

# Military Women's Coalition Policy Committee on Homelessness Meeting AGENDA

26 Jun 2020



## 7.b.i.6. Chair of the Policy Committee on Homelessness **SANDRA G. ROBINSON**

The Chair of the Policy Committee on Homelessness is responsible for developing annual policy goals and recommendations relative to improving the situation of homeless women veterans. The Homelessness Policy Committee chair works with policy committee members to research and develop policy recommendations to float to the broader coalition via the Steering Committee. The Committee writes policy recommendation letters and reports for adoption by the broader Coalition.

TIME	MINS	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	GOALS
09:00AM	10'	<b>Introduction</b>	<p>Welcome participants to the Policy Committee on Homelessness. Please take a moment to do a quick equipment check.</p> <p>Please introduce yourself by answering the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Name</li> <li>2. Veteran or civilian</li> <li>3. Organization</li> <li>4. How can you help this committee (what do you bring?)</li> <li>5. What do you need from this committee?</li> <li>6. What else do you want us to know about you?</li> </ol>	To get to know each other and break the ice.
09:10AM	10'	<b>National Shared Goals on Homelessness</b>	<p><b>Let's quickly review the national goals to establish a baseline.</b></p> <p><b>"Home, Together":</b> The federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness</p> <p>The Plan: Fiscal Years 2018-2022</p> <p><b>"Home, Together"</b> has one fundamental goal, a goal shared across federal, state, and local partners: to end homelessness in America.</p> <p>The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness</p> <p><b>Population-Specific Goals</b></p> <p><b>Goal 1: To end homelessness among Veterans</b></p> <p><b>Goal 2: To end chronic homelessness among people with disabilities</b></p> <p><b>Goal 3: To end homelessness among families with children</b></p> <p><b>Goal 4: To end homelessness among unaccompanied youth</b></p> <p><b>Goal 5: To end homelessness among all other individuals</b></p> <p><b>Home, Together's Eight Objectives</b></p> <p><b><u>1. Ensure Homelessness is a Rare Experience</u></b></p> <p><b>Objective 1.1:</b> Collaboratively Build Lasting Systems that End Homelessness <b>Objective 1.2:</b> Increase Capacity and Strengthen Practices to Prevent Housing Crises and Homelessness</p> <p><b><u>2. Ensure Homelessness is a Brief Experience</u></b></p> <p><b>Objective 2.1:</b> Identify and Engage All People Experiencing Homelessness as Quickly as Possible</p> <p><b><u>3. Ensure Homelessness is a One-Time Experience</u></b></p>	To review the national goals on homelessness from various agencies.

**Objective 3.1: Prevent Returns to Homelessness through Connections to Adequate Services and Opportunities**

**4. Sustain an End to Homelessness**

**Objective 4.1: Sustain Practices and Systems at a Scale Necessary to Respond to Future Needs**

09:20AM	10'	<b>What are the Facts and Figures?</b>	<p>"It is difficult to find current statistics about the number of homeless women veterans, however the Department of Veterans Affairs (2017b) stated that women veterans are two to four times more likely than their male counterparts to encounter homelessness sometime in their lives after leaving the military and that 10.3% currently live in poverty, with 22.2% earning less than \$20 K per year. Boothe (2017) indicated that 8.6% of all homeless veterans without shelter are female. Reports of numbers of female homeless veterans differ according to source and range from 3300 (US Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2016) to 14,000 (Montgomery &amp; Byrne, 2014) to 55,000 (Boothe, 2017). Boothe (2017) contends there is a substantial number of women who cannot afford housing, meaning they are without homes, but are couch-surfing or relying on families for shelter. These women are not counted in the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Veterans Administration (VA) numbers." <b>2019</b></p> <p>Currently on the VA Blog "In its 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) estimated that just over 40,000 veterans were homeless on a single night in January of that year. Of those, about 9 percent were women, out of a population of more than 2 million female Veterans. From 2016 to 2017, the number of homeless female Vets increased by 7 percent, compared with 1 percent for their male counterparts." <b>2020</b></p>	To review the current facts and figures.
09:30AM	10'	<b>Risk Factors</b>	<p>Women veterans are the fastest growing cohort of the veteran population, and also the fastest growing cohort of the homeless population.</p> <p><b>Risk Factors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Identity and Reintegration</li> <li>• Mental Health Issues</li> <li>• Military Sexual Trauma</li> <li>• Domestic Violence</li> <li>• Veteran Services</li> <li>• Poverty and Unemployment</li> </ul>	Review the risk factors.
09:40AM	15'	<b>Issues of Concern</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are homeless women Veterans under-counted and under-served?</li> <li>• What are the resources in each state that can support and improve their livelihood?</li> <li>• How can we as a coalition share information across the states to eradicate disconnect?</li> <li>• How can we promote responsibility, readiness and resilience with providers who care for our women Veterans?</li> <li>• What are some concerns you have?</li> <li>• What suggestions do you have regarding the direction we should take?</li> <li>• What can move us forward?</li> <li>• What can hold us back?</li> </ul>	To identify problems with a service/process
09:55AM	10'	<b>Probable Annual Policy Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Objective 1:</b> Create and preserve dedicated affordable housing specifically for women Veterans</li> <li>• <b>Objective 2:</b> Reduce housing access barriers that limit women with children</li> <li>• <b>Objective 3:</b> Sustain practices that protect disabled women Veterans from being displaced</li> <li>• <b>Objective 4:</b> Improve national support services for economically disadvantaged and disabled women Veterans</li> <li>• <b>Objective 5:</b> Develop policies that address the disparity in housing support services specifically for women Veterans.</li> </ul>	To develop annual policy goals.

- **Objective 6:** Raise public awareness about homeless women Veterans, its prevalence in the United States, its impact on their lives and potential solutions.

**The Broad Goals include:**

- Women Veterans Affordable Housing;
- Comprehensive Support Services specifically for Women Veterans;
- Prevention and
- Income Maximization.

10:05AM	5'	<b>Who/What/When</b>	With Who/What/When, clear actions defined and who have committed to.	To have a clear picture and consensus on tasks and next steps of executing them.
10:10AM	5'	<b>One breath feedback and Closing</b>	<p>Thank you for the participation. Please share a one-breath feedback.</p> <p>Meetings will take place on the 4th Friday every-other month. Next meeting will be August 28, 2020 at 12noon EST.</p>	Focus everybody's attention for a closing / feedback round
10:15AM				

TOTAL LENGTH: 01:15