

Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles Homeless Veterans Initiative (HVI) Fact Sheet

What is HVI?

The Homeless Veterans Initiative (HVI), administered by the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA), offers Section 8 Vouchers to very low-income homeless veterans in the City of Los Angeles so they can afford the rent in private market apartments. Unlike HUD-VASH, HVI helps veterans who are not eligible for VA healthcare.

Homeless veterans who are issued HVI Vouchers by the HACLA receive at least a year of supportive services from Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) programs to enable them to live independently and remain successfully housed. SSVF program staff are experts in working with veterans experiencing homelessness.

Who is Eligible?

Veterans (and their families) who:

- Are not eligible for VA healthcare. This includes veterans whose discharge status is less than honorable (other than honorable or dishonorable).
- Are Homeless or Chronically Homeless individuals or households as defined by HUD. This includes living on the street or in emergency shelter, but not living doubled up or “couch surfing.”
- Currently reside in the City of LA. (For a list of communities that are in LA City please visit: http://file.lacounty.gov/dmh/cms1_159786.pdf.)
- Have significant barriers to housing, often including disabilities (VI-SPDAT 3 or 4 OR VI-SPDAT 2 for whom rapid rehousing has not worked).

What is the Referral Process?

All HVI vouchers will be tracked through the Coordinated Entry System (CES). Eligible veterans who are entered into CES will be matched with HVI. Referrals can also be made directly to SSVF programs, which will enter and report on all referred veterans through CES. These agencies are partnering with HACLA on HVI:

Agency	SPA	Contact Person	Can agency serve dishonorable discharges?
MHA	8	Alyson Johnson, ajohnson@mhala.org , (562)591-1340	Yes; must have a mental health diagnosis
New Directions	5	SSVF@ndvets.org , (310) 914-4045 x138	Yes
PATH	4	Taura Jacob, tauraj@epath.org , (213) 399-0214	No
Salvation Army-Haven	2 & 5	Fen Tam, fen.tam@usw.salvationarmy.org , (310) 478-3711 x40516	No
Salvation Army-Bell	6	Kathleen Takeuchi-Capucetti, kathleen.k.takeuchi-capucetti@usw.salvationarmy.org , (323) 263-1206 x250	Yes
VOALA	4 & 6	Minerva Flores, mflores@voala.org , (323) 657-5550	Yes
US VETS	8	Cathy Carranza, ccarranza@usvetsinc.org , (310) 744-6553	Yes

Tips for Making Referrals:

- Provide as much information as possible, including: Full Name, Social Security Number, DOB, and VI-SPDAT Score (if available).
- When emailing referrals, please remember *not to include any personally identifying information by email* (such as DOB or SSN).