



**SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR
VETERAN FAMILIES**
(AND OTHER VETERAN HOUSING PROGRAMS)

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SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)

What is SSVF?

- National program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, with grants awarded to community-based providers (e.g., non-profit organizations), assisting low-income veteran households in their housing stability and transitions into permanent housing
- Provides Rapid Re-Housing and Homelessness Prevention services
- Rooted in Housing First philosophy
- Participation in community planning efforts related to the goal of ending homelessness among veterans



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)

SSVF Grants in Seattle/King County

- Community Psychiatric Clinic (CPC) operates the largest grant in King County, serving 440 households annually
- YWCA and Catholic Community Services also serve the King County area (combining to serve 164 households annually)
- Due to the significant level of need in veterans experiencing literal homelessness, we are operating under the guidance of allocating 100% of our resources toward Rapid Re-Housing assistance (i.e., Homelessness Prevention assistance is not available through SSVF programs in King County at this time)



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)

SSVF Eligibility

- **Veteran Status:** must have at least one day of active duty service, and a discharge status that is not Dishonorable (National Guard and Reserves need to have active duty service for purposes other than training)
- **Homeless Status:** must be literally homeless; and would remain homeless “but for” SSVF assistance (with a desire/plan to obtain permanent housing within 90 days)
- **Income Status:** Household income cannot exceed 50% Area Median Income



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)

Housing First Approach

- Practices rooted in the belief that an individual or household's first and primary need is to obtain stable housing, and that other issues impacting the household can and should be addressed as housing is obtained
- Implemented in coordination with a progressive engagement framework



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)

Supportive Services Provided by SSVF

- Outreach
- Case Management
- Connection to VA Benefits and Programs
- Connection to Public Benefits and Mainstream, Community Resources
- Temporary Financial Assistance
- Connection to Legal Services



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)

Outreach

- Case Managers are trained as Coordinated Entry for All (CEA) Assessors
- Participation in targeted outreach efforts, in coordination with other service providers
- Follow-up in relation to CEA referrals, involving outreach efforts focused on veterans that are difficult to locate



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)

Case Management

Case managers assist participants in...

- Developing and implementing individualized housing plans
- Identifying and securing permanent housing options
- Increasing income needed for maintaining housing (e.g., employment, benefits)
- Making referrals and connection to VA and community resources
- Developing strategies and plans for ongoing housing stability



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)

Temporary Financial Assistance

- Rental Assistance (and application fees)
- Security Deposits
- Utility Payment Assistance
- Moving Costs and Storage
- Transportation (bus fare and car repairs)
- Child Care
- General Housing Stability Assistance (expenses associated with gaining or keeping employment, moving into permanent housing, emergency items)

Financial assistance is provided in a progressive assistance approach, typically with a step-down occurring over the course of services



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES (SSVF)

Participation in Community Planning

- **Facilitation of the weekly Veteran Operational Leadership Team (VOLT) meetings [attendees: VA, WDVA, King County CEA, CPC, YWCA, CCS]**
 - Development and maintenance of the Veteran By Name List
 - Addressing system-level issues and creating policies/practices
- **Participation in the weekly Navigator/Case Conferencing meeting [attendees: VA, WDVA, King County CEA, CPC, YWCA, CCS, VCC, El Centro de la Raza, THS, SMH, ETS]**
 - Case conferencing of newly identified veteran households, and
 - Linking veteran households with appropriate resources as available
 - Coordination of outreach efforts
- **Coordination of services with community partners**



OTHER VETERAN HOUSING PROGRAMS/RESOURCES

Department of Veterans Affairs

HUD/VASH (Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing) Program

- **Tenant-based HUD/VASH**
 - Subsidized/rental assistance vouchers (through public housing authorities), for use in private rental market
 - Case management and clinical services through VA
- **Project-based HUD/VASH**
 - Subsidy/rental assistance is tied to specific buildings/projects
 - Supportive services are provided on-site



OTHER VETERAN HOUSING PROGRAMS/RESOURCES

Department of Veterans Affairs

Grant and Per Diem Program

- Transitional housing programs, funded through VA grants that are operated by non-profit providers
- **Models of Service**
 - Bridge Housing
 - Low Demand
 - Hospital-to-Housing
 - Clinical Treatment
 - Service-Intensive Transitional Housing



OTHER VETERAN HOUSING PROGRAMS/RESOURCES

King County Veterans Program

- Two offices (located in Tukwila and Seattle) that function as service hubs, providing a variety of supportive services, including housing-related assistance
- A key provider of housing retention/homelessness prevention assistance



OTHER VETERAN HOUSING PROGRAMS/RESOURCES

King County Veteran Human Services Levy

- Funding for affordable/supportive housing, including some set-aside units for veterans
- Housing retention/homelessness prevention assistance
- Targeted outreach and care coordination



ACCESSING SERVICES

Coordinated Entry for All

- Completion of the VI-SPDAT triage tool (occurs primarily at one of the veteran access points or through outreach)
- Connection to a housing resource based upon scoring bandwidth and case conferencing review, incorporating participant choice in the matching process, as resources are available



ACCESSING SERVICES

**VA Community Resource and Referral Center
419 S. 2nd St., Suite 2, Renton 98055
425.203.7200**

**Washington Department of Veteran Affairs
2106 2nd Ave., 1st Floor, Seattle 98121
877.904.8387**

**King County Veterans Program (Seattle)
2106 2nd Ave., 1st Floor, Seattle 98121
206.477.8282**

**King County Veterans Program (Tukwila)
645 Andover Park W., Suite 100, Tukwila 98188**

**Supportive Services for Veteran Families at CPC
11000 Lake City Way N.E., Seattle 98125
206.545.2344**



CONTACT

Thank you!

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