



Have you heard? Minnesota's HMIS is changing.

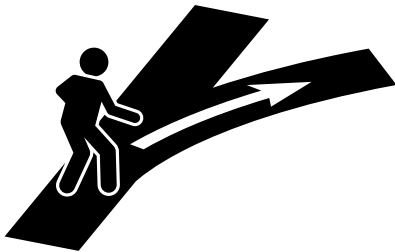
Minnesota's community of service providers asked for a modern, easy-to-use HMIS that meets our communities' needs today and that will keep pace as those needs evolve. With your help, Institute for Community Alliances (ICA) and Minnesota's HMIS Governing Board selected a software solution that will do just that. Minnesota's HMIS will change from Community Services to ClientTrack this summer.



Thank you for letting us know what you need HMIS to be.

In 2023, ICA and the MN HMIS Governing Board led a community-engaged software review that resulted in this change. That engagement included many of you.

Even if you or your organization do not use HMIS, it is important to know this change will help service providers spend less time on data entry and corrections and more time using HMIS as the tool to serve people experiencing homelessness on their journey to housing.



This is the next step toward our vision for Minnesota's HMIS.

Our vision for MN HMIS is that by centering the client and user experience, we use HMIS to connect people to resources and to drive decisions so that we equitably prevent and end homelessness in Minnesota. We do this in pursuit of housing, racial and health justice for people experiencing homelessness and housing instability.



How will this change affect your organization?

If your organization participates in HMIS, be sure to follow along by scanning the green QR code.



How can I stay informed about HMIS?

Want to stay in the know about MN HMIS? Scan the blue QR code too to sign up for our newsletter.

MNHMIS and ICA



WHAT IS HMIS?

Minnesota's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is the data infrastructure to collect and store client-level and program-level information about those experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Over 260 homeless service organizations in Minnesota use the database to facilitate housing referrals and monitor and evaluate their programs. Minnesota's HMIS is operated by the Institute for Community Alliances (ICA), the state system administrator. The Minnesota HMIS Governing Board oversees ICA's operation, providing strategic guidance. The board is comprised of Continuum of Care, Minnesota Tribal Collaborative, and state program leaders, as well as HMIS end users.

HOW IS HMIS USED?

To get people housed:

Community planners and housing providers use HMIS to facilitate housing referrals to place individuals and families into available permanent housing units. In Minnesota's largest county, HMIS helps clients reserve available shelter beds each night through a single point-of-entry.

For evaluation and monitoring:

ICA aggregates HMIS data for required federal and state reporting and produces summary data and statistics on homelessness in Minnesota. HMIS data recently helped the state evaluate effectiveness of pilot programs like Landlord Risk Mitigation and Homework Starts with Home.

To understand resource availability and utilization:

Nearly 90% (24,000) of the homeless service beds in Minnesota are tracked in HMIS year-round. As programs change – whether adding warming centers, shifting population focus, or adding new units, ICA ensures that HMIS represents that change.

WHO IS ICA?

Institute for Community Alliances (ICA) is a not-for-profit organization based in Des Moines, Iowa with a local team in St. Paul, Minnesota. ICA is the HMIS Lead Agency and state system administrator for Minnesota's HMIS, providing technical assistance and training support for more than 1500 users across the state.

ICA supports data-driven solutions and community information systems that help communities address housing instability, homelessness, food insecurity and related issues.