

Coordinated Assessment and Housing Placement (CAHP) DOs and DONTs

Washington, DC

Updated June 2014

Explaining the VI-SPDAT and CAHP to a Client

- **Do** explain CAHP as a collaboration of service providers working to streamline services to help connect homeless individuals to available resources and appropriate housing.
- **Do** explain the VI-SPDAT as an assessment that enables our network of service providers to understand their needs, program eligibility, and assist in matching them to the best resources available.
- **Do** ask a client to sign the VI-SPDAT consent form prior to conducting the survey.
- **Do** explain to a client the type of housing program for which they are most appropriate. Without getting into details about a client's score, explain Rapid Rehousing or Permanent Supportive Housing and how each type of housing program caters to a client's needs.
- **Don't** mention that people will receive a score after participating in a VI-SPDAT, and don't give them the score. When discussing the outcome of the VI-SPDAT, explain PSH for those who score 10-20, and explain RRH for those who score 5-9. For those who score <5, empower them to utilize community resources to exit homelessness on their own.
- **Don't** guarantee housing to a client or give them a timeframe in which they will be housed.
- **Don't** tell a client that the most vulnerable are being prioritized for housing. Please remember that we are using the VI-SPDAT to **match people to appropriate housing**.