

VI-SPDAT Messaging

The Coordinated Entry System utilizes a phased Triage Tool that begins with diversion strategies and then the VI-SPDAT is the last component of the Triage Tool.

As a reminder, the Coordinated Entry System is our community's way to prioritize housing assistance. There are several factors considered in prioritizing who receives RRH and PSH housing interventions as they are limited resources in our community. The VI-SPDAT is one part of a larger assessment to make sure resources are effectively allocated.

Outreach - A VI-SPDAT can be administered at first engagement, or any engagement thereafter, once an Outreach Worker has:

- Assessed for safety and risks,
- Established homeless status,
- Built rapport and gained trust to help ensure gathering of accurate data, and;
- Explored Diversion with the client. Diversion means that you talk with the person immediate and alternative housing options such as staying with friends or family, reunification, etc.

Day Centers - A VI-SPDAT assessment is ideally administered 7-14 days from their first visit once the following has been completed:

- Assessed for safety and risks,
- Established homeless status,
- Built rapport and gained trust to help ensure gathering of accurate data,
- Explored Diversion with the client. Diversion means that you talk with the person immediate and alternative housing options such as staying with friends or family, reunification, etc.
- Shows an urgent need for housing assistance.

If Day Center staff encounter a client that presents with great need and urgency for housing and support, the agency's discretion to complete a VI-SPDAT may be conducted prior to the 7-14 day time-frame, and should be done sparingly.

Shelters- A VI-SPDAT can be administered after 14-30 days from their first visit. This will allow shelter staff to:

- Implement agency-specific assessments
- Explored Diversion with the client. Diversion means that you talk with the person immediate and alternative housing options such as staying with friends or family, reunification, etc., and;
- Provide time for their clients to begin to stabilize or self-resolve.



Safe Parking- A VI-SPDAT can be administered after 14-30 days from their first visit. This will allow safe parking staff to:

- Implement agency-specific assessments
- Explored Diversion with the client. Diversion means that you talk with the person immediate and alternative housing options such as staying with friends or family, reunification, etc., and;
- Provide time for their clients to begin to stabilize or self-resolve.

VI-SPDAT Script for receptionists, and staff not connected to HMIS

Hello. How can I help you today? If you are currently experiencing homelessness, you can visit an access site and they can discuss resources that might be able to immediately assist you with food, showers, laundry and other immediate needs. Together you can talk about shelter and housing options. In order to access subsidized housing resources you will need to complete a multi-part assessment, which includes the VI-SPDAT. The access site can provide additional information about the assessment.