0:00:00.000,0:00:04.799
Yes, correct. Okay.

0:00:04.799,0:00:15.358
Mary Schwartz: Hello? Hello? Good afternoon. Good morning. Welcome to the webinar. It's November 17th and we're excited to have you here. We have a fairly robust agenda today, and let's get rolling, make sure that you're here for a purpose. We don't want anyone wasting their time and since this webinar link is now on a public facing website it's possible that you accidentally clicked into this call but. The reason you would be here is because you are the HMIS lead or system admin for your community, you need to understand broad strokes of HMIS guidance. You need to know details at the federal level and what's going on behind the scenes. We are here to answer your questions and, respond to the stuff that's important to you right now in the world of HMIS, certainly you might be a COC person or providing other types of leadership around HMIS or data or reporting for your community.

Mary Schwartz: So welcome. Welcome. If that's not you or if none of those acronyms even made any sense. Please feel free to log off, this is going to be a a fairly technical call for a fairly technical audience. So, we welcome you to be here and happy that you are. As a reminder you are going to be on mute. We are not going to be on mute, but we will absolutely take your questions through the Q and A feature on your Webex screen.

Mary Schwartz: If we can't, for some reason answer your question today, we might ask you to submit an AAQ. If we do, please make sure you give us a little bit of context. You know, I was on the HMIS call to my AAQ today, and it was about this topic and here's my question, I was told to put in on the desk. That often helps us kind of cycle through the, the huge uptick of, as we get after this call each month.

Mary Schwartz: And as a reminder as well, all of these materials, all of the Q & A, and questions that were asked and answers we provided during the call, a recording a transcript, PowerPoint. All of that goes up on that public facing lead website on the HUD Exchange. So, you know, we're, playing around with the timing of that and how quickly we can get it to you after the call. So, the goal is within a week of this call to have that posted for you. And get a list of messages out about it.

Mary Schwartz: So that leads us to introductions and we're so happy to have Karen de Blasio here from the SNAPs office, pronoun She/her. Karen has been around the world since the inception of this call. So, Fran was unable to join us, Karen is stepping in this is going back to her roots with and we're happy to have her here.

Mary Schwartz: We also have Genelle Denzin from Abt Associates. She/her pronouns, Jenni Hernandez from the Partnership Center. She/her pronouns. Jesse Jorstad, from Abt Associates. He/him pronouns. Brian Roccapriore from CloudBurst, he/him pronouns

0:03:28.974,0:03:43.675
Mary Schwartz: I'm Mary Schwartz with Abt Associates. She/her pronouns and Kayla is in the background helping us with tech support. If we have any issues on that front, she/her pronouns, she will help us out. Welcome all my friends. Welcome to you.

Mary Schwartz: All. Let's jump right into the agenda. The standard agenda items up front, we're going to talk about comparable databases and continue to keep addressing your questions around the guidance coming out about that. There'll be some information from Karen on reporting timelines and any LSA

updates that are available as of today up to the minute. I put together a little submission results breakdown. So, there's a couple of different upload processes going on right now and we have some results for you on that. We're going to take a deep dive into emergency housing vouchers today.

Mary Schwartz: There's been a lot of AAQ traffic and information, both from HUD and questions from you all. So, we are hopefully going to be able to give you the most we know at this point. Regarding HMIS and emergency housing vouchers. and then Genelle, and I put together, well really just Genelle, but all of us work really hard on the and we are going to just give you a quick year and review of AAQ results for the year. And talk about what's coming up for December's meeting and then close out today.

Mary Schwartz: So, Karen. Again, I'm not even say it's not old. It's old school, Karen. She is, she's the regional HMIS original lead HUD representative, welcome and take it away.

Karen DeBlasio: Thank you, Mary, thank you for that introduction. Hi, everybody, it looks like there's about 300 of us on the phone today. I suspect some of the folks that are that are on the call might recognize me or my name. Sorry from my disheveled mess. My hat hit my yeah, head hat or whatever. This was like, my day after the NOFA closing. Look, I guess SNAP staff we're working pretty late until the night last night. So, anyways, I'm very excited to be here.

Karen DeBlasio: I know Fran, with that, she could not be, but I'm very excited to be here because I remember way back in the day when I used to do these calls. So, the 1st thing we want to touch on is Mary said, when you talk a little bit, just about comparable databases. Really? I'm here kind of to give you kind of a HUD perspective here and let, you know, HUD recognizes that at this point, most comfortable database systems are not compliant.

0:06:13.764,0:06:28.673
Karen DeBlasio: We know that we've had some major issues some of the solutions that were out there, and we're really asking leads and communities to work with their, their victim service providers that are not compliant to help them move to compliance systems. We have been hearing that some victim service providers are hesitant to move to a new system. We're really encouraging COC's to really docent the efforts that they're making to work with the service providers request TA from HUD.

Karen DeBlasio: There's lots of available TA around this. We are unfortunately we're hearing a little bit of rumblings now that the competition has closed. I think it's kind of what's done is done, but we were hearing from victim services providers, kind of frustrated that they felt like they weren't getting funded, or they were people were trying to change recipients because they weren't comfortable or their database wasn't what they weren't on a comparable database, so we just want to make sure that we know that this is a work in progress. We want to make sure you guys know when you take this back to your communities that we know this is a work in progress. And we really hope that you all with the support of your continuous care partners will help to move these folks forward and we know it's a lot of work, so we appreciate, you know, we appreciate all of that.

Karen DeBlasio: This has been something that's been going on since before I started doing, which is a really long time. So, next slide.

Karen DeBlasio: So just to go over some reporting timelines, as you can see, I won't read all the timelines to you on the on that are, on the slide. You can see them. I do want to just kind of give you a little bit of

background. I know it can be kind of frustrating in the lead role, trying to understand what's happening or maybe feeling, like, not a lot is happening. 1st just know that the vendors system. The vendors have been doing a lot. They've been working on testing their LFA output. They're resolving flags, they're working in a test environment resolving flags.

Karen DeBlasio: They're doing this while the contractor Abt is reviewing and testing flags internally on sample data. They've been actively involved with our contractors with Abt and partnerships center and vetting sample code and developing the 2021 specs. So, we really appreciate the vendor's hard work. I just wanted to make sure that you all knew as leads that there was work happening.

Karen DeBlasio: I know that the LSA date keeps getting pushed and I know how frustrating that is, being in a community. I know how frustrating HUD keep pushing things. And now we're into holiday time. This is 10 percent.

Karen DeBlasio: I'm here to tell you and Fran wanted to make sure that you told me to make sure I was clear. This is all on HUD, these dates getting pushed. Unfortunately, it is, because of our kind of our internal process that we have to follow to get our resources in place to, in order to continue to fund our providers and our TA provider and our contractors that are doing this work for us.

Karen DeBlasio: So, I just want to make sure you all are aware of that, we know that this is late, and we do not want to- right now we're anticipating open LSA opening to begin at the end of this month, which we know it is not ideal. I apologize for the lateness and opening at probably one of the worst times of the year. Just know it's a HUD process thing. Our partners would have opened it earlier this Fall, for sure.

Karen De: So, another thing I want to talk about is the point in time count. You guys saw I know people were astounded that in the middle of closing day of the NOFA, we drop this PIT HIC. But we did, and we are, we anticipate that are preparing COCs to count. People that received an exception last year should note that the exception only applied to 2021. We know that we are still in the middle of a pandemic. A lot of communities, it's still a very real big issue, but we are, we are still proceeding as if there's going to be a count. We do not anticipate any waivers or anything like that.

Karen De: So, you really, you know, you should be planning and be expecting to do account in 2022 in January. I think that might be it for me.

0:11:09.538,0:11:23.933
Mary Schwartz: Karen, I have one question from the community, and you may not be able to answer this and if not, then we'll have Brit submit an AAQ about it. But basically, you know, the, the regulations call for biannual count on an annual account and does 2021. if there was an exemption given, does that still count as a ccount? Do they need to count this year's count as last year's count because they got excused from last year's count? You know what I mean?

Karen De: Yeah, no, and that's a good question and actually, as I was looking at the slide and talking, I was thinking, oh, the 2022 was not a required year. So, the 2020, and I will verify this, because I have not had this conversation with Norm, and, you know, internally. But 2022 we are still going with what we've gone with all these years. The odd years are the required years. So, 2022 technically is not a required year. I think, personally, me, coming from a community, my issue would be if I got an

exemption and I didn't do a 2021 count, the required count and it's 2022, and maybe I don't normally do a count on that year because it's not required.

Karen DeBe: I know a lot of our communities don't have the resources to do 1 every year. But I would maybe try to consider doing 1 or talk about doing 1. because what happens is we pull the last data that we have and now we're getting to the point where your data's going to be pretty old. It's gonna be obviously, 2 years old. So, but, 2022 is not technically a required year. So, and what we do when we, when we gather data, if we have folks who did not do a PIT count in a non-required year or year, it's not required, we just use the most recent data we have for them. So, we, I will get this these folks a message to you if it's if we're changing something, but that would be a huge change. And so, I like 99.9% sure, we are not making 2022 are required year, but that's my kind of thoughts on it at this point.

0:13:14.969,0:13:22.464
Mary Schwartz: Yeah, Brian, there might be more coming in, but I just want to throw out there that there is this is real. We're not the PIT experts here. None of us on this call and HIC experts, but there will be an office hour for PIT HIC very soon. I think it was published in the list serve that went out yesterday. So, please, if you're somebody in your community, who's thinking about stuff definitely get on that office hours. That's gonna be available to COCs

Mary Schwartz: All right Brian, anything else before we move on.

Brian: There's a couple of folks that didn't get the PIT notice in their email. So, I just put the link to that in the chat for them to go find that there.

Mary Schwartz: Okay, thanks, Brian. And the anticipated due date for point time and HIC submissions so that's what's on the screen right now. So, we're saying, right now it tentatively opens March 2022 to submit your PIT HIC data to HUD via HDX 1.0 that's pretty much on schedule with what it's been the last couple years. So, that's what we anticipate.

Mary Schwartz: Okay. Moving right along. Definitely. Interrupt me if we need to stop at any point.

Mary Schwartz: So just a quick recap on some of these submissions that have occurred, you know, the RHY grantees in your communities right now are, anxiously still trying to upload their data. We're at about 74, I think actually 76 complete, I saw this morning.so we have some room to go there, and the repository closes this Friday for RHY. So, SSVF the uploads occurred at the 1st, half our 1st, week of November.

Mary Schwartz: So, it was the 1st uploads for the for fiscal year 2022 and the CSV files in fiscal year and 2022 data standards and submissions, so there were a lot of DQ issues around the reporting you might have heard about those as an HMIS lead. Everything is getting fixed for the December upload. Remember the cool thing about RHY and SSVF, right, RHY is gonna move to a quarterly upload and with each quarter, you go back to the beginning of the grant year, fiscal year for each upload. And so, you can continue to grow your files and fix your data quality and have another chance at uploading the data 4 times for SSVF, it's 12 times a year. So, monthly uploads for SSVF and we'll continue to get better at those the big news on the SSVFs side in terms of uploads. And this is something I wanted the leads to here. 1st, I'm not sure that SSVF grantees have heard this yet the, the BA is considering tightening the timeline for us as SVVF uploads from 9 calendar days at the beginning of each month to 7 calendar days at the beginning of each month.

Mary Schwartz: I went through and did the, the kind of how many business days does that give you? So, each month? Our 5, there's 5 business days for every month of the fiscal year to do SSVF uploads. So, if they end up tightening that timeline, it will occur at some point during this fiscal year. And, so more information will come, but just so you have a little early head up.

0:16:46.229,0:16:50.009
So, I see some questions in here. HMIS vendor had an error in the right extracts, so they were not accepted. They are working on it.

Mary Schwartz: Yeah, and we the official closes this Friday, we have the ability to extend it a little bit, especially in the case of the error is the upload fault, not you know, RHY Grantees fault if it's on the repository side. We'll certainly be, potentially giving some exemptions so there's a RHY service desk to record. Your grantees should be well aware of where to record their service tickets for RHY Issues.

How do we find out if the RHYproject is done an upload?

0:17:34.409,0:17:37.679
Mary Schwartz: That gets the RHY's of service desk. Link Brian, I can get that to you at some point. So, you can. Answer that there's a RHY's l service desk, and we can answer any. Did these people do this or not questions that you might have?

Mary Schwartz: Does the current SSVF assets we have data quality issue include the issue where gender is reported is 100 missing? Absolutely. That was a huge oversight on the VHA side, and that has since been programmed and it's in testing right now. It'll definitely be fixed on production by the time the next up let's go in December. 1st.

Mary Schwartz: PDX. Great. Okay. Where do we get help for PDFs, if no response from the PDX email address that you could put it into the, and we can wrap it around to different technical. Assistance providers that are closer to the PDX work. Jenny. Do you have any better answer than that? On the pass Apr reporting.

Jenny: No, I'm sorry, I don't have any additional information on that.

Mary Schwartz: Okay so if if the path PDX folks aren't responding. Just make sure you say, hey, I've tried this email address and no response. Can you just so you don't get accidentally get the same standard answer, try the email address. That would be annoying.

Mary Schwartz: So, 1 question, we are the HMIS Lead do the grantees upload the, or are we responsible? That's a local decision. Alex. That is kind of how the COCs and CSEs and grantees have decided to work together and make the uploads happened. That might also have something to do with software capacity. There are some software products out there, or implementations of those software products whereby, the grantee level doesn't have access to CSV files, only system admins can run CSV files or some sort of structure like that. So, this is very much a local. A local determination as to whether the SSVF grantees, or the HHS leads are supposed to be uploading.

0:19:49.949,0:19:59.638

Mary Schwartz: I think why we bring it up on this call is because obviously, if they get rejections, whether it's, it's a HMIS, RHY grantees or SSVF grantees, that there are problems with their upload. They're being told to go contact their lead to get those problems resolved, if it's a problem with the CSV files, so we just want you guys aware that these uploads are happening and going to continue to happen throughout the year.

Mary Schwartz: I think Brian did I, do it?

Brian: There's a couple more in here, is RHY our considering updating their gender options to the new data standards?

Mary Schwartz: That's a complicated question, because RHY that has followed the data standards that HUD publishes that's what they sign up to do. So, any system where you're collecting RHY data would be updated to the new data standards. I think that's a very clear yes. RHY, doesn't have to consider it should already be done. So, it's possible that you're asking more like I've seen some reports come out of RHY data and the reports that I've seen, don't have the new gender categories and are they thinking about that? And I, that's really a question for whoever generated that report or, or whatever it is you're looking at. But if we're talking about collecting the data in an HMIS environment. RHY is absolutely on the new data standards.

Mary Schwartz: RHY reports should be in fiscal year 2022 format. Yes.

Brian: Is there a place similar to RHY's that people can SSVFs CoCs was uploaded?

Mary Schwartz: Absolutely, that would be the Act abt associate com email after com email address. So, I'll give you those 2 when I have a break. Brian, and we can get those to help desk assignments out there any more detailed or questions around SSVF or RHY why we don't take those over to forumus and we will move right along in this regard. Genelle, l, if you wouldn't mind going and getting those 2. Links, maybe while I'm talking. If you know where they are, so it's the SSVF email address and the RHY service desk.

0:22:30.449,0:22:33.689
Mary Schwartz: kay, system performance measures, right? That's, system performance measures in HDX 1.0 1 were open and accepting upload, so I did a quick status for you guys on who this is nbers of. So, 347 of you 389 COCs have not started your system performance measures.
The 27 out of the 389. 7% have a status of in progress, which means you've at least, like, click some buttons and started. Maybe not all the data's in there, yet. 15 of you have submitted your system performance measures so far. So, we're at about a 4% submission.

Mary Schwartz: Remember those are due at the end of February it's getting up on the holiday time, and then point in time count happens, gets really busy. So, we would strongly encourage you to submit., early you. Also, I added the link to the system performance measures data. that's available on the HUD Exchange for you, if you want to go and get the past 6 years. Of the data that you've submitted in a nice Excel spreadsheet so that you can kind of look over time and make sure that what you're submitting right now, you know, is of high quality as compared to years past. That would be a great thing to do, and we've included that in the resources.

Mary Schwartz: Okay moving right along.

Mary Schwartz: Lots of talking for Mary today. so, let's talk about emergency housing vouchers and my friends on the call are going to jump in if I get anything wrong, or need to slow down or get less confusing or whatever.

Mary Schwartz: Sp, emergency housing vouchers, as you guys know that public, Indian housing, public and Indian housing office at HUD released the 70,000, roughly 70,000 vouchers for use in your communities. And because of that and over the course of several months as that information, and the vouchers themselves have been out to, given out to the communities. some things have been made really clear through either guidance that exists or things we've said, on this call or you know, what's in the notice we've taken a lot of answers from that. AAQs Certainly.

Mary Schwartz: So, what I'm going to try and do in the next 4 slides is summarize for you what HUD has for sure. Said what HUD had confirmed about the use and the tracking and the everything to do with the data around emergency housing vouchers. Okay.

Mary Schwartz: So, 1st, it is very clear. And this is part of the notice for HV that COCs must consider how to collect data about the COCs referrals to emergency housing vouchers in the communities coordinated entry system. Which isn't necessarily HMIS, right but is a process coordinated CES's is defined as a process the community uses for coordinated entry. So why does HUD do this?

Mary Schwartz: Well, right, you know, as the was being talked about and considered, and before it became public, like the thought was, let's make sure COCs that consider how to collect the data. About the COCs referrals because we want the Use to include prioritization, you know, like they are doing locally. we want to be equitable; we want the access EHV to be a part of a larger coordinated system and the COCs like, in the notice, are part of the process to figure out who's going to be given the EHV.

Mary Schwartz: So COCs are encouraged to use it to HMIS the collection of reporting system for tracking of the COCs referrals we modified the data standards. We put. It gets nber 17 and the list of CE events so you can see with some of the CAPER reporting or other reporting, you're doing locally like, our COC has referred this client to the EHV. To the voucher, and we've recorded in the HMIS. You're encouraged to do that and why are you encouraged? Because is an HMIS is an established system to gather your coordinated entry so, especially for those COC funded-by-funded coordinated entry services only projects that makes a whole lot of sense.

Mary Schwartz: It's, it's Not required, but it is encouraged. And if you come up with a different way in your coordinated entry system and your process, to track emergency housing voucher referrals. That's fine the thing, the HUD wants is that COCs consider how to do it and keep track of the referrals made in some way clear as mud, right? What else have we said?

Mary Schwartz: We have said HMIS project set up is a requirement for the EHV voucher part of EHV so the referrals, right? Are 1 thing but who actually gets placed in those vouchers, or you use those vouchers is another. And what HUD wants to see. Ultimately, on the HIC is, so 70,000 vouchers, right? Somewhere in your communities, they're being used and you're recording those as a kind of a project on, the HIC, which means it's a project set up in HMIS. HIC and HMIS and should be at this point for you as a HMISlead pretty synonymous what I set up as a project in each of HMIS should be a thing I'm thinking of is my part of my housing inventory unless it's 1 of the housing. Types project types that don't

get included in the HIC but generally speaking, if we're talking about things that serve clients in our community with housing, that's both HIC and HMIS project.

0:29:14.483,0:29:16.943
Mary Schwartz: So, you have to EHV Project counting the inventory of vouchers set up as a project in HMIS.

Mary Schwartz: However, participating in H. M. I. S. Which means in short putting client level data into that project and enrolling clients and exiting client and all the data quality that gets added to the requirements of being an enterprise participating agency. That's not required for those, EHV housing vouchers. You do not have to track, what people are in which vouchers in which units in your community.

Mary Schwartz: Why it didn't HUD say that? Mostly, it boils down to. The requirements for participating in HMIS, and we all know, are pretty high. Right? You set COCs as a several data standard. Rules and timeliness and accuracy and all that good stuff andHUD did not want to require those same onerous data collection responsibilities at the same time that you and your leadership and everybody working in your community were busy responding to the pandemic.

Mary Schwartz: And additionally, we know that the pH, grantees, the have their own data systems to record the household information client information the data about the people staying in those vouchers, taking up those getting the vouchers locally and being housed with the EHVvouchers. Those are data that are being collected by the PHA.

Mary Schwartz: So, to not add to the burden, in short HUD wants the housing inventory record. But not the client data around the EHV. Units, projects, however, you want to think about it.

Mary Schwartz: So, we've said that, and it's been pretty clear and we've talked about it a few times on these calls. We put out documentation Brian righ around those concepts. We still get a lot of questions like, wait, what's the requirement? What exactly do I have to do? What's the, you know so we can continue to like. Clarify all those things.

Mary Schwartz: What comes next then for many of you, and this is something else we've talked through and now confirmed. You sent back to us. Okay we don't have to do. We don't have to do participating, but what if we want to. What, if we want to have the data on the people that are served with EHV in our community so that we can do deeper dives into the data analysis and know what's going on in our community, HUD not preventing you from doing that.

Mary Schwartz: So, what has HUD confirmed if you want to you can. Capture housing data your client data information in. HUD suggests, I guess strongly, even that you set up the project as a pH housing, only or pH, housing, the services project in HMIS and that is because these types of projects aren't included in those bed coverage analyses. They aren't included in system performance measures, or LSA.

Mary Schwartz: The client data that may or may not be a super high quality for you for the EHVs. Is not included in some of the real strict measures of quality and participation in bed coverage. If you use the project types OH, housing, only your OH housing services, and by the way those 2 project types in aligned to the OPH type in the HIC.

Mary Schwartz: So, in the same way, HUD is saying on the HIC, those projects should be set up as EVH and is a very specific type for purposes of the hip. It includes something from that is pH, housing, only pH, housing services. And additionally, and this is the part that I want to make sure everybody is clear about because if you go and read the notice, the pit notice, PIT HIC notice sorry it'll say very clearly in EHV should be set up as a pH.

0:33:51.959,0:33:59.729
Mary Schwartz: We've been talking about that for a little while. Now we set it on these calls too, and given this guidance, but. Then we started getting AAQS and questions from you all, About the PH project type for EHV. So, can you use PSH as a project type, when you're setting up the client data project in your HMIS where you want to, like, add clients to that project and track their use of the vouchers, can you have that project PSH?

Mary Schwartz: The answer is, yes, you can if you want to, but remember, that is included in the PHA, and the system performance measures and bed coverage calculations. these are. Projects that will be held to a high data quality level. Right? Should be for your community.

Mary Schwartz: It'll be included in performance outcomes things like that. So., it's also going to cause you some heartburn. When you go to submit your., and the project is. Type coded is it's not gonna reject anything, but the instructions in the HIC notice are that it should be pH so you're gonna have to navigate and make some you know. You're just going to have to know why you chose the PSH project justify it. You know, you make sure that it's clear in your community., what the reasons were around going the PSH trial versus keeping it at the pH housing, only pH, housing with services.

Mary Schwartz: I'm going to pause there and just say, is there anything like, are we just bubbled over with questions right now? Brian?

0:35:55.228,0:36:07.619
Brian: There's a couple so, in terms of the HIC, does HUD want to report on EHV of households by, or the total EHV of issued and still looking.

Mary Schwartz: That is guidance that you'll need to look to the HIC notice for.

Brian: And for on the HIC, do they differentiate between beds and vouchers made available to those who are literally homeless versus those who are at risk of homelessness?

Mary Schwartz: The HIC notice says, do not put them at risk of homelessness on the HIC. Just the literally, the homeless.

Brian: We'll go 1 more here. How do we split the inventory amongst families and individuals for that didn't establish a specific nber for households with children that would be served?

Mary Schwartz: I mean, this is the same answer we'd give if you were asking us about anything else too. So, if you're struggling with an inventory designation between your households and your singles and you either make a guess based on best knowledge, or you use data from services that have already been provided under that project. And make some assumptions using data, you either have data that can inform you your information or your decision there, or you don't, you're starting from scratch, which

probably is why it feels like an EHV problem right? Because we haven't done this this intervention before. But you, in either case, HUD can't tell you how to determine tht fFor yourself.

Mary Schwartz: you just have to determine it. there's lots of information in the HMIS data standards under 2.07 bed inventory. It gives some really finite ways to estimate your inventory if you're at the place that you don't have. Data to inform what your inventory should be.

Brian: And I know you started off as saying that we are not the PIT HIC experts that I'm going to keep going with questions for you, Mary.

Mary Schwartz: Yes.

Brian: The the new resources will have coverage rates on the HIC be impacted because of EHVs.

Mary Schwartz: Bed coverage rates on the HIC be impacted because of the EHC. A minute back up a slide no, it's the slide already. We're on this slide. If you do, what we're suggesting, what HUD suggesting. And label your HMIS and HIC projects that you are counting those EHV vouchers in. Clearly telling you to do right everything you've heard from us on these calls. And what you'll see in the HIC notice is that these should be. OPH Projects on the HIC orOH, housing with services in HMIS. Doing that leaves them out of bed coverage calculations.

Mary Schwartz: It leaves them out of HMIS participating calculations. It leaves them out of system performance measures and leaves them out of LSA.

Mary Schwartz: Done problem solved problem solved.

Mary Schwartz: It's still going to be something that you're counting and tracking and looking at in terms of the project level information, but by type coding it at that project level at the way, that HUD is suggesting the client data parts of all of the stuff, that comes up for us around client, data and data, quality and coverage and performance. Is not going to be in the, the important reports that tell us that.

Brian: Can clients nerolled in PH project and PSH project?

Mary Schwartz: Say that again pH and psh?

Brian: Correct yeah.

Mary Schwartz: I think I might have to move on to slide 4. Yep, slide 4 tells us about. These funding briefs, and I think that situation is going to happen. And I think that because the funders are saying that that's what is okay to do that it's going to have to be okay that that might be the case.

0:40:48.894,0:40:57.385
Mary Schwartz: However, you don't have to put client data on the EHV fee voucher portion in HMIS, right? So, that's, you, if you were at the point, that anEHV project is recording the client data and the people that are staying in that project and doing start dates and end dates and housing, moving dates and all of the stuff that goes with recording a client to in a project in HMIS. That's a choice that you've made to to go above and beyond, and I know we're all A plus students.

Mary Schwartz: We are and so it's okay, but we're, we're kind of setting up the guardrails for you to understand that that's going to mean In some cases, you might have that client in that PSH project that the funding is paying for the housing services and the EHV is in this or PH with services project over here and that's the housing voucher. And, like. There's no getting around it. You're gonna have 2 people in 2 different projects that look like they're staying in beds and 2 different permanent housing projects. That is the reality of the funding situation and the HMIS project setup situation that we're in.

Mary Schwartz: What we found when, when we studied in this group of folks that you see on this call and Fran and William Snow and the whole HIT PIC team, an AHAR, like, we're studying, we looked at these funding briefs. HUD saying you can do this, this and this with the HUD funding in regard to helping fund the service portion of but all of those funding briefs are absence. my students at all, there's nothing.

Mary Schwartz: That's that's helpful for the HMIS lead trying to. Navigate a project set up and tracking client data, and also knowing in the back of our heads, like well, but these dual enrollments right are a problem. These like, 1 Body in 2 beds that's a problem. So, what what we're working on now is something that. I guess we'll help guide you through if you are wanting to do this. And here are a few of the bullet points to a much longer document that we hope to get out there very soon.

Mary Schwartz: So, I will say it again, remember HMIS is not required. It's not required for you to put client data in HMIS for the people that are being housed by your EHV. you do have to track the inventory part, but not the client data part and it's the client data part that causes those perceptions of like double counting or overlapping enrollments, et cetera, et cetera.

Mary Schwartz: If you do want to use HMIS for tracking EHV. The project set up. like you just asked, Brian may take the form of OPH. Or, even just PSH, that's what you choose to do and that might be a justification, right? That you don't want to manage these 2 projects, and that you're using your funding COC PSH for the services. And the COC is going to be set up as a PSH you know, just. So, you have like that. Project type congruence you could choose to do that EHV but depending on how you fund the services portion of the project I started using and I don't think these are like real words yet.

Mary Schwartz: Maybe just by saying them, I'll bring them into existence, but like, there's housing. Assistance and then the housing supports that go along with that assistance. So however, you're blending those fund sources and and again there's funding briefs out there that say you can do that with COC PSH, COC RH. You can do that with you can do that with COC RH.

Mary Schwartz: So, however, you are doing that.is going you're going to have to think about how I am reporting. The services portion, right? How am I telling the funders about the people that are served with the services? And if there are any funders asking for it, which I don't think there are, how am I going to, you know, separately talk about the people that were,
They got the housing portion of it and how do I set those up right? In HMIS. So, we don't have any excellent answers for you.

Mary Schwartz: I think that, you know, we're, we're kind of trying to sort through and give you the best we can with the data standards as they exist. I would say, and if I were doing this myself, if I'm going to go here at a minim, I would have my RH project set up with an inventory of 0. like, if I'm doing a COC RH is funding the services of the housing, I would, I would probably do some sort of. Project set up that

allows me to kind of keep those services parts of the funding separate from the actual housing part of the funding. Cause this 1 RH project may be able to do both. And I may want to know that separately.

Mary Schwartz: No, I don't have a preference there. We can go and send that link. That's fine.

Mary Schwartz: I'm looking at the the questions so sorry, I got distracted so that's like, if I'm taking the EHV funding and I'm carrying it with an R. H, source of funding and I know I need to track those RH folks.in this project that I've always traditionally like, thought of as a residential project and has an inventory Maybe I could tease that out and kind of have an average RH project with. 0, for the services and RH project that's actually doing housing as like, a separate. Many people do not want to get into the realm of separate projects and managing administratively all of the implications there.

0:47:07.829,0:47:13.139
Mary Schwartz: Totally totally understand that, but I guess where we see our best guidance. Being for you as an HMIS lead, is that, In order to avoid the perceptions. In the data, and in order to, like, make sense of the data us. In our communities and how our interventions are working and because a funder is saying it's okay to do this, you may have to start figuring out your project set up in such a way that you can tell the difference between a funding source that. Is paying for housing versus a funding source that is. Paying for housing supports for somebody else's housing.

Mary Schwartz: I don't think this is anything new for folks who have been grappling with. this idea for years, I think that it's always kind of been there on the VA side too. Like SSVF Pays for people who are in a bash housing voucher, SSVF pays for support of services for some period of time after the clients been. House by the bash router, it's the same kind of idea. Like, SSVF isn't necessarily services only but it's housing support to help the person in another fund sources housing And that's an okay thing from the funder perspective. So, how do you represent that accurately in both your HIC and HmIS so that you can avoid as much as possible? The implications of. It is looking like somebody's house by 2 different. Housing projects at the same time.

Mary Schwartz: There's nothing in the data standards that says you can't too. And that's the other thing to remember is the data standards don't say you absolutely can't have somebody enrolled into housing, residential projects at the same time. That doesn't that's not guidance that exists in the data. But it is in the data standards, but it is a logical kind of I'm looking at my data. I'm trying to make use of who's in what I'm trying to understand client outcomes and system outcomes.

Mary Schwartz: You know, it's a logical assumption to make that you wouldn't have 1 body in 2 beds.

Mary Schwartz: So, I'm on the track of keep inventory accurate. I think William snow just joined us, William. We're kind of deep in the, The response that the H. M. I. S. TA team here on this call is having to those funding briefs, right? And trying to help HMIS leads grab with the idea that 1st, and foremost HMIS is not required for HMIS in the in terms of client data. But, If they want to do it, there's gonna be some stuff to tackle in terms of managing that client data for EHV use in. In combination with the fund sources that will be used for the housing services.

Mary Schwartz: So, I'm going to keep going unless you want to interrupt me at any point, right?

Mary Schwartz: So that was the, our RH project like, I'm using my RH project funding with my and, like, that was our kind of suggestio for keeping inventory more accurate. If you're gonna go that route.

Mary Schwartz: On the PSH side, so I'm taking my COC PSH project And I'm going to use some of the housing, Not housing dollars, but I'm going to use some of the support dollars to help support the folks that are getting housed with the EHV, with that voucher if I were managing that myself locally, I would think about, like, well, my PSH project has kind of an inventory account of people I expected to serve. I'm probably still counting the same nber of people. But maybe the EHV project is like a separate project over here. And gets the inventory count that I expect to house with those PSH dollars, supporting the people using the EHV, and maybe I'm gonna, like, reduce my PSH project inventory by that. Same nber just to kind of even out the fact that EHV is kind of coming in and housing. Some folks and PSH is now just supporting the housing assistance, not providing the housing assistance.

Mary Schwartz: Kind of this idea that, like your inventory right is reflective of. anticipate. Serving and so, if an if an inventory nber here if you can find funds, that kind of help supplement the same nber of people then you and you have to have that other funding as kind of its own set up and and track it in separately. You may want to kind of adjust the assumptions on the 1st project accordingly. You may find that you can do with some of the features you might have locally in your software,

Mary Schwartz: I don't, you know, I don't know, there was a world that Karen lived in with us, where, you know, services was an HMIS data standard, and you could kind of blend all kinds of stuff into 1 project and itemize your your services that way. some people might still have that in existence, but that's certainly not a data standard.

Mary Schwartz: So, if you're trying to figure out who is housed with, what funding and what funding is doing, what portion of that client's services right? Services and housing and blending funding you want to think about, and I guess us like Our summary document here that we're hopefully hoping to get out to, you. Soon is kind of helping you think through how I would adjust, or make sense of the inventory, if I'm going to throw this EHV client data in with these funding sources that already kind of have inventory expectations on them.

Mary Schwartz: Okay. I'm going to pause. I'm seeing some traffic here. William, we had a question, and maybe you can say it better than me. Back to this slide where, that question is William on I haven't heard. Hi. Yeah, I just want to make sure I'm not talking to that.

William Snow: I think I'm on. Can you hear me?

Mary Schwartz: Yes, you are? Hi, sir. Okay.

Mary Schwartz: The idea that putting the EHV projects that are needing to be captured on the HIC and how the HIC guidance is saying do it as, and we've said on the housing other housing only or pH, housing, PH services how that impacts the bed coverage rates. Why someone might choose to do PH, but why we would probably suggest they not all that kind of. Question around the implications of the project types for EHV.

0:54:18.355,0:54:22.855
William: Sure, so there's several ways to think about it. And you probably talked a little bit about some right? You think about in terms of well, what does it represent in the 1st, place about projects covered and full coverage in your CoC. then there's implications in terms of how the bed covers rate impacts of the reports I'm going to asse you guys spoke a little bit about that.

William: For instance, doesn't OPH flow in to the. LSA Or the system performance measures, and so it has minimal to no impact on those reports. Then there's the question around scoring. So, I will say I am prohibited to say exactly how the impact is from scoring.

William: I can tell you what you see already in the NOFA, and in the application process. So, for the application that just closed in question 2.A.5. You were required to provide bed coverage for every single project type. we look at that bed coverage the NOFA says if it is in in aggregate actually Below 85%, then you're going to need to provide some information around what you're going to do to get it to 85 percent or above that applies to the aggregate. It also applies to each individual. OPH is counted there.

William: We have the flexibility to determine. Whether or not exceptions should be identified, I will say for disasters, we have not required that disaster base beds, be included in your bed coverage. So, that's been done historically, and we will have the flexibility to determine that in the future. With regard to EHV beds, as we stayed in the past, we know it's not required. Our HIC. Notice actually said that we would not expect it. Especially if it's in an OPH, but I can't speak. To scoring for the future, until you see a NOFA speaks specifically about it, but that's just kind of to let, you know, there are some options there that we have in determining how, how we treat EHV beds relative to your HMIS bed coverage. And our intent at this point is to think about it, in terms of how we communicated our expectation around HMIS bed coverage,

William who is that it does not require. Especially for OPH, it might be required EPH From so we would discourage that generally that's largely because of the impact on your other reports So, that's just the kind of flag it for how we might do it in the future, but we can't speak to what will actually happen until you see the NOFA. Mary, does that answer the question?

Mary Schwartz: I think so.

Mary Schwartz: I because I've been talking don't really know what questions are still out there to be answered or not. And that was the end of the slide. So., we have William on.

Mary Schwartz: Oh, Genelle you have to go? I'll go through the AAQ thanks.

Mary Schwartz: Do we want to have William address any more specific questions? Jessie Brian. Jenny, Karen, I haven't been watching the questions come in.

Mary Schwartz: No.

Brian: I think we can move on now and we can start things in the chat as we go along.

Mary Schwartz: Okay.

Mary Schwartz: Well thanks, William. I'm going to just do a quick AAQ year end review and then we'll look at questions some more and wrap up soon, as soon as we feel, we got a mass of questions answered.

Mary Schwartz: So, unfortunately, this isn't very clear, but the top 3 here so we looked at all the AAQs for the last 13 months on HMIS desk. And this is more of an assessment of our performance as your TA providers, and as your HUD reps, than any reflection on you. But because, we say the words AAQ and ask you to put in AAQs, and I think it is out main source of technical assistance for you. That we wanted to give you a little feedback of where we stand at the end of this year's. HMIS data standards is the top topic there, followed by HMIS Reporting, which inclused LSA, APR, all that stuff were circling around about right now. And federal partnering programs is last. Really all the things we've covered on this call, is also the top priorities for you ,as you tickets over the course of the year.

Mary Schwartz: There are some currently open stats. So, this is box and whisper that gives you somewhat of a statistical analysis of maximum days and Minimum days. That's the top in the bottom of each vertical line, and then the dark horizontal line, either in the middle of the box on the right or the bottom of the box on the left that tells you the median number of days.

Mary Schwartz: So, tickets that are in draft status are ones that we still have to write answers for, so less, you know, hovering, less than 10 days at the most 9 days. It looks like to draft a response and the outlier of 40 days max to review and actually hit send, isn't as significant as the median, they're telling us it's about 7 days to respond.

Mary Schwartz: So, 2 days median to draft a response. 7 days median to respond to the tickets. That's fairly decent numbers and we're always looking at this ourselves to see how we can improve. And then this is just the number of the average answer times on the desk is less than 5 across, most of the months, if you follow that dark median line across all those boxes and whiskers.

Mary Schwartz: that's a monthly analysis of our AAQs. And any of those dots that are floating up around 20,40 days or more. those are usually policy questions and things that we don't have answers to yet. Like, they EHV are very great example of something coming out us, getting great questions from you and kind of sitting with the policy implications, and, you know, eventually circling back around to instructions.

Mary Schwartz: So, that's all I want to say on AAQ. I do see that. Maybe William, can we go back to.

Mary Schwartz: Oh, right. It was a question. I'm not going to switch the swipe slides. I'll land on the resources tab, but when Karen was walking us through the kit notice and the timelines for reporting. The question came up if this was goanna be a required year, because 21 would have normally been required here, but maybe somebody got an exemption. So, are you, is HUD thinking about the exemptions having an impact on, the biannual requirement?

1:01:38.010,1:01:42.329

William Snow: Yep. Great question. So. The short answer is we would expect everyone to count in 2022 and we likely will shift the way we think about when counts will happen from everyone to even use. The longer answer is there is some new ones there if you've got an exception last year or a waiver, and you did not count there is a regulatory requirement that you will count this year.

William Snow: So, we expect and that's 40% of COCs. We would expect 40% of COCs., already off the bat to be prepping for account right now. Of the other 60% You had some choice as to whether or not you are going to do the counts. although I will say there are strong incentives, both kind of, in the application is actually already saw as the starter. But there is other, like, political pressures and whatnot that are

applied to doing a count in this next year right? In 2022. a lot of this is tied to COVID funding and COVID impact.

William Snow: I know from our perspective, that's something we're definitely going to be looking at. And we plan on returning to using performance and evaluating that stuff in the future. And I'm sure 2022 is going to be important for that.

William Snow: So, in all possible ways that we can strongly encourage that and, and, and let you know that. That will work to your benefit if you do the counts. That's what we're saying. So, if I were you, I would plan on doing a 2022 count.

1:03:35.579,1:03:44.190
Mary Schwartz: Great.

Mary Schwartz: So. Jessie, we put the link on here for the CSV data quality, beta. File that you talked about last month, I think? You did a run through of that, so it's here for folks when they get this slide deck, they'll be able to click on it. It was also an, a listserv. If they didn't get that list serve, it's in multiple places. Do you want to say anything more about that? Well, we have, you.

Jesse Jorstad: Sure, I will also put a link in the chat.so that folks can access it that way as well. So, it went live on Monday, and it can currently be accessed at the place. I'm going to post in the chat. we've had quite a bit of interest in it. There's lots of folks that are downloading it and interacting with it. If you do so and you run into any issues, you can log those on count bucket. But you do need to sign up for an account, which is free. and that is how we will offer support for the tool. So, thanks to everybody who's participating in the testing. I think that's everything.

Mary Schwartz: Awesome.

Mary Schwartz: I'm going to take a minute and be silent and read through the questions that are in my inbox. If anybody else wants to verbally bring anything else, now's the time I'm going to read and not talk for a sec.

Willian Snow: So, Mary, I'm going to address Daniel's question about the PIT being 1 measure and why the emphasis. There are lots of reasons for that. We'll start with the reality that the PIT count is not a perfect measure. we don't have perfect measures. They don't exist, right? So. The PIT Count, 1 of the reasons it gets it gets emphasize so heavily is because it is, extremely public, right? You're encouraged to work with volunteers. That is a very important part of the process. The picture isn't merely about the number. It's about the process as well and the level of engagements and right.

William Snow: It's an overall concept, but it is high visibility for, for people in the public. In fact very rarely, di I meet somebody or here a question regarding other data sets? Even when we've tried to push system performance measures and other things. So, as a political and a, like, public marker, the PIT count will always have some emphasis, no matter what we even try to do to minimize some of that, just because of the political nature now, the picture is great for showing trends anyways. That is one of its greatest values. You have a longitudinal data set, it allows you to look at changes over time, even if the numbers are not perfect. If the count is relatively similar than the trend should be accurate.

William Snow: And so, and we have found over time that it is a very good way of describing that So the picture will likely continue to be important for those reasons and probably others, but hopefully that answers answer your question, Daniel.

Mary Schwartz: Okay.

Mary Schwartz: Someone asked to get this linked to the SPM resource that I talked about earlier and I think they were pointed to the to the programming specifications, and the data submission guidance which are very important system performance measures links. But the one I was talking about is actually the 1 here on the screen system performance measures data. You can actually get 6 years' worth of system performance measures and an Excel spreadsheet, and also we've done some tableau stuff with that data too, but, that link will be here in the webinar when we get the slide deck out to, you.

Mary Schwartz: Scrolling scrolling scrolling.

Mary Schwartz: Jerry said you're not all a plus students and I hard disagree. You're a plus in my book folks.

Mary Schwartz: Why would two PSH enrollments,

Mary Schwartz: Jesse this is for you why would two enrollments at the same time come up with an error on LSA, system performance measures and if it is allowed, technically to happen, as Mary just stated?

1:08:43.614,1:08:50.965

Jesse Jorstad Yes, so some of this is a little bit like breaking news in terms of and guidance coming out for EHVs, really quickly and those things being operationalized.
So, what I can tell you is that this year the staff have implemented a. Like, a threshold of a certain percentage where those overlaps are going to just be flagged as a warning, we're going to ask you to PH into it to make sure that that overlap is correct. This is only, Actually, that's not necessarily the case anyway. There's, there's a little bit of a threshold here, because we realize that things are changing really quickly. I think even based on a meeting that we had this morning; we'll be reviewing this flag to make sure that we're handling things in a way. That is. that makes sense. So, I guess the reason for that is because things are moving fast.

Mary Schwartz: Yeah, I think I'm just goanna point to the last page, which is a reminder of our next meeting I wanted to put a plug in for you to attend on December 15th, because we're going to do a in person kind of feedback session, try and get some feedback on this webinar that we have.

Mary Schwartz: Struggled to put on for you over the course of the year, and hopefully have succeeded in some ways and of course everything has room for improvement. So would love some feedback there. And otherwise, it's going to be a fairly light agenda and mostly just a space for this, like, asking questions and office hours kind of time.

Mary Schwartz: We anticipate you'll be in the middle of LSA, at that point too. So, we'll say space for that, and hopefully be as much of a support for you as we can be.

Mary Schwartz: Oh, hey, Brian.

Mary Schwartz: Ready?

Brian: Ready.

Brian Yes, Mary,

Mary Schwartz: How do you wake up Lady Gaga?

Brian: I don't know Mary. How do you wake up lady guy?

Mary Schwartz: Poker face.

Mary Schwartz: Hello. Some good 1, h? Okay. I told you. It was my all celebrity addition.
I told her Matthew McConaughey earlier today, so thanks everyone for your time and thanks, Karen and William for joining and hopefully we will get these materials out to you ASAP and we'll see you on the next month. Bye.