

HMIS Lead / Sys Admin – Q&A

Questions from 08/17/2022 Webinar

For any questions that were not addressed on the webinar, or if there are specific questions to your own systems, please submit an HMIS AAQ to receive a thorough answer:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/program-support/my-question/>

Q: Are there going to be changes to the Data Standards coming this October 2022?

A: Data standards are updated bi-annually, and the next update will be in place October 1, 2023. The update process is underway now, and any input folks have on changes they would like to see are encouraged to submit them to the AAQ: <https://www.hudexchange.info/program-support/my-question/>

Q: Do Vendors have the updated APR, CAPER, LSA, and CE APR reporting specifications?

A: Yes. All of these changes were communicated on the August 4th HMIS vendor/Comparable Database vendor call.

Q: Will Homelessness Prevention projects in HMIS impact overlap reports?

A: No. Homelessness Prevention is not a project type examined by the LSA.

Q: Is it still true that SSVF grantees should be exiting clients from Prevention and entering them into RRH if they lose housing while in Prevention?

A: Yes.

Q: Will there be a way for CoCs to have access to Stella without needing to have access to the LSA submission screens?

A: People will still need an HDX2.0 login to be able to view Stella, however there is an option to export all of the charts to make them easily shared.

Q: My understanding is that there is no clear guidance from HUD requiring vendors to use SSN to deduplicate, nor even to require a deduplicated count in the LSA. Is this true?

A: HUD does not prescribe the way in which vendors deduplicate client records. Vendors have developed solutions in unique ways.

Q: If you have an agency who does not receive any VAWA, VOCA or other funding that would prevent them from entering data into HMIS, but has a program that is focused on DV – can they enter into HMIS?

A: DV Bonus funding is not strictly for Victim Service Providers (VSP). Therefore, if the recipient / sub-recipients of DV Bonus funds are not VSP, they can enter data into HMIS. If the sub-recipients of DV Bonus funds are considered VSP, they must follow the guidance regarding entering data into a comparable database.

Q: When is the LSA due?

A: There is no firm date set yet. That will be announced through the HUD Exchange when it happens.

Q: Are there any changes coming to the CSV Data Quality tool?

A: There have been some minor updates which are provided in the Read Me on the BitBucket site. We

are actively working on a rebuild and expansion of the tool in R.

Q: For overlapping enrollments slide, it states no overlap with RRH projects but I thought there was a some allowability if a client is getting a RRH rent from one project but another RRH project is doing case management only. Would this cause a flag?

A: Please see page 5 for guidance on this: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HMIS-Dual-Enrollments-and-HIC-Duplicate-Inventory-Training-Resource.pdf>

Q: Can you define "hmis participating?" we have a provider that gives us exports quarterly and we upload to our HMIS. do they "participate"?

A: HMIS Participating = "Yes" indicates that all persons residing in or being served by this project have client data collected about them in the Universal Data Elements, Common Data Elements, and Federal Partner Program Specific Elements in the Continuum's HMIS. 2004 standards state it must be entered in HMIS at least annually.

Q: We have a lot of VASH and SSVF RRH overlap, what is your expectation of correct enrollment.

A: The VA Data Guide instructs the correct data collection for VASH/SSVF RRH overlap.
https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/ssvf/docs/SSVF_VA_Data_Guide.pdf

Q: Will LSA CSV's be rejected if the start and operating dates aren't valid?

A: Likely not. It would be rejected if the values were not valid (i.e. there is an unallowable character such as "x" in a date field). But it will not completely reject the file if the values are incorrect.

Q: Will LSA warnings be incorporated into HDX 2.0 like errors were?

A: Yes

Q: If we have a project that was previously not using HMIS and now has decided to use HMIS, do we have to close the one that had HMIS Participating =No and create a new one that has HMIS Participating =Yes?

A: Correct.

Q: What data does Stella M leverage?

A: Stella M requires user data input but those inputs should be based on data and assumptions your community has access to, such as HMIS.

Q: Does Bed & Unit inventory for these projects need to align with the Operating start date?

A: Yes. You can start and stop inventory during operations, but no inventory can live outside the operating date boundaries.

Q: We have run into times where someone is enrolled in OHA or EHV while still enrolled in our RRH project. Sometimes because they have not started paying rent yet or the other project backdates. Are those reasonable overlaps?

A: The tool does not check between RRH and PSH/OPH. It checks RRH vs RRH. and then PSH vs PSH/OPH or OPH vs PSH/OPH.

Q: Is Stella M available right now?

A: Yes.

Q: If the operating start date needs to be the first day clients are served (not the day the contract or grant funding started), doesn't that cause problems with the start/end dates used for funding source?

A: You must also end and start the funding sources in alignment with the operating end and start dates.