

Executive Director Meeting

May 11, 2018





Context for Today's Meeting

Topics of discussion for today include:

- Ongoing VESTA use for United Way-funded projects;
- Agency- and project-specific non-HMIS data stored in VESTA;
- Other VESTA uses; and
- Community feedback on the future use of VESTA as a community database.



United Way

Indicated to PCL that they intend to continue using VESTA.

- For **EA** users the change you will notice is increased likelihood that you will have to create a new record on clients.
 - All United Way fields/forms and reporting will continue.
- For users who have **City General Fund, EFSP, or United Way Shelter** funding, United Way has also indicated that you will continue on VESTA.
 - PCL will continue to maintain all forms/fields and reporting for these as needed for United Way.
 - For some providers this may mean double data entry.



Audit/Documentation Issues

- Homeless certifications are required documentation for HUD. PCL recommends you print (pdf) the homeless certifications for at least all of your active clients for your records.
- Many projects have financial records in VESTA. These include RRH, HPRP, and Shelter Diversion where required documentation has been uploaded for payment. If you do not have paper copies, PCL recommends the documents are printed (pdf) for financial and HUD audit records.



Client Case Work

The following documents are client-level documents that are owned by the agency and provisions will need to be made for them moving forward:

- Case Management plans
- Assessments
- Budgets
- Self-sufficiency matrix
- Encounter notes
- Evaluations



Documents

- PCL has provided each agency with a list of the number of documents that each project has uploaded to VESTA for clients. Projects should review client folders to determine what documents need to be saved.
- VESTA has been a repository for client birth certificates, social security documentation, DD-214, and IDs. PCL will seek counsel, but at the present time these documents are considered to be the client's and should not be removed by the agency unless they were procured for project documentation purposes that the client was made aware of.
- VESTA card will no longer be able to be used by agencies no longer using VESTA. Front door access, meal counting, group/program recording will need to have other arrangements made for them.



Other VESTA Uses

- UC Medical Center uses the homeless certifications for proof of ability to bill for indigent care funds. In the past 12 months 106 homeless certificates were accessed by them. This will have to be discontinued as the certifications disappear.
- TB Control has used VESTA to warn of TB and locate clients in order to treat them. Approximately 5 person per year go through this system in order to assist the entire homeless population. PCL will have no ability to maintain this function.
- Medicaid applications are still being accepted by JFS through VESTA, approximately 125 cases are currently open in VESTA. This will discontinue for those whose access is discontinued.



Longitudinal Data

- VESTA is the only database with complete longitudinal data on homelessness back to 1999 (some earlier records also) with full participation by 2005. The longitudinal data that has been used for community research on poverty, childhood poverty, mental health, jail, health, youth, children's recidivism and Medicaid will have to end. There will be no ability to do any of this research in the future.