



Homeless Assistance Programs in the Local Community

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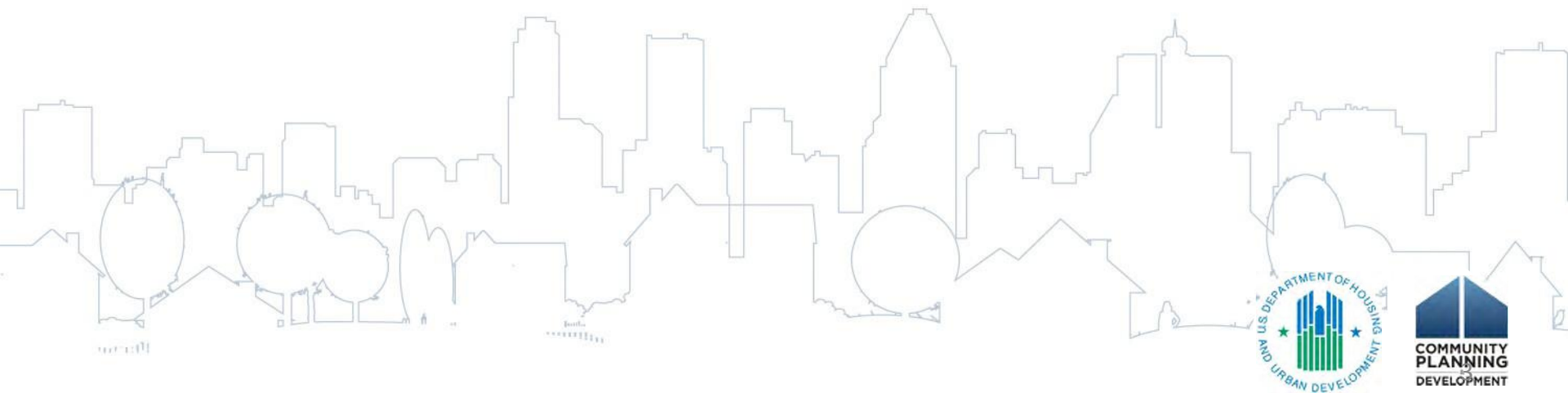
Acronyms Review!

- SNAPS = Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs at HUD
- RRH = Rapid Re-housing
- PSH = Permanent Supportive Housing
- SRO = Single-Room Occupancy Unit
- ESG = Emergency Solutions Grants
- HMIS = Homeless Management Information Systems
- CoC = Continuum of Care



Overview

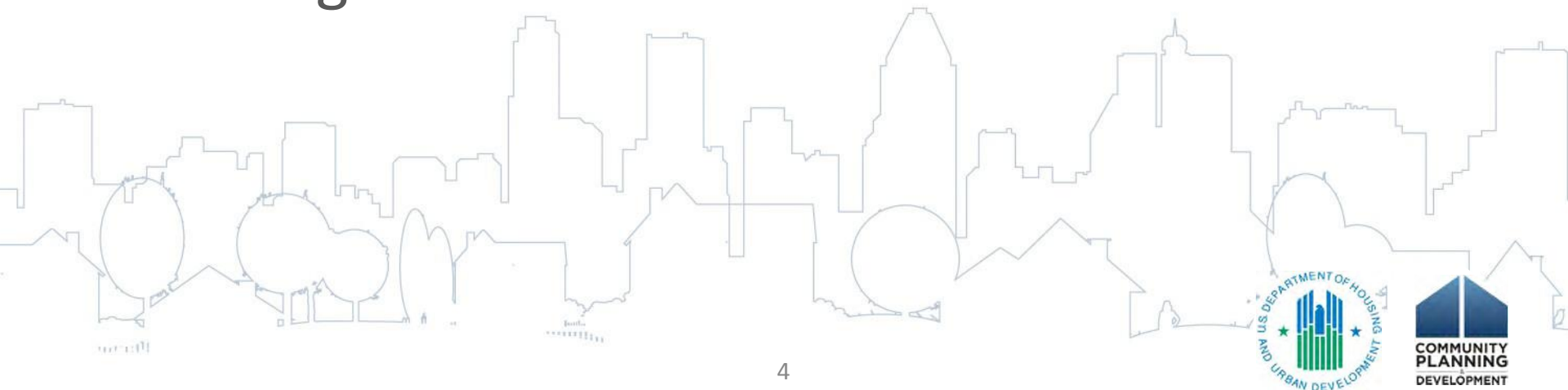
- HUD's Homeless Programs: CoC & ESG Programs
- Coordinated Entry
- Addressing TB with CoC/ESG funds
- Using Homeless Management Information Systems



HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants

HUD has 2 main funding vehicles to assist homeless individuals and families:

1. Continuum of Care (CoC) Program
2. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program



ESG Program

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/esg/>

The ESG program provides funding to:

1. engage homeless individuals and families living on the street;
2. improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families;
3. help operate emergency shelters;
4. provide essential services to shelter residents;
5. rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families; and
6. prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless.



ESG Program

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/esg/>

- Find Local ESG Organizations:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/>

- ESG is a formula grant with recipients that are generally cities, counties, territories, and states.
- Many recipients then sub-grant awards to local organizations delivering services directly to individuals and families.



CoC/ESG Coordination

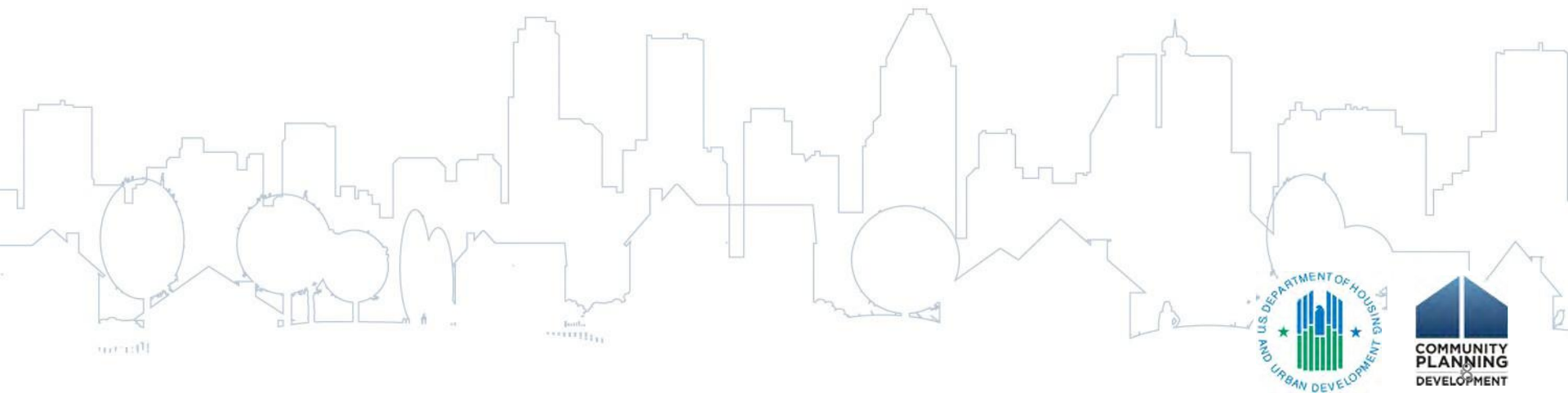
- CoCs and ESG recipients are required to collaborate on:
 - Planning for ending homelessness in the community
 - How the funds are spent
 - Developing the coordinated entry system
 - Written standards for the provision of assistance
 - HMIS



CoC Program

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/>

- A Continuum of Care is a regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals. It consists of representatives from relevant organizations within a geographic area.



CoC Awards

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/>

- Each year, HUD awards CoC Program funding competitively to nonprofit organizations, States, and/or units of general purpose local governments, collectively known as recipients.
- In turn, recipients may contract or subgrant with other organizations or government entities, known as subrecipients, to carry out the grant's day-to-day program operations.
- Local communities make prioritization decisions, ranking proposed and renewal projects based on local needs.



CoC Representative Organizations

Organizations Required to be Represented in the CoC	
Nonprofit Homeless Assistance Providers	Victim Service Providers
Faith-based Organizations	Governments
Businesses	Advocates
Public Housing Agencies	School Districts
Social Services Providers	Mental Health Agencies
Hospitals	Universities
Affordable Housing Developers	Law Enforcement
Organizations that Serve Veterans	Homeless/Formerly Homeless Individuals

*Community organizations, non-profits, units of government, hospitals and many others can join CoCs provided they are within the geographic jurisdiction. Don't need to receive funds to be a member.



CoC Program Components

The interim rule establishes five components through which funds may be awarded:

1. Permanent Housing
2. Transitional Housing
3. Supportive Service Only
4. HMIS
5. Homelessness Prevention



Coordinated Entry Systems

- **Coordinated entry system** means a centralized or coordinated process designed to coordinate program participant intake assessment and provision of referrals.
- A centralized or coordinated assessment system covers the geographic area, is easily accessed by individuals and families seeking housing or services, is well advertised, and includes a comprehensive and standardized assessment tool.
- For more information:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LM1GiyDzhZg&feature=youtu.be>



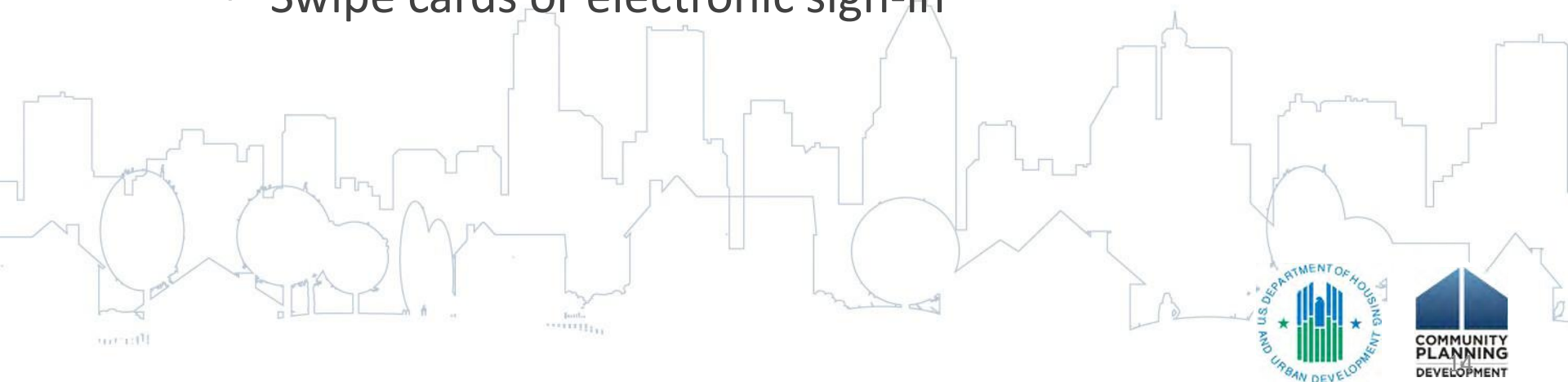
Coordinated Entry Highlights

- **Prioritization:** Helps communities prioritize housing for persons with greatest needs (could include TB)
- Helps ensure that those who need assistance the most receive it in a timely manner (lowering wait times)
- **Standardized access:** All coordinated entry locations and methods offer the same approach using uniform decisionmaking processes
- **Person-centered:** Incorporates participant choice
- No delay in access to emergency services such as shelter



Addressing TB with ESG

- **Staffing costs (ESG Essential Services or Operations):**
 - Cough monitoring
 - Attendance/bed logs & bed maps
 - Symptom screening upon intake
 - Establishing timely referral procedures
 - Routine TB screening
 - Swipe cards or electronic sign-in



Addressing TB with CoC/ESG

- **ESG Outpatient Health Services in Emergency Shelters:** Direct outpatient treatment of medical conditions provided by licensed medical professionals – to the extent other appropriate services are unavailable in the community
- **RRH (CoC or ESG):** Can use VI-SPDAT or other assessment tool to triage clients to help them get into permanent housing quickly.
- **PH using a Housing First approach**



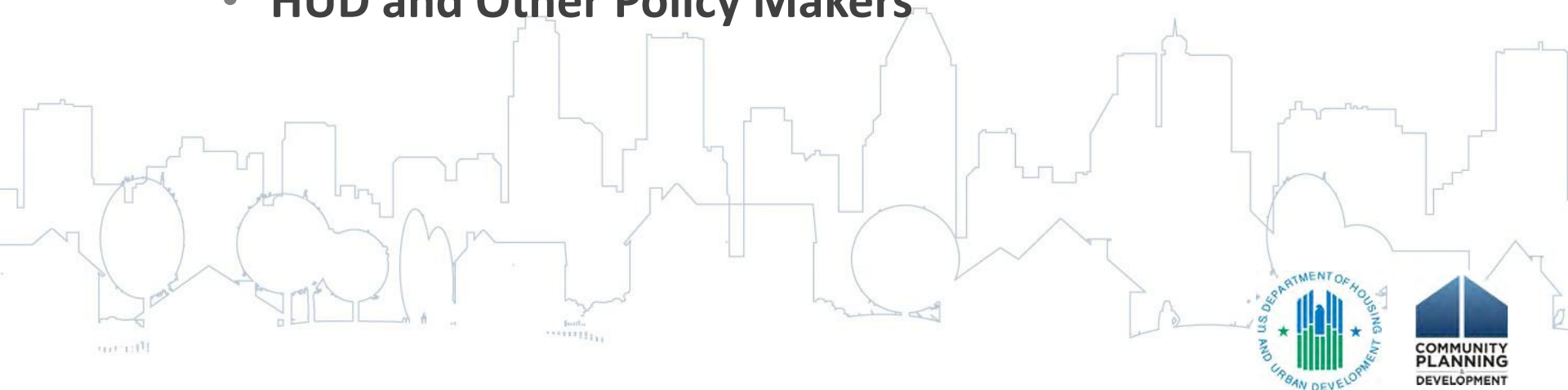
Addressing TB with CoC/ESG

- **ESG Shelter Operations funds:**
 - Health education and communications materials (client handouts, fliers, posters)
 - UV lights
 - Fans, HVAC system upgrades (depending on amount, this might be considered a renovation cost)
 - Masks
 - Cots
- **ESG or CoC HMIS funds:**
 - Analysis and outbreak response



Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hmis/>

- **Required by law for projects using McKinney-Vento funds under the CoC Program. (HEARTH Act)**
- **Collects combination of demographic, service eligibility, and outcome based data elements that assist:**
 - **Homeless Individuals and Families**
 - **Local Projects and Communities**
 - **HUD and Other Policy Makers**



Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hmis/>

Each of the 400+ CoCs uses their own software but all collect data according to the HUD managed HMIS Data Standards

Universal Data Elements:

- Name
- Social Security Number
- Date of Birth
- Race
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Veteran Status
- Disabling Condition
- Residence Prior to Project Entry
- Project Entry Date
- Project Exit Date
- Destination
- Personal ID
- Household ID
- Relationship to Head of Household
- Client Location Code
- Length of Time on Street, in an Emergency Shelter or Safe Haven



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Program Specific Data Elements:

- Housing Status
- Income and Sources
- Non-Cash Benefits
- Health Insurance
- Physical Disability
- Developmental Disability
- Chronic Health Condition
- HIV/AIDS
- Mental Health Problem
- Substance Abuse
- Domestic Violence
- Contact
- Date of Engagement
- Services Provided
- Financial Assistance Provided
- Referrals Provided
- Residential Move-In Date
- Housing Assessment Disposition
- Housing Assessment at Exit



Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hmis/>

HMIS currently used by several other federal departments to create a common understanding of the extent and nature of homelessness in the United States.

Each department develops and contributes data elements with assistance from HUD and leverages the common investment in developing data that each can use to fulfill its mission.

By design, in each implementation the local Continuum of Care governs the release of data.



More Information/Next Steps

Request a meeting with your local Continuum of Care

Meet with ESG funded organization in your community/state

Check out www.hudexchange.info

HUD and CDC exploring opportunities to distribute information across programs to increase knowledge about complementary projects in local communities.

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