

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR A HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM ("HMIS")

An HMIS is a computer data system that collects information about individuals and families who use homeless housing and service systems. Securing funding to plan, implement, and staff your HMIS can be difficult, but not impossible! Here are two of the most commonly used funding sources to get your HMIS up and running.

EMERGENCY SHELTER GRANTS PROGRAM

- HUD funding program
- Agency-specific HMIS implementation costs are allowable for an individual provider under *operating costs* (operating costs are limited to no more than 10% of the overall ESG grant amount) or *administrative costs* (administrative costs are limited to no more than 5% of the overall ESG grant amount)
- Community-wide HMIS implementation costs may be allowable under *operating costs* and *administrative costs*
- Can potentially pay for equipment and staffing costs
- See HUD's Desk Guide for further information and match requirements for this grant (available at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/library/esg/index.cfm>)

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAM

- HUD funding program
- Agency-specific and/or community-wide HMIS implementation costs are allowable under *supportive services only*, *operating costs*, and/or *administrative costs*
- Can potentially pay for equipment and staffing costs
- See HUD's Desk Guide for further information and match requirements for this grant (available at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/library/shp/shpdeskguide/index.cfm>)

Many private foundations and other organizations provide resources to nonprofit agencies to research grant opportunities that may pay for elements of an HMIS, such as computer equipment or software. Some examples of organizations that can provide you with grant research help are:

TECH FOUNDATION

- Private foundation that offers grant funding as well as a newsletter listing of other grants and free or discounted products available to nonprofit agencies
- Can potentially pay for equipment, possibly also staffing costs
- See the foundation's website for further information on their grant program and to sign up to receive their quarterly newsletter (available at <http://www.techfoundation.org/>)

THE FOUNDATION CENTER

- Nonprofit agency that offers a wealth of grant research resources, including an excellent search engine to help you find grant opportunities to fund your HMIS project
- Private foundations, community foundations, corporate grant makers, and grant-making public charities are all listed on their website
- Can potentially pay for equipment and staffing costs
- See the agency's website for further information (available at www.fdncenter.org)

TECH SOUP

- Nonprofit agency that offers discounted hardware and software, as well as technological advice, to nonprofit agencies
- See the agency's website for further information (available at www.techsoup.org)