



# Coordinated Entry Homeless Definition Training

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Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

# Agenda

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1. Discuss HUD's definition of literal homelessness
2. Review the Coordinated Entry assessment to discuss questions that record literal homelessness
3. Discuss case studies to display knowledge

# Literal Homelessness vs. Chronic Homelessness

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- Literal homelessness is different than chronic homelessness
- Chronic homeless definition:
  1. Individual with a disability

**AND**
  2. Homeless for the past 12 months, or 4 occasions in 3 years that total 12 months

**AND**
  3. Currently experiencing literal homelessness

# Eligibility for Housing Assessment

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- If the client is age 25 or older and not experiencing literal homelessness, please do not need to continue the assessment.
- **EXCEPTION:**
  - Households fleeing domestic violence should be assessed

# What about Youth?

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- Youth age 18 – 24 should be assessed if they are experiencing homelessness **OR** if they are unstably housed
- Non HUD funded Transitional Housing resources are available to unstably housed youth

# HUD Definition of Literal Homelessness

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Individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation

Examples		
- Car	- Train station	- Abandoned building
- Park	- Airport	

# HUD Definition of Literal Homelessness

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Individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living arrangements

Examples
- Emergency Shelter
- Hotel or Motel paid for by government or charitable organization

# HUD Definition of Literal Homelessness

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Individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering the institution.



# What does not constitute literal homelessness?

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- Friend or family member's room, apartment, or house
- Residing in an institution for 90 days or less **and was residing in housing or transitional housing prior to entering the institution.**
- Recovery Home

# Standardized Housing Assessment – Recording Literal Homelessness

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## Standardized Housing Assessment question – Determining current living arrangement

Where did you sleep last night?

(Current Residence/Living Situation)

- Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher
- Foster care home or foster care group home
- Hospital or other residential non-psychiatric medical facility
- Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher
- Interim housing (This is not a type of housing but rather a housing situation where a person experiencing chronic homelessness has been accepted into a permanent housing program but for which there is some situation preventing them from moving immediately into housing and therefore the individual is staying in a temporary living situation.)
- Jail, prison, or juvenile detention facility
- Long-term care facility or nursing home
- Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy
- Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy
- Permanent housing for formerly homeless persons
- Place not meant for habitation (street, abandoned, flooded, or burned building, rooftop, fire escape, vehicle, park, or another area not meant for sleeping)
- Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility
- Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy
- Rental by client, with VASH subsidy
- Rental by client, with Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Transition in Place (TIP) subsidy (Featherfist program)
- Rental by client, with other ongoing housing subsidy
- Residential project or halfway house with no homeless criteria
- Safe Haven (Safe Haven is a transitional housing model that addresses the needs of persons experiencing homelessness with a severe and persistent mental illness. This housing model is not a current project in Chicago known as A Safe Haven.)
- Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house
- Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house
- Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center
- Transitional housing for homeless persons (including youth)
- Other
- Client doesn't know
- Client refused
- Data not collected

**Standardized Housing Assessment question –  
Determining current living arrangement**

<p><b><i>If applicant stayed in transitional housing last night:</i></b> Were you experiencing homelessness immediately prior to entering transitional housing (i.e. you stayed in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation)?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes  <input type="radio"/> No  <input type="radio"/> Client doesn't know</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Client refused  <input type="radio"/> Data not collected</p>
<p><b><i>If applicant stayed in a residential program/facility such as prison, jail, juvenile detention, or a nursing home:</i></b> Was your stay fewer than 90 days long?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes  <input type="radio"/> No  <input type="radio"/> Client doesn't know</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Client refused  <input type="radio"/> Data not collected</p>
<p><b><i>If applicant stayed in a residential program/facility such as prison, jail, or a nursing home:</i></b> Were you experiencing homelessness immediately before entering the residential program/facility?</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Yes  <input type="radio"/> No  <input type="radio"/> Client doesn't know</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Client refused  <input type="radio"/> Data not collected</p>

## Youth Specific Housing Status Questions – Unstably housed

<p>How many different places have you slept in the past week?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o 1 place (0)</li> <li>o 2 to 3 places (1)</li> <li>o 4 or more places (1)</li> <li>o Client doesn't know (0)</li> <li>o Client refused (0)</li> <li>o Data not collected (0)</li> </ul>
<p>When was the last time you had a safe place to stay?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Last night (0)</li> <li>o Within the past week (1)</li> <li>o Within the past month (1)</li> <li>o 1 to 2 months ago (1)</li> <li>o 3 to 6 months ago (1)</li> <li>o Client doesn't know (0)</li> <li>o Client refused (0)</li> <li>o Data not collected (0)</li> </ul>
<p><i>If applicant stayed in their own home or a home of a friend or family member:</i></p> <p>Can you stay at the place where you slept last night every night for as long as you want?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Yes (0)</li> <li>o No (1)</li> <li>o Client doesn't know (0)</li> <li>o Client refused (0)</li> <li>o Data not collected (0)</li> </ul>
<p><b>SCORING KEY BASED ON ANSWERS TO ABOVE 3 QUESTIONS: Unstably housed status should only be used after ruling out literal or imminent risk of homelessness and DV.</b></p>	<p>Total score of 0 = Stably housed (skip to diversion)</p> <p>Total score is <b>greater than or equal to 1</b> = *Housing Status below should be marked as "Age 18-24 and unstably housed"</p>
<p>(For Assessor to Complete for All Youth)</p> <p><b>ONLY ANSWER IF AGE 18-24</b></p> <p>What is the applicant's current housing status?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Homeless</li> <li>o At imminent risk of losing housing</li> <li>o Fleeing domestic violence</li> <li>o At-risk of homelessness</li> <li>o Age 18-24 and unstably housed</li> <li>o Client doesn't know</li> <li>o Client refused</li> <li>o Data not collected</li> </ul>

(For Assessor to Complete)

**ONLY ANSWER IF AGE 25 OR OLDER**

What is the applicant's current housing status?

- o Homeless
- o At imminent risk of losing housing
- o Fleeing domestic violence
- o At-risk of homelessness
- o Client doesn't know
- o Client refused
- o Data not collected

**Exception:** Client is enrolling in shelter (assessed at intake), regardless of sleeping location last night.

# Tips for Consistency

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- After completing the assessment, double check the questions reviewed here for consistency
- When entering Interim updates, make sure you are updating all relevant questions for literal homelessness
- Unstable housing situations (such as frequently moving from place to place) are not the same as experiencing literal homelessness

# Conversation Prior to Opening an Assessment

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Often you can learn if an adult (age 25 and older) is experiencing literal homelessness prior to starting a housing assessment.

Please do!

Can you please share any examples of experiences when a household not facing literal homelessness presented to be assessed? Are you finding any particular referral partners sending housed participants to your agency for a housing assessment?



# Case Studies

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In small groups, please review case studies and nominate a recorder and a reporter.



Questions?