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Gaps and Vantages in Mental Health and Homeless Veterans

Bruce A. Hidden Jr

M.S. in [Healthcare Management]

[2023]

Granite State College

SITUATION

- In the United States, there are almost 107,000 homeless veterans on any given day
- New Hampshire has a homeless veteran percentage comprised of a total of 8% in the entire state
- Military occupation's direct correlation to mental illness such as PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder)
- Hillsborough County's veterans are primarily in the age range of 65-74
- Hillsborough County consists of the two largest cities in the state, Nashua, and Manchester
- In 2021, the pandemic caused an interruption in the data collections regarding the homeless population

BACKGROUND

- The pandemic of 2019/2020 has caused a data interruption
- 300 organizations across the United States
- Veterans with lingering PTSD symptoms are at a higher risk of becoming chronically homeless
- Veterans Count NH – 18,660 veterans / families served
- VA's Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program
- The 2020's federal budget for assisting veterans annually was \$160,864.000

METHODS / SWOT

INTERNAL FACTORS	
STRENGTHS +	WEAKNESSES –
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VHA- Homeless Budget 2021 \$2 Billion granted. • HCHV – Healthcare in 2021 reaching 76% of all veterans. • VJO – Preventing criminalization of mental illness and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing shortages in New Hampshire • Chronic homelessness • Livable income hard to sustain on veterans’ incomes.
EXTERNAL FACTORS	
OPPORTUNITIES +	THREATS –
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300 organizations across the United States available for homeless veterans • Engaging local healthcare providers, faith communities, civic and veteran groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurate numbers and community-by-community homeless veterans are not known to make appropriate assessments by population. • Services not available to homeless veterans dishonorably

ASSESSMENT / RECOMMENDATIONS

- Suicide death rates in New Hampshire are approximately 35% higher than the national rate.
- Department of Housing and Urban Development received 2.6 billion dollars.
- Sustain Funding – Keep the assistances available.
- Mental Health Shortages – Create incentives to increase workforce.
- Utilize available commercial property in NH
- More veteran advocacy.

Questions?

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