

HMIS 101

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

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Overview

- Define HMIS
 - History
 - Data
 - Standards
- Define Continuum of Care
- HMIS and PATH
 - Why HMIS
 - Benefits
 - Future Plans

What is HMIS?

- Computerized data collection tool specifically designed to capture client-level information over time on:
 - a. The characteristics and service needs of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness
 - b. The services provided to these clients

What is HMIS?

- HMIS implementations can encompass geographic areas ranging from a single county to an entire state.
- Administered locally within the community (Continuum of Care) by one lead agency that is responsible for standards and privacy compliance as well as HUD and other funder required aggregate reporting.

HMIS Software

- HUD approved HMIS software (i.e. software that meets the HUD HMIS technical standards) is provided by several vendors.
- HMIS software that is selected by a Continuum of Care, region, or state is used by all service providers within that community or geographical area. (Service providers do not choose their own HMIS.)

HMIS Software

- HMIS is managed and administered by the lead agency for the CoC or other designated department of the county or state.

HMIS History

- **1980 – early 1990s:** Cities with large homeless populations pioneer the use of computer-based tracking systems
- **2001:** Congress directs HUD to develop an unduplicated count of persons who are homeless; HUD requires all McKinney-Vento funded homeless grantees to implement HMIS

HMIS History

- **2004:** First HMIS Data and Technical Standards published
- **2005 - 2008:** SAMHSA/HUD workgroup discussed aligning data collection, reporting, and performance measurement for PATH outreach and HUD outreach programs

HMIS History

- **2009:** Workgroup's recommendations led to the inclusion of PATH voluntary outcome measures into the 2009 HMIS Data and Technical Standards
- **2009:** Grantees receiving Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP) funds required to use HMIS

HMIS Data and Technical Standards

The set of data collection, privacy, and confidentiality rules that govern HMIS.

Includes:

- List of data elements to be collected and the valid responses
- Description of privacy & security standards for client information collected and stored in HMIS

HMIS Data and Technical Standards

Originally published via Federal Register in 2004 and updated in March 2010 to accommodate the HPRP program data collection reporting requirements and to include data elements needed to report on the voluntary outcome measures for PATH.

HMIS Data – Universal Data Elements

- Name
- Social Security Number
- Date of Birth
- Race *
- Ethnicity
- Gender *
- Veteran Status *
- Disabling Condition
- Prior Residence *
- Zip Code of Last Permanent Residence
- Housing Status *
- Program Entry Date
- Program Exit Date

HMIS Data – Street Outreach Programs

- Date of Contact *
- Date of Engagement *

HMIS Data – Other Program Specific

- Income & Sources
- Non-cash Benefits
- Physical Disability
- Developmental Disability
- Chronic Health Condition
- Financial & Housing Services Provided *
- Mental Health *
- Substance Abuse *
- Domestic Violence
- Destination
- HIV/AIDS

HMIS Data – Optional Outcome/Self-Sufficiency Measures

- Income
- Employment
- Health Care
- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Referral Services Provided

What is a Continuum of Care?

- A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a collaboration among local agencies and service providers to address the problems of housing and homelessness within the community.

What is a Continuum of Care?

- HUD introduced the CoC concept to encourage and support local organizations in designing a **community plan** to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency.
- The CoC plan includes action steps to both end and prevent a return to homelessness.

What is a Continuum of Care?

- The annual CoC plan identifies the **needs** of local homeless populations, the **resources** that are currently available in the community to address those needs, and **additional resources needed** to fill identified gaps.
- There are about 441 CoCs across the country.

Continuum of Care Services



PATH and HMIS

HUD and SAMHSA worked collaboratively on alignment of data collection and performance measures to support the goals of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRRA)

PATH and HMIS

Collaboration resulted in a proposed set of common data definitions, outputs, and outcome measures to :

- a. Ease the reporting burden of individual PATH grantees who are also required to use HMIS for data collection
- b. Further integrate HHS PATH programs into the Continuum of Care process

Why HMIS?

- HMIS collects client-level data that is well aligned with the needs of PATH data collection
- Other systems in use, such as TRAC, are oriented more toward clinical data collection
- HMIS is already used in every state for HUD reporting and in most states by a number of PATH providers
- HMIS promotes collaboration among all homeless service providers within a community

Current PATH HMIS Usage

- 46 % of PATH providers currently use HMIS for PATH data entry and reporting
- 60 % of PATH providers use HMIS for other program data collection (i.e., HUD, VA, HHS or state/local funded programs)
- PATH providers in 41 states currently use HMIS in some capacity
- PATH providers in 39 states currently use HMIS for PATH data entry and reporting

The Importance of Data

- Program Level
 - Annual Performance Reports
 - Program Evaluation & Design
 - Local Funding Requests
- Community Level
 - Integrated Case Management
 - Service Referrals & Access
 - HUD Funding

The Importance of Data

- State Level
 - PATH Funding Request Application
 - State Funding
 - Funding Requests
- National Level
 - Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)
 - Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) & National Outcome Measures (NOMs)
 - Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) Review

The Importance of Data

- Validates the work of PATH providers
- Provides reliable information to HHS and Congress
- Supports funding requests and program expansion
- Shows the impact of PATH programs on linking clients to housing, services, and treatment
- Supports PART reviews, NOMs, and GPRA measures

Benefits for Clients

- Decrease duplicative intakes and assessments
- Streamlined referrals
- Coordinated case management
- Benefit eligibility and acquisition

Benefits for Providers

- Tracking client outcomes
- Coordinating services
- Consistency in data collection and reporting
- Decreased reporting burden and duplication of work
- Streamlined data entry
- Preparing financial and programmatic reports
- Informing program design decisions

Benefits for the Community

- Understanding the extent & scope of homelessness
- Unduplicated client counts
- Identifying service gaps
- Informing systems design and policy decisions
- Development of a forum for addressing community-wide issues

HMIS & PATH – Future Plans

- Regional Meetings
- Online Trainings
- Webcasts
- PATH Grantee Meeting
 - HMIS Workshops
 - Beginner
 - Intermediate
 - Advanced

Resources

<http://pathprogram.samhsa.gov>

<http://HMIS.info>

<http://HUDHRE.info>

Resources

<http://HMIS.info>



A HUD Sponsored Site

HMIS.INFO

Homeless Management Information Systems

Home Resources Communities Software Job Board Events

HUD's Homeless Management Information System Initiative

- What do you want to do?**
- LEARN ABOUT HMIS**
Get the basics, or find HMIS resources, communities & software.
 - GET INVOLVED IN HOMELESSNESS REPORTING**
Submit data to Homelessness Data Exchange, read the AHAR, get local reports, and learn more.
 - ASK A QUESTION OR REQUEST ASSISTANCE**
Consult with an HMIS expert or make a suggestion.
 - STAY INFORMED**
Join the HMIS list serv, read the latest newsletter, or subscribe to our RSS feed.
 - POST A JOB OR EVENT**
Announce and find job openings and upcoming conferences or open meetings.
 - SHOWCASE YOUR HMIS OR COLLABORATIVE**
Make a homepage for your community or update your contact information and link to your own site.

Resources

<http://HMIS.info>

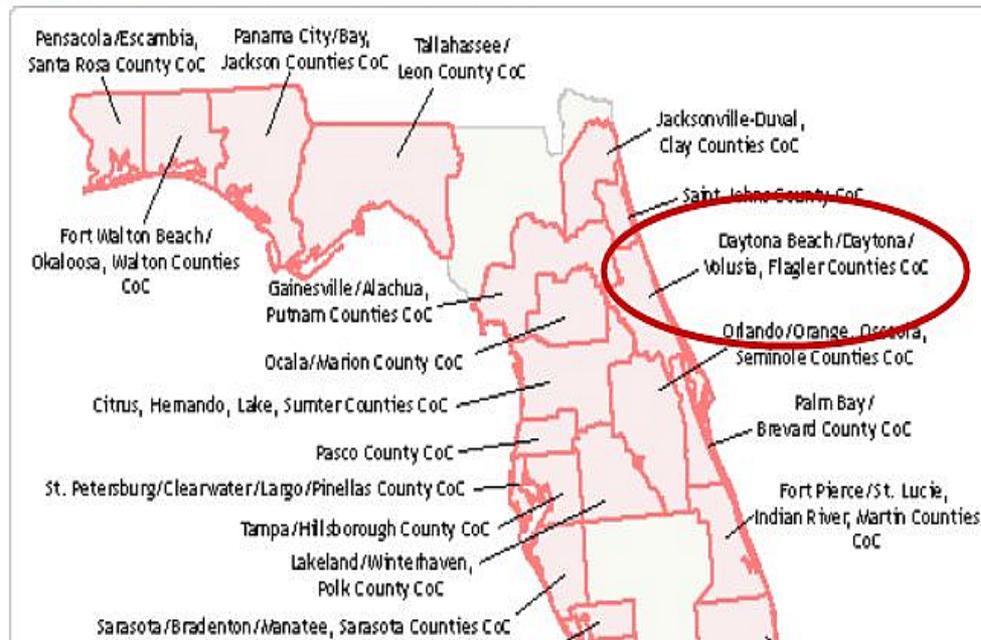


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Homeless Management Information Systems

Home Resources Communities Software Job Board Events

Florida *Implementing Jurisdictions in Florida*



Resources

<http://HMIS.info>

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Volusia/Flagler County

URL: vfcch.org

Software: [DOMUS](#)

Collecting Data Since: January 2005

Regional Collaborative: [State of Florida Collaborative](#)

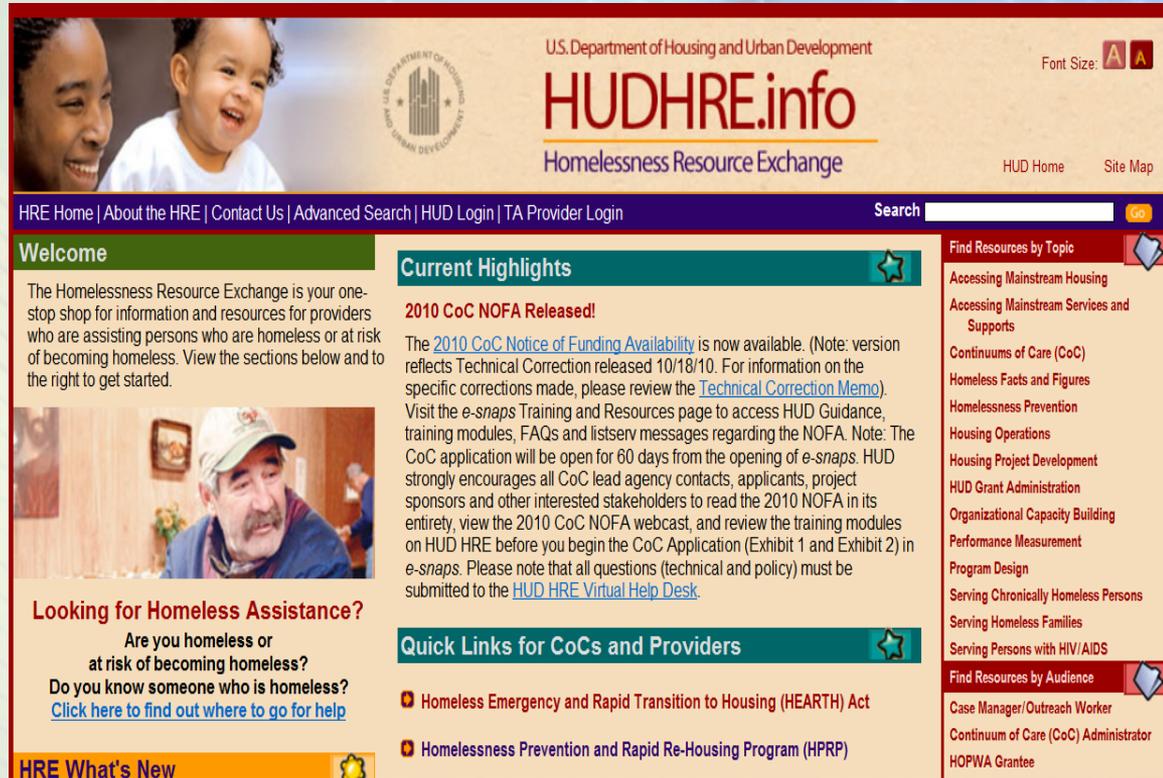
Continuum(s) of Care:
[FL-504 Daytona Beach/Daytona/Volusia, Flagler Counties](#)

Contacts

Lydia Jones
HMIS System Administrator
Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless
hmis@vfcch.org
386-258-1855

Resources

<http://HUDHRE.info>



The screenshot shows the HUDHRE.info website homepage. At the top, there is a header with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development logo, the text "U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development", and the main title "HUDHRE.info Homelessness Resource Exchange". A search bar is located on the right side of the header. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: "HRE Home | About the HRE | Contact Us | Advanced Search | HUD Login | TA Provider Login". The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Welcome:** A green box containing the text: "The Homelessness Resource Exchange is your one-stop shop for information and resources for providers who are assisting persons who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. View the sections below and to the right to get started." Below this text is a photo of a man in a cap.
- Current Highlights:** A green box with a star icon containing the text: "2010 CoC NOFA Released! The 2010 CoC Notice of Funding Availability is now available. (Note: version reflects Technical Correction released 10/18/10. For information on the specific corrections made, please review the Technical Correction Memo). Visit the e-snaps Training and Resources page to access HUD Guidance, training modules, FAQs and listserv messages regarding the NOFA. Note: The CoC application will be open for 60 days from the opening of e-snaps. HUD strongly encourages all CoC lead agency contacts, applicants, project sponsors and other interested stakeholders to read the 2010 NOFA in its entirety, view the 2010 CoC NOFA webcast, and review the training modules on HUD HRE before you begin the CoC Application (Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2) in e-snaps. Please note that all questions (technical and policy) must be submitted to the HUD HRE Virtual Help Desk."
- Quick Links for CoCs and Providers:** A green box with a star icon containing two links: "Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act" and "Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)".
- Looking for Homeless Assistance?:** A section with the text: "Are you homeless or at risk of becoming homeless? Do you know someone who is homeless? Click here to find out where to go for help".
- HRE What's New:** A yellow box with a star icon.
- Find Resources by Topic:** A sidebar on the right with a star icon and a list of topics: "Accessing Mainstream Housing", "Accessing Mainstream Services and Supports", "Continuums of Care (CoC)", "Homeless Facts and Figures", "Homelessness Prevention", "Housing Operations", "Housing Project Development", "HUD Grant Administration", "Organizational Capacity Building", "Performance Measurement", "Program Design", "Serving Chronically Homeless Persons", "Serving Homeless Families", "Serving Persons with HIV/AIDS".
- Find Resources by Audience:** A sidebar on the right with a star icon and a list of audience types: "Case Manager/Outreach Worker", "Continuum of Care (CoC) Administrator", "HOPWA Grantee".

Resources

<http://HUDHRE.info>



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUDHRE.info

Homelessness Resource Exchange

CoC Maps, Contacts, Reports, and Awards

Switch among the tabs to view other CoC-related information

CoC Maps

CoC Contacts

Homelessness Reports

Grant Awards

Search Results: Continuum of Care Contacts

Daytona Beach/Daytona/Volusia, Flagler Counties CoC

Lead Contact:

Lindsay Roberts
Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.
324 North Street
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
Phone: 386-795-1278
Fax: 386-258-1804
E-mail: Lindsay@vfcch.org

Resources

<http://HUDHRE.info>



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

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Homelessness Resource Exchange

CoC Maps, Contacts, Reports, and Awards

Switch among the tabs to view other CoC-related information

[CoC Maps](#) | [CoC Contacts](#) | [Homelessness Reports](#) | [Grant Awards](#)

Homelessness Reports and Housing Inventories

HUD collects data on homelessness, including homeless populations, subpopulations, and housing inventories. Data is collected at the CoC level and aggregated to state and national levels. Data is available for 2005 and later and will be posted as it becomes available.

Search for Homelessness Reports and Housing Inventories

Year: 2009

Type of Report: Housing Inventory

Scope of Report: For a Continuum of Care (CoC)

State: Florida

Continuum of Care: FL-504 -- Daytona Beach/Daytona/Volusia, Flagler Counties CoC

Questions



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