

3.4 Racial Equity

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to acknowledge and address the historical and systemic racial disadvantages faced by minority populations in accessing housing. The Coordinated Entry System (CES) commits to using data analysis and regular policy reviews to identify and eliminate inequities within the system. This policy is grounded in the guidance from HUD's Racial Equity Homeless System Response, which mandates taking meaningful actions to overcome segregation, promote housing choice, and create inclusive communities free from discrimination.

FORMS

There are no forms related or required for this Policy

POLICY

The CES recognizes the historic and systematic racial disadvantages minority populations have faced in seeking housing in the United States. HMIS is used to track these inequities through dashboards and data analysis and the CES P&P are reviewed annually in order to address these disadvantages. The CES supports and follows the following guidance from HUD's Racial Equity Homeless System Response:

“No protected class (race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, familial status, and disability) can be used as the sole basis for decisions on housing, but communities must take meaningful actions to overcome historic patterns of segregation, promote housing choice, and foster inclusive communities that are free from discrimination.”

An ongoing goal of the CES is to identify, address, and eliminate inequities and disparities that may present within the system in order to ensure that access to housing is as equitable as possible.

KEY TAKE AWAYS

- **Recognition of Racial Disadvantages:** The CES acknowledges the historical and systemic barriers that minority populations have faced in accessing housing in the United States.
- **Data-Driven Approach:** HMIS is utilized to track and analyze racial inequities through dashboards and data analysis, allowing for informed decision-making and targeted interventions.
- **Annual Policy Review:** The CES Policies and Procedures (P&P) are reviewed annually to address and mitigate racial disparities within the housing system.
- **HUD Racial Equity Guidance:** The policy aligns with HUD’s guidance, emphasizing that while protected classes cannot be used as the sole basis for housing decisions, communities must actively work to overcome segregation and foster inclusive, discrimination-free environments.
- **Commitment to Equity:** An ongoing goal of the CES is to identify, address, and eliminate inequities within the system, ensuring that access to housing is equitable for all individuals, regardless of race or other protected characteristics.