

Operation Vets Home
Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes
2/22/16

Attendees: R. Flagg, J. Prochnow, M. Gregg, A. Cevallos, I. Ramos, J. Johnigan, D. Lopez, C. Leicham, N. Siva, Z. Harrison, K. Burt, R. Potter, J. McCartney

Staff: E. de Coligny, J. Ballard

1. Introductions and announcements:
 - a. Swords got through all 120 veterans on the list Mannie sent them to clean up.
 - b. BFHP shared a housing opportunity in Berkeley for low-income seniors.
 - c. The regional conference is coming up in Los Angeles.

2. Debrief from Julie Steiner Meeting:
 - a. The VA is presently understaffed to the point that it is proving difficult to house people with the resources available to them. Currently, there is a one month pause in enrollments. Additionally, co-location is not an option at this point (in Oakland) since the space is not big enough to also host providers, though Julie will be giving us information about how this has worked in other communities. The VA did discuss with Julie a waiver that has been used in other communities to bridge the VASH / SSVF issue for easier resource sharing, but we are still waiting for confirmation of this waiver's use in Alameda County.
 - b. It is important to be clear with the community that income does have a role here – an income of some kind will be required. We also want to be mindful about a common, consistent message to the community, including promises made by providers of what they can do for clients.
 - c. NorCal VA should be in touch with HACA, Palo Alto VA, and Abode about the building leasing up in Fremont.
 - d. We need a strategy with Oakland Housing Authority around VASH vouchers, which congress is considering increasing in the coming year. Last year, they turned vouchers down as not enough were in use. Oakland Housing Authority considers a voucher 'in use' when a unit has been secured, not when a person is issued one.
 - e. Elaine has followed up with United Way, who is interested in raising funds for the risk mitigation fund, and possibly doing a media campaign. Before pursuing this, we would need to communicate with Wilma Chan's office about the All-In effort. Additionally, we will need to meet as a group to discuss a consistent message.
 - f. Congressman Swallowell's office can be helpful in working on the VASH/SSVF bridging issue. Elaine and Jason will make contact.

3. Review of Progress to Operational Zero:
 - a. The goal is to have everyone transferred over to the new master list by March 1.
 - b. There were concerns in the room about what we call an offer of permanent housing and if the current way we are thinking about it is sufficient.

4. Follow-up:
 - a. EveryOne Home
 - i. Elaine will reach out to Jason McCartney at Congressman Swallowell's office.

- ii. Jackie will follow-up with Mannie and Hayward CAN about the three individuals they brought to the meeting.
 - iii. Mannie will send Anne the most current Master List
 - iv. Jackie will send an introductory email between Congressman Swallow's office and the Interagency Council on Veterans about the Congressman's office participating in the survey.
- b. VA and EBCRP
 - i. Anne will send the list from Contra Costa County to Christian who will scrub for duplications in Alameda County.
- c. Swords:
 - i. Re-scrub their San Francisco list to deduplicate