

## 3B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Performance and Strategic Planning Objectives

### Objective 3: Ending Veterans Homelessness

**Instructions:**

For guidance on completing this form, please reference the FY 2016 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2016 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

**Opening Doors outlines the goal of ending Veteran homelessness by the end of 2016. The following questions focus on the various strategies that will aid communities in meeting this goal.**

**3B-3.1. Compare the total number of homeless Veterans in the CoC as reported by the CoC for the 2016 PIT count compared to 2015 (or 2014 if an unsheltered count was not conducted in 2015).**

	2015 (for unsheltered count, most recent year conducted)	2016	Difference
Universe: Total PIT count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless veterans:	12	7	-5
Sheltered count of homeless veterans:	11	5	-6
Unsheltered count of homeless veterans:	1	2	1

**3B-3.1a. Explain the reason(s) for any increase, or no change in the total number of homeless veterans in the CoC as reported in the 2016 PIT count compared to the 2015 PIT count. (limit 1000 characters)**

The CoC saw a decrease in the total number of veterans and a slight increase in the number of unsheltered veterans from 1 to 2 persons. Reasons for the big decrease in sheltered veterans and slight increase in unsheltered veterans mirror the PIT 2015 to 2016 changes in people who are chronically homeless. The changes noted to the men's shelter (from ES to TH, downtown location to suburbs, increase in barrier to entry) and current lack of outreach program have influenced these measures. There was no change in the PIT Count methodology between 2015 and 2016.

**3B-3.2. Describe how the CoC identifies, assesses, and refers homeless veterans who are eligible for Veterean's Affairs services and housing to appropriate reources such as HUD-VASH and SSVF. (limit 1000 characters)**

CoC agencies including ESG-funded shelter & TH, service orgs funded by local government & foundations, and SA treatment funded by DHHS, ask people presenting for services if they have served in the military. Clients answering yes are referred to VA homeless outreach workers at the Durham VAMC and SSVF grantee Volunteers of America (VoA) to determine eligibility for VA medical care and/or housing. VA & VoA outreach workers also come to the shelter & TH on standing day/times. The CoC Veteran Services Officer (VSO) is housed at Orange Co. Dept. of Social Services and DSS staff route veterans presenting for services directly to VSO. During the PIT count volunteers canvass known locations of unsheltered persons and ask if people have served in the military. All persons experiencing homelessness are assessed using the VI-SPDAT, which requests veteran status. The CoC Homeless Veterans Working Group meets monthly to review a veteran by-name list and coordinate funding and services.

**3B-3.3. Compare the total number of homeless Veterans in the CoC and the total number of unsheltered homeless Veterans in the CoC, as reported by the CoC for the 2016 PIT Count compared to the 2010 PIT Count (or 2009 if an unsheltered count was not conducted in 2010).**

	2010 (or 2009 if an unsheltered count was not conducted in 2010)	2016	% Difference
Total PIT Count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless veterans:	4	7	75.00%
Unsheltered Count of homeless veterans:	0	2	0.00%

**3B-3.4. Indicate from the dropdown whether you are on target to end Veteran homelessness by the end of 2016.** Yes

This question will not be scored.

**3B-3.4a. If "Yes", what are the strategies being used to maximize your current resources to meet this goal? If "No" what resources or technical assistance would help you reach the goal of ending Veteran homelessness by the end of 2016? (limit 1000 characters)**

Overall, the CoC focuses on collaboration to maximize current resources to end veteran homelessness. This plays out in a number of ways. The CoC formed the Homeless Veterans Working Group in 2016 to review a by-name list of homeless veterans monthly. The CoC also coordinates a by-name list of people

who are chronically homeless (veterans and non-veterans) and both the VA and SSVF grantees regularly participate in this additional monthly meeting. The CoC also collaborates with neighboring CoCs in Durham and Wake counties to coordinate and set goals for ending veteran homelessness regionally. The CoC has found a lack of community knowledge about veteran benefits, so agencies devote resources to publicizing VA eligibility info, including holding community clinics about VA benefits and publicizing information directed to particular populations, like Vietnam veterans.