

Homes For All Veterans Executive Summary

September 1, 2015

Homes for All Veterans (HAV)

- Lead Agencies
 - Volunteers of America (Denver)
 - Rocky Mountain Human Services (Colorado Springs)
- HAV (Purpose)
 - House homeless Veterans
 - Prevent homelessness for Veteran experiencing a housing crisis.
- VA Grant – Supportive Services for Veteran Families (**SSVF**)

HAV Resources

- State-wide Program.
 - Sole SSVF Provider: Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Southern CO
 - Shared SSVF Provider: Denver, Grand Junction, Northern CO, Cheyenne WY
- HUD Grants
 - Colorado Springs/El Paso County
 - Permanent Supportive Housing Grant, 17 Veterans/Families
 - Rapid Re-Housing Grant, 3 Women Veterans
- Community Partners (Colorado Springs/El Paso County)
 - VA Homeless Programs (HUD-VASH, HCHV), Veterans of Foreign Wars, The Homefront Cares, CVRC/Crawford House, Homeward Pikes Peak, TESSA, Partners in Housing, Greccio Housing, Springs Rescue Mission, etc., etc.

SSVF Program

- **Nat'l Goal:** End Veteran Homelessness in 2015
 - Complements existing VA programs (HUD-VASH, GPD, etc.)
 - Community-based, VA-funded resource to local non-profits
 - Expanded Veteran eligibility
 - Not Dishonorably discharged
 - Income limits, determined by family size & area of residence
 - “Literally” homeless or at risk of becoming homeless
- FY15, **Priority 2** (existing)
 - 301 grantees/50 states +, \$300 million
- FY15, **Priority 1** “surge funding”
 - 82 grantees/56 communities, \$207 million
 - Colorado
 - Denver: Volunteers of America, \$3 million/3 years
 - Colorado Springs: **RMHS/HAV**, \$3 million/3 years

What It Means to End Homelessness

“An end to homelessness does **not mean** that no one will ever experience a housing crisis again. 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...”

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Goals

- **Near-Term Goal: End Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015.**
- **Long-Term Goal: Optimize local systems to ensure homelessness among Veterans is prevented when possible, and when it does occur, it is rare and brief.**

Easy to fill but urgent needs

- Recruit volunteers to help identify homeless Veterans
 - Work with Volunteers of America (Denver)
 - Work with Rocky Mountain Human Services (Colorado Springs)
 - Four hours a month during the day time mostly with Police Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)
- Recruit Community Partners to source and build Home Starter Kits
 - Home Startup Kit for newly sheltered Veterans will have soap, linen, shower curtain, etc
 - These kits are meant to provide some creature comforts that other money cannot buy the Veteran
 - A sample inventory list is available from VFW Colo State Chaplain
 - The average cost for one kit is ~\$50 (Think Relief Fund money)