FY2019 HUD CONTINUUM OF CARE

Program Office: Community Planning and Development Funding Opportunity Title:

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Continuum of Care

Program Competition

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: FR-6300-N-25

Primary CFDA Number: 14.267 Due Date for Applications: 09/30/2019, 8 PM Eastern Time

Program Description. The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program (<u>24 CFR part 578</u>) is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, states, and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

Authority. The CoC Program is authorized by subtitle C of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, (42 U.S.C. 11381–11389) (the Act), and the CoC Program rule found in 24 CFR part 578 (the Rule). The FY 2019 funds were authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2019, (Public Law 116-6, approved February 15, 2019), (FY 2019 HUD Appropriations Act).

The entire 2019 NOFA can be found at <u>HUD Exchange</u> and on the <u>CHI website</u>. If you have a specific question, please review the <u>FAQs on the HUD Exchange</u> and if you don't find the answer you're seeking, you can go to <u>HUD Ask A Question (AAQ)</u>.

Please note the contents of this overview represents CHI's interpretation of the HUD NOFA and other supporting materials. The FY2019 HUD CoC NOFA and the CoC Program rule 24 CFR part 578 supersedes our analysis.

AVAILABLE FUNDS

- **Approximately \$2.3 billion is available** in this FY 2019 CoC Program Competition NOFA, including up to \$50 million available for Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus projects
- HUD requires that all project applications submitted to the CoC for inclusion on the
 FY 2019 CoC Priority Listing as part of the CoC Consolidated Application must be
 reviewed and either accepted and ranked or rejected by the CoC. All project
 applications approved by the CoC must be listed on the CoC Priority Listing in rank
 order.
- FL-510
 - o Preliminary Pro Rata Need \$5,174,318

- o Est. Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) \$4,508,181
- o Est. ARD \$4,267,453 (total amount of all eligible renewal projects)
- o CoC Planning \$155,230
- o Bonus \$258,716 (5% of Final Pro Rata Need)
- o DV Bonus \$517,432 (10% of Preliminary Pro Rata Need)

TIMELINE

- Bidder's Conferences
 - o Monday, July 29th, 1:30 to 3 pm
 - o Tuesday, July 30th, 5:30 to 7 pm
- Applicants submit e-snaps applications
 - o Tuesday, August 13th, end of day
- CHI shares error notifications with applicants
 - o Friday, August 16th
- Applicants required to correct and resubmit applications
 - o Wednesday, August 21st, end of day
- CHI shares applications with Ranking and Scoring Committee
 - o Monday, August 26^h
- Ranking and Scoring Committee meets to finalize scores and rank projects
 - o Wednesday, September 4th
- CoC will notify all applicants of accepted and ranked or reject applications
 - o Monday, September 9th
- CoC will submit final application and publish on website
 - o Thursday, September 26th, end of day

HUD'S HOMELESS POLICY AND PROGRAM PRIORITIES

1. Ending homelessness for all persons

- a. Identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness.
- b. Measure performance based on data taking into account the challenges faced by all subpopulations experiencing homelessness in the geographic area
- c. Comprehensive outreach strategy in place to identify and engage
- d. Use data to understand the population and develop services tailored to their needs.
- e. Use the reallocation process to create new projects that improve the overall performance and better respond to the needs of person who are homeless

2. Creating a systemic response to homelessness

- a. Use system performance measures (SPMs) to determine how effectively they are serving people experiencing homelessness
 - i. Avg. length of homelessness
 - ii. Rates of return to homelessness
 - iii. Rates of exit to permanent housing

b. Use Coordinated Entry to promote participant choice, coordinate services, ensure rapid access, and make homelessness assistance open, inclusive, and transparent.

3. Strategically allocating and using resources

- a. Use cost, performance, and outcome data to improve resources allocation to end homelessness
- b. Review project quality, performance, and cost effectiveness
- c. Maximize the use of mainstream and other community-based resources.
- d. Review all projects eligible for renewal in FY 2019 to determine their effectiveness in serving people experiencing homelessness as well as their cost effectiveness
- e. Work to develop partnerships with PHA's to work toward helping CoC Program participant's exit permanent supportive housing through Housing Choice Vouchers and other available housing options

4. Using an Evidence-Based approach

- a. Prioritize projects that employ strong use of data and evidence, including costeffectiveness and impact of homelessness programs
 - i. Examples of evaluation measures that may be used:
 - 1. Rates of positive housing outcomes
 - a. Length of time homeless
 - b. Reduced rates of return to homelessness
 - 2. Improvements in employment
 - 3. Improvements in well-being
 - a. Mental health
 - b. Physical health
 - c. Family connections
 - d. Safety

5. Increasing employment

- **a.** Work with local employment agencies and employers to prioritize training and employment opportunities
- **b.** Promote partnerships with public and private organizations that promote employment

6. Providing flexibility for Housing First with service participation

- a. Rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing
- b. Does NOT have service participation requirements or preconditions
- **c.** Once stably housed allow for service participation requirements which may promote positive outcomes (employment, increased income, reduced substance abuse, and strengthened connection)

RANKING AND SCORING

HUD requires CoCs to review and rank projects submitted by project applicants, except CoC

Planning, having them fall into two Tiers based on financial threshold. All projects must pass HUD's eligibility and threshold requirements to be funded, regardless of priority.

TIER 1

- Equal to 100% of the combined Annual Renewal Amounts (ARD) for all projects eligible for first time renewal and 94% of combined ARD for all other projects eligible for renewal
- Tier 1 projects will be conditionally selected from the highest-scoring to the lowest-scoring CoCs provided projects pass eligibility and threshold requirements
- If there is insufficient funding, Tier 1 will be reduced proportionately

TIER 2

- Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the ARD plus any amount available for bonus projects not including DV Bonus
- Projects in Tier 2 are less likely to be funded
- Each Tier 2 project will be scored using 100-point scale based on three factors (same as last year)
 - o CoC Score up to 50 (of 100) points awarded in direct proportion
 - o CoC Project Ranking up to 40 points (of 100) based on project ranking
 - Low barriers to entry (Housing First) 10 points (of 100)

Review of CoC Rankings. CoCs will be required to rank all new reallocated, bonus, DV Bonus, and renewal project applications submitted by project applicants in e-snaps, except CoC planning and UFA Costs projects. Additionally, if a CoC's Renewal Project Listing includes a consolidated project application(s) HUD will follow the ranking process outlined in Section II.B.10. a and b of the NOFA. HUD will not review any project that is rejected by the CoC.

HUD Funding Process. HUD will continue the Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding process and HUD will establish each CoC's Tier 1 and Tier 2 amounts based on the total amount of funds requested by eligible renewal project applications on the Renewal Project Listing combined with the eligible renewal project amount(s) that were reallocated as listed on the reallocation forms in the CoC Priority Listing.

APPLICANTS

Eligible project applicants are nonprofit organizations, States, local governments, and instrumentalities of State and local governments, and public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100. For-profit entities are not eligible to apply for grants or to be sub-recipients of grant funds. Furthermore, to be eligible for funding applicants must meet all HUD statutory, regulatory and threshold requirements.

Applications are submitted via e-snaps and all applicants must use this platform.

- DUNS/SAM Registrations
 - All project applicants must have a DUNS number and an active SAM registration (Sam.gov). This year there is an additional step and applicants should begin their registration process immediately
 - If you are a NEW project and have not signed up for e-snaps, you must let CHI know when you've completed your registration so that we can add you and your project
- Codes of Conduct
 - o All applicants must have a current HUD-approved Code of Conduct.
 - CHI verified that all current Renewal projects have an updated Code of Conduct as required
 - If you are a new project applicant you will need to include your Code of Conduct in e-snaps
- Income as Match
 - Applicants that intent to use program income as match must provide an estimate of how much
- 2019 FMRs
 - Since the CoC Application is due prior to finalization of the FY 2019 FMRs, FY 2019 FMRs will be used
- Housing First
 - If an applicant indicates that it uses a Housing First approach, then if awarded the project must operate as Housing First
- Environmental Requirements
 - Scattered site projects (categorized in 24 CFR 58.35(b)(1)) both tenant-based rental assistance and tenant-based leasing projects where program participants choose their own unit. Previous guidance was only for tenant-based rental assistance. The Exempt/CENST is only required for each project, not every unit.
- Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD's Grant Programs
 - Evidence of the following issues may prevent an award from being granted for otherwise successful applicants – see <u>HUDs Funding Opportunities Page</u> for detailed information on the following:

- Resolution of Civil Matters
- Outstanding Delinquent Federal Debts
- Debarments and/or Suspensions
- Pre-selection Review of Performance Sufficiency of Financial Management System
- False Statements
- Mandatory Disclosure Requirement
- Conducting Business in Accordance with Ethical Standards/Code of Conduct
- Prohibition Against Lobbying Activities
- Equal Protection for Faith-based and Community Organizations
- Project Applicant Resources
 - o DUNS Number and SAM Resource
 - o Project Applicant Profile Navigational Guide
 - o Editing the Applicant Profile
 - o Project Applicant Authorized Representative Update
 - o How to Complete the HUD Form 2880 in e-snaps

NEW PROJECTS – MUST SUBMIT LETTER OF INTENT

- o Eligible New Projects
 - e-snaps Navigational Guide
 - Project Application Detailed Instructions
- o New Projects Created through Reallocation or Bonus
 - PH-PSH supportive housing projects
 - PH-RRH projects
 - Joint TH & PH-RRH component projects
 - HMIS for the costs of 24 CFR 578.37 carried out by HMIS Lead
 - Supportive services projects (SSO Coordinated Entry)
- New Projects for DV Bonus
 - PH-RRH projects dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless at 24 CFR 578.3
 - Joint TH & PH-RRH component projects as defined in Section III.C.3.m of this NOFA dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless at 24 CFR 578.3
 - Supportive service only-coordinated entry project to implement policies, procedures, and practices that equip the CoC's coordinated entry to better meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking

RENEWAL PROJECTS

- o **Eligible for renewal for FY 2019** if currently in operation and have an executed grant agreement dated no later than Dec. 31, 2019 (and expires in Calendar Year 2020 (Jan. 1, to Dec. 31, 2020)
 - Renewal Project Application
 - e-snaps Navigational Guide
 - Renewal Project Application Detailed Instructions

Other important info

- Dedicated PLUS Projects
 - PSH 100% chronic may continue as such or become a Dedicated PLUS
 - If program becomes Dedicated PLUS must adhere to fair housing requirements
 - Projects that were awarded as Dedicated PLUS in a previous CoC Program Competition are required to include households with children in 2019

Renewal Grants (Per UNIT Cost)

- Applicants are permitted to request a per-unit cost less than the FMR – if the actual rent per unit under lease is less than the FMR.
 This is to reduce the number of projects that request rental assistance having large unspent balances at the end of the year.
- If less than FMR, applicants must provide copies of the leases to establish actual rents

Rapid Rehousing Eligibility

 Certain renewal Rapid Rehousing projects may be allowed to serve participants beyond those proposed in the initial funding application

Consolidations

- HUD encourages the consolidation of eligible renewal grants
- New for the FY 2019 CoC Program Competition, grant recipients have the option to consolidate up to four of their eligible renewal projects into one grant
- If your agency is interested in consolidating projects, you need to contact the HUD Field Office to confirm eligibility
- Read Consolidating Eligible Renewals instructions
- Expansion Projects The process by which a renewal project submits a new project application to expand its current program by adding units, beds, persons served, services provided to existing program participants. Applicant required to submit three (3) applications
 - Renewal project application that will be expanded

- New project application with just expansion info
- Renewal project that incorporates the renewal and new and combined budget
 - DV bonus funs can only be used to expand an existing renewal if the expansion project is dedicated to survivors of DV, dating violence, or stalking

Solo Applicants. Per 24 CFR 578.35, project applicants that believe they were denied the opportunity to participate in the local CoC planning process in a reasonable manner and were rejected or reallocated by the CoC may appeal the rejection directly to HUD by submitting a Solo Applicant project application in e-snaps prior to the application deadline of September 30, 2019 by 8:00 PM Eastern time. Any project applicant that intends to submit as a Solo Applicant must adhere to the Solo Applicant submission information outlined in Section X.C of the NOFA to be considered. HUD will not consider any Solo Applicant that does not meet all requirements outlined in Section X.C of the NOFA.

HOW HUD EVALUATES APPLICATIONS

HUD will consider an applicant's past performance in managing funds. Items HUD may consider, but are not limited to:

- 1. Ability to account for funds
- 2. Timely use of funds
- 3. Timely submission and quality of reports
- 4. Meeting program requirements
- 5. Meeting performance targets established in grant agreement
- 6. Applicant's organizational capacity, including staffing structures and capabilities
- Timelines for completion of activities and receipt of promised matching or leveraged funds
- 8. The number of persons to be served or targeted for assistance

COC CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION

1. Collaborative Applicant

- a. CoC plan with all charts and narratives completed as applicable
- b. All required attachments
 - i. CoC Review, Scoring and Ranking Procedures
 - ii. HMIS Policy, Procedures and Agreements
 - iii. Governance Charter
 - iv. PHA Admin Plan
 - v. FY 2019 CoC Competition HDX Report

2. Project Applications

- a. Project application, charts, narratives and attachments
- b. SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance
- c. SF-424 Supplement, Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunities
- d. Documentation of Applicant and Subrecipient Eligibility
- e. Applicant Certifications
- f. Form HUD-2880, Applicant and Subrecipient Eligibility
- g. SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying
- h. Form HUD-50070, Cert for Drug-Free Workplace
- i. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
- j. Applicant Code of Conduct

3. Priority Listing

- a. Project reallocation forms
- b. New Project Listing
- c. Renewal Project Listing
- d. UFA Costs Project Listing (NA)
- e. Planning Project Listing
- f. Form HUD-2991, Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan