

CONNECTING THE DOTS: HOUSING AND EDUCATION COLLABORATION



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OUTLINE

- Understanding Coordinated Entry
- Continuum of Care (CoC) and Local Educational Agency (LEA) Collaboration on Coordinated Entry
- Additional Resources
- Q&A and Discussion



UNDERSTANDING COORDINATED ENTRY



COORDINATED ENTRY BASICS

- A system designed to standardize access and assessment, and coordinate referral for people experiencing homelessness or a housing crisis
- Required for CoC and ESG grant recipients through HUD's CoC and ESG Program Interim Rules [24 C.F.R. 578.7(a)(8) and 576.400(d)] <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2013-title24-vol3/pdf/CFR-2013-title24-vol3-sec578-7.pdf> and <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2012-title24-vol3/pdf/CFR-2012-title24-vol3-sec576-400.pdf>

COORDINATED ENTRY BASICS

- Establishes a standardized approach to accessing housing and services
- Ensures that all people experiencing homelessness or a housing crisis have fair and equal access to housing and related services
- Tailors assistance to individual client needs, including prioritizing assistance for the most vulnerable and needy clients
- Uses standardized tools and practices
- May be an “iterative process” with multiple assessment points

POSSIBLE COORDINATED ENTRY MODELS

- Single physical point of access: “Centralized Intake” model
- Multiple physical points of access: “Hub” or “Hybrid” model
- Virtual access: Telephone (e.g. “211”), App, or Web portal
- All program access: “No wrong door” model

BENEFITS OF COORDINATED ENTRY

- Creates a more fair and effective process for assessing client needs and quickly connects clients with housing and services
- Allows communities to target scarce resources to the clients who need them the most, and unveils system gaps
- Without coordinated entry
 - Multiple intakes with individual housing and service providers
 - Ad-hoc intake processes and a variety of intake and assessment protocols
 - Beds and services are not coordinated, resulting in the inefficient allocation of scarce resources

CHALLENGES OF COORDINATED ENTRY

- Requires a systems change that has significant ramifications for the way local service providers “do business”
- With coordinated entry
 - *Trust Building*: Local providers agree to allow clients to be assigned to their program by an external coordinating workgroup or organization
 - *Reveals Gaps*: System needs unveiled without creating units – it is just a process – and so inability to meet client needs made very visible
 - *Requires Translators*: In order to begin coordination, must share values and address different program eligibility criteria and definitions

SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT WITH CE PROCESS

- “Low hanging fruit: mutual referrals (CoCs to schools and vice versa)
- Possibly a higher level of engagement, depending on community characteristics
- Dovetails nicely with federal statutory requirements:
 - CoCs: Educational assurances (HEARTH Act)
 - CoCs: Stakeholder engagement (24 CFR 578 and CoC Program NOFA)
 - Schools: Requirements for referrals to services (McKinney-Vento Act)
 - New authority for local liaisons to qualify students for HUD services (ESSA)

MAKING CE MORE YOUTH- AND FAMILY-FRIENDLY

- Incorporate youth and families with children, including special populations, into prioritization ordering principles
- Consider distinct entry points for youth and families with children
- Use vulnerability indices and assessment tools specific to youth and families with children, including questions that reflect their unique vulnerabilities and outcomes that reflect the community's prioritization ordering principles.
- Train all intake personnel on youth- and family-friendly practices and cultural competencies

NEXT STEPS

- Reach out to your CoC to express interest in engaging with the local CoC coordinated entry process
 - Request a “facilitated introduction” from Matt or Christina, if desired
 - Visit <https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/?granteesaction=main.searchresults&programid=3> to locate contact information for your local CoC
 - Note: Many CoCs have CE committees
 - Remember, it is in their best interest to talk with you!!!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- *Coordinated Entry Policy Brief*

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Coordinated-Entry-Policy-Brief.pdf>

- *Housing and Education Collaborations to Serve Homeless Children, Youth, and Families*

<http://center.serve.org/nche/downloads/briefs/hud.pdf>

- Coming soon:

- HUD policy “FAQs” on youth-friendly coordinated entry processes
- NCHE brief on school engagement in coordinated entry



DATA SHARING AND THE 2017 PIT COUNT



PUBLIC RELEASE OF LEA EHCY DATA

- ED is in the final stages of preparing 2013-2014 EHCY LEA-level homeless enrollment data for public release (it will aggregate grade levels except for pre-K (age 3-5 not K); include the four primary nighttime residence counts; and 4 subgroup counts)
- This data will be privacy-protected and made available to researchers, other agencies, and the general public

INTERAGENCY DATA SHARING

- ED Promise Neighborhood's *Data-Sharing Toolkit for Communities: How To Leverage Community Relationships While Protecting Student Privacy*, available at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/promiseneighborhoods/datasharingtool.pdf>
- Discusses the importance of data collection and sharing
- Explores how to best protect student privacy when collectively using personally identifiable information (PII) from students
- Explores how to manage shared data using integrated systems

INTERAGENCY DATA SHARING

- ED resource: *Interagency Data Disclosure: A Tip Sheet on Interagency Collaboration*, available at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/homeless/ehcy-interagency-data-disclosure.pdf>
- Discusses FERPA privacy rights and protections
- Discusses the disclosure of aggregate data, individual student data with consent, and individual student data without consent under applicable exceptions outlined in federal law.
- Highlights best practices from several local communities

2017 PIT COUNT COLLABORATION

- The Point-In-Time (PIT) Count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January that HUD requires its CoC grantees annually
- The January 2017 PIT Count data will serve as the baseline data for measuring progress on preventing and ending youth homelessness
- This interagency “unaccompanied homeless youth (UHY) count” will include UHY’s by all agency definitions—ED, HHS and HUD (a list of definitions is in appendix of recent USICH report on youth homelessness—see slide 28)
- HUD, HHS, ED, and NCHE will be providing TA on best practices as the count approaches



NEW RESOURCES



MCKINNEY-VENTO FEDERAL REGISTER GUIDELINES

- In March, ED's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) published a Federal Notice for the McKinney-Vento Education for Homeless Children Youth Program in the *Federal Register*
- Available at <http://federalregister.gov/a/2016-06073>
- The guidelines:
 - Explain significant ESSA amendments to EHCY
 - Provide suggestions for working with LEAs and revising State policies

ED HOMELESS INITIATIVES WEBPAGE

- ED published a new “homeless initiatives” webpage on April 12, 2016 available at <http://www.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/supporting-homeless-students/index.html>

The screenshot shows the U.S. Department of Education website. At the top left is the ED logo and the text "U.S. Department of Education". To the right is a search bar with the placeholder text "Search...". Below this is a navigation bar with four tabs: "Student Loans", "Grants", "Laws", and "Data". The main content area is titled "ABOUT ED / INITIATIVES" and features the heading "Identifying and Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness from Pre-School to Post-Secondary Ages". The text below the heading states: "The U.S. Department of Education (ED) is a core member of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and supports the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness—*Opening Doors Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*—for all people experiencing homelessness in the United States by 2020. This webpage includes information about ED programs that serve homeless children and youth as well as programs in other Federal agencies that serve these young people. Furthermore, ED has been involved in many inter-agency initiatives through the implementation of *Opening Doors* since 2010. More information on these initiatives is available below." Below this text is a paragraph: "In December 2015, Secretary of Education John King was elected Vice-Chair of the USICH and works in collaboration with USICH Chair, Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell, to champion deeper cross-sector collaboration and coordination, including data-sharing agreements with strong privacy protections in compliance with federal and state law, in order to improve education and systems of support for homeless students." On the right side of the page, there are two sections: "How Do I Find..." with a list of links: "Student loans, forgiveness", "College accreditation", "Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)", "FERPA", and "FAFSA", followed by a "More >" link; and "Information About..." with a list of links: "Transforming Teaching", "Family and Community Engagement", "Early Learning", and "K-12 Reforms".

U.S. Department of Education

Search...

Student Loans Grants Laws Data

ABOUT ED / INITIATIVES

Identifying and Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness from Pre-School to Post-Secondary Ages

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- College accreditation
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- FERPA
- FAFSA

More >

Information About...

- Transforming Teaching
- Family and Community Engagement
- Early Learning
- K-12 Reforms

USICH YOUTH REPORT TO CONGRESS

- In April, USICH released its *Report to Congress on How to Better Coordinate Federal Programs Serving Youth Experiencing Homelessness*, available at https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset_library/USICH_Report_to_Congress_Federal_Programs_Serving_Youth_Experiencing_Homelessness_2016.pdf
- Describes what is currently known about
 - The scope and scale of youth homelessness
 - Existing programs that serve youth experiencing homelessness
 - Current and proposed actions to further strengthen interagency efforts to achieve the federal goal of ending youth homelessness in 2020

EHCY IN THE USICH YOUTH REPORT TO CONGRESS

- Strengthen data collection on homeless youth and the analysis and use of local data
 - The U.S. Department of Education will collect an adjusted cohort graduation rate and chronic absenteeism measure for homeless students for all public school districts and states.
 - With appropriate privacy protections applied, SY 13-14 school district data can be analyzed for multiple school years and compared with HHS and HUD data on homeless children and youth
- Since FY 2015, the EHCY program office has been promoting the analysis of school district data for state departments of education to target monitoring and technical assistance, and to create annual work plans

ESSA QUESTIONS AND NEXT CTD WEBINAR

- **ESSA Questions**

Please continue to e-mail ESSA-related questions to essa.questions@ed.gov. A request for information for drafting guidance for EHCY was just issued on April 25, 2016. Send your suggestions to essa.guidance@ed.gov. You may also cc: homeless@serve.org and HomelessEd@ed.gov.

- **Next CTD Webinar**

The next webinar will be held in June. It will cover ED plans concerning chronic absenteeism and EHCY. We will continue the discussion on HUD and CoC coordination.