



ANCHORAGE COALITION TO
END HOMELESSNESS

ACCESS POINT SESSION 2

**Opening Doors with Coordinated Entry:
Using data & collaboration as tools on the
pathway to permanent housing**

Presented by Coordinated Entry Specialists Ziona Brownlow, Eric Thomas

- **Coordinated Entry: Why?**
- **Our Roles within the CE System**
- **Reading HMIS “stories”**
- **Collaborating with System Partners**

Introductions & Overview





Importance of Coordinated Entry

Presented by Eric Thomas



Coordination is key!

A close-up photograph of a mechanical watch movement. The image shows a complex arrangement of gears, levers, and plates. The gears are primarily gold-colored, while the plates and levers are a light blue or silver color. The watch is partially obscured by a semi-transparent white overlay on the right side, which contains text. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

Efficiency

Coordinated Entry streamlines the process for individuals experiencing homelessness to **access the services they need by providing a centralized entry point.**

Rather than navigating multiple agencies or programs independently, **individuals can access a single system** to find appropriate resources.

Equity

Coordinated Entry helps **ensure fairness and consistency** in service provision.

By using standardized assessment tools and prioritization criteria, the Coordinated Entry system helps **allocate resources based on need and funding requirements** instead of program preference or “cherry-picking”.




Effectiveness

With a coordinated approach, our Continuum of Care is able to better **identify clients most in need** and refer them to resources that can meet those needs more comprehensively and effectively.

The efficiency of our Coordinated Entry system not only improves referral retention, but **client stability, health, and overall well-being.**





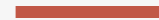
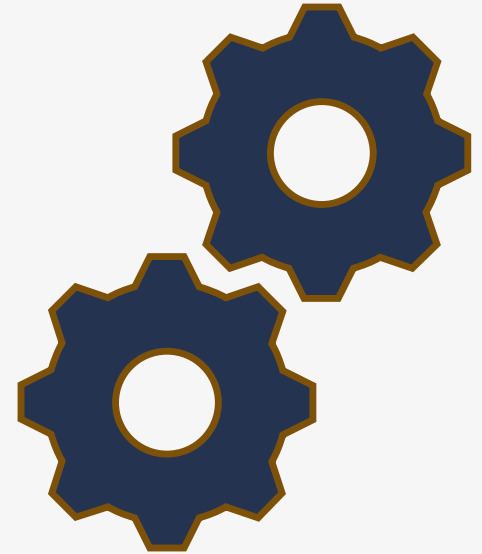
Our Roles in the CE System

Different Roles within the Coordinated Entry System

Each of us play a pivotal role in our clients housing journeys throughout each part of the system.

It is our responsibility to cultivate a **person-centered approach** into the work we do with every client.

- Access Points
- Outreach Specialists
- Emergency Shelters
- Case Managers



Access Points

Coordinate Entry Access Points serve as the first door to a person's access to housing services.

Without CE Access Points, our clients' stories get lost in the system and individuals go without the opportunity of accessing referrals to housing and supportive services programs.



Current Access Points



ACEH Main Office
4700 E Tudor Road, Suite A



ACEH Street Outreach Pop-Ups
Tuesdays at Cuddy Park, Thursdays at Davis Park 1 p.m.



Covenant House Alaska (TAY Clients Only)
755 A Street



3rd Avenue Resource Center
1101 E 3rd Avenue



RurAL CAP: Safe Harbor
207 Muldoon Road



Emergency Cold Weather Shelters*
Alex Hotel, Aviator Hotel, or 1111 E 56th Avenue

Street Outreach

Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness partners with various agencies to provide Street Outreach services.

Having a consistent presence in the community has allowed us to **build rapport with clients and gather more data** from those living in encampments than ever before.

This data helps us **tell the stories of our unsheltered neighbors** and connect them to critical services.



Casting Wider Nets

Each time a person experiencing homelessness touches a service point (shelters, navigation centers, outreach events), this is an opportunity to add them to the prioritization list for a housing referral.

The wider the net we cast (more CE access points we establish), the more likely we are to catch those who may have slipped through the cracks





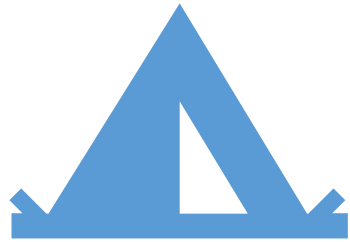
Reading Client Stories in HMIS

Presented by Ziona Brownlow

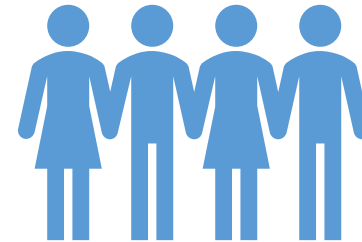
Anchorage by the Numbers

Due to the vast difference between the amount of **community need in comparison to available community resources**, we know clients are falling out of the Coordinated Entry System or not able to access it entirely.

As we all work toward growing Anchorage's Homelessness Prevention & Response System, increasing access to Coordinated Entry must be at the forefront of our efforts.



3,460 people
experiencing homelessness.



1,974 people
on the CE Prioritization List

Anchorage figures as of January 2024

Reading the Data

Our Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is robust, containing data including client's program/service activity, location, and contact information. **With a keen eye, you can almost read someone's story within the database.**

In the scope of Coordinated Entry, accurate and updated HMIS data can give us a perspective of a person's story and needs, informing our systems and furthermore painting a larger picture of community gaps. **Increasing programs and providers HMIS participation improves our ability to advocate and collaborate** within our different roles.

Keeping the Door Open

Every client's needs and circumstances will always vary as there isn't one specific door that leads to homelessness, but there are a few things every provider can do to **help people experiencing homelessness open doors to permanent housing.**

- **Support Clients' Access to Coordinated Entry**
If within your role, complete CE assessments and interim updates as needed.
- **Accurate and Updated Data**
Use HMIS to document important client information (current location, contact info, etc.) and securely store client documents (ID, disability verification, program applications, etc.).
- **Advocate and Collaborate**
Attend case conferencing meetings to track referral progress or advocate and collaborate with other programs and providers.



THANK YOU!

Questions & Ideas?

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Slides and additional resources are available at aceh.org/conference