

OVERVIEW OF THE HOMELESS POLICY ACADEMY TA PROCESS

What Are The Technical Assistance (TA) Process Objectives?

- Identify critical TA needs of States and Territories
- Design and provide TA to help States and Territories enhance collaboration and implement action plans
- Help coordinate and utilize Federal resources in a strategic, coordinated, and non-duplicative manner
- Create and disseminate TA tools and models

What Is The Technical Assistance Continuity Team (TACT)?

- **Health Systems Research, Inc. (HSR):** Provide overall coordination and quality assurance; serve as the primary point of contact for Federal partners and TA contractors; serve as a liaison to existing Homeless Policy Academy contracts and planning activities (*Primary Contact: Jamie Hart, 512-343-1086, jhart@hsrnet.com*)
- **Policy Research Associates, Inc. (PRA):** Coordinate TA activities; design and provide TA; identify appropriate consultants (*Primary Contact: Francine Williams, 518-439-7415, fwilliams@prainc.com*)
- **Technical Assistance Consultants:** Design TA with State Team; provide facilitation and TA; serve as a “case manager” for assigned States to help teams maintain momentum

What Types Of TA Are Available?

- **TA Materials** – providing briefing papers, fact sheets, articles, targeted literature searches
- **Team Meeting Facilitation** – helping teams incorporate new stakeholders or integrate efforts with other planning activities
- **Expert Consultation on Content-Related Issues** – consulting in person or via phone on issues such as streamlining benefit application processes or conducting a cost-benefit analysis
- **Group TA** - coordinating a conference call with facilitator, TA expert, and several States/Territories
- **Peer-to-Peer TA** – coordinating a conference call between several States and Territories or sending team members on site visits
- **In-State and -Territory Academies** - facilitating the process of involving key stakeholders, creating a common vision and understanding of the issues, and developing action plans

What Topics Might The TA Address?

| Planning/Systems Change | Housing and Services | Data/Research |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Action Plan facilitation | Housing development | Cost-benefit study |
| Coalition building | Improved access to HUD programs | Needs assessment study |
| Getting political buy-in | Housing First model | Development of performance measures |
| Interagency Council development | Housing Trust fund | HMIS, data systems integration |
| Addressing co-occurring disorders | Models of integrated housing and services | MOUs and data sharing agreements |
| Discharge planning | SSI/SSDI training for front-line staff | Data collection/research |
| System and organizational change | Streamlining benefit application processes | |

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How do I request the different types of TA?

| Funding Agency | Eligibility Requirements | Contact |
|--|--|--|
| Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) | State team that completed participation in at least one of the Policy Academies' 1-7 and completed and submitted action plan | <p style="text-align: center;">Margaret Lassiter Policy Research Associates, Inc. 345 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054 Telephone: (518) 439-7415 ext. 308 E-mail: mlassiter@prainc.com</p> |
| Housing and Urban Development (HUD) | Demand/response TA – all states and territories | <p style="text-align: center;">Velma Simpson Office of Community Planning and Development, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, HUD Telephone: (202) 708-0614 ext. 6720 E-mail: velma_s_simpson@hud.gov</p> |
| HUD, HMIS TA Contract | All states and territories | <p style="text-align: center;">Velma Simpson Office of Community Planning and Development, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, HUD Telephone: (202) 708-0614 ext. 6720 E-mail: velma_s_simpson@hud.gov</p> |
| Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) | All states and territories | TACT Members will contact each state team lead to discuss TA needs. |
| Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA), Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) | All states and territories | <p style="text-align: center;">Phyllis B. Wolfe Homeless Programs Branch, CMHS, SAMHSA Telephone: (240) 276-1902 E-mail: phyllis.wolfe@samhsa.hhs.gov</p> |
| Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA)/CSAT Co-occurring and Homeless Activities Branch (CHAB) and its Grantees | Grantees of CSAT and CMHS, including state departments, counties, cities, and CBOs | <p style="text-align: center;">Phyllis B. Wolfe Homeless Programs Branch, CMHS, SAMHSA Telephone: (240) 276-1902 E-mail: phyllis.wolfe@samhsa.hhs.gov</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jim Herrell, CSAT Telephone: (240) 276-2789 E-mail: jim.herrell@samhsa.hhs.gov</p> |
| Veterans Affairs (VA), National Coalition for Homeless Veterans – VA Homeless Provider Grant and Per Diem TA Program | Organizations serving homeless veterans and their families (including faith-based organizations and CBOs) | <p style="text-align: center;">Roger Case Program Manager Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program Department of Veterans Affairs Telephone: (877) 332-0334 E-mail: roger.casey@hq.med.va.gov</p> |