
REFERRALS

Any clinician may refer a veteran to the program by calling 203-932-5711 x7753 Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

A screening form will be completed during this call and the Next Steps staff member will discuss the program and Veteran's needs with the clinician. If Next Steps seems like an appropriate fit, a screening will be scheduled with the Veteran.

Program acceptance depends upon the support of a Veteran's outpatient mental health provider, meeting eligibility requirements, and bed availability in Next Steps.

Note: a screening appointment does not guarantee admission to the program. Please have a "back up plan" for the Veteran if he/she is not accepted.

Our Team

Howard Steinberg, Ph.D.
Program Manager

Bachar Arnaout, M.D.
Attending Psychiatrist

Christine Franco, Ph.D.
Clinical Psychologist

Valerie Brennan, MSW
Clinical Social Worker

Laura Giesman, APRN
Nurse Practitioner

Randy Bruno, RN
Arlene Dayle, RN
Dionne Tomlinson-McNeil, RN
Andrea Young, RN,
Nursing Staff

Gerri Hunter
Nursing Assistant

Carl Bordeaux, Mike Doyle,
David Gauntlett,
& Abdulqawi Guess
Peer Support Specialists

Merrill Shnayer
Administrative Assistant



Revised January 2015

Next Steps

A Psychosocial
Residential Rehabilitation
Treatment Program



VA Connecticut HealthCare System

West Haven Campus
Building 1-7E
950 Campbell Avenue
West Haven, CT 06516

•
Errera Community Care Center
114-52 Boston Post Road 2nd FL.
West Haven, CT 06516

•
Newington Campus
555 Willard Ave
Newington, CT 06111

ABOUT NEXT STEPS

Next Steps is a 26-bed, intensive outpatient residential program for homeless veterans that embraces the recovery model.

Next Steps complements existing outpatient VA services by providing afternoon, evening, and weekend programming, case management services, and care coordination within a safe and structured environment. The program aims to help Veterans work towards their self-identified goals and transition to successful community living. While at Next Steps, Veterans are required to attend one of the VA Day Programs.

Next Steps is located on the 7th floor in Building 1 on the VA Connecticut Healthcare System's West Haven Campus.

GOALS OF NEXT STEPS



Our program aims to assist Veterans in taking the “Next Steps” in their Recovery by assisting with:

- **Housing goals**—including educating Veterans about housing options, and assisting veterans with initial referrals to transitional housing and/or area shelters.
- **Connections to treatment providers**—such as outpatient mental health providers, substance abuse programs, community programs, and natural supports.

VETERANS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR NEXT STEPS IF THEY:

- are **eligible** for VA services
 - are **homeless** or at risk for homelessness
 - are **medically stable** and able to fully participate in outpatient programming
 - are **psychologically stable** and able to fully participate in outpatient programming
 - want to become engaged in any **outpatient treatment** modalities
-