



Overview of Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) Data Collection Requirements

Definition of Terms

PATH providers conducting street outreach may encounter challenges related to data collection in the ONE System due to factors such as the infrequency of contacts or the length of time it takes to collect accurate information from a client, among others. The data collection process is designed to support PATH projects as they connect to individuals and families that are experiencing homelessness, and as relationships are built between the street outreach worker and the client.

A number of key terms specific to the PATH Program are defined below:

- **Project Start Date:** Is the date of first contact between the PATH-funded worker and the client.
- **Contact:** An interaction between a PATH-funded worker or workers and an individual who is potentially PATH eligible or enrolled in PATH. Contacts may range from a brief conversation between the street outreach worker and the client about the client's well-being or needs, to a referral to service. A contact must always include the presence of the client—the facilitation of a referral between a PATH-funded worker and another case manager or service provider without the involvement of the client would not be considered a contact. A contact may occur in a street outreach setting or in a service setting such as an emergency shelter or drop-in center.
- **Engagement:** The point at which an interactive client relationship results in a deliberate client assessment or beginning of a case plan. Engagement is a one-time event, may occur on or after the project entry date, and must occur prior to PATH enrollment and project exit. Clients cannot be enrolled in PATH without being engaged. Although some interactions with a client may result in a positive outcome (such as assisting a client access a shelter bed), without a deliberate client assessment or the beginning of a case plan, those interactions are not considered to be an engagement.
- **Enrollment:** A PATH-eligible individual and a PATH provider have mutually and formally agreed to engage in services and the provider has initiated an individual file or record for that individual.



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PATH Referral Services

PATH Referral Service Name	Description	Referral Status or Outcomes
Community mental health	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that stabilizes, supports, or treats people for mental health disorders or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “Attained” means the client was connected and received the service. ● “Not attained” means the client was referred to, but may not have ever been connected with, the service or did not actually receive the service. ● “Unknown” means the status of the client’s connection or receipt of service is unknown to the provider entering the data.
Educational services	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that offers academic instruction and training.	
Employment assistance	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that offers assistance designed to lead to compensated work.	
Housing services	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that offers assistance with attaining and sustaining living accommodations.	
Income assistance	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that offers benefits that provide financial support.	



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Job training	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that helps prepare an individual to gain and maintain the skills necessary for paid or volunteer work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attained” means the client was connected and received the service. ● “Not attained” means the client was referred to, but may not have ever been connected with, the service or did not actually receive the service. ● “Unknown” means the status of the client’s connection or receipt of service is unknown to the provider entering the data.
Medical insurance	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that offers coverage that provides payment for wellness or other services needed as a result of sickness, injury, or disability.	
Permanent housing	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that offers residence in a stable setting where length of stay is determined by the individual or family without time limitations, as long as they meet the basic requirements of tenancy.	
Primary health/dental services	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that offers physical and/or dental health care services.	
Substance use treatment	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that offers preventive, diagnostic, and other services and supports for individuals who have psychological and/or physical problems with use of one or more substances.	
Temporary housing	Active and direct PATH staff support on behalf of or in conjunction with a PATH-enrolled individual to connect to an appropriate agency, organization, or service that offers shelter in a time-limited setting.	



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Other PATH Services

PATH Service Name	Description
Re-engagement	The process of engaging with PATH-enrolled individuals who are disconnected from PATH services.
Screening	An in-person process during which a preliminary evaluation is made to determine a person's needs and how they can be addressed through the PATH program.
Clinical assessment	A clinical determination of psychosocial needs and concerns.
Habilitation/ rehabilitation	Services that help a PATH client learn or improve the skills needed to function in a variety of activities of daily living.
Community mental health	A range of mental health and/or co-occurring services and activities provided in non-institutional settings to facilitate an individual's recovery. <i>Note: This category does not include case management, alcohol or drug treatment, habilitation, or rehabilitation, as they are standalone services with distinct definitions.</i>
Substance use treatment	Preventive, diagnostic, and other services and supports provided for people who have a psychological and/or physical dependence on one or more substances.
Case management	A collaboration between a service recipient and provider in which advocacy, communication, and resource management are used to design and implement a wellness plan specific to a PATH- enrolled individual's recovery needs.
Residential supportive services	Services that help PATH-enrolled individuals practice the skills necessary to maintain residence in the least restrictive community-based setting possible.



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Housing minor renovation	Services, resources, or small repairs that ensure a housing unit is physically accessible and/or that health or safety hazards have been mitigated or eliminated.
Housing moving assistance	Monies and other resources provided on behalf of a PATH- enrolled individual to help establish that individual's household. <i>Note: This excludes security deposits and one-time rental payments, which have specific definitions.</i>
Housing technical assistance	The process of determining whether an individual meets financial and other requirements to enter into public or subsidized housing.
Security deposits	Funds provided on behalf of a PATH-enrolled individual to pay up to two months' rent or other security deposits in order to secure housing.
One-time rent for eviction prevention	One-time payment on behalf of PATH-enrolled individuals who are at risk of eviction without financial assistance.