

WHAT IS A COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM?

A **Coordinated Entry System (CES)** is a lifeline for those seeking housing services in Kansas. Established by a regional Continuum of Care, the CES provides a process to ensure all people experiencing a housing crisis have fair access to assistance, prioritizing those most vulnerable based on their needs.

Imagine a family who has lost their housing.

They've tried staying with friends, maybe even in a hotel, and are now living in a car. They've run out of options. That's where CES comes in. The family will meet with one of the CoC's network of trained staff who will assess the family's needs and help connect them with services and place them on a list for housing supports. The CES standardizes the assessment process across agencies so assistance is most effective.



TYPES OF SUPPORT



Transportation



Access to Healthcare



Education & Employment Supports



Childcare Supports



Rental & Utility Assistance



Longer-term Housing



Emergency Housing

Support can also include helping people solve housing issues on their own through connection to community resources, subsidized housing or housing vouchers. Types of support available vary in different parts of the state due to limited resources.

COORDINATED ENTRY CORE COMPONENTS

1 ACCESS POINTS

- First points of contact with the crisis response system for most people
- Provide referrals to emergency services and begins the assessment process to determine suitable interventions

2 ASSESSMENT

- Critical in prioritizing individuals based on **vulnerability factors**
- Asks questions like “Do you need medical care?” and “Are you safe?” to evaluate immediate needs

3 PRIORITIZATION

- Shifts focus from "first-come, first-served" to prioritizing those with the greatest vulnerability to receive support first

4 REFERRAL

- Matches people with greatest vulnerability to appropriate housing and services
- Ensures clear communication about expectations from all parties involved

VULNERABILITY FACTORS & EXAMPLES OF SUPPORTS

- Chronic homelessness
- Fleeing domestic violence
- Unsheltered
- Veteran
- Older adult (60+)
- Households with minor children
- Transition aged youth (18-24)
- Disability (physical or mental)


Lisa, fleeing an abusive relationship, needed a few months to earn income on her own so she could afford first and last month's rent.



David, a veteran whose home burned down, needs shelter & case management support to get back into housing.



Darryl, 18-24 with an intellectual disability, was dropped off at a shelter by his caregiver. He needs intensive support & a group home.



To ensure all people in Kansas have a chance to find stable housing, we must do more to support the Coordinated Entry System and CoC partner agencies, which work together to help families in crisis find the assistance they need when they need it most.