

CIVC HOUSE TO HOME PROJECT

by Community Action Partnership of Central Illinois

Region 5 • Lincoln, Illinois
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Housing

INITIATIVE OVERVIEW

Veterans living in Central Illinois need permanent, supportive housing situations to ensure safety and stability. Existing services in Illinois are not located nearby, creating significant gaps in service availability geographically. Veterans, who have built a broad coalition across the CAPCIL service area, drive this project. Planning includes the construction of housing and supportive services that will meet the unique needs of returning veterans experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other challenges that hinder community re-entry and integration.

LOCAL NEED ADDRESSED

Based on feedback collected by Community Action Partnership of Central Illinois (CAPCIL), the most urgent and impactful need identified is the need for permanent (transitional and long-term) housing for men, women, family units, and veterans with service animals and pets. The need for temporary housing for men, women, family units, and vets with service animals and pets is also of high priority. Finally, access to quality medical, mental, and behavioral healthcare services were also identified as top needs by the local veteran community.

ROLE OF CSBG FUNDS

Two key CAPCIL staff members are active in the coordination of the project. This includes initial project assessment and planning but also overall project coordination, case management, family coaching, financial literacy, and career readiness programming.



TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT

The Central Illinois Veterans Commission (CIVC) House to Home Project will provide safe, supportive environments for veterans to engage or reengage with the community and potentially become homeowners in the future. Access to VA loans for home purchase is a key goal of the project. The provision of nearby services and the promise of home ownership stabilizes the family, adds value to the community, and creates an opportunity for newfound belonging.

EVIDENCE-BASED OUTCOMES

A smart phone application has been developed by CAPCIL that connects Community Action customers with agency life coaches. The app, "Grow Me," allows for ongoing check-ins with customers, real-time data collection and accountability measures that show

progress towards life goals. Additionally, CAPCIL utilizes a SharePoint database which draws on Grow Me reports, VA loan approvals, financial literacy certificates, self sufficiency matrices scores, and career readiness certificates.

EQUITY LENS

The CIVC House to Home Project advances equity by offering services that are not typically accessible in Central Illinois. Returning veterans will have the opportunity to engage in the community more deeply through potential home ownership and employment opportunities.

CUSTOMER VOICE

CIVC House to Home is a collaborative project created by veterans whose struggles to access services proved to be an obstacle. The voices of veterans are embedded at the core of the vision, development, and implementation of the CIVC House to Home Project.

Contact

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