

- Major federal legislative response to homelessness that consists of fifteen programs providing a range of services to people experiencing homelessness, including emergency shelter, transitional housing, job training, primary health care, education and some permanent housing.
- This expanded the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 which provided the first HUD programs to help communities deal with homelessness.
- This was the first-and remains the only-major federal legislative response to homelessness

## MCKINNEY- VENTO ACT

## LITERALLY HOMELESS

- Individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:
  - Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; or
  - Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); or
  - Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.

# CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

- A homeless individual with a disability as defined in section 401(9) of the McKinney-Vento Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360(9)), who:
  - Lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter
  - Has been homeless living as described for at least 12 months or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years, as long as the combined occasions equal at least 12 months and each break in homelessness separating the occasions included at least 7 consecutive nights of not living as described.
  - An individual who has been residing in an institutional care facility, including jail, substance abuse or mental health treatment facility, hospital, or other similar facility, for fewer than 90 days and met all criteria of this definition before entering that facility; or
  - A family with an adult head of household(or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all the criteria of this definition, including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless.

\*\*A break in homelessness is considered 7 or more nights

# WHAT IS THE CONTINUUM OF CARE (COC)

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by individuals and families experiencing homelessness; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

# Nashville Davidson County CoC

Office of Homeless Services

HMIS Lead  
CE Lead  
Outreach Coordination  
Landlord Engagement

MDHA

Collaborative Applicant

## Continuum of Care General Membership

- service providers
- local government agencies
- community groups
- housing developers
- faith-based organizations
- individuals with lived experience



The Continuum of Care consists of a network of community partners working towards the same goal.

The Continuum of Care (CoC) program promotes community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness. The program provides funding for efforts by nonprofit providers and state and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness. The program promotes access to and effects utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families. The program optimizes self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

# COORDINATED ENTRY PROCESS

- How people in a housing crisis get connected to resources

## Access

- Standardized tool used by the entire community to triage households

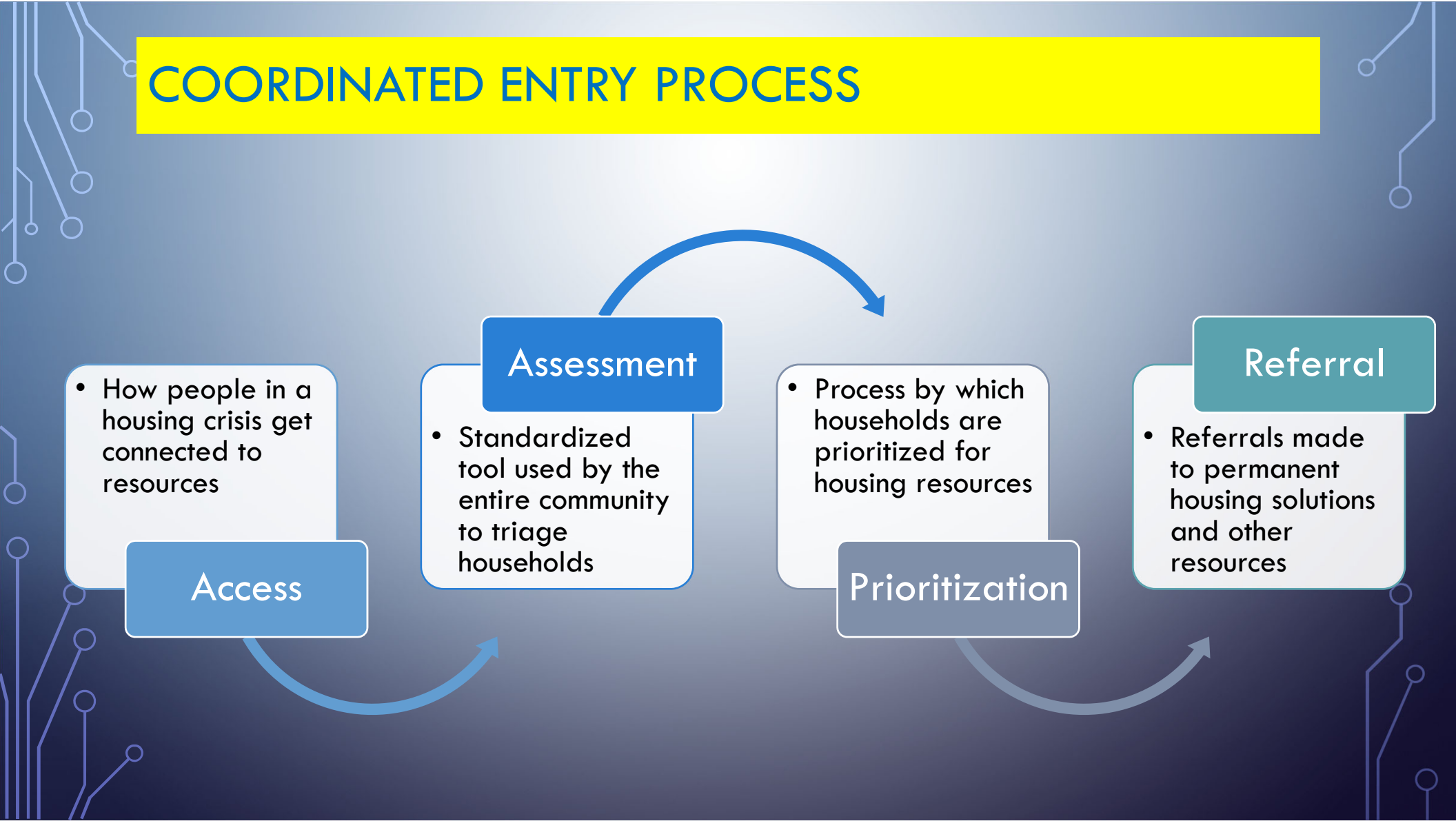
## Assessment

- Process by which households are prioritized for housing resources

## Prioritization

- Referrals made to permanent housing solutions and other resources

## Referral



# TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT HOUSING OPTIONS

## Referred through Coordinated Entry

### Emergency shelter

- Temporary shelter with no lease, can be night by night or longer term

### Transitional housing

- Temporary housing with support services meant to bridge the gap between homelessness and housing

### Rapid Rehousing

- Short or medium term rental assistance and support services

### Permanent Supportive Housing

- Long term rental assistance with voluntary support services for people with disabling conditions

### Housing Choice Vouchers

- Long term rental subsidy administered by MDHA

## Outside of Coordinated Entry

### Emergency shelter

- Temporary shelter with no lease, can be night by night or longer term

### Transitional housing

- Temporary housing with support services meant to bridge the gap between homelessness and housing

### Recovery housing

- Structured housing focused on helping residents maintain sobriety

### Rooming houses

- Shared living space with private rented bedrooms and shared communal spaces

### LIHTC properties

- Housing developed using low income housing tax credits with affordability restrictions

### Public housing

- Government owned, purpose of providing safe and adequate housing to low-income residents



# HMIS BASICS

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a web-based software application that serves as the primary database for projects intended to prevent and end homelessness.

- HMIS serves as of the PRIMARY source of homelessness data. As such, HMIS data are critical to assessing progress toward preventing and ending homelessness.
- More data in HMIS = better and more accurate reporting and evaluation
- This requires accurate, timely, and complete data!

HMIS data at the project, agency, and system levels can be used for:

- Informing resource investments
- Long term strategy and planning
- Supporting research on homelessness
- Reporting to the federal government, local community, and program funders
- Assessing our performance and response to homelessness

# WHAT CAN HMIS TELL US?

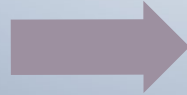
Programs using HMIS include:

- Homelessness prevention
- Emergency shelter
- Street outreach
- Supportive services
- Transitional housing
- Rapid re-housing
- Permanent supportive housing



Types of data entered into HMIS include:

- Demographics
- Homelessness history
- Barriers to housing
- Case plans and notes
- Disabling conditions
- Income and benefits



HMIS data can tell us things like:

- Who is experiencing homelessness in Nashville
- How long it takes to exit homelessness to housing
- What kinds of housing and services people need
- Where our community is successfully housing people
- Which programs are successful

# Example of annual System Performance Measures

## Measure 3: Number of Homeless Persons

This includes the number of people experiencing homelessness (sheltered and unsheltered) on the night of the Point in Time Count, and the number of people served by emergency shelters, transitional housing, and safe havens annually in HMIS. Our goal is to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness.

In 2023, the Point in Time Count increased by 213 people and the sheltered HMIS count increased by 657 people.

