

Before Starting the CoC Application

The CoC Consolidated Application consists of three parts, the CoC Application, the CoC Priority Listing, and all the CoC's project applications that were either approved and ranked, or rejected. All three must be submitted for the CoC Consolidated Application to be considered complete.

The Collaborative Applicant is responsible for reviewing the following:

1. The FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Available (NOFA) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions which provide additional information and guidance for completing the application.
3. All information provided to ensure it is correct and current.
4. Responses provided by project applicants in their Project Applications.
5. The application to ensure all documentation, including attachment are provided.
6. Questions marked with an asterisk (*), which are mandatory and require a response.

1A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Identification

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

1A-1. CoC Name and Number: MN-502 - Rochester/Southeast Minnesota CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: Three Rivers Community Action, Inc.

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: Institute for Community Alliances

1B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Engagement

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

1B-1. CoC Meeting Participants. For the period from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018, using the list below, applicant must: (1) select organizations and persons that participate in CoC meetings; and (2) indicate whether the organizations and persons vote, including selecting CoC Board members.

Organization/Person Categories	Participates in CoC Meetings	Votes, including selecting CoC Board Members
Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes
CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes
Law Enforcement	Yes	Yes
Local Jail(s)	No	No
Hospital(s)	No	No
EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	No	No
Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes
Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes
Affordable Housing Developer(s)	Yes	Yes
Disability Service Organizations	Yes	No
Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes
Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes
CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Not Applicable	No
Non-CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes
Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes
School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes
CoC Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes
Non-CoC Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes
Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes
Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Advocates	No	No
LGBT Service Organizations	Yes	Yes
Agencies that serve survivors of human trafficking	Yes	Yes
Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes
Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes
Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes
Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes

Other:(limit 50 characters)		
Agencies that serve military veterans	Yes	Yes
Community Action Agencies (incl. Head Start)	Yes	Yes
Legal services/advocacy agencies	Yes	Yes

1B-1a. Applicants must describe the specific strategy the CoC uses to solicit and consider opinions from organizations and/or persons that have an interest in preventing or ending homelessness. (limit 2,000 characters)

- 1) The CoC intentionally seeks knowledge and opinions on homelessness from a broad range of persons in both regular CoC activities and in formal needs assessment and prioritization processes. Over 50 organizations and individuals actively participate in regular CoC committees. All CoC meetings are open to the public and anyone can join the email listserv. The CoC also directly solicits input via survey from service providers, planning jurisdictions, community members, and homeless/formerly homeless persons during its annual needs assessment including input. The CoC then conducts public meetings advertised via website, listserv, and via other public meetings to 1) discuss survey results and other data, and 2) set priorities for CoC action and funding. The next needs assessment survey will be in fall 2018, with prioritization activities in November-January. The resulting CoC priorities and plan, and meeting notes are posted on the CoC webpage.
- 2) A schedule of meetings is publicly posted on the CoC webpage. All meetings are announced via CoC listserv with meeting topics, decisions, and educational opportunities, with a reminder that meetings are open and that stipends are available for homeless/formerly homeless participants. The listserv includes persons from agency types listed in question 1B-1 above and anyone who signs up for the listserv.
- 3) Open discussion at CoC meetings regularly informs CoC process, policy, and funding priorities. Committees generate policies that are circulated via listserv before come to the full CoC for a vote. Voting is open to all participants except in funding decisions and approval of the CoC Collaborative Application, where >50% attendance is required. Participation is especially encouraged during priority-setting for funding and for the next year’s CoC work plan, when participants make specific suggestions and commitments to prevent and end homelessness.

1B-2.Open Invitation for New Members. Applicants must describe:

- (1) the invitation process;**
 - (2) how the CoC communicates the invitation process to solicit new members;**
 - (3) how often the CoC solicits new members; and**
 - (4) any special outreach the CoC conducted to ensure persons experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless persons are encouraged to join the CoC.**
- (limit 2,000 characters)**

The CoC formally invites new membership to its committees each August/September via announcement at its monthly public meeting and

postings at CoC member organizations, website, and listserv. CoC members also do presentations and direct outreach about CoC involvement, activities, and funding to other groups at least quarterly to engage new members. Outreach in the past year includes presentations to and meetings with the Northfield Housing Coalition, Dodge/Fillmore/Olmsted County Corrections, Region 10 Human Services Directors, regional McKinney Vento liaisons group, and the Wabasha County Community Health Assessment task force. CoC members are regularly encouraged via listserv and meeting announcement to identify and invite homeless/formerly homeless persons to participate in CoC activities. Persons who have experienced homelessness are offered stipends, transportation, etc. to address barriers to participation in CoC planning. The CoC also coordinates with the statewide Coalition for the Homeless to engage with and support persons with lived homeless experience to participate in statewide coalition training and advocacy opportunities. The CoC regularly reviews participation to ensure broad representation of opinions and experiences. A CoC member survey in early 2018 found that membership adequately reflects the population of persons experiencing homelessness in our region in terms of disability status, experience with domestic violence, and homeless history. However, membership did not adequately reflect the population in other areas: race (particularly African Americans), youth, military veterans, single parent households, criminal history, or foster care experience. In the coming year, outreach will focus on those underrepresented populations, with special emphasis to increase engagement before and during the 2018 needs assessment and prioritization process.

1B-3.Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Funded. Applicants must describe how the CoC notified the public that it will accept and consider proposals from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding, even if the CoC is not applying for new projects in FY 2018, and the response must include the date(s) the CoC publicly announced it was open to proposals. (limit 2,000 characters)

The CoC announced its 2018 priorities for new projects on 2/15/18. The priorities were the result of the needs assessment and apply to both HUD CoC and other funding opportunities. The priorities were posted on the CoC webpages and distributed via the CoC listserv. The CoC shared the priorities and encouraged proposals from agencies that have not received CoC Program funding by announcement at public meetings on 3/15/18, 5/17/18, and 6/21/18 and via listserv the impending opening of the online intent to apply form for 2018 new projects. (Renewal projects were invited in April to submit project data for scoring as evidence of their intent to apply.)

The CoC issued its formal 2018 Call for Projects on 7/6/2018, with full details on eligible project types and bonus funding from the FY2018 HUD NOFA. The Call for Projects was distributed via the CoC listserv and encouraged members to share the notice. The Call for Projects was also sent directly to membership groups that may have interest, including the MN Coalition for Battered Women, MN Social Services Association, and League of MN Cities. The Call for Projects clearly identified opportunities for new projects, CoC priorities for new projects, and estimated funding available. It also described the Local Competition process and invited participation in a webinar for new project applicants, 1:1 TA with CoC staff, and computer lab times to assist with preparing applications. The CoC required notification of intent to apply to ensure new projects propose

eligible applicants, activities, and target populations. Projects that met those criteria and were invited to submit a full application in e-snaps, with supplemental threshold and Local Competition materials by 8/1/18. All information for the Local Competition is posted on the CoC webpages, including the Call for Projects, Local Competition Guide, rating criteria, application materials, and links to helpful HUD and local resources.

1C. Continuum of Care (CoC) Coordination

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

1C-1. CoCs Coordination, Planning, and Operation of Projects. Applicants must use the chart below to identify the federal, state, local, private, and other organizations that serve individuals, families, unaccompanied youth, persons who are fleeing domestic violence who are experiencing homelessness, or those at risk of homelessness that are included in the CoCs coordination, planning, and operation of projects.

Entities or Organizations the CoC coordinates planning and operation of projects	Coordinates with Planning and Operation of Projects
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Not Applicable
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Yes
Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Yes
Head Start Program	Yes
Funding Collaboratives	Yes
Private Foundations	No
Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Funded Housing and Service Programs	Yes
Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Funded Housing and Service Programs	Yes
Housing and service programs funded through other Federal resources	Yes
Housing and services programs funded through State Government	Yes
Housing and services programs funded through Local Government	Yes
Housing and service programs funded through private entities, including foundations	Yes
Other:(limit 50 characters)	

1C-2. CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients. Applicants must describe how the CoC:

- (1) consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG funds; and**
 - (2) participated in the evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients.**
- (limit 2,000 characters)**

The CoC consults with the one ESG recipient in the CoC region (the State of Minnesota) in planning and allocating ESG funds through monthly Heading Home Alliance meetings and through direct CoC input on biennial ESG subrecipient applications.

The Heading Home Alliance is Minnesota’s statewide partnership of state programs, Tribal governments, CoCs and other partners committed to ending homelessness in the state. Through the Alliance, the CoC and ESG Program recipients conduct high level coordination on setting and measuring performance standards, understanding and meeting needs for shelter within the CoC region, and seeking applicants for ESG funds. State ESG performance standards were developed with the CoC to reflect the goals of the program: keep people sheltered, re-house homeless persons, and ensure persons are stably housed.

The CoC also assists the ESG recipient with reviewing biennial subrecipient applications from within the CoC region. The CoC provides input on the project performance based on program participation in Coordinated Entry and impact of project outcomes on system performance, as well as the relative quality of the proposed ESG projects, current needs (Coordinated Entry and PIT count data) and current CoC funding priorities (based on the needs assessment). CoC reviews include both written and verbal input to the ESG recipient.

1C-2a. Providing PIT and HIC Data to Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions. Did the CoC provide Point-in-Time (PIT) and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area? Yes to both

1C-2b. Providing Other Data to Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions. Did the CoC provide local homelessness information other than PIT and HIC data to the jurisdiction(s) Consolidated Plan(s)? Yes

1C-3. Addressing the Safety Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors. Applicants must describe:

- (1) the CoC’s protocols, including the existence of the CoC’s emergency transfer plan, that prioritizes safety and trauma-informed, victim-centered services to prioritize safety; and**
 - (2) how the CoC maximizes client choice for housing and services while ensuring safety and confidentiality.**
- (limit 2,000 characters)**

1) Trauma-informed and victim-centered practices are incorporated into CoC protocols for Coordinated Entry policy, as updated January 2018. The CoC conducts training & planning with victim service providers (VSPs) & homeless service providers (HSPs) to ensure survivors have choices, security, & support to obtain safe housing/services, no matter where they present or what their circumstance. Coordinated Entry intake and prioritization protocols ensure that persons with needs such as safety, lack of money, etc. are prioritized for housing opportunities, not excluded. Prioritization for victims also occurs via anonymous non-HMIS-based list. Once housed, CoC policy allows participants to request transfers to programs that meet their needs, including need for safety. As part of the CoC’s emergency transfer plan, housing programs are

required to provide for emergency transfers based on victim statement and inform participants of their rights for emergency transfer.

2) To maximize choice, survivors presenting at VSPs with DOJ-OJP, HHS-RHY, ESG, CoC, or State funds are prioritized for housing at VSPs; they may also choose to be on the CE list for prioritization with HSPs. In those cases, VSPs refer to the CE list with a code instead of personally identifying information & then connect directly to HSPs selected by the survivor when housing is available. Survivors presenting to HSPs with CoC, ESG, or other funds are screened for homeless prevention/diversion & referred to the available HSP/VSP they choose. All shelters are expected to do safety planning. In all settings, safety and confidentiality are employed to ensure the most choice in housing and service solutions for the survivor.

1C-3a. Applicants must describe how the CoC coordinates with victim services providers to provide annual training to CoC area projects and Coordinated Entry staff that addresses best practices in serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. (limit 2,000 characters)

The CoC works closely with VSPs to train at least annually on best practices in serving survivors of DV/SA for both project staff and Coordinated Entry staff. The training topics vary to address unique needs of subpopulations. They are incorporated into the regular CoC meeting days to encourage participation in both education and decision-making, and to meet project staff and Coordinated Entry staff where they are already gathered. Recent trainings:

12/16: Training for project staff and Coordinated Entry staff focused on youth victims, addressing trauma-informed care, safety, confidentiality, & LGBTQ-specific needs. Training provided by Lutheran Social Services homeless youth programs.

11/17: Training for project staff and Coordinated Entry staff focused addressed trauma-informed care and safety planning protocols, including connecting with an advocate Training provided by Women’s Shelter and regional Sexual Assault Multidisciplinary Action Response Team staff.

2/18: Training for project staff addressed new services and supports available for sexually exploited youth through the Safe Harbor program. Training provided by Olmsted County Victim Services and Women’s Shelter.

3/18: Training specific to Coordinated Entry (CE) protocols was provided for project staff as part of recertification under the updated Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures. CoC staff and Women’s Shelter covered how to conduct trauma-informed CE assessments and how to connect with an advocate.

As part of the CoC’s 2018 workplan, the CoC is developing a formalized training policy and plan to ensure regular access to and completion of necessary training for CoC area project staff as well as Coordinated Entry list managers, navigators, and assessors. Best practices in serving survivors of domestic violence will be a required component.

1C-3b. Applicants must describe the data the CoC uses to assess the scope of community needs related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including data from a comparable database. (limit 2,000 characters)

The CoC uses data from three primary sources to assess needs of people experiencing homelessness due to domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking.

1) To understand prevalence, the CoC reviews Point in Time Count data, which shows in recent years that 30-40% of persons (150-200 people) are homeless due to the causes above. In 2018, the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women conducted a companion survey of the PIT specifically for people fleeing domestic violence, but who were turned away due to limited DV shelter capacity. The companion survey used the same protocols as the PIT Count to ensure an unduplicated count, and found an estimated 5 additional people fleeing DV in the CoC who were unsheltered and not otherwise counted. In addition, the independent, deidentified results of the Statewide Homeless Study (Wilder Research) found that 35% of homeless women identify DV as a cause of their current homelessness.

2) To identify current geographic needs and service needs, the CoC reviews Coordinated Entry data, which includes a HMIS-based list and a comparable non-HMIS-based priority list. Coordinated Entry assessment data indicates that the ~110 households homeless due to domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking are mostly in populations centers, and about half have children with them. About 60% report health needs (mental, chemical, and some chronic physical health needs), 45% low/no income, 60% with legal issues, and 70% no transportation. As a result, the CoC prioritizes projects with specialized health service and legal service partnerships, family and children’s services on site, and access to employment/income sources and public transportation.

3) To understand context and complexity of needs and services, the CoC surveys clients and providers during its regular needs assessment and planning. Victim service providers and clients provide input on needs and priorities during surveys and discussion.

1C-4. DV Bonus Projects. Is your CoC No applying for DV Bonus Projects?

1C-5. PHAs within CoC. Applicants must use the chart to provide information about each Public Housing Agency (PHA) in the CoC’s geographic areas:

- (1) Identify the percentage of new admissions to the Public Housing or Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Programs in the PHA who were experiencing homelessness at the time of admission;**
- (2) Indicate whether the PHA has a homeless admission preference in its Public Housing and/or HCV Program; and**
- (3) Indicate whether the CoC has a move on strategy. The information should be for Federal Fiscal Year 2017.**

Public Housing Agency Name	% New Admissions into Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program during FY 2017 who were experiencing homelessness at entry	PHA has General or Limited Homeless Preference	PHA has a Preference for current PSH program participants no longer needing intensive supportive services, e.g. move on?
Olmsted County HRA	41.80%	Yes-HCV	Yes
Mankato EDA	8.30%	Yes-Public Housing	No
Winona HRA	2.30%	No	No

SE Minnesota Multi County HRA		Yes-HCV	No
Austin HRA		No	No

If you select "Yes--Public Housing," "Yes--HCV," or "Yes--Both" for "PHA has general or limited homeless preference," you must attach documentation of the preference from the PHA in order to receive credit.

1C-5a. For each PHA where there is not a homeless admission preference in their written policy, applicants must identify the steps the CoC has taken to encourage the PHA to adopt such a policy. (limit 2,000 characters)

The CoC and its individual members have provided data and comment during PHA plan updates to identify needs and opportunities for homeless preferences to the 5 largest PHAs plus 4 additional mid-size PHAs the CoC has a working relationship with (Red Wing, Rice County, SCMMCHRA, and Owatonna). The CoC provided to these PHAs the link to HUD Exchange resources on implementing a homeless preference. CoC staff also provide 1:1 input and support for PHAs that are interested in adopting or improving a homeless admissions preference.

In the past year, two of the five largest PHAs have taken steps to adopt or improve a homeless admission preference to better align with Coordinated Entry. Mankato EDA revised its existing Public Housing homeless admission preference to become a preference for homeless households referred through Coordinated Entry so that homeless households with the highest needs are prioritized. It also created a new preference for households in PSH who no longer need intensive services but still need rental assistance. The Olmsted County HRA created a new general homeless preference for Housing Choice Vouchers as well as a super preference for applicants who qualify for PSH and those who exit site-based PSH with project-based vouchers. Austin HRA is developing a limited preference for homeless for site-based PSH with project-based vouchers to open in 2019.

The CoC has supported PHAs to secure other funds to target rental assistance to homeless households, including VASH, Family Unification Program, and Bridges, a state-funded program for homeless persons with serious mental illness.

1C-5b. Move On Strategy with Affordable Housing Providers. Does the CoC have a Move On strategy with affordable housing providers in its jurisdiction (e.g., multifamily assisted housing owners, PHAs, Low Income Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments, or local low-income housing programs)? Yes

Move On strategy description. (limit 2,000 characters)

The CoC is working with PHAs in the region to develop move-on preferences for households exiting PSH but who continue to need rental assistance to remain housed. One of the largest PHAs, Mankato EDA, is implementing the preference as of October 2018. Mankato EDA is actively involved in the CoC and has identified Move-On (and Coordinated Entry preferences) as the most

effective ways it can meet community needs and reduce homelessness. The Olmsted HRA has also implemented a super preference for households exiting a site-based PSH program with project-based rental assistance. The CoC is scheduling a meeting for other PHAs to discuss how the preferences work and why it could be beneficial for other communities in the CoC region. Through coordination with the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, the allocator of LIHTC in the CoC region, the CoC is currently working to develop move-on strategies for those properties. State-funded PSH makes up the bulk of PSH in the CoC and is often integrated in larger LIHTC properties with affordable units. The integrated setting could allow persons to move on from PSH without having to move out of their actual housing unit. Other Move On strategies and partnerships with affordable rental housing owners have not been developed at this time. Since not all CoCs who requested it could be approved to receive TA for developing these partnerships and strategies, additional support from HUD and other experts would be extremely helpful to 1) develop assessments for moving on, 2) secure services funding for post-PSH transitions, and 3) revise program eligibility and prioritization criteria for households when the Move On from PSH is not successful.

1C-6. Addressing the Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT). Applicants must describe the actions the CoC has taken to address the needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender individuals and their families experiencing homelessness. (limit 2,000 characters)

The CoC uses policy, training and self-assessment, planning, and project rating/scoring to better meet the needs of LGBTQ individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Policy: In September 2017, the CoC adopted a Non-Discrimination policy which addresses affirmatively meeting the needs of all persons, and which names gender identity and sexual orientation as characteristics by which to measure compliance.

Training and self-assessment: The CoC provides annual training on Equal Access rules (2012 and 2016). Training was provided for housing program staff and Coordinated Entry staff on general Equal Access requirements in August 2017 and Non-Discrimination in September 2017. A refresher training on Coordinated Entry access and assessment protocols was provided to program staff in March 2018, which included serving LGBTQ individuals and families in Coordinated Entry. The CoC is also working with the True Colors Fund now to offer the (free) True Inclusion Assessment for all homeless programs in CoC region. The assessment includes evaluation of current practice as well as tools and strategies to increase inclusivity of LGBTQ persons in programs, including LGBTQ youth.

Planning: In its most recent needs assessment, the CoC named LGBTQ focused housing programs (as well as re-entry programs and culturally-specific programs) as priorities for 2018 new projects. While no project applications were received in 2018 for programs that are uniquely equipped to meet the needs of LGBTQ individuals and families, the CoC will continue to reach out to potential applicants and to prioritize projects that increase client choice for LGBTQ persons.

Project rating/scoring: The CoC prioritizes meeting the needs of LGBTQ

persons by integrating Equal Access assessment into scoring for CoC- and ESG-funded projects. CoC projects document steps taken to ensure access, service, and safety for LGBTQ persons. ESG projects document affirmative inclusion activities.

1C-6a. Anti-Discrimination Policy and Training. Applicants must indicate if the CoC implemented a CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy and conducted CoC-wide anti-discrimination training on the Equal Access Final Rule and the Gender Identity Final Rule.

1. Did the CoC implement a CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy that applies to all projects regardless of funding source?	Yes
2. Did the CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement the Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity (Equal Access Final Rule)?	Yes
3. Did the CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs in Accordance with an Individual's Gender Identity (Gender Identity Final Rule)?	Yes

1C-7. Criminalization of Homelessness. Applicants must select the specific strategies the CoC implemented to prevent the criminalization of homelessness in the CoC's geographic area. Select all that apply.

Engaged/educated local policymakers:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Engaged/educated law enforcement:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Engaged/educated local business leaders:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implemented communitywide plans:	<input type="checkbox"/>
No strategies have been implemented:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:(limit 50 characters)	
	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>

1C-8. Centralized or Coordinated Assessment System. Applicants must:
 (1) demonstrate the coordinated entry system covers the entire CoC geographic area;
 (2) demonstrate the coordinated entry system reaches people who are least likely to apply homelessness assistance in the absence of special outreach;
 (3) demonstrate the assessment process prioritizes people most in need of assistance and ensures they receive assistance in a timely manner; and
 (4) attach CoC's standard assessment tool.

(limit 2,000 characters)

1) The CoC Coordinated Entry system creates access and assessment points in each of the 20 counties covered by the CoC. Each county offers multiple access sites so that homeless individual and families can select the site that best meets their needs and is most accessible to them. Sites are identified to serve households with children, single adults, military veterans, youth, and victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, but all access sites are open to all persons.

2) To reach people who are least likely to apply for homelessness assistance, access sites are advertised in locations frequented by persons experiencing homelessness, including libraries, 24-businessness, food/meal sites, and health clinics. CoC staff do outreach regarding Coordinated Entry to organizations that serve persons of color, youth, persons with disabilities, and seniors to ensure that trusted service partners help to reach homeless households. Street outreach workers and Coordinated Entry navigators also assist persons who may otherwise lose touch with the Coordinated Entry process, have difficulty documenting eligibility, or need to connect with services to remain safe and stable prior to housing enrollment.

3) The Assessment process uses the VI-SPDAT, as well as a short set of eligibility questions for programs in the CoC. Assessments are conducted in person or over the phone and take about 30-45 minutes. Assessors immediately enter assessments to ensure rapid placement on either the HMIS or the non-HMIS priority list (for DV survivors and those who do not consent to using HMIS). Once on the priority list, households are prioritized for referral based on length of time homeless and level of need/vulnerability (using adopted Order of Priority). When a referral is made, housing providers and the CES list managers have defined guidelines and timeframes to contact prioritized households and complete the eligibility and move-in process.

1D. Continuum of Care (CoC) Discharge Planning

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

1D-1. Discharge Planning–State and Local. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC has a discharge policy to ensure persons discharged from the systems of care listed are not discharged directly to the streets, emergency shelters, or other homeless assistance programs. Check all that apply (note that when "None:" is selected no other system of care should be selected).

Foster Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mental Health Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Correctional Facilities:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

1D-2. Discharge Planning Coordination. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC actively coordinates with the systems of care listed to ensure persons who have resided in them longer than 90 days are not discharged directly to the streets, emergency shelters, or other homeless assistance programs. Check all that apply (note that when "None:" is selected no other system of care should be selected).

Foster Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mental Health Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Correctional Facilities:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

1E. Continuum of Care (CoC) Project Review, Ranking, and Selection

Instructions

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

1E-1. Project Ranking and Selection. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC used the following to rank and select project applications for the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition:

- (1) objective criteria;**
- (2) at least one factor related to achieving positive housing outcomes;**
- (3) a specific method for evaluating projects submitted by victim services providers; and**
- (4) attach evidence that supports the process selected.**

Used Objective Criteria for Review, Rating, Ranking and Section	Yes
Included at least one factor related to achieving positive housing outcomes	Yes
Included a specific method for evaluating projects submitted by victim service providers	Yes

1E-2. Severity of Needs and Vulnerabilities. Applicants must describe:

- (1) the specific severity of needs and vulnerabilities the CoC considered when reviewing, ranking, and rating projects; and**
- (2) how the CoC takes severity of needs and vulnerabilities into account during the review, rating, and ranking process.**

(limit 2,000 characters)

The CoC selects projects to serve people with high levels of need/vulnerability. When reviewing, ranking, and rating projects in 2018, the CoC considered chronic homelessness, current/past experience with domestic violence or sexual assault, current/past substance use, criminal history, LGBTQ identity, and low/no income.

PROJECT REVIEW: The CoC assessed project ability to fill system gaps and employ strategies to meet needs of people prioritized via Coordinated Entry. The Call for Projects requested new projects serving people who had experienced DV/SA, with criminal history, or who experience victimization/discrimination and desire culturally-specific or LGBTQ programs. Projects documented Coordinated Entry participation and application of Housing First principles.

PROJECT RATING: The CoC rating tool scored performance as well as commitment to serve people with high need/vulnerability. Projects received up to 20 pts for outcomes (e.g. stays in/exits to permanent housing, income

increases). Projects also received up to 10 pts for the percent of chronically homeless persons, and 10 pts for documenting Housing First and Equal Access implementation. This balances scoring for projects with lower performance due to diligently serving persons with low/no income, current/past substance use, criminal history, or LGBTQ discrimination. Specific rating measures on safety were used for DV/SA projects to reflect participant needs.

PROJECT RANKING: The ranking policy prioritizes projects based on overall rating points but allows adjustments based on geographic needs and project capacity to serve specific high needs/vulnerabilities. This year, the CoC adjusted ranking to place in Tier 1 the only project that serves persons with chronic alcohol use disorders, and the only multi-county RRH and PSH programs whose existence ensures client choice in where to live (a critical need for DV/SA survivors and persons who experience LGBTQ discrimination).

1E-3. Public Postings. Applicants must indicate how the CoC made public:

- (1) objective ranking and selection process the CoC used for all projects (new and renewal);**
- (2) CoC Consolidated Application—including the CoC Application, Priority Listings, and all projects accepted and ranked or rejected, which HUD required CoCs to post to their websites, or partners websites, at least 2 days before the CoC Program Competition application submission deadline; and**
- (3) attach documentation demonstrating the objective ranking, rating, and selections process and the final version of the completed CoC Consolidated Application, including the CoC Application with attachments, Priority Listing with reallocation forms and all project applications that were accepted and ranked, or rejected (new and renewal) was made publicly available, that legibly displays the date the CoC publicly posted the documents.**

Public Posting of Objective Ranking and Selection Process		Public Posting of CoC Consolidated Application including: CoC Application, Priority Listings, Project Listings	
CoC or other Website	<input type="checkbox"/>	CoC or other Website	<input type="checkbox"/>
Email	<input type="checkbox"/>	Email	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mail	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mail	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advertising in Local Newspaper(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Advertising in Local Newspaper(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advertising on Radio or Television	<input type="checkbox"/>	Advertising on Radio or Television	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>

1E-4. Reallocation. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC has cumulatively reallocated at least 20 percent of the CoC’s ARD between the FY 2014 and FY 2018 CoC Program Competitions.

Reallocation: Yes

1E-5. Local CoC Competition. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC:
(1) established a deadline for project applications that was no later than 30 days before the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Application deadline—attachment required;
(2) rejected or reduced project application(s)—attachment required; and
(3) notify applicants that their project application(s) were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps, at least 15 days before FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Application deadline—attachment required. :

(1) Did the CoC establish a deadline for project applications that was no later than 30 days before the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Application deadline? Attachment required.	Yes
(2) If the CoC rejected or reduced project application(s), did the CoC notify applicants that their project application(s) were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps, at least 15 days before FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Application deadline? Attachment required.	Yes
(3) Did the CoC notify applicants that their applications were accepted and ranked on the Priority Listing in writing outside of e-snaps, at least 15 before days of the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Application deadline?	Yes

2A. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Implementation

Intructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

2A-1. Roles and Responsibilities of the CoC and HMIS Lead. Does your CoC have in place a Governance Charter or other written documentation (e.g., MOU/MOA) that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the CoC and HMIS Lead? Attachment Required. Yes

2A-1a. Applicants must: Page 1-4 of MOU
(1) provide the page number(s) where the roles and responsibilities of the CoC and HMIS Lead can be found in the attached document(s) referenced in 2A-1, and
(2) indicate the document type attached for question 2A-1 that includes roles and responsibilities of the CoC and HMIS Lead (e.g., Governance Charter, MOU/MOA).

2A-2. HMIS Policy and Procedures Manual. Does your CoC have a HMIS Policy and Procedures Manual? Attachment Required. Yes

2A-3. HMIS Vender. What is the name of the HMIS software vendor? Mediware Information Systems

2A-4. HMIS Implementation Coverage Area. Using the drop-down boxes, applicants must select the HMIS implementation Coverage area. Statewide HMIS (multiple CoC)

**2A-5. Bed Coverage Rate. Using 2018 HIC and HMIS data, applicants must report by project type:
(1) total number of beds in 2018 HIC;
(2) total beds dedicated for DV in the 2018 HIC; and**

(3) total number of beds in HMIS.

Project Type	Total Beds in 2018 HIC	Total Beds in HIC Dedicated for DV	Total Beds in HMIS	HMIS Bed Coverage Rate
Emergency Shelter (ESG) beds	195	59	99	72.79%
Safe Haven (SH) beds	0	0	0	
Transitional Housing (TH) beds	327	35	276	94.52%
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	162	21	141	100.00%
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	400	0	366	91.50%
Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds	360	0	360	100.00%

2A-5a. To receive partial credit, if the bed coverage rate is 84.99 percent or lower for any of the project types in question 2A-5., applicants must provide clear steps on how the CoC intends to increase this percentage for each project type over the next 12 months. (limit 2,000 characters)

Increasing HMS coverage for emergency shelters (ES) serving single persons requires participation from a private shelter. The CoC will again try to engage the shelter in identifying the advantages of voluntary HMIS participation for the non-required shelter, including more rapid referrals for housing. A number of other new shelter units are being planned in the CoC region, all with private funds. The CoC is engaged in the planning to encourage HMIS use, which would also increase the HMIS bed coverage rate. Compared to other program types, ES providers are much less likely to receive state or federal funds that require participation in HMIS or Coordinated Entry, so the CoC is evaluating ways to incentivize HMIS use for non-required programs.

2A-6. AHAR Shells Submission: How many 2017 Annual Housing Assessment Report (AHAR) tables shells did HUD accept? 12

2A-7. CoC Data Submission in HDX. Applicants must enter the date the CoC submitted the 2018 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data into the Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX). (mm/dd/yyyy) 04/30/2018

2B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Point-in-Time Count

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

2B-1. PIT Count Date. Applicants must enter the date the CoC conducted its 2018 PIT count (mm/dd/yyyy). 01/24/2018

2B-2. HDX Submission Date. Applicants must enter the date the CoC submitted its PIT count data in HDX (mm/dd/yyyy). 04/30/2018

2C. Continuum of Care (CoC) Point-in-Time (PIT) Count: Methodologies

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

2C-1. Change in Sheltered PIT Count Implementation. Applicants must describe any change in the CoC’s sheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology and data quality changes from 2017 to 2018. Specifically, how those changes impacted the CoC’s sheltered PIT count results. (limit 2,000 characters)

No changes were made to sheltered count methodology in 2018. One change made to improve data quality between 2017 and 2018 was the addition of three participating emergency shelter sites. Shelter sites in Mankato, New Ulm, and Winona conducted their own surveys, reducing demand on other service agencies and outreach workers to identify and count persons who had accessed shelter on the PIT Count night.

2C-2. Did your CoC change its provider coverage in the 2018 sheltered count? Yes

2C-2a. If “Yes” was selected in 2C-2, applicants must enter the number of beds that were added or removed in the 2018 sheltered PIT count.

Beds Added:	40
Beds Removed:	20
Total:	20

2C-3. Presidentially Declared Disaster Changes to Sheltered PIT Count. Did your CoC add or remove emergency shelter, transitional housing, or Safe Haven inventory because of funding specific to a Presidentially declared disaster, resulting in a change to the CoC’s 2018 sheltered PIT count? No

2C-3a. If “Yes” was selected for question 2C-3, applicants must enter the number of beds that were added or removed in 2018 because of a Presidentially declared disaster.

Beds Added:	0
Beds Removed:	0
Total:	0

2C-4. Changes in Unsheltered PIT Count Implementation. Did your CoC change its unsheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology and data quality changes from 2017 to 2018? If your CoC did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2018, select Not Applicable. Yes

2C-4a. If “Yes” was selected for question 2C-4, applicants must:
(1) describe any change in the CoC’s unsheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology and data quality changes from 2017 to 2018; and
(2) specify how those changes impacted the CoC’s unsheltered PIT count results.
(limit 2,000 characters)

1) No changes were made to the unsheltered count methodology in 2018. Changes in data quality between 2017 and 2018 were: a) increased participation of McKinney-Vento homeless liaisons and other school staff due to specific outreach for school-based surveys, and b) increased number of event-based count activities to draw in potential survey respondents for the PIT Count.
 2) The increased participation of school-based surveyors did not have a significant effect on the PIT Count because nearly all households identified by school staff were doubled up with friends/family (not unsheltered). The data will be used for local planning but could not be included in the PIT Count. The additional event-based county activities (Project Community Connect events) resulted in a more geographically distributed unsheltered count in the region. It also helped to reduce duplication concerns with surveys conducted in close geographic proximity.

2C-5. Identifying Youth Experiencing Homelessness in 2018 PIT Count. Did your CoC implement specific measures to identify youth experiencing homelessness in its 2018 PIT count? Yes

2C-5a. If “Yes” was selected for question 2C-5., applicants must describe:
(1) how stakeholders serving youth experiencing homelessness were engaged during the planning process;
(2) how the CoC worked with stakeholders to select locations where youth experiencing homelessness are most likely to be identified; and
(3) how the CoC involved youth experiencing homelessness in counting during the 2018 PIT count.
(limit 2,000 characters)

1) Stakeholders serving youth experiencing homelessness engaged in PIT

Count planning by identifying youth outreach locations, incentives for homeless youth to be counted, strategies and activities for count day, and formerly homeless youth volunteers and staff volunteers for the count. Stakeholders included homeless youth service programs, McKinney Vento liaisons and other school staff, Alternative Learning Centers, YMCAs, and libraries. The planning occurred during multiple county-level homeless response teams meetings across the 20-county area in late 2017 and was consolidated at the CoC board level in December 2017.

2) Stakeholders listed above have locations where youth feel safe and welcome to gather, both for in-school and out-of-school youth, making those natural selections for PIT Count activities. Access to technology, food, personal supplies, and safe hangout space were identified as key considerations. Other locations for outreach were identified with the help of youth, including parks and certain stores/shopping areas. Stakeholders also worked with the CoC to use the Coordinated Entry priority list as a targeted outreach tool for youth known to be homeless but who did not present at a count location.

3) Youth who have experienced homelessness were involved in the count by helping to train PIT count volunteers and, through the Youth Subcommittee of the CoC, leading a youth/student-focused resource fair at the Rochester Alternative Learning Center. Youth volunteered as guides for the event, while school counselors, community volunteers, and others conducted PIT surveys. Youth also recommended items for the household goods “store” at the resource fair, which youth could “purchase” from with proof of visiting booths at the fair.

2C-6. 2018 PIT Implementation. Applicants must describe actions the CoC implemented in its 2018 PIT count to better count:

- (1) individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness;**
- (2) families with children experiencing homelessness; and**
- (3) Veterans experiencing homelessness.**

(limit 2,000 characters)

1) To improve the capacity of the CoC to count individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness in a service-based PIT count, the CoC used the Coordinated Entry by-name list to proactively contact all known homeless persons who had not already appeared at a shelter or other count location. This increased the number of chronically homeless persons counted from what it would have been using just a service-based count. It also identified more geographically diverse locations where chronically homeless households were living and where outreach may be improved in 2019.

2) To improve the count of families with children, including chronically homeless families, the CoC engaged McKinney-Vento liaisons and other school staff in county-level Homeless Response Team PIT planning meetings. The CoC participated in a regional McKinney Vento liaison call to discuss the count and answer questions, and also coordinated with the SEA to encourage local school participation, more than doubling the number of surveys received via school personnel. The CoC and the SEA sent communications directly to school staff regarding the PIT to describe options for participation. With over 70 school districts and changing personnel from year to year, knowledge of the PIT Count varies significantly from school to school, requiring regular and direct effort by the CoC.

3) On behalf of the CoC, veterans services outreach workers from MN Assistance Council for Veterans and the VA conducted physical on-the-ground outreach to ensure coverage, but it is unclear whether this actually improved the

2018 PIT Count because the total number of veterans experiencing homelessness in the region is very low.

3A. Continuum of Care (CoC) System Performance

Instructions

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

3A-1. First Time Homeless as Reported in HDX. In the box below, applicants must report the number of first-time homeless as reported in HDX.

Number of First Time Homeless as Reported in HDX.	1,125
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3A-1a. Applicants must:

- (1) describe how the CoC determined which risk factors the CoC uses to identify persons becoming homeless for the first time;**
- (2) describe the CoC’s strategy to address individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless; and**
- (3) provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time. (limit 2,000 characters)**

- 1) The CoC uses a common assessment process to prioritize and customize assistance to households at greatest risk of becoming homeless. Risk factors assessed include current housing status, income, barriers to housing, history of homelessness, client motivation, and ongoing affordability of housing selected. Based on initial analysis of factors, history of homelessness and ongoing affordability of housing selected are the most significant risk factors across all households, while specific barriers to housing such as history of institutionalization affect certain portions of the population.
- 2) The prevention targeting tool is paired with an expanding network of housing navigators and housing resource specialists in the CoC to reduce and prevent first time homelessness. Two Housing Resource Coordinators funded through the State of Minnesota now assist persons in Board and Lodge settings, mental health treatment, and other group settings to access housing at exit. And, a CoC mainstream resource navigator (starting September 2018) will assist precariously housed and at-risk households to access community resources to increase income and stabilize housing.
- 3) The CoC’s Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program leads (and advisory boards) are responsible for developing strategies for reducing first-time homelessness. The CoC Data & Technical Assistance Committee Chair is responsible to review outcomes and facilitate training/TA for providers.

3A-2. Length-of-Time Homeless as Reported in HDX. Applicants must:

- (1) provide the average length of time individuals and persons in families remained homeless (i.e., the number);**
- (2) describe the CoC’s strategy to reduce the length-of-time individuals**

**and persons in families remain homeless;
 (3) describe how the CoC identifies and houses individuals and persons in families with the longest lengths of time homeless; and
 (4) provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.
 (limit 2,000 characters)**

(There are no safe havens in the CoC.)

- 1) For persons in ES, the average length of time (LOT) homeless increased from 37 to 45 days between FY2016 and FY2017. When TH is considered, the average LOT homeless was 126 days in FY2016, increasing to 176 in FY2017.
- 2) The CoC applies the Order of Priority to prioritize those with long periods of homelessness for assistance. After identifying ES or TH programs where people stay longest, the CoC sought landlord mitigation funds to reduce barriers to rehousing and prioritized RRH and joint TH-RRH projects for locations and populations (primarily DV) where long stays are more common, so that exits from TH can occur more efficiently. Two joint TH-RRH projects for this purpose are included on the project priority list this year. In addition, a large PHAs is implementing a preference for persons referred via Coordinated Entry, increasing access to permanent housing options for individual and households with longest length of time homeless.
- 3) Households with the longest LOT homeless are identified via Coordinated Entry assessment and referred immediately to available permanent housing opportunities. Depending on need and barriers, households are connected to permanent housing with short-term or long-term assistance, with Navigator assistance starting September 2018 to assist with documenting eligibility for housing and speeding placement.
- 4) The CoC Rapid Access workgroup is responsible for developing strategies for reducing LOT homeless. The CoC Executive Committee is responsible to formalize strategies, with assistance from the Coordinated Entry Committee. The CoC Data & Technical Assistance Committee is responsible to review outcomes and facilitate training/TA for providers.

3A-3. Successful Permanent Housing Placement and Retention as Reported in HDX. Applicants must:

- (1) provide the percentage of individuals and persons in families in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing that exit to permanent housing destinations; and**
- (2) provide the percentage of individuals and persons in families in permanent housing projects, other than rapid rehousing, that retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations.**

	Percentage
Report the percentage of individuals and persons in families in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid re-housing that exit to permanent housing destinations as reported in HDX.	61%
Report the percentage of individuals and persons in families in permanent housing projects, other than rapid re-housing, that retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations as reported in HDX.	88%

3A-3a. Applicants must:

- (1) describe the CoC’s strategy to increase the rate at which individuals and persons in families in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional**

housing and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations; and (2) describe the CoC’s strategy to increase the rate at which individuals and persons in families in permanent housing projects, other than rapid rehousing, retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations.

(limit 2,000 characters)

1) To support rapid exit to permanent housing, CoC written standards for ES, TH, and RRH (in revision for 2019) standardize immediate exit planning for participants in ES, TH, or RRH programs and focus services on successful exits. To increase access to private market housing (not just homeless designated housing), the CoC is creating a toolkit for landlord engagement and expanding use of master leasing for permanent housing in areas with very tight rental housing markets to remove barriers that can prevent immediate housing access for individuals with criminal records, very low income, or poor rental history. The CoC also continues to expand state-funded Housing Support program to provide transition and tenancy supports in permanent housing for homeless adults with disabilities and very low incomes, with four new programs beginning in the past 12 months.

2) With high rates of permanent housing retention and successful exits, the CoC will continue Housing First training and support for program staff and use Coordinated Entry transfer policies and procedures to prevent exits to non-permanent housing when a participant finds a housing opportunity is not safe or not a good fit. To improve, the CoC will continue providing Harm Reduction training and expand training/support for accessing SOAR and workforce center resources to increase participant income from employment and other sources.

3) The CoC Rapid Access workgroup is responsible for developing strategies for rapid exit to permanent housing. The CoC Executive Committee is responsible to formalize strategies. The CoC Data & TA Committee is responsible to review outcomes and facilitate training/TA for providers.

4) The CoC Housing Stability workgroup is responsible for developing strategies for permanent housing retention. The CoC Executive Committee is responsible to formalize strategies. The CoC Data & TA Committee is responsible to review outcomes and facilitate training/TA for providers.

3A-4. Returns to Homelessness as Reported in HDX. Applicants must report the percentage of individuals and persons in families returning to homelessness over a 6- and 12-month period as reported in HDX.

	Percentage
Report the percentage of individuals and persons in families returning to homelessness over a 6- and 12-month period as reported in HDX	6%

3A-4a. Applicants must:

(1) describe how the CoC identifies common factors of individuals and persons in families who return to homelessness;

(2) describe the CoC’s strategy to reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness; and

(3) provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families returns to homelessness.

(limit 2,000 characters)

1) The CoC uses the returns to homelessness report in HMIS, along with client demographic reports and provider input to identify factors associated with returns to homelessness. The most common risk factor associated with individuals and families who returned to homelessness within 12 months (for the reporting period in HDX) was simply exiting from an ES, TH, or RRH program with hard limits on length, type, and amount of assistance. For households who returned after 12 months, low income/loss of income and housing affordability were more significant factors.

2) To reduce returns to homelessness, rapid rehousing programs in the CoC implemented and will continue a more flexible and responsive guidelines for assistance, which allows extended or unique supports for individuals and families that are at risk of returning to homelessness. In addition, beginning in 2019, the CoC written standards for ES, TH, and RRH (under revision) will standardize immediate exit planning for participants in ES, TH, or RRH programs and focus services on successful and sustainable exits. Increasing income and effective budgeting of additional income were identified by providers as necessary components of exit planning. The CoC will also increase outreach to privately operated emergency shelters with short stays and limited services to develop outcome-based approaches to program rules and partnerships with mainstream programs that can support shelter stayers after exit.

3) The CoC Housing Stability workgroup is responsible for developing strategies to reduce the rate of return to homelessness. The CoC Executive Committee is responsible for formalizing strategies. The CoC Data & Technical Assistance Committee is responsible to review outcomes and facilitate training/TA for providers.

3A-5. Job and Income Growth. Applicants must:

- (1) describe the CoC’s strategy to increase access to employment and non-employment cash sources;**
 - (2) describe how the CoC works with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families increase their cash income; and**
 - (3) provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to increase job and income growth from employment.**
- (limit 2,000 characters)**

1) The CoC requires all CoC Program-funded projects to screen participants for mainstream benefits & assist them to increase employment income. To increase access, the CoC will continue to access job-skills training from Workforce Development Centers/Adult Basic Education, screen for benefits, & connect to SOAR advocates & veteran services when applicable. The CoC is currently working to expand the number of SOAR providers to assist with SSI/SSDI applications and seeking to formalize partnerships with Workforce Development Centers, including development of supported work programs. Along with increasing income, CoC programs provide budgeting support to help participants make the most of their increased income.

2) The CoC requires all CoC Program-funded projects to assess participants for employment and assist participants to access employment in community. The CoC has developed several local partnerships between programs and mainstream employers, including temp agencies, to connect participants with employment. While temp positions are not long-term income sources, they

provide for skill development, verifiable work history, and relationships with potential long-term employers. The CoC is working to expand those partnerships to include more agencies and more program participants in 2019. 3) The CoC Income & Employment workgroup is responsible for developing strategies to increase access to employment and non-employment cash resources. The CoC Executive Committee is responsible for formalizing strategies. The CoC Data & Technical Assistance Committee is responsible to review outcomes and facilitate training/TA for providers.

3A-6. System Performance Measures Data 05/25/2018
Submission in HDX. Applicants must enter the date the CoC submitted the System Performance Measures data in HDX, which included the data quality section for FY 2017 (mm/dd/yyyy)

3B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Performance and Strategic Planning Objectives

Instructions

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

- 3B-1. DedicatedPLUS and Chronically Homeless Beds. In the boxes below, applicants must enter:**
- (1) total number of beds in the Project Application(s) that are designated as DedicatedPLUS beds; and**
 - (2) total number of beds in the Project Application(s) that are designated for the chronically homeless, which does not include those that were identified in (1) above as DedicatedPLUS Beds.**

Total number of beds dedicated as DedicatedPLUS	232
Total number of beds dedicated to individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness	68
Total	300

3B-2. Orders of Priority. Did the CoC adopt the Orders of Priority into their written standards for all CoC Program-funded PSH projects as described in Notice CPD-16-11: Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing? Attachment Required. Yes

3B-2.1. Prioritizing Households with Children. Using the following chart, applicants must check all that apply to indicate the factor(s) the CoC currently uses to prioritize households with children during FY 2018.

History of or Vulnerability to Victimization (e.g. domestic violence, sexual assault, childhood abuse)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Number of previous homeless episodes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unsheltered homelessness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criminal History	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bad credit or rental history	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Head of Household with Mental/Physical Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3B-2.2. Applicants must:

- (1) describe the CoC’s current strategy to rapidly rehouse every household of families with children within 30 days of becoming homeless;**
 - (2) describe how the CoC addresses both housing and service needs to ensure families successfully maintain their housing once assistance ends; and**
 - (3) provide the organization name or position title responsible for overseeing the CoCs strategy to rapidly rehouse families with children within 30 days of becoming homeless.**
- (limit 2,000 characters)**

1) To speed access to permanent housing, the CoC has increased the number of RRH beds for households with children by 78% between 2016 and 2018 and proposed two new Joint TH-RRH projects to serve families in this funding round. These new housing resources are supported by assistance from Coordinated Entry navigators (beginning September 2018) to shorten referral timelines for housing by documenting eligibility and connecting to mainstream resources, and implementation of immediate whole family needs assessment, including children’s needs and educational services, for households in shelter.

2) The CoC helps families maintain housing by ensuring that mainstream and community-based resources such as Head Start, school-based programs, Women Infant and Children nutrition, adult/child mental health resources, employment support, and subsidized health insurance, are included in stability plans. This ensures that relationships and resources for adults and children do not end when limited-term rehousing support ends. In addition, more flexible RRH programs in the CoC aim to provide the right type, level, and length of support so households don’t exit before they are ready. And, program participants are assisted to thoroughly assess housing opportunities in terms of long-term affordability and household budget so that housing can be maintained.

3) The CoC Rapid Access workgroup is responsible for developing strategies for rapidly rehousing families with children. The CoC Executive Committee is responsible to formalize strategies, with assistance from the Coordinated Entry Committee. The CoC Data & Technical Assistance Committee is responsible to review outcomes and facilitate training/TA for providers.

3B-2.3. Antidiscrimination Policies. Applicants must check all that apply that describe actions the CoC is taking to ensure providers (including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing (PSH and RRH) within the CoC adhere to antidiscrimination policies by not denying admission to or separating any family members from other members of their family or caregivers based on age, sex, gender, LGBT status, marital status, or disability when entering a shelter or housing.

CoC conducts mandatory training for all CoC and ESG funded service providers on these topics.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CoC conducts optional training for all CoC and ESG funded service providers on these topics.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CoC has worked with ESG recipient(s) to adopt uniform anti-discrimination policies for all subrecipients.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CoC has worked with ESG recipient(s) to identify both CoC and ESG funded facilities within the CoC geographic area that may be out of compliance, and taken steps to work directly with those facilities to come into compliance.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CoC has sought assistance from HUD through submitting AAQs or requesting TA to resolve non-compliance of service providers.	<input type="checkbox"/>

3B-2.4. Strategy for Addressing Needs of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC's strategy to address the unique needs of unaccompanied homeless youth includes the following:

Human trafficking and other forms of exploitation	Yes
LGBT youth homelessness	Yes
Exits from foster care into homelessness	Yes
Family reunification and community engagement	Yes
Positive Youth Development, Trauma Informed Care, and the use of Risk and Protective Factors in assessing youth housing and service needs	Yes

3B-2.5. Prioritizing Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness Based on Needs. Applicants must check all that apply from the list below that describes the CoC's current strategy to prioritize unaccompanied youth based on their needs.

History or Vulnerability to Victimization (e.g., domestic violence, sexual assault, childhood abuse)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Number of Previous Homeless Episodes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unsheltered Homelessness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criminal History	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bad Credit or Rental History	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**3B-2.6. Applicants must describe the CoC's strategy to increase:
 (1) housing and services for all youth experiencing homelessness by providing new resources or more effectively using existing resources, including securing additional funding; and
 (2) availability of housing and services for youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness by providing new resources or more effectively using existing resources.
 (limit 3,000 characters)**

- 1) The CoC strategy to create new resources and new partnerships to increase services for youth experiencing homelessness is designed to respond to a few risk factors for youth homelessness in the region: loss of parent/caregiver support, non gender-conforming identity, and trafficking. A new Safe Harbor grant has created 8 new shelter beds, supportive services, and outreach for youth that have been trafficked. Federal Transitional Living Program funding brought in \$194,000 for additional outreach, supports, and youth leadership in CoC and program planning. The CoC also added a state-funded Healthy Transition and Homelessness Prevention program based within a Workforce Development Center to assist youth transitioning out of foster care and sought 40 new Family Unification Program vouchers to house youth with previous foster care placements and families at risk of foster-care placements due to homelessness.
- 2) For youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness, the CoC increased

funding and personnel to conduct street outreach for unsheltered youth so that resources are more accessible to youth. New outreach resources are targeted generally to homeless youth in the Transitional Living Program and specifically to youth that have been trafficked in the Safe Harbor grant program. The Safe Harbor program also includes shelter resources (described above) and homelessness prevention activities especially for non-gender conforming youth, which the CoC hopes will reduce trauma experienced by youth on the street and reduce need for street outreach to find youth after becoming homeless.

3B-2.6a. Applicants must:

- (1) provide evidence the CoC uses to measure both strategies in question 3B-2.6. to increase the availability of housing and services for youth experiencing homelessness;**
 - (2) describe the measure(s) the CoC uses to calculate the effectiveness of the strategies; and**
 - (3) describe why the CoC believes the measure it uses is an appropriate way to determine the effectiveness of the CoC’s strategies.**
- (limit 3,000 characters)**

- 1) To measure both strategies, the CoC evaluates evidence from annual Point in Time Count (number of unsheltered and sheltered youth counted), the Housing Inventory Chart (increased units for youth), and reported program funding. The CoC also uses Coordinated Entry assessment and referral data on the relative need/vulnerability of youth experiencing homelessness and the time that elapses from assessment to housing move-in, and program outcome data on exit destination of participants.
- 2) The CoC calculates the effectiveness of strategies to increase housing and services for all youth by annual change in housing units for youth on the Housing Inventory Chart, changes in program funding levels reported by agencies, and the rate of permanent housing exit destinations for program participants. Increasing units, funding, and rate of exit to permanent housing would indicate the strategy to increase resources is working. To measure the effectiveness of strategies specifically for unsheltered youth, the CoC calculates changes in numbers of unsheltered and total homeless youth in the annual PIT Count, mean need/vulnerability score for youth in Coordinated Entry, and the mean days from assessment to housing move-in. Decreased numbers of unsheltered and total homeless youth, as well as decreases in mean time from assessment to move-in indicate effective levels of housing and service for unsheltered youth. The CoC evaluates mean need/vulnerability assessment score of youth identified vs. housed to determine how rate of housing placement is affected by need level of participants. If higher needs are identified, more services may be required to continue rapidly housing and serving youth.
- 3) The CoC believes the measures are appropriate because they focus on youth outcomes and on achieving overall reduction of youth homelessness, not project outputs. They also include measures that evaluate both system and program effectiveness and capacity to meet needs of youth over time.

3B-2.7. Collaboration–Education Services. Applicants must describe how the CoC collaborates with:

- (1) youth education providers;**
- (2) McKinney-Vento State Education Agency (SEA) and Local Education Agency (LEA);**

**(3) school districts; and
(4) the formal partnerships with (1) through (3) above.
(limit 2,000 characters)**

1-3) The CoC collaborates with youth education partners of all types and levels. a) Youth education providers like libraries and pre-K programs participate on monthly Homeless Response Teams in the CoC and often provide locations for Point in Time Count activities, client assessments and outreach visits, and resources to access Coordinated Entry. b) SEA collaboration occurs monthly through membership in the Heading Home Alliance (statewide multi-agency planning group) to develop State policy changes and support for LEAs outreach and initiatives with the CoC. CoC staff attend quarterly regional LEA meetings to share resources and coordinate cross-training activities. The CoC also includes an LEA on its governing board. c) School district staff like librarians, counselors, and alternative learning center teachers plan with the CoC as needed for the PIT Count, resource fairs, and Coordinated Entry referrals.

4) Based on the overall coordination activities described above, the CoC develops formal partnerships with youth education providers, LEAs/SEAs, and school districts through its member agencies. Because the CoC region includes 20 counties and over 70 school districts, agreements with the CoC as a whole are less effective than specific agreements between providers and schools/education providers. Formal agreements are in place for homeless programs to provide space onsite for school staff, to participate with school staff on outreach in school and in community, to coordinate services for children and their families before and after entering housing, or to provide transportation for after-school activities. The CoC supports use of these formal agreements across the CoC region by sharing best practices and sample language, and by requiring agreements with education partners to be in place for CoC-funded projects.

**3B-2.7a. Applicants must describe the policies and procedures the CoC adopted to inform individuals and families who become homeless of their eligibility for education services.
(limit 2,000 characters)**

The CoC adopted an Education for Children & Youth Policy in September 2017. The policy of CoC is to ensure that households with children, including unaccompanied youth, are identified, informed of available educational rights and resources, and supported to access educational services available to them. As such, programs that serve households with children, including unaccompanied youth, in the CoC region, must ensure and document that they: 1) Collaborate with local education agencies to assist in the identification of homeless families as well as informing these homeless families and youth of their eligibility for McKinney-Vento education services. 2) Consider the educational needs of children when families are placed in emergency or transitional shelter and, to the maximum extent practicable, place families with children as close to possible to their school of origin so as not to disrupt the children’s education. 3) Establish policies and practices that are consistent with, and do not restrict the exercise of rights provided by the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act, and other laws relating to the provision of educational and related services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. 4) Designate a staff person to ensure that children are enrolled in school and connected to the appropriate services within the community, including early

childhood programs such as Head Start, Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and McKinney- Vento education services. 5) Measure and document outcomes in education access and participation for children, youth and families in the housing program. Collaboration with local education agencies must be documented in Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) or Community Partner Agreements. The CoC, HUD, SEA, or LEAs may monitor projects for compliance with this requirement. Projects seeking CoC funding are required to provide documentation for review before project rating and ranking.

3B-2.8. Does the CoC have written formal agreements, MOU/MOAs or partnerships with one or more providers of early childhood services and supports? Select “Yes” or “No”. Applicants must select “Yes” or “No”, from the list below, if the CoC has written formal agreements, MOU/MOA’s or partnerships with providers of early childhood services and support.

	MOU/MOA	Other Formal Agreement
Early Childhood Providers	Yes	No
Head Start	Yes	No
Early Head Start	No	No
Child Care and Development Fund	No	No
Federal Home Visiting Program	No	No
Healthy Start	No	No
Public Pre-K	No	No
Birth to 3 years	No	No
Tribal Home Visting Program	No	No
Other: (limit 50 characters)		

3B-3.1. Veterans Experiencing Homelessness. Applicants must describe the actions the CoC has taken to identify, assess, and refer Veterans experiencing homelessness, who are eligible for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) housing and services, to appropriate resources such as HUD-VASH, Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) program and Grant and Per Diem (GPD). (limit 2,000 characters)

- 1) Homeless veterans are identified via StandDown events (resources fairs), veteran-specific outreach at known locations such as campgrounds, or through Coordinated Entry access and assessment sites.
- 2) All persons experiencing homelessness are assessed using the VI-SPDAT, which requests veteran status. Once identified as a veteran, they may choose to be added to the Homeless Veteran Registry or the Coordinated Entry priority list or both. Veterans join the Registry through a homeless service provider or by calling a toll-free hotline (888-LinkVet). The Registry is designed to create housing plans for every veteran by engaging CoC-funded programs, VA, the MN Dept. of Veterans Affairs, county and local governments, Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, and others.
- 3) Veterans not already connected with resources they may be eligible to

receive -- e.g. HUD-VASH, SSVF, state/federal veteran benefits, or homeless-specific programs or services through Coordinated Entry -- are connected with those programs and services. Connects may be made by referral or through the direct assistance of a Veterans Outreach staff or a Coordinated Entry Navigator for individuals and families with higher needs/vulnerability and those least likely to access housing without assistance.

3B-3.2. Does the CoC use an active list or by name list to identify all Veterans experiencing homelessness in the CoC? Yes

3B-3.3. Is the CoC actively working with the VA and VA-funded programs to achieve the benchmarks and criteria for ending Veteran homelessness? Yes

3B-3.4. Does the CoC have sufficient resources to ensure each Veteran experiencing homelessness is assisted to quickly move into permanent housing using a Housing First approach? Yes

3B-5. Racial Disparity. Applicants must: Yes
(1) indicate whether the CoC assessed whether there are racial disparities in the provision or outcome of homeless assistance;
(2) if the CoC conducted an assessment, attach a copy of the summary.

3B-5a. Applicants must select from the options below the results of the CoC's assessment.

People of different races or ethnicities are more or less likely to receive homeless assistance.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
People of different races or ethnicities are more or less likely to receive a positive outcome from homeless assistance.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
There are no racial disparities in the provision or outcome of homeless assistance.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The results are inconclusive for racial disparities in the provision or outcome of homeless assistance.	<input type="checkbox"/>

3B-5b. Applicants must select from the options below the strategies the CoC is using to address any racial disparities.

The CoC's board and decisionmaking bodies are representative of the population served in the CoC.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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The CoC has identified steps it will take to help the CoC board and decisionmaking bodies better reflect the population served in the CoC.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The CoC is expanding outreach in geographic areas with higher concentrations of underrepresented groups.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The CoC has communication, such as flyers, websites, or other materials, inclusive of underrepresented groups	<input type="checkbox"/>
The CoC is training staff working in the homeless services sector to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The CoC is establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of different races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The CoC has staff, committees or other resources charged with analyzing and addressing racial disparities related to homelessness.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The CoC is educating organizations, stakeholders, boards of directors for local and national non-profit organizations working on homelessness on the topic of creating greater racial and ethnic diversity.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The CoC reviewed coordinated entry processes to understand their impact on people of different races and ethnicities experiencing homelessness.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The CoC is collecting data to better understand the pattern of program use for people of different races and ethnicities in its homeless services system.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The CoC is conducting additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

4A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Accessing Mainstream Benefits and Additional Policies

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

- 4A-1. Healthcare. Applicants must indicate, for each type of healthcare listed below, whether the CoC:**
- (1) assists persons experiencing homelessness with enrolling in health insurance; and**
 - (2) assists persons experiencing homelessness with effectively utilizing Medicaid and other benefits.**

Type of Health Care	Assist with Enrollment	Assist with Utilization of Benefits?
Public Health Care Benefits (State or Federal benefits, Medicaid, Indian Health Services)	Yes	Yes
Private Insurers:	Yes	Yes
Non-Profit, Philanthropic:	Yes	Yes
Other: (limit 50 characters)		

- 4A-1a. Mainstream Benefits. Applicants must:**
- (1) describe how the CoC works with mainstream programs that assist persons experiencing homelessness to apply for and receive mainstream benefits;**
 - (2) describe how the CoC systematically keeps program staff up-to-date regarding mainstream resources available for persons experiencing homelessness (e.g., Food Stamps, SSI, TANF, substance abuse programs); and**
 - (3) provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy for mainstream benefits. (limit 2,000 characters)**

1) The CoC has acted to maximize mainstream benefits by creating standard assessments at Coordinated Entry and during program participation for mainstream benefits including SNAP, SSI/SSDI, MFIP (TANF), Workforce Center programs, post-foster care supports for youth, community-based mental health services, and more. The CoC also has MNsure (health insurance exchange) navigators that provide access to health insurance, Housing Resource Coordinators at Counties to help persons with institutional stays access mainstream housing and services in community, and Coordinated Entry housing navigators that connect individual and families to mainstream benefits and document eligibility for designated homeless resources.

2) The CoC shares updates on mainstream benefits programs through its

biweekly email listserv and offers at least 2 trainings per year for program staff and for Coordinated Entry staff. Recent trainings include Workforce Center employment support services, Housing Supports (a state-funded income support for persons with disabilities, which prioritizes persons experiencing long-term homeless) and SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery).

3) The CoC Income & Employment workgroup is responsible for developing strategies to increase mainstream benefits outcomes. The CoC Executive Committee is responsible for formalizing strategies. The CoC Data & Technical Assistance Committee is responsible to review outcomes and facilitate training/TA for providers.

4A-2.Housing First: Applicants must report:

- (1) total number of new and renewal CoC Program Funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe-Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC is applying for in FY 2018 CoC Program Competition; and**
- (2) total number of new and renewal CoC Program Funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe-Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC is applying for in FY 2018 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach—meaning that the project quickly houses clients without preconditions or service participation requirements.**

Total number of new and renewal CoC Program Funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe-Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC is applying for in FY 2018 CoC Program Competition.	23
Total number of new and renewal CoC Program Funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe-Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC is applying for in FY 2018 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach—meaning that the project quickly houses clients without preconditions or service participation requirements.	23
Percentage of new and renewal PSH, RRH, Safe-Haven, SSO non-Coordinated Entry projects in the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition that will be designated as Housing First.	100%

4A-3. Street Outreach. Applicants must:

- (1) describe the CoC’s outreach;**
- (2) state whether the CoC's Street Outreach covers 100 percent of the CoC’s geographic area;**
- (3) describe how often the CoC conducts street outreach; and**
- (4) describe how the CoC tailored its street outreach to persons experiencing homelessness who are least likely to request assistance. (limit 2,000 characters)**

1-3) Street outreach occurs throughout the whole CoC region, with frequency and activity varying by community. In large cities, outreach occurs weekly at libraries, schools, parks and other known locations to identify, engage, and screen people for housing/services. In smaller communities and rural areas, outreach workers provide information annually to local service agencies and partners such as law enforcement and respond to specific outreach needs when requested. Specialized outreach also occurs for youth who are experiencing trafficking, making connection online or via posters and resources in key locations such as hotels, highway rest areas, and truck stops. Outreach workers and multiple access points in each county are trained in safety planning and to conduct assessments for Coordinated Entry and help individual and families complete the assessment when they are ready and at a location where they are most comfortable.

4)To reduce barriers to assistance, outreach workers come to people as much as possible, rather than scheduling office appointments that require travel. Outreach also occurs via phone and text when possible and when preferred by persons experiencing homelessness. Workers receive training in trauma-informed person-centered care, motivational interviewing, and unique strategies for youth, veterans, persons with serious mental illness, and other unsheltered homeless persons. When needed, workers can access translation services through Language Line and State Services for the Blind/Deaf to facilitate written and verbal communication.

4A-4. Affirmative Outreach. Applicants must describe:

(1) the specific strategy the CoC implemented that furthers fair housing as detailed in 24 CFR 578.93(c) used to market housing and supportive services to eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identify, sexual orientation, age, familial status or disability; and

(2) how the CoC communicated effectively with persons with disabilities and limited English proficiency fair housing strategy in (1) above. (limit 2,000 characters)

1) Based on its 2017 Non-Discrimination Policy, the CoC requires its member agencies, recipients of CoC, ESG, or HOPWA funds, and its Coordinated Entry System agents and partners to provide equal opportunity and equal consideration to all peoples without regard to race, religion, ancestry, national origin, color, creed, sex, age, physical disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or public assistance status. The policy applies to delivery of services, affirmative marketing and outreach, and obligation to inform. It also addresses reporting a complaint and retaliation.

The CoC strategy to affirmatively further fair housing is to ensure access to Coordinated Entry for all housing opportunities. There are 4-7 well-publicized access sites in all 20 counties with a variety of agencies/programs that offer language assistance and other accommodations. The CoC also reaches out to conduct program outreach visits to describe Coordinated Entry access for housing to agencies that serve households less likely to access housing. Agencies contacted in the past year include cultural groups, refugee/immigrant service agencies, senior programs, hospitals, corrections/parole programs, Head Start parent groups, and youth drop-in centers. In accordance with the policy, individual program sites are responsible for their resources and strategies to meet requirements for affirmative outreach and access.

2) The CoC requires Coordinated Entry access and assessment sites to provide information on alternative formats for information. Equal access posters and “I speak” language assistance cards are posted in access areas, with TTY available for most access sites. Brochures on CoC housing resources at the sites are developed at grade 5 reading level, with large print, Spanish, and Somali versions available at many sites. When needed, sites may access translation services through Language Line and State Services for the Blind/Deaf to facilitate written and verbal communication.

4A-5. RRH Beds as Reported in the HIC. Applicants must report the total number of rapid rehousing beds available to serve all household types as reported in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) for 2017 and 2018.

		2017	2018	Difference
FY2018 CoC Application	Page 41			09/06/2018

RRH beds available to serve all populations in the HIC	62	162	100
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4A-6. Rehabilitation or New Construction Costs. Are new proposed project applications requesting \$200,000 or more in funding for housing rehabilitation or new construction? No

4A-7. Homeless under Other Federal Statutes. Is the CoC requesting to designate one or more of its SSO or TH projects to serve families with children or youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes? No

4B. Attachments

Instructions:

Multiple files may be attached as a single .zip file. For instructions on how to use .zip files, a reference document is available on the e-snaps training site:
<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3118/creating-a-zip-file-and-capturing-a-screenshot-resource>

Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1C-5. PHA Administration Plan–Homeless Preference	No	PHA Administratio...	09/06/2018
1C-5. PHA Administration Plan–Move-on Multifamily Assisted Housing Owners' Preference	No	Move-on Multifami...	09/06/2018
1C-8. Centralized or Coordinated Assessment Tool	Yes	CE Assessment Tool	09/06/2018
1E-1. Objective Criteria–Rate, Rank, Review, and Selection Criteria (e.g., scoring tool, matrix)	Yes		
1E-3. Public Posting CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes		
1E-3. Public Posting–Local Competition Rate, Rank, Review, and Selection Criteria (e.g., RFP)	Yes		
1E-4. CoC's Reallocation Process	Yes		
1E-5. Notifications Outside e-snaps–Projects Accepted	Yes		
1E-5. Notifications Outside e-snaps–Projects Rejected or Reduced	Yes		
1E-5. Public Posting–Local Competition Deadline	Yes		
2A-1. CoC and HMIS Lead Governance (e.g., section of Governance Charter, MOU, MOA)	Yes		
2A-2. HMIS–Policies and Procedures Manual	Yes	HMIS Policy and P...	09/06/2018
3A-6. HDX–2018 Competition Report	Yes	FY2018 CoC Compet...	09/06/2018
3B-2. Order of Priority–Written Standards	No		

3B-5. Racial Disparities Summary	No	Racial Disparity ...	09/06/2018
4A-7.a. Project List–Persons Defined as Homeless under Other Federal Statutes (if applicable)	No		
Other	No		
Other	No		
Other	No		