Agency Agreements Urgently Needed by noon on Friday May 27th!
The HMIS Interim Governing Board voted May 2nd to enter into contract negotiations with Institute for Community Alliances (ICA).

In preparation of this change existing agency agreements with Wilder need to be terminated and new agreements with ICA need to be put into place. These are essential so please help us achieve this deadline!

Communication
ICA and the Interim Governing Board sent a joint letter to stakeholders on May 24. In part the letter announced that starting June 1, helpdesk questions should be directed to mnhmis@icalliances.org. ICA is working to retain the current HMIS website at hmismn.org to provide continued access to online resources. Only about 60% of the needed documents have been signed and returned by agencies.

For more information on ICA please visit their website: http://www.icalliances.org/

Information has been posted on a page of the MN Housing website. http://www.mnhousing.gov/wcs/Satellite?c=Page&cid=1460978168016&pagename=External%2FPage%2FEXTStandardLayout

Interim Timeline
May 27 – Target date to receive all documents for termination of agreements with Wilder and initiation agreements with Institute for Community Alliances (ICA).

June 1st – Target for transfer.

System Priorities and Function
Help desk support: As of June 1, questions should be directed to mnhmis@icalliances.org.

HMIS Training: All non-metro and refresher trainings have been postponed until further notice. Training options continue to be explored so stay tuned and contact ICA at mnhmis@icalliances.org if you have immediate training needs.

A full schedule of training opportunities will be available again shortly after the transition has taken place.

Reporting: Reporting schedules continue to be reviewed by state funders. You will hear more if the transition will cause reporting deadlines to be pushed back, which is unlikely. ICA has extensive experience with most of the reports produced by the system and has indicated they expect to be able to support reports and uploads according to existing schedules.

Work Interim Changes
As of May 25th, both ICA and Wilder have signed agreements to HUD for the transfer of CoC funds.

The HMIS Interim Workgroup is working on a developing a new funding model that matches the new central model of HMIS activities. This model will be presented to stakeholders in the near future for feedback.

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? CONTACT US!
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May 26, 2016
Adjacent Contracts:
ICA and the HMIS Interim Work Group have met with all agencies with adjacent contracts. These contracts expire on a variety of dates and most existing contracts are being canceled. Because more services and deliverables will be part of the core services from ICA, the need for additional contracts is being examined individually by the agencies and different approaches to funding are being examined by the Interim Workgroup.

FAQ’s posted on MN Housing website
In order to keep everyone in the loop regarding questions through the transition, the HMIS interim work group is updating FAQ’s and posting on the MN Housing website. The link: http://www.mnhousing.gov/wcs/Satellite?c=Page&cid=1460978168016&pagename=External%2FPPage%2FEXTStandardLayout

Please check the site to see if your question is answered there. If it is not, be in touch with one of the Workgroup member listed at the top of the newsletter.

ICA Update
Work on the transition of HMIS continues and ICA will take over responsibility for the HMIS network as of June 1st. Please bear with us during early in the transition, but know that we will be available to address any priority issues that come up. Please reach out to us at our HMIS helpdesk e-mail at MNHMIS@icalliances.org. We are excited to partner with you and look forward to working together to end homelessness in Minnesota.

ServicePoint
“Breaking” News
It was announced yesterday that Bowman Systems, the company that owns ServicePoint, has been acquired by a larger company that has its roots in the medical database field. We are in communication with staff at Bowman and have been assured that, over time, this will bring more resources to the HMIS software development and will bring frequent improvements and features more quickly to our agencies. We will monitor this process and keep you informed as we know more.