

Minutes

HMIS Advisory Committee Meeting

DATE 5/16/2025

TIME 11:30 AM

FACILITATED BY Carolyn Keyser, PEH

In attendance

Rachel Bailey (PCHO), Aimee Cosimano (Providence Housing), Tree Clemonds (PEH), Elizabeth Doll (Eagle Star Housing), Shawntrell Holley (RRH & PEH Board), Carolyn Keyser (PEH), Heidi Markham (PEH), Becky Miglioratti (DHS), Janice Steimer (PEH)

Agenda Items

(Please refer to the meeting slides for more details.)

1. **HUD Reporting Updates (shared by Carolyn Keyser):**

- The System Performance Measures (SPM) Report was submitted to HUD on 4/10/2025.
- The Point-In-Time (PIT)/Housing Inventory Count (HIC) reporting began on 5/13/2025 and is due on 6/13/2025.
- Gender is not included in this year's PIT report.

2. **Data Quality Discussion:**

The 2023-2024 SPM Report showed a significant increase in the Destination Error Rate from the prior year. This is the element that captures where a person in the system exits to when leaving a program. There is a high rate of “No exit interview completed” responses, particularly among emergency shelters, due to the large volume of entries and exits with shorter stays than other types of housing. Many participants will leave the shelter and not come back. Shelter staff will not know where they went. The group discussed the following ideas to try to improve these numbers:

1. Need to train shelter staff to review past exits in HMIS where the destination was not known to see if they could determine a destination. For example, did they show up in another shelter the next day? If so, they could update the destination accordingly.
2. For Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), if they know someone is going to be evicted, they should be proactive in working with them to find a place for them to stay after the eviction (or before). When exiting someone from a PSH program, try to have an exit plan for the client when possible.

3. Provide more training on the different types of destinations, particularly temporary versus permanent stays with friends or family.

3. **Feedback to HUD on the current Data Standards:**

Question: What ideas do you have for improving the data fields collected?

Responses:

- We need to anticipate the changes that are coming and how they will impact the data standards.
- Add options to the reasons for homelessness, such as loss of benefits, or loss of housing subsidies, loss of health insurance (Medicaid or Medicare in particular). This might provide more information than just knowing that someone was evicted. This would allow us to better track the impact of policy changes.
- The questions that help determine chronic homelessness seem unclear and not well-defined. When does a new episode of homelessness start, for example? How much time must pass before a new episode begins? How is homelessness defined in this series of questions?
- For many survivors, the answer to “Are you fleeing domestic violence?” is always “yes.” A survivor may always be looking over their shoulder until they know the abuser is dead. HUD needs to define “fleeing” more clearly.
- In the Reasons for Homelessness, change “domestic violence victim” to “domestic violence survivor.”

4. **HMIS Policy and Procedures Review – Section 6 – HMIS User Implementation**

This agenda item was postponed until the next meeting due to time limitations.

Action Items

- Read and review Section 6 of the HMIS Policy and Procedures Manual and prepare any suggestions for updates/additions.

Next meeting

June 20, 2025, at 11:30am via Zoom.