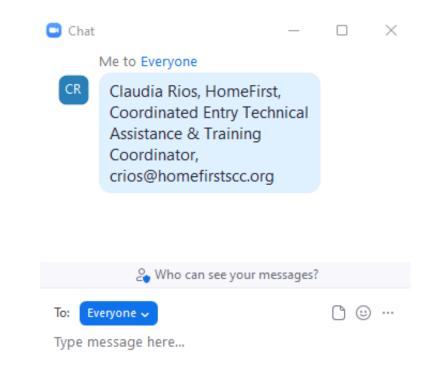
HOMEFIRST Where Homelessness Ends...

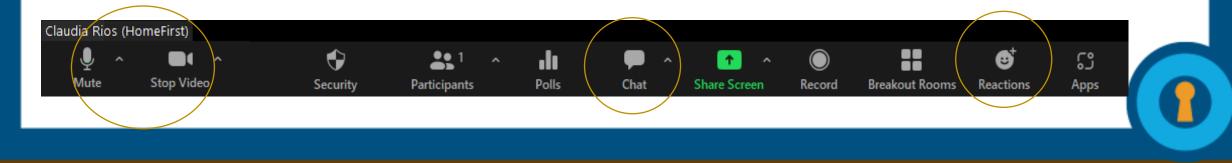
Sonoma County
Coordinated Entry Access
and Initial Assessment



Training Community Expectations

- Add name, agency, role, and email into chat
- Be present & engage
- Mute when not speaking
- In case of technology interruption, log back into the Zoom training
- Complete evaluation





Training Goals

To come away with a basic understanding of:

- The Sonoma County Coordinated Entry System and your role in it
- CES Eligibility, Housing First, and Assessment best practices
- Step-by-step CES Access Partner procedures and HMIS navigation



Training Agenda: CES Overview

- Coordinated Entry System overview and vision
- CES System Flow
- Access: Types of CES Cooperating Agencies
- Community Prioritization Standards
- Referrals from CES





Training Agenda: Background

- Homeless Status Eligibility
- Housing First
- Trauma-Informed Assessment
- Safety-Informed Assessment





Training Agenda: Initial Assessment

- CES Assessment
- CES Release of Information
- Housing Problem Solving Conversations
- Crisis Navigation and Connection
- HMIS Search, inc. By-Name-List access
- CES Grievances, Discrimination Complaints and Reasonable Accommodations
- Summary

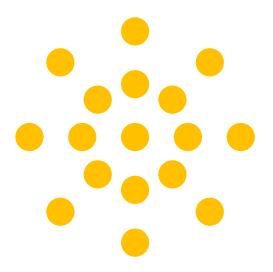




Handouts

- Access Points flyer
 - Participant FAQs and Flow Chart
- Detailed Flow Chart
- CES Policies and Procedures
- CES ROI





CES Overview



HUD's Definition of Coordinated Entry

Coordinated entry is an important process through which people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness can access the crisis response system in a streamlined way, have their strengths and needs quickly assessed, and quickly connect to appropriate, tailored housing and mainstream services within the community or designated region.

Sonoma County Coordinated Entry System Vision

The vision of the CES is to provide assessment, prioritization, and matching of people experiencing homelessness to housing and supportive services in the most transparent, person-centered, equitable, and trauma-informed way possible.

"No wrong door system"



Coordinated Entry System Flow

Included in handouts



Access: Types of CES Cooperating Agencies

- Access Partner:
 - CES ROI partner: Access to HMIS CES programs to check status and history, CES Case Conference
 - Completes stages 1 and 2 of CES Assessment: Housing Problem Solving and Crisis Navigation and Connection (most critical!)
 - Refers to appropriate Access Point for full CES Assessment
- Access Point: all the above, plus:
 - Internal Access Point: Completes full CES Assessment for all participants they already serve
 - External Access Point: Completes full CES Assessment for all participants that seek it, widely advertised
 - Access Points sign MOU with Sonoma County Community Development Commission
- Housing Program: Accepts referrals from CES and completes Assessment for those few exiting to homelessness



Access Flyer

Included in handouts



Role of the CES Operator

- CES communications
- Partnerships development
- Robust CES Case Conference process
- Manage By-Name-List
- CES Data Quality oversight
- HMIS CES Referrals
- CE System Performance Evaluation
- CoC strategic planning engagement

- System-wide training and technical assistance
- CES Grievances, Reasonable
 Accommodations, and Appeals
- Does not provide direct services
- Does not provide shelter referrals
- Does not have control over available housing



Referrals from CES

Three categories of housing:

- Permanent Supportive Housing: combines long term affordable housing assistance (voucher, typically) with voluntary intensive support services and is prioritized for those who are chronically homeless and the most vulnerable.
- Rapid re-housing: connects household to an apartment affordable through short to medium-term rental assistance, along with moderate services designed to allow that household to increase their income sufficiently to be able to afford the apartment over the long-term. Prioritized for low-mid vulnerability.
- Other: housing that does not fall into the two categories above, including vouchers without supportive services and non-Housing First projects.



By-Name-List Prioritization

- Ranked based on Total Prioritization Score 3 different By-Name-Lists exist (FAM, IND, TAY)
- Different housing interventions have different Total Prioritization Score ranges they are referred

from

Participant Enterprise Identifier	Name	Agency (I)	Gender (HUD)		Enrollment Date (I)	Enrollment End Date (I)		Total Prioritization New	Inactivity Tag	Is there an area in Sonoma County that you would prefer to stay? (I)	Please note any restrictions (I)	What is the total length of time you and your family have lived on the streets or in shelters (months)?	Where do you s
931943AA-DD05-4497-A		Catholic Charities		Moore, Robby	6/14/2022		6/14/2022	42	Active				Shelters
7E0509C0-F1C9-4DFA-9		HOST Outreach		Morfin, Jesus	12/21/2021		12/21/2021	41	Active				Streets
94E23DFC-B800-4DDF-		Catholic Charities		Carney, Kaitlin	5/31/2018		12/4/2020	40	Active				Shelters
D918C761-E08F-410C-9		HOST Outreach		Ruiz Gonzalez, Ana	8/7/2018		11/19/2019	39	Active				Streets
EA445B86-5F28-4C9B-8		Catholic Charities		Moore, Robby	2/7/2022		2/7/2022	39	Active				Streets
E5636E06-B370-4CD6-8		Catholic Charities		Moore, Robby	7/16/2018		9/21/2022	38	Active				Streets
FAB9E5EF-1E32-4B3E-/		Catholic Charities		Kennedy, Charles	12/19/2018		6/23/2021	38	Active				Streets
0CA586DA-B09F-402F-9		Catholic Charities		Moore, Robby	8/10/2020		9/15/2022	38	Active				Shelters
009E8986-4425-4064-87		HOST Outreach		Mendoza, Marisabel	4/22/2022		4/22/2022	38	Active	<u></u>			Streets
D3AB8139-2840-4FFE-8		Catholic Charities		Moore, Robby	7/7/2022		7/7/2022	38	Active				Exit from COTS
CCE62EF6-E0A5-4618-/		HOST Outreach		Rocchio, Lee	10/6/2021		10/6/2021	37	Inactive				Streets
5947AF49-4A95-4D40-8E		Catholic Charities		Kennedy, Charles	11/4/2021		11/4/2021	37	Inactive				Streets
B57EF037-AD44-4809-B		Catholic Charities		Moore, Robby	2/1/2022		2/1/2022	37	Inactive				Streets
A4610F04-E053-4A83-99		Catholic Charities		Moore, Robby	2/28/2022		2/28/2022	37	Inactive	<u></u>			Streets
12F28BEB-1ACA-408E-8		Catholic Charities		Moore, Robby	8/10/2022		8/10/2022	37	Active	<u></u>			Shelters
9EA02B55-B2FC-4516-A		HOST Outreach		Mendoza, Marisabel	9/25/2017		3/26/2021	36	Active				Streets
30CFF750-3370-4A5C-B		Catholic Charities		Carney, Kaitlin	12/20/2017		8/12/2020	36	Active				Streets
901C50B8-B929-464A-9I		Catholic Charities		Moore, Robby	2/27/2019		3/1/2022	36	Inactive				Streets
4247CE9D-A296-400C-F		Catholic Charities		Moore Robby	12/26/2019		1/6/2022	36	Active				Shelters

Community Prioritization Standards: Individuals

Priority	Vulnerability Indicator	VI-SPDAT Sections or Questions
1	Vulnerability to illness or death	Physical Health
2	Severity of behavioral health challenges or functional impairments, including any physical, mental, developmental, substance use or behavioral health disabilities regardless of the type of disability, which require a significant level of support in order to maintain permanent housing (this factor focuses on the level of support needed and is not based on disability type)	Substance Use, Mental Health, and Mobility
3	High utilization of crisis services/ emergency services	Risks/Emergency Service Utilization
3	Length of homelessness	Homelessness/Housing History
4	Number of years above 60 in age	Age
5	Vulnerability to victimization and/or lack of strong support system	Socialization
6	Institutional utilization	Justice and Foster Care History

Community Prioritization Standards: Families

Priority	Vulnerability Indicator	F-VI-SPDAT Sections or Questions
1	Severity of behavioral health challenges or functional impairments, including any physical, mental, developmental, substance use or behavioral health disabilities regardless of the type of disability, which require a significant level of support in order to maintain permanent housing (this factor focuses on the level of support needed and is not based on disability type)	Substance Use, Mental Health, and Mobility
2	High utilization of crisis services/ emergency services	Risks/ Emergency Service Utilization
2	Length of homelessness	Homelessness/Housing History
3	Vulnerability to victimization and/or lack of strong support system	Socialization, Children, Family Unit
4	Vulnerability to illness or death	Physical Health
5	Number of years above 60 in age	Age
6	Institutional utilization	Justice and Foster Care History

Community Prioritization Standards: Transition Aged Youth

Priority	Vulnerability Indicator	TAY-VI-SPDAT Sections or Questions
1	Severity of behavioral health challenges or functional impairments, including any physical, mental, developmental, substance use or behavioral health disabilities regardless of the type of disability, which require a significant level of support in order to maintain permanent housing (this factor focuses on the level of support needed and is not based on disability type)	Substance Use, Mental Health, and Mobility
2	High utilization of crisis services/ emergency services	Risks/ Emergency Service Utilization
2	Length of homelessness	Homelessness/Housing History
3	Vulnerability to victimization and/or lack of strong support system	Socialization
4	Institutional utilization	Justice and Foster Care History
4	Vulnerability to illness or death	Physical Health

CES Background



Homeless Status Eligibility

Category 1- Literally Homeless:

- i. Sleeping in a "Place not meant for human habitation;" for example, Streets, Vehicles, Encampments, Creek/Riversides, RV's not hooked up to utilities
- ii. Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, Hotel/Motels paid for by outside agencies, couch-surfing for less than 7 days at each location
- iii. Exiting an Institution (Hospitals/Jails/Substance Abuse Rehabs) where the client has resided for 90 days or less and previously slept in a shelter or in a place not meant for habitation on the night before entering the institution

Homeless Status Eligibility

Category 4- Fleeing Domestic Violence

1.Is fleeing or attempting to flee Domestic Violence and has no other viable housing option available



Housing First

- Housing First is an approach to serving people experiencing homelessness that
 recognizes a homeless person must first be able to access a decent, safe place to live,
 that does not limit length of stay (permanent housing), before stabilizing, improving
 health, reducing harmful behaviors, or increasing income.
- Removes barriers to accessing the housing, like requirements for sobriety or absence of criminal history.



Housing First

- People must access basic necessities, including a safe place to live and food to eat before being able to achieve quality of life or pursue personal goals.
- Choice of where to live, and whether to participate in services independent of housing.



Housing First

- Housing First does not mean "housing only."
 - Housing First acknowledges social services and care coordination are necessary elements of housing stability and quality of life.



What is Trauma Informed Care

- An overarching structure and treatment attitude that emphasizes understanding, compassion, and responding to the effects of all types of trauma (National Coalition for the Homeless).
- TIC looks at physical, psychological, and emotional safety for both clients and providers, and provides tools to empower individuals on their path to landing stability.
- To become trauma-informed we must recognize that many individuals experience different traumatic life events which often intersect and can lead to less-than-ideal outcomes.
- Homeless services programs should integrate TIC into practice as it supports both stability and overall healing.

Trauma - Informed Assessment Practices

- Use information gained: do not ask clients to repeat their story multiple times! Engage in Warm Handoffs
- Understand Adverse Childhood Experiences, ACES and how they can impact our clients and their stability.
- Inform clients before asking particularly triggering questions and allow them a minute to gather and prepare themselves before presenting.
- Work to help clients feel safe, validated and respected while uncovering difficult topics during the assessment process.
- Incorporate a strength-based approach into assessment by highlighting on the individual strengths and level of resiliency.
- Understand vicarious trauma and the importance of building providers' individual resiliency to combat its effects.

Safety in Assessment Practices

 Find a private area in a public place to conduct assessments (libraries, coffee shops, public parks). Remain visible to others

 When assessing a couple meet with them separately to ensure your safety and accuracy of the assessment process

 Remain mindful of seating arrangements, don't back yourself into a corner, sit facing the nearest exit

CES Initial Assessment Steps

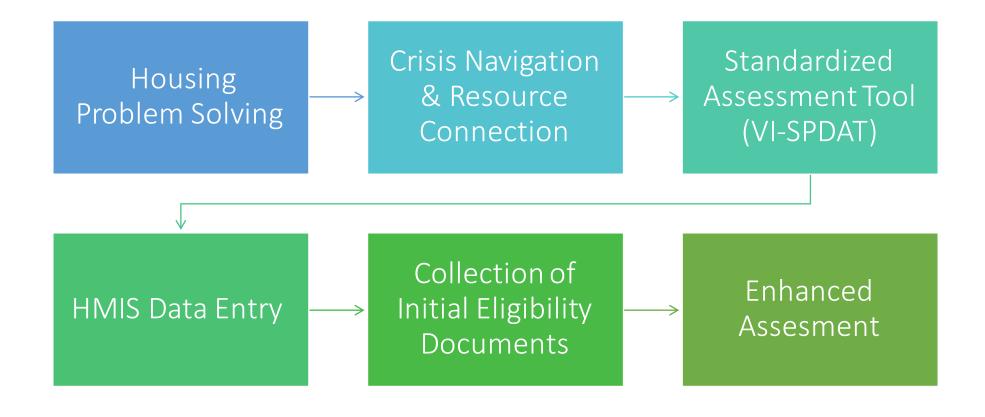


A Note About Order...

- Order of steps can be changed depending on participant needs and situational context.
 - Housing Problem Solving can be many conversations over time
 - Immediate crises should be prioritized



CES Assessment





CES Assessment Step 1: Diversion/ Housing Problem Solving

The purpose of the Housing Problem Solving conversation is to identify any resources that the client may have which may contribute to solving the client's housing crisis and completely divert them from entering the homeless service network.



Housing Problem Solving: Why?

Diversion/Housing Problem Solving:

- Is Fast-paced. The goal is to move people from homelessness to housed within 30 days.
- Is Strengths-based. Staff help people create a plan of their own for resolving their homelessness.
- Reduces trauma for people in crisis. By pursuing realistic options for becoming housed quickly, people can avoid prolonged periods of homelessness and shelter stays.
- Is cost-effective. Costlier interventions Emergency Shelter, RRH, PSH are conserved for people unable to resolve their homelessness quickly and simply.
- Builds system capacity. The homeless response system can serve more people in need because those able to self-resolve through housing problem solving move quickly through the system at less expense.

Source: "Homeless to Housed in a Hurry": Diversion Case Study/April 2018, Building Changes, Pierce County Washington

Housing Problem Solving



Tip: During initial client engagement, this conversation will determine whether they meet one category 1 or 4.

- Are you currently experiencing homelessness in Sonoma County? (All CE applicants must be homeless within Sonoma County for at least one night to be eligible for CES.)
- Where are you currently sleeping? / Where did you sleep last night?
- How long have you been staying there?
- Do you have any family/friends that you can reach out to for a safe place to stay? If so, how long can you stay there?
- Do you have resources outside the area that will provide permanent housing opportunities?
- Do you have income? How much income do you bring in monthly? Is your income sustainable towards finding permanent housing?
- Refer to mainstream resources to resolve crisis if needed!



Mainstream Resources or complete CES Assessment?

211

Complete CES Assessment

Who:

Anyone needing social services, homelessness prevention

For what:

- Basic housing services questions:
 - Affordable housing/low-income housing,
 - Housing location services,
 - Housing expense assistance,
 - Housing authority/basic housing choice voucher information,
 - Landlord/tenant assistance
- Basic homeless services:
 - Shelter inquiries
 - Drop-in Centers: laundry, mail, showers, meals
- Other social service inquiries:
 - Income, food, transportation, clothing, etc.

Who:

- Individuals, families, and transitional age youth experiencing literal homelessness
- Individuals, families, and transitional age youth fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence who are at risk of homelessness

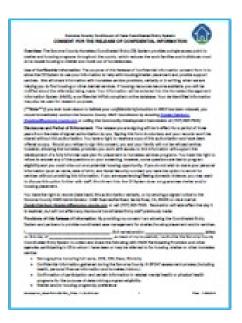
For what:

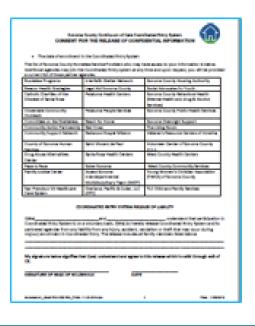
- CES Referrals
 - Permanent Supportive Housing,
 - Rapid rehousing,
 - Certain housing vouchers

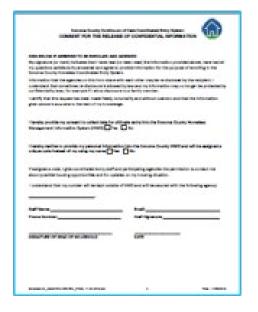
You may have someone need of both 211 information and Assessment into CES

CES Release of Information

Begin the assessment by having client sign off on the CoC Coordinated Entry Release of Information. Explain to client that CES can share information with any of the partnering agencies within the Continuum of Care. CES can also add partner agencies as it deems necessary.







TIP: The CES ROI is valid for the 3 years from the date it is signed by the client

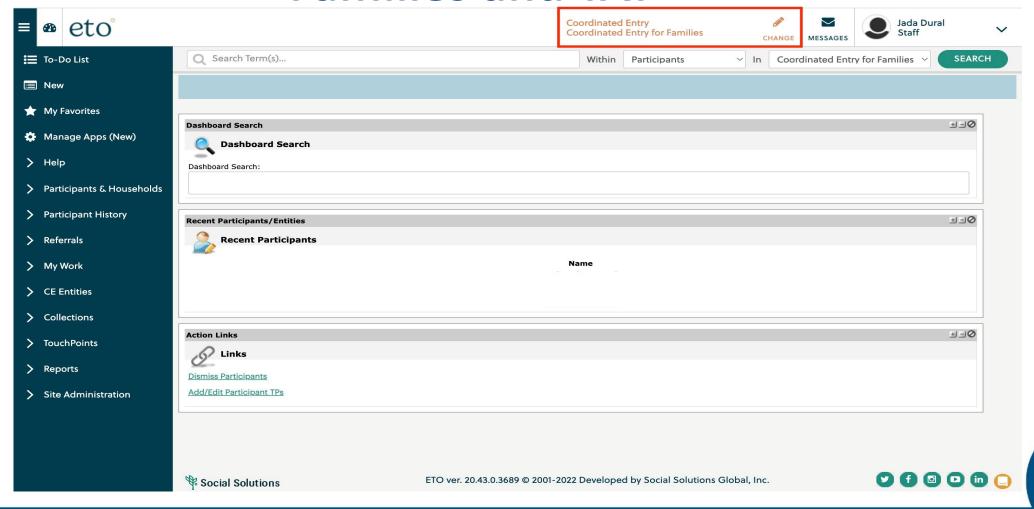


HMIS Search

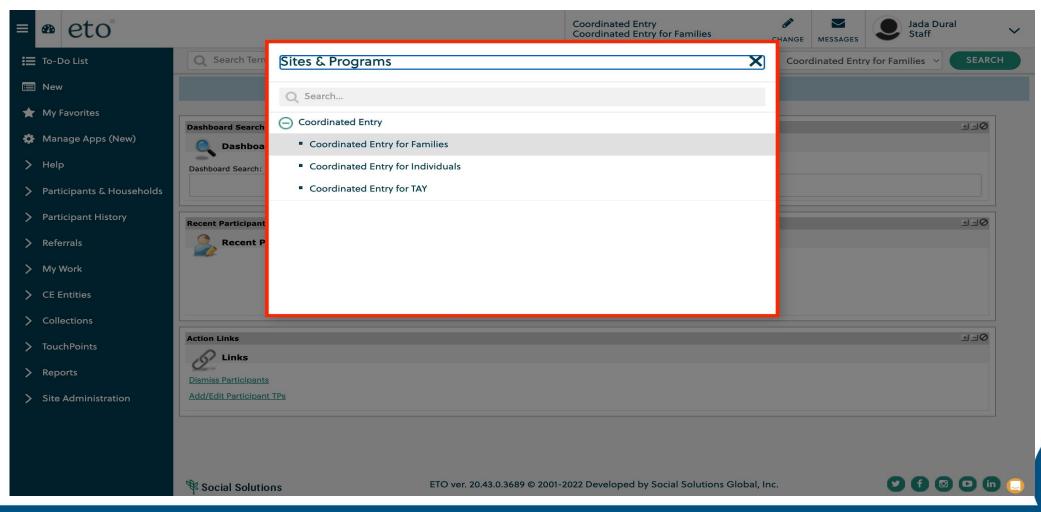
To find a participant's history in HMIS, perform a 4-Part Search



Navigate between Individuals, Families and TAY

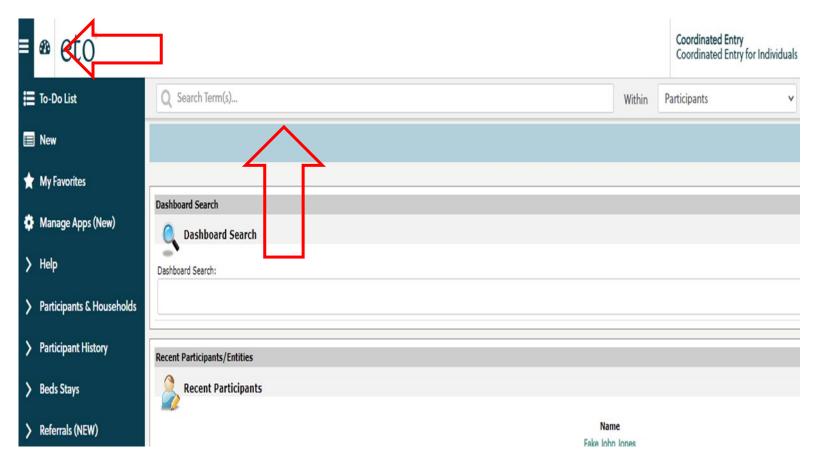


Navigate between Individuals, Families and TAY



HMIS Enrollment Search

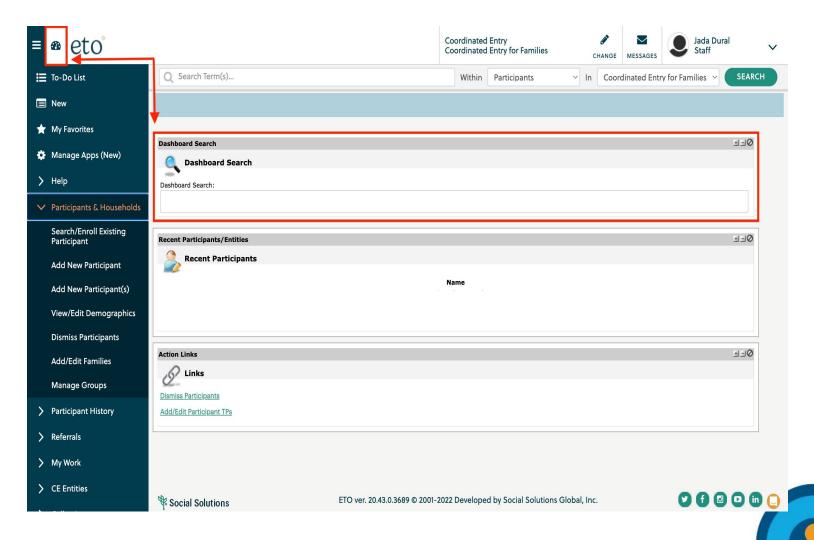
1: Quick Search: Enter the client's name into the quick search bar to see if they already have an existing case within the CES HMIS System.





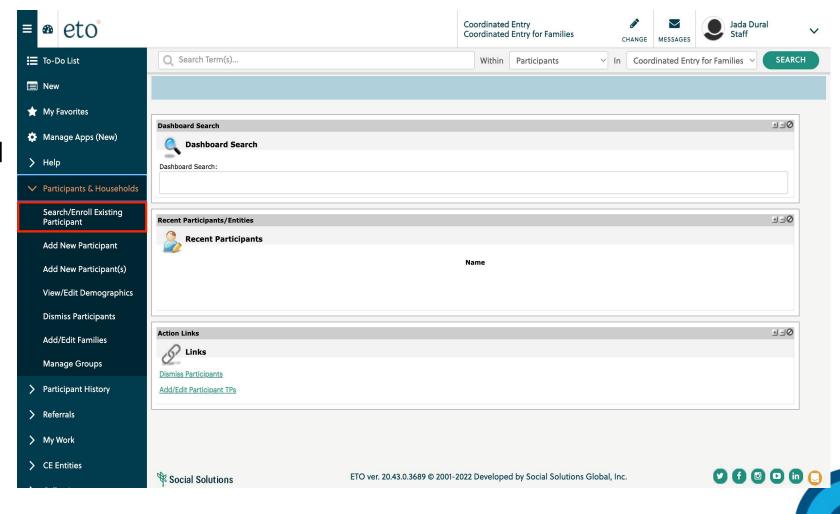
HMIS Enrollment Search

2: Dashboard Search:
Enter the client's
name into the
dashboard search bar
to see if the client
has ever been in CES.



3: **Search/Enroll**Search within the
HMIS enterprise by
clicking on the Search
Enroll Participant icon
now located in the tool
bar on the left side

HMIS Enrollment Search





■ New

> Help

★ My Favorites

Manage Apps (New)

> Participant History

> Beds Stays

> My Work

> CI Entities

> Referrals (NEW)

WEBi (NEW)

> Participants & Households

4: By-Names-List Access

CHANGE MESSAGES Jada Dural Staff

✓ In Coordinated Entry for Fa ✓ SEARCH

#1-10









Coordinated Entry Coordinated Entry for Families











■ New

★ My Favorites

Manage Apps (New)

> Help

> Participants & Households

> Participant History

> Beds Stays

> Referrals (NEW)

> My Work

> CI Entities

> Collections

> TouchPoints

✓ Reports

Enrollment/Dismissal

Q Search Term(s)	Within Participants ∨ In Coordinated Entry for Fa ∨ SEARCH
View Reports	
Refresh Report List	
■ Category Name	Category Description
A-Funders and Outcomes	Funder and Performance Outcomes Data
B-Homeless Programs Local	Operations and Performance Outcomes
± Custom Reports	



Report Description

Updated 5/12/2022

Custom Reports

CE Clients Active in Range
Client Project History

Active CE Clients and Case Notes In Range

All Shelter Exits and Returns by Provider

AVG Days Between Start and Successful Exit

Active Clients in Period and Housing Move-In Date

Clients Exited to Permanent Destinations or Remaining

Days Between Estimated Date Homelessness Began and

Positive Exit Destinations and Re-Entry Into Homeless

Days Since Contact/Engagement (Outreach Only)

Report

By-Name List

Active in Program

Program Start Date

HUD Assessment Timeliness

Income Change In Period

Nightly Enrollment Counts
Outreach Contact History

Income Change for Project Leavers

Length of Stay for Clients in Period Newly Enrolled Clients in Period

Exit Data (CE)
HOST Metrics

HSC Metrics

Help

Participants & Households

Participant History

Beds Stays

My Work

CI Entities

Collections

TouchPoints

WEBi (NEW)

Enrollment/Dismissal

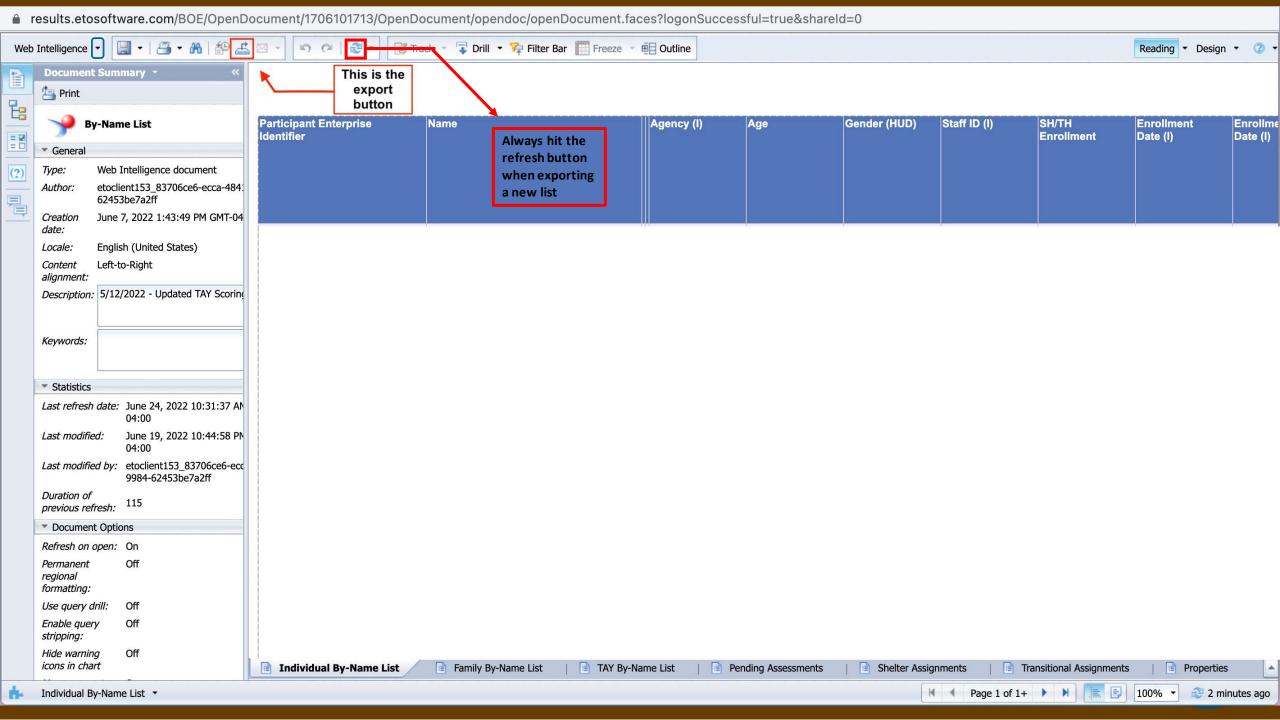
∨ Reports

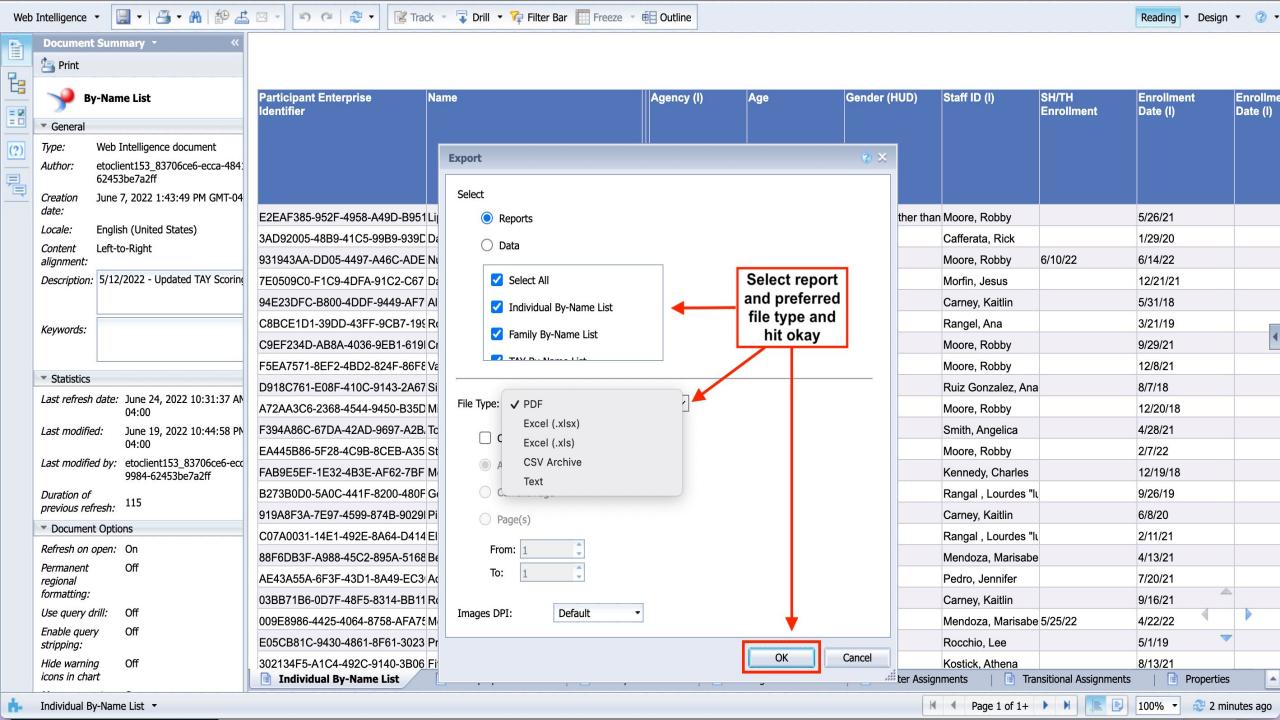
Referrals (NEW)

	CHANGE	MESSAGES		Jada Dural Staff	1
ipants	Y In	Coordina	ted Entry f	for Fa	SEARCH
scription					
Performance (Outcomes	Data			
nd Performa	nce Outco	mes			
				Туре	Options
				Custom	
				Custom	
				Custom	
Double check that your				Custom	
pop-up turned OFI			Custom		
will r	eport		Custom		
				Custom	

Custom

V





4: By-Names-List Access

DO NOT DISCLOSE SCORE!
Score disclosure will result in CES HMIS Access removal

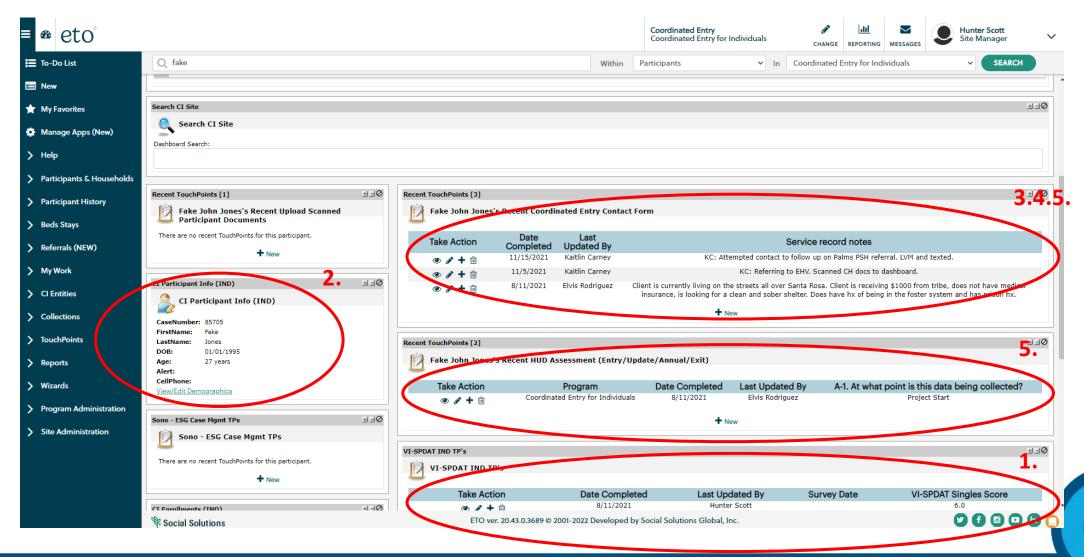
Inactivity policy: must have contact with the system every 90 days to be eligible for housing referrals



I found my client in HMIS! Now what?

- 1. Confirm VI-SPDAT is up to date (within last calendar year); if not, refer to Access Point (Access Flyer handout).
- 2. Confirm contact information is up to date; if not, update.
- 3. OPTIONAL: add case notes under "coordinated entry contact form" (tip: this lets us see you're connected to the client and invite you to case conferencing if they are referred to housing!). Label them with your initial.
- 4. If client is labelled "inactive" on By-Name-List, enter a case note next time you make contact, checking the "contact made" box, or connect them to an Access Point to do so.
- 5. Use participant history information for your own case planning.

HMIS Dashboard



CES Assessment Step 2: Crisis Navigation and Connection: Emergencies

- Medical 911
- Behavioral Health
 - inRESPONSE Team (SR only), 707-204-9756
 - Countywide Mobile Support Team, 707-565-6900
- Suicidal Ideation or Risk -
 - North Bay Suicide Prevention Hotline, 588-587-6373
 - National Suicide Prevention Hotline, 800-273-8255
 - 911 if immediate risk and not willing to call
- Adult Protective Services 800-667-0404
- Child Protective Services 800-870-7064



Crisis Navigation and Connection: Intimate Partner Violence

Domestic Violence Hotline: 707-546-1234

Provides supportive services and is a CES Access
 Point



Crisis Navigation and Connection: Emergency Shelter

• CDC Shelter Flyer: https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/development-services/community-development-commission/divisions/homeless-services/get-help

• 211



CES Grievances, Discrimination Complaints, and Reasonable Accommodation

- Participants are encouraged to first file a grievance with the Access Point or Housing Provider involved directly.
- Participants have the right to file a grievance relating to their experience with CES
 without being discriminated against by any CES Participating Agency or the CES
 Operator and without fear of being denied services or access to CES.
- The grievance procedure provides an opportunity to have any CES-related concerns or rights violations investigated.
- Reasonable Accommodation is an adjustment made in a system to accommodate or make fair the same system for an individual based on a proven need. That need can vary. Accommodations can be religious, physical, mental or emotional, academic, physical, or employment related and are often mandated by law.

CES Grievances and Discrimination Complaints

There are multiple methods for submitting grievances, including:

- Handing or emailing a written grievance to any CES Access Point staff or CES Operator staff;
- Leaving a voicemail at the CES Operator call line at (866) 542-5480;
- Sending an email to <u>CE@homefirstscc.org</u>;
- Sending a letter to: HomeFirst Coordinated Entry, 507 Valley Way, Milpitas CA 95035;
 - This option provides an opportunity to submit an anonymous grievance if the participant wishes; to do so, the sender should put the same address as the return address and leave the grievance unsigned.

Policies and Procedures

Included in handouts



Access Partner Process Summary

If you encounter someone who is homeless, follow these steps:

- 1. Complete Housing Problem Solving Conversation
 - i. Assess for eligibility for CES
 - a. Category 1: Literally homeless
 - b. Category 4: Fleeing domestic violence with nowhere to go
 - ii. Complete a strengths-based conversation to identify housing options other than the homeless services system. Do not continue if options are identified!
- Complete a CES ROI!
- Search in HMIS for: VI-SPDAT within the last year, up to date contact info, and active status on By-Name-List
- 2. Crisis Navigation, including emergency shelter
- 3. Refer to Access Point for full assessment and to be updated as needed



HOMEFIRST Where Homelessness Ends...

- www.homefirstscc.org
- @HomeFirstServices
- @HomeFirstServices_SCC
- in @HomeFirstServices