weekly VA-CoC Coordination Meetings
  - Weekly-Monthly VA-CoC Leadership Calls
  - CoC Governing Board

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**VA-COC Partnership & Collaboration**

- Volunteers of America
- Holt Street Miracle Center
- SSVF
- Montgomery

Vets@HomeTA
Federal Submission Process

JUST DO IT.

Lessons Learned & Challenges

- Relationships Matter
- Document Policies & Procedures
- Celebrate Your Successes
- Use data to drive decision making
- Sustainability

Celebrating Our Success!!!
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Thank You!