

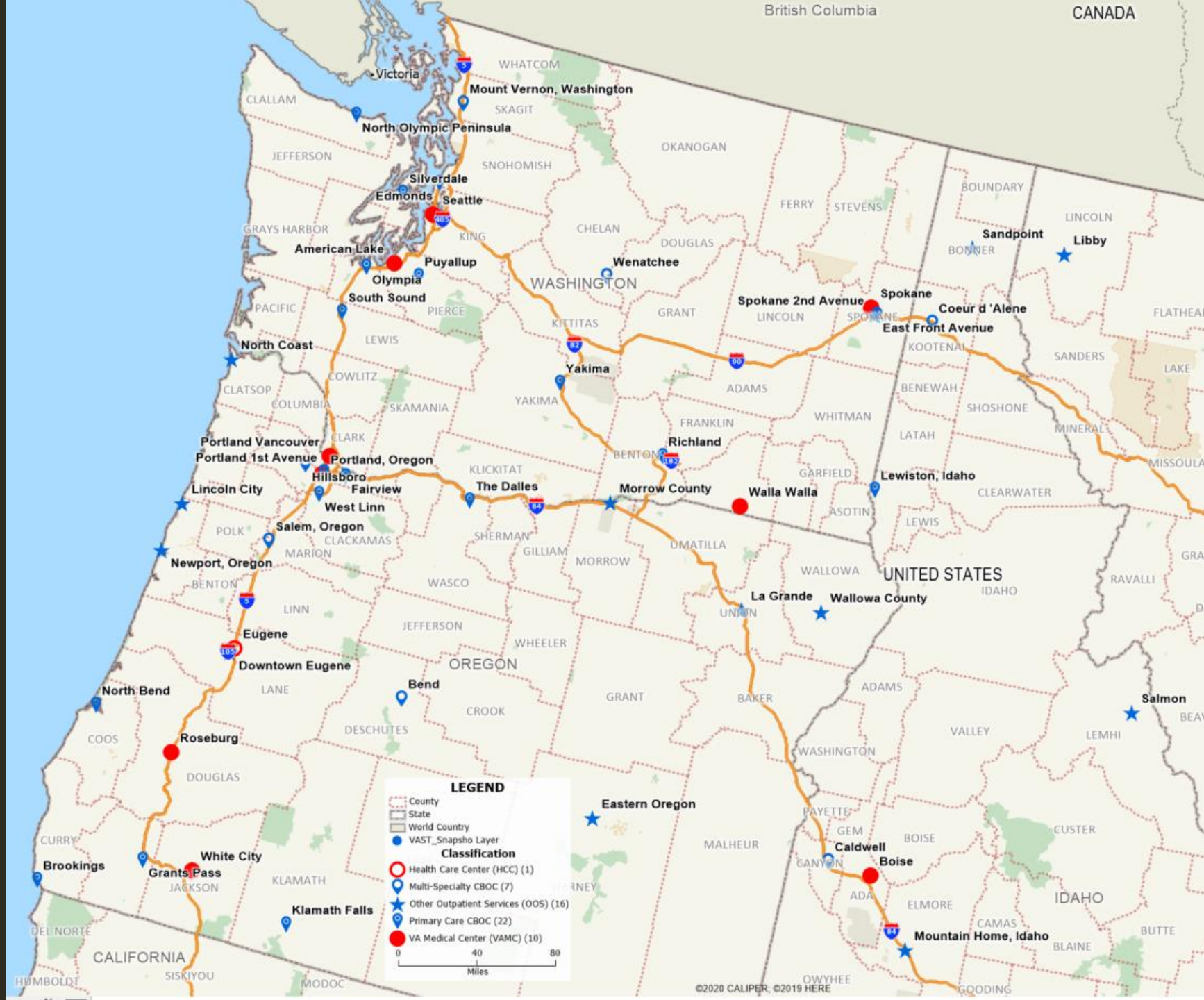


ENDING VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

VA PORTLAND HOMELESS PROGRAM

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VHA VISN 20



VA PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

Health Care Homeless Veterans (HCHV)

- Homeless Primary Care Teams (HPACT)
- Street Outreach
- Coordinated Entry Specialist
- Community Resource and Referral Centers

Emergency Transitional Housing (ETH)

Grant Per Diem (GPD)

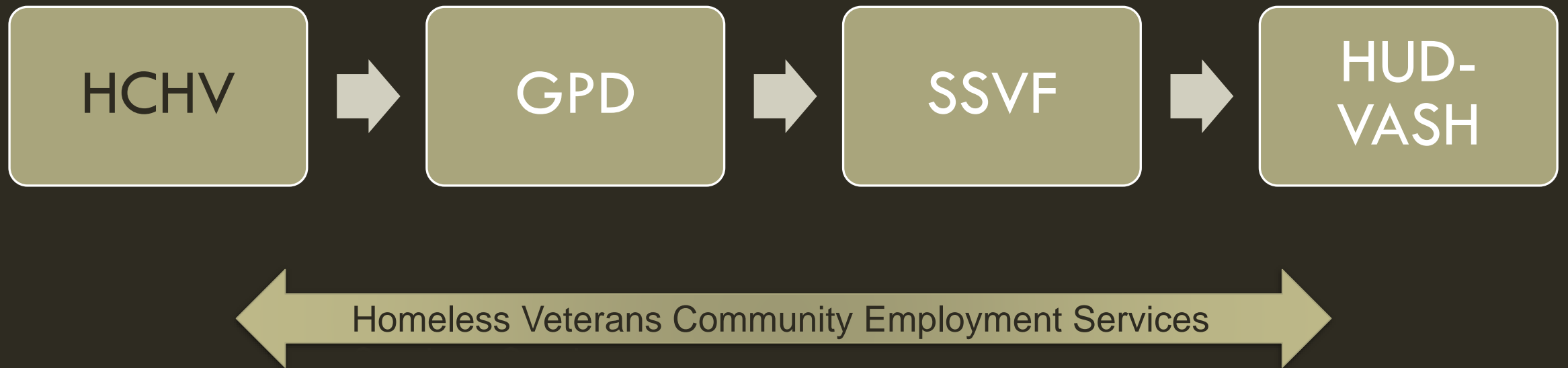
Supportive Services for Veterans Family Grants (SSVF)

Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO)

Homeless Veterans Community Employment Services

Housing and Urban Development – VA Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH)

VHA CONTINUUM OF SERVICES



HEALTH CARE FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

The **purpose** of the HCHV program is to provide a gateway to VA and community-based supportive services for eligible Veterans who are homeless. This is accomplished by:

- providing outreach services and case management to Veterans experiencing literal street homelessness,
- triage services within Community Resource and Referral Centers (CRRCs) and other “front doors” to VAMC homeless services,
- participation and support of stand down events,
- providing short-term emergency housing and services through the Contract Residential Services (CRS) programs (which includes low demand safe haven programs)
- participation in local coordinated entry systems

Brief Background: HCHV was the first homeless service created within VHA and was established in 1987. It began as an outreach program only and then expanded to include other services over time, with the most recent being the establishment of CRS in 2012, CRRCs in 2012 and the coordinated entry initiative in 2017.

Eligibility requirements: A Veteran must be eligible for VHA health care services in order to participate in HCHV services.

VA HOMELESS SERVICES DURING PANDEMIC

Congregate Sites – Flexibilities for motels through GPD and SSVF

Personal Protective Equipment for Face to Face Care

Focus on most vulnerable

Food Box Deliveries

Staff move to telework

Expansion of Phone Contact and Video Connect Technologies

Smart Phone Initiative

Supporting COVID 19 Vaccine Efforts

GRANT PER DIEM PROGRAMS

GPD provides grants to community-based organizations to develop and provide transitional housing and supportive services to homeless Veterans

GPD also provides grants to community-based organizations to provide case management to support housing retention to formerly homeless Veterans and Veterans at risk for homelessness

- Community based organizations include non-profits (501(c)(3) and 501(c)(19)), state/local governments, Indian Tribal governments

GPD was authorized to offer grants in 1992, with its first grants awarded in 1994

GPD website www.va.gov/homeless/gpd.asp includes program information, GPD regulations, list of awardees, program announcements

GRANT PER DIEM PROGRAM- OREGON

Site	Provider	Beds	Location
Portland	Housing Opportunities of the City of Longview	35	Longview, Washington
Portland	Salvation Army Veterans and Family Center	48	Beaverton, Oregon
Portland	Central City Concern	65	Portland, Oregon
Portland	Transition Projects, Inc. (TPI)	56	Portland, Oregon
Portland	Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action (ARCHES)	29	Salem, Oregon
Portland	WestCare Oregon, Inc. (VetCare)	30	Salem, Oregon
Roseburg	St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County	12	Eugene, Oregon
Roseburg	Operation Rebuild Hope	11	North Bend, Oregon
Roseburg	Community Outreach, Inc.	5	Corvallis, Oregon
Roseburg	Housing Authority & Community Services Agency of Lane County	10	Eugene, Oregon
SORCC	The Salvation Army	12	Medford, Oregon
SORCC	Columbiacare Services, Inc	40	Medford, Oregon

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES VETERANS FAMILIES GRANTS

Time limited program leading to permanent housing by resolving housing crisis

Offers a mix of case management and financial assistance.

Case management includes assistance with housing search, benefits, employment, legal services, health care access, transportation.

Non-profits receive grants to serve homeless and at-risk Veteran families throughout US and territories. Grantee list: www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf..

- Serves Veteran households with income less than 50% of AMI.

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILY GRANT PROGRAMS IN OREGON

Organization	Grant Amount	Continuum of Care (CoC) Served
Community Action Team, Inc	\$607,388.00	OR-505 - Oregon Balance of State CoC;(OR-506) Hillsboro, Beaverton/Washington County CoC
Central Oregon Veteran & Community Outreach, Inc. (COVO)	\$348,969.00	OR-503) Central Oregon CoC
St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc.	\$1,274,014.00	(OR-500) Eugene, Springfield/Lane County CoC
Access	\$2,846,377.00	(OR-502) Medford, Ashland/Jackson County CoC;(OR-505) Oregon Balance of State CoC
Community Action Partnership Of Oregon	\$1,532,561.00	(OR-505) Oregon Balance of State CoC
Columbiacare Services, Inc.	\$477,710.00	(OR-502) Medford, Ashland/Jackson County CoC;(OR-505) Oregon Balance of State CoC
Blue Mountain Action Council	\$1,719,396.00	(ID-501) Idaho Balance of State CoC;(OR-505) Oregon Balance of State CoC;(WA-501) Washington Balance of State CoC
Transition Projects, Inc.	\$3,785,355.00	(OR-501) Portland, Gresham/Multnomah County CoC;(OR-506) Hillsboro, Beaverton/Washington County CoC;(OR 507) Clackamas County CoC;(WA-508) Vancouver/Clark County CoC
Easter Seals Oregon	\$1,861,402.00	(OR-501) Portland, Gresham/Multnomah County CoC;(OR-505) Oregon Balance of State CoC

VA contact for SSVF
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[FY 2022 SSVF Grant Awards.pdf](#)

EMERGENCY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING –VA PORTLAND

Site	Provider	Beds	Location
Portland	Veterans Integration Program Housing Opportunities for SW Washington	5	1207 Commerce Ave. Longview, Washington
Portland	Central Oregon Veterans Outreach (COVO)	5	3705 N Highway 97, Bend, Oregon
Portland	Salvation Army Veterans and Family Center	10	14825 SW Farmington Rd, Beaverton, Oregon
Roseburg	St. Vincent de Paul	5	335 W 2nd Ave. Eugene, Oregon

SSVF TEMPORARY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (TFA)

TFA Type	Time/Amount Limitation
Rental Assistance	Max. of 10 months in a 2-year period; no more than 6 months in any 12-month period. For ELI: Max. 12 months in 2-year period; 9 months in any 12-month period
Utility-Fee Payment Assistance	Max. of 10 months in a 2-year period; no more than 6 months in any 12-month period. For ELI: Max. 12 months in 2-year period; 9 months in any 12-month period
Security Deposits or Utility Deposits	Max. of 1 time in a 2-year period for security deposit; Max. of 1 time in a 2-year period for utility deposit
Moving Costs	Max. of 1 time in a 2-year period
Gen Housing Stability	Max. \$1500 during a 2-year period (includes \$500 emergency supplies)
Child Care	Max. of 10 months in a 2-year period; no more than 6 months in any 12-month period. For ELI: Max. 12 months in 2-year period; 9 months in any 12-month period
Transportation	Tokens, vouchers, etc. – no time limit. Car repairs/maintenance – max. of \$1,200 during 2-year period

SPECIAL INITIATIVES

Shallow Subsidies provide 2-years of 35% rental support, potentially after “traditional” SSVF

- Does not change regardless on income increase
- Can be used for prevention with those on fixed income

Rapid Resolution seeks to divert or rapidly exit Veteran households from homelessness

- Stem inflows, reducing demand for limited affordable housing stock
- Avoid trauma of homelessness

Return Home

- Relocate Veteran to area where more likely to sustain permanent housing
- Familial/social/economic connection to area

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT — VA SUPPORTIVE HOUSING (HUD-VASH)

Purpose: The primary goal of the HUD-VASH program is to move Veterans and their families out of homelessness and into permanent supportive housing while promoting maximum Veteran recovery and independence in the community. This is accomplished by:

- Providing rental assistance through HUD's Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8)
- Pairing rental assistance with clinical case management and supportive services designed to assist Veterans in obtaining and sustaining housing
- Utilizing the principles of Housing First

Background: The original HUD-VASH program was started in 1992 with 600 vouchers at 15 sites. The scope of the program subsequently decreased until it was redesigned and expanded in 2008 in its current model. More than 105,000 HUD-VASH vouchers are now allocated nationally.

HUD-VASH — VA PERSPECTIVE

HUD-VASH is a clinical program designed to help Veterans who struggle with housing stability to both attain and maintain housing.

VASH teams are multidisciplinary – Team Make Up varies on geographical location but may include social workers, nurses, Licensed Professional Mental Health Counselors, housing specialist, peer support specialists, occupational therapists, recreational therapists, Psychologists, Psychiatrists, administrative support positions,

VASH teams work with Veterans from outreach and initial engagement through housing search, PHA application process, housing stability and graduation.

Typical HUD-VASH Veteran has complex medical conditions, as well and mental health diagnosis that may include substance use disorder and history of evictions or legal history that create barriers to attaining housing.

HUD-VASH PROGRAM – VA PORTLAND

Public Housing Authority - PHA	PHA Number	Total Vouchers Allocated (HMLS 3 Denominator)	Number of Veterans Housed (HMLS 3 Numerator)	Vouchers Issued - Veterans not yet Housed	Veterans Undergoing PHA Validation	Vouchers Currently in Use	Entered Not Referred	Number of Voucher Available for Use
Clackamas	OR001	146	98	9	3	110	4	36
Portland	OR002	1,043	737	65	16	818	0	225
Lincoln	OR005	10	8	1	0	9	0	1
Polk	OR008	20	13	2	0	15	0	5
City of Salem	OR011	88	76	3	3	82	3	6
Tribal Warm Springs	OR013	8	7	1	0	8	0	0
Marion	OR014	30	18	4	0	22	0	8
Yamhill	OR016	51	27	3	4	34	1	17
Linn-Benton	OR019	89	76	6	1	83	2	6
Washington	OR022	189	147	11	1	159	7	30
NOHA	OR028	69	60	5	2	67	0	2
Bend	OR034	89	83	3	5	91	0	-2
Cowlitz	WA007	51	41	4	4	49	0	2
Clark	WA008	309	234	15	7	256	8	53
Totals		2,192	1,625	132	46	1,803	25	389

RECONCILING DATA

Communities need to work together to reconcile data:

- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) HUD
- Homeless Operations Management Evaluation System (HOMES) VA
- Coordinated Entry
- Point in Time Counts
- Veteran By Name Lists
- HUD-VASH Utilization – HUD/PHA data and VA data

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Project Based HUD-VASH

Enhanced Utilized Lease on VA property

Special Populations

Case Management Collaboration

SSVF Progressive Engagement

Grant Per Diem – Case Management Grants

Emergency Transitional Housing

CHALLENGES TO VASH UTILIZATION REPORTED BY VA STAFF AND VETERANS

Affordable Housing Stock

Payment Standard

Aging Population

Special Populations

Challenges with logistics during pandemic: Documents, Applications, Housing Searches

HUD-VASH EXPANSION

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 ([PL 116-283](#)), included provisions expanding eligibility for HUD-VASH.

The law went into effect on January 1, 2021.

The National HUD-VASH Program Office has been actively working with the Office of General Counsel (OGC) and VA's Health Eligibility Center (HEC) to develop implementation guidance for the field.

HUD-VASH ELIGIBILITY EXPANSION

Changes to HUD-VASH eligibility are as follows:

- For the purpose of HUD-VASH eligibility, the term “veteran” is defined as “a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, regardless of length of service, and who was discharged or released therefrom,” excluding anyone who received a dishonorable discharge or was discharged or dismissed by reason of a general court-martial (38 USC § 2002 (b)).
- A bad conduct discharge can result from a general court-martial or a special court-martial. A person with a bad conduct discharge from a general court martial is not a “veteran” as defined in 38 USC § 2002 (b) and is thus ineligible to participate based on that period of service. A person with a bad conduct discharge from a special court-martial is a “veteran” as defined in 38 USC § 2002 (b) and thus is eligible to participate.

HUD-VASH ELIGIBILITY EXPANSION

In practice, this means:

- **Eligible for HUD-VASH:**
 - Honorable Discharge
 - General Discharge
 - Other than Honorable Discharge
 - Bad Conduct Discharge (from a special court-martial)
- **Ineligible for HUD-VASH:**
 - Dishonorable Discharge
 - Bad Conduct Discharge (from a general court-martial)

*****This mirrors eligibility for the SSVF and GPD Programs*****

OPPORTUNITIES

Partnerships with GPD, SSVF, COC and Community partners

HUD-VASH Expansion

Project Based Vouchers

Case Management Collaborations –

Special Populations to consider

Coordinated Access – Involvement of all players, VA, GPD, SSVF, PHA

DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS

NATIONAL HOMELESS HOTLINE

Help for Homeless Veterans
877-4AID-VET
va.gov/homeless | (877) 424-3838