



Department of
Veterans Affairs

Office of Homeless Services

Fact Sheet

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program

Overview: VA has been authorized to offer community-based grants through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program, which will provide supportive services to very low-income Veteran families in or transitioning to permanent housing. Funds are granted to private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives who will assist very low-income Veteran families by providing a range of supportive services designed to promote housing stability.

Background: Estimates for Veteran homelessness have dropped substantially in the past five years. However, despite the success of VA Homeless Services and its community partners, to end Veteran homelessness, VA must continue to assist families transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing and prevent at-risk families from becoming homeless. In 2010, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) reported that 13 percent of impoverished individual Veterans become homeless at some point during the year. In 2009, the American Community Survey estimated that 1,356,610 Veterans lived in poverty.

Supportive Services: Through the SSVF Program, VA aims to improve very low-income Veteran families' housing stability. Grantees (private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives) will provide eligible Veteran families with outreach, case management, and assistance in obtaining VA and other benefits, which may include:

- Health care services
- Daily living services
- Personal financial planning services
- Transportation services
- Fiduciary and payee services
- Legal services
- Child care services
- Housing counseling services

In addition, grantees may also provide time-limited payments to third parties (e.g., landlords, utility companies, moving companies, and licensed child care providers) if these payments help Veterans' families stay in or acquire permanent housing on a sustainable basis.

Application Process:

Application information is available online: <http://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp>

Additional Information: For further information about the SSVF Program, please email the program at SSVF@va.gov.