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Santa Cruz HMIS News

January 2023

Welcome to the Santa Cruz HMIS January 2023 newsletter!

In this edition you'll find the following:

- Upcoming Events
- LSA is Done: Thank You!
- Point-in-Time Count: Rescheduled to 2/23/23
- Report Spotlight: Review Your Data for the Point-in-Time Count
- Clarity Toolbox: Prior Living Situation

Updates

Upcoming Events

Housing for Health - HMIS Workgroup

In this meeting, we discuss specific solutions to system issues end users may be experiencing, along with community-wide initiatives. We would love to have you join us!

- Monday, February 27 - 1:00-2:30 p.m. | Register **HERE**

Clarity Human Services Office Hours

We host office hours every fourth Tuesday of each month. Drop in for as long or as short as you'd like to ask any and all questions related to HMIS or Clarity Human Services. All users are welcome. Please join us within the first 15 minutes.

- Tuesday, February 28 - 3-4 p.m. I Register **HERE**

How-to

LSA is Done: Thank You!

The **Longitudinal System Analysis**, better known as the LSA, is finally done and submitted to HUD! Thank you to those of you who had to do a lot of data clean-up in the process; we really appreciate your time doing this and your prompt responses to us. We really enjoyed getting to work more closely with some of you.

As a recap, the LSA is an annual report produced from a Continuum of Care's (CoC) Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and provides HUD and the CoC with critical information about how people experiencing homelessness use their system of care. The LSA is essentially a massive export of the information within Napa's HMIS, and includes:

- Demographic data such as age, race, gender, veteran status, etc.
- Length of time homeless and patterns of system use
- Information on special populations, such as veterans and people/households experiencing chronic homelessness
- Housing outcomes for those who exit the homeless services system

The LSA also provides information about patterns of system use prior to exit, destination types, and, for those who were served again later by continuum projects, lengths of time between exit and re-engagement or returns to homelessness.

Announcements

Point-in-Time Count: Rescheduled to 2/23/23

Due to severe winter storms in Santa Cruz County in early January, the 2023 PIT Count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) will now take place on Thursday, February 23, 2023 (both unsheltered and sheltered counts). This new date will allow the county to conduct an accurate and complete PIT Count.

Unsheltered PIT Count:

Volunteers are essential to successfully collect accurate and timely data on homelessness countywide, which is vital for funding and the development of policies that will help end homelessness in your community. Volunteers will work in teams and are asked to lead a visual count of people who are experiencing homelessness in the County. All teams are led by a trained guide. *Sign up to volunteer here.*

Questions? Contact info@housingforhealthpartnership.org.
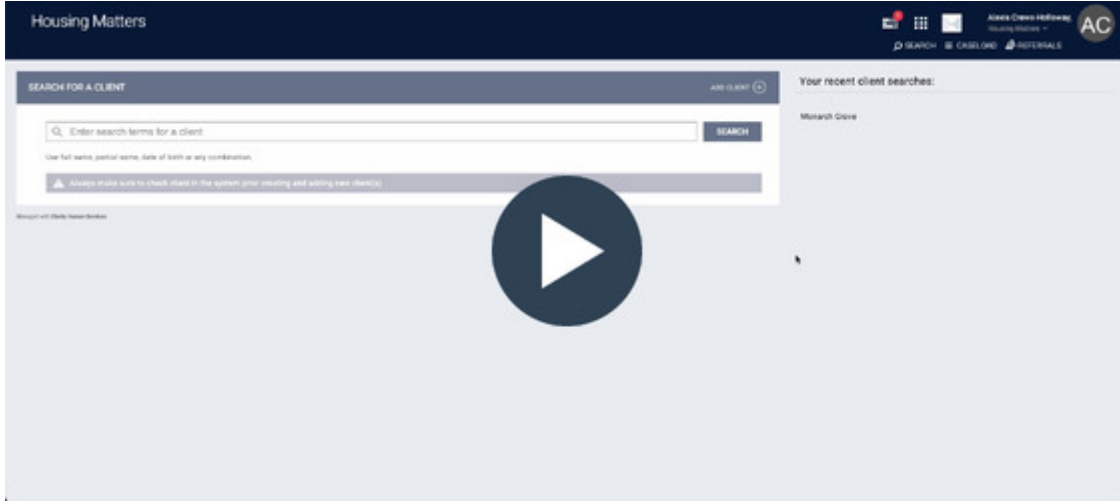
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Report Spotlight

Review Your Data for the Point-in-Time/Housing Inventory Count

The Santa Cruz sheltered Point-in-Time Count (HIC) will occur on February 23, 2023. This means that you will need to make sure your shelter, transitional housing, and/or permanent housing program has complete and up-to-date data for the night of February 23, 2023, and make sure it's entered accurately into the HMIS no later than March 2, 2023. To check your data, please run the

following reports as soon as your February 23, 2023 enrollments, exits, and services are entered.

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Clarity Human Services Updates

Clarity Toolbox: Prior Living Situation

The "Prior Living Situation" data element within a program enrollment is meant to identify the type of living situation and length of stay in a particular situation **immediately prior to Project Start** for all adults and heads of household. This question is really aimed at identifying the living situation and length of time in that situation immediately before the project start date - in order to see if a client meets the definition of chronic homelessness.

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Questions? Your HMIS Administrator is happy to help.

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