

Veterans  
Housing  
Department  
of Veterans  
Services  
2021/2022

Housing Opportunities





# Department of Veterans Services 2021/2022

- ▶ Veterans Services provides oversight to **11** homeless & **16** outreach providers throughout Massachusetts under state fiscal budget.
- ▶ Line items: 1410-0012, 1410-0250, 1410-0251
- ▶ Fiscal 2022 \$16,154,347
- ▶ Fiscal 2021- Over 43,000 services delivered to veteran & families of MA
- ▶ Contracted providers consistently achieve 90% of performance measures on a monthly basis



# Veterans Services 2021

Weekly reported census averages **720** beds being occupied on a emergency shelter & transition status.

- All housing vendors had alternate housing beds during covid 19 outbreak keeping the spread of the virus low.
- Future Permanent Supportive Housing opportunities
- Engage with community services and COC's.



# Veterans Services 2021

## ➤ DVS Contracted Providers 2022

### ➤ Cape & Islands Veterans Outreach Center

- 246 Stevens Street
- Hyannis MA 02601
- Joe Taylor, Executive Director
- 508-778-1590
- 16 SRO's



### ➤ Southeastern Massachusetts Veterans Outreach Center

- 1297 Purchase Street
- New Bedford, MA 02740
- Jim Reid, Executive Director
- 508-992-5313
- 10 SRO's



# Veterans Services 2021

- **New England Center & Home for Veterans**

- 17 Court Street

- Boston, MA 02111

- Andy Mc Cawley, President & COO

- 617-371-1800

- 120 Emergency Shelter & Transitional

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- **Veterans Northeast Outreach Center**

- 65 Cedar Street

- Haverhill, MA

- Scott Forbes, Executive Director

- 978-372-3626

- 162 SRO's

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# Veterans Services 2021



- **Soldier On**

- 421 N. Main Street

- Bld 6

- Leeds, MA 01053

- Bruce Buckley, Executive Director

- 413-727-3755

- 285 Emergency Shelter & Transitional

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- **Pine Street Inn**

- 444 Harrison Ave

- Boston, MA 02111

- Lyndia Downie, Executive Director

- 617.892.9100

- 23 Emergency



# Veterans Services 2021

## **Bilingual Veterans Outreach Center**

255 Franklin Street

Springfield, MA

Gumersindo Gomez, Executive Director

5 Emergency

## **Montachusett's Veterans Outreach Center**

265 Central Street

Gardner, MA

Stephanie Marchetti, Executive Director

978-632-9601

22 Emergency & Transitional



# Veterans Services 2021

## **Veterans Inc**

69 Grove Street

Worcester, MA

Denis Leary, Executive Director

508-791-1213

85 Emergency Shelter & Transitional

*\* Independence Hall Recovery (step down units) 508-845-6176*

## **DAV**

3 Victory Road

Gardner, MA 01440

Kayla Valila, Executive Director

978-632-1271

7 Emergency & Transitional





# Veterans Services 2021

## **Habitat Plus, Inc**

521 Essex Street

Lynn MA 01902

Sue Cambell, Executive Director

781-599-8578

12 Transitional

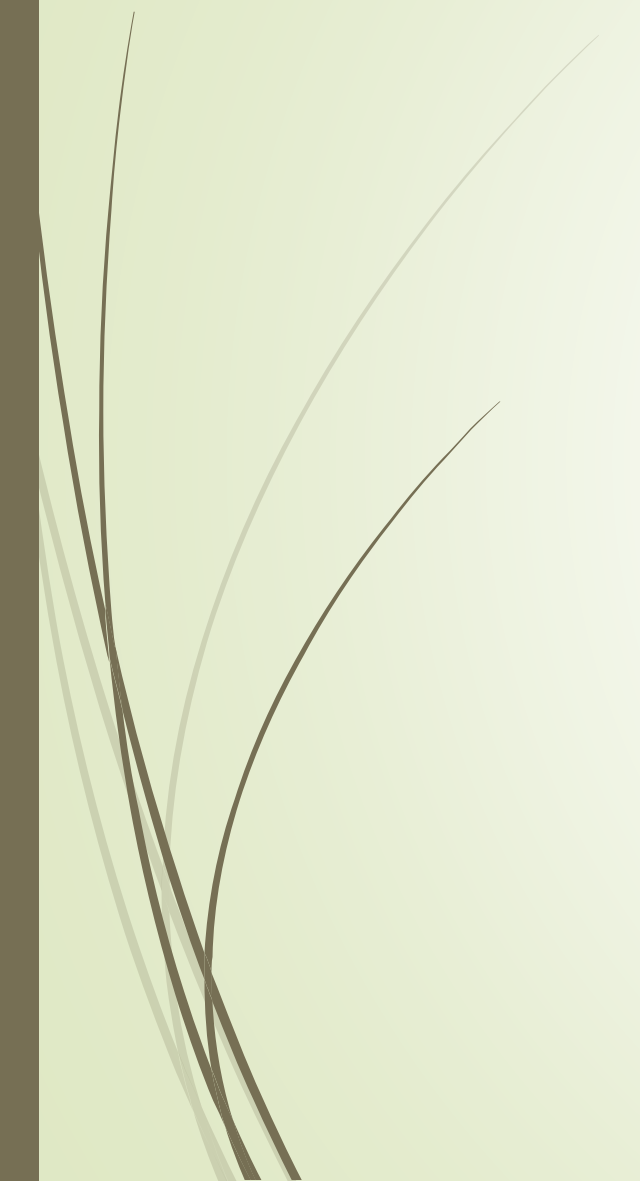
## **Veterans Association of Bristol County**

755 Pine Street,

Fall River, MA 02720

Jim St. Laurent, Executive Director

508-679-9277





# Update-Provider Initiatives

- **Montachusets Veterans Outreach Gardner MA** : Winchendon housing development, hoping to break ground late summer/early fall of 2022. Year two of pre-development. DHCD funding . Once finished, the development will consist of 44 1-bedroom units.
- **Cape & Islands Hyannis MA** : Martha's Vineyard development proposal to selectman for 10 to 12 efficiencies in two separate locations. Looking for a 99 year lease. Proposal to Selectman in fall 2021. All private funding.
- **DAV Leominster & Devens**: Currently Fitchburg and Winchendon negotiations to purchase and create Permanent Supportive Housing ( PSH) for veterans. Nothing funded yet. Looking for federal funds.
- **Soldier On, Clear Path, Veterans Inc** all applied to Mass Development for RFQ at Devens. Goal is for 36 units up for redevelopment for veterans and their families in October 2021.
- **Soldier On** pre-development for 21 psh in Tewksbury Ma. Looking for DHCD funding. 1 bedroom & efficiency



# Chelsea Soldiers Home

## **Chelsea Soldiers Home – Domiciliary Campus Redevelopment status update**

- An RFP was issued December 2020 and responses received March 2021; the selection process is underway.
- Information about the project including the names of the respondents is available here: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/soldiers-home-in-chelsea-domiciliary-campus-redevelopment>



# Soldiers Home Chelsea

154 Bed Community Living Center under construction

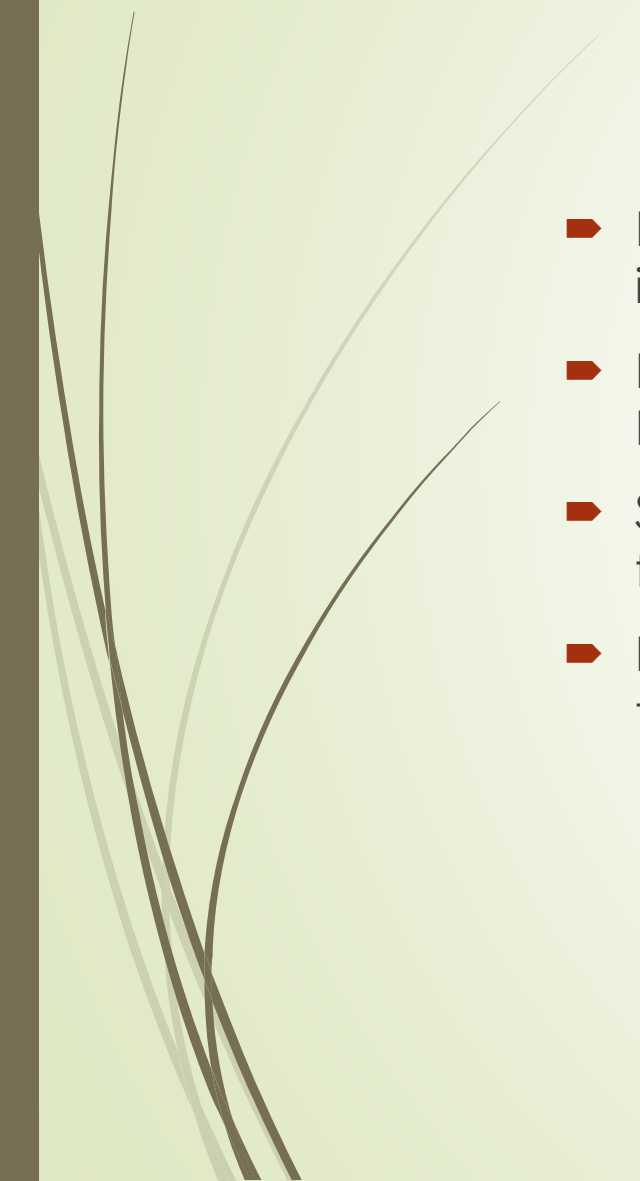
“Topping off” Ceremony summer 2021

Scheduled completion for Fall of 2022

Progress updates at [www.chelseasoldiershome.weebly.com](http://www.chelseasoldiershome.weebly.com)



# Soldiers' Home in Holyoke

- ▶ Bond Bill signed by Governor Baker for construction of new Soldiers' Home in Holyoke on May 25<sup>th</sup>
  - ▶ Long Term care Facility based on VA Small Home Design Guide with Adult Day Health Care
  - ▶ Submitted grant to VA State Home Construction Grant Program for edibility for 65% of construction costs.
  - ▶ Details can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/reimagining-the-future-of-the-soldiers-home-in-holyoke>
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## GPD Beds Veteran Provider

- **New England Center and Home for Veterans**, 17 Court Street, Boston, MA 02111  
Per Diem Only 60 beds Bridge, Clinical Treatment, and Service-Intensive
- **Pine Street Inn**, 444 Harrison Ave, Boston, MA Bridge, Clinical Treatment, and Service-Intensive 15 beds
- **MVOC**, 268 Central Street, Gardner, MA Bridge, Clinical Treatment, and Service-Intensive 12 beds
- **VOA** 155 Powder House Blvd, Somerville, MA Clinical Treatment, and Service-Intensive 36 beds
- **Work Express**, VA Boston, low demand, 15 beds



## GPD Beds Veteran Provider

**Soldier On, Inc.** 290 Merrill Rd Pittsfield, MA 01201-2084 Per Diem Only Bridge, Clinical Treatment, and Service-Intensive 185 1 631 - VA Central Western Massachusetts HCS, 185 beds

**Veterans, Inc.** 69 Grove Street Worcester, MA 01605-Bridge, Bridge, Clinical Treatment, and Service-Intensive 115 beds

**Southeastern Massachusetts Veterans Housing Program, Inc.** 1297 Purchase Street New Bedford, MA 02740 Per Diem Only Clinical Treatment and Service-Intensive 19 beds -

**Veterans Northeast Outreach Center** 10 Reed Street, Haverhill, MA Per Diem Only 25 beds



# HUD VASH VOUCHERS

- ▶ The HUD-VASH Program combines the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) **Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance** for homeless veterans and their families with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) at its medical centers and in the community.
- ▶ HUD-VASH provides permanent supportive housing for eligible homeless Veterans who are single or eligible homeless Veterans with families. The program is developed for the homeless Veteran, so eligible Veteran families must include the Veteran.
- ▶ Because HUD-VASH provides for Veterans who may have medical, mental health and/or substance use disorders, eligible Veterans must be able to complete activities of daily living and live independently in the community with case management and supportive services.
- ▶ [www.va.gov/directory/guide/state.asp](http://www.va.gov/directory/guide/state.asp)





# HUD VASH Distribution 2020

- ▶ Each year, HUD and VA have collaboratively awarded HUD-VASH vouchers based on current geographic need and public housing agency (PHA) performance. Since 2017, the allocation process for awarding HUD-VASH vouchers has changed to allow PHAs to self-identify their interest in the program. HUD publishes an annual HUD-VASH Registration of Interest Notice containing detailed instructions that PHAs must follow if they are interested in receiving a portion of the available HUD-VASH vouchers. **PHAs must** have the support of a partnering VA facility and meet any utilization threshold requirements to be eligible for an award. After the registration period has closed, **HUD and VA use a formula to determine relative need, and ultimately invite eligible PHAs to apply for a specific number of HUD-VASH vouchers.** The associated funding awarded for HUD-VASH vouchers is determined by the actual average per unit cost (PUC) at each PHA.



# Supportive Services Veterans and Families SSVF

- ▶ Assistance for Veterans and their families who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability providing support needed to stabilize and maintain permanent housing.
- ▶ Case manager works with each veteran.
- ▶ Referral services for employment opportunities, legal services, health care and other housing and related expenses.




# Supportive Services Veterans and Families

## S S V F

- ▶ Head of Household or spouse must be a veteran.
- ▶ Must have served at least 1 day of active duty and have a discharge other than dishonorable.
- ▶ Household income must be below 50% area median income for their family size.
- ▶ Must be either literally homeless or imminently at risk.



# SSVF Providers MA

- ▶ Soldier On, Leeds, MA
  - ▶ Veterans Inc, Worcester, MA
  - ▶ Veterans Northeast Outreach Center, Haverhill, MA
  - ▶ New England Center & Home for Veterans, Boston, MA
  - ▶ Cape & Island Veterans Outreach Center, Barnstable, MA
  - ▶ Southeastern MA Veterans Outreach Center, New Bedford, MA
  - ▶ Volunteers of America, Somerville, MA
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# Other housing resources

- ▶ <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/emergency-housing-payment-assistance-during-covid-19#details-on-the-emergency-rental-assistance-pr>
- ▶ If you want to remain in your current home but owe past due rent, you may apply directly to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program for help. Both tenants and landlords on behalf of tenants can apply, but a COMPLETE application must be submitted to expedite the process of getting funding awarded. An incomplete application will result in a delay in applicants getting the support they need.
- ▶ The Emergency Housing Payment Assistance application is free. No fee is required to apply, and free help is available to complete applications. Beware of scams by people charging an “application fee” to help submit an application. If you need help completing the application, [contact your local RAA](#) for free assistance.



# Other housing resources

- ▶ [www.consumerfinance.gov/coronavirus/mortgage-and-housing-assistance/](https://www.consumerfinance.gov/coronavirus/mortgage-and-housing-assistance/)
  - ▶ Help is available for renters
  - ▶ The CDC issued a new eviction moratorium on August 3, 2021.
  - ▶ [If you haven't already given your landlord a CDC Declaration, take action to get this protection.](#)
  - ▶ [You can also apply for money to cover rent and utilities today.](#)
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# Other Housing Resources

- ▶ <https://evictionlegalhelp.org/other-help/>
- ▶ **Need help paying your rent or mortgage?**
- ▶ **State assistance:** There are different statewide rental assistance programs that can help tenants and homeowners pay the rent or mortgage, as well as utilities and moving expenses.
  - ▶ Eligible homeowners and tenants can get up to \$10,000 to pay overdue or future mortgage or rent payments under the RAFT (Residential Assistance for Families in Transition) and ERMA (Emergency Rent and Mortgage Assistance) programs.
  - ▶ Eligible tenants can get up to 15 months of rental assistance under the new federal ERAP (Emergency Rental Assistance) program. Tenants can use up to 12 months for overdue rent and use 3 months of assistance at a time for future rent payments.
  - ▶ To apply for any of these programs, [find your local agency](#) or call **800-224-5124**.



# Other Housing Resources

- ▶ **Housing Navigator Massachusetts.**
- ▶ Site is up and running, showing information on **2000+** affordable properties across the Commonwealth.
- ▶ [www.search.housingnavigatoroma.org](http://www.search.housingnavigatoroma.org)





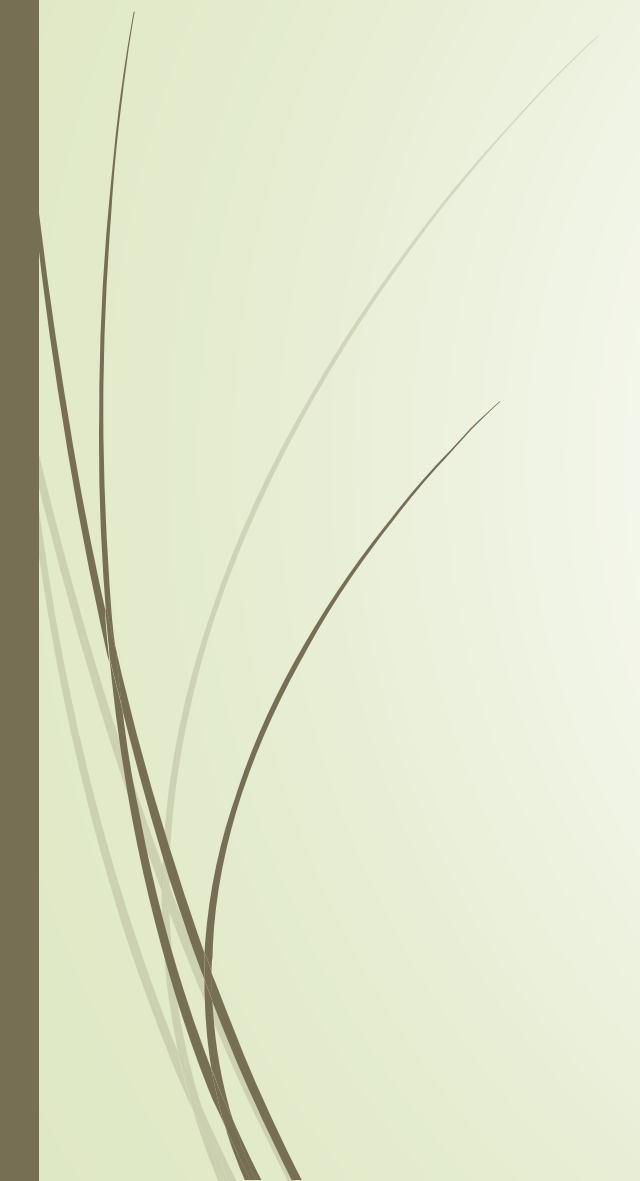
# Continuum of Care

A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a **regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals**. Across the Commonwealth there are 12 CoCs eligible to apply for money from HUD to help homeless people.

DHCD Resource Locator: [hedfuel.azurewebsites.net](http://hedfuel.azurewebsites.net)




# Emergency Housing Vouchers



The Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) provide an unprecedented opportunity for collaboration between public housing authorities (PHAs) and the CoC homeless system. Use of these 189 vouchers has the potential to more efficiently move people through the system, benefitting direct recipients of the vouchers as well as others who are able to move to other forms of permanent housing.

EHVs make it possible for CoCs and PHAs to accommodate the needs of the most vulnerable by providing access to housing and services previously unavailable to them, while continuing to provide support to those who are less vulnerable, but still need assistance to maintain stable housing.



# Continuum of Care Distribution of EHV

Balance of State region	unsheltered	sheltered	TH / Other	Total	% of Total	EHV per region
North Shore	60	119	20	199	18.88%	36
Upper Merrimack Valley	313	171	22	506	48.01%	90
Metro	71	154	7	232	22.01%	42
West	18	87	0	105	9.96%	19
South	0	0	12	12	1.14%	2



# Veterans Services 2021

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