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# CARES Regional HMIS

January 2018

## CRHMIS News

**Happy New Year!**

*"Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right." ~Oprah Winfrey*

Are you receiving this newsletter for the very first time and wondering just how such amazing-ness landed in your email inbox? Well, that is because we on the CRHMIS team were concerned that some of our fabulous users were possibly missing out on keeping up to date with all things HMIS so we added everyone who has an AWARDS log-in to our list-serve so they will never miss out on hearing from us again. You're Welcome. If you really don't want to receive our monthly newsletters and be kept up to date on any changes, issues, ect then I mean, I *guess you could unsubscribe* but do you really want to do that? I didn't think so.

In addition to making sure everyone is signed up to receiving updates from through email, we are also working on setting everyone's permissions in AWARDS to include alerting them via email that they have a message waiting for them in AWARDS. If this



### GIVING TREE

Thank you so much to all who reached out and purchased gifts for the children in our housing programs.

**DONATIONS FOR** **PU**  
**ERTO RICO** From Michelle Sandoz-  
Dennis Planning Unit Director

Thanks to everyone's generosity we were able to send much needed supplies to the school and students affected by the hurricane in Puerto Rico.

**Foster Kitten Update**

is not a permission you want please let your Customer Service Rep know so we can disable it for you.

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## From the Director's Desk

I wanted to take a moment to update everyone on the changes and goals in HMIS for the coming year.

Our focus this year is data quality, especially where the data impacts funding. To that end, our first push is to find ways to get better discharge and length of stay data, two of our weakest areas. We recognize the difficulty of this, particularly for shelter providers, and will be reaching out to find best practices and brainstorm new ways of collection.

There will be change in both our website and our reporting as the year commences. Starting in February the monthly reports will include both Data Completeness and Data Quality and the HMIS team will be available, as always, to assist agencies with data issues. And on our website, each community will soon have its own page in the reporting section and there will be interactive dashboards, available by spring, to enhance community level aggregate reporting!

I hope the new year brings everyone joy and renewed enthusiasm as we continue to tackle the issue of homelessness in our communities.

Sincerely,

Allyson Thiessen

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## UPDATES AND REMINDERS

1. Our office will be closed on Monday January 15th in honor of Martin Luther King Jr Day.
2. Monthly Data Completeness Reports have been posted on our website.
3. Our new Data Quality Reports will be released in February combined with the

The office has been kitten-less for 2 months now. We had the puppies through the end of November, but December, nothing. Which is a good thing because that means there weren't any helpless little babies that needed us. Right?

Don't despair, we know how much you all enjoy looking at kitten pictures so here are some of the fosters that we took in and never left.



Data Completeness reports. Rather than having 2 separate reports we are combining them into 1 to be called Data Quality Report. We will be taking a closer look at things such as destination at discharge and length of program stay in emergency shelters.

4. It's the beginning of the month. Have you logged into AWARDS recently (within the last 30 days)? If you answered no, do so now.
5. Annual User Review materials will be released shortly. Keep an eye out.
6. All New User Training materials can be found on the training page of our website. Reminder, each agency can only have up to 15 active logins. If your agency would like to have the ability to have more than 15, please reach out to Allyson Thiessen, Director of HMIS Program and Services for further information.
7. You can now follow us on [Facebook](#)
8. As always please reach out to us if you have any questions

Allyson Thiessen - Director of HMIS ext 103  
Kelli Clark - System Administrator ext 113  
Sue Palmer - Customer Service Rep 845-616-4894  
Lisa Droege - Customer Service Rep ext 120  
Rachel Bradt - Quality Assurance Associate ext 121  
Terry O'Brien - HMIS Data Specialist ext 115  
Emily Rebehn - HMIS Data Analyst ext 117



