

Written Standards

Charlotte-Mecklenburg CoC





Why are we sharing the Written Standards now?

- The CoC Governance Charter states that the Written Standards need to be reviewed annually and the CoC Governing Board will approve any updates in July.

Why are we meeting today?

- To give an overview of what they include.



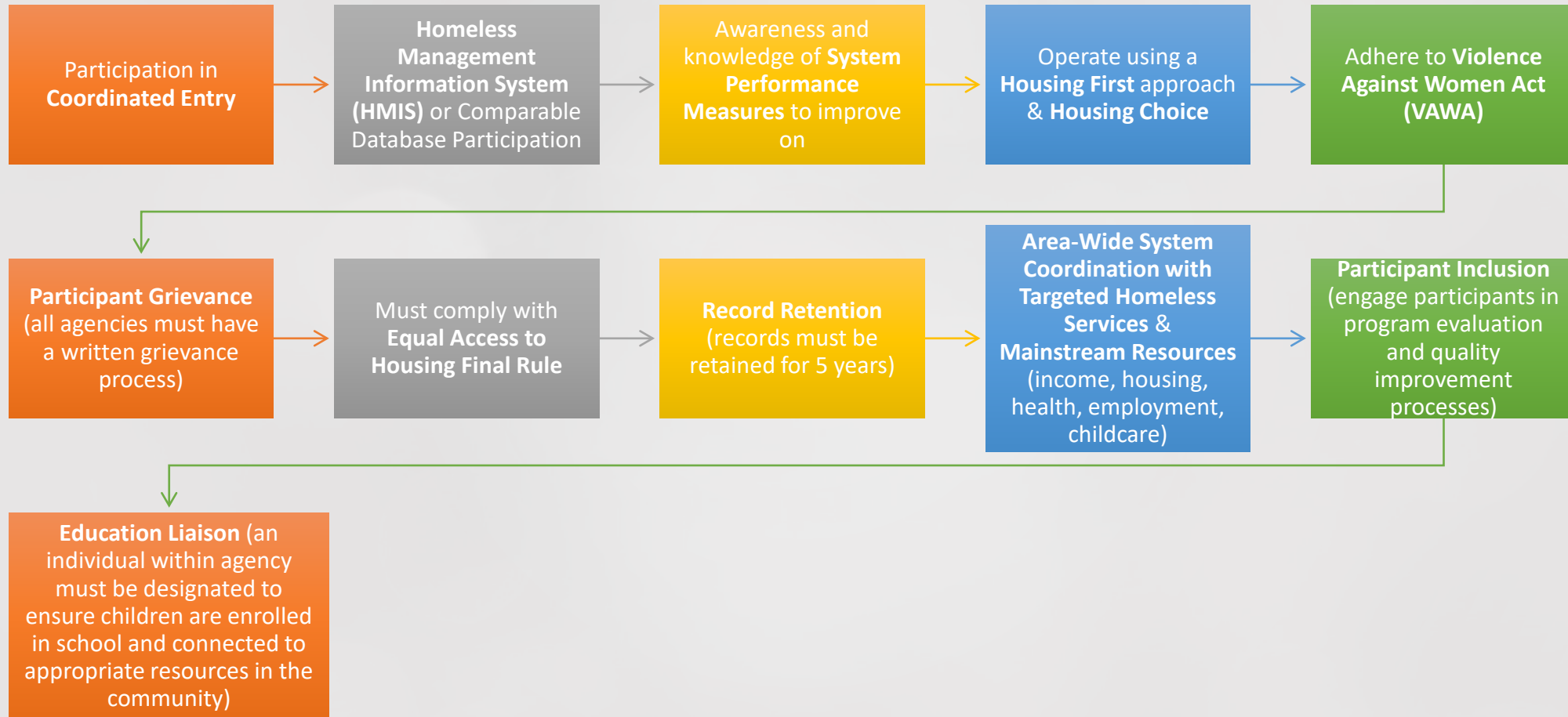
Why do we have Written Standards?

These written standards are intended to support the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community's Continuum of Care (CoC) by establishing standards and expectations for homeless housing service providers and funders in Mecklenburg County.

The standards comply with the federal Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act, which provides Continuum of Care funding, and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) Emergency Solutions Grant requirements.

Currently, programs and projects funded through the HUD CoC Program, NCDHHS ESG Program, City of Charlotte ESG Program, City of Charlotte HOME- RP and Mecklenburg County's Community Support Services Department must abide by the Standards.

What standards apply to all project types?



Each Homeless Assistance Service Available Will Describe:

Program Description

Essential Program Elements

Time Frame

Population

Desired/Expected Outcomes

Performance Benchmarks

Guiding Principles for Activities

Required Components

Case Management Standards

Street Outreach



Street Outreach provides services to individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness, connecting them with emergency shelter, housing, and/or critical services, and providing them with urgent, non-facility-based care.



Unsheltered homelessness is defined as having a primary night-time residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including, but not limited to: a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground.



An encampment is defined as a set-up of an abode or place of residence of one or more persons on public or private property or including an accumulation of personal belongings that is present even when the individual may not be



Program Description: This work is not office-based. Staff are out in the community and attempt to engage individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the field at the area where they usually sleep with the goal of connecting them with emergency shelter, housing and other essential supports.

Emergency Shelter

- Emergency Shelter provides temporary shelter for individuals and families in need of emergency housing with the goal of assisting them through their housing crisis by quickly assessing their needs and providing appropriate services.
- **Program Description:** Provide safe emergency housing for clients with a housing crisis, and facilitate moves from emergency shelter to permanent, stable housing.

Homelessness Prevention



Homelessness Prevention provides housing relocation and stabilization services and short and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to prevent an individual or family from entering an emergency shelter, a place not meant for human habitation, or another place described in HUD's homeless definition.



Program Description: Provide housing relocation and stabilization services and rental assistance to prevent persons from becoming homeless.

Diversion

- Diversion assistance diverts entry to emergency shelter or reduces stay at emergency shelter to less than 14 days. Diversion should be attempted with all households seeking homeless services assistance.
- **Program Description:** CE staff initiate a conversation to identify potential alternatives to the household entering homelessness. If household enters emergency shelter, the shelter staff follow up on those conversations to solidify alternatives and provide financial assistance, if needed. Examples: -financial assistance with household expenses to friends or family members



Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

RRH is an intervention designed to help individuals and families quickly exit homelessness, return to housing in the community, and not become homeless again.

Its three core components are: housing identification, rent and move-in assistance, and case management and services.



Permanent Supportive Housing

- PSH is a long-term rental subsidy (typically 3+ years) designed to provide housing and supportive services to assist chronically homeless households or families with an adult member with a disability to achieve housing stability. There is no time limit or service requirement.

NC-505 Transfer Policy

- Through Coordinated Entry, a process has been established for assessing, prioritizing, and referring people who are experiencing homelessness to homeless designated housing interventions.
- There are cases when the type of housing intervention may not meet the needs of the household post-program entry.
- Transfers are appropriate for households with the following circumstances:
 - The household has a current HMIS program entry for a homeless-dedicated housing program, and
 - The needs of the household have changed since program entry; or
 - The understanding of the needs has changed since program entry; or
 - The household is at risk of re-entering homelessness at program termination; or
 - The household needs to transfer to NC 505 from another CoC because of needing to flee an unsafe situation due to domestic violence, dating violence or stalking. If another CoC is seeking a transfer to NC 505 in this case, they should contact the CoC Manager at charmeckcoc@mecknc.gov to explore feasibility of such transfer.

Next Steps:

- The document will be open for public comment for anyone to submit any recommended updates to be considered.

Public Comment





Questions

Email: charmecoc@mecknc.gov



Coordinated Entry System

