Introduction to Next Step VRC and the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program

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VRC Overview

VRC Locations:

• California (10)
  – Chico, Napa, Monterey, Santa Rosa, Eureka, Menlo Park, Sacramento, Santa Cruz, Redding, Vallejo

• Nevada (2)
  – Carson City, Reno

• Arizona (3)
  – Flagstaff, Prescott, Bullhead City
About the SSVF Program

- VRC works directly with veterans to help them obtain sustainable housing through financial assistance.
- VRC provides case management services and education and employment assistance.
- Also have services for veterans that are at risk of losing their housing (e.g. utility, rental arrears).
- Host San Mateo County VSO weekly.

Program Goals

- The goal of the program is to promote housing stability through interventions that are focused on homeless prevention or rapid rehousing.
- In order to qualify for assistance, a low-income, veteran household must either be at risk of becoming homeless or be literally homeless.
Homeless Prevention

• Homeless Prevention assistance is provided to households that are *at risk* of losing their housing.

• The household would become *literally homeless but for* our assistance.

Rapid Re-housing (RRHP)

• Rapid Re-housing Programs use interventions designed to help individuals and families quickly exit homelessness and transition to permanent housing.

• The 3 goals of rapid re-housing are to:

  1. Identify housing
  2. Provide rent and move-in financial assistance
  3. Offer case management and related services
Housing First

The program embraces the Housing First approach. Key ideas include:

• A homeless individual or household’s first and primary need is to obtain stable housing. Other issues impacting the household can and should be addressed as housing is obtained.

• Housing is not contingent on compliance with support services (e.g. testing clean, attending support groups).

• Housing should be provided quickly.

• Wraparound services are provided after housing has been obtained to help the household remain stably housed.

Key Principles

• Case Managers use the following principle to guide their interventions:

  “The right service, at the right time, using the right amount of assistance.”

• Households are provided with the least amount of assistance required to help them obtain, or maintain, housing stability.

• The SSVF program emphasizes timely crisis response and client choice.
Program Eligibility

1. Veteran Family:
   - Family (with or without dependent children) in which the head of the household or the spouse of the head of household is a veteran or single veteran.

2. Very Low Income:
   - Less than 50% of area median income (as adjusted).

3. Current Housing Situation:
   - Facing eviction
   - Currently homeless
   - Unstably housed

Veterans Served 2018

VRC served veterans in both San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.

- Overall, we served 121 households and distributed over $150K with 91.72% of households exiting our program in stable housing.

- San Mateo County: we served 32 veteran households and distributed more than $25K in housing assistance.
  - 10 homeless prevention and 22 rapid rehousing clients.

- Goal for 2019: serve 255 households and distribute $380K in housing assistance.
Thank You!

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Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me or anyone on my team!