

AN ANALYSIS OF HUD-VASH PROGRESS THROUGH JUNE 2009

WHILE LEASING IS SLOWLY TRENDING UP, FAR TOO FEW VOUCHERS ARE ENDING HOMELESSNESS

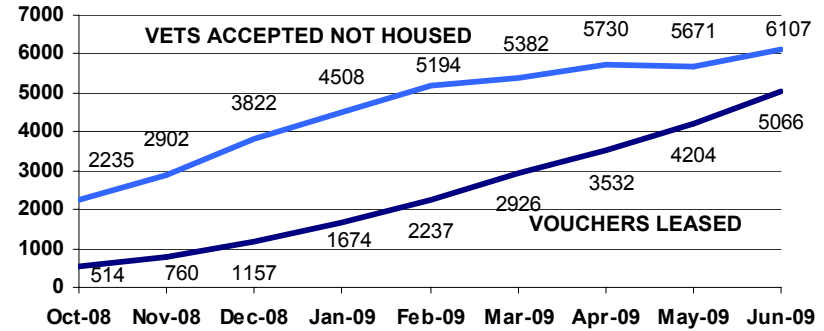
VA SHOULD RADICALLY INCREASE ITS EFFORTS TO MOVE CLIENTS FROM ACCEPTANCE TO LEASE-UP

- AS THE GRAPH TO THE RIGHT INDICATES, VA IS LEASING MORE VOUCHERS, BUT THE GAP BETWEEN VETS ACCEPTED AND VETS LEASED CONTINUES TO GROW.
- AS THE CHART BELOW ILLUSTRATES, THE GAP BETWEEN THOSE ACCEPTED AND THOSE LEASED HAS INCREASED EVERY MONTH EXCEPT FOR MAY 2009.
- To employ all vouchers by September 2009, VA would need to more than double the most recent (June) monthly leasing rate from 862 to 1645.
- At current rates, VA/HUD will not use any FY 2009 Vouchers in FY 2009.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- VA SHOULD INVEST IN HOUSING SEARCH TRAINING FOR STAFF.
- VA SHOULD PROVIDE INCREASED FLEXIBLE FUNDING FOR DEPOSITS/MOVE-IN COSTS/ETC.

THE GAP BETWEEN CLIENTS ACCEPTED AND LEASED RELATIVE TO CLIENTS LEASED BY MONTH



VA SHOULD BROADEN THE PIPELINE TO FULLY UTILIZE HUD-VASH

HUD-VASH PROGRAM PROGRESS										
	Sep-08	Oct-08	Nov-08	Dec-08	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09	May-09	Jun-09
Interviews	N/A	1796	1162	1822	1920	1940	1610	1361	1122	1260
Cumulative Total	2646	4442	5604	7426	9346	11286	12896	14257	15379	16639
Accepted to Case Management	N/A	1254	913	1317	1203	1249	877	954	613	1298
Cumulative Total	1495	2749	3662	4979	6182	7431	8308	9262	9875	11173
Under Lease	N/A	193	246	397	517	563	689	606	672	862
Cumulative Total	321	514	760	1157	1674	2237	2926	3532	4204	5066
Vouchers Funded/Not Leased	9679	19486	19240	18843	18326	17763	17074	16468	15796	14934
Vets Accepted Not Leased	1174	2235	2902	3822	4508	5194	5382	5730	5671	6107
Growth of Vets Accepted Not Leased	N/A	1061	667	920	686	686	188	348	-59	436

- In 2009 15,379 Interviews were necessary to generate 9,875 appropriate clients (May 2009).
- This means that VA should average 1282 new clients per month to fully utilize HUD-VASH vouchers each year.
- This ratio is a bare minimum because:
 - Client identification should grow increasingly difficult as the initial supply of easy-to-find clients receive assistance.
 - Alliance investigation has identified that some vouchers have not been tightly targeted to chronically homeless veterans.
- The chart on left indicates that VA has let its pipeline grow too small in the last two months and the trend has been down.
- VA explains the above decline as an intentional decision to slow entries into the system due to uncertainty about resources.
- HUD will not provide funding for HUD-VASH to PHAs for FY 2009 until September 2009.
- VA has thus been unwilling to create waiting lists and has slowed down the growth of its interview pool.
- Even if growth resumes after HUD funding is approved, VA will need to expand its outreach to generate a pipeline of sufficient size

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- HUD SHOULD PROVIDE FUNDING TO PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITIES PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER OF THE FISCAL YEAR.
- VA SHOULD INCREASE ITS OUTREACH TO ENSURE A SUFFICIENT PIPELINE TO ADEQUATELY TARGET VOUCHERS.