



Setting the Stage: Collaborating to End Veteran Homelessness in Virginia

Brandi Jancaitis, MPH
Director of Housing Development
Virginia Department of Veterans Services





Objectives

- Set the Stage: Virginia Veteran Data
- Provide an Overview of DVS Housing Development Positions
- Highlight Key Initiatives to End Veteran Homelessness





Federal Goal: End Veteran Homelessness by end of 2015

Collaboration between:

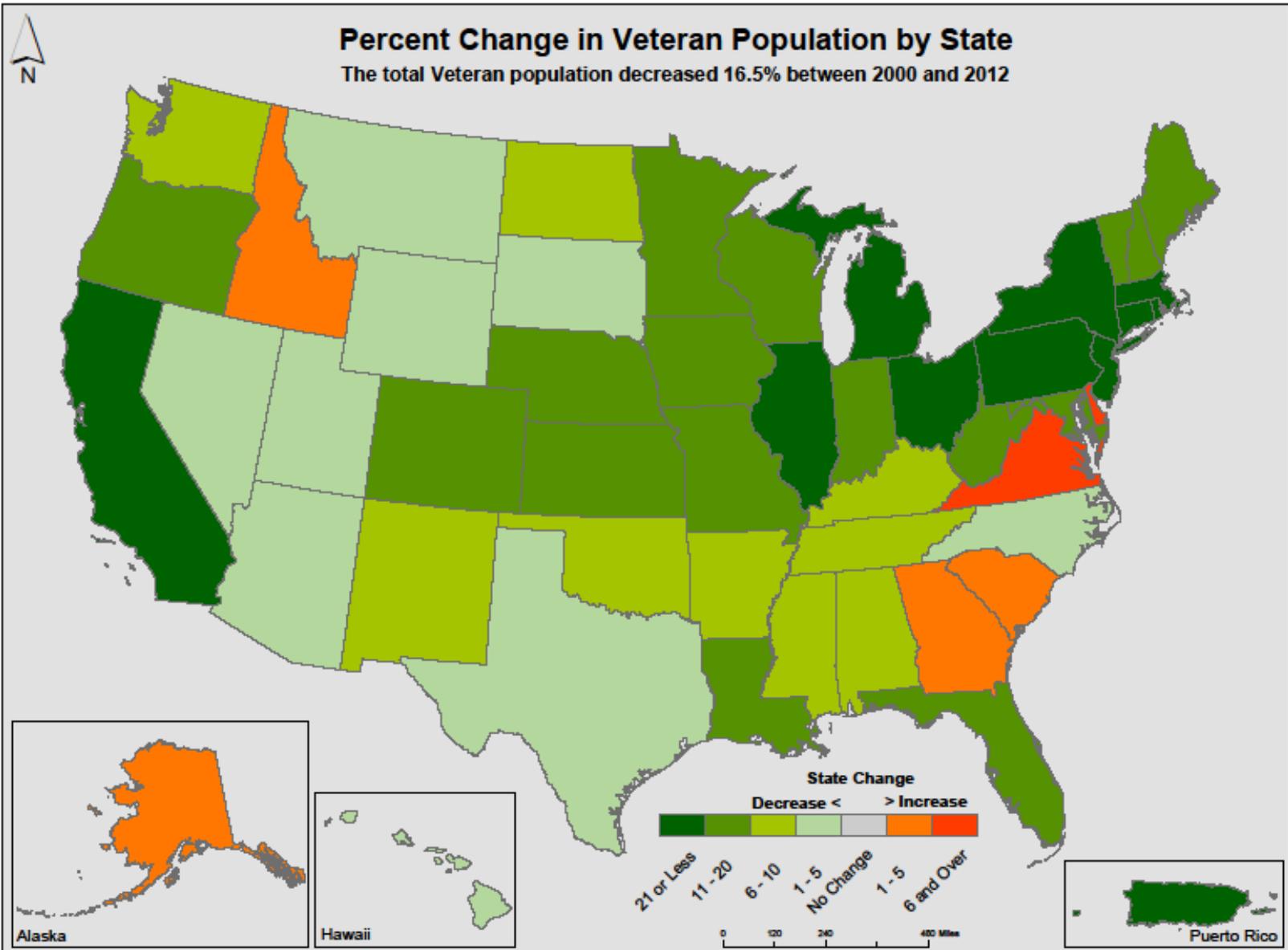
- Federal
- State
- Local



VETERANS IN VIRGINIA

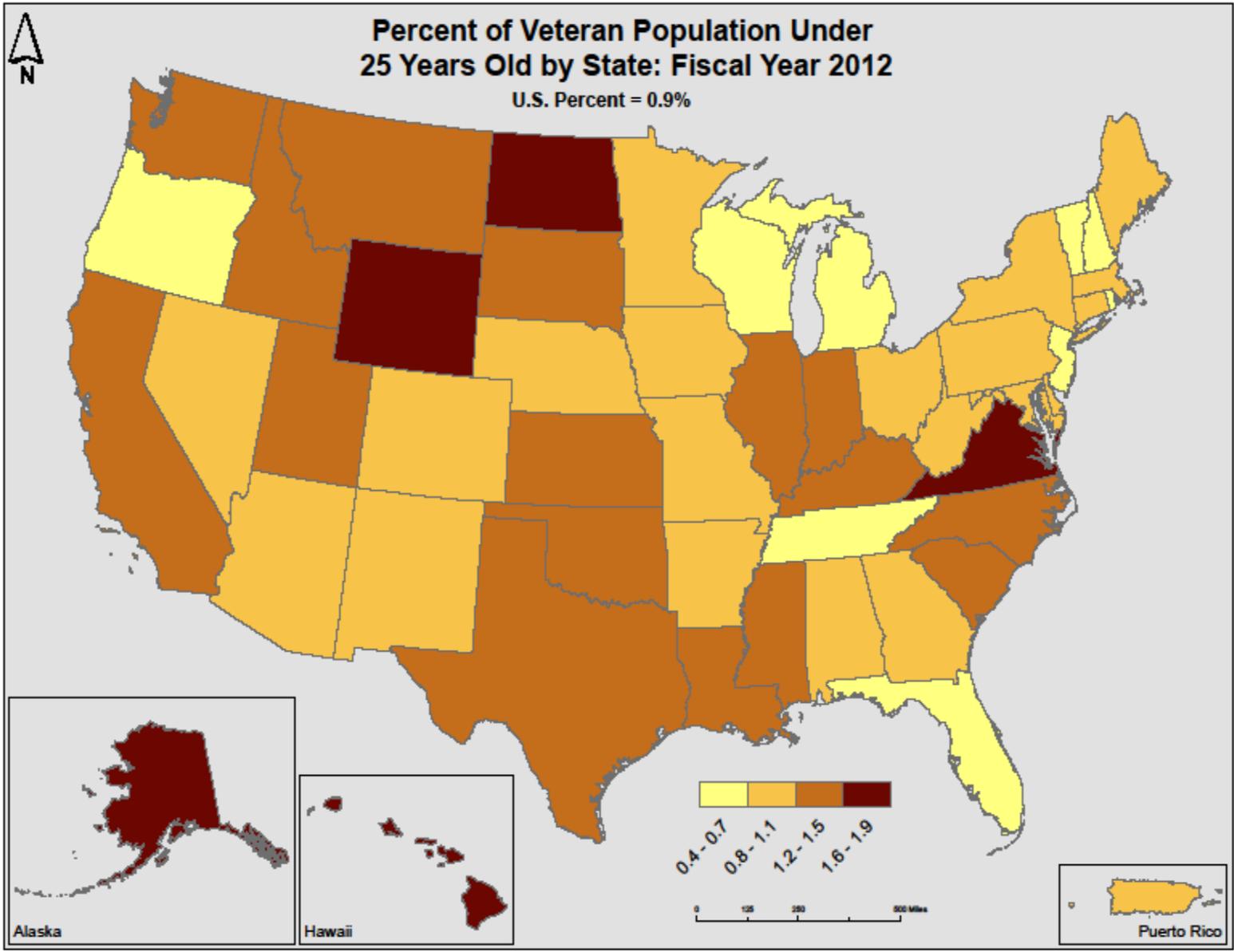
- Virginia has approximately 837,051 veterans
- 1 in every 10 citizens is a veteran, 1 in 5 in Hampton Roads
- By 2016 Virginia is projected to have the 4th largest veteran population in the nation
- Virginia ranks seventh among the states in total veteran population and fourth in younger veterans (age 20 – 49)
- In 2012, Virginia had the 4th largest women veteran population (16% of veterans are women)
- VDOE: nearly 230,000 children in Virginia have military ties; 75,000 school-age
- **Governor's goal is to become the most veteran-friendly state**

we are **Virginia**
VETERANS



Source: Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Actuary, Veteran Population Projection Model (VetPop), 2011

Prepared by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics

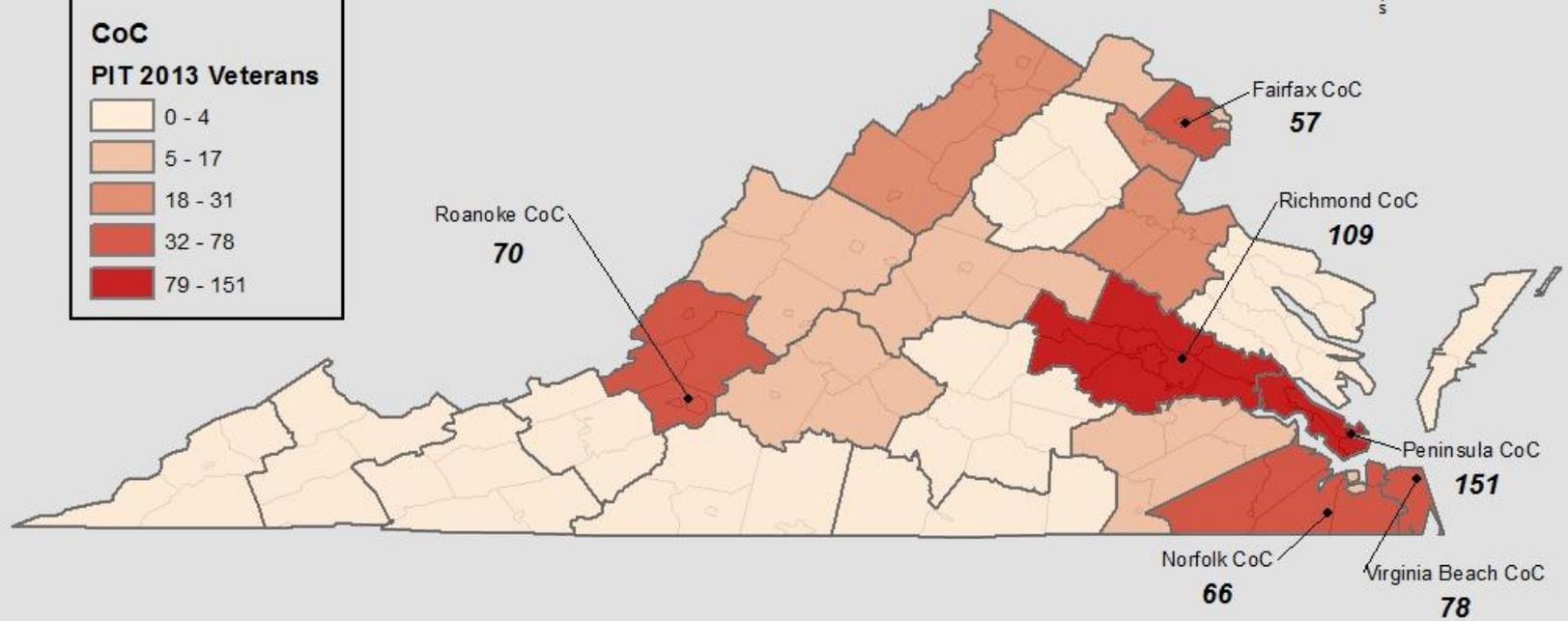
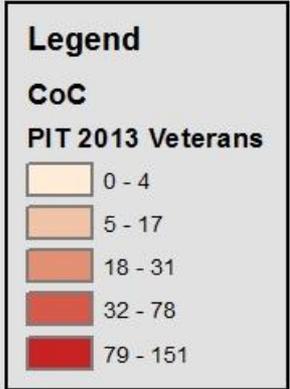


Source: Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of the Actuary, Veteran Population Projection Model (VetPop), 2011

Prepared by the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics



2013 Point-in-Time Count Total Homeless Veterans (Sheltered and Unsheltered)



**44% of Veterans Counted
in Hampton Roads**

Based on 2013 January PIT Count submitted to HUDHDX



Veteran-Friendly Virginia

Department of Veterans Services

DVS Director and Associate Director positions – promote and coordinate an integrated system of care to end veteran homelessness

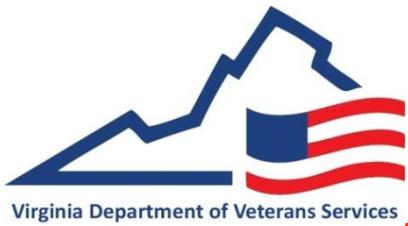
- Partner with VISNs and VA Medical Centers (HCHV, HUD VASH, GPD programs)
- Collaborate with Federal homeless program grantees (SSVF, Non-VAMC GPD, Continuum of Care, HVRP)
- Partner with other state agencies to decrease services barriers for Virginia Veterans (DMV, DSS, VEC, DCJS, DOC, DHCD, VDH)
- Coordinate Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP) direct services implementation and technical assistance



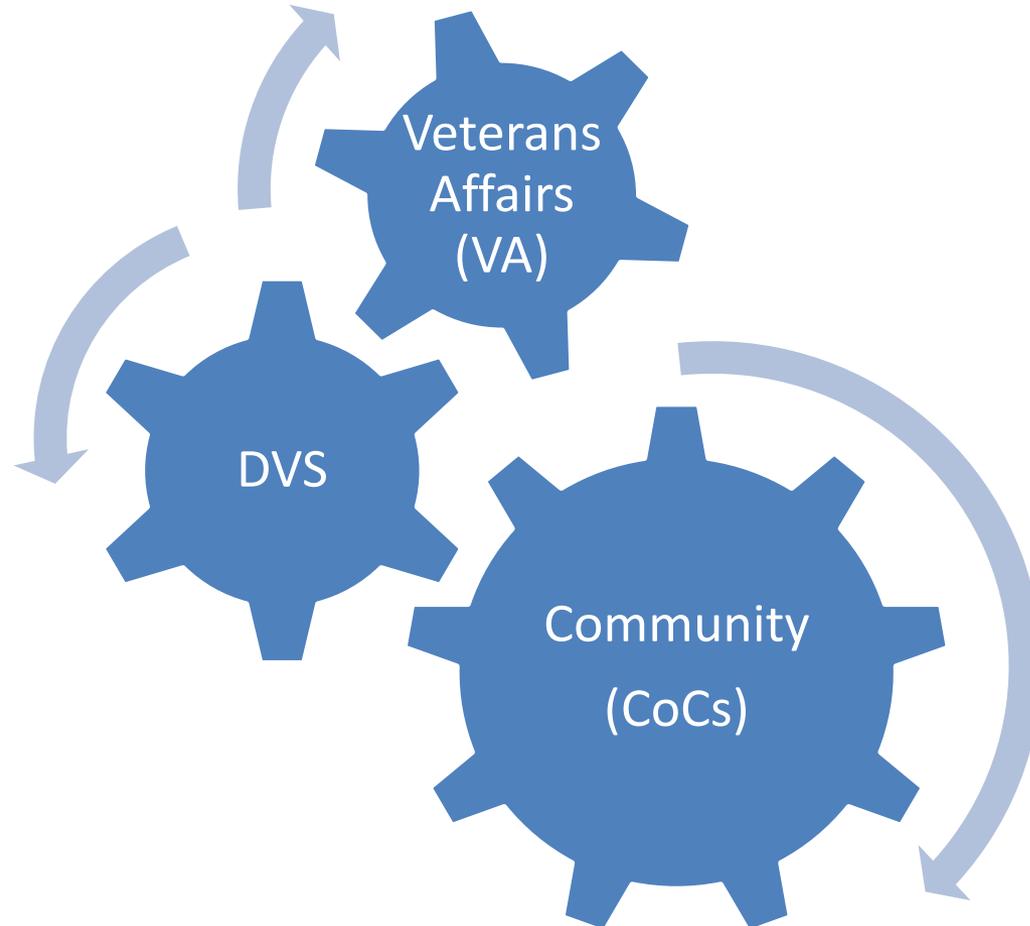
Capacity Building & Coordination Examples

- Serve on the **Homeless Outcomes Coordinating Council** with other state agencies to improve services for at-risk and homeless veterans
- Promote and participate in **Continuum of Care** meetings statewide (DVS, VWWP, VSO's etc.)
- Provide **technical assistance** to direct service providers: information on available veteran-specific resources, "best practices" for service delivery, veteran data, grant opportunities, and letters of support to enhance services
- Promote housing development targeting towards veterans





Multi-Level Coordination





Veterans Rapid Results Boot Camp July 2013 (Philadelphia, PA)

Aim of RR Veterans Boot Camps

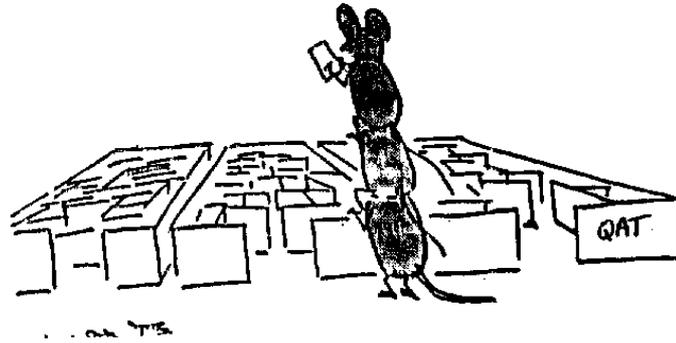
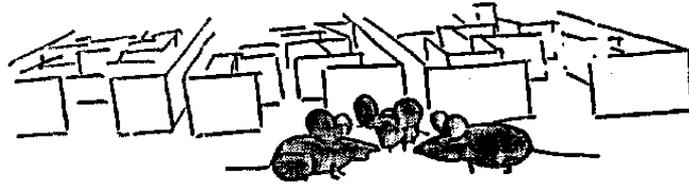
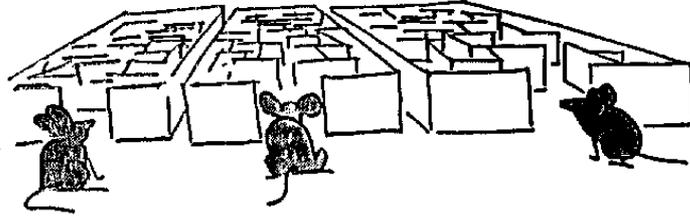
Communities (Norfolk CoC) build a “housing placement engine” that will put them on pace to end Veterans homelessness by Dec. 31, 2015

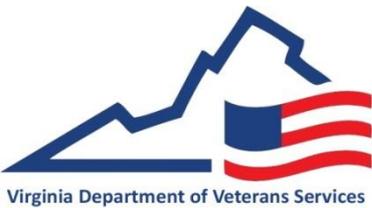
Targeted Outcomes

- Significant and tangible **progress towards 100-day Acceleration Goal set by the team**
- Tangible progress on one or more **critical strategies**
- **Improved collaboration/trust** across PHA, VA, community-based agencies and local organizations
- **Stronger confidence** that the 2015 goal can – and will – be achieved

Overall Challenge: End Homelessness by 2015

What actually happens

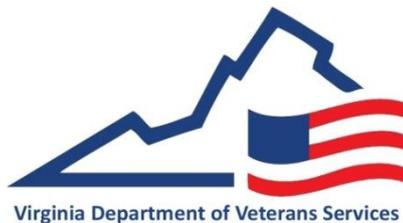


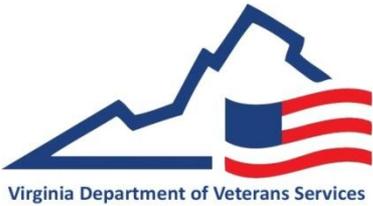


Veteran Affairs Provider Summit August 2013 (Richmond VAMC)

- Mini Rapid Results Boot Camp
- Data Driven Approach

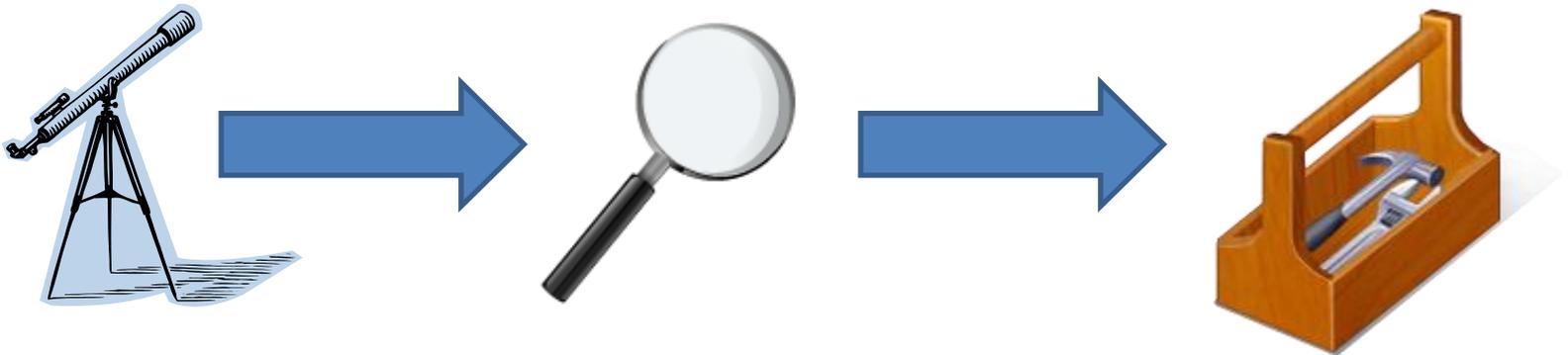
Goal: Encourage and facilitate data driven community planning efforts towards ending veteran homelessness by end of 2015

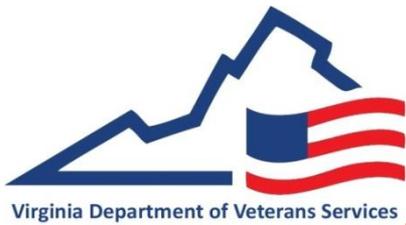




VA Provider Summit Implementation

- Divided in groups by VAMCs and CoCs
- Assessed local data
- Identified barriers, opportunities, and resources
- Developed a take-down target





Examples of CoC Veteran Work Groups

- Norfolk CoC
 - Tracking veteran housing placements
 - Exploring co-location of VAMC staff in Norfolk
 - Mapping resources and services
 - Coordinating services across CoCs throughout Hampton Roads
 - Developing common assessment intake forms

- Richmond CoC
 - Working closely with VAMC
 - Mapping resources and services
 - Developing triage plans to support at-risk and homeless veterans
 - Exploring co-location of veteran support service staff



Targeting Resources

“The right service, at the right time, using the right amount of assistance”

Prevention/Rapid Re-Housing (e.g., SSVF)

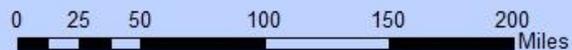
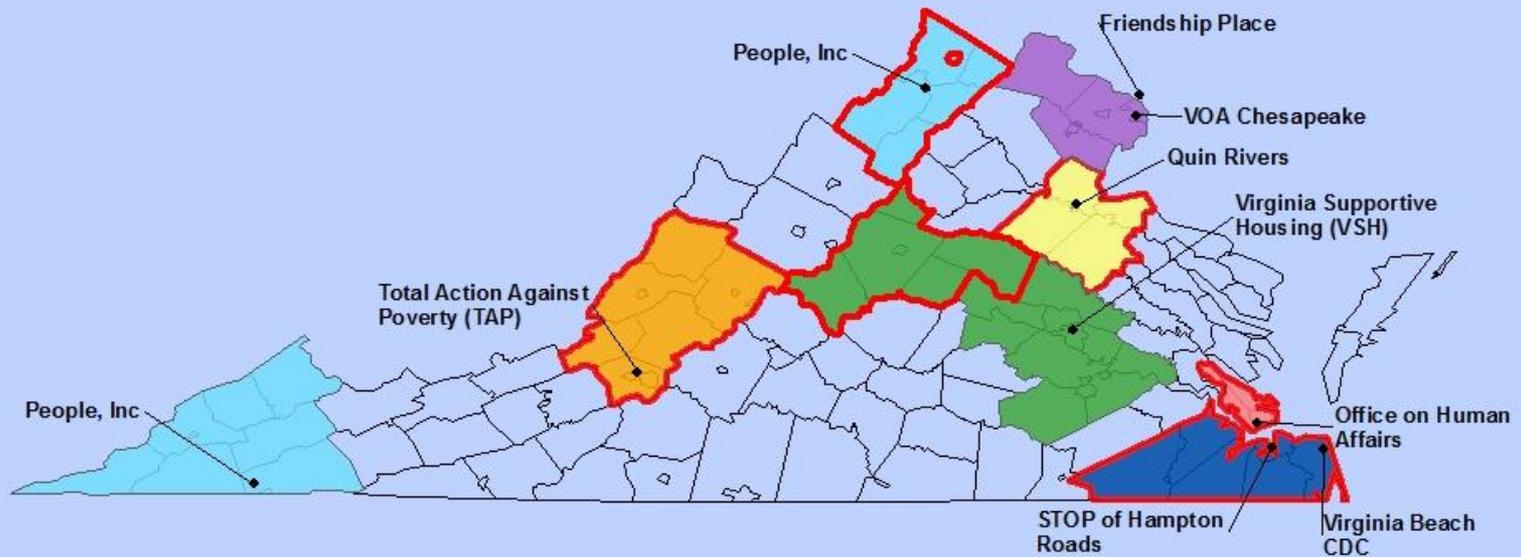


Permanent Supportive Housing (e.g., HUD VASH)

Potential needs

- Financial/employment
- Mental illness: TBI, PTSD, etc
 - Substance abuse
 - Sexual trauma
- Physical disability

Virginia SSVF Program Coverage



Legend

 New SSVF Coverage (Oct 2013)



Coordinating Support Services: VWWP

Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP) is a behavioral health and support services program for veterans and families in DVS:

- Work with statewide VWWP staff to enhance care coordination for at-risk and homeless veterans
 - Provide technical assistance
 - Revision of VWWP housing status data elements to mirror mainstream homeless services data (HMIS)
 - Liaise between VAMC and VWWP to support Housing First focus (community case management and financial support)



Brandi Jancaitis, MPH
Director, Housing Development
for Veterans
Virginia Department of Veterans Services
Brandi.jancaitis@dvs.virginia.gov

Matt Leslie, MSW
Associate Director, Housing Development
for Veterans
Virginia Department of Veterans Services
Matthew.leslie@dvs.virginia.gov

