Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Veteran & Military Family Services

Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness

Street Outreach Teams

- These teams get referrals, often complex cases, from community or county departments, along with outreach & engagement teams searching riverbeds, shelters and encampments
- They also sometime receive referrals from the VA

Post-Referral

- The team connects with the veteran
- To qualify for PATH service linkage, the veteran must have a history of
 - chronic homelessness
 - mental health challenges
- Discharge status is no barrier to services such as housing linkage, as well as mental health and substance abuse disorder assistance

Housing

The veteran is enrolled into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

- This is run by LAHSA [Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority]
- Starts the matching process for housing for which they might qualify, after which PATH then coordinates meeting with project-based housing management
- PATH helps the veteran compile the necessary documentation
- The team also helps the veteran fill out the Severe Mental Illness (SMI) form which has to be approved by VA
 - If the veteran doesn't qualify for VA SMI assistance, PATH helps them qualify for MediCal
 - Many of these housing units set aside for this purpose are allotted based on the veteran meeting certain mental health assessment requirements

Post-Linkage

At this time, the PATH team can also link the veteran to long term mental health programs which can include VMFS, VA, or onsite mental health support contracted by that particular housing project



