

Project 60

FACT SHEET

- VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VA GLAHS) in collaboration with Federal, County and local government and non-profit agencies implemented “Project 60”, an initiative to move 60 of the most vulnerable, chronically homeless Veterans off the streets and into permanent supportive housing using a Housing First approach.
- Goals of Project 60 are to engage homeless Veterans and get them off the streets into permanent housing; provide resources and services to stabilize and improve health; and facilitate and promote continued independent living in the community.
- Target population includes high-risk homeless individuals, many with chronic psychiatric, substance abuse, and medical issues. Target areas include Venice, Santa Monica, Hollywood and Van Nuys.
- Project 60 is a Veteran-centered, holistic approach to care with goals of meeting the client where they are. This approach allows for an ongoing relationship with the Veteran beginning with initial outreach on the streets and continues no matter how ready they are to receive mental health and substance abuse services -- or despite any treatment failures and setbacks.
- Project 60 uses Integrated Healthcare Supportive Service Teams (IHSSTs) which are interagency (VA, federal/county/local government, community nonprofits) and interdisciplinary (MD’s, social workers, nurses, outreach, benefits counselors). IHSSTs identify high-risk Veterans, places them into safe housing (HUD-VASH) and case manage.
- Private homeless provider partners include OPCC (Santa Monica), Step Up on Second (Hollywood), St. Joseph Center (Venice), and San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center (Van Nuys).
- Public partners include Veterans Benefit Administration (VBA), Congressman Henry Waxman, Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, Housing Authority of the County of LA, Housing Authority of the City of LA, Housing Authority of the City of Santa Monica, and Social Security Administration.
- Initial Results: Eleven high-risk Veterans are being case managed in their own apartments (six utilizing HUD-VASH vouchers). Three Veterans are in transitional housing and waiting for placement into permanent housing. Fourteen Veterans are in the process of obtaining HUD-VASH Section 8 vouchers.