MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE

HMIS Users Workgroup
October 11, 2022 Minutes

Attendance

HMIS Users Workgroup	
Hunter Belgard, OHCS (Co-chair)	X
Jimmy Jones, MWVCAA (Co-chair)	
Tara Stephen, CHS	X
Kathleen Calder, Easterseals Oregon	X
Kaela Lombardi, MWVCAA/ARCHES	X
Rachel Miller, MWVCAA/ARCHES	X
Jill Tucker, St. Francis Shelter	X
Alisa Tobin, MWVCAA/HOME	X
Robin Winkle, Shangri-La	X
Hannah Paysinger, Sheltering Silverton	
Brenda Newey, UGM, Simonka Place	X
Jan Calvin, MWVHA Consultant	X
Tim Weese, ARCHES	

Guests Present
Ashley Hamilton, Community Action
Dominique Schoessler, Shangri-La
Kim Carbaugh, CHS

Welcome/Introductions/Group Purpose

Hunter asked people to introduce themselves and share how many years they have been using HMIS. The group totaled more than 55 years of experience!

Hunter reviewed the group's purpose (printed on the agenda). He encouraged everyone to "scream about what you need" to do good work in HMIS and ask questions when you are not sure or are having an issue. He gave an example:

Exit destination - When a client leaves and does not come back, we don't know their destination. What reason do we use? DON'T USE "No Exit Interview" because HUD will "ding" us. USE "client doesn't know/refused." The group agreed that, basically, by not providing the information, the client refused.

Kathleen noted that SSVF programs would have a different data quality expectation, because the program has time to connect with the client.

Quad Squad Update

Hunter noted that WellSky limits the four CoCs in our HMIS instance to 555 user licenses. Collectively, we were over the limit, so Hunter had to delete some user accounts. He deleted accounts that had not been used in more than a year and reminded everyone of the agency responsibility to notify Tim Weese when an employee leaves the agency or no longer uses HMIS. Our CoC currently has 66 HMIS users.

Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA)

Hunter provided a quick overview of the annual LSA, highlighting that the purpose is data analytics. HUD seeks to use data to solve the problem of homelessness. They shifted from looking at data by the program and the LSA looks at data by system. Example: Exits to permanent housing and stayed housed.

HUD doesn't do the analytics work themselves. They hired Abt to do the work. Hunter shared an LSA file and example of an error report, then an APR and error report. Our Emergency Shelter APR shows a couple areas we need to work on. These are

- Date of birth
- Relationship to head of household

The group also looked at "length of participation," thinking that some are way too long to be anything but errors (?). Brenda commented that Simonka has a program that some women enter and take up to two years to complete. This revealed that Simonka needs at least one more HMIS project to separate the program participation from the emergency shelter stays.

Our RRH APR shows EXCELLENT data quality, with 0% errors for Date of Birth and Relationship to Head of Household. However, exits to housing is super low, at 59%. This might be because a bunch of referrals are made and entered into the RRH program before the client has accepted/agreed to enter the program. If so, this is a training issue – to teach and remind people that the household should not be entered into the program until they have been vetted and agree to participate. The low percentage might also be because HMIS users don't know how to enter a "move-in date."

NEXT MEETING

November 8, 2022
HMIS Users Workgroup, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82448995403?pwd=UHJxeW9UZDYxcTBiV0U1Z1RVSGhRUT09