

## NYC Standardized Vulnerability Assessment Criteria Fact Sheet

The NYC Standardized Vulnerability Assessment (SVA) will be conducted on all approved HRA Supportive Housing Application Referrals. This assessment takes into consideration the applicant’s living situation (current and history), challenges impacting their independence, and determines the level of vulnerability based on the criteria below.

The SVA uses a categorical system of **High**, **Medium**, and **Low Vulnerability**. The SVA categories are based on an applicant’s Medicaid service utilization within the past year **OR** multi-system contacts plus additional SVA factors and the number of functional impairments experienced within the last 2 years. The SVA determination defaults to the higher category of the two criteria explained below:

Category/Vulnerability	Medicaid Service Utilization within the past year	-or-	# of System Contact and # of Functional Impairments within 2 years
<b>High</b>	Top 5% of Medicaid Utilization	-or-	At least 3 System Contacts <u>and</u> 3 Functional Impairments
<b>Medium</b>	Between 55% and 95% of Medicaid Utilization	-or-	At least 2 System Contacts <u>and</u> 2 Functional Impairments
<b>Low</b>	Below 55% of Medicaid Utilization	-or-	At least 1 System Contact <u>and</u> 1 Functional Impairment or NONE
<b>Additional SVA Factors</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young adults (18 – 25) with a history of commercial sexual activity and/or coerced into sexual or other exploitive situations, i.e. labor or sex trafficking</li> <li>• Individual or family (head of household) that is at serious risk due to intimate partner or gender-based violence</li> <li>• Parents with a child that has significant emotional/behavioral/developmental or health issues</li> <li>• Parent of two or more children under the age of five</li> <li>• Currently unsheltered or recently sheltered individuals that were unsheltered for a year immediately prior to entering shelter</li> </ul>			

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A system contact is defined as a discrete episode of service and/or history as defined in the table below. Multiple episodes within the same system will count as one system contact for the person or head of household. Additional SVA factors will be considered the equivalent of one system contact. Multiple additional SVA factors will be considered the equivalent of one system contact for the person or head of household. System contacts and additional SVA factors will be verified through information received from homeless, hospital, substance use databases, and current and/or prior supportive housing applications.

Systems	Types of Contacts
<b>Homeless</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Homeless Services (shelter, safe haven, drop-in, street outreach)</li> <li>• Department of Housing Preservation and Development (shelter)</li> <li>• Veteran’s Administration (transitional housing and safe haven)</li> <li>• HIV/AIDS Services Administration (Emergency Placement Unit)</li> </ul>
<b>Domestic Violence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connection with domestic violence services</li> <li>• HRA contracted domestic violence shelter</li> </ul>
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services licensed inpatient rehabilitation or detoxification program</li> </ul>
<b>Administration for Children Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration for Children’s (ACS) Services foster care placement</li> <li>• Open child protective case with ACS</li> <li>• Court mandated to services with ACS</li> <li>• Juvenile Justice involvement (non-secure placement, limited secure placement, Alternative to incarceration, secure detention)</li> <li>• Unable to return to adoptive family placement</li> </ul>
<b>Correctional Institution/Legal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Correction/Department of Corrections and Community Services (jail, prison, and court mandated treatment)</li> </ul>
<b>Hospital</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical and behavioral health treatment (inpatient or 3 emergency room visits)</li> <li>• Involuntary escort by a street outreach and/or mobile crisis team</li> </ul>
<b>Adult Protective Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connected to or referred to Adult Protective Services</li> </ul>
<b>Department of Youth and Community Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Runaway Homeless Youth (shelter, drop-in center, or street outreach)</li> </ul>

A case review may be initiated with the PACT reviewer to provide additional information that can be considered for the vulnerability assessment criteria. The contact information is listed on the SVA summary section of the application.