



Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program
Frequently Asked Questions
August 11, 2022

The purpose of this document is to provide TA to MCPs participating in the Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP). DHCS received the below questions from MCPs regarding the program specifics.

Measure 1.1 MCP engagement with CoC

1. Why is measure 1.1 an individual MCP submission rather than a county-wide submission where MCPs would collaborate on the response?

For counties with multiple MCPs, DHCS anticipates MCPs will collaborate on their approach to engagement with the CoC. However, each MCP may have a different approach or set of tactics for engaging with CoCs and other community partners. As such, each MCP should outline a clear approach describing how they will be engaging and partnering with the CoC and other partners in each county.

2. The original measure 3.3 was removed and is now included in measure 1.1. Can MCPs use the information submitted for the original measure 3.3 (published in May) to respond to the updated measure 1.1 (updated in July)?

Yes, MCPs may consolidate their response to the original measure 3.3 in their submission of measure 1.1 due on August 12.

3. HUD indicated the next required PIT count will be in 2024. How does that impact submissions for measure 1.1?

DHCS updated measure 1.1 for MCPs in counties where a PIT count will not be completed in 2023. Measure 1.1 now asks MCPs to provide information in anticipation of the next year when a PIT count will be completed. For example, an MCP should describe the CoC's capacity, infrastructure, and funding needs for conducting the PIT count in 2024, and how the MCP anticipates supporting the CoC in advance of the 2024 PIT count.

4. For Measure 1.1, Submission 1, is the denominator the total number of CoC meetings that were held and is the numerator the number of those meetings the MCP attended?

The performance benchmark for Submission 1 and 2 is based on the MCP's commitment to engage with the CoC as noted in the MCP Local Homelessness Plan (LHP) submission. MCPs should determine jointly with the CoC how best to engage, including the number and type of CoC meetings the MCP will attend to collaborate most effectively.



Measure 2.1 Connection with street medicine team providing healthcare for individuals who are homeless

5. Is there an ETA on the finalization of the street medicine APL?

The street medicine APL is forthcoming. DHCS will provide MCPs with additional details on the timeline as they become available.

Measure 2.3 MCP process for tracking and managing referrals for the housing-related Community Supports

6. Do emails count as a form of "electronic" receipt of a referral?

Any electronic communication containing Protected Health Information (PHI) may apply to this measure as long as it is conducted in accordance with applicable state and federal privacy and security requirements.

Measure 3.4 MCP members experiencing homelessness receiving at least one housing-related Community Supports

7. Is the evaluation of measure 3.4 based on the aggregate number of MCP members experiencing homelessness who received at least one of the MCP's offered housing-related Community Supports during the measurement period, or is it based on each individual Community Supports category increase?

MCPs should report across each individual Community Supports service they offer. Performance will be evaluated across the aggregate.

Measure 3.5 MCP members who were successfully housed

8. Are there additional details specifying how MCPs should define which of their members were successfully housed?

Please see the guidance document issued by DHCS "Measure 3.5 Defining Successfully Housed" for additional detail as to how MCPs should determine which of their members experiencing homelessness were successfully housed.

9. Will MCPs be able to revise their LHP data submissions in future submissions as their ability to identify member housing transitions improves (e.g., through connection to HMIS)?

Yes. As part of Submission 1, DHCS will ask all MCPs to resubmit information about the number of members who were successfully housed during the LHP measurement period (Jan – May 2022). This will not impact the score MCPs received for the LHP but will be used as the baseline for the MCP's performance for Submission 1. DHCS is allowing this option anticipating that most MCPs will connect to HMIS, enabling more accurate data collection, between the LHP submission and Submission 1.



10. The original LHP measurement period was January 1 – April 30, 2022. Is the revised measurement period May 1 — December 31, 2022?

There was no change to the program measurement periods when DHCS released updated measures for the LHP submission. The data for the revised LHP measures that MCPs submit on August 12 should still apply to the original LHP measurement period, which is January 1 – April 30, 2022. The measurement period for Submission 1 is May 1 – December 31, 2022. MCPs will submit information pertaining to this measurement period in February 2023.

Investment Plan (IP)

11. Is the purpose of the IP to outline how current MCP resources will be invested into the measures, or the anticipated incentive payments?

The IP is intended to demonstrate the MCP has a clear plan for achieving HHIP program measures and goals (1. Ensuring MCPs have the necessary capacity and partnerships to connect their members to needed housing services; 2. Reducing and preventing homelessness through targeted investments). The MCP should determine, in partnership with their CoC(s), the priorities that need investments to achieve the program measures, and the anticipated dollar amount of these investments. The IP is not specific to the amount of payments the MCP may earn as part of HHIP, though DHCS anticipates MCPs will consider the potential return on investment when determining how much of the MCP's funds to invest toward achieving specific measures. Once a MCP earns HHIP payments, DHCS does not direct or restrict the MCP's use of these funds. The IP is not intended to demonstrate how the MCP will spend the dollars they earn through HHIP.

12. Are the dollar amounts that MCPs provide in the IP binding?

No. MCPs must submit a narrative describing specific investments they intend to make to overcome existing funding gaps and meet the goals of the HHIP, including details on the anticipated dollar amounts for each investment activity. If the specific dollar amount is not known at this time, the MCP may provide a dollar range, which should be as narrow as possible. MCPs must provide a true representation of their expected investment plan and strategy for achieving program measures and targets as of the date of signature on the Attestation (Part IV of the IP).

13. Where are the “points” to be earned for each of the sections of the Investment Plan?

The entire Investment Plan is worth up to 10% of the MCP's allocated funding. Each individual component does not have specified points, rather the submission will be evaluated in full. DHCS will not accept a submission if any of the components are missing (i.e., an incomplete submission) or unsatisfactory. MCPs should submit complete responses to all sections of the IP and contact DHCS at DHCSHHIP@dhcs.ca.gov with any concerns regarding their ability to submit complete responses.



14. What flexibilities do MCPs have to make changes to their IP in the future?

DHCS does not expect MCPs to make updates to their IP. MCPs will be required to describe the lessons they learn from their investments, what has worked and what has not worked, as part of Measure 1.7 in Submission 1 and 2.

15. Does the CoC Letter of Support need to be approved by the full CoC board through a CoC board meeting? Can it be a less formal letter of support from the CoC lead agency and/or partners that participated in the process?

MCPs should work with their CoC partner(s) to determine the process needed to validate that the CoC(s) collaborated with the MCP, were given an opportunity to review the MCP's IP response and support the MCP's IP. The intent of the Letter of Support is to ensure the CoC is fully engaged as a partner. This may require the full board review or sign off from the CoC board chair. The CoC should determine with the MCP how it will indicate its full support for the MCP's IP. If the MCPs and CoC determine that a formal letter of support approved by the full CoC board would be the best fit for their partnership, and if the MCP is concerned about the timing they have to accomplish this, the MCP should contact DHCS at DHCSHIP@dhcs.ca.gov with a rationale and proposed alternative submission date approved by their CoC partner(s).

16. Do MCPs have to link each investment listed in the IP to one or more specific program measures?

Yes. MCPs must identify the program measure(s) that they anticipate each investment will help the MCP to achieve.