



WI Balance of State Continuum of Care (WIBOSCO) Acronyms

APR	Annual Performance Report, required by HUD within 90 days following the end of a grant contract
ARD	Annual Renewal Demand – used to calculate how much money it would cost to fully fund all the HUD funded CoC project renewals and used in the CoC Competition
Bit Focus	HMIS software vendor – selected by Wisconsin CoC’s
CCP	Coordinated Community Plan – required document approved by Youth Action Board and CoC Board as a part of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project process
CE	Coordinated Entry – a process required by HUD and developed by the CoC to ensure that all people experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access and are quickly identified, assessed for, referred, and prioritized for housing and assistance based on their strengths and needs
CoC	Continuum of Care – the group organized to carry out the responsibilities under the CoC Program and is comprised of representatives of organizations, including nonprofit homeless providers, victim service providers, faith-based organizations, governments, businesses, advocates, public housing agencies, school districts, social service providers, mental health agencies, hospitals, universities, affordable housing developers, law enforcement, organizations that serve homeless and formerly homeless veterans, and homeless and formerly homeless persons to the extent these groups are represented within the geographic area and are available to participate. The term also refers to the funding program under HUD that supports homeless programs, including HMIS.
DEHCR	Department of Energy, Housing and Community Resources, within the Department of Administration
eLOCCS	Electronic Line of Credit Control System – HUD’s financial system where agencies draw down grant funds
Esnaps	Web-based system HUD uses for grant applications
EHH	Emergency Solutions Grant, Housing Assistance Programs, and Homeless Prevention Programs – the acronym for the entire grant, comprised of 3 parts and administered by DEHCR
ESG	Emergency Solutions Grant program – federal funds administered by DEHCR and granted to local coalitions
EFSP	Emergency Food and Shelter Program - The Emergency Food and Shelter Program was established on March 24, 1983, with the signing of the "Jobs Stimulus Bill," Public Law 98-8. That legislation created a National Board, chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that consisted of representatives of the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities USA, The Jewish Federations of North America, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, The Salvation Army and United Way Worldwide. The EFSP was authorized under the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (P.L. 100-77 signed into law on

	July 24, 1987, since renamed the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and subsequently reauthorized under P.L. 100-628, signed into law on November 7, 1988). Since 1983, in its 29-year history, the EFSP will have distributed \$3.8 billion to over 14,000 human service agencies in more than 2,500 communities across the country through this collaborative effort between the private and public sectors.
HAP	Homeless Assistance Program – state funds administered by DECHR to the CoC’s
HCMS	Homeless Case Management Services Grant – state funds administered by DEHCR and granted to agencies
HEARTH	Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing, Federal legislation signed in 2009 that amended and reauthorized the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act with substantial changes including a change to HUD’s definition of homelessness and chronic homelessness and an emphasis on performance
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System - a local information technology system used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. Each Continuum of Care (CoC) is responsible for selecting an HMIS software solution that complies with HUD's data collection, management, and reporting standards.
Homeless Diversion	One of the components of the Homeless Crisis Response system. Ensuring that those accessing shelter have no immediate alternative housing arrangements or options. Engaging in a problem-solving conversation rather than list of pre-determined questions. The goal is to prevent homelessness before it happens, like homeless prevention. The difference is diversion seeks to help find alternative solutions rather than entering shelter or experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Examples include: limited financial funding, short-term case management, conflict mediation, connection to mainstream services & benefits, housing search, re-engagement with natural supports
Homeless Prevention	One of the components of the Homeless Crisis Response system. Targeted assistance to avoid homelessness; assist those “on their last couch” or “one bad week away” from homelessness. It is considered an upstream solution to homelessness by reducing the number of people who become homeless. Examples include financial assistance to help with securing a new unit, basic needs to retain the housing solution, and/or rental assistance; must include some case management services with the goal to avoid homelessness. Interventions that help resolve crises that would otherwise cause them to lose their housing. This can also include those exiting institutions like jails, hospitals, and foster care.
HOPWA	Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS – Federal HUD program that grants to local communities, States and non-profit organizations; administered by DEHCR
HPP	Homeless Prevention Programs – state funds administered by DEHCR and granted to local coalitions
HUD	United States Department of Housing and Urban Development - a Cabinet department in the Executive branch of the United States federal government. Although its beginnings were in the House and Home Financing Agency, it

	was founded as a Cabinet department in 1965, as part of the "Great Society" program of President Lyndon Johnson, to develop and execute policies on housing.
HUD – VASH	HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program that combines HUD’s Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA)
ICA	Institute for Community Alliances – based in Des Moines, IA. Serves as the HMIS lead organization and Balance of State CoC’s fiscal agent and employer of record for staff
McKinney-Vento	The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 is United States law that provides federal money for homeless programs. It was the first significant federal legislative response to homelessness and was passed and signed into law by Pres. Ronald Reagan on July 22, 1987. The act has been reauthorized several times over the years. The McKinney Act originally had fifteen programs providing a spectrum of services to homeless people, including the Continuum of Care Programs: The Supportive Housing Program, the Shelter Plus Care Program, and the Single Room Occupancy Program, as well as the Emergency Shelter Grant Program. It established the Interagency Council on the Homeless – now known as the Interagency Council on Homelessness. The legislation has been amended several times since it was first written and enacted – most recently by the HEARTH Act.
NOFO	Notification of Funding Opportunity
Outreach	<p>One of the components of the Homeless Crisis Response system. Intentional efforts to engage those that are unwilling, unaware or unable to accept emergency shelter services. Ensuring that everyone experiencing homelessness has access to coordinated entry. Includes experienced teams building relationships with people in encampments and other places not meant for human habitation and connecting them to housing, healthcare, mental health treatment, and other services – a process that can vary in length and is customized to meet individuals’ unique needs.</p> <p>Examples of outreach includes street outreach to people sleeping in places not meant for human habitation, including parking ramps, cars, outside; meeting with people in public spaces, parks, libraries; help meet immediate needs; and can also include engagement with those that fluctuate between couches and the street.</p> <p>Examples of teams include staff with physical health, mental health, substance use, case management, and peer support experience. Could also include law enforcement with specific training, psychiatric support, population specific case managers (i.e. veterans, youth, anti-trafficking).</p>
PATH	Projects for the Assistance in the Transition from Homelessness – administered by Department of Health Services (DHS) and granted to agencies within a community with a population of 150,000 or more. The funding is administered by the Center for Mental Health Services, a component of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which is one of eight Public Health Service agencies within the U.S. Department

	<p>of Health and Human Services. The PATH program was authorized by the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1990. PATH is a formula grant to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Iowa has five PATH project sponsors. The Homeless and Housing Resource Network (HHRN) assists SAMHSA in providing support to the states and local providers.</p> <p>PATH provides services to people with serious mental illness, including those with co-occurring substance use disorders, who are experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of becoming homeless. PATH project sponsors are required to use HMIS as their data collection system for tracking and outcomes.</p>
PH	Permanent Housing - One of the components of the Homeless Crisis Response system. Permanent affordable housing is long-term, safe, decent housing for people without a designated length of state. Participants must be the tenant on a lease (or sublease).
PIT	Point in Time – required by HUD and conducted twice a year in Wisconsin on the 4 th Wednesday in January and July
PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing - One of the components of the Homeless Crisis Response system. Housing assistance and supportive services to help people exit homelessness. This project type is specifically designed for those with significant barriers, long term episodes of homelessness, and disabilities including but not limited to chronic illnesses, mental health and/or substance use disorders.
RHY	Runaways and Homeless Youth – Federal HSS program
RRH	Rapid Rehousing - One of the components of the Homeless Crisis Response system. Rental assistance and supportive services to help people exit homelessness as quickly as possible, move to permanent housing and achieve stability. The core components are housing identification, short- & medium-term rental assistance, and case management.
RV	Recovery Voucher Grant Program – administered by DEHCR and granted to agencies
SAGE	HMIS Reporting Depository - web-based reporting tool that HUD’s Office of Special Needs Assistance Program (SNAPS) uses to support Continuum of Care (CoC) grantees with Annual Performance Report (APR) data submissions
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration – agency within the US Department of HHS that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. Administers PATH and SOAR.
SOAR	SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery program that helps increase access to Social Security disability benefits
SPM	System Performance Measures
SS	Supportive Services - One of the components of the Homeless Crisis Response system. Supportive Services are the services need for a person to move towards self-sufficiency and permanent housing solutions.
SSO-CE	Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry
SSO-CE DV	Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry Domestic Violence
SSO-CE YHDP	Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry Youth

SSSG	State Shelter Subsidy Grant program – administer by DEHCR and granted to agencies
SSVF	Supportive Services for Veteran Families – funded by Federal VA and granted to agencies
TH	Transitional Housing - One of the components of the Homeless Crisis Response system. Provides temporary housing with supportive services to people experiencing homelessness with the goal of interim stability and support to successfully move to and maintain permanent housing. Participants must have a signed lease, sublease, or occupancy agreement.
TBRA	Tenant Based Rental Assistance
Unit Utilization	Percentage of contracted units in use during a set period of time.
VORP	Veterans Outreach and Recovery Program – administered by the Wisconsin Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA)
WDVA	Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs
YHDP	Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program
YAB	Youth Advisory Board