

Ending Veteran Homelessness in Minnesota

From a shared commitment to a sustainable system

PROCESS • PARTNERSHIPS • PROGRESS



Three perspectives. One statewide commitment.



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Separate agencies, collective solutions



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

- Community Resource & Referral Center
- HUD-VASH
- Clinical support
- Food pantry



MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

- Homeless Veteran Registry
- Legislative advocacy
- Statewide coordination

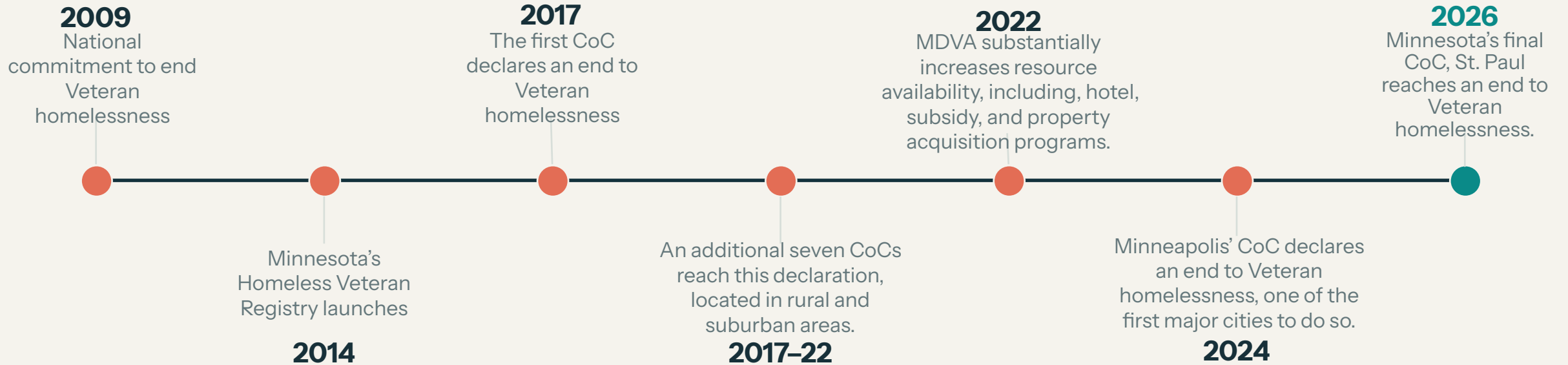


MINNESOTA ASSISTANCE COUNCIL FOR VETERANS

- Comprehensive, adaptable supportive services
- Permanent housing portfolio
- Leveraging grants and philanthropic campaigns

Each partner brings a distinct strength. Together, they own the outcome.

A statewide commitment became a measurable system



All 10 Minnesota CoC's have declared an end to Veteran homelessness as defined by federal criteria and benchmarks.

Minnesota's Homeless Veteran Registry: The Impetus of Success



CASE CONFERRING

Every Veteran.

Every two weeks.

Leverage, share, and coordinate resources.

Address and remove barriers.

LIVING DATABASE

Updated as Veterans are being discussed.

Tracks eligibility, barriers, and needs.

Data has been a driver of innovative change in Minnesota.

Real-time data makes the solutions possible

153

Veterans in latest snapshot

55%

decrease since Feb. 2023

4,757

all-time housing outcomes

344

FEB. 2023

153

2026 SNAPSHOT

53%

Experience high barriers to housing.

The HVR makes barriers visible and solvable.

55%

Housed in 90 days or less.

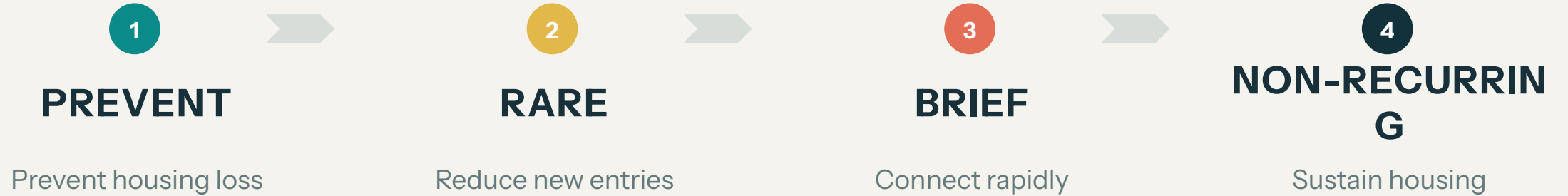
Flexible assistance can unlock a lease.

<5 days

To identify a viable path to housing.

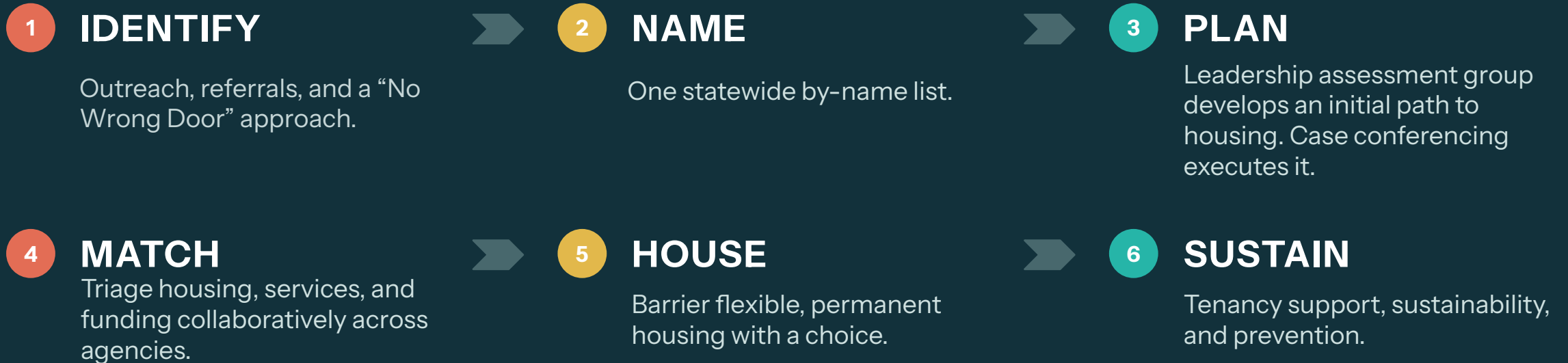
Involving leadership in each pathway.

Define the destination before designing the response



The test: Can the community quickly resolve each new housing crisis and sustain the system over time?

The operating loop turns a list into a response system



Every meeting asks: What will house this Veteran? What does the system need to change?

Housing First becomes real through a portfolio—not one program

VTEMP

Low-barrier temporary lodging when no other options exist.

IMMEDIATE SAFETY

HUD-VASH

Voucher plus intensive VA case management for eligible Veterans.

FEDERAL PATH

MNVEST

State rental assistance and services for those without HUD-VASH access.

ELIGIBILITY GAP

SSVF & Shallow Subsidy

Federal funding offering short and long-term resources for sustainability.

DURABILITY

Operation: OVER

Outreach, diversion funds, and tenancy supports.

COMPLEX BARRIER

VSHO

Low-barrier units with residential supports for the highest barrier Veterans.

PERMANENT
SUPPLY

Sustaining progress with limited funding

Resiliency

Provide services and diversify funding that can quickly adapt to the changing needs of Veterans.

FLEXIBILITY

Feedback Loops

Regularly engage direct service staff to understand the success and gaps in each program.

STAFF
ENGAGEMENT

Listen to the Data

Using a robust data system to identify gaps and quickly develop solutions.

PROGRAM
DEVELOPMENT

Advocacy

Leveraging political will to drive and sustain results.

SUSTAINABILITY

Partnerships

Engage non-Veteran service providers to expand impact and reach.

ADAPTABILITY

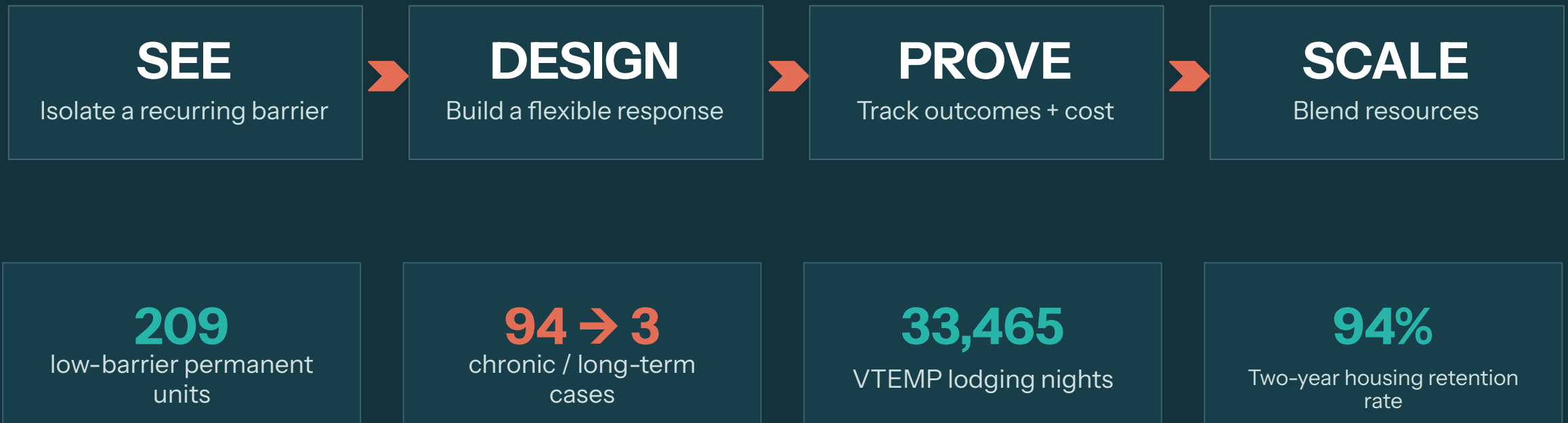
Govern Together

Aligned goals, clear roles, joint decisions, and frontline feedback.

COLLABORATION

Flexible resources close the gaps standard programs cannot

A REPEATING PATTERN



The finish line is housing stability, not lease signing



**STABLE
HOME**

- 1 TENANCY** Peer support, proactive visits, and lease coaching
- 2 INCOME** SOAR benefits, employment, financial counseling, and voluntary representative payee services
- 3 HEALTH** Primary care, mental health, and healthcare navigation
- 4 LEGAL** Legal services, justice outreach, and pre-release planning
- 5 BELONGING** Basic needs, community connection, and choice

PREVENTION PRINCIPLE — Ask what will keep the household housed six months from now—not only what resolves today’s crisis.

Replicate the functions; adapt the form

FUNCTION	LOCAL DESIGN QUESTION
Named coordinating lead	Who has authority to convene, maintain data and resolve conflict?
Reliable by-name list	What is the lightest data practice you can sustain weekly?
Recurring case conferencing	What cadence matches your geography and inflow?
Full intervention portfolio	Which eligibility, supply or service gap blocks housing today?
Flexible resources	What can be used quickly for one-off barriers?
Political + community coalition	Who can make the case beyond the homeless-response sector?



The transferable lesson

Build a system that learns.

Not a collection of programs.

Five commitments to carry home

- 1 One shared definition

- 2 One reliable list

- 3 One recurring decision table

- 4 A portfolio that closes gaps

- 5 A coalition that sustains investment

Which missing function is keeping your community from making homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring?