# Why use HMIS?

The Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) National Data and Technical Standards establish baseline standards for participation, data collection, privacy, and security. Implementation of HMIS is a requirement for receipt of HUD McKinney-Vento Funding.

Also, providers that use HMIS are better positioned to apply for future funding opportunities as many national and local funders now require HMIS participation.

# Agency Participation:

We would love to have your agency participate in HMIS if you provide services and/or shelter to the homeless community. The more information we have, the better! The information helps to provide a more accurate picture of the homeless community in Houston, Harris & Fort Bend Counties, Pasadena, and Galveston.

The Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County is the local HMIS Lead Agency. If your agency is interested in participating in HMIS, please send an inquiry to HMIS@homelesshouston.org.

**Did you know...**

... that more than **1000 users** from over **100 local agencies** are using HMIS?

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For training registration visit:
**homelesshouston.org/hmis**

**For more information, contact us:**
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COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

**H**omeless
**M**anagement
**I**nformation
**S**ystem

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# What is HMIS?

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a computerized data collection tool specifically designed to capture client-level, system-wide information over time on the characteristics and services needs of men, women, and children experiencing homelessness. HMIS allows the aggregation of client-level data across homeless service agencies to generate unduplicated counts and service patterns of clients served.

# Benefits of HMIS:

Having access to the HMIS represents a strategic advantage for service providers. The HMIS software we use allows multi-level client data sharing between organizations, as well as client case coordination and electronic referrals. Our locally developed information sharing model can prevent service duplications and enable collaboration between various homeless service providers, while limiting access to sensitive data. Client privacy is very important to us.

In addition to the standard data collection and reporting functionalities, the HMIS software includes a comprehensive case management module, bed management, performance measurement tools, ad-hoc reporting, software customization options and more.

Lastly, providers that use the HMIS are better positioned to apply for future funding opportunities, as many national and local funders now require HMIS participation.

# HMIS Trainings:

## New User Training
This training introduces individuals to the HMIS system, ClientTrack. Users will learn the basic skills and concepts needed to complete the intake process for their clients. All users are required to attend this training before utilizing HMIS.

## Refresher Training
This training is available for users who wish to refresh their skills, review any issues that they may have with the HMIS system, and to get up-to-date on any new features to the HMIS system.

## Reports Training
This training introduces users to the many different reports that are available to organizations within the HMIS system/ClientTrack.

## Data Explorer
This training targets experienced users with good knowledge of existing HMIS/ClientTrack reports, and is limited to one user per agency, per training session.

### HMIS Quarterly Forums:
The purpose of HMIS Quarterly Forums is to inform the HMIS community about recent data trends, ongoing system-wide activities, and important developments regarding the HMIS and Client-Track software.

### Site Visits:
The HMIS department conducts site visits for all agencies participating in HMIS. An HMIS representative reviews various aspects of data entry and data quality requirements. They are also available to answer agency-specific questions.

### IssueTrak:
IssueTrak is a sophisticated system that streamlines the issue resolution process, delegates issues more efficiently, and produces real-time reports to increase issue resolution productivity. IssueTrak is our method of providing technical support for all users. All HMIS users have access to this site.

### HMIS Software:
ClientTrack is the HMIS software currently used in Houston/Harris County/Ft. Bend County. It was developed by ClientTrack, Inc., a privately held company based in Salt Lake City, UT. ClientTrack is complient with the latest HMIS data standards and HIPAA privacy standards.