HOME-ARP: Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

HOME ARP

The Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis will serve as the basis for the PJ's strategy to distribute HOME-ARP funds. It is the PJ's analysis of the Qualifying Populations (QPs) within the jurisdiction as well as their housing, shelter, and service needs. It will inform the PJ's priority needs, support preferences or limitations, and establish methods of prioritization.

REMEMBER
Requirements

Understand the QPs

- **Collect** and use **data** to describe and analyze QPs
- Evaluate the **size and demographic** composition of each QP

Analyze QP Resources

- Identify and consider current **resources available** to QPs
- Identify the QPs **unmet** housing, shelter, and services needs
- Determine **gaps** in shelter and housing inventory and the service delivery system
- Establish the PJ's **priority needs** for the QPs

CONSIDER
Best Practices

- Use the Allocation Plan Template and tips
- Consult the **CoC** for homeless data context
- Use **consultations** to supplement data gaps HOME-ARP Consultation Handout
- **Extrapolate** or **estimate data** and explain how inferences were made
- **Document gaps** in the data
- Include **data** in the plan to support the PJ's analysis

Consultation Data Suggestions
- Applicant and Intake Numbers
- Program and Housing Data
- Waitlist and Call Volume Data
- Anecdotal Information
- Referral Statistics

DEMONSTRATE
Compliance

Include Narratives in Plans

Plans may include data, but **must include narratives** of the PJ's analysis for the following:

- **Size** and **demographic composition** of *each* of the QPs
- Housing, shelter, and service **resources** and **needs** for QPs
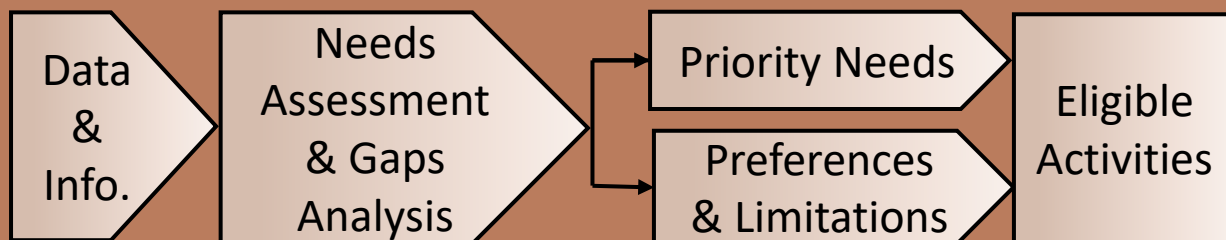- Level of **gaps** in housing, shelter, and service delivery systems

Use Data and Analysis

Plans **must** describe how the data and analysis in this section justifies the following:

- Priority needs
- Funded eligible activities
- Preferences, limitations, and prioritizations (if applicable)

If PJs plan to apply different characteristics of housing instability for QP4, they must do so in this section.

Data & Info. → Needs Assessment & Gaps Analysis → Priority Needs / Preferences & Limitations → Eligible Activities

SUGGESTED DATA RESOURCES

Data may not be available to describe or quantify all four QPs. Requesting program data and information from consultation partners may help fill these gaps. PJs may extrapolate or estimate based on available data and should document their process as well as shortfalls or gaps in the data.

QP1: Homeless

Data collected by the CoC(s):

- Point in Time Count data
- Housing Inventory Count data
- HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) data

ⓘ Plans should acknowledge if the PJ and CoC(s) geographies do not align exactly, estimate as necessary, and explain efforts to collect accurate information. For a list of CoCs serving the PJs, refer to the CoC HOME-ARP/CDBG/ESG Recipient Crosswalk.

QP2: At Risk of Homelessness

- Data collected by homelessness prevention and emergency rental assistance programs
- Eviction data (The Eviction Lab and Eviction Innovation)
- Historical Census of Housing Tables: Crowding
- Data on persons exiting institutions or systems of care
- Local statistics from the following:
  - Community Action Agencies
  - LEAP (Low-income Energy Assistance Program) providers
  - Social Services Department (youth aging out of foster care)

Suggestions for All QPs

- American Community Survey (ACS)
- Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS)
- American Housing Survey (AHS)
- Joint Center for Housing Studies
- Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) planning tool
- CPD Maps Tool
- Recent Consolidated Plan
- Local reports such as housing needs assessments and housing strategies

QP3: Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking

- Domestic Violence Counts (Annual Census) data
- Migration Data Portal (Human Trafficking) data
- National Sexual Violence Resource Center data
- Data from local shelters and victim services agencies
  - Parallel Coordinated Entry system data and reports
  - Call/email volume and turn-away numbers
  - Nights at or over shelter capacity

ⓘ Unlike the CoC regulations, QP 3 eligibility does <u>not</u> require a lack of housing and resources/support networks.

QP4: Other populations

- Public Housing Authority (PHA) waitlist and wait time data
- Short and long-term rental assistance data
- Data collected by homelessness prevention and emergency rental assistance programs
- CoC data for formerly homeless households specifically those currently in temporary, emergency housing
- Data from emergency or temporary housing providers such as those exiting institutions and aging out of foster care

ⓘ Describe additional characteristics associated with housing instability and an increased risk of homelessness.

For guidance on completing the Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis, please refer to the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan template tips.