

Update for 2011 Housing Inventory Count (HIC)

Each Continuum of Care (CoC) is to complete the annual Housing Inventory Count (HIC) of beds available to serve homeless persons during the last 10 days in January each year. Since the next biennial Point-In-Time (PIT) count of homeless persons is also in 2011, HUD expects the HIC data to be from the same time period as the PIT count. As many of these changes are intended to align the HIC reporting requirements with the revised HMIS Data Standards (published March 2010), communities are encouraged to revisit the revised Data Standards for more information on Program Descriptor data elements and data collection. HUD will provide HIC guidance to communities requesting a waiver for conducting their PIT count during the last 10 days of January 2011.

Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families

Each CoC needs to report the number of beds that are readily available and targeted to house chronically homeless persons in families in addition to chronically homeless adults (18 or older) in permanent supportive housing, according to the following definition:

Chronically Homeless Person or Family: An unaccompanied homeless individual (18 or older) with a disabling condition or a family with at least one adult member (18 or older) who has a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years. The term homeless means a person sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets), in an emergency homeless shelter, or in a Safe Haven as defined by HUD.

Bed Type

Consistent with the revised HMIS Data Standards (published March 2010), CoCs must indicate the bed type for each program in the HIC:

- **Facility-based beds (including cots or mats) (F)**: located in a residential homeless assistance facility (dedicated for use by persons who are homeless).
- **Voucher beds (V)**: located in a hotel or motel and made available by the homeless assistance program through vouchers or other forms of payment.
- **Other beds (O)**: located in a campground, church, or other facility not dedicated for use by persons who are homeless

HMIS Coverage for Overflow Beds

As in past years, CoCs reporting overflow beds in the HIC will report the number of overflow beds actually available on the night of the annual inventory count as the number of overflow beds operated by the facility. Beginning in 2011, CoCs

must also report the number of overflow beds participating in HMIS. This addition is also consistent with the revised HMIS Data Standards (published March 2010). Refer to the following definitions for classifying your bed/unit availability type:

- **Year-Round** - Beds/units are available on a year-round basis.
- **Seasonal** - Beds/units are available on a planned basis, with set start and end dates, during an anticipated period of higher demand.
- **Overflow** - Beds/units are available on an ad hoc or temporary basis during the year in response to demand that exceeds planned (year round or seasonal) bed capacity.

Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) Beds

CoCs must indicate whether each program in the HIC is receiving McKinney-Vento funds. For purposes of the HIC, there are two sources of McKinney-Vento funds that programs may receive: CoC Homeless Assistance Programs and/or Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) Program funds. Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program (HPRP) funds are Recovery Act funds, not McKinney-Vento Act funds. CoCs need to understand what programs in their jurisdictions are receiving ESG funds.

To ensure accurate reporting of McKinney-Vento funded beds, CoCs should consider contacting local and state ESG grantees for lists of their ESG subgrantees. HUD will provide contact information for all ESG grantees in November.

Reporting Children Only Households

Total sheltered persons reported in the PIT count should match the total persons reported in the HIC. However, since the HIC does not include a category for households with only children, CoCs should report persons in “households with only children” with the persons in “households with dependent children.”

Additional Guidance

HUD will publish additional guidance, including the contact list for ESG grantees on or about November 22nd.

Questions should be submitted to the Virtual Help Desk on the HUD Homelessness Resource Exchange (www.HUDHRE.info).