The Datastrophes: From Messy to Manageable

Data Engagement Workshop (DEW) Wednesday, November 19, 2025 1:00pm - 3:00pm



Introductions - Your Sys. Admin. Team



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OBJECTIVE



This session will teach staff how to efficiently monitor data quality and implement practical steps to fix data errors as they appear in Clarity.

We'll show you how to leverage the system's tools to ensure your reporting is accurate.

Housekeeping - Gentle Reminders

- > This training like all DEWs is being recorded
- > All participants should be muted
- ➤ Q&A will be at the end of each section, please hold questions and comments until that time
- ➤ You are welcome to put comments and questions in the chat
- ➤ Video is optional **but please do not multitask if possible**

AGENDA

- ➤ Importance of Data Quality
- Program Managers Roles & Responsibilities
- > Report Library
 - Running a Canned Report
- Data Analysis Tab
 - Running DA Report
- > Assessment Types Annual vs. Status
- > Recommended Reports
- ➤ Hands On Practicum
- ➤ Questions?





Importance of Data Quality





Ice Breaker

- What is DQ?
- What are some examples of bad data that you have noticed?





Why Bad Data Happens



What Contributes to Bad Data?







What Contributes to Bad Data?





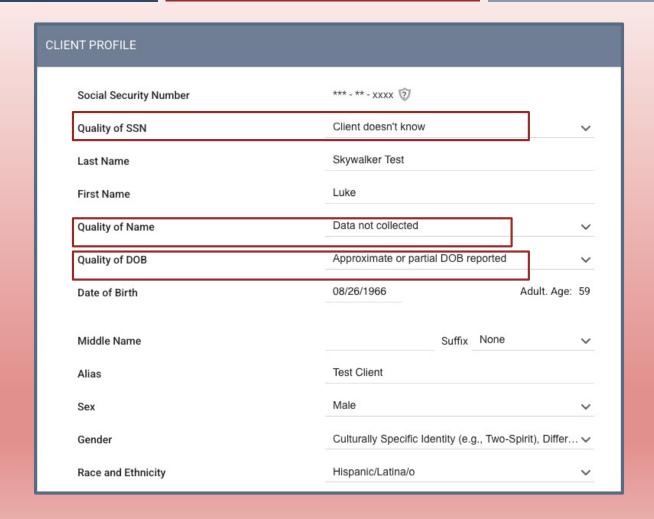


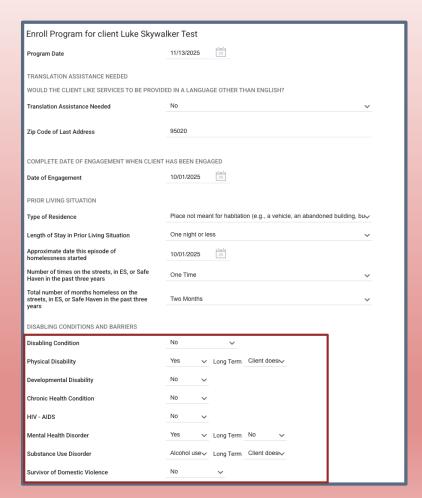


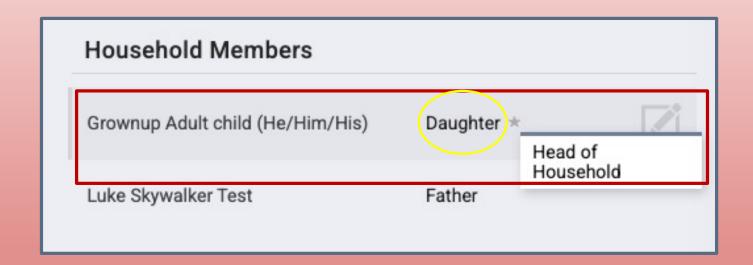
Knowledge Test

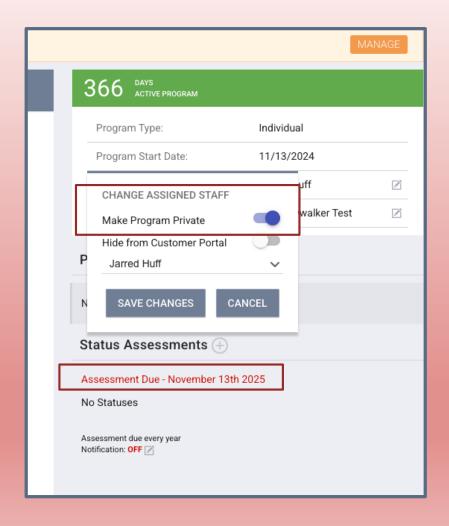
Can you find the Data Entry
Errors?











Importance of Data Quality (DQ) - Why it Matters

Data captures clients served, for how long, and what has changed

It's a comprehensive view of client data and program outcomes

It can help evaluate programs and show areas for improvement - such as missing data

Missing exit data can reduce the number of available priority placements for unhoused client and can also artificially inflate reported homelessness numbers

For recipients of HUD funding, some reports are required for submission

HMIS has been set-up to capture HUD requirements and Data Standard Changes - making the requirements easier to meet

Importance of Data Quality (DQ) - What to consider...



Select

✓ No

Yes

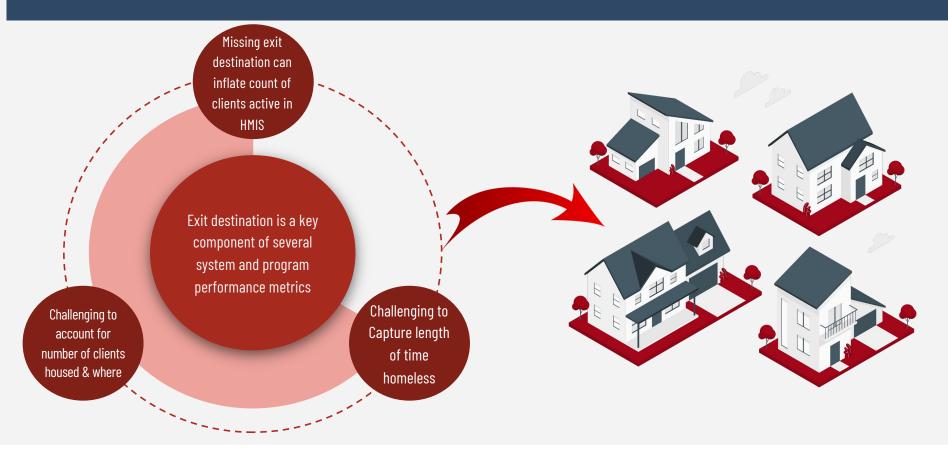
Client doesn't know

Client prefers not to answer

Data not collected

	No	Appropriate to use when client self discloses	
	Yes	Appropriate to use when client self discloses	
•	Client doesn't know	Appropriate to use when client self discloses; but do not use in place if you forgot to ask the client	
	Client prefers not to answer	Appropriate to use when client self discloses; but do not use in place if you forgot to ask the client	
	Data not collected	Use only when you forgot to ask the client the question	
	No Exit Interview Completed (Not shown here)	Use only if client was lost to follow-up and there is no way of communicating with the client to get the data	
	Approximate or Partial (Not shown here)	Though common, try to limit the use of this whenever possible	

Importance of Data Quality (DQ) - Exit Destinations



Importance of Data Quality (DQ) - Who is Impacted?





Questions, Comments or Concerns?





Program Managers; Roles & Responsibilities



How Well Do You Know Your Program Manager Role?

According to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) how frequently should you review data quality at their agency?

- A. Conduct a complete review daily, or as necessary, dependent on program need
- B. As soon as I get a minute, too many meetings to attend
- C. Data quality reports should be run at least once per month throughout the year. In the weeks prior to submitting a report, data quality reports may need to be run daily
- D. Conduct a complete and accurate quarterly review of the Partner Agency's compliance with all applicable plans, forms, manuals, standards, agreements, policies, and governance documents
- E. Wait...am I the Agency Lead?

Useful Timetable for Evaluating & Correcting Data

- Begin data quality review, focused on ensuring the correct number of clients are enrolled and there are no null values
- Make corrections as needed (e.g., ensure that no required information, such as veteran status, is missing)

First Month of Quarter

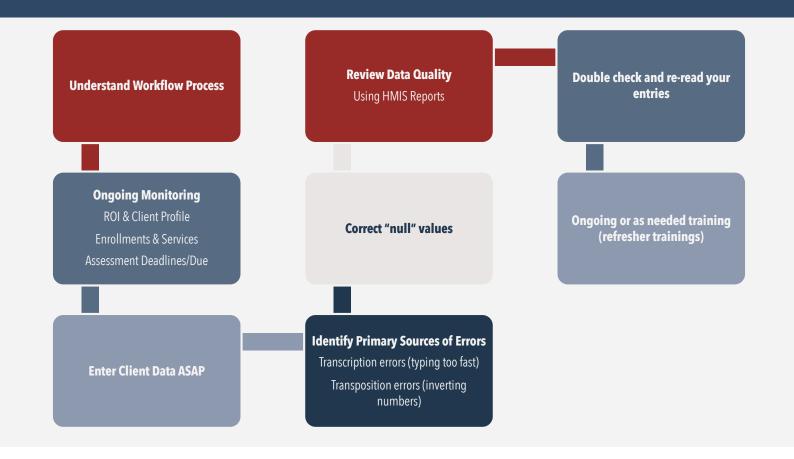
Second Month of Quarter

 Review data with relevant program managers and/or staff to verify accuracy of data compared to other records

(e.g., ensure that veteran status data entered HMIS is correct) Assess agency workflow to identify process improvements that may help ensure high quality data is consistently entered into HMIS

Third Month of
Quarter

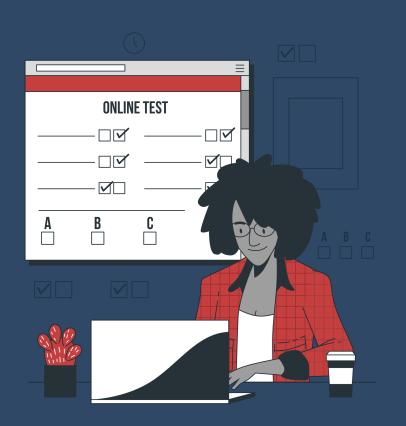
Useful Monitoring Techniques





Useful Reports for Shelter & Outreach Program Managers

	SECTION	AD?	TITLE	CONTENT
	Program-Based	Ν	[GNRL-106] Program Roster	Who's enrolled or exited with dates and LOS
WHO'S ENROLLED?	Program-Based	Υ	[GNRL-220] Program Details Report	All data from enrollment/update/exit screens + housing service dates
	Program-Based	Υ	[OUTS-106] Client Demographics	Demographic breakdown charts for all enrolled clients
	Service-Based	Ν	[GNRL-104] Service Summary	Counts of services provided and unique clients
WHO'S BEEN	Service-Based	Ν	[GNRL-103] Service Census	Counts of services provided by day, plus service summary
SERVED?	Service-Based	N	[OUTS-105] Client Demographics	Demographic breakdown charts for all served clients
	Program-Based	Ν	[EXIT-101] Potential Exits	Clients who haven't received a service since specified date
WHERE'D WE SPEND MONEY?	Program-Based	N	[EXPS-103] Program Funding Source Financial Detail	Lists all funds spent as part of services, plus totals by service and program
STAFF DATA	Email	Ν	[DQXX-103] Monthly Staff Report	Data completeness and timeliness for all staff
QUALITY	HUD	Υ	[HUDX-225] HMIS Data Quality Report	Comprehensive report on data quality
STAFF	Agency Management	Ν	[STFF-104] Staff Client Data Activity Report	Staff activity in the system
ACTIVITY	Agency Management	Ν	[STFF-101] User Activity Report	Staff login times and time logged in



Knowledge Test

Program Monitoring & Data Entry



How Well Do You Know Your Program Manager Role?

Why is regular reporting of client's income changes (updates) in HMIS important to your agency and the client? (Choose all that apply)

- A. Accurately demonstrates community progress and success
- B. It is not common practice to enter this in HMIS for our Agency
- C. Demonstrate an increase in the percent of homeless adults who gain or increase employment or non-employment cash income over time
- D. Maintaining timely and accurate HMIS data related to employment outcomes is not my responsibility
- E. Brings more federal dollars to Santa Clara County



Questions, Comments or Concerns?

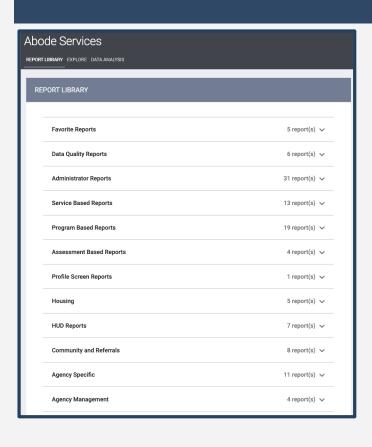




Report Library

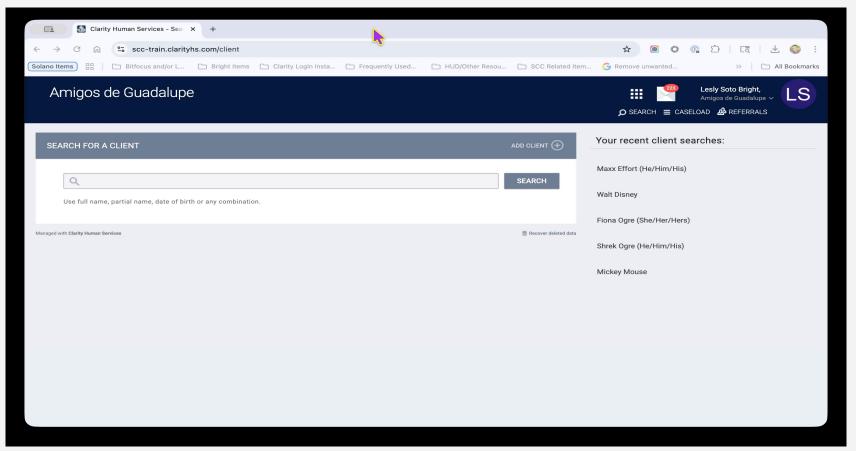


Report Library - Library Contents

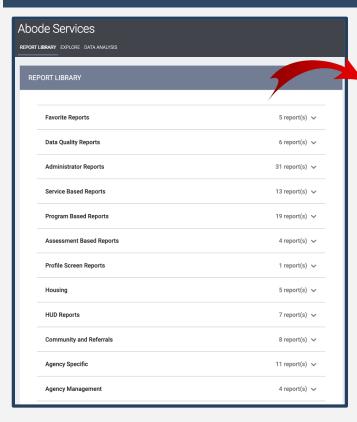


- The **Report Library** is where all canned reports are housed
- Reports are separated by Category and listed in alphanumeric order within the category
- The right-hand side column denotes the number of reports per category
- Using the caret will open in an accordion style the different reports found in that category

Accessing the Report Library in HMIS

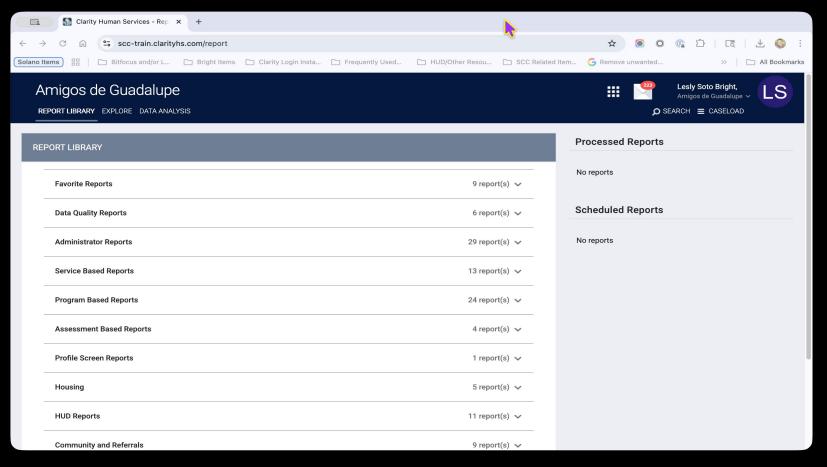


Report Library - Types of Reports

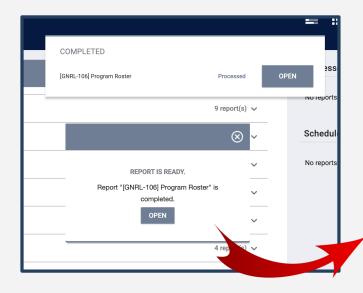


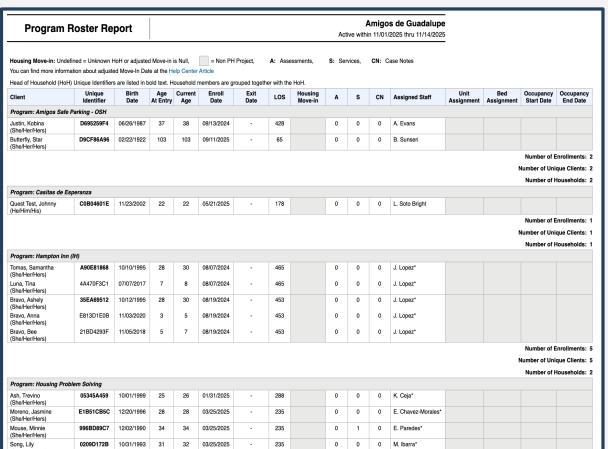
	Favorite Reports	Reports that are run very often using the same parameters can now be saved as "favorites"	
	Data Quality Reports	Reports that help identify DQ issues with data	
	Admin. Reports	Typically used to monitor staff and program utilization	
	Service Based Reports	Reports that are based on services provided to a client	
	Program Based Reports	Reports that are based on Program Data	
	Housing	Reports based on housing information - your program must offer housing	
	HUD Reports	Reports used to assist in DQ checks during Federal Reporting	
	Community & Referral	Reports based on Assessment and/or Referral Data	
	Agency Specific	Reports that are specific to your Agency set-up - based on types of programs at your agency (in most cases these are custom)	

Running a Report in HMIS

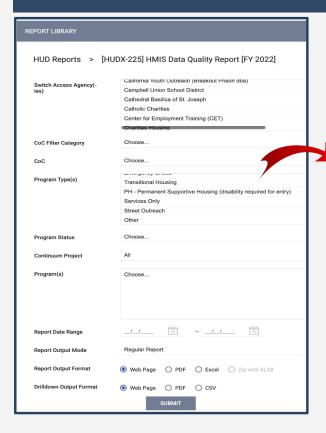


Report Output in HMIS



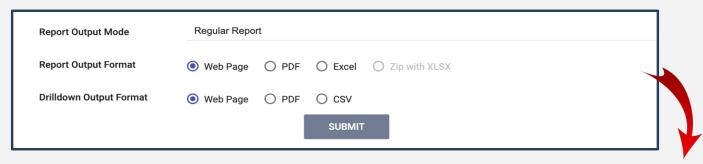


Report Library – Defining the Fields



Switch Access Agency	Select the Agency you want to run the report for - this will be dependent on access role	
CoC Filter Category	Always select Agency CoC	
СоС	Always select Santa Clara County	
Program Type	Select the Project Type you want to pull data for (i.e., ES, TH, SH, PSH, Services only or Street Outreach, or ALL)	
Program Status	Select from All, Active, or Inactive Programs - these are programs at your agency - what is listed will be dependent on access role	
Continuum Project	Always select YES - unless directed differently from your Agency Lead	
Program(s)	If not choosing ALL programs, then select only the ones you are interested in getting data for from the list provided	
Report Date Range	Enter time frame you want to pull data for - the dates you want the report to pull	

Report Library – Defining the Fields



Report Output Mode	Depending on the report you are running, you may want a general report that is more concise or a details report that will show you more information and where it is pulled from specifically - not all reports will have this option				
Report Output Format	This depends on what you want to do with the data or how you want to see it	 Web Page - will just populate on your screen PDF - will offer a downloadable PDF file Excel - will offer an Excel file 			
Drilldown Output Format	This option will pull the data, but it will link data directly to a client, this uses a hyperlink that will redirect you to the client and the specific data point being reviewed				

Please recall client confidentiality when downloading data.

Avoid leaving client names on reports and be sure to have security measures in place that protect data breaches.



Questions, Comments or Concerns?





The Data Analysis Tab in HMIS



What is the Data Analysis Tab

What is the Clarity Data Analysis tool?

Embedded Looker platform pulling your HMIS data

What is it used for?

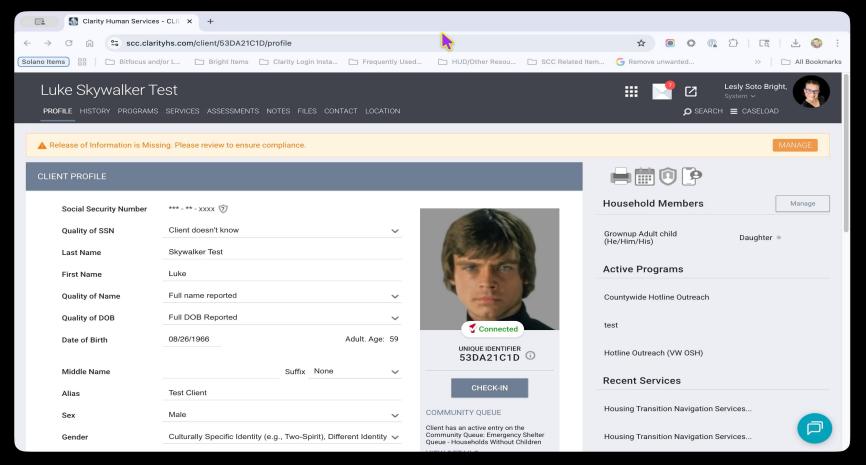
- Data analysis and visualization platform
- Provides a single source of truth
- Pulled from data entered in Clarity Human Services
- Helps streamline reports



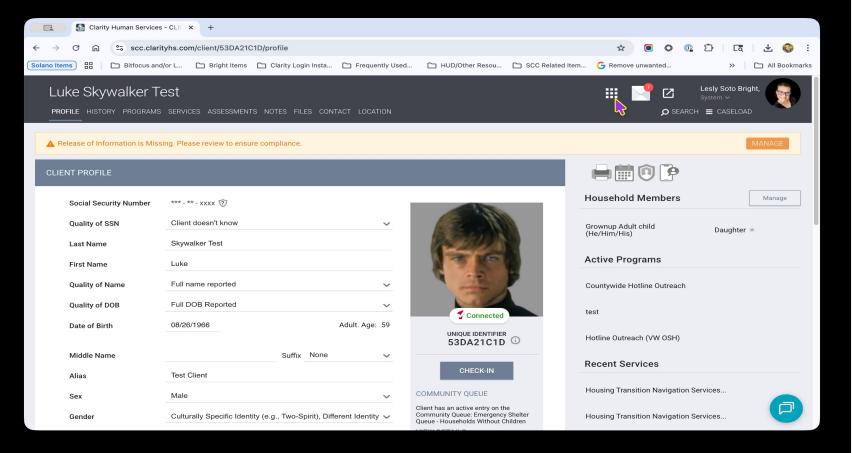
DA Tab Sections Defined

A ANALYSIS		
Built In Reports	REGULARY USED REPORTS	5 report(s) 🗸
Santa Clara County HMIS Reports	SYSTEM OR COC REPORTS	73 report(s) 🗸
System Reports	AGENCY SPECIFIC REPORTS	7 report(s) 🗸

Accessing the DA Tab in HMIS



Running a Report in DA Tab





Questions, Comments or Concerns?





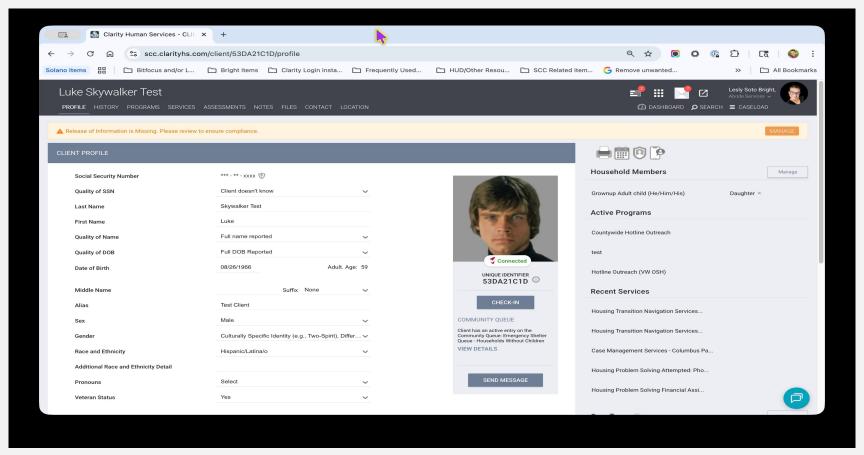
Assessment Types – Annual vs. Status



Annual Assessment vs Status Assessment

FEATURE	ANNUAL ASSESSMENT	STATUS ASSESSMENT (OR STATUS UPDATE)
TIMING/FREQUENCY	Required annually , typically within a 60-day window (30 days before to 30 days after) the Head of Household's Project Start Date anniversary.	As needed or at the time of change in a client's status.
PURPOSE	To capture a formal, once-a-year review of a client's status, especially for federal reporting requirements (like HUD's Annual Performance Report). It must be completed even if no information has changed.	To record changes in a client's information (like income, benefits, or disabling conditions) that occur between the formal Annual Assessments.
TRIGGER	The anniversary date of the Head of Household's enrollment in the project.	A specific event or change in the client's information (e.g., they got a job, started receiving a new benefit, or a disabling condition status changed).

Accessing & Running the [GNRL-409] Report in HMIS



Report Output [GNRL-409] – Annual Assessment Overview

Annual Assessment Overview

Abode Services

Multiple Programs Multiple Statuses

Date Range: 11/01/2025 thru 11/17/2025

Abode OSC Non-Funded

Client Detail

Annual Assessment Overview										
Annual Assessment Status	Completed	Completed Out of Range	Past Due	Due	Assessment Window Opening in 30 Days	Not Due	Enrolled Less than 1 Year	Data Issue	Exited Before HoH's 1st Anniversary	
# of Assessments	191	2	7	0	22	15	0	0	0	

Unique ID	Client Name	Relationship to HoH	Start Date	Exit Date	LOS	Expected Annual Assessment Count	Completed Annual Assessment Count	Last Annual Assessment Date	Last Annual Assessment Status	Next Annual Assessment Due	Next Annual Assessment Status	Assigned Staff	More Info
		Self	08/25/2018	-	2,642	7	6	- /	Past Due	08/25/2026	Not Due	A. Tesfai	More Info
		Head of household's child	02/27/2019	-	2,456	7	6	- \	Past Due	08/25/2026	Not Due	A. Tesfai	More Info
		Self	01/01/2018	-	2,878	7	7	01/01/2025	Completed	01/01/2026	Assessment Window Opening in 30 Days	W. Hoffer	More Info
		Self	01/01/2018	-	2,878	7	7	01/01/2025	Completed	01/01/2026	Assessment Window Opening in 30 Days	A. Tesfai	More Info
		Head of household's spouse or partner	01/01/2018	-	2,878	7	7	01/01/2025	Completed	01/01/2026	Assessment Window Opening in 30 Days	A. Tesfai	More In
		Self	01/01/2018	-	2,878	7	7	01/01/2025	Completed	01/01/2026	Assessment Window Opening in 30 Days	A. Tesfai	More Inf
		Head of household's child	01/01/2018	-	2,878	7	7	01/01/2025	Completed	01/01/2026	Assessment Window Opening in 30 Days	A. Tesfai	More Inf
		Head of household's child	01/01/2018	-	2,878	7	7	01/01/2025	Completed	01/01/2026	Assessment Window Opening in 30 Days	A. Tesfai	More Inf



Knowledge Test

Annual vs. Status Assessment



How Frequently Should An Annual Assessment Be Done?

- A. As soon as there is a change in the client's income, HoH or Health Insurance
- B. Every time I see the client; this way I have all the necessary details up to date
- C. Wait...we must complete Annual Assessments?
- D. Annually, specifically around the anniversary of the client's initial enrollment or service start date (often within a 30-day window before or after).



Questions, Comments or Concerns?





Recommended Reports – How to Determine DQ Errors



Recommended Reports – To Determine DQ Errors

[HUDX-227] Annual Performance Report

The HUDX-227 Annual Performance
Report (APR) is one of the most critical
documents for agencies that receive
Continuum of Care (CoC) funding from the
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development (HUD).

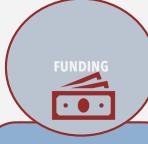
feasure 1: Length of Time P	ersons Experien	ce Homelessnes	<u>s</u>						
Measure 1a		Previous FY Universe (Persons)	Current FY Universe (Persons)	Previous FY Average LOT Experiencing Homelessness	Current FY Average LOT Experiencing Homelessness	Difference	Previous FY Median LOT Experiencing Homelessness	Current FY Median LOT Experiencing Homelessness	Difference
Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, a	and SH		3,416		300.96			205	
Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, SH, and TH			3,694		306.24			209	
Measure 1b		Previous FY Universe (Persons)	Current FY Universe (Persons)	Previous FY Average LOT Experiencing Homelessness	Current FY Average LOT Experiencing Homelessness	Difference	Previous FY Median LOT Experiencing Homelessness	Current FY Median LOT Experiencing Homelessness	Difference
Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, SH, and PH			3,462		1,750.44			819	
relaula III Ea-EE, Ea-NDN,			3,741		1,733.57			791	
Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, S	nt to which Pers	ons Who Exit Ho	melessness to		sing Destination	s Return to Hon		02770	
Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, s Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, s leasure 2a and 2b: The Exte		ons Who Exit Ho Number Returning to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months (0 - 180 d)		Permanent House Number Returning to Homelessness from 6 to 12 Months (181 - 365 d)		Number Returning to Homelessness from 13 to 24 Months (366 - 730 d)	Percentage of Returns from 13 to 24 Months	02770	
Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, S	Total Number of Persons who Exited to a Permanent Housing Destination	Number Returning to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months	Percentage of Returns in Less than 6 Months	Number Returning to Homelessness from 6 to 12 Months	sing Destination Percentage of Returns from 6 to 12 Months	Number Returning to Homelessness from 13 to 24 Months	Percentage of Returns from 13 to 24 Months	in 6, 12, and 24 Number of Returns in	Percentage of Returns in
Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, s	Total Number of Persons who Exited to a Permanent Housing Destination (2 Years Prior)	Number Returning to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months (0 - 180 d)	Percentage of Returns in Less than 6 Months (0 - 180 d)	Number Returning to Homelessness from 6 to 12 Months (181 - 365 d)	Percentage of Returns from 6 to 12 Months (181 - 365 d)	Number Returning to Homelessness from 13 to 24 Months (366 - 730 d)	Percentage of Returns from 13 to 24 Months (366 - 730 d)	Number of Returns in 2 Years	Percentage of Returns in 2 Years
Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, seleasure 2a and 2b: The Exte	Total Number of Persons who Exited to a Permanent Housing Destination (2 Years Prior)	Number Returning to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months (0 - 180 d)	Percentage of Returns in Less than 6 Months (0 - 180 d) 2.08%	Number Returning to Homelessness from 6 to 12 Months (181 - 365 d)	Percentage of Returns from 6 to 12 Months (181 - 365 d) 2.08%	Number Returning to Homelessness from 13 to 24 Months (366 - 730 d)	Percentage of Returns from 13 to 24 Months (366 - 730 d) 6.25%	Number of Returns in 2 Years	Percentage of Returns in 2 Years
Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, seleasure 2a and 2b: The Extended Exit was from SO Exit was from SO Exit was from ES	Total Number of Persons who Exited to a Permanent Housing Destination (2 Years Prior) 48 72	Number Returning to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months (0 - 180 d)	Percentage of Returns in Less than 6 Months (0 - 180 d) 2.08% 5.56%	Number Returning to Homelessness from 6 to 12 Months (181 - 365 d)	Percentage of Returns from 6 to 12 Months (181 - 365 d) 2.08% 1.39%	Number Returning to Homelessness from 13 to 24 Months (366 - 730 d) 3	Percentage of Returns from 13 to 24 Months (366 - 730 d) 6.25% 16.67%	Number of Returns in 2 Years	Percentage c Returns in 2 Years
Persons in ES-EE, ES-NbN, steasure 2a and 2b: The Extended Exit was from SO Exit was from ES Exit was from TH	Total Number of Persons who Exited to a Permanent Housing Destination (2 Years Prior) 48 72	Number Returning to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months (0 - 180 d) 1 4	Percentage of Returns in Less than 6 Months (0 - 180 d) 2.08% 5.56% 0.00%	Number Returning to Homelessness from 6 to 12 Months (181 - 365 d) 1	Percentage of Returns from 6 to 12 Months (181 - 365 d) 2.08% 1.39% 0.00%	Number Returning to Homelessness from 13 to 24 Months (366 - 730 d) 3 12	Percentage of Returns from 13 to 24 Months (366 - 730 d) 6.25% 16.67% 0.00%	Number of Returns in 2 Years 5 17	Percentage c Returns in 2 Years 10.42% 23.61% 0.00%

Santa Clara County CoC

[HUDX-227] Annual Performance Report - Compliance & Accountability



Recipients of CoC funding (including Supportive Housing, Shelter Plus Care, and CoC Program grants) are **required** to submit this report annually to HUD via the Sage HMIS Reporting Repository (and previously via e-snaps).



Failure to submit a complete and accurate APR on time can **jeopardize future** funding, lead to a loss of current grant funds, or result in monitoring findings.



It serves as the official document that demonstrates to HUD how the grant money was spent, the activities that were conducted, and the results that were achieved against the objectives outlined in the grant agreement.

[HUDX-227] Annual Performance Report – Outcomes & Success

CLIENTS SERVED

The total number of people and households served during the reporting period.

DEMOGRAPHIC

Detailed information on the client population, such as race, ethnicity, age, and veteran status. **OUTCOMES**

Housing Stability Income Increases Acquired Non-Cash Benefits UTILIZATION

Data on the average length of time clients stay in the program and bed utilization rates.

Recommended Reports – To Determine DQ Errors

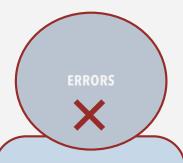
[HUDX-225] HMIS Data Quality Report

The **HUDX-225 HMIS Data Quality Report** is a critical, internal tool for
Continuum of Care (CoC) grantees
and homeless service providers.

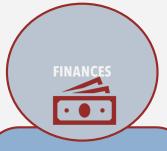
While the HUDX-227 Annual Performance Report (APR) tells the story of **program outcomes**, the HUDX-225 tells the story of **how well the data was collected** to support those outcomes.

Q2. Personally Identifiable In	Q2. Personally Identifiable Information (PII)										
Program Applicability: All Projects											
Data Element Client Doesn't Know/Prefers Not to Answer Information Data Issues Total % of Issue Rate											
Name (3.01)	7	8	8	23	2.24%						
Social Security Number (3.02)	479	19	4	502	48.88%						
Date of Birth (3.03)	0	0	17	17	1.66%						
Race and Ethnicity (3.04)	2	0		2	0.19%						
Overall Score				504	49.07%						

[HUDX-225] HMIS Data Quality Report - Compliance & Auditing



The report specifically highlights records where key data elements are **missing**, recorded as **"Client Doesn't Know,"** or contain **invalid information** (like an improperly formatted Social Security Number).



Poor data quality poses significant risks, including reduced funding, negative outcomes in external audits or monitoring by organizations, and an inability to accurately report project performance and demonstrate compliance with HUD's standards.



The data quality tables within the HUDX-225 feed directly into the accuracy of other high-stakes federal reports, such as the APR (HUDX-227), (ESG-CAPER), and (LSA).

[HUDX-227] HMIS Data Quality Report – Staff Focus Efforts

PII

Personally Identifiable Information (PII):

Name, Date of Birth, Social Security Number, and Gender. Errors here can lead to duplicate client records. UDE's

Universal Data Elements (UDEs):

Veteran Status, Disabling Condition, Race, Ethnicity, and Prior Living Situation. Errors here compromise the ability to correctly identify and prioritize clients (e.g., chronically homeless individuals).

INCOME & HOUSING

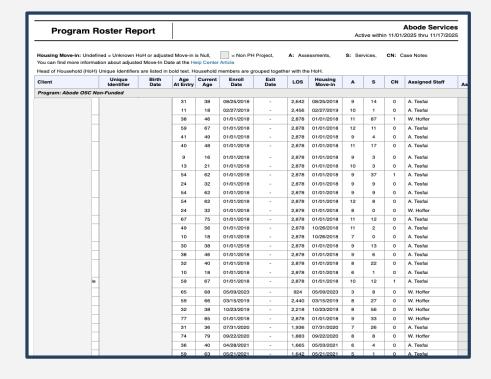
Income Sources, Income
Amount, and Destination
at Exit. Errors here are
crucial because grant
success is often
measured by the client's
ability to increase
income and achieve
stable housing.

Recommended Reports – To Determine DQ Errors

[GNRL-106] Program Roster Report

The **[GNRL-106] Program Roster Report** is a fundamental, internal administrative tool within the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

Its importance is primarily in operational management and data quality assurance at the individual program level.



GNRL-106] Program. Roster Report - Management & Daily Operation



Active Caseload

Review: It is the primary tool for case managers and program supervisors to review their **active clients**. This helps ensure all clients currently being served have a valid, open enrollment in HMIS.



Identify Missing
Entries: It helps staff
quickly identify clients who
are receiving services but
may have been missed
during the intake process
and need an enrollment
record created.



Track Length of Stay (LOS): The report clearly shows the Enroll Date, Exit Date, and Length of Stay (LOS) for each client, allowing managers to monitor if clients are approaching the maximum time limit for a program (like Transitional Housing).

[GNRL-106] Program Roster Report – Staff Focus Efforts

EXITS

Missing Exits: It is crucial for identifying clients who have left the program but were not properly exited in the system.

An active enrollment for a client who has moved out can lead to inaccurate reporting, inflated LOS figures, and an overcount of the active homeless population.

MOVE-IN-DATE

Missing Housing Move-in Dates: For Permanent Housing (PH) projects, the report includes the Housing Move-in Date.

Managers use this to ensure that this mandatory data element is accurately entered, as it is a core performance measure for federal housing grants. ASSESSMENTS SERVICES

Assessment & Service Counts: It often includes counts of Status/Annual Assessments and Services/Case Notes completed.

This allows supervisors to verify that staff are meeting programmatic and data collection requirements (e.g., confirming a client has received their mandated annual assessment).



Questions, Comments or Concerns?





Knowledge Test

Report Knowledge



Report Knowledge – Using Reports

You want a list of clients who have a **Housing Move-In Date** on 2/14/2025.

How would you pull this information?
Where would you start? What reports would you use?

You decide to do Data Quality checks to see what clients are missing Universal Date Elements (UDEs).

How would you pull this information?Where would you start? What reports would you use?





Hands – On Practicum



Resources - Want to learn more...check these out

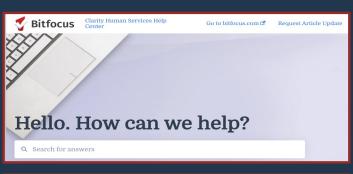
Clarity Human Services Help Center Hello. How can we help? Search for answers here! Introduction to the Data Analysis Tool & Looker Resources

Bitfocus Training

Here you can find your Bitfocus communityspecific training resources

The Report Library

Find detailed information about reports, including the source of each data point as well as guidance on drill-down functionality and parameters.







Questions - Here's How to Contact Us ...



SCC HMIS Website

scc.bitfocus.com

SCC HMIS Help Center Support Email:

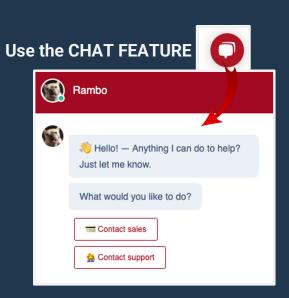
sccsupport@bitfocus.com

SCC HMIS Help Center Support Desk Phone:

• (408) 596.5866 EXT. 2

Your Sys. Admin Team

• scc-admin@bitfocus.com





Questions, Comments or Concerns?





Please help us improve these trainings by completing this post-event survey before you go: https://bitfocus.typeform.com/to/sOGCUcSx