



Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

a joint powers authority of the city & county of los angeles

Rapid Re-Housing for Homeless Veterans

Program Overview

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority’s (LAHSA) Rapid Re-Housing for Homeless Veterans (RRHV) will provide limited term rental subsidies and supportive services to assist Veterans experiencing homeless who have moderate needs to return to stable permanent housing. It is LAHSA’s intention to use RRHV funds to meet a critical service gap in Los Angeles’ continuum of homeless services by providing assistance to Veterans who do not meet eligibility criteria for VA resources. While the program design and assistance will be modeled after Supportive Service for Veteran Families (SSVF), the eligibility criteria and terms of assistance will vary accordingly to capture those who are not qualified to access Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (VASH) and SSVF.

Due to the challenging nature of Los Angeles’ limited housing market, RRHV will rely heavily on various landlord incentives as well as creative housing scenarios including roommates and renting rooms. While participants will receive service uniquely under RRHV, participants may elect to be housed as roommates or couples if appropriate. LAHSA’s RRHV will utilize Los Angeles City General funds to contract with Coordinated Entry System lead organizations in Service Planning Areas 2, 4, 5, 6, and 8 to provide rapid re-housing resources.

Target Population

The target population is Veterans who are experiencing homelessness, as defined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, who:

- Have been recommended for a rapid re-housing intervention (score of 2 on the CES Survey Tool or Youth CES Screening Tool, when available); may be chronically homeless or not chronically homeless
- Have been recommended for no intervention (score of 1 on the CES Survey Tool or Youth CES Screening Tool, when available); must also be chronically homeless

The priority population for RRHV is those who are unable to resolve their homelessness without a moderate level of assistance. Veterans served under RRHV may have an Area Median Income (AMI) of up to 50% upon program entry.

2015 Area Median Incomes for one person households in Los Angeles are as follows:

30% AMI	\$17,450
50% AMI	\$29,050

Program Duration

RRHV will assess and provide the assistance and supports necessary to create housing stability, while promoting self-sufficiency and the full assumption of rental responsibility. An initial assessment will consider current and potential income via employment or benefits, as well as risk factors for housing stability, in order to determine the level of financial assistance and supportive services and to inform a housing and services plan. RRHV will reassess the level of need as well as participant participation periodically, minimally every three months. Three month reassessments will inform the depth and duration of the subsidy as well as the type and extent of the supportive services. The maximum length of assistance is 24 months, however the goal of RRHV is to help move participants off the subsidy as quickly as is reasonably possible for obtaining housing stability. Supportive services may be provided longer than rental subsidies, however should also not exceed a term of 24 months. RRHV will not guarantee any duration of service but instead will rely on regular reassessment. Should it be determined that a participant requires a higher level of service over a longer period of time, the participant can be connected to a more appropriate resource in a manner to be further specified.

Service Components

RRHV providers may provide supportive services directly and/or may subcontract with other organizations for service delivery provision. RRHV providers must directly provide, contract, or partner to provide the following supportive services, resources, and referrals:

- Benefits connection
- Employment services or employment training
- Legal services and credit repair
- Bridge housing while in the housing process
- Housing search and placement, including housing location, landlord negotiation, roommate selection, lease and contracts negotiation
- Case management including budgeting, money management, tenant/landlord relations
- Housing retention/housing stability
- Mental health
- Physical health
- Other supportive services as needed

Eligible Costs

Eligible cost categories under RRHV include: 1) Financial Assistance 2) Services 3) Data collection, and 4) Indirect costs. Funds under RRHV cannot be used for prevention. Eligible costs under financial assistance include but are not limited to:

Cost Type	Guidance
Move-in costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ application fees○ moving costs○ deposits○ first month's rent○ utilities	Essential furniture expenses associated with moving into permanent housing. Eligible items include but are not limited to bed frames, conventional mattresses, air mattresses, box springs, basic kitchen utensils, and cleaning supplies; limit \$750 per household.

o essential furniture	
Utility arrears	Only if necessary to re-house; maximum 6 months
Rental arrears	Only if necessary to re-house; maximum 2 months
Rental assistance	Rent reasonableness standards apply
Utility assistance	
Holding fees	Further guidance to be provided; maximum length of time is one month with a maximum rental amount of \$1100
General housing assistance	Expenses associated with gaining or keeping employment. Eligible items include but are not limited to uniforms, tools, driver's license fees, license/certification costs required for employment, documentation acquisition fees such as for Social Security Number or birth certificate, document court filing fees, and short term training leading to employment where other funding is not available; not to exceed 3% of total direct assistance category.
Reunification services	Expenses paid directly to a transportation provider for relocation by bus, train, or plane, to reunify clients with family members who have agreed to provide housing outside of the County/Southern California region/State.
Indirect costs	Must be less than 10%

Programs should consider staffing costs related to program implementation, administration and oversight, including housing locators, housing navigators, and supervisors.

Outcomes

Program outcomes will focus on exits to permanent housing as well as a percentage increase in income via benefits or employment. Outcomes from this initial RRHV funding period will inform future rapid re-housing programming and will further hone the interventions, priority populations, and policies and procedures for this service type. The first iteration of the RRHV aims to house 450 individuals between January 1, 2016 and June 30, 2016.

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