



MONTANA COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM (CES)

What is CES?

Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH) consolidates Housing and Urban Development (HUD) competitive grant programs and works with Continuum of Care (CoC) entities in each state. Montana has one single CoC and each community manages housing assistance under HUD. CES is recommended by HUD and reduces burden on people/households in a housing crisis. CES identifies the most appropriate housing resource to facilitate a rapid and permanent exit from homelessness, while prioritizing the most vulnerable households for housing. CES establishes a By-Name List (BNL) of people experiencing homelessness in each community. Programs/shelters/providers work together as a housing and service system, which reduced duplication. CES are community-organized groups of support agencies and community members serving persons homeless and at risk of homelessness. The goal of CES is to prioritize the most vulnerable and help them gain access to the available safe housing in the area. CES aligns with and facilitates goals for PATH and SOAR to address homelessness and increase access to permanent housing for people with mental and/or substance use disorders. CES is a work in progress in Montana.

Who is eligible?

Individuals/households at risk of or experiencing crisis of homelessness, regardless of serious mental illness (SMI), substance use disorder (SUD), co-occurring SMI/SUD, or physical impairment. Sheltered and unsheltered individuals/households are eligible to be prioritized using the VI-SPDAT (vulnerability index measure) and placed on the BNL. The BNL in each community will be owned by one organization or agency. Weekly case conferencing prioritizes those individuals/households at most need of first available housing unit (usually subsidized) and assigns housing support provider/navigator to coordinate individuals/households into a unit.

What communities have Coordinated Entry Systems?

Hubs are larger cities that will help smaller neighboring communities coordinate.

Missoula CES Contact: Theresa Williams, United Way of Missoula, owner of BNL. 406.541.6395

Great Falls CES Contact: Gary Owen, garyowen@uwccmt.org

Bozeman CES Contact: Katie Ann Laramore, klaramore@thehrdc.org

Butte CES Contact: Cassie O'Leary, coleary@hrc12.org

Hubs of Helena and Billings are in process of coordination. PATH workers in Missoula, Butte and Billings will assist CES.

CES Workshop Contact: Julie McFarland, CSH, Seattle. Rural Supportive Housing Initiative, 206.678.7170

jmcfarlandconsulting@outlook.com

AMDD contact: Jami Hansen, Program Manager PATH/SOAR State Lead. **Email:**

Jami.Hansen@mt.gov Phone: 406-444-3055

Visit the Addictive and Mental Disorders Division at:

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/amdd/Mentalhealthservices>