

Operation Vets Home
Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes
3/7/16

Attendees: C. Leicham, N. Siva, I. Ramos, J. Prochnow, D. Johnson, M. Gregg, A. Cevallos

Staff: E.Thompson, J. Ballard, E. de Coligny

1. Announcements
 - a. The National Coalition on Homeless Veterans is having its 2016 conference in DC, June 1-3, 2016. Reservations are now open, with a \$457 registration fee for all three days. The conference is not limited to grantees – it is open like the NAEH conference.
2. Discussion of 90 day look back
 - a. We are current meeting Benchmarks B and D, though Benchmark D will require a big lift from outreach and then a large data lift to ensure our data backs up our meeting the goal.
 - b. Julie will be meeting in the coming weeks with the VA and housing authorities about next steps from her trip to California. She will be able to bring back ideas from that meeting.
 - c. Question posted to the group; how can we make the process systematic enough that it brings us and our data up to speed? Ideas included a more standard way to make use of the data allowances we have between the continuum and the VA. Both parties will work together to strategize on this, but for now it can be assumed a new list will be sent to the VA once per week. Additionally, a working list of all referrals and people in outreach will be sent to the providers each week. In terms of strategy around data, EOCP volunteered that their case managers complete the Permanent Housing Offer form at the time of Intake. BFHP could begin doing this at the time a veteran contacts their hotline.
 - d. Agency use of the comment boxes on the forms have been extremely helpful to staff. Please keep utilizing them.
 - e. In our next data meeting, we should spend time thinking about who is going to do outreach and how we want to work out finding people. It should be that every outreach team is looking for every homeless vet, and then assigning them to the most appropriate agency.
 - f. Work needs to be done around GPD and getting clarity for how it is used in the county. EveryOne Home and the VA will arrange a discussion with Operation Dignity. Further clarification is needed about what GPD actually is in relationship to what the veteran has verbalized they need. The VA has not been clear about if people in GPD must be clean and sober, so there should also be clarification around this point. Anne is willing to help with getting some engagement from GPD providers. Additionally, programs are asked to invite their GPD case managers to our next meeting, as none currently attend any OVH meetings. In the case of people who are using GPD while waiting for HUD VASH, they are exempt under Benchmark A, group 2. They can live in GPD or service intensive TH as their only option, but this does not answer the question of their verbal

response to the SSVF housing offer. Additionally, we have to be sure the GPD programs are accepting vets on a harm reduction basis.

- g. At our next data meeting, providers will come with staff best suited to talk about the GPD programs, including the philosophy of each. GPD will be an agenda item for that meeting. EveryOne Home will discuss, internally, a strategy for bringing OD's GPD into the mix of OVH. Mannie will provide a list of people who require follow up out to the providers prior to our next meeting.
3. Goal Setting:
- a. The group set a couple of goals for our next 90 day look back, which will be systematized over that time:
 - i. Work on clarifying if those people in GPD want to be there exclusively, or if they are also willing to enroll in SSVF.
 - ii. Look at the data which are tied to forms and begin completing the forms for that 90 day look back period. Any number that is currently a zero will read more accurately at that point.
 - iii. The next 90 day look back will be in May.
4. Follow-up:
- a. **All providers** will try and update their declines to offers of Permanent Housing so that we have an accurate data set.
 - b. **All providers** will look into their own GPD programs (if applicable) and see if there are vets anywhere else in their agencies. In that case, housing offers should be made to those vets.
 - c. **VA and EveryOne Home** will work together to set up a discussion with the new leadership at Operation Dignity, and how to get them oriented around OVH and their GPD programs.
 - d. **VA and EveryOne Home** will work to routinize data sharing between systems.
 - e. **EveryOne Home** will try and figure out ways to celebrate our accomplishments over the last few months and come next time with some suggestions.
 - f. **EveryOne Home** will check on the people referred during the Homeless Connect recently sponsored by BOSS and follow up on all referrals from that event in the data meeting.