

Veterans
fought for
our homes.



We'll fight
for theirs.



The words **homeless** and **Veteran**
should never be used together.

Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs

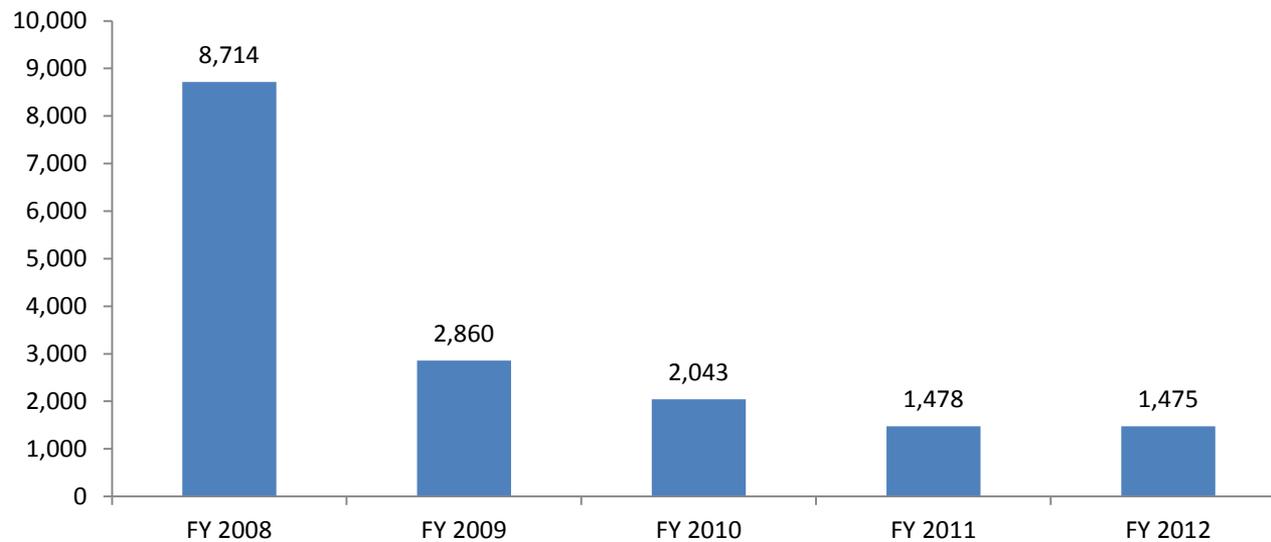
October 17, 2013

Mary Forbes, WDVA Assistant Director for
Veteran Services and Behavioral Health





How Many Homeless Veterans in WA?



FY 2008 and prior, we used data from the yearly VA CHALENG (Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups) Reports. In FY 2009, the VA began participating in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) which uses Point in Time Counts through regional Continuum of Care (CoC) agencies



What is WA State Doing to End Veteran Homelessness

- Washington State set out to establish itself as a national leader in the elimination of homelessness among Veterans by **boldly seizing the opportunity** provided by U.S. DVA Secretary Shinseki's Five Year Plan
- Our "Call to Action" Statewide Homeless Veterans Housing Summit in June, 2010, served as the **catalyst for the development and implementation** of our vision to honor our Veterans by:
 - Engaging and securing commitments from key community partners
 - Promoting best practice models to effectively serve more veterans
 - Facilitating the coordination of funding submission at local level



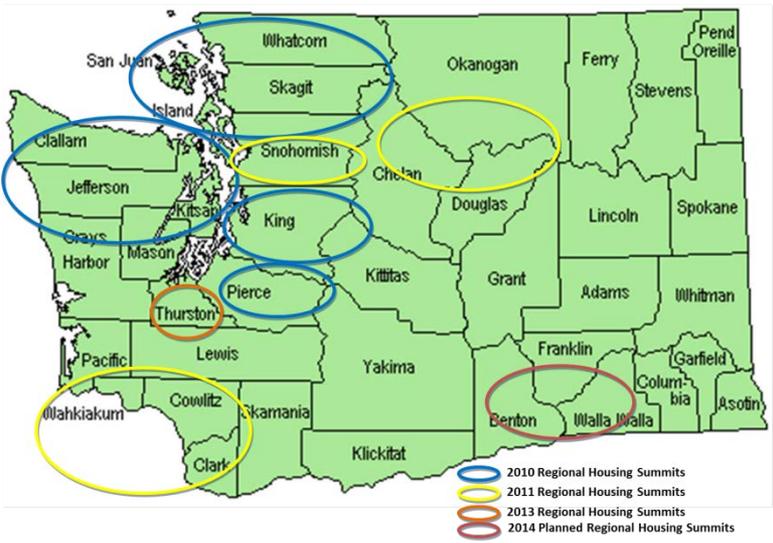
"Serving Those Who Served"



Ending Veteran Homelessness

County leaders commit to seeking VA funding opportunities and dedicate county resources to make system improvements

Washington State Regional Veterans Housing Capacity Summits



Whatcom County:

- Received 35 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers in 2010
- Awarded Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) grant in 2011
- Hired a full-time Veteran Specialist

Snohomish County:

- Received Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) grant in 2013
- Received 175 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers since 2009
- Launched Washington State's first-ever Network of Care (NOC) for Veterans and their families in September, 2011

Okanogan County:

- Through a partnership with a community hospital, county leaders hired a Veterans Benefits Specialist
- Tonasket hospital made agreement with VA healthcare to provide primary care services for local veterans
- Continued strengthening of employment partnerships and ongoing sharing of benefits and resources



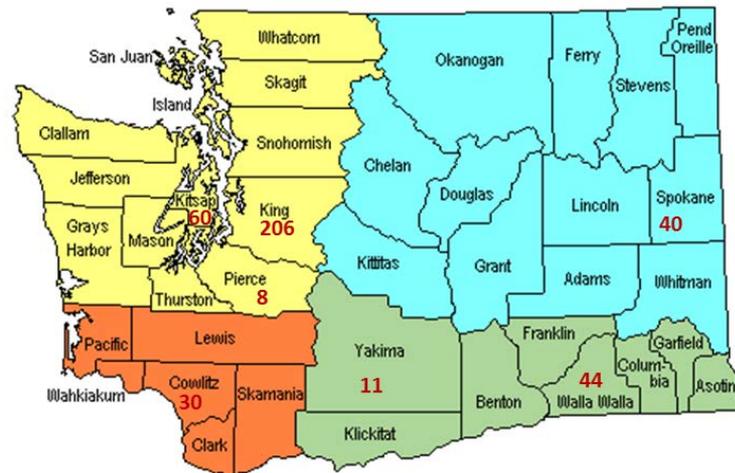
HUD-VASH and VA Grant and Per Diem

The State of Washington currently has 1,865 HUD-VASH vouchers for Veterans managed by local housing authorities

There are 399 VA Grant and Per Diem beds for Veterans

Voucher city location	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	Project-Based Voucher Set-Aside Awards	TOTAL VASH AWARDS
Seattle HA	52	53	60	37	58	35	0	295
Seattle KCHA	53	52	60	38	57	40	10	310
Bremerton	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	35
Port Angeles	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	25
Tacoma HA	0	35	25	25	25	15	20	145
Longview	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	25
Vancouver	0	70	0	0	0	30	30	130
Bellingham	0	0	25	0	0	0	10	35
Mt. Vernon	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	25
Snohomish	0	35	25	25	75	15	0	175
Yakima	0	35	25	0	10	0	0	70
Olympia	0	35	0	0	0	0	0	35
Tacoma PCHA	35	35	25	0	25	15	0	135
Spokane	35	35	25	0	25	75	25	220
Walla Walla	70	0	50	25	0	35	0	180
Wenatchee	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	25
	245	420	345	175	325	260	95	1865

Data as of FY 2013



Data as of 2013



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Federal Funding to End Homelessness

- In 2009, Catholic Community Services of Western WA was awarded a \$2M for a three-year Veterans Homelessness Prevention Demonstration Program (VHPD) in Pierce County
- In 2012, Washington State was awarded \$3.2M in Support Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) funding and an additional \$6.1M in 2013. SSVF provides supportive services to very low income veteran families residing in permanent housing, are homeless and scheduled to become residents of permanent housing within a specified time period, or after exiting permanent housing, are seeking other housing that is responsive to such very low-income veteran family's needs and preferences. See below for current awards:

AGENCY	AWARD AMT	HOW MANY VETERAN HOUSEHOLDS WILL IT SERVE?
Community Psychiatric Clinic	\$899,610	210 participant households in King County
Opportunity Council	\$691,062	275 participant households in the Counties of Clallam, Jefferson, Island, Skagit and Whatcom
Catholic Community Services of Western WA	\$787,956	400 participant households in Pierce, Washington, Thurston, Snohomish, and Kitsap Counties
YWCA of Seattle - King and Snohomish Counties	\$471,730	120 participant households in Puget Sound and King County
Catholic Charities of Yakima	\$173,828	Will serve approximately 30 participant households in Benton and Franklin Counties
Metropolitan Development Council	\$1,807,000	Will serve approximately 330 participant households in Pierce, Cowlitz, Lewis, Wahkiakum, and Pacific Counties
Goodwill Industries of the Inland Northwest	\$1,316,287	Will serve approximately 325 participant households in Spokane City and County



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WDVA Building 9, 60-Bed Transitional Housing Facility

Northeast Program Evaluation Center (NEPEC) Data Summary (Jan 2013)	Building 9	National Avg
Veterans had housing in an apartment or room arranged upon discharge	76%	56%
Veterans successfully completing program	66%	54%
Veterans receiving VA benefits at time of discharge	36% receiving 31% pending apps	30% receiving 10% pending apps
Veterans receiving non-VA benefits at time of discharge	50% receiving 14% pending apps	25% receiving 8% pending apps
Overall satisfaction of program (survey conducted by VA Grant and Per Diem Liaison as there was no satisfaction data calculated for this program by NEPEC)	93.3%	85.3% (other programs in W WA)

Building 9 VA Grant & Per Diem (2007 – Sep 2013)	
Enrolled	315
Job Placements	103
Housing Placements	172
Unique Service Center Visitors	12,171
Est. Claims Income Generated	\$86.2M



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Veteran System Integration/Improvement

Title or Action Area	Desired Outcomes	WDVA, WestCare Foundation and Key Partners	Best Practices
Housing 3000, Chronic High Needs Homeless Policy Academy	Focus public/ private planning, policy and resources on best practices for high needs populations who disproportionately use emergency and crisis services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration • Dept. of Social and Health Services • Dept. of Commerce • US Veterans Affairs (VA) • Metropolitan Development Council • Housing and Urban Development • County stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target high utilizers • Promote Housing First model as base for stabilization • Connections to Affordable Health Care Act • Connect VA Health Care and Benefits
Increasing Development of Veterans Housing	Identify Veterans housing as a priority population in targeted state systems including the Qualified Allocation Plan, QAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National League of Cities/Home Depot Foundation • Mayor of Tacoma • Tacoma Housing Authority • County Council • Legislators • Community agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leveraging of Veterans funds • Employing Housing first model with case management



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Provider Integration/Synchronization

Title or Action Area	Desired Outcomes	WDVA, WestCare Foundation and Key Partners	Best Practices
<p>Pierce County's Veterans Housing Resource Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve Veterans access to resource information and responsible persons • Implement Pierce County Veterans Housing Resource Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VA- Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing • VA- Grants and per diem • Metropolitan Development Council – Landlord Liaison • Metropolitan Development Council- Supportive Services for Veteran Families • Catholic Community Services – VA Supportive Services for Veteran Families Grants • RallyPoint -6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Stop Shop • Landlord Liaison • Rapid Rehousing
<p>Fall 2013 Pierce County's Veterans Providers Conference</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness of Veterans resources and services • Connect professionals to responsible program persons • Increase use of Veterans resources and services • Reduce burden on other community resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VA Puget Sound Health Care - American Lake Division • Catholic Community Services • Metropolitan Development Council • National League of Cities • Home Depot Foundation • Veteran providers • First Responders • Dept. of Corrections • Red Cross 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased awareness and information on resources • Direct engagement with responsible providers • Improved referral protocols
<p>Freedom Grant - Regional Mobility Enhancement for Disabled Veterans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated Veteran transportation • Job training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kitsap County Transit Authority • Federal and State Departments of Transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each county with a Transit Authority are eligible for grant • Transportation to medical appointments



Pending Grants

Title or Action Area	Desired Outcomes	WDVA, WestCare Foundation and Key Partners	Best Practices
Pilot Rural Veteran Coordination Grant (Lewis, Benton, Franklin Counties)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage and screen rural Veterans and facilitate access to services Develop and implement program and systems improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VA WestCare Foundation Line of Life Social Security Insurance/Social Security Disability Insurance Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing and health care focus One on one support Promoting continuity of care

Approved Grants

Title or Action Area	Desired Outcomes	WDVA and Key Partners	Best Practices
2013 VA SSVF Grant (Pierce, Lewis, Pacific, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Counties)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent homelessness Support stabilization planning and execution Increase access to Veteran resources and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VA Puget Sound Health Care - American Lake Division Metropolitan Development Council Social Security Insurance/Social Security Disability Insurance Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Longview Housing Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent loss of housing Rehouse as soon as possible Outreach delivers services to rural communities Use of Case management Use of Landlord Liaison



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