

2016 Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative

“The moral and patriotic duty is only part of the reason why ending veteran homelessness is so critical. As we all know, ending homelessness for our Veterans can also be a crucial first step, a proof point to show that we can end homelessness for everyone in this country.”- Michelle Obama

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- Over the past few years, there's been tremendous progress in how localities are managing their homeless veteran population thanks to additional federal funding for VASH and SSVF.
- Michigan has housed 80% of their Veterans living in homelessness.
- Earlier this year MSHDA's Board approved \$750,000 to reach a functional zero by 12-31-16. With your help, we are confident that we can reach this goal in Michigan.

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- Functional Zero is our goal: Functional zero is reached when the number of veterans experiencing homelessness within a community is less than the number of veterans being connected with permanent housing each month. In achieving this measure, a community has demonstrated the system and capacity to quickly and efficiently connect people with housing and ensure that veteran homelessness within the community will be rare, brief, and non-recurring.

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- Grant parameters can be found in the NOFA – 75% of the grant going to financial assistance (prevention and re-housing), with a minimum of 60% going directly to rehousing leasing assistance.
- Relaxed income limits to 50% AMI
- Payment standard used – not the FMR

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- Ending Veteran Homelessness requires the entire CoC Body.
- Capitalize on political support and good will from the city, county, landlords, etc.
- A Lead Worker is a must – a individual who champions and owns the responsibility of Functional Zero by 2017 is required.
- Focus on existing resources, plans, and your system capacity in-place for identifying (1) Veterans entering or returning to homelessness, and (2) Veterans at risk of homelessness.
- Establish meeting dates to achieve the goal.

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- MSHDA is **not** asking for a by-name list.
- By-name discussions occur at the local level when/where appropriate.
- MSHDA does need the data on the chart below.
- To best serve the Veteran, always have him/her sign a release of information.

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Homeless Veteran Monthly Report

Local Planning Body (CoC) _____

Month _____

This monthly report captures information for the entire month. Please send the report via email to your Homeless Assistance Specialist by the 15th of the following month.

Total number of Veterans identified in previous month	Number of new Homeless Veterans identified this month	Number of Homeless Veterans housed during this month	Number of Homeless Veterans that refused housing this month	Number of Homeless Veterans currently seeking housing (in process with housing resources identified)	Number of Homeless Veterans that left services without housing (disappeared, unable to locate, etc.)
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- Use the VI SPDAT
- Work with your HMIS Systems Administrator for data.
- Refer to SOAR if necessary.
- State and local data will be shown on the MSHDA web-site.
- Grant spend-down will be closely monitored.
- For CoCs that have declined offered funding, you have until May 30th to reconsider.
- Declined funds will be distributed to CoCs that have the fastest spend-down of their current grant. These decisions will be made in July.