

Coordinated Entry Prioritization Change Proposal

Reasoning:

Coordinated Entry (CE) is not a static system. It is intended to be flexible and change as community needs change. HUD is being clear that now is the time to pivot, now is the time to show that CE is a living thing. Prioritization needs to continue to target those who are most vulnerable and now those who are most at risk during the pandemic. As more potential resources come in, we need to show that these resources will be allocated well and prioritize those most vulnerable to Covid-19 health complications. Our new prioritizations, based on knowledge from other communities and CDC guidance, will achieve that goal.

Previous prioritization:

- VISPDAT score
- Length of time experiencing homelessness as a tie breaker

Our proposed prioritization updates:

- VISPDAT score as the base
- 1 point added for unsheltered homelessness, age 55+ and CDC identified preexisting health conditions
 - Up to an additional 3 points
- Length of time experiencing homelessness will be used as a tie breaker

Implementation:

These changes will be implemented immediately for all resources currently available through CE and hopefully new resources to come. Programs will, as always, still be in control over their own eligibility criteria. These prioritizations will continue to work within that criteria.

MHID's CE team will work closely with community agency's to learn the new prioritization process and documentation requirements.

Evaluation:

During this pandemic the Metro Homeless Impact Division (MHID) CE team will monitor the new prioritization closely and provide regular reports to the stakeholder group for review of its effectiveness at ensuring those most vulnerable to Covid-19 complications are being housed most quickly.

In line with HUD's suggested timeframe of 10 days to adjust CE prioritization, MHID will work with the stakeholder group to determine and implement any necessary adjustments. All CE prioritization adjustments will be communicated with the Homelessness Planning Council immediately via e-mail and brought for questions and discussion to the next in-person or virtual meeting.

