Public Dashboard User Glossary

Purpose

The **Public Dashboard User Glossary** is designed to help facilitate a common language among users of the Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network (THDSN), including Continuum of Care (CoC) representatives, service providers, housing advocates, government officials, researchers, students, and all others who utilize the Data Warehouse. This glossary is intended to be a handy reference to help familiarize users with the housing-specific terms referenced in the data dashboard and across the Texas Homeless Network website.

Chronic Homelessness: An unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more **OR** has had at least four instances of homelessness in the past three years.

Chronically Homeless Individual: A homeless individual with a disability who lives either in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, an emergency shelter, or in an institutional care facility *if* the individual has: 1) lived in the facility for fewer than 90 days <u>and</u> 2) lived in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter immediately before entering the institutional care facility.

Continuum of Care (CoC): A collaborative funding and planning approach designed to promote a community-wide commitment to end homelessness.

Emergency Shelter (ES): Any facility where the primary purpose is to provide temporary or transitional shelter for those experiencing homelessness in general or for specific populations of the homeless.

Homeless: A circumstance in which an individual lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence **OR** an individual whose primary nighttime residence is an emergency shelter designated for temporary living accommodations. This also includes those who occupy places not designated for human habitation.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS): A computerized data collection application designed to capture client-level information over time on the characteristics and service needs of adults and children experiencing homelessness, while also protecting client confidentiality.

Homeless Prevention (HP): Activities or programs designed to prevent the circumstances of homelessness.

Homeless Response System: The various organizations within an area that serve homeless individuals and families.

Household: A household includes the related family members and all the unrelated people, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share a housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit, or a group of unrelated people sharing a housing unit, such as partners or roomers, is also counted as a household.

Safe Haven (SH): A form of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless persons with severe mental illness who come primarily from the streets and have been unable or unwilling to participate in housing or supportive services.

Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network: A statewide data integration effort designed to connect the databases from each of Texas' eleven (11) Continuums of Care into an information-sharing network.

Transitional Housing (TH): A project that facilitates the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing within a reasonable amount of time (usually 24 months).

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD): Established in 1965, HUD's mission is to increase homeownership, support community development, and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination.

Source: https://archives.huduser.gov/portal/glossary/glossary.html