



Montana Board of Pardons and Parole

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Greg Gianforte, Governor

Steven K. Hurd, Parole Board Chair

BUSINESS MEETING NOTICE

The Montana Board of Pardons and Parole will be conducting a business meeting, Deer Lodge, Montana, on Monday, MARCH 20, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

The agenda will be as follows:

1:00 pm Volunteers of America (see attached)

2:00 pm Placement investigations; Kim Lahiff, Bureau Chief

Public Comment (if any) to follow last presentation.

Please contact the Montana Board of Pardons and Parole for direction on accessing this meeting on or before 3:00 p.m., Friday, March 17, 2023.

You can contact the Board by email at mt.bopp@mt.gov or call 406-846-1404.

Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program (HVRP): Providing employment services for homeless Veterans to help them obtain gainful, long-term, and meaningful employment. The program networks with other service providers to ensure that a continuum of care is being met and any gaps in services are filled.

What this looks like for a Veteran that is enrolled in HVRP: Once the Veteran is released, HVRP will work with them to address identified barriers that may affect the Veterans' ability to find and maintain meaningful employment. HVRP will also develop a monthly updated plan to overcome existing obstacles that might occur while the Veteran is looking for employment. Examples of some of the identifiable barriers that HVRP can pay for and help with are a lack of a resume, no ID, no Social Security card, interview skills, interview clothes, work tools, cell phones, pre-paid phone cards, transportation (bikes), training, post-employment follow-ups, VA Healthcare, VA Benefits, and SNAP Benefits. HVRP will also network and collaborate with other Veteran service providers in the community on behalf of the Veteran to ensure that continuum of care is being met, and there are no gaps in the Veterans' service. Once the Veteran finds stable employment, Veteran will need to provide a paystub every quarter for the following year. After the year of employment is done, the Veteran will be released from HVRP.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF): This program is designed to assist Veterans experiencing a housing crisis with housing stability. This is the first step in reinsertion to society and to employment. Eligible Veterans receive case management community resources and short-term financial assistance to secure or maintain permanent housing.

What this looks like for a Veteran that is enrolled in SSVF: Once the Veteran is released, SSVF will place them into Emergency Housing while both the case manager and Veteran look for housing opportunities. With the help of SSVF, they will fill out rental applications, and SSVF will pay the fees for these applications. Once the Veteran has found stable housing Veteran will sign a lease agreement, and then SSVF will pay for deposits, first and last month's rent, and up to 9 months of rental assistance. Once the Veteran moves in, SSVF will get them a move-in kit. The move-in kit is made up of a new bed, kitchen items, bathroom items, cleaning supplies, and anything needed for a starter home. The Veteran will go through a recertification every three months to see if anything has changed in their situation, such as income or family size. Once the Veteran has become stable and can pay for the housing or get signed up for other housing such as HUD/V ASH or Section 8, the Veteran will be released from the program.

SSVF Shallow Subsidy: This program is designed to provide rental assistance to Veteran households with incomes under 50% AMI. It can be a part of a progressive engagement approach, where Veterans receive some level of traditional RRH or HP rental assistance prior to beginning this service because they are rent-burdened and require longer-term assistance to maintain permanent housing. Under the SSVF Shallow Subsidy service, SSVF grantees make a 2-year commitment to the landlord and the household - unless the household terminates their housing or receives a permanent rental subsidy. SSVF grantees will generally also provide light case management services, which may be increased if a crisis or unanticipated need arises, to assist Veteran households in maintaining their housing stability.

What this looks like for a Veteran that is enrolled in SSVF Shallow Subsidy: Once the Veteran has used up all resources in the SSVF program such as their nine months of rental assistance and they have income but not enough to completely pay the rent this program can come in and pay the position of rent the Veteran is not able to pay. If a Veteran has housing established but is behind on rent due to it being decreased or income loss, this program can help with that shortfall as well.

SSVF Landlord Liaison: This program is designed to assist in overcoming barriers that prevent Veterans from obtaining and maintaining stable housing by developing relationships with landlords within the community, providing education, and facilitating communication between Veterans and landlords. Coordinate landlord outreach efforts with local partners to include apartment associations, real estate agencies, and other community partners, emphasizing recruiting additional property owners willing to lease their properties to SSVF clients. Assist landlords in conflict resolution, and problem-solving in dilemmas that may arise with housed Veterans enrolled in the program.

What this looks like for a Veteran that needs SSVF Landlord Liaison: Once the Veteran is released, the Landlord Liaison will work with the Veterans SSVF case manager and landlord to find stable housing. Once stable housing is found, the Landlord Liaison will contact landlord and advocate for the Veteran. If the Veteran is having issues and might be evicted the Landlord Liaison will look for resolutions to the problem with the landlord to keep the Veteran in the housing.

SSVF Grant and Per Diem (GPD): This program is designed to assist in promoting the development and provision of supportive housing and supportive services, with the goal of helping homeless Veterans achieve residential stability, increase their skill levels and/or income, and obtain greater self-determination. The goal is to assist Veterans in their transition to independent living once they exit the SSVF program.

What this looks like for a Veteran who needs SSVF Grant and Per Diem: Once the Veteran has gone through the SSVF or Shallow Subsidy program, they will be referred to GPD to help keep their stable housing. This will be done by visiting the Veteran in their home and taking care of any barriers to maintaining stable housing.

SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR): This program is designed to increase SSI/SSDI for eligible adults and children who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a severe mental illness, medical impairment, and a co-occurring substance use disorder.

What this looks like for a Veteran that is enrolled in SOAR: Once the Veteran is released, SOAR will meet with the Veteran to fill out all documents they need for SSI/SSDI. They would file the records for the Veteran and advocate on behalf of the Veteran to help them get an appointment and approval. If Veteran needs to go to court, SOAR can support and speak for them in these legal matters. SOAR will work with the Veteran to decide on their case. If the Veteran is denied coverage, SOAR will write letters and go through the hearing process with the Veteran. Once a decision has been reached for the Veteran, they will stay enrolled with SOAR until they no longer need services.

Supportive Services for Veteran Families Healthcare Navigator (SSVFHCN): This program is designed to help Veterans with various healthcare issues navigate the healthcare system and adhere to recommended health care plans. SSVFHCN is trained in assisting Veterans in gaining access to healthcare through the VA, Medicaid, Medicare, or private doctors. They support already helping health care plans by identifying barriers the Veteran might have in their healthcare.

What this looks like for a Veteran that is enrolled in SSVFHCN: Once the Veteran is released, SSVFHCN will meet with the Veteran to understand their health care situation and barriers. SSVFHCN will fill out Medicaid, Medicare, and VA Health Benefits with the Veteran. They will help gain access to appointments for the Veteran and help with any barriers to their healthcare that come up in their enrollment process. Veterans will be given a plan every thirty days to overcome their healthcare barriers. Some of the obstacles that the SSVFHCN can help with are transportation to healthcare appointments, encouraging communication with healthcare providers, ensuring coordination of care, helping with setting up meetings and advocating these appointments for the Veteran. The SSVFHCN can also help the Veteran sign up for service-connected disabilities or upgrade the percentage the Veteran is currently receiving from the VA. Once the Veteran has received all services needed for their healthcare and all barriers are taken care of, they will be removed from the program.