



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Records Relating to Projects to Assist the Homeless, 1987 - 1994 Record Group 207

Updated May 21, 2020

1. What information is in these records?

The records contain information on projects from organizations that applied for Federal financial assistance to provide shelter to homeless persons. You can find information about the projects, the organizations that sponsored the projects, and a general description of the homeless population they wished to assist. These records are best used as a guide to potential projects rather than as evidence of how the projects were actually funded or operated.

2. Why were these records created?

The Department of Housing and Urban Development used the data to evaluate applications for Federal aid from organizations that provided services to homeless persons, to support the work of the Interagency Council on the Homeless, and to answer queries from Congress and the public about those organizations and agency's homeless assistance programs.

3. Which file should I look at first?

The best file with which to start when using these records is the Applicant Description File. This file contains information on the organization applying for homeless assistance funds, including the name of the organization, contact information for the organization, the geographic location of the organization, etc. The file also contains some information about projects for which assistance is requested, including a brief description of the project, the amount of money needed to fund the project, etc.

4. How can I access a copy of the full file(s)?

The raw data files, along with the associated technical documentation, may be downloaded from the National Archives Catalog at: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>. There you can search by the series name, Records Relating to Projects to Assist the Homeless, or using the National Archives Identifier 583826, which is the description identifier for this series.

In the results, select to view the full series description. Click on the link “file(s) described in the catalog” next to “Includes:” for a list of the file units within this series. Then select the file unit containing the records of interest to you. The file unit description will include the list of electronic records and documentation files available for viewing and/or downloading.

Additional information about downloading electronic records from the Catalog is available at: <https://www.archives.gov/research/electronic-records/access-in-catalog-faqs>.

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Please keep in mind that the data file consists of the raw structured data as loaded into AAD (i.e. the coded values without meanings), but without the AAD software that displays the meanings for coded values and field titles. For more details about using files containing raw structured data, you may wish to review our "Introduction to Raw Data" at:
<https://www.archives.gov/files/research/electronic-records/raw-data-intro.pdf>.