

# Ending Veterans Homelessness: Next Steps from Where We Are Now

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# Where Are We Now?

- Veteran numbers consistently down (in this economy!) – below 60,000 in Jan. 2013
- Know-how is expanding
- Still support in Washington for what works (especially for veterans)
- The money is there

# Responses – How do we have an impact?

Use the know-how about what works!

- Data – who's homeless, how do they become homeless, what works to rehouse them
- Efficient/effective practices – permanent supportive housing, rapid re-housing, Housing First

Urgency and focus

# What works – PSH and HUD-VASH

- Permanent supportive housing, targeted to people experiencing chronic homelessness
- VA pushing for more targeting
- HUD-VASH was not subject to sequestration, should be turning over
- Another round on its way soon

# What works – Rapid Re-Housing

- Strong positive regard coming out of HPRP
- Research base growing
- Veterans and SSVF
- Working with the community – landlords and employers
- More money on the way

# Big Picture

- Huge public and bipartisan support
- Of three big steps needed six years ago, two have been taken, one remains
- Full range of program models (HUD-VASH, SSVF, and more flexibility in GPD), funded pretty much to scale
- Last step – every community put an efficient system in place to find every homeless veteran and get them the right intervention. Who will lead this process?

# 2015? Really? Yes, Really!

- Veterans who are homeless now or who will become homeless between now and the end of 2015 – 205,000 (inc. 25,000 chronically homeless)
- HUD-VASH new and turnover can house 32,000 by end of 2015.
- SSVF can rapidly re-house 240,000 homeless veterans by then.

# How to finish

- Identify and empower a leader
- Identify homeless vets and what they need to get housed (aka coordinated assessment)
- Engage community esp. landlords and employers
- Target precious PSH resources
- Make sure rapid re-housing is state of the art



# Urgency and focus

- There are a lot of issues, one thing we can do is make a big difference in veterans homelessness – It's worth doing!
- VA wants a serious reduction in veterans homelessness by the end of 2015, pressure will be on
- For the rest, where will the urgency come from?