Current Living Situations Upon Exit

Intro - Prior Living Situation vs Current Living Situation

Let's start by taking another look at our "Living situation".   An entry, "Prior Living Situation" looks similar to the subsequent "Current Living Situation".

For exits, however, we need to switch perspectives slightly. As you have learned, at entry, we're trying to determine whether they are housed or homeless. The two homeless criteria are "literally homeless" and "at imminent risk of homelessness". We captured the "Prior Living Situation" in the HMIS entry workflow.

At exit, the different perspective is now we are now trying to determine if a client is "stably housed" or "unstably housed". If a client is stably housed, they'll need to either have legal tenancy rights (such as rental lease), or staying in a place meant for habitation without time-limited or conditional arrangements (such as staying with a friend permanently). If a client is "stably housed" that is also seen as a "positive exit" destination. If a client is unstably housed, that falls under either a "negative exit" or "neutral exit" destination.

Example - Stable vs Unstable Current Living Situations

Before we learn how to select a "Current Living Situation" upon client exit, we'll look at an example and learn what criteria go into determining if a client is "stably" or "unstably" housed.   Let's look two examples.

#1 and #2 are two examples of a client's housing situation upon exit. In these two scenarios, decide whether you think one, both, or neither of these are stably housed (positive current living situation upon client exit).

1. A client is living with a family member and is allowed to stay for as long as they'd like. The client expresses a desire to move out within a week to find their own place.

2. A client is living with a family member, and the family has informed the client they need to leave within 2 years.

You may be surprised that the first scenario is considered a positive situation (even though the client only intends to stay for 1 week) and the second scenario is a negative situation

(even though a 2-year stay is longer than, let's say, a standard 1-year lease from a typical rental unit). The key difference is that in the first scenario, the client has stable housing for an indefinite amount of time. Even though the client's goal is to move into their own housing, they're not required to leave their current housing. Their tenure is indefinite.

Although the second scenario could be considered unlikely and unusual, the key is they still don't have legal tenancy rights nor an indefinite tenure date. That, by definition, is "unstably housed" and thus a negative exit destination. You could imagine a less extreme and more likely scenario being shorter usually, such as, "You can stay for 3 weeks and then you have to go".

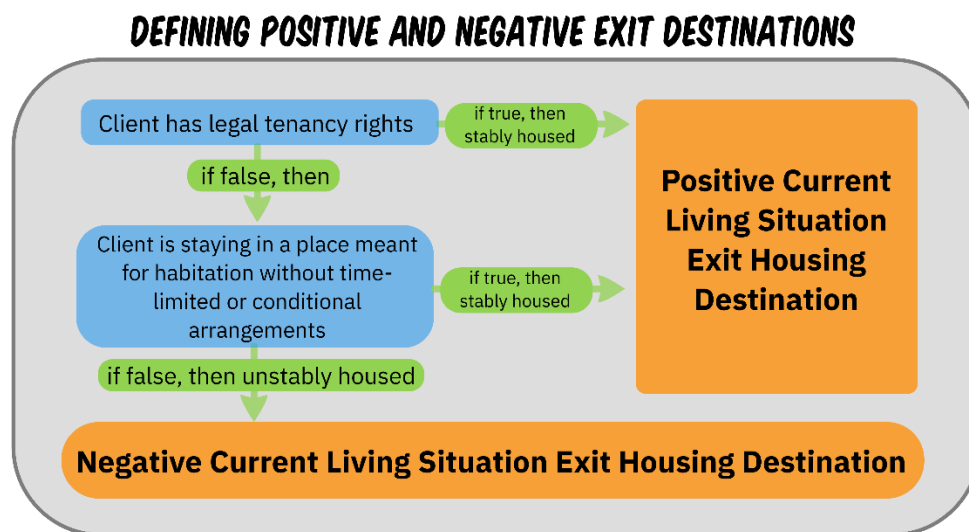### Summary - Determining Housing Status and Exit Outcome

The point of those two examples is to help with two things.

1. Show a difference between Prior Living Situation on Entry and Current Living Situation upon Exit.
2. Help understand how to recognize positive and negative housing situations.

Diagram 1.1 shows how a person is housed (stably or unstably) and exiting to a positive or negative housing destination.

Diagram 1.1 Defining Exit Destinations

Clicking on the image takes you to a PDF version in which you can download/save/print for future reference.

DEFINING POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE EXIT DESTINATIONS

<u>Choosing Current Living Situation Upon Exit</u>

Now we can learn how to choose the correct "Current living situation" and understand what that means. The good news then is that we're choosing from nearly an identical list of "living situations" as we did on entry.   The other good news is, again, we have a diagram that you can save/print to reference whenever you'd like. Let's look at that now.

<u>Diagram 1.2 – Positive and Negative Current Living Situations Upon Exit</u>

Clicking on the image takes you to a PDF version in which you can download/save/print for future reference.

Positive Exits	Neutral Exits	Negative Exits

Non-permanent living situations

Homeless Situation

→ Place not meant for habitation (e.g., a vehicle, an abandoned building, bus/train/subway station/airport or anywhere outside)

Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher, Host Home shelter

Safe Haven

Institutional Situation

Foster Care Home or Foster Care Group Home

Hospital or other residential non-psychiatric medical facility

Jail, Prison, Juvenile Detention Facility

Long-term care facility or nursing home

Psychiatric Hospital or Other Psychiatric Facility

Substance Abuse Treatment or Detox Center

Temporary Housing Situations

Transitional Housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth)

Residential project or halfway house with no homeless criteria

Hotel or Motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher

Host Home (non-crisis)

Staying or living with family, temporary tenure (e.g., room, apartment or house)

Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure (e.g., room, apartment or house)

Moved from one HOPWA funded project to HOPWA TH

Permanent Housing Situation

→ Staying or living with family, permanent tenure

Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure

Moved from one HOPWA funded project to HOPWA PH

→ Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy

Rental by client, with ongoing housing subsidy

Owned by client, with ongoing housing subsidy

Owned by client, no ongoing housing subsidy

Other

→ No exit interview completed

Other

Deceased

Client doesn't know

Client prefers not to answer

Tips and Tricks

75% of Rapid Rehousing Exits fall under these 4 categories (sampled from a generic RRH program)

→ 1. Rental by client, with no ongoing housing subsidy +45%

→ 2. Staying or living with family, permanent tenure +15%

→ 3. Place not meant for habitation +9%

→ 4. No exit interview completed +7%

Conclusion and Other Notes

Here's an example of a subtle yet key difference you may have just noticed. The "Staying or living…" selections have changed from the entry "Prior Living Situation" to "Current Living Situation".

For "Prior living situation" upon entry an example selection was

– "Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house."

For "Current living situation" upon exit it has now been split up into two options –

1. Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure
2. Staying or living with friends, permanent tenure

You might now understand that though the difference between those options on the "Prior" vs "Current" living situations seems arbitrary, it actually fits into the key goals between those two data points.

1. Prior Living Situation upon Entry – Determines housing status upon entry.
2. Current Living Situation upon Exit – Determines housing stability upon exit.