

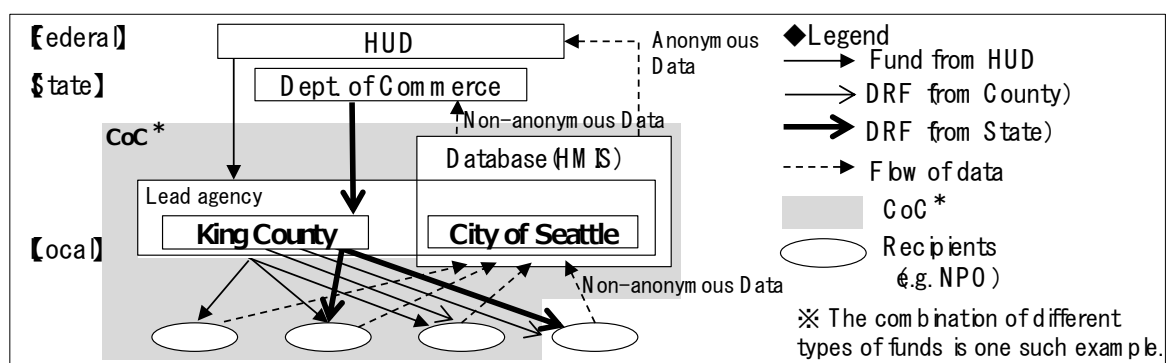
Homelessness in Washington State, USA

The state government of Washington (WA) has a unique homeless policy and gets actively involved in the issue of homelessness. In most states such as New York and California, federal government, local government agencies, and service providers address the issue of homelessness,



and the state government typically does not have their own independent policies. This article presents how the WA state government addresses the problem of homelessness.

Generally, in the United States, federal government supply funds to local government agencies and service providers through federal homeless programs. In return, the government requires the recipients to submit data of homeless population and program outcomes to Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). In such system, the state government is not part of the flow of funds and database and is not directly involved in the homeless programs. The state of Washington (WA) however, is an exception; the state government embraces the use of document recording fees (DRF) on some real estate related documents through its state law, Washington Homeless Housing & Act. This recording fee is used as a source of funds for homeless programs, which also allows the state government to gather data from the recipients of the fund. This program enables the government to accumulate data at low cost and to analyze the effectiveness of the supporting systems throughout the states. (214 words)



* CoC is a regional or local planning body that coordinates funds for homeless programs.

(fig) The flow of funds and data in King County, WA