

RURAL NEVADA CONTINUUM OF CARE AND RAAH (CITY OF RENO, CITY OF SPARKS AND WASHOE COUNTY)

FY2016 CONTINUUM OF CARE - RATING AND RANKING PROCESS

The HUD released the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the 2016 Continuum of Care Program (CoC) Competition on June 28, 2016. The purpose of the funding is 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 re-house homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

HUD expects that the available amount of funding may not be sufficient to fund anticipated eligible renewal projects. In FY 2016, HUD will continue to require Collaborative Applicants to rank all projects, except CoC planning and UFA Costs, in two tiers. Tier 1 is equal to 93 percent of the CoC’s FY 2015 Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) approved by HUD on the final HUD-approved Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW). Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC’s ARD plus any amount available for the permanent housing bonus Projects will need to be rated and ranked within two tiers.

Tier 1 projects are guaranteed funding. Tier 1 is equal to 93% of the CoC’s final pro rata need amount (FPRN). Tier 2 is equal to the difference between the ARD and the total in Tier 1 plus 5% of FPRN for a bonus project. CoC’s are also eligible to apply for a planning grant which is not ranked in either Tier 1 or 2.

Northern Nevada CoC	Rural Nevada CoC
Annual Renewal Demand Amount \$1,575,172	Annual Renewal Demand Amount \$590,149
Tier 1 = \$1,464,910	Tier 1 = \$548,838
Tier 2 = \$110,262	Tier 2 = \$41,310
\$85,520.40	\$ 30,579

The FY 2016 Appropriations Act establishes certain requirements for the Competition:

- A. CoCs cannot receive grants for new projects, other than through reallocation, unless the CoC competitively ranks projects based on how they improve system performance;
- B. HUD must base an increasing share of the CoC score on performance criteria; and,
- C. HUD must prioritize funding for CoCs that have demonstrated the ability to reallocate resources to higher performing projects.

CoCs may create new projects by using amounts available through the permanent housing bonus or by making funds available through reallocation. The following types of projects may only be created using funds that the CoC has made available through reallocation. Through the reallocation process CoCs may create the following types of new projects.

- CoCs may create new permanent supportive housing projects where all beds will be dedicated for use by chronically homeless individuals and families, as defined in 24 CFR 578.3.
- CoCs may create new rapid rehousing projects that will serve homeless individuals and families coming directly from the streets or emergency shelters, and include persons fleeing domestic violence situations and other persons meeting the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homelessness.
- CoCs may create a new Supportive Services Only project specifically for a centralized or coordinated assessment system.
- CoCs may create a new dedicated Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) project for the costs at 24 CFR 578.37(a)(2) that can only be carried out by the HMIS Lead, which is the recipient or subrecipient of an HMIS grant, and that is listed on the HMIS Lead form in the CoC Applicant Profile in e-snaps.

CoCs may create new projects through the permanent housing bonus up to 5 percent of the CoC's FPRN for the following types of new projects:

- A. CoCs may create new permanent supportive housing projects that will serve 100 percent chronically homeless individuals and families, and
- B. CoCs may create new rapid rehousing projects that will serve homeless individuals and families coming directly from the streets or emergency shelters, and include persons fleeing domestic violence situations and other persons meeting the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homelessness.

Because new permanent housing projects—permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing—may be created through either reallocation or the permanent housing bonus, HUD may reclassify new permanent housing projects that a CoC has classified as reallocation or permanent housing bonus if the project would be ineligible for funding because the CoC exceeded either its reallocation or permanent housing bonus amount. New permanent housing projects will be evaluated using the same criteria regardless of whether the CoC has identified them as bonus or reallocation projects.

On July 14, 2016, Social Entrepreneurs, Inc., the CoC Coordinator, posted the NOFA on its website and hosted a mandatory meeting for potential new and renewal applications. The CoC has requested new applications that meet the criteria for a bonus project or that would provide rapid rehousing or permanent supportive housing using reallocated funds.

LOCAL COMPETITION DEADLINES

1. **Project Applications.** All project applications are required to be submitted to the CoC no later than 30 days before the application deadline of September 14, 2016.
2. **CoC Notification to Project Applicants.** The CoC will notify all project applicants no later than 15 days before the 2016 application deadline regarding whether their project applications would be included as part of the CoC Consolidated Application submission.

REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT

HUD expects each CoC to implement a thorough review and oversight process at the local level for both new and renewal project applications submitted to HUD in the FY 2016 CoC Program Competition. To meet this expectation, the CoCs closely reviewed information provided in each project application in order to ensure that:

1. All proposed program participants will be eligible for the program component type selected;
2. The proposed activities are eligible under the 24 CFR part 578;
3. Each project narrative is fully responsive to the question being asked and that it meets all of the criteria for that question as required by this NOFA and included in the detailed instructions provided in e-snaps;
4. The data provided in various parts of the project application are consistent; and
5. All required attachments correspond to the attachments list in e-snaps and the attachments contain accurate and complete information, and are dated between May 1, 2016 and September 14, 2016.

All renewal and new projects are required to submit a supplemental application along with their project application. The CoC supplemental application components and narratives serves to: (1) confirm the capacity of agencies to provide CoC funded programs; (2) provide information on program delivery in order to evaluate performance and meeting HUD priorities for scoring and ranking of projects by the Rating and Ranking Committee (RRC); and, (3) provide project level narrative to be utilized in the CoC Program application (former 'Exhibit 1').

Projects must meet minimum project eligibility, capacity, timeliness, and performance standards. The CoC will review information in the Line of Credit Control System (LOCCS); Annual Performance Reports (APRs); and information derived from desktop and on-site monitoring, including monitoring reports and A-133 audit reports as applicable, as well as performance standards on prior grants, and assess a project on the following criteria using a pass/fail basis:

- Applicant's performance against plans and goals;
- Timeliness standards;
- Applicant's performance in assisting program participants to achieve and maintain independent living and record of success;
- Financial management accounting practices;
- Timely expenditures;
- Capacity;
- Leveraging and match;
- Outreach strategies; and
- Eligible activities

Elements of the rating and ranking process will include:

- All renewal and new applications will be reviewed and ranked by an unbiased review panel composed of representatives from neutral (non-applicant) organizations. The CoC's homeless assistance programs are being measured in FY 2016 by the objective to "end chronic homelessness and to move the homeless to permanent housing." HUD has chosen six indicators which directly relate to the CoC Program. These six indicators, as described below, will be collected in the FY 2015 CoC Application. Each project applicant will also be asked to report on the following indicators:
 - The creation of new PSH beds for chronically homeless individuals and families;
 - The decrease in the number of chronically homeless individuals and families in the CoC's geography;
 - The increase of employment of the homeless residing in or exiting HUD homeless assistance projects;
 - The increase of the use of mainstream resources for the homeless residing or exiting from HUD homeless assistance projects;
 - The percentage of turnover in CoC Program-funded PSH not dedicated to chronically homeless that will be prioritized to serve chronically homeless individuals and families; and
 - The percentage of individuals and households with children that are served in rapid re-housing that came from unsheltered locations.
- The review panel members will review the Project Applications and Supplemental Application, monitoring results, data from the Project Application Annual Performance Reports and HMIS for renewal projects, as well as overall performance and adherence to HUD performance outcomes, goals and priorities to determine a ranked ordering.
- The rating and ranking will also take into consideration the CoCs Tiering strategy to determine what projects will be placed into Tier 2.
- The rankings will be presented to the Continuum of Care Leadership Council and RNCOC Steering Committee via webinar for approval and a formal vote on August 25, 2016.
- The ranking process used locally will align with HUD's process as described in the 2016 NOFA. Points will be assigned to projects in accordance to corresponding criteria assigned by HUD.

- New PSH or RRH projects created through reallocation will be ranked based on the performance of the renewal application which is being reallocated.
- Projects will be ranked in accordance with HUD’s priority order by project type (e.g. PH, TH, SSO, etc.) applying the methodology described above. Any remaining projects not fitting in the amount allocated under Tier 1 are placed in Tier 2. **The following is a matrix of ranking criteria and points.**

Northern and Rural Nevada Continuum of Care					
Performance Evaluation Form for HUD FY2016 CoC Competition Rating and Ranking					
Agency Name: _____			Program Name: _____		
Program Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent <input type="checkbox"/> Transitional		Total # of TH/PH Beds _____			
Monitor Score: _____		Monitored by: _____			
Monitor Results	Total Score from 2016 Monitor	Monitor	Points Available 140		
Goal	Performance Measure	Data	Points Available <i>(refer to instructions on page 2)</i>	Actual Points	Achieved Y N or N/A <i>(N/A will receive full score)</i>
Project serves “harder to serve” homeless populations	All Programs: Select all “Harder to Serve” homeless or at-risk of homeless populations served: <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Illness <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol Abuse <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Abuse <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Health Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> HIV <input type="checkbox"/> Developmental Disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Disabilities	Supplemental application	persons in program meet any <u>one</u> criteria = 5 persons in program meet any <u>two</u> Criteria = 10 persons in program meet		

	<input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied Youth under age 18 <input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied TAY age 18-24 years		any <u>three</u> criteria = 15		
Reduce length of homeless episodes and new and return entries into homelessness	Permanent Housing (PH) only: At least 80% of homeless PERSONS in PH stay over six months.	HMIS, APR	15		
	Transitional Housing (TH) only: At least 80% of homeless PERSONS in TH move to PH	HMIS, APR	15		
Application Quality	Application Narrative is fully responsive to questions	PDF	5		
	Data is consistent throughout the application	PDF	5		
	All required attachments are included	PDF	5		
Outcomes	# of households or individuals that exited housing and did not return to homelessness (if no exits, score 10 points)	HMIS APR	95% -100 % = 10 80% - 95% = 5 < 80% = 0		
Points may be deducted with a history of grant funds returned to HUD, or who are currently at risk of recapture of grant funds. Deducted (maximum of 10)			Points		
Total Points Awarded (195 Maximum points)					

BONUS					
Increase utilization of available beds	TH/PH only: Average utilization rate for transitional, permanent and emergency shelter beds is no less than 65%, and not more than 105%	HMIS	<p>90% - 100% = 5</p> <p>80% - 89% = 3</p> <p>65% - 80% = 1</p> <p><65% = 0</p> <p>>105% = 0</p>		
Integration with local Continuums of Care	CoC grantees attend at least 75% of Continuum of Care meetings held annually	CoC Report	5		
Collaboration efforts to obtain additional resources	CoC grantee meets match requirement of 25%	Supplemental	<p>25% and above = 5</p> <p>< 25% = 0</p>		
Coordination efforts	CoC grantees participate in at least 4 local Workforce Investment Boards or Community Coalition meetings; and CoC grantees participate in local coordinated assessment and referral systems, and utilize the VI-SPDAT	Supplemental	<p>3</p> <p>7</p>		
Reducing Barriers to Housing	PH only: CoC grantees have a commitment to implementing Housing First.	Monitor and application	5		

	<p>CoC project is low barrier (project allows entry to program participants who are low or no income, current or past substance use, criminal records, and history of domestic violence).</p> <p>CoC project provides client centered service delivery (housing and service options are tailored to meet the unique needs, program participants not required to participate in services that they do not believe will help them achieve their goals)</p>		5		
			5		
Reallocation	CoC grantee has identified funding available for reallocation	Supplemental	5		
Participation in Coordinated Entry	CoC grantee has received referrals from Coordinated Entry and evaluated those referred for admission	Supplemental	5		
BONUS POINTS (50 Maximum Points available)			245		
Total Maximum Points					
Program of Concern: Yes/No					
Recommendations for Improvement:					
Notes:					

The projects will be evaluated on a scale of a possible 245 points for renewal and 230 points for new projects as is as outlined on the project evaluation form. For each section of the application, the RRC members will be asked to assign a score that is based on information in the application, the quantitative review, and the site visit (if applicable) for each project.

Total scores for each project will be determined by adding up points in each section and then adding any bonus points if applicable. HMIS, new bonus projects and renewal projects will be scored using its applicable score sheet. The scores from each Rating and Ranking committee member will be computed and averaged for each project. A project rating list will then be generated from highest to lowest average score. Projects scores and CoC priorities will be considered and projects that meet HUD and CoC priorities and that scored well will be ranked and placed into Tier 1 until all Tier 1 funds are allocated. The remaining projects selected for funding will be ranked and placed into Tier 2 until all Tier 2 funds are allocated. Projects that scored well but fell outside the pro rata share are encouraged to re-submit in a future competition.

TIERING AND RANKING:

The CoC must assign a unique rank to each project that it intends to submit to HUD for FY 2016 funding. HUD strongly advises CoCs to rank higher those project applications that the CoC determines are high priority, high performing, and meet the needs and gaps as identified in the CoC.

TIERS:

To ensure that CoCs have the opportunity to prioritize their projects locally in the event that HUD is not able to fund all renewals, HUD requires that CoCs rank projects in 2 tiers. The tiers are financial thresholds. This year Tier 1 is equal to 93% of the CoC's FY2015 Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) approved by HUD on the final HUD-approved Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW). Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC's ARD plus any amount available for the permanent housing bonus as described in the NOFA.

The CoC's homeless assistance programs are being measured in FY 2016 by the objective to "end chronic homelessness and to move the homeless to permanent housing," measures based on system performance, and the ability of CoCs that have the capacity to reallocate funding from lower performing projects to higher performing projects.

HUD PRIORITY ORDER:

Consistent with the FY 2016 HUD CoC Program Competition NOFA, projects will be ranked according to HUD's priority order listed below. Within the rank order established by the CoC on the Priority Listings, HUD will first select projects from Tier 1 in the following order by CoCscore:

- **CoC Project Ranking.** Up to 35 points for the CoC's ranking of the project application(s). In order to more evenly distribute funding across CoCs and take into account the CoCs ranking of projects, point values will be assigned directly related to the CoCs ranking of projects. The calculation of point values will be 35 times the quantity $(1-x)$ where x is the ratio of the cumulative funding requests for all projects or portions of projects ranked higher by the CoC in Tier 2 plus one half of the funding of the project of interest to the total amount of funding available in Tier 2. For example, if a CoC is

eligible to apply for projects totaling \$500,000 in Tier 2 and applies for 5 projects ranked in Tier 2 of \$100,000 each: the highest ranked project would receive 31.5 points and then the subsequently ranked projects would receive 24.5, 17.5, 10.5, and 3.5 points.

- **Project Type.** Up to 5 points will be based on the type of project application submitted and the population that will be served with the following points available for the following project types:
 - 5 points for renewal and new permanent housing-permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing, renewal safe haven, HMIS, SSO for centralized or coordinated assessment system, or transitional housing that exclusively serves homeless youth projects;
 - 3 points for renewal transitional housing, except those transitional housing projects that exclusively serve homeless youth which will be scored as discussed in paragraph (1); and
 - 1 point for renewal SSO project applications other than those for a centralized or coordinated assessment system.

RATING AND RANKING MEMBERS:

The Rating and Ranking Committee (RRC) is comprised of RAAH and RNCOC members who are knowledgeable about homelessness and housing in our CoC and who are broadly representative of the relevant sectors, subpopulations, and geographic areas. The RRC is comprised of representatives from a cross-section of groups in RAAH and RNCOC including; faith based providers, private sector, non-profit providers of homeless services and housing; and jurisdiction staff. The RRC is also comprised of members that have no financial or interest in a CoC funded program.

The RRC will establish a Chair who will lead the Rating and Ranking process. The Rating and Ranking process will take place on August 19, 2016. RRC members will be oriented to the NOFA, the CoC competition, the Rating and Ranking tools and the CoC's priorities. They will rate each application independently. Rating scores will be averaged to achieve a preliminary Rank. The RRC will then discuss and finalize the Ranking to best meet the priorities of the CoC. The final ranking will include a motion, a second and a majority of the RRC voting in favor of the final ranking for it to pass as a recommendation to the Steering Committee.

APPEALS PROCESS:

Project applicants whose project was rejected may appeal the local CoC competition decision to HUD if the project applicant believes it was denied the opportunity to participate in the local CoC planning process in a reasonable manner by submitting a Solo Application in e-snaps directly to HUD prior to the application deadline of 7:59:59 p.m. eastern time on September 14, 2016. The CoC's notification of rejection of the project in the local competition must be attached to the Solo Application. If the CoC fails to provide written notification outside of e-snaps, the Solo Applicant must attach evidence that it attempted to participate in the local CoC planning process and submitted a project application that met the local deadlines, along with a statement that the CoC did not provide the Solo Applicant written notification of the CoC rejecting the project in the local CoC competition.