

**Questions and Answers from the Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative
Pre-Submittal Conference - Thursday January 15, 2015**

1. If my agency has not worked with veterans before can we apply?
 - Anyone can apply. You should focus on the systems you are using for the other population you work with.
2. Is the 15% of veterans who are not eligible for PSH a priority in this project?
 - Yes
3. Will you be pulling vets who score 1-4 on the Standardize Vulnerability Index (SVI) or 10 and above?
 - 10 and above.
4. Will there be referrals from DFSS? If so will they be from the CRS?
 - This is to be determined. DFSS will work with the selected applicant(s) on the referral process.
5. How long does it take for the Low Income Housing Trust Fund (LIHTF) to get a unit up and running (including getting landlords on board)?
 - It takes from 60 – 90 days. There is a pre-approval process that includes an application, inspection of the unit and the landlord approval. From there, this information goes to the Allocation Committee and then the Board of the LIHTF. Once a unit is approved and leased if the vet leaves the unit it would take approximately 30 to get it filled.
6. Are there other resources available to assist us with housing vets?
 - The rapid rehousing program with bridge units is a resource that DFSS can help facilitate.
7. If we provided a facility assessment in the last RFP is it still good?
 - Yes. You may use the facility assessment from the 2015 RFP process; however, you still need to submit it with the application.
8. How will we know if we are being renewed for another funding year after the first year?
 - Based on performance measures and funding availability, the renewal process would function like other DFSS contract renewals.
9. In the RFP it states this is a prorated one year contract with two additional full year periods.
 - Renewals each year are based on performance measures and funding availability.

10. Is the system coordination component open to any agency?

- Yes

11. Will DFSS give direction on the system coordination component?

- We will give parameters but it is up to the agency manage the system coordination.

12. The LIHTF requires the client have income. What if the prospective client does not have income?

- The client will be able to live rent free up to one year, however it is expected that the agency will work with the client so they have income.

13. Funding allows for services in the second year. Are we able to use funding for direct financial services for the clients?

- It is preferred that the services stay the same and matching dollars are used for direct financial services.

14. Can funding be used for deposits and credit checks?

- This is to be determined.

15. Is there any way contracts can be executed in a timely manner?

- We are trying to get the contracts executed by March. We must have Comptrollers and the law department sign off on contracts which have slowed things down in the past.

16. Will this program serve families along with single vets?

- The program is set up to assist mostly singles; however there is some inclusion of families.

17. If a client is found in a shelter must the CRS be used?

- The intent is to give selected applicants referrals from a registry list that has already identified veterans based on eligibility. Currently, there are two lists – a registry for 25Cities and the CRS. The referral process will be worked out by DFSS, the 25Cities Leadership Team and CRS Managing Entity. The outreach and in-reach referenced in the RFP primarily refers to locating and engaging veterans who have been identified from these lists.