



## Continuous Quality Improvement for VESTA® Your Community Software Solution

VESTA began as the community's Homeless Management Information System and has grown to become a broad, community-based software solution supporting a wide range of needs for social service programs, including data collection, outcome management and measurement, case management tracking, and file storage—exactly the services you need to keep your agency ahead of the ever-changing IT curve. To make sure you are using VESTA to its fullest potential for your agency, the Partnership Center wants you to know about some features and improvements we've added recently. They include:

- ② *A partnership with the United Way of Greater Cincinnati* that will enable United Way outcomes to be generated from VESTA for all homeless and emergency assistance programs utilizing the system. The results for you? "Press print" reporting for United Way. When United Way changes performance measures or report requirements, VESTA will be updated automatically for you to collect and report accurate information with maximum efficiency.
- ② *VESTAcards* is the scan card system used by many agencies to more easily track interactions with their clients. One card, carried by any client, can be used at any VESTA location that is set up to accept scan cards. VESTAcards today are used at the front door of many shelters, to scan meals served, food bags received, or other services provided.
- ② *Document scanning* is available for use in all programs at all agencies to assist you in moving towards a more "paperless" system. The scanning system enables document storage on the main VESTA servers or locally in your organization's server, whichever you prefer. By the end of 2012, a community document storage system will be established to house client birth certificates and other common forms that clients need to access housing, services and/or benefits that agencies often pay for repeatedly for clients.
- ② *Special tabs* have been designed in VESTA to help case workers do their jobs better and are in use at many programs across the community. These new functions, including assessment forms, budgeting forms, and self-sufficiency scales, are all available to be "turned on" for any program requiring them.

*Coming in 2012 – The Partnership Center will deploy several new features and functions to VESTA:*

- ② *New security features* will be released that will enable VESTA to be utilized without digital certificates, but with the same security features you use when you log into a bank account. The new security includes internet protocol (IP) address tracking, new personal identification numbers (PIN) for all users and personal security questions/answers for all users.
- ② *Electronic signature ability* will be released in the first quarter of 2012. In a partnership with CiC, a national electronic signature software company, VESTA will begin to provide electronic signature technology featuring the same level of security used by major banks. This will enable a client to electronically sign a single VESTA consent form for the whole system and be reminded when a new one is needed and electronically sign and store forms for food pick up at food pantries and other documents that may be required. Thanks to support of the United Way of Greater Cincinnati, the Greater Cincinnati Foundation and the Hatton Foundation, this innovation will be available at no cost to your agency. The HUD HMIS Expansion grant will also provide organizations with free signature pads.
- ② *NEW HUD grant management* functionality will be released we call the VESTA "Front End". This functionality will enable HUD grantees to keep track of grant numbers persons projected to be served, identify bed/unit capacities and other information being reported to HUD about your grants.

*Our Designation by HUD as the HMIS Test Environment* keeps VESTA and the agencies that use it ahead of the national curve. As a result of this designation, all HUD reporting changes, integration efforts between federal funding partners and HMIS, and outcome design are being managed out of the PCL offices using VESTA as the national test environment.

*For more information on any of these or other VESTA features call us at The Partnership Center, Ltd. 513-891-4016 and talk with Sandy at extension 332 or Mark at extension 338 or email [techsupport@partnershipcenter.net](mailto:techsupport@partnershipcenter.net).*