



Collect and Share Homelessness Data

Action Updates

This action has been revised for the upcoming 2023 certification cycle. Edits are highlighted below in yellow.

Objective

Collect information on all individuals and families experiencing homelessness as a first step in connecting to services and supports.

Complementary Actions:

- [Strengthen Municipal Workforce Capacity to Address Homelessness](#)
- [Coordinate Municipal Services to Address Homelessness](#)
- [Provide or Mobilize Resources to Address Homelessness](#)

Note: The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines literal homelessness as follows: "Individuals and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes a subset for an individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or a place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution." "Unsheltered" refers to individuals and families who meet this definition and are not currently residing in a shelter. For more background on how HUD defines different categories of homelessness, [click here](#).

What to Do

1. In collaboration with your Coordinated Access Network (CAN), have your homelessness municipal liaison or Task Force compile collected information on all individuals and families in your municipality experiencing literal homelessness, including those experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Ideally, municipal staff and/or residents will support the effort to collect this data. This information will help Coordinated Access Networks (CANs) with supporting municipalities in connecting residents experiencing homelessness with services. **(10 points)**

Submit: The number of individuals, families, and youth experiencing homelessness each year for the past two years in your municipality and a description of your municipality's role in obtaining that data.

Timeframe for Credit: Eligible for new action credit and rolling credit. This action falls under the action type "Data Tracking/Benchmarking and Meeting Performance Metrics" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

Timeframe for Credit

Actions can either be "New" or considered for "Rolling Credit."

New Action Credit. Any action completed within the past three years (from January 1 of the year seeking certification) is eligible for potential certification points. If you are applying for recertification in your year of expiration, you may not claim *New Action Credit* for items that previously received credit.

Rolling Credit. For any action older than three years (from January 1 of the year seeking certification), you must demonstrate ongoing, currently relevant, and meaningful impact in your community to be considered for

certification points. If you are applying for recertification in your year of expiration, you must apply for *Rolling Credit* for any item that previously received credit, even if it was completed within the past three years.

View the "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for detailed submission requirements.

Engaging Partners

Sustainable CT encourages regional collaboration and other forms of partnership. For every action, please complete the "partners" box in your submission, indicating the name(s) of any municipalities and/or organizations you partnered with (if any) and a brief description of your municipality's role. For additional information, please see the Partners Guidance Document.

Potential Municipal and Community Collaborators

Key collaborators to implement this action include Health and Human Services staff, social services staff, police, EMS, fire departments, library staff, schools, youth services staff, and municipally employed outreach staff.

Benefits

Systemic data collection will provide your local Coordinated Access Network with a comprehensive snapshot of individuals in your community in need of services. CANs will use this data to identify residents in need of services not currently connected with resources, allowing your municipality and CAN to develop a coordinated approach to meeting the needs of people experiencing homelessness within your community. Comprehensive state-wide data also allows Connecticut to advocate for resources to meet the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness in all 169 municipalities.

For a complete list of funding opportunities, implementation resources, and success stories specific to this action, please visit the full Action write-up on the [Sustainable CT Actions webpage](#).