2019 CoC New Project Applications

River Valleys Continuum of Care (MN-502)
Local CoC Program Competition

July 22 & 23, 2019
Today’s Agenda

Competition Overview
  HUD National Competition – online portal, Consolidated (regional) application + project applications + ranking
  Local Competition – supplemental materials

Submitting the Project Application
Project Review and Rating
Selection and Notification
Resources
Q&A
Competition Overview
HUD National CoC Program Competition

July 3, 2019 – September 30, 2019
National CoC Program Competition

Overview

Funding Available
$2.25 Billion nationally to:
- Promote community-wide work to end homelessness
- Provide funding for projects serving eligible homeless populations
- Promote access and use of mainstream resources
- Optimize self-sufficiency for participants

Project types
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Rapid Rehousing
- Joint Transitional-Rapid Rehousing
- HMIS
- Coordinated Entry (SSO)

Why gray? Not all project types are prioritized for the Local CoC Competition. See Call for Projects.
Leasing (e.g. master leasing units to sublet to program participants) is the only eligible expense type that does not require the 25% match. All other expense types require the match.

### Applicant basic eligibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COCS</th>
<th>PROJECT APPLICANTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CoC has a designated Collaborative Applicant (or is a Unified Funding Agency)</td>
<td>Nonprofit, State, local government, or instrumentality of local gov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative applicant registered the CoC with HUD for this funding round</td>
<td>DUNS number and current SAM.gov registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CoC meets basic requirements for CoC operations</td>
<td>Meet threshold requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Match funds at ≥ 25% of request</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Serves eligible participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Project needed in CoC region</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CoCs are evaluated by HUD each year on their ability to advance these goals. Progress on these goals is scored and affects ability for the region to receive new project funds. All projects recommended by the CoC for funding need to be part of the region/community plan to advance these goals. This means that projects have a role both in ensuring quality outcomes related to housing stability, income, and program exits for participants in their own programs, as well as in advancing community/regional solutions that affect these measures more broadly. In short, being a CoC grantee is different than being a grantee of most other programs.
The three areas of focus on the left are the same as those in 2018. The three on the right are new/revised.

- **Using an evidence-based approach** – Not a change in priority so much as an emphasis of the need to base decisions on data. This priority would support Housing First models, trauma-informed practice, prioritizing PSH for the highest-need households, and RRH as an effective primary intervention for most households (both families and individuals).

- **Increasing employment** – New emphasis on this priority. Increasing employment and income has been part of system performance measures for several years now, but this year, it is drawn out as a priority and points for CoCs depend on more robust partnerships with employers and employment services to support participants in increasing their income.

- **Providing flexibility within Housing First** – Housing without preconditions remains a core component, but there is more flexibility for limited service requirements once participants are stably housed.
Project applications (and the Local Competition) are one part of the regional application to HUD. Projects also depend on the CoC region as a whole to do well for their project funding to be awarded (a portion of project scoring in the national competition is based directly on the CoC-wide score). Your input and contributions to the CoC-side application are important too.
National CoC Program Competition

Evaluation and Scoring

System activities and performance
- Data from projects and overall system (outcomes)
- Standards and procedures
- Planning, coordination, and outreach
- Prioritization of highest need households

Project performance
- Outcomes that affect system performance
- Alignment with best practices
- Adherence to HUD and CoC rules
- Cost effectiveness

Project priorities
- Need for project
- Quality of project proposed/implemented
Local CoC Program Competition

July 12, 2019 – August 8, 2019

CoCs conduct Local Competitions for projects to include in the CoC-wide application to HUD. New and renewal projects are part of the Local Competition.
DV projects are generally eligible under both the DV Bonus and the CoC Bonus and could be funded through either.
Again, reinforcing that all projects are part of an overall homeless response system and are expected to contribute to these outcomes. New projects that can describe well how their project will advance these goals will be best positioned to be funded. New projects are encouraged to look at the scoring sheets for renewal projects as well to get a sense of how these outcomes are measured for renewal projects. That may help in writing the narrative and earning points necessary for new projects to be selected.
River Valleys CoC 2019 Funding Priorities

1. New Rapid Rehousing or Joint Transitional Housing/Rapid Rehousing for identified target populations (youth, recovery, DV) or in communities without adequate shelter resources

2. New Permanent Supportive Housing or Rapid Rehousing targeted to unmet needs and/or that increase client choice Specialized programs that offer choices such as culturally-specific programming, recovery-based models, family reunification programs, or work/employment partnerships are encouraged

3. Coordinated Entry navigators to serve high-barrier household in areas without navigators, or to serve target populations (youth, DV).

4. Expansion of existing high performing PSH or RRH programs to serve more households

★ Note: Not all project types are needed in all areas of the CoC region. Not all funding sources can be used for all project types.
RRH – participants hold their own leases, assistance up to 24 months, but should be tailored to match level and type of needs of target population. Some programs may be set up for short-term (3-6 month) rental assistance with services, and others may be set up for 6-18 months of rental assistance with services. KEY: The focus needs to be on housing stability and self-sufficiency, connecting to community resources to prevent returns to homelessness after exit from program. Do not assume that all households will need or should use the maximum assistance.

Expansion for this purpose means expansion of an existing (renewing) CoC-funded project. Expansion of projects that are funded through other sources would be considered new non-expansion for this application.

DV projects are generally eligible under both the DV Bonus and the CoC Bonus and could be funded through either. DV projects need to be able to demonstration experience serving the population using evidence-based practices and supporting both housing stability and safety.
TH and RRH have to be offered to participants, and participants may use one or both depending on their need. Budget recommendation is that there be at least a 2:1 ratio of RRH units to TH units.

TH – housing units are controlled by the agency (they are not units that participants could stay in after exiting the program, and are not considered permanent housing). TH is meant to be short because focus is on move to permanent housing.

RRH – participants hold their own leases, assistance up to 24 months, but must be tailored to match level and type of needs of target population. Some programs may be set up for short-term (3-6 month) rental assistance with services, and others may be set up for 6-18 months of rental assistance with services, depending on population. KEY: The focus needs to be on housing stability and self-sufficiency, connecting to community resources to prevent returns to homelessness after exit from program. Do not assume that all households will need or should use the maximum assistance.

Expansion for this purpose means expansion of an existing (renewing) CoC-funded project. Expansion of projects that are funded through other sources would be considered new non-expansion for this application.
DV projects are generally eligible under both the DV Bonus and the CoC Bonus and could be funded through either. DV projects need to be able to demonstrate experience serving the population using evidence-based practices and supporting both housing stability and safety.
Chronic homeless and Dedicated PLUS definitions are found in the NOFA. Essentially, these are individuals and families with the longest histories of homelessness and most vulnerabilities.
Note on need maps (3 slides):
New projects should pay attention to these maps in proposing new projects. The project rating tool includes points that are directly related to the need areas on these maps. Projects that propose to serve only a lower need area will not receive some points.
Priority Project Locations and Household types:

New RRH or Joint TH-RRH for DV Bonus
Priority Project Locations and Household types:
New PSH for Chronic or DedicatedPLUS

- Single adults
- Singles & families

Relative size of need
Again, the project application is one part of the CoC application in the national competition. These are the key elements to pay attention to when describing your project.
Submitting the Project Application
Two Parts of Project Application

Local competition materials
- Intent to Apply: Online form due by 4pm on July 25, 2019
- Application: Forms with documentation attached, Submit via Google Drive

E-snaps application (National competition)
- Online application system that joins projects with CoC regional application to HUD
- Use the Guides and Instructions provided by HUD!!
  Guides include detailed instructions for questions and click-by-click pictorial guides to applications in e-snaps.

Both Application Components due for CoC Review by 4pm on Thursday, August 8, 2019. See the Call for Projects for details.

For new projects, the local competition and the e-snaps application for the national competition happen simultaneously. Both parts of the application are required and will be used in determining project funding.
Application Timelines

Application period open: July 12, 2019
Intent to Apply due: 4PM on July 25, 2019
Applicant labs: July 29-31, 2019
Applications due: 4PM on August 8, 2019 (Google drive folder AND e-s snaps)
CoC Review, Rating, and Ranking period: August 9-16, 2019
Notification to Applicants: August 21, 2019
Appeal/comment period: through 2PM on August 23, 2019
Final ranking posted: August 29, 2019
Deadline for e-s snaps resubmittal for projects with changes: September 9, 2019
Post CoC application with project priority list and project applications for CoC review: September 16, 2019

Applicant lab times set for

Note on e-s snaps resubmittal – Sometimes, there are corrections and clarifications that are needed in project applications and those are identified during the application review. The Project Review and Rating Committee may place conditions on applications that require corrections in e-s snaps. Between the time when project scores are posted and September 9, those applications will be released in e-s snaps for applicants to make those corrections.
Application Basics

Read the guides provided!
- E-snaps Resources – links to all HUD technical guides and detailed question instructions
- 2019 CoC Call for Projects and Local Competition Guide – describes CoC requirements and process

Provide just one (in e-snaps if required there).
- Is your 501c3 letter attached in e-snaps? Don’t add another copy to the Threshold Checklist.
- Have multiple grants for the same program/units? Provide one narrative.

Provide complete information.
- Address all the questions completely – in e-snaps and in Local Competition forms.
- Some supplemental materials may not be used specifically for your application review, but for the CoC application.
- Access Technical Assistance if needed.

Highlight: Provide complete information. Respond to what the questions ask for. Check and double-check math. Make sure narrative matches outcomes tables and matches budget. Budgets need to be detailed (quantity and rate)

TA - Review the list in the call for projects, Use the “Application Resource Materials” on the CoC website for Housing First information (including for DV and for youth), Information on alternate database for victim service providers (instead of HMIS), DUNS and SAM.gov registration, links to e-snaps instructional guides.
Application submittal for the Local Competition

Guides, checklists, and resources on CoC webpages: https://www.threeriverscap.org/continuum-of-care/hud-notice-of-funds-availability

Submit local competition documents via shared Google drive by 4:00pm on August 8, 2019.

All contacts for projects that submitted Notice of Intent to Apply by 4:00 on July 25, 2019 will have a Google drive folder set up by the CoC to upload your Local Competition documents.

Screenshot shows 2018, but 2019 is essentially the same. Project rating tools separated out to DV and non-DV for this year, so check which rating tool to use. Reminder: Expansion means expansion of a renewing CoC-funded project only.
Application submittal for the

Local Competition

Rating Tool, by project type:
Rating based on
- Performance/capacity to perform
- Focus on high need households and priority areas
- Alignment with HUD and CoC standards
- Capacity to manage the program and federal funds
DV-specific criteria applied for DV Bonus projects
Alternate rating criteria for special population projects
Weighted Score (raw score converted to 100 point scale for all project types)
Penalty for late submittal

Local Competition Hints:
- Use the checklist provided.
- Review the rating criteria for renewal projects to focus project narratives and develop a high-quality proposal.
Agency set up comes first in the application system. Applicants need to have DUNS number before starting the registration process. Lab time is VERY helpful for new users. Use it.
Project Review & Ranking
CoC Project Review and Rating

Threshold qualifying review
CoCs are required to review and ensure that projects meet requirements
Projects may not be reviewed or recommended for funding if they do not meet threshold requirements

Project review for quality and performance
Application completeness and consistency
Alignment with HUD and CoC priorities — meeting high priority needs, commitment to best practices
Project management capacity/experience
Project performance
- Do participants find success in the project?
- Does the project support improved outcomes for the CoC as a whole?

Local competition review is done by the Project Review and Rating Committee. CoCs are required to review and rank projects based on their ability to advance the system level performance goals (slide 7 and 13) in order to be eligible for new projects to be funded. New projects need to be prepared to be part of that effort as well.

Threshold review – eligible applicant, eligible activities and costs, eligible program participants, match secured
Projects in Tier 1 are more likely to be funded. Projects in Tier 2 are at more risk not to be funded. These projects are reviewed more closely by HUD as well. Detail on how Tier 2 projects are reviewed is in the NOFA. CoC staff can explain as well.
HUD Review Process

Tier I: New and renewal projects. HUD will conduct threshold review and announce conditional funding. Projects should be determined to be high priority, high performing, and meet the needs and gaps.

Tier II: Other renewal projects and new projects. HUD will announce after scoring is complete, depending on availability of funding.

All Projects except CoC planning must be ranked.
In short: Getting projects funded under the DV Bonus expands the pool of funds available to serve the region.
Applicant Notification
HUD announcements have been in January in the last few years. Announcements sometimes are done in two steps – first renewals, then new OR first Tier 1, then Tier 2. After announcements, the local HUD Field Office can begin working on grant contracts for the funded projects. Agreements for new projects are most likely to be in place during the second half of the 2020.

**Applicant Notification**

**Local CoC Competition**
By August 21, 2019 Applicants will receive an email notification from CoC Coordinator:
- Acceptance/rejection of application
- Budget reductions, if any
- Score and Tier placement
- Conditions (required changes to the application in e-snaps)

Appeal/comment period August 21 - 23, 2019
Projects with conditions have until September 9, 2019 to make changes and resubmit to be included with the CoC application for the HUD CoC Program Competition.

**HUD CoC Program Competition**
HUD will announce CoC funding selections at a date to be determined, generally 90–120 days after the competition deadline. Funding selections include a list of funded projects. Formal award letters for funded project applications generally arrive much later.
Additional Resources
Technical Assistance for Applicants

Today’s webinar
Applicant lab time:
   Monday, July 29, 2019, 9:00am-12:00pm at MVAC in Mankato
   Wednesday, July 31, 2019, 9:00- 12:00 at Steele County Human Service Building in Owatonna
   Wednesday, July 31, 2019, 1:00 – 4:00 at Three Rivers Community Action in Rochester

Find other information at the CoC Local Competition webpage:
Guides & resources for your application

   Local competition guides and requirements
   Links to HUD resources for online application system

HUD Exchange
   FAQs: https://www.hudexchange.info/e-snaps/faqs/
   Ask A Question: https://www.hudexchange.info/program-support/my-question/ To get answers quickly, direct your question to “e-snaps” for technical issues with the online application and to “Continuum of Care” for policy questions.
Questions?