

System Overview 2021

Prepared for the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development

Prepared by Capacity for Change, LLC Updated on February 10, 2021

Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care

The mission of the Eastern PA Continuum of Care (CoC) is to end homelessness throughout its geographic region, which encompasses 33 counties, primarily rural, in the eastern part of Pennsylvania.



Connect to Home Coordinated Entry System of Eastern PA

The Connect To Home: Coordinated Entry System of Eastern PA (CES) coordinates and manages access, assessment, prioritization and referral to housing and services for any person(s) experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness in the following counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Bradford, Cambria, Carbon, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lebanon, Lehigh, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Pike, Schuylkill, Somerset, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne and Wyoming.

Participation in CES is required for all projects funded by HUD Continuum of Care or Emergency Solutions Grants (including those administered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania) and strongly encouraged for all other housing and service providers in order to ensure equitable and coordinated access for all.

Connect To Home CES Leadership and Management

Governance: Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care (CoC) Governing Board

Oversight: Eastern PA CoC Coordinated Entry Committee

HMIS Administration: PA Department of Community & Economic Development

Technical Assistance Provider: Capacity for Change, LLC

HUD CoC Project Grant Recipient and Subcontractor: Housing Alliance of PA

Call Center Manager: PA 211

CES Regional Managers: Central Valley Region - Cumberland County Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Lehigh Valley Region - United Way of Lancaster, Northern Tier Region - Clinton County Housing Authority, Pocono Region - Pocono Mountains United Way, South Central Region - Blair County Community Action Agency

Domestic Violence Survivor CE Specialist: Transitions PA

Veterans CE Specialist: Lebanon VA Medical Center

Connect To Home CES Access Points

The Eastern PA Connect To Home CES Call Center is powered by PA 211. Residents in need may call 2-1-1 or 855-567-5341 toll-free *or* text their zip code to 898-211. Residents may also access Connect To Home in person at any of the following Access Sites.

Central Valley Region

Community CARES, 50 West Penn Street, Carlisle, PA 17013

CSO Community Action, 2 East St. Shamokin, PA 17872

CSO Community Action, 16 Sherwood Drive, Bloomsburg, PA 17815

CSO Community Action, 228 Arch Street, Sunbury, PA 17801

CSO Community Action, 219 Filbert Street, Milton, PA 17847

Lebanon VA Medical Center (Veterans only)

Mifflin Juniata Human Services, 20 N Wayne Street, Lewistown, PA 17044

Perry Housing Partnership, 42 W. Main St., New Bloomfield, PA 17068

Servants to All, 4 South Centre Street, Pottsville, PA 17901

Union-Snyder Community Action, 713 Bridge Street Suite 10, Selinsgrove, PA 17870

Lehigh Valley Region

Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering, Inc., 75 E. Market St. Bethlehem, PA 18018 Lehigh Conference of Churches, 1031 Linden St., Suite 104, Allentown, PA 18102 Third Street Alliance for Women and Children, 41 North Third Street, Easton, PA 18042

Northern Tier Region

Bradford County Human Services, 220 Main St., Unit 1, Towanda, PA 18848

STEP, Inc., 214 East Walnut Street, Lock Haven, PA 17745

STEP, Inc., 2138 Lincoln Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

Pocono Region

Street2Feet (Resources for Human Development), 37 Dansbury Terrace, East Stroudsburg PA 18301

South Central Region

Blair County Community Action, 2301 Beale Ave, Altoona, PA 16601

Blair County Community Action, 411 Main Street, Johnstown, PA 15901

Center for Community Action, 195 Drive In Lane, Everett, PA 15537

Center for Community Action, 510 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652

Franklin County Human Services Access Center, 425 Franklin Farm Lane, Chambersburg, PA 17202

Tableland Services, Inc., 535 East Main St., Somerset, PA 15501

Connect To Home CES Services

Current Housing Situation	Screening and Assessment Based on Current Housing Situation	Referral To Housing and Emergency Services Based on Need, Vulnerability, Program Eligibility Criteria, and CoC Prioritization Standards
Household (family or individual) is at risk of becoming homeless based on HUD Category 2, 3, 4 or At-Risk Definitions.	 → Pre-Screen to confirm HH is in CoC region. → Safety Planning (Warm Transfer to 911, DV Hotline, Human Trafficking Hotline, if needed) → HMIS Household Record Creation/Update → Homelessness Prevention Screening and Eligibility Tool 	 → Referrals to Homelessness Prevention Programs (e.g., ESG, CSBG, HAP, SSVF, etc.) → Referrals to Emergency Shelter (Imminent Risk HHs) → Referrals to Food, Legal, Public Benefit Access, and Other Community Services As Needed
Household (family or individual) is experiencing literal homelessness based on HUD Category 1 and/or 4 Definitions.	 → Pre-Screen to confirm HH is in CoC region. → Safety Planning (Warm Transfer to 911, DV Hotline, Human Trafficking Hotline, if needed) → HMIS Household Record Creation/Update → HMIS Triage Assessment → Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) 	 → Placement on the By Name List (BNL) in PA HMIS for Rapid Re-Housing or Permanent Supportive Housing Enrollment → Referrals to Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, and/or Transitional Housing as needed → Referrals to Food, Legal, Public Benefit Access, and Other Community Services As Needed

About PA HMIS

The **Pennsylvania Homeless Management Information System** (PA HMIS) tracks and analyzes the characteristics and service needs of people at-risk or experiencing homelessness.

The more your community knows about a problem, the better equipped community partners are to maximize resources to prevent and resolve the problems at hand. That's the idea behind the Pennsylvania Homeless Management Information System (PA HMIS) overseen by the Department of Community and Economic Development. This community-based software is designed to capture client-level information over time on the characteristics and services needs of women, men, and children at-risk of or experiencing homelessness.

The primary goal is to acquire hard data in order to understand the scope and dimensions of homelessness in order to address the problems more effectively. This benefits service providers and clients' at-risk or experiencing homelessness and enables more efficient use of service through a coordinated entry process.

Total Eastern PA Coordinated Entry PA HMIS Enrollments In 2020

7,334

All (duplicated) households enrolled*

Enrolled by Call Center	75%
Enrolled by Access Sites	25%

^{*}Enrollments increased by <u>50%</u> since 2019.