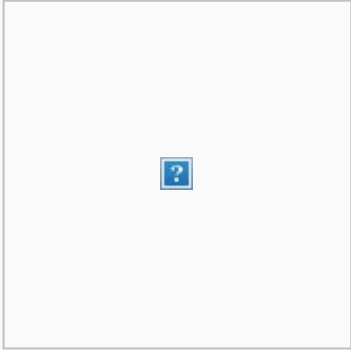


From: [MSHDA-HS](#)
Subject: MSHDA Homeless Solutions Newsletter 2/25/2020
Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 4:53:17 PM

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From the Office of Homeless Solutions

- *ESG: Reminder for Required Forms*
- *Public Comment: MSHDA PHA and Administrative Plans*
- *ESG and Prioritization: What's Required?*
- *Building Michigan Communities Conference*
- *Got a Question?*

ESG: Reminder for Required Forms

Routine monitoring of MSHDA ESG grantees gives our MSHDA team indicators of missing items or common errors that can occur within participant files receiving financial assistance via Rapid Re-Housing or Homelessness Prevention. Here are a few examples:

- **Completed VAWA documents** (especially the VAWA lease addendum)
- **Rent Reasonableness** (now completed through Go Section 8)
- **Form #21 - Rental Assistance Agreement and Lease Addendum**

Each of these are HUD requirements and must be completed as part of any rental assistance provided. We recommend taking time to review participant files on a regular basis to ensure these forms are completed fully and correctly.

You can review any forms or policy on [MSHDA's website](#). The Participant File Checklist is also a great resource!

Public Comment: MSHDA PHA and Administrative Plans

MSHDA's Rental Assistance and Homeless Solutions Division has posted the proposed MSHDA Housing Choice Voucher FY 2020-21 Annual PHA (Public Housing Authority) Plan and Administrative Plan changes to the MSHDA website. The information can be located at www.michigan.gov/mshda under "Spotlight" on the main page.

Interested parties, including staff and the general public, are invited to comment on the proposed PHA Plan or the changes to the Administrative Plan. Written comments must be sent to the attention of Lisa Kemmis either by U.S. Mail at PO Box 30044, Lansing, MI 48909 or via email to kemmisl@michigan.gov. Written comments must be received by 5:00 pm on Friday, February 28, 2020.

Two public hearings are scheduled to receive oral or written comments. The public hearing dates and times are as follows:

- Friday, February 28, 2020 at 9:30 am at the MSHDA Lansing Office, Conference Rooms 235 and 335
- Friday, February 28, 2020 at 1:30 pm at the MSHDA Detroit Office, Cadillac Place, Conference Room 602-D

It is expected that the final Plans will be submitted to the MSHDA

Board for approval at the March 2020 meeting.

ESG and Prioritization: What's Required?

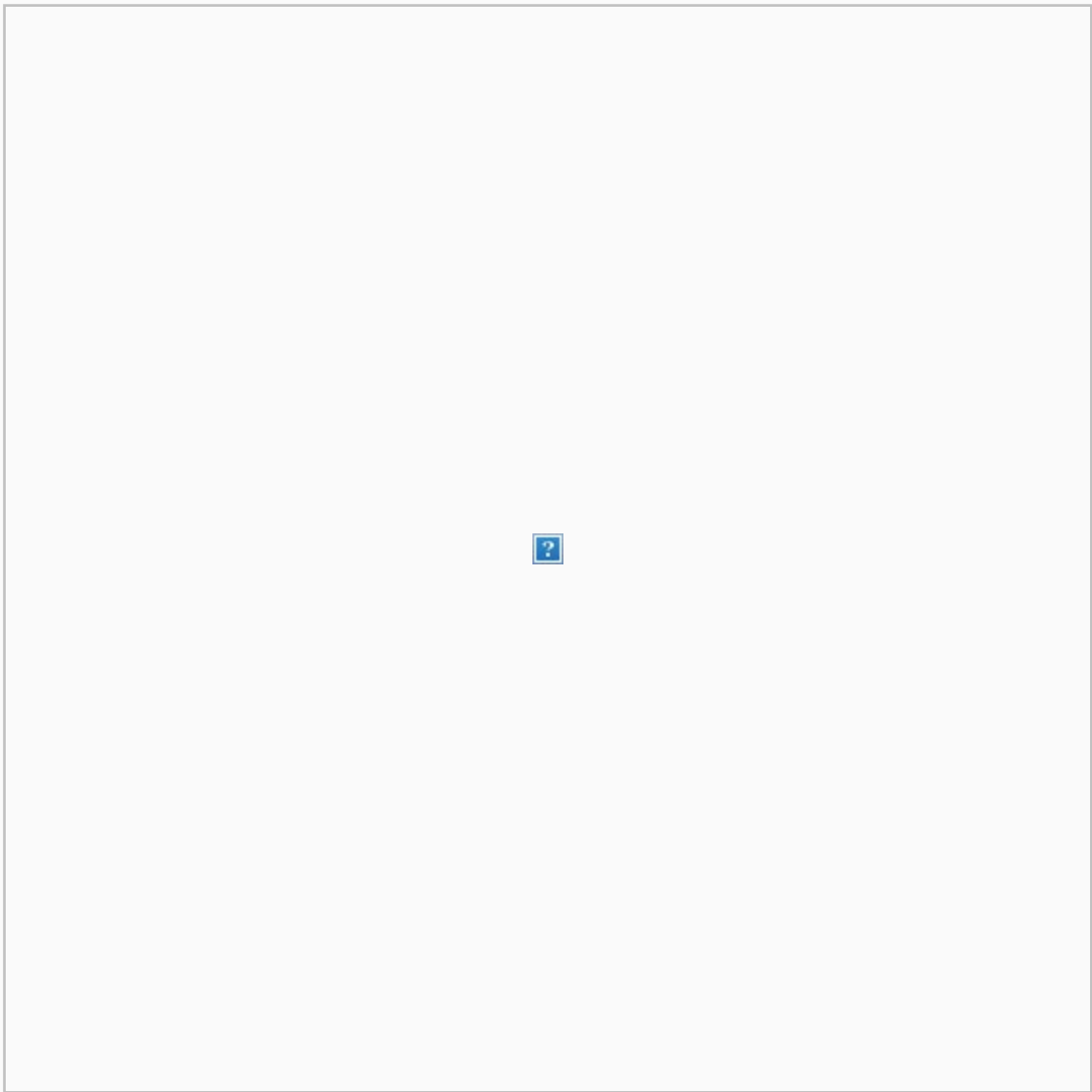
Prioritization is a critical aspect of any Coordinated Entry System. Each CoC and Local Planning Body (subset of the Balance of State CoC) is responsible for determining and implementing which factors should be considered when prioritizing literally homeless households for any rental assistance.

At a minimum, HUD requires the consideration of length of time homeless and a standardized assessment of vulnerability for the purpose of prioritization. For the purposes of ESG, MSHDA requires the use of the Vulnerability Index - Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) to meet the requirement of standardization.

Does this mean that these are the only factors communities can consider? No. Each community can - and should - review data from the Coordinated Entry System to determine any number of weighted factors which could impact prioritization.

Does this mean that the score provided by the VI-SPDAT is the primary factor for prioritization? No. While standardized assessment is required, it is not necessarily designed to be the deciding factor for household prioritization and should be weighted based on each communities' review of data from the Coordinated Entry System.

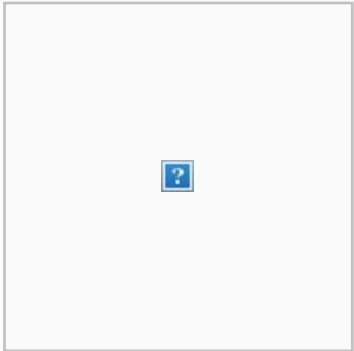
This is an area MSHDA plans to explore further with communities over the coming year. Please feel free to [email](#) your insights, questions, and experiences with our team. We look forward to hearing from you!



Registration is OPEN for the 2020 Building Michigan Communities Conference, the premier educational and networking event for those who are passionate about Michigan communities. We hope you will join us as we celebrate this year's theme, IMPACT, offering an unmatched opportunity to network, learn and be inspired.

Register [here](#) before April 10 for extra savings and join us

April 28-29 in Lansing.



Got a Question?

We want to hear from you! Send us an [email](#) with questions you have about Homeless Solutions and we'll follow up. If we receive a lot emails with the same question, we'll share the question and response in the next newsletter.

Our mailing address is:

735 E Michigan Ave, Lansing, MI 48909
