

notice. HUD continues to work with those agencies to maximize standardization of McKinney-Vento Act reporting requirements and to broaden adoption of HMIS-based data.

The inclusion of any other local homeless assistance programs in an HMIS is encouraged, but it is a matter of local choice and will depend on the nature of the local service system. The decision to include other programs may require local HMIS designers to make trade-offs between the desirability of

including as many homeless service providers as possible and the feasibility of obtaining high quality data. At the same time, given the benefits of HMIS to clients, service providers, and the larger CoC system, a high degree of coverage is both desirable and advantageous.

As the later standards indicate, HUD does not expect every CoC to implement the widest range of functionality for every homeless shelter and service provider in the short-run. HUD

encourages CoCs to focus initially on developing demographic information about homeless clients. However, it should be noted that client assessment and service outcome modules are valuable tools to track client needs and progress. This greater level of data collection will enhance the ability of individual providers and CoCs to document client needs and ensure program requirements are met.

BILLING CODE 4210-29-P