



The National Center on Homelessness among Veterans promotes knowledge and solutions to address and prevent homelessness among Veterans. The Center conducts research, assesses program effectiveness, disseminates evidence-based practices, and serves as a resource hub for all research and training activities related to Veteran homelessness.

# TRANSGENDER VETERANS AND HOMELESSNESS

## WHAT DO WE KNOW?

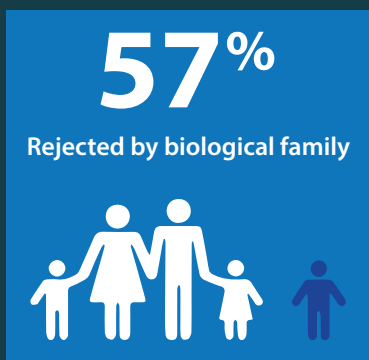
**TRANSGENDER VETERANS FACE A HIGHER RISK OF HOMELESSNESS THAN NON-TRANSGENDER VETERANS.**

An estimated one out of three transgender individuals have experienced homelessness at some point in their lives.<sup>1</sup>



Homelessness among Veterans receiving care from the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is three times higher for transgender Veterans than for non-transgender Veterans.<sup>2</sup>

**ADVERSE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS INCREASE RISK OF HOMELESSNESS.**



Transgender individuals, including Veterans, face high rates of stigma, family rejection, violence, and unemployment.<sup>3</sup>

## WHAT IS VA DOING?

**VHA MONITORS HOUSING INSTABILITY AMONG VETERANS AND OFFERS SUPPORTIVE PROGRAMS TO THOSE IN NEED.**

Among Veterans experiencing homelessness, the rate of transgender Veterans using VHA programs is 37% greater than for non-transgender Veterans.

VHA delivers health care and provides housing services that are consistent with Veterans' self-identified gender.	More than <b>9,000</b> transgender Veterans have received services from VHA and the number is increasing.	Every VHA facility has a local lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) Veteran Care Coordinator.	More than <b>75</b> interdisciplinary teams of providers have participated in intensive case-based teleconferencing training, and <b>517</b> providers received e-consultation services to meet the unique health care needs of transgender Veterans. In 2019, <b>58</b> VA medical centers were designated as LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leaders and <b>26</b> as Top Performers on the 2019 Human Rights Campaign's Healthcare Equality Index (HEI).
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**VHA MEETS TRANSGENDER VETERANS' NEED FOR HEALTH CARE, HOMELESS PROGRAMS.**

Transgender Veterans are more likely than their non-transgender peers to use specific VHA Homeless Programs, including Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Services (HUD-VASH).<sup>4</sup>

**VHA PROVIDES EVIDENCE-BASED, COMPASSIONATE, AND RESPECTFUL SERVICES TO ALL VETERANS.**

## LEARN MORE

Access the following resources to learn how VHA ensures all services are delivered to transgender Veterans experiencing homelessness in a welcoming, respectful environment.



**VA Homeless Programs**  
[www.va.gov/homeless](http://www.va.gov/homeless)



**VA LGBT Health Program**  
[www.patientcare.va.gov/LGBT](http://www.patientcare.va.gov/LGBT)



**VHA Patient Care Services LGBT Training**  
[www.patientcare.va.gov/LGBT/LGBT\\_Veteran\\_Training.asp](http://www.patientcare.va.gov/LGBT/LGBT_Veteran_Training.asp)



**VHA Directive 1341, Providing Health Care for Transgender and Intersex Veterans**  
[www.albuquerque.va.gov/docs/ProvidingHealthCareforTransgenderandIntersexVeterans.pdf](http://www.albuquerque.va.gov/docs/ProvidingHealthCareforTransgenderandIntersexVeterans.pdf)

1. Mottet, Justin Tanis, Jack Harrison, Jody L. Herman, and Mara Keisling. Injustice at Every Turn: A Report of the National Transgender Discrimination Survey. Washington: National Center for Transgender Equality and National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 2011.  
 2. Carter, S. P., Montgomery, A. E., Henderson, E. R., Ketterer, B., Dichter, M., Gordon, A. J., ... & Blosnich, J. R. (2019). Housing Instability Characteristics Among Transgender Veterans Cared for in the Veterans Health Administration, 2013–2016. *American journal of public health, 109*(10), 1413–1418.  
 3. James, S. E., Herman, J. L., Rankin, S., Keisling, M., Mottet, L., & Anafi, M. (2016). The Report of the 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey. Washington, DC: National Center for Transgender Equality.  
 4. Montgomery, A. E., Shipherd, J. C., Kauth, M. R., Harris, K. W., & Blosnich, J. R. (In press). Use of Veterans Health Administration Homeless Programs among transgender and non-transgender Veterans experiencing self-reported housing instability. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*.