



# HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM CONSUMER NOTICE

This agency receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assist persons experiencing homelessness or at-risk of experiencing homelessness. A requirement of this funding is that we participate in the region's local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). HMIS is a database, which collects basic information about consumers receiving services from this agency.

HUD enacted this requirement to gain a more accurate count of individuals and families who are homeless, and to identify the need for different services.

We only collect information that we consider to be appropriate. The collection and use of all personal information is guided by strict standards of confidentiality. A copy of our Privacy Notice describing our privacy practice is available to all consumers upon request. Agencies participating in HMIS share information with local agencies partnered in HMIS unless they serve a protected population, in compliance with applicable federal and state law. The list of HMIS Partner Agencies is available to consumers at intake upon request. Sharing information among agencies allows those agencies to work in a cooperative manner to provide you with better services.

You have the right to refuse certain data answers to be entered into the HMIS database. As such, we request every consumer whom we serve to sign a "Consumer Informed Consent & Release of Information Authorization." Although you will receive services if you refuse to provide data answers, your eligibility to receive some specialized services may be impacted by not participating in HMIS.

You do have the ability to share your personal information with other area agencies that participate in the network by completing a "Consumer Informed Consent & Release of Information Authorization" form. This will allow those agencies to work in a cooperative manner to provide you with efficient and effective services.