

How to Use the Tools

These tools are developed to support organizations in implementing Housing First programs, particularly in Metro Vancouver. Organizations should decide for themselves whether the tools are helpful, and how to use them, in their own situation.

The case management and prioritization tools can be used by any organization considering the implementation of Housing First. The prioritization tool can also be used by homelessness organizations that do not implementing Housing First. The identification and HIFIS tools relate to specific requirements of the Housing First funding provided under the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS).

More specific information of how to use each tool, is found in the Purpose of the tool.

Case Management Tool

This tool can help answer the following types of questions:

- How well do our current case management practices align with the case management practices outlined within the Housing First paradigm?
- How do I better understand the elements involved in case management under a Housing First paradigm?
- Have we included all of the essential components of case management that are expected under Housing First fidelity assessments?

Identification Tool (HPS Specific)

This tool can help answer the following types of questions:

- What are the definitions related to eligibility under Housing First services funded by HPS?
- Are there any additional criteria that informs the identification of clients eligible to receive services under HPS funded Housing First programs?
- How can we navigate the requirements for eligibility to effectively identify eligible clients?
- Are there any strategies to improve and/or simplify identification?
- Are there some case scenarios that we could use to practice identification?



Prioritization Tool

This tool can help answer the following types of questions:

- After we have identified clients who are eligible for Housing First under HPS funding, how do we prioritize our service delivery to most effectively serve our clients?
- How do we determine the housing type/support level that would best serve our clients?
- What prioritization tool best meets the needs of our organization?
- What are the limitations of the prioritization tools?

HIFIS for HPS Housing First Tool (HPS Specific)

This tool can help answer the following types of questions:

- What are the indicators that will be used by HPS to assess the effectiveness of Housing First programs?
- What HIFIS data entry will be required to record services to HPS Housing First clients and how do we complete this data entry?
- What reports are available to assist with HPS Housing First reporting requirements? How are these reports accessed/used?

These tools will be updated from time to time as updated information becomes available.

