



UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

Homeless Veterans

Representing the Needs and Interests of Homeless Veterans in State, County, and City 10-Year Plans to End Chronic Homelessness

The mission of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) is to create the federal strategy and coordinate the response to homelessness and forward the Administration's commitment to end chronic homelessness in 10 years through interagency, intergovernmental, intragovernmental, and intercommunity partnerships and collaborations. Key to the development and implementation of this national approach are state, county, and city jurisdictional 10-year plans to end chronic homelessness.

The USICH recognizes that the needs of homeless veterans must be given special attention and consideration in the development and implementation of jurisdictional plans. Best practice in the convening of planning partnerships and the development of jurisdictional plans will ensure early inclusion of partners who address the needs of homeless veterans, the development of jurisdictional data on their needs, and the design of partnerships and investments that prevent and end their homelessness.

The USICH believes that no state, county, or city jurisdictional 10-year plan to end chronic homelessness can be considered complete without directly addressing the issues of homeless veterans and, to that end, without the inclusion in jurisdictional planning partnerships of individuals and organizations that can effectively represent the needs of homeless veterans and are knowledgeable about the resources and proven strategies to serve them.

No implementation of a 10-year plan can be truly effective without accessing the resources available from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and those resources available from state and local departments and offices representing the interests of veterans. This includes, but is not limited to, VA's VISN Network Homeless Coordinators and Veterans Benefits Administration Homeless Veteran Outreach Coordinators (HVOC's). Rosters of these key contacts are attached to this document.

Accessing resources targeted to homeless veterans not only helps end the homelessness of veterans. It also means that homeless veterans will utilize fewer dollars not specifically targeted to them, thus maximizing the use of available resources for other subpopulations of persons experiencing homelessness.

It is critical that states, counties, and cities access the following resources to inform the development and implementation of the components of their 10-Year Plans that address the needs of homeless veterans. The following information is from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) website as well as other sources.

A. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Programs for Homeless Veterans

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), one-third of adult homeless men and nearly one-quarter of all homeless adults have served in the armed forces. While less than 200,000 veterans may be homeless on any given night as many as twice that number may experience homelessness during a year. Many other veterans are considered at risk because of poverty, lack of support from family and friends, and precarious living conditions in overcrowded or substandard housing.

Ninety-seven percent of homeless veterans are male, and the majority are single. Nearly half of all veterans treated in health care programs suffer from mental illness, and slightly more than 2 out of 3 have alcohol or drug abuse problems. Thirty-five percent have both psychiatric and substance abuse disorders.

Program Overview

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is the only federal agency that provides substantial hands-on assistance directly to homeless people. Last year, VA provided health care services to about 100,000 homeless veterans, while more than 74,000 benefited from its specialized homeless programs. More than 44,000 homeless veterans are receiving compensation or pension benefits.

Although limited to veterans and their dependents, VA's major homeless programs constitute the largest integrated network of homeless assistance programs in the country, offering a wide array of services and initiatives to help veterans recover from homelessness and live as self-sufficiently and independently as possible.

VA uses its own resources and establishes partnerships with private and governmental groups. It has secured more than 9,000 transitional and permanent beds for homeless veterans throughout the nation. To increase assistance, VA conducts outreach to connect homeless veterans to both mainstream and homeless-specific VA programs and benefits. These programs strive to offer a continuum of services that include:

- ◆ Aggressive outreach to veterans living on the streets and in shelters who otherwise would not seek assistance;
- ◆ Clinical assessment and referral for medical treatment of physical and psychiatric disorders, including substance abuse;
- ◆ Long-term transitional residential assistance, case management and rehabilitation; and,
- ◆ Employment assistance and linkage with available income supports and permanent housing.

VA has awarded more than 400 grants to public and nonprofit groups to assist homeless veterans in 50 states and the District of Columbia to provide transitional housing, service centers and vans to provide transportation to services and employment.

For further information on the substantial number of programs and services offered by the VA to homeless veterans use this link to the following web address: www.va.gov/homeless/

B. Federal Agency Web Sites on Homelessness

The following Federal agency Web sites focused on homelessness may also have information on resources for homeless veterans.

- ◆ U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness: www.ich.gov
- ◆ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: www.va.gov/homeless/
- ◆ U.S. Department of Agriculture: www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Care/Homeless/HomelessFags.htm
- ◆ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: aspe.hhs.gov/homeless/index.shtml
- ◆ U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):
www.fema.gov/rrr/efs.shtm
- ◆ U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development:
www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/index.cfm
- ◆ U.S. Department of Justice: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/reentry/welcome.html
- ◆ U.S. Department of Labor: www.dol.gov/dol/audience/aud-homeless.htm
- ◆ Social Security Administration: www.socialsecurity.gov/homelessness/
- ◆ White House Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives:
www.whitehouse.gov/government/fbci/grants-catalog-homelessness.html

C. Veterans Service Organizations

To access a list of and links to Veterans Service Organizations, go to: www1.va.gov/vso/

D. State and Local Veterans Service Organizations

To access a list of and links to State and Local Veterans Service Organizations, go to: www1.va.gov/vso/

E. National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

To access information on the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans go to: www.nchv.org

F. VBA Regional Office Homeless Outreach Veterans Coordinators

STATION	NAME	POSITION	PHONE
Albuquerque	Anthony Maggio	VSR	505-346-4819
Anchorage	Tammy Walljasper	VSR-Homeless Veteran Coordinator	907-257-4788
Atlanta	Richard Barnes	VSR - Homeless Veterans Coordinator	404-929-5738 FAX: 404-929-5756
Baltimore	Clayton Smith		410-230-4530 x2123
Boise	Scott Stevens	Outreach Coor.	208-334-1903
Boston	Neil Lucas	Public Contact & Outreach Specialist	617-303-4976 FAX: 617-303-5559
Buffalo	Thomas Peszko -- Jeffrey Duffie (Alternate)	Contact Rep	716-551-5273 (Alternate's - - 716-551-4156
Chicago	Phyllis Smith-Taylor	Homeless Veteran Outreach Coordinator	708-202-2715 FAX: 312 980-4503
Cleveland	John Bolen	VBC	614-469-6772
Columbia	John Bradley		803-255-4310
Denver	Dean Tayloe	Coach - Public Affairs Officer	303-914-5750
Des Moines	Victor Tate (Rick Radke - Alternate)		515- 323-7487 (515-323-7486 - Rick)
Detroit	Harold Ingram	VSR - Homeless Veterans Outreach Coordinator	313-226-2680 x3102 FAX: 313-226-5781
Fargo	James Frank	AVSCM	701-237-2621
Ft. Harrison	Lucinda (Cindy) Stenger	Public Contact Outreach Specialist	406-495-2042 FAX: 406-495-2009
Hartford	Ena Lima -- Bob Walker (Out-based Contact, West Haven MC)	VSR-Homeless Veteran Coordinator	860-240-3300, ext. 2409 -- Out-based's # 203-931-4036
Honolulu	Allan Kellogg		808-433-0507
Houston	Manny Lozano	Homeless Veterans Coordinator	713-383-3014 FAX: 713-794-3705
Huntington	Bob Thompson	Chief, Field Section	304-529-5440
Indianapolis	Vacant	Legal Administration Specialist (Public Contact Outreach Specialist)	
Jackson	J.R. Jones	VBC	601-364-7090
Lincoln	Margaret E. Bunde	Coach	402-420-4239

Little Rock	Aaron Givens	VSR	501-370-3844 FAX: 501-370-3891
Los Angeles	Melvin Worthy	Homeless Vet. Coord.	310-478-3711, Ext. 44269 Cell # - 310-863-3979
Louisville	James Wagner	HVC	502-582-6123
Manchester	Sherry Gianitsis	VSR	603-666-7564
Manila	Jeff Mc Quown		011-632-523-1001
Milwaukee	James Bowerman	Coordinator	414-902-5052 FAX: 414-902-9408
Montgomery	Walter Mayer (Sim Pace - Alternate)	Public Contact & Outreach Specialist	334-213-3302, Ext. 3702 (Alternate -334-213-3339)
Muskogee	Darryle Finch	VCE/ Coach	918-781-7611
Nashville	Keith R. Prather	HVOC and Minority Veteran Outreach Coordinator	615-695-6121
New Orleans	Selina Fleury	Contact Rep.	504-619-4383
New York	Samella Smith	Case Manager	718-439-4323
Newark	Paul Charbonneau	Homeless Veteran Outreach Coordinator	973-297-3232
Oakland	Jose (Joe) Medina	Homeless Veteran Outreach Coordinator	(Tel.) 510-637-6445 (Cell) 510-520-8226
Philadelphia	Robert Costantini	Homeless Veterans Coordinator	(215) 842-2000 x4627
Phoenix	Janice Owens	HVOC	602-627-2990
Pittsburgh	Mary Henderson	VSR Homeless	412-395-6216
Portland	Mary Delamater (P) Chuck Wilson (Alt)		503-326-7167
Providence	Brian Klim	VRC, HVOC	401-528-4430, ext. 4
Reno	Dan Splan		702-258-0148
Roanoke	Kevin Thompson	Homeless Veteran Outreach Coordinator	540-857-2193
Salt Lake City	Gil Talkington	Management Analyst	801-326-2403
San Diego	Samuelson, Errol	Veterans Service Representative	619-400-5623
San Juan	Julian De Jesus	Coach VSC	787-772-7360
Seattle	Cynthia Green	Homeless Veterans Outreach Coordinator	206-220-4186 FAX: 206-608-0828
Sioux Falls	Brandon Schultz	Field Examiner	605-333-6825
St. Louis	Richard W. Ivy (on Temp Assgnmt) - Ronald Carron, Temp	Homeless Veterans Outreach Coordinator (HVOC)	314-552-9561- Cell# - 314-954-2035 Ronald's - 314-552-9681

	Replacement		FAX: 314-552-9722
St. Paul	John Warren	Contact Rep.	612-970-5339
St. Petersburg	Regina F. Alexander *Lori Cowen (Temp HVOC)	Homeless Veterans Outreach Coordinator	727-319-5931 *727-319-5830 FAX: 727-319-7761
Togus	David Moreau	VSR	207-623-8411 x5909
Waco	Sylvia Figueroa	Homeless Veteran Outreach Coordinator	214-670-3621
Washington	Diana Hannah	VCR	202-530-9033
White River Junction	Carmen Summarsell	Claims Mgr. VSR	802-295-9363 x5327
Wichita	David Desmond (P) Mary Ann Conroy (Alt)	P=PCOS / Alt=VSR	P= 316-651-2933 / Alt= 316-651-2902
Wilmington	Charles Keenan	Serv. Center Mgr.	302-994-2511x4351
Winston-Salem	Ron Hairston	Homeless Veterans Outreach Coordinator	336-714-0788 FAX: 336-631-5022

G. VHA VISN Homeless Coordinators

Name	Title/Program	Facility/Station Number	Address	City/State/Zip	Phone	
VISN 1						
Robert Hallett	Chief, SWS (122)	VA Boston Healthcare System	150 S. Huntington Ave.	Jamaica Plain, MA 02130	617-232-9500 ext.4090	Robert.Hallett@med.va.gov
Richard Synnott	Homeless Coordinator	VA Medical Center-650	Davis Park	Providence, RI 02907	401-253-8000 ext.528	Richard.Synnott@med.va.gov
VISN 2						
Robert VanKeuren	Network Homeless Coord.	VA Medical Center-532	400 Fort Hill Avenue	Canandaigua, NY 14424	716-393-7413	Robert.Vankeuren@med.va.gov
Jean Dittman, MSW	Community Day Prgm Mng.	VA Medical Center-528	3495 Bailey Ave	Buffalo, NY 14215	716-834-4270	Jean.Dittman@med.va.gov
VISN 3						
Henrietta Fishman	Network Mgr., Homeless Prgms	VA Medical Center-10N3HOM	130 West Kingsbridge Rd.	Bronx, NY 10468	718-741-4254	Henrietta.Fishman2@med.va.gov
VISN 4						
Vincent Kane	Homelsss Coord./Prgm Analy.	VA Medical Center	University & Woodland Aven	Philadelphia, PA 19104	215-823-5800 ext.5903	Vincent.Kane@med.va.gov
VISN 5						
Paul E. Smits	Facility Mgr. Mental Health	VA Medical Center-613/145	Route 9	Martinsburg, WV 25401	304-263-0811 ext.3810	Paul.Smits@med.va.gov
VISN 6						
James L. Robinson III	Assoc. Medical Center Director	VA Medical Center-659	1601 Brenner Ave.	Salisbury, NC 28144	704-638-3344	James.L.Robinson@med.va.gov
Rhonda M. Simmons	VISN 6 Homeless Assistant	VA Medical Center-508	1670 Clairmont Road	Decatur, GA 30033	404-321-6111 ext.3798	Rhonda.M.Simmons@med.va.gov
VISN 7						
Craig Burnette	CHALENG/VISN 7 Coord.	VA Medical Center-508	1670 Clairmont Road	Decatur, GA 30033	404-327-4033	Craig.Burnette1@med.va.gov
Rhonda M. Simmons	CHALENG/VISN 7 Asst.	VA Medical Center-508	1670 Clairmont Road	Decatur, GA 30033	404-321-6111 ext.3798	Rhonda.M.Simmons@med.va.gov
Michael A. Burke		VA Medical Center -509	1670 Clairmont Rd.	Decatur,GA 30033	404-321-6111 ext.5883	Michael.Burke3@med.va.gov
VISN 8						
Daniel Robbin	VISN 8 Homeless Coord.	VA Medical Center-546	1492 West Flagler Street	Miami, FL 33126	305-541-5864 ext.136	Daniel.Robbin@med.va.gov
VISN 9						
David Hansard	Homeless Coordinator	VA Medical Center	P.O. Box 4000	Mountain Home, TN 37684	423-926-1171 ext.2874	David.Hansard@med.va.gov
VISN 10						
Jeff Quarles	Director Veteran Industries	VA Medical Center-539	3500 St. Claire Ave.	Cleveland, OH 44114	216-231-3479	Jeff.Quarles@med.va.gov
VISN 11						
Mary A. Sherrill	Health System Specialist	VISN 11 (10N11)	P.O. Box 134002	Ann Arbor, MI 48113-4002	734-930-5992	Mary.Sherrill@med.va.gov
VISN 12						
Mary Ann Romeo	Social Work Executive	VA Medical Center-578	P.O. Box 5000	Hines, IL 60141-5122	708-202-2055	Mary.Ann.Romeo@med.va.gov

VHA VISN Homeless Coordinators

Name	Title/Program	Facility/Station Number	Address	City/State/Zip	Phone	
VISN 15						
Frank Piper	Chief, Domiciliary	VA Medical Center	4101 S. 4th St.	Leavenworth, KS 66048	913-682-2000 ext.2296	Frank.Piper@med.va.gov
VISN 16						
Estella L. Morris	Mgr. Homeless Center	VA Medical Center	1101 W. 2nd Street	Little Rock, AR 72201	501-257-4401	Estella.Morris@med.va.gov
VISN 17						
Greta Mankins	Director, CHC	VA Medical Center -549	4500 S. Lancaster Rd.	Dallas, TX 75214	214-857-0388	Greta.Mankins@med.va.gov
VISN 18						
Steven Cohen	Clinical Dir.Community Prgms.	VA Medical Center - 678	3601 s. 6th Avenue	Tuscon, AZ 85723	520-792-1450 ext.5475	Steven.Cohen@med.va.gov
VISN 19						
Larry W. Melka	HCHV Coordinator	VA Medical Center - 442	2360 E. Pershing Blvd.	Cheyenne, WY 82001	307-778-7353	Larry.Melka@med.va.gov
VISN 20						
Chris H. Oliver	HCHV Coordinator	VA Medical Center Walla Walla	77 Wainwright Dr.	Walla Walla, WA 99362	509-525-5200 ext.22690	Chris.Oliver@med.va.gov
VISN 21						
Roberta L. Rosenthal	Chief, Social Work Service	VA Medical Center-662	4150 Clement Street	San Francisco, CA 94121	415-551-7338-voice mail	Roberta.Rosenthal@med.va.gov
VISN 22						
William L. Daniels	VISN 22 Homeless Coordinator	West LA VA Med Ctr-691	11301 Wilshire Blvd.	Los Angeles, CA 90073	310-478-3711 ext.43623	William.Daniels@med.va.gov
VISN 23						
Ellen L. Mathes	Social Work Executive	VA Central Iowa HCS (116A)	1515 W. Pleasant St.	Knoxville, IA 50138	641-828-5165	Ellen.Mathes@med.va.gov
VA Headquarters						
Josephine Hawkins	Program Specialist	VA Central Office - 101	810 Vermont Avenue N.W.	Washington, DC 20420	202-273-7526	Josephine.Hawkins@hq.med.va.gov
Gay Koerber	Assoc. Chief Consultant	VA Central Office - 101	810 Vermont Avenue N.W.	Washington, DC 20420	202-273-8446	Gay.Koerber@hq.med.va.gov
Walter Lipscomb	Administrative Assistant	VA Central Office - 101	810 Vermont Avenue N.W.	Washington, DC 20420	202-273-8447	Walter.Lipscomb@hq.med.va.gov
Theresa Hayes	Health System Specialist	VA Central Office - 101	810 Vermont Avenue N.W.	Washington, DC 20420	202-273-8445	Theresa.Hayes@hq.med.va.gov
Pete Dougherty	Dir. Homeless Programs	VA Central Office - 07D	810 Vermont Avenue N.W.	Washington, DC 20420	202-273-5774	Pete.Dougherty@mail.va.gov
Susan K. Knight	Program Assistant	VA Central Office - 07D	810 Vermont Avenue N.W.	Washington, DC 20420	202-273-5773	Susan.Knight@mail.va.gov
Allen Taylor	Program Manager	VA Central Office - 075D	810 Vermont Avenue N.W.	Washington, DC 20420	202-273-6350	Allen.Taylor@mail.va.gov
Roger Casey	Program Specialist	VA Medical Center-673	13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd	Tampa, FL 33612	813-979-3570	Roger.Casey@hq.med.va.gov
Susan M.Sigwart	Program Assistant	VA Medical Center-673	13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd	Tampa, FL 33612	813-979-3570	Susan.Sigwart@med.va.gov
Chelsea Watson	Program Specilist	VA Medical Center-673	13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd	Tampa, FL 33612	813-979-3570	Chelsea.Watson@med.va.gov
Guy Liedke	Program Specialist	VA Medical Center-673	13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd	Tampa, FL 33612	813-979-3570	Guy.Liedke@med.va.gov

VHA VISN Homeless Coordinators

Name	Title/Program	Facility/Station Number	Address	City/State/Zip	Phone	
Bob Rosenheck	Chief, NEPEC	VA Connecticut HCS/182	950 Campbell Ave. Bldg.8	West Haven,CT 06516	203-932-5711 ext 3717	Robert.Rosenheck@med.va.gov
Wes Kaspro	Project Director, NEPEC	VA Connecticut HCS/182	950 Campbell Ave. Bldg.8	West Haven,CT 06516	203-932-5711 ext.3724	Wes.Kaspro@med.va.gov
James F. McGuire	Project Dir. CHALENG Evaluation	VA LA CHCS - W10H5	1130 Wilshire Blvd.	Los Angeles, CA 90073	310-478-3711 ext.41450	McGuire.James F@med.va.gov