

## GLOSSARY OF HOUSING AND HEALTH CARE TERMS

ACRONYM / TERM	DEFINITION / DESCRIPTION
<b>ACA</b>	Affordable Care Act
<b>ACO</b>	Accountable Care Organization
<b>ACT</b>	Assertive Community Treatment. A team-based treatment model that provides multidisciplinary, flexible treatment and support to people with mental illness 24/7.
<b>ASPE</b>	Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. The principle advisor to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on policy development. Responsible for major activities of policy coordination, legislation development, strategic planning, policy research, evaluation, and economic analysis.
<b>Behavioral health</b>	An umbrella term that includes mental health and substance abuse.
<b>CABHI</b>	Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals. Program funded by SAMHSA, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and Center for Mental Health Services to help states increase capacity to provide services, permanent housing, and supports for veterans experiencing homelessness and other individuals experiencing chronic homelessness.
<b>Capitation</b>	A method of payment for health services in which an individual or institutional provider is paid a fixed amount for each person served, without regard to the actual number or nature of services provided to each person in a set period of time.
<b>CHIP</b>	Children’s Health Insurance Program. Offers free or low-cost health coverage for eligible children and other family members.
<b>Chronically Homeless</b>	HUD defines this population as an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition or a family with at least one adult member who has a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more OR has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.
<b>CMS</b>	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The government agency within the Department of Health and Human Services that directs the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Formerly Health Care Financing Administration.
<b>CMMI</b>	The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (The Innovation Center)
<b>CoC or Continuum of Care (Housing)</b>	A Continuum of Care is a local or regional system for helping people who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness in the community, from homeless prevention to permanent housing.
<b>Continuum of care (Health Care)</b>	Clinical services provided during a single inpatient hospitalization or for multiple conditions over a lifetime. Provides a basis for evaluating quality, cost, and utilization over the long term.
<b>CoC Homeless Providers</b>	Non-profit agencies or State and Local Governments that provide housing and services for homeless persons.

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<b>Coordinated Entry</b>	A coordinated system across a CoC and its programs to initially assess the eligibility and needs of each individual or family who seeks homeless assistance, and to coordinate the entry and provision of referrals to programs. Through the coordinated entry process, people seeking assistance receive prevention, housing, and/or other related services.
<b>Disability</b>	Per the ADA: With respect to an individual, disability means: (1) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more majority life activities of such individual; (2) a record of such an impairment; or (3) being regarded as having such an impairment.
<b>Disabling Condition</b>	Per HUD: (1) a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act; (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment which is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes an individual's ability to live independently, and of such a nature that the disability could be improved by more suitable conditions; (3) a developmental disability as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act; (4) the disease of acquired immune deficiency syndrome or any condition arising from the etiological agent for acquired immune deficiency syndrome; or (5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder.
<b>DSRIP Program</b>	Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program. Program that provides states with funding that can be used to support hospitals and other providers in changing how they provide care to Medicaid beneficiaries.
<b>Dual eligible</b>	A person who is eligible for two health insurance plans, often referring to a Medicare beneficiary who also qualifies for Medicaid benefits.
<b>DV</b>	Domestic Violence
<b>Emergency Shelter (ES)</b>	Any facility that the primary purpose of which is to provide temporary or transitional shelter for the homeless in general or for specific subpopulations of the homeless, while they prepare to move into more stable housing. The housing and services are typically provided for up to 90 days or until specific goals are accomplished by the client.
<b>EMS</b>	Emergency medical services. Services utilized in responding to the perceived individual need for immediate treatment for medical or psychological illness or injury.
<b>ER/ED</b>	Emergency Room/Emergency Department
<b>FMR</b>	Fair Market Rent. The amount of money a property would rent or lease for if it was on the market at a given time.
<b>FMS</b>	Financial Management Services.
<b>Federal Poverty Level (FPL)</b>	Measure of income level issued annually by the Department of Health and Human Services, used to determine eligibility for certain programs and benefits. For 2015, the FPL is \$11,770 for individuals; \$15,930 for a family of two; \$20,090 for a family of 3; \$24,250 for a family of four.
<b>Fee for Service</b>	Method of billing for health care services under which a provider charges separately for each patient encounter or service rendered.

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<b>FQHC</b>	Federally Qualified Health Center. Federally funded nonprofit health centers or clinics that service medically underserved areas and populations and are eligible to receive cost-based Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement. FQHCs provide primary care services regardless of ability to pay.
<b>HCH</b>	Health Care for the Homeless.
<b>HMIS</b>	Homeless Management Information System. A computerized data collection system that tracks services received by homeless people, helps identify gaps in services within the CoC, and allows for greater collaboration among service providers by providing a "history" of a homeless person's involvement in the system of care.
<b>Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS)</b>	Any care or services provided in a patient's place of residence or in a non-institutional setting located in the immediate community.
<b>HOPWA</b>	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS. Federal program dedicated to the housing needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. Under the program HUD makes grants to local communities, State, and nonprofit organizations for projects that benefit low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.
<b>Housing First</b>	An approach to ending homelessness that centers on providing people experiencing homelessness with housing as quickly as possible, and then providing services as needed. Key elements are a low threshold for entry and no clinical prerequisites such as completion of a course of treatment or evidence of sobriety.
<b>HRSA</b>	Health Resources and Services Administration. The primary federal agency for improving access to health care services for people who are uninsured, isolated, or medically vulnerable. Part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
<b>HUD</b>	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
<b>Mainstream Programs</b>	Programs that are not specifically targeted to homeless people, including Medicaid, food stamps (SNAP), Social Security Insurance, Social Security Disability Insurance, Workforce programs, Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF), etc.
<b>Managed Care Organization (MCO)</b>	A health care delivery system consisting of affiliated and/or owned hospitals, physicians, and others that provide a wide range of coordinated health services; an umbrella term for health plans that provide health care in return for a predetermined monthly fee and coordinate care through a defined network of physicians and hospitals.
<b>Medicaid</b>	A Federally aided, State-operated and administered program that provides medical benefits for certain indigent or low-income persons in need of health care. Subject to broad Federal guidelines, States determine benefits covered, program eligibility, rates of payment for providers, and methods of administering the program.

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<b>ONDCP</b>	Office of National Drug Control Policy. Component of the Executive Office of the President of the United States. Its goal is to establish policies, priorities, and objectives to eradicate illicit drug use, manufacturing, and trafficking; drug-related crime and violence; and drug-related health consequences in the U.S.
<b>Outreach</b>	The initial and most critical step in connecting or reconnecting a homeless person to needed health, mental health, recovery, social welfare, and housing services. Outreach is viewed as a process rather than an outcome, with a focus on establishing rapport and a goal of engaging homeless persons into accepting services and housing.
<b>PATH</b>	Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness. Administered by SAMHSA’s Center for Mental Health Services. Provides services to people with serious mental illness, including those with co-occurring substance use disorders, who are experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.
<b>Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)</b>	Provides long-term (not time-limited), safe, and decent housing for homeless persons with disabilities, enabling independent living. May be provided in a single structure or at scattered sites.
<b>PHA</b>	Public Housing Authority
<b>PLWHA</b>	Persons living with HIV/AIDS
<b>Point-in-Time (PIT) Count</b>	A one-day statistically reliable unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families in a specific area. CoCs are only required to conduct a one-day point-in-time count every two years (biennially) however, HUD strongly encourages CoCs to conduct an annual point-in-time count, if resources allow.
<b>Presumptive Eligibility</b>	Gives an uninsured individual access to immediate, temporary Medicaid if they appear to be eligible, allowing the person to access health care services without having to wait for their application to be fully processed. If someone is deemed “presumptively eligible,” the full eligibility process is performed.
<b>Primary Care Association (PCA)</b>	A group of clinics in a defined geographic location that offers care for people who are uninsured or who lack means to pay for care. A state’s PCA is the umbrella organization for FQHCs in that state.
<b>Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)</b>	Places a priority on moving a family or individual experiencing homelessness into permanent housing as quickly as possible, ideally within 30 days of the client becoming homeless or entering a program. Duration of financial assistance may vary.
<b>Respite care (health care system)</b>	Care given to a hospice patient by another caregiver so that the usual caregiver can get rest.
<b>Respite/Recuperative care (housing assistance system)</b>	Program that provides short-term medical care and case management to homeless persons recovering from acute illness or injury whose condition would be exacerbated by being discharged to the street or a shelter.

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<b>Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program</b>	Works with cities, states, and local community-based organizations to provide services to people living with HIV/AIDS who do not have sufficient health care coverage or financial resources. The program is administered by HRSA's HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB).
<b>Safe Haven</b>	Program that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons who have severe mental illness, are on the streets, and have been unable or unwilling to participate in supportive services. Safe Havens do not require participation in services and referrals as a condition of occupancy.
<b>SAMHSA</b>	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. Its mission is to reduce the impact of substance use and mental illness on America's communities.
<b>SSDI</b>	Social Security Disability Insurance. Pays monthly benefits to workers who are no longer able to work due to significant illness or impairment expected to last at least a year or to result in death within a year. Benefits are based on past earnings.
<b>SSI</b>	Supplemental Security Income. A Federal cash assistance program for low-income aged, blind, and disabled individuals.
<b>SOAR Program</b>	SAMHSA's SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery Program. The program seeks to end homelessness through increased access to SSI/SSDI income supports, and is designed to increase access to the disability income benefit programs administered by the Social Security Administration for eligible adults who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder.
<b>Supportive Services Only (SSO)</b>	Projects that address the service needs of homeless persons. Projects are classified as this component only if the project sponsor is not also providing housing to the same persons receiving the services. SSO projects may be in a structure(s) at a central location.
<b>Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)</b>	Provides homeless families and individuals with very low and extremely low incomes with housing assistance. TBRA programs allow participants to choose their own housing and retain the rental assistance if they move.
<b>TBI</b>	Traumatic Brain Injury. TBI is an insult to the brain caused by an external physical force, for example; fall, motor vehicle accident, assault, sports related, IED explosion.
<b>Transitional Housing (TH)</b>	Type of supportive housing used to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing. It is housing in which homeless persons may live up to 24 months and receive supportive services that enable them to live more independently. The supportive services may be provided by the organization managing the housing or provided by other public or private agencies.
<b>Unsheltered Homeless</b>	Someone who is living on the streets or in a vehicle, encampment, abandoned building, garage, or any other place not normally used or meant for human habitation.
<b>USICH</b>	United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

ACRONYM / TERM	DEFINITION / DESCRIPTION
VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization and Decision Assistance Tool. An evidence-based, street-use-informed assessment tool that is designed to help providers determine the most appropriate housing intervention for a particular individual or family.

***Build Your Own Glossary***

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