

# *Social Equity* LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



JUNE 5 - 7, 2013 - NC STATE UNIVERSITY, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

## Housing

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### ***HMIS: Data Collection Efforts in the Homeless Service Sector***

**Thursday 3:45pm; Panel 3**

Cara Robinson

**Abstract:** In 2001, Congress directed the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to begin the process of mandating HMIS implementation in all Continuums of Care across the United States. All jurisdictions were asked to have a functioning system by 2004. As a result, many street bureaucrats faced a new, and potentially overwhelming, task as communities were forced to transition to a new form of data collection. This presentation explores the implementation of the federally-mandated Homeless Management Information System in communities across the United States. While data collection and analysis has been a key movement in social service delivery sectors, its implementation has raised questions regarding the feasibility and purpose of these efforts for homeless service providers. This presentation looks specifically at the implementation in two communities - Delaware and Nashville, TN and examines the costs and benefits of the Homeless Management Information System and its impact on homeless citizens and those who serve them.