

VI-SPDAT Assessor Opening Script

My name is _____ and I work for an organization called _____.

I have a 15-20 minute survey that I would like to complete with you. The answers will help us determine how we can support you and help you access housing. Our community asks everyone the same questions in order to triage someone's level of need, prioritize resources, and match them to the right housing program. Most of the questions only require a Yes or a No answer. I'll be honest, some questions are personal in nature, but know you can skip or refuse any question.

The information collected goes into our local Homeless Management Information System. Your information is visible to a limited number of social service providers in partnering counties and is shared in order to avoid creating duplicate client records. Authorized HMIS persons at participating community agencies will be able to see the following data elements of all client records:

First Name, Last Name, Veteran Status, Gender, Date of Birth, and Social Security Number and the information is protected using the highest standards.

Law enforcement and DHS have no access to this system. Allowing your information to be shared allows us to better serve you and once it is there, other providers in the community will not make you complete this survey multiple times.

If you don't understand a question, please let me know and I would be happy to clarify. If it seems to me that you don't understand a question I will do my best to explain it to you without you needing to ask for clarification.

One last thing we should chat about. Some people will tell me what they want me to hear rather than telling me the truth. It's up to you, but the more honest you are, the better we can figure out how best to support you. So, please answer as honestly as you feel comfortable doing.

After the survey, I can give you some basic information about resources that could be a good fit for you. I want to make sure you know, though, that there are very few housing resources that are connected to the survey, so it's possible that you may not become housed through this process at this time. The primary benefit to doing the survey is that it will help give you and me a better sense of your needs and what resources you might be eligible for.

Do you have any questions before we get started?

VI-SPDAT Assessor Closing Script and Next Steps

We just completed the VI-SPDAT assessment, which is one helpful step you can take to look for permanent housing through the Coordinated Entry system - here's what is next in the process:

1. Stay in touch! It is really important that you keep in touch with your providers and the places that you get services (shelters, drop-in centers, outreach workers, etc.). Staying engaged in services will help us know how to contact you, how you are doing, and what other ways we can support you. Our Coordinated Entry System is prioritized by need, meaning it is not a first come first serve waitlist and the list is always changing. Staying in engaged with providers means you will continue to receive services you need and opportunities available that are outside of the Coordinated Entry System.

2. Keep your contact info up to date! Let a service provider know if your contact information changes or if you start hanging out in a new place. It is important to have your best contact information in the Coordinated Entry system so we can contact you easily if we have an update on a housing opportunity for you.

3. Get your essential documents! Having all your important documents will help you be ready for any housing opportunities that become available. We can help you in getting the following documents:

- a. photo ID
- b. Social Security Card
- c. Birth Certificate
- d. Proof of income (if applicable)
- e. Disability verification (if applicable)
- f. Veteran documents (if applicable)

4. Explore housing options and other resources outside of Coordinated Entry. There are very limited housing resources within the Coordinated Entry System compared to all the people who need housing assistance – only 15-25% of individuals assessed have been matched to a permanent housing resource. Coordinated Entry is not the only housing option in Central Oregon. For example, the waitlist does not include Section 8, public housing, or low-income housing. It is highly encouraged that you continue to keep searching for other housing options while you are on the Central Wait List.

5. Let us know if there is a major change in your life circumstances. Since the VI-SPDAT assessment just looks at what's going on in your life right now and major things can sometimes change, let us know if there is a major change (like a new, serious medical diagnosis), so that we can update your VI-SPDAT

information. Your information will stay valid for 6 months and after 6 months, you are eligible to be reassessed.