

# Housing Insecurity Screening Tool

v.1, November 2022

We are asking all **[add appropriate descriptor: e.g., clients, patients, participants, people]** four questions about your housing situation that might impact your **[add relevance: e.g., health, education, how we can best help you, etc.]**. If you choose to answer and your needs are urgent, I or someone from our team may talk with you about resources. Are you okay with me asking the questions?

NO/Declined. **STOP**

YES  CONTINUE

<p><b>1. Where did you stay last night?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>If household was in emergency shelter last night and is returning to emergency shelter tonight:</b> <b>[add appropriate local response/referral: e.g., Discontinue screening and immediately refer back to emergency shelter for re-housing assistance].</b></li> <li><b>If household was unsheltered last night</b> (street, car, etc): Discontinue screening and immediately explore other safe and appropriate options for tonight with family, friends, etc. If no safe, appropriate option refer to <b>[add appropriate local response/referral: e.g., call the Homeless Hotline at 555-555-5555].</b></li> </ul>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> My own apartment/home</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Family or friend's home</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hospital or treatment facility</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Emergency shelter <input type="checkbox"/> <b>STOP, REVIEW GUIDANCE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Street, car, bus station, abandoned building, other place not meant for habitation <input type="checkbox"/> <b>STOP, REVIEW GUIDANCE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>
<p><b>2. Is the place where you're currently staying safe for you?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing is considered unsafe when someone is fleeing or attempting to flee their housing or the place they are staying because of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions related to violence that has taken place in the house or has made them afraid to return to the house, including, <i>but not limited to:</i> trading sex for housing, trafficking, physical abuse, emotional abuse, and violence because of the person's sexual orientation or gender identity.</li> </ul>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUE TO QUESTION 3</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUE TO QUESTION 4</p>
<p><b>3. Do you have to leave the place where you're currently staying?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If "Maybe or Don't Know", consider asking more about their current situation and whether it may be tenuous or temporary for any reason.</li> </ul>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUE TO QUESTION 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MAYBE or DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> REVIEW GUIDANCE, CONTINUE TO QUESTION 4</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> <b>STOP: RISK LEVEL 0: Stably Housed</b></p>
<p><b>4. Do you have another safe housing option where you could stay if needed?</b> This could be a family or friend's home OR other temporary housing, such as a hotel, obtained with your own money or with help from a family member or friend.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUE TO QUESTION 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MAYBE or DON'T KNOW <input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUE TO QUESTION 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUE TO QUESTION 5</p>
<p><b>5. When will you no longer have any safe place to stay – yours or someone else's – based on the housing options and resources available to you?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>If Risk Level 2, 3 or 4:</b> Immediately engage in housing problem-solving assistance to reduce risk and increase near-term stability. As needed: offer additional information and referral to <b>[add appropriate local response/resources, including coordinated access to prioritized resources, e.g., mediation, flex funds, food, etc.) offered by your agency or a coordination prevention system partner].</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>If still no safe housing option tonight,</b> refer to <b>[add appropriate local response/referral: e.g., call the Homeless Hotline at 555-555-5555].</b></li> </ul> </li> <li><b>If Risk Level 1:</b> Consider prioritizing for additional housing problem-solving and stabilization supports, especially if housing loss is likely in 3-6 months. As needed: offer additional information and referral to <b>[add appropriate local response/resources]</b></li> </ul>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Tonight</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>RISK LEVEL 4, REVIEW GUIDANCE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Within the next 14 days</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>RISK LEVEL 3, REVIEW GUIDANCE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Within the next 15 to 90 days</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>RISK LEVEL 2, REVIEW GUIDANCE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Not imminent, but unstably housed</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>RISK LEVEL 1, REVIEW GUIDANCE</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Unsure</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Do Not Have to Leave</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED</b></p>

# HSLC HOUSING INSECURITY RISK TYPOLOGY

## Definitions & Indicators

RISK LEVEL		LIVING SITUATION	HOUSING OPTIONS & RESOURCES
<b>4</b>	<b>Literally Homeless Tonight</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is currently literally homeless and continues to have no other safe housing option tonight outside of available emergency shelter, Safe Haven, or transitional housing options; <b>OR</b></li> <li>Must leave current housing <u>today</u> (e.g., due to court-ordered eviction, foreclosure, immediate safety or health risk, host family/friend request to leave, etc.); <b>OR</b></li> <li>Must leave an institution (e.g., hospital, jail, treatment facility) <u>today</u>.</li> </ul>	<u>Does not have</u> other housing options, financial resources, and/or support networks to maintain or obtain a safe place to stay <u>tonight</u>
<b>3</b>	<b>Imminent Risk of Literal Homelessness (within 1-14 Days)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current housing is safe; <b>AND</b></li> <li>Must leave current housing within <u>14 days</u> (e.g., due to court-ordered eviction, foreclosure, imminent safety or health risk, host family/friend request to leave, family conflict, etc.); <b>OR</b></li> <li>Must leave an institution (e.g., hospital, jail, treatment facility) within <u>14 days</u>.</li> </ul>	<u>Does not have</u> other housing options, financial resources, and/or support networks to maintain or obtain a safe place to stay after the <u>next 14 days</u> .
<b>2</b>	<b>At-Risk of Literal Homelessness (within 15-90 Days)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current housing is safe; <b>AND</b></li> <li>Must leave current housing within <u>15-90 days</u> (e.g., due to court-ordered eviction, landlord-issued eviction, foreclosure, safety or health risk, host family/friend limitation, etc.); <b>OR</b></li> <li>Must leave an institution (e.g., hospital, jail, treatment facility) within <u>15-90 days</u>.</li> </ul>	<u>Does not have other</u> housing options, financial resources, and/or support networks to maintain or obtain a safe place to stay after the <u>next 15-90 days</u> .
<b>1</b>	<b>Unstably Housed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current housing is safe; <b>AND</b></li> <li>No material risk of imminent risk of literal homelessness (i.e., not Risk Level 2-4); <b>AND</b></li> <li>Is currently experiencing general housing insecurity due to housing cost burden, housing conditions, frequent unplanned moves, and/or other characteristics and barriers indicative of higher risk for future literal homelessness. May be at-risk of housing loss in 3-6 months.</li> </ul>	<u>Has</u> housing options, financial resources, and/or support networks to maintain or obtain a safe place to stay for the <u>foreseeable</u> future.
<b>0</b>	<b>Stably Housed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current housing is safe; <b>AND</b></li> <li>Current housing is stable for the foreseeable future (e.g., sufficient income to pay rent and utilities, able to stay with host family/friend indefinitely)</li> </ul>	