HIFIS

A Statistical Depiction of Shelters and Services for Women Experiencing Violence and Abuse in Nova Scotia

The Transition House Association of Nova Scotia
THANS - Identified Need for Data

- 2002 NS Budget
- Family Violence Redesign Process
- Sustainability
- Programs and Services
- Gaps
- Current Practices
- Lack of Resources
The Homeless Individuals and Families Information System

HIFIS Initiative part of Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS,) HRSDC

1999 – 2008: Growth from limited effectiveness to a valuable tool for organizations providing shelter and services for women experiencing violence and abuse.
4 Key Components HIFIS Initiative

- Community Technical Support
- Partnership Development
- Analysis and Research
- Communication and Information Sharing
Community Technical Support

- HIFIS Software
- Help Desk
- Training
Partnership Development

- Digital Inclusion Partnership for Homelessness
  - Microsoft Canada
  - Computers For Schools
  - Telecom Pioneers
  - McAfee

- Partnership Development
  - HIFIS Community Coordinators
  - Salvation Army & CAFB
Analysis and Research

● Data Sharing Protocols
● Data Dictionary
● Data Exports
● National Shelter List
● Homelessness Knowledge Development Research Projects
● Homelessness Report Cards
Communication/Information Sharing

- HIFIS Web Site
- www.hifis.ca
- HIFIS Forum
- Statistical Analysis – The Yellowknife Report
- Community Homelessness Report Cards
HIFIS in Nova Scotia

- 90% of Shelter beds are tracked using HIFIS
- 100% of VAW beds are tracked using HIFIS
- THANS holds NS Community Coordinator Contract
- Transition Houses collect over 100 fields of data using HIFIS
THANS Data Collection

- Client Name, Gender, Date of Birth
- Book-in Date, Book-out Date, Reason for Service, Reason for Discharge
- Contributing Factors
- Goods and Services
- Outreach Statistics
- Conflict Statistics
Overview of Current Programs and Services
Baseline HIFIS Statistics
Department of Justice Statistics
  - Emergency Protection Orders
  - High Risk Cases
  - Family Violence Tracking Project
Future Directions
THANS – HIFIS Initiatives

- Reports to Funders
- Local, Regional and Provincial Reporting
- Statistical Reporting from organizations supporting VAW shelters
- Case Management
- Questionnaires
- Research
HIFIS Report Samples

- Client Profile, Individual
- Goods and Services, Individual
- HPS Data Collection Tools
- Shelter Report
- Admissions
- Turnaway Summary
- Returning Clients (recidivism)
- Reasons for Service
- Reasons for Discharge
- Referrals
Conclusion

- HIFIS provides accurate and cohesive province-wide data that allows THANS to identify and provide effective programs and services, and maintain sustainability.
- HIFIS reflects our comprehensive services and plays an advocacy role with our funders
- HIFIS can and should play a significant role in the NS Coordinated Domestic Violence Strategy