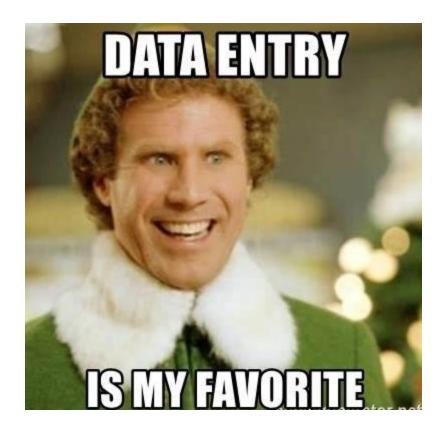# Date of Engagement and Current Living Situation:

What they are, how to enter them, and how to correct data quality issues.

NC COALITION to end HOMELESSNESS

Training Purpose

- Review what the data elements are and their HUD definitions.

- How to correctly enter them into HMIS.

- How to correct data quality issues.

Current Living Situation

- This data element is used to record each contact with people experiencing homelessness by street outreach and other service projects (PATH) and to provide information on the number of contacts required to engage the clients, as well as to document a current living situation as needed in any applicable project.

Current Living Situation

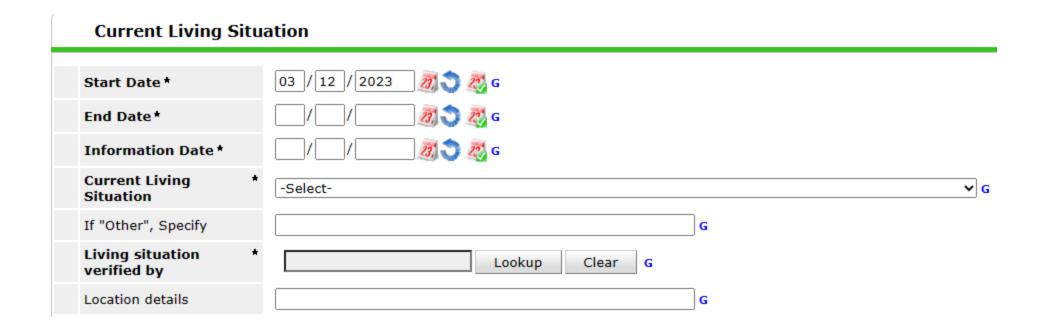|	Start Date *	End Date *	Information Date *	Current Living Situation *	Living situation verified * by
Add					

Current Living Situation

- Record the date and location of each interaction with a client by recording their Current Living Situation. The first Current Living Situation with the client will occur at the same point as the Project Start Date and therefore requires a record to be opened in the HMIS for the client.

- If client's Current Living Situation is in a temporary or permanent situation from the Living Situation Options List of headers, record additional housing status information to calculate imminent and at-risk of homelessness housing statuses based on HUD's definition of homelessness.

- All street outreach projects are expected to record every contact made with each client by recording their Current Living Situation, including when the Project Start Date, Prior Living Situation or Date of Engagement is recorded on the same day. There may or may not be a contact made at project exit.

NCCEH

Current Living Situation

- Contacts that require the collection of Current Living Situation include activities such as a conversation between a street outreach worker and client about the client's well-being or needs, an office visit to discuss their housing plan, or a referral to another community service.

NCCEH

Current Living Situation Data Elements

Current Living Situation

- The data in this element are transactional data; each time there is a contact, a record of the contact must be recorded including the date and the client location.

- Data Collection requirements for **PATH-funded** components is limited to the following fields from the Living Situation Options List:

  - Place not meant for habitation (e.g. a vehicle, an abandoned building, bus/train/subway station/airport or anywhere outside)
  - Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher, or RHY-funded Host Home shelter
  - Safe Haven
  - Other
  - Worker unable to determine

- Documents where the client is "tonight" and does not trigger a client's exit from the project.

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Date of Engagement

- To record the date the client became 'engaged' in project services after one or more contacts with a street outreach project.

Date of Engagement ____ / ____ / _____

Date of Engagement

- Record the date a client became engaged by a street outreach project in the development of a plan to address their situation. Only one date of engagement is allowed between project start and exit.

- This date may be on or after the Project Start Date and if the client becomes engaged, must be on or prior to the Project Exit Date. If the project has not developed this intensive relationship with the client before exit, Date of Engagement should be left blank.

- If the client returns after a project exit, a new Project Start Date and a new Date of Engagement is to be established.

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Date of Engagement

- Reporting on data quality for street outreach projects is limited to clients with a Date of Engagement.

- All Universal Data Elements and applicable Program Specific Data Elements should be reviewed for completeness and accuracy on the Date of Engagement.

NCCEH

Data Entry Resources

HMIS@NCCEH ZenGuide (zendesk.com)

Data Center News Archive data | Raleigh, North Carolina USA | (ncceh.org)

HMIS Data Standards

PATH HMIS Program Manual

CoC HMIS Program Manual

ESG HMIS Program Manual

RHY HMIS Program Manual

NCCEH

Questions?

Let's Troubleshoot!

Community Services (ServicePoint)