



Veteran Homelessness Prevention and Intervention

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1. LACKS A FIXED, REGULAR, AND ADEQUATE NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE, (EMERGENCY SHELTERS, TRANSITIONAL HOUSING, OR PLACES NOT MEANT FOR HUMAN HABITATION)

2. IMMINENTLY LOSE THEIR PRIMARY NIGHTTIME RESIDENCE (WITHIN 14 DAYS)

3. UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH UNDER 25 YEARS OF AGE, FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH, WHO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL STATUSES, SUCH AS RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH ACT, HAVE NOT HAD A LEASE OR OWNERSHIP INTEREST IN A HOUSING UNIT IN THE LAST 60 DAYS OR MORE, HAVE HAD TWO OR MORE MOVES IN THE LAST 60 DAYS, AND WHO ARE LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO BE UNSTABLY HOUSED BECAUSE OF DISABILITY OR MULTIPLE BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

4. FLEEING OR ATTEMPTING TO FLEE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



“HOMELESS PEOPLE ARE LAZY”

[The National Low Income Housing Coalition](#) estimates that the 2017 Housing Wage is \$21.21 per hour, exceeding the \$16.38 hourly wage earned by the average renter by almost \$5.00 an hour, and greatly exceeding wages earned by low-income renter households. In fact, the hourly wage needed for renters hoping to afford a two-bedroom rental home is \$13.96 higher than the national minimum wage of \$7.25.

-National Coalition for Homelessness



“IF PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS WANTED, THEY WOULDN’T HAVE TO STAY HOMELESS”

A lack of affordable housing and the limited scale of housing assistance programs have contributed to the current housing crisis and to homelessness. Recently, foreclosures have also increased the number of people who experience homelessness.

- National Coalition for Homelessness





FACTORS IMPACTING HOMELESSNESS



RACIAL DISPARITIES

- African Americans 42%
- Caucasian 39%
- Latinos 13%
- Native Americans 4%
- Asians 2%

-US Conference of Mayors and American Psychological Association



HOMELESSNESS AND EMPLOYMENT

According to the Homeless Policy Research Institute, Employment is the prominent factor in the persistence of homelessness across the country.

- 46% of unsheltered adults cited unemployment or a financial reason as a primary reason of why they are homeless.
- Unemployment/Underemployed at higher rates, have multiple jobs

Homeless Policy Research Institute (Homeless and Employment 08/2020)



HOMELESSNESS AND JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT

- Anywhere from 25 to 50% of people experiencing homelessness have a history of incarceration
- Nearly 50,000 people or 5% of all adults who enter shelters annually come from correctional facilities
- Homelessness is 7.5 to 11.3 times more prevalent among jail inmates than the general population
- 20 to 30% of unstably housed youth have arrest histories
- As many as, 15.3% of all people in jail in the U.S. report experiencing homelessness in the year prior to incarceration
- Policies, laws, and local ordinances are being put in place to make it illegal, difficult, or impossible for unsheltered people to engage in normal everyday activities

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, Reducing Criminal Justice System Involvement among People Experiencing Homelessness, 2016





HUD- VA Supportive Housing





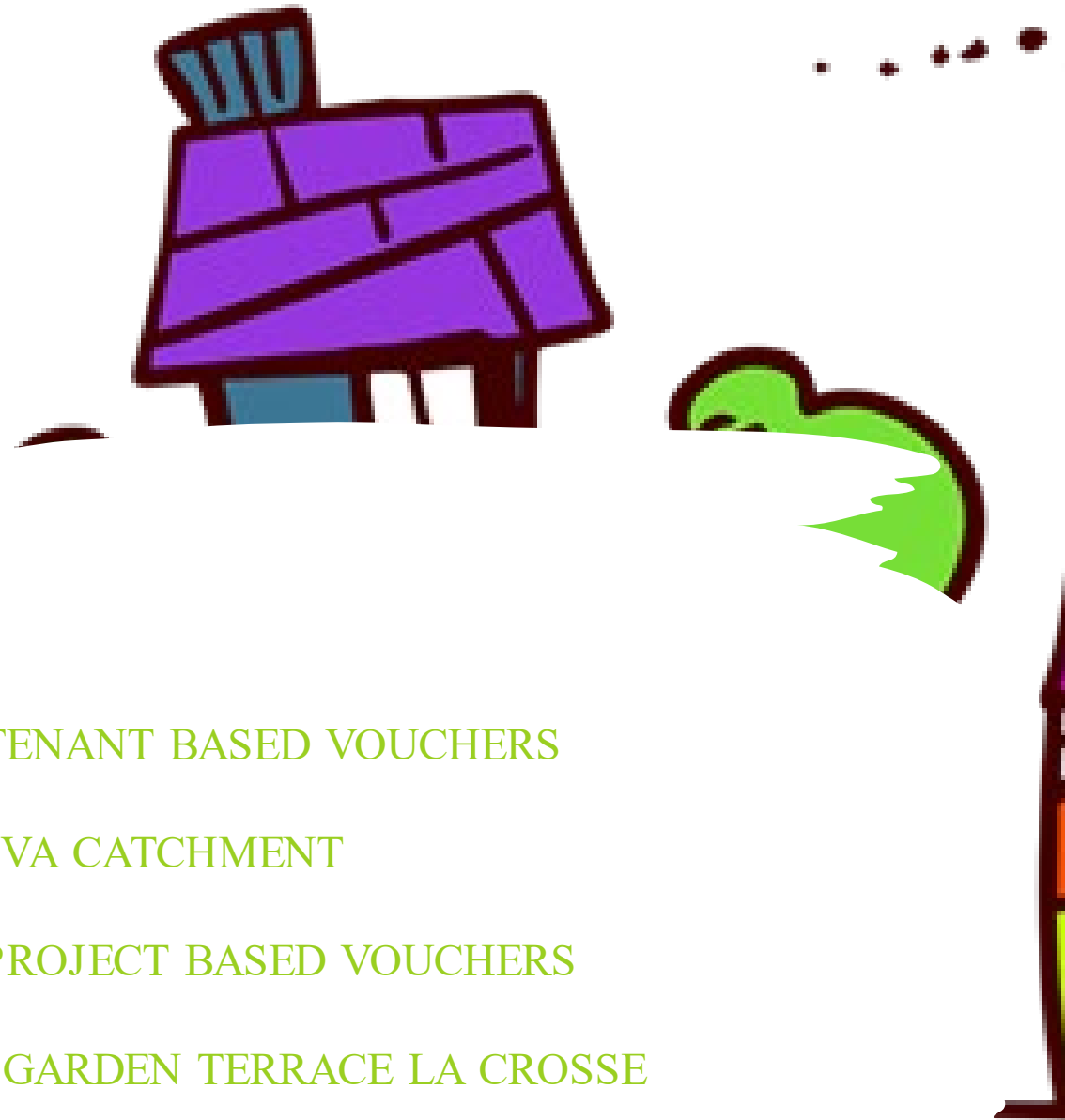
Referral to HUDVASH
Consult
Apply for housing voucher
Application submitted to
respective housing authority



Admission to HUDVASH Program
Other referrals as needed
(VA/Community)
Voucher briefing
Housing search



Case Management
Peer Support
Community Integration



TENANT BASED VOUCHERS

- VA CATCHMENT

PROJECT BASED VOUCHERS

- GARDEN TERRACE LA CROSSE

EMPLOYMENT

Barriers:

- Mental and physical health challenges
- Lack of vocational training (stress management, social skills in a work place, independent living skills.
- Red Tape of employment (Mailing address, state-issued identification, employment, stigma of being homeless)
- Transportation (no driver's license, no vehicle, no access to public transit)

Benefits:

- Purpose and meaning in life
- Sense of Identity
- Meeting new people
- Access to local community
- Battle-rhythm
- Break the cycles of homelessness, drug addictions

Homeless Policy Research Institute (Homeless and Employment 08/2020)



VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

- Transitional Work (TW)
- Supported Employment (SE)
- Community Based Employment Services (CBES)
- Vocational Assistance
- Transitional Resident Program (TR)
- Compensated Work Therapy (CWT)



VETERANS AND JUSTICE INVOLVEMENT

Veterans arrested and jailed are at an increased risk of homelessness, mental health conditions, and suicide.

The **Veterans Justice Outreach Program** was created to address concerns of increased risk of homelessness, mental health conditions, and suicided amongst Veterans who have been arrested or jailed.

Justice Involved Veterans is used to describe former service members who have been detained by or are under the supervision of the criminal justice system.



VETERANS JUSTICE PROGRAM

The mission of VJP is to partner with the criminal justice system to identify Veterans who would benefit from treatment and other services. VJP will ensure access to exceptional care, tailored to individual needs, by linking each Veteran to VA and community services that will prevent homelessness, improve social and clinical outcomes, facilitate recovery and end Veterans' subsequent contact with the criminal justice system.

- Veterans Justice Outreach
- Veterans Treatment Court
- County Legal System Outreach
- Health Care for Re-entry Veterans
- Peer Support Services



VA PEER SUPPORT SERVICES

- Peer Support Specialists are Veterans discharged from the military with other than dishonorable conditions and has recovered or recovering from a mental health or substance use disorder.
 - Veterans who share personal recovery stories and utilize role modeling techniques.
 - Have non clinical flexibility to perform pro social skill building with in the community.
 - Help Veterans articulate their goals, monitor progress, assist them in their treatment and support them in advocating for themselves to obtain effective services.



LIVED EXPERIENCE:
IN A VETERAN'S OWN WORDS





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Questions
for Presenter
Panel