

Community Action Definitions



Systems of Care are public residential facilities or programs that may exit people into homelessness. The following prior residence categories are considered systems of care:

- Foster care home or foster care group home
- Hospital or other residential medical facility
- Jail, prison, or juvenile detention facility
- Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility
- Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center

Source: WA Department of Commerce CHG Guidelines

Outputs are the direct and measurable products of a program's activities or services, often expressed in terms of units (hours, number of people or completed actions). Outputs refer to the activities you will conduct and the people you hope to reach. Note: More than one OUTPUT is necessary to produce a final OUTCOME.

Output examples from a Housing Program:

- Number of case management hours
- Number of clients served
- Number of referrals provided
- Number of households housed
- Number of people who access mental health services

Source: National Community Action Partnership

Outcomes are the results or impact of these activities or services, often expressed in terms of an increase in understanding, and improvements in desired behaviors or attitudes of participants. Note: A single OUTCOME is often the result of multiple OUTPUTS.

Outcome examples from a Housing Program:

- Number of households with an increased income
- Percent of households stably housed three months after exit.
- Reduced system re-users
- Length of time homeless.

Source: National Community Action Partnership