

**GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM**  
**Center for Employment & Economic Supports**

November 4, 2013

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**TO:** Subscribers**SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION:** TA Directors, Staff Development Coordinators**FROM:** Phyllis D. Morris, Deputy Commissioner, Center for Employment and Economic Supports**SUBJECT:** Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Immediately**CONTACT PERSON:** Temporary Assistance (TA) Bureau at 1-800-343-8859, extension 4-9344

The purpose of this GIS is to advise Social Service Districts (SSDs) that the Department of Veterans Affairs has a program named, "Supportive Services for Veteran Families" (SSVF), which may be an available resource to veterans or veteran families residing in certain localities. The SSVF Program defines a veteran family as "A veteran who is a single person or a family in which the head of household, or the spouse of the head of household, is a veteran."

The SSVF program is not available in all SSDs. A SSD must not refer a veteran to the SSVF program unless the program has a service provider in the SSD. The following link lists SSVF service providers:

[http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/SSVF/2013\\_SSVF\\_Awards\\_Final\\_71113.pdf](http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/SSVF/2013_SSVF_Awards_Final_71113.pdf).

Please see page 2 for the attached fact sheet from the Department of Veterans Affairs for additional information.

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**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:** Once funds are available, VA will publish a Notice of Fund Availability (NOFA) in the Federal Register. Application information will also be available online: <http://www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp> and <http://grants.gov>.

**Additional Information:** For further information about the SSVF Program, please email the program at [SSVF@va.gov](mailto:SSVF@va.gov).