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LENGTH OF TIME DATA HUD DATA STANDARDS REVIEW





LENGTH OF TIME DATA

This document is to review the data elements relating to a client's length of time homeless (LOT), a HUD-required data standard collected in CMIS.

LOT is important to collect as it is used for:

- System Performance Data
- Rapid Rehousing prioritization
- Chronic Homeless status determination
- Program Eligibility (PSH)

HOW TO COLLECT THIS DATA DISCLAIMER

Housing Alliance Delaware is aware that the definitions set by HUD are stricter and differ from normal practice when working with homeless clients.

Interviewing processes to get more accurate responses should be:

- Person-focused
- Empathy-driven
- Conversational



LOT DATA ELEMENTS

LOT data asks for information on the client's current, continuous episode of literal homelessness.

- Approximate Date Homelessness Started
- Number of times homeless in the last three (3) years.
- Number of months homeless in the last three (3) years.

LITERAL HOMELESSNESS

Per HUD, a client is literally homeless only when their living situation *immediately prior to project entry* is:

- Place not meant for habitation
- Emergency Shelter, including a hotel/motel paid for by a voucher or charity
- Homeless-dedicated
 Transitional Housing

BREAKS IN HOMELESSNESS

Temporary sleeping situations can only be included in LOT calculation if:

- Staying with friends, family, or in a hotel/motel out of pocket for a maximum of seven (7) days.
- Staying in an institutional setting (medical or legal) for a maximum of 90 days.

APPROXIMATE DATE HOMELESSNESS STARTED HUD DATA STANDARDS REVIEW

DATA ELEMENT INTERPRETATION

The goal of the Approximate Date Homelessness Started data element is to better understand the length of time a client has been continuously literally homeless and unable to be housed, temporarily or permanently.

To accurately calculate a client's Approximate Date Homelessness Started, breaks in homelessness should *not* be included.

DATA ELEMENT APPROXIMATE MARKERS

Other time markers that staff can ask clients to use to gauge when they became literally homeless, if the clients do not know an exact date, can include:



MONTH

YEAR



SEASON

WEATHER



RECEN1

HOLIDAYS

START HERE PRIOR LIVING SITUATION (location of where client slept the night before project entry) STOP Approximate Date Was the client's Prior Living Length of Stay in Situation a Literally Homeless Previous Place situation? (or LOT total) Literally Homeless Housing Location ADD TO LOT Length of Stay in this location No Yes No Yes NOTE STOP Length of Stay in What was the location of where Did they stay in this Approximate Date = Temporary Previous Place the client staved before that? Project Start Date location type for more Housing than seven (7) days? Location STOP Permanent Institutional Approximate Date Housing Housing Length of Stay in Location Location **Previous Place** (or LOT total) ADD TO LOT Did they stay in this Length of Stay location type more than in this location 90 days? STOP Approximate Date = No Yes Length of Stav in Previous Place (or LOT total)

FLOWCHART