

PRIVACY NOTICE

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION MAY BE USED/DISCLOSED, AND HOW YOU MAY OBTAIN ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY.

Agency Name:

This Notice describes the privacy practices of our agency with respect to our use of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) administered by the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (HMIS Lead Agency).

HMIS: We participate in a regional system that allows shelters and other homeless service providers to share information about the people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. HMIS keeps information about clients that get help from each participating agency to better assist you and other people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Information you provide this agency will be entered into the HMIS.

We and the other participating agencies can collect, use and share any additional information you consent to share when you complete the HMIS Client Release of Information (ROI). This Notice informs you as to how we and HMIS treat the personal information we collect, use, and share with other agencies. We only collect information that is considered appropriate and necessary. The collection, use, and disclosure of all personal information is guided by strict standards of privacy and security.

Personal and Health Information: When you receive services from us, we share your Standard Information on HMIS with other agencies unless you tell us not to, including name, year of birth, age, gender, veteran status, and partial SSN. If you agree via the ROI, we will also share additional information, which may include personal health information and information about your race, disabling conditions, previous residence history, employment history, substance use, educational history and more. Your Standard Information and any information you release in your ROI is referred to as your “Personally Identifiable Information.” This information will be visible in HMIS and may also be exchanged on paper, verbally or electronically based on uses and disclosures below.

How We May Use and Disclose Your Personally Identifiable Information: We may use and disclose your PII:

- (1) to provide or coordinate services on behalf of an individual or household;
- (2) for functions related to payment or reimbursement for services;
- (3) to carry out administrative functions, including but not limited to legal, audit, personnel, oversight and management functions; or
- (4) for creating de-identified Personally Identifying Information.

Other Uses and Disclosures: We may use or disclose your Personally Identifying Information for other reasons, even without your permission. Subject to applicable federal or state law, additional uses and disclosures may be approved by the HMIS Lead Agency upon request. We are permitted to disclose your Personally Identifying Information without your permission for the following purposes:

- *Required by Law:* We may use/disclose your Personally Identifying Information when such use/disclosure is required by law, subject to the requirements of such law.
- *Serious threat to health or safety:* We may use and disclose your Personally Identifying Information when necessary to prevent a serious threat to your health and safety or the health and safety of the public or another person. Any disclosure, however, would only be to someone able to help prevent the threat.
- *Abuse, Neglect or Domestic Violence:* We may disclose your Personally Identifying Information when the disclosure relates to victims of domestic violence, abuse or neglect, or the neglect or abuse of a child or an adult who physically or mentally incapacitated, where the disclosure is required by law, you agree to such disclosure, or the disclosure is authorized by law and we believe it is necessary to prevent serious harm to you or other potential victims.
- *Research:* Subject to certain restrictions, we may use or disclose your Personally Identifying Information for approved academic research conducted by an individual or institution that has a formal relationship with us and a written research agreement that requires researchers and data recipients to protect your Personally Identifying Information.

- **Law enforcement:** Subject to certain restrictions, we may disclose your Personally Identifying Information under certain circumstances. If law enforcement agencies request your information, we will immediately forward such requests to our HMIS Lead Agency (NCCEH Data Center) before taking any action. This includes requests from immigration authorities, police departments, or any law enforcement entities. Only information required by a valid legal order (such as a signed court order) will be released by the HMIS Lead Agency.
- Even if you agree or do not object, however, the above uses/disclosures may also be limited by certain North Carolina laws governing pharmacy, mental health facility or nursing facility records, or records related to controlled substance use and communicable diseases.

Authorization to Use or Disclose Your Personally Identifying Information: You have the right to refuse to provide personal information. For situations beyond what is described above, we will ask for your authorization before using or disclosing your Personally Identifying Information. Signing an ROI is considered authorization for additional use and disclosure. You have the right to change your mind about allowing this agency to share your personal information. You must notify us in writing. However, uses and disclosures based on your previous authorization that cannot be undone.

Destruction or De-Identification of Your Personally Identifying Information: We will dispose of or remove identifiers from Personally Identifying Information that is not in current use seven years after your Personally Identifying Information was created or last changed, unless a statutory, regulatory, contractual, or other requirement mandates we keep it longer.

Individual Rights: You have the following rights with regard to your Personally Identifying Information. Please contact the person listed below for next steps and forms.

Request Restrictions: You may request restrictions on uses and disclosures of your Personally Identifying Information, unless such restriction is inconsistent with our legal requirements. We are not required to agree to such restrictions, but if we do agree, we must abide by those restrictions.

Inspect and Obtain Copies: You have the right to inspect and obtain a copy of your information. You can also request that we review it with you so we can answer any questions you may have.

Amend Information: If you believe that the Personally Identifying Information in your record is incorrect, or if important information is missing, you have the right to request that we correct the existing information or add the missing information. We are not required to remove any information but we may mark information as inaccurate or incomplete and may supplement it with additional information.

We reserve the ability to deny an individual inspection or copying of your Personally Identifying Information for the following reasons:

- (1) Information compiled in reasonable anticipation of litigation or comparable proceedings;
- (2) information about another individual (other than a health care or homeless provider);
- (3) information obtained under a promise of confidentiality (other than a promise from a health care or homeless provider) if disclosure would reveal the source of the information; or
- (4) information that if disclosed would be reasonably likely to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual.

We can reject repeated or harassing requests for access or correction. If we do, we will explain the reason for the denial to you and we will include documentation of the request and the reason for the denial as part of your Personally Identifying Information.

Changes in Privacy Practices: We reserve the right to change our privacy policies and the terms of this Notice at any time and to make the new policies and provisions effective for all Personally Identifying Information, even with respect to the information processed before the amendment.

You have the right to obtain a paper copy of our Notice at any time upon request.

Agency Contact: To make a complaint or ask a question about our privacy practices, contact the **HMIS Security Officer:**

at _____

HMIS Lead Agency Contact Information: North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness Data Center at hmis@ncceh.org.

Effective Date: The effective date of this Notice is November 24, 2025.