

TAC Course Offerings

TAC and its partners have developed, customized, and delivered over 200 HUD-funded trainings workshops for homeless organizations, Continuums of Care, government officials, and other interested agencies. Our current catalogue includes over 40 different topics that can be turned into stand alone on-line or in-person courses or combined with other topics for multi-day trainings and workshops. When requested by a HUD Field Office, the course is customized and tailored to meet the local needs. TAC is constantly adding new topics and welcomes the opportunity to design additional courses in response to requests from HUD.

For more information on TAC's HUD Homeless TA, visit www.tacinc.org/hudprojects.html or contact Amy Horton at ahorton@tacinc.org or 617-266-5657 x122.

Continuum of Care Basics

An overview of HUD's Continuum of Care (CoC) model including the 3 McKinney-Vento programs administered by the CoC, chronic homelessness, emphasis on permanent housing and mainstream resources, HMIS, the role of pro-rata need, and the responsibility of the lead agency and the CoC as a whole for planning and measuring performance.

Continuum of Care Governance and Strategic Planning

An overview of the key elements of the HEARTH Act to help prepare CoCs for changing roles, responsibilities, and planning structures, including identifying key partnerships, reviewing new HUD options such as Unified Funding Agency, merging CoCs, and rural set-asides, and assessing CoC benchmarks and systems for measuring new performance standards and outcomes.

McKinney-Vento Start-Up

An overview of the 3 McKinney-Vento programs to ensure that grantees and sponsors can effectively and efficiently start up new and renewal grants. Participants become familiar with topics such as eligible uses of McKinney-Vento funds, eligible participants and documentation, financial management, and the Annual Progress Report.

Supportive Housing Program (SHP) Basics

An overview of the Supportive Housing Program, including participant eligibility and documentation, eligible activities and costs, cash match requirements, resident rent policies and calculations, grantee administrative responsibilities, the Annual Progress Report, and new program rules.

Supportive Housing Program (SHP) Advanced

A discussion of the challenges and issues that impact Supportive Housing Program projects and grantees, including discretionary program policies and procedures related to terminations, rent and program fees, and provision of supportive services as well as opportunities for programs to respond to changing populations, market conditions, and funding sources.

Shelter Plus Care (S+C) Basics

An overview of the S+C program, including program components, eligible activities, eligible participants and documentation, grantee administrative responsibilities, the Annual Progress Report, and service match requirements.

Shelter Plus Care (S+C) Advanced

A discussion of the challenges and issues that impact Shelter Plus Care programs and grantees including monitoring and maximizing grant funds, combining S+C with other mainstream housing funds, implementing systems-level linkages for streamlining match documentation and service provision, and increasing housing retention and stabilization.

Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation SRO Basics

An overview of the McKinney-Vento Section 8 Mod Rehab for SRO program for homeless individuals including eligible participants and documentation, provision of supportive services, reporting, and grantee administrative responsibilities.

Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation SRO Advanced

A discussion of the challenges and issues that impact McKinney-Vento Section 8 Mod Rehab for SRO programs and grantees including reassessing the housing and service needs of long-term residents, identifying resources to upgrade properties, reviewing HMIS requirements, re-engaging your CoC and planning for the future under the HEARTH Act.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Basics

An overview of the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program including funding streams, eligible participants and documentation, eligible activities, grant administration, and reporting through the HOPWA APR and IDIS.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Advanced

A discussion of the challenges and issues that impact HOPWA programs and grantees including blending HOPWA with mainstream resources, using HOPWA to address changing consumer needs and demographics, and retrofitting housing models.

Financial Management

An overview of the financial responsibilities in administering a federal program, including those financial requirements specific to McKinney-Vento grants such as cash and service match regulations and required documentation, eligible activities and expenses, organizational policies and procedures, Chart of Accounts and the General Ledger, procurement requirements financial statements, record keeping, Set-up books, and other grant compliance issues.

Fiscal Accountability and Responsibility

A discussion of how grantees and sponsors can prevent financial fraud in non-profit organizations.

Income and Rent Calculations

An overview of HUD's program requirements related to income and rent calculation for tenants in housing funded through McKinney-Vento resources including rental terms and definitions, rent calculation processes and forms, determining income and asset requirements, adjusting income, utility allowances, and documentation and verification.

Services and Housing for Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families

An overview of strategies for successfully engaging and housing chronically homeless persons including a review of HUD's definition of chronically homeless and how to meet related documentation requirements as well as a discussion of best practices in serving and housing chronically homeless people, including chronically homeless families.

Accessing Mainstream Service Resources

An overview of mainstream service resources that can be used to help state and local Continuum of Care agencies meet the needs of homeless people including how mainstream resources can be used; who is eligible for mainstream resources and where to get more information.

Accessing Mainstream Housing Resources

A discussion of the non-homeless mainstream resources such as HOME, CDBG, Housing Choice Vouchers, Public Housing, Section 811, Section 202, Low Income Housing Tax Credits, NSP, other ARRA resources, etc. – including the eligible uses of these resources, what agencies administer them at the state and local levels, the various planning processes and the opportunity for input from the community into these plans, and strategies for increasing access to these resources by homeless people.

Using the Housing Choice Voucher Program for Homeless People

A discussion of a variety of the strategies that Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) can utilize to assist homeless people and people with disabilities to access and navigate the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program successfully including HUD requirements for Housing Choice Voucher set-asides for people with disabilities, fair housing laws, reasonable accommodation, and discretionary PHA policies to assist people with disabilities.

Using Housing Choice Voucher Project-Based Assistance for Homeless People

A discussion of how to use Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher project-based assistance to assist homeless people and people with disabilities including an overview of HUD regulations regarding the Project-Based Voucher (PBV) program and examples of how Public Housing Agencies and housing developers have successfully used the program to house homeless people and people with disabilities.

Role of Public Housing Agencies in Addressing Homelessness

A discussion of the resources available to Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) that can help end homelessness including new funding opportunities available to PHAs, and creative ways PHAs can use existing mainstream housing resources help end homelessness such as waiting list preferences.

Homelessness Prevention Models

An overview of homelessness prevention models, best practices including rapid re-housing, short-term rental assistance and housing stabilization services, as well as how to design and fund a homelessness prevention program

Rapid Re-Housing and Short Term Rental Assistance Models

A discussion of the rapid re-housing and other short-term and bridge subsidy rental assistance models including program design and funding resources, assessment and triage, landlord outreach and education, calculating affordability, linkages to mainstream benefits and stabilization services, and best practices.

Rural Challenges in Assisting Homeless People

A discussion of the challenges faced specifically by rural areas in assisting homeless people including outreach and engagement in rural settings, transportation and communication, delivering scattered services in a wide geographic area, and having meaningful CoC planning and collaboration among homeless agencies.

Performance Measurement and Outcome Evaluation

A training on how to develop, implement, and improve performance measurement systems in communities and programs including a discussion about how this information is related to the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, why these systems are important and useful to helping communities and programs end homelessness, and how they can effectively participate in outcome measurement systems.

Preparing for a Point-in-Time Homeless Count

A discussion of the challenges faced by CoCs and provider agencies in developing and implementing a comprehensive annual point-in-time count of homeless individuals and families, including an assessment of HMIS and methodology changes needed to meet HUD's new data collection requirements and to ensure a greater confidence in the results.

Creating an Inventory of Housing for Homeless Persons

An overview of the methods that CoCs can utilize to develop and update comprehensive inventories of housing for homeless persons, including using HMIS and other systems to track changes and ensure accuracy.

Programs for Homeless Veterans

An overview of the VA Homeless Plan and the federal resources available to meet the housing and service needs of homeless veterans including the VA Grant and Per Diem Program, HUD-VASH, Supportive Services for Homeless Veterans, Compensated Work Therapy, Health Care for Homeless Veterans, and other VA housing programs.

HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Vouchers

An overview of the HUD-VASH program including the voucher allocation process, the modified screening criteria, the role of the VA Medical Center, the opportunities for project-based assistance, and rules around portability.

Employment for Homeless People

A discussion of how to increase access to employment for homeless persons, including a review of existing mainstream federal and state employment resources and tax credit incentives, eligibility for mainstream job support and retaining SSI/SSDI benefits, and barriers to barriers to employment for special populations.

Serving Homeless Youth

An overview of the demographics and unique needs of homeless youth, eligibility for federal housing and service programs, engagement strategies, and strategies to prevent homelessness upon discharge or aging out from state systems of care.

Understanding McKinney-Vento Education Resources and Requirements

An overview of the McKinney-Vento Act educational resources and requirements for homeless children, including how these resources are administered at the state and local level, eligible activities, and linkages to the CoC and other homeless activities

Accessible Housing and Fair Housing Requirements in McKinney-Vento Programs

An overview of the federal fair housing laws, obligations of housing providers under these laws including making reasonable accommodations and modifications, accessibility terminology, and resources for financing accessibility modifications.

Legal Issues in Permanent Supportive Housing

An overview of the fair housing laws, including a discussion of the complex processes of accepting or denying applicants for supportive housing programs and responding to requests for reasonable accommodations, dealing with criminal records and their applicability to supportive housing as well as the issues facing homeless, undocumented immigrants who are in need of supportive housing services.

Housing Search and Advocacy

A discussion of the issues related to locating housing, such as eligibility for tenant-based housing programs, housing search time limits and requirements, requesting reasonable accommodations, negotiating with landlords, and overcoming barriers such as criminal history or bad credit.

Housing Development Basics

An overview of the housing development process from start to finish including developing the project concept, identifying the target population, understanding the three elements of supportive housing: construction money, operating money, and services, identifying resources, site selection, creating budgets, and creating a development team.

Combining McKinney-Vento Resources with Mainstream Housing Resources

A discussion of ways that McKinney-Vento resources can be combined with mainstream housing resources such as developing systematic links from M-V rental assistance to Housing Choice Vouchers, and integrating M-V operating and/or project-based assistance with capital resources.

Energy Efficiency and Green Design Practices in McKinney-Vento Programs

A discussion of how homeless programs and agencies can incorporate green technology and innovations into new and existing housing to have a positive impact and reduce operating costs.

Asset and Property Management

A discussion of managing assets, budgeting, planning, managing risk, and separating the roles of service provider and property manager.

Supporting Staff and Residents

A discussion of clinical and administrative supervision and other useful tools for keeping a happy and healthy staff, and how to ensure consumer feedback into program operations.

Case Management and Ethical Challenges

A discussion of the challenges to professionalism and ethical practice in supportive housing case management practice including a review of best practices related to organizational planning and structure, case management practice, training and supervision techniques, and methods to ensure compliance with funder regulations.

Medicaid Basics

A basic overview of the Medicaid program and critical regulations that govern current Medicaid State Plans and certain Waiver programs. This course is customized to each state and includes a discussion of strategies to increase access to Medicaid-funded services by homeless persons and access to Medicaid reimbursement by homeless providers.

Using Medicaid in Permanent Supportive Housing

An overview of the service needs of people in permanent supportive housing and an identification of which services could be covered under certain Medicaid programs as well as recent example of using Medicaid to finance services.

Integrating Primary and Behavioral Health for Homeless People

A discussion of the integrated treatment models for homeless people with co-occurring physical and behavioral health issues including a review of the needs of this population, the opportunities present in the Affordable Health Care Act for synergy between primary and behavioral health and a review of best practice models such as patient centered medical homes and how to include these models in homeless services.

Substance Abuse and Harm Reduction Practices

A discussion of the incidence and effects of substance use among homeless people and how to implement harm reduction strategies in homeless housing programs.

Proposal Development

An overview of basic information to prepare participants for effective grant/funding proposal development including how and where to look for funding sources for your program or project, what to do in preparation for developing a proposal (e.g., creating adaptable boilerplate documents), cover letters and abstracts, and budgets and supporting documentation.