**FY2022 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition NOFO Overview (7/30/2022)**

Funding Opportunity Number: FR-6600-N-25 - CFDA Number: 14.267

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| IMPORTANT APPLICATION DATES & DEADLINES (*tentative*) for Hennepin County CoCHennepin County CoC website: https://www.hennepin.us/headinghomehennepin * May 24-June 6th – CoC project score card share, review, & confirm score
* June 6, 2022 – Letter of Intent to Apply due for FY2022 NOFO due date
* July 7th – New project pre-applications/DV Bonus due date
* July 8th – Final approval & comments on score card in preparation for ranking
* **August 9th**  – **FY2022 NOFO Overview meeting 3:00-4** Teams ([Click here to join the meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_MDUyOTI2YzAtMDgzZi00NDVjLWJmMTAtNDdlYTc4ZDYwOWU5%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%228aefdf9f-8780-46bf-8fb7-4c924653a8be%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22e9768c89-86ff-4c2a-beb0-cc19f7d8b3cc%22%7d))
* **August 15th –** Project Applications (new/renewal) notified of inclusion/rejection in Hennepin NOFO competition – preliminary Priority List released (ranked projects) – START COMPLETING THE PROJECT APPLICATION IN E-SNAPS (New and Renewals)
* August 19thAny ranking appeals to CoC Coordinator (see 2022 Ranking Policies/Procedures posted on CoC website for instructions p.8)
* **August 26th – Send draft Project Applications to CoC Coordinator for review prior to submission (do not submit in e-snaps yet) will send feedback if applicable**
* August 29th – Final FY2022 Priority List posted
* **August 31st** - DUE All **Project Applications** (**New and Renewal**) **SUBMIT IN E-SNAPS**
* Sept 26th –FY2022 Priority List and Collaborative Applicationposted
* **September 30th Collaborative Application & Priority List deadline to HUD**

Project Applicants requiring assistance with any aspect of the project application can contact CoC coordinator to set up 1:1 time to meet - laura.derosier@hennepin.us  |
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HUD CoC Consolidated Application Deadline: September 30, 2022. **Note:** *Project Applications must be submitted by the above deadlines NOT the Consolidated Application deadline.*

HUD announces approximately $2.7 billion available for the FY22 CoC Program NOFO, including up to $52 million available for New Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus projects.

**Hennepin County FY2022 available funds:**

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|  | Primary Pro-Rata Need (PPRN) |
| $14,511,545 | Estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) |
|  | Tier 1 (95% of ARD) |
|  | Tier 2 (5% of ARD) |
|  | CoC Bonus opportunity (5%) |
|  | DV Permanent Housing Bonus opportunity (10% PPRN) |
|  | Planning Grant  |

**Changes for the FY2022 CoC NOFO:**

The list below highlights some important information regarding new concepts CoCs should consider while planning for the FY2022 CoC Program Competition.

1. **Through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021(Public Law 116-260, approved 12/27/2020, amended Title IV section 435 of the act to allow Indian Tribes and Tribal Designated Housing Entities (TDHE’s) to** be Collaborative Applicants, eligible entities, or sub-recipients of the CoC program in addition to amending title IV section 401 to add the terms “formula area” and “Indian Tribe”. These amendments mean not only can Indian Tribes & TDHE’s apply for grants through other CoC’s, but formula areas in the Indian Housing Block Grant program, are eligible to be added to the geographic areas of existing CoC’s or included in newly formed CoC’s. For the 2021 competition, Tribes & THDE’s will be eligible to apply through existing CoC’s only. Beginning in the FY2022 competition, HUD will publish PPRN’s for all formula areas and make formula areas available to be claimed by CoC’s during the FY2022 registration process.
2. **Transition Grants**: HUD first introduced transition grants in FY2018. This process provides an opportunity for renewal projects to transition from one CoC Program component to another during the CoC Program Competition his year. New this year, CoCs will not be limited to only 50 percent of awarded funds to be used for the costs of eligible activities of the program component originally funded. Instead, recipients may use as much of the awarded grant funds on the costs of eligible activities of the program component originally funded; however, by the end of the operating year, the recipient must be fully operating the new program component. Recipients will be eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for eligible activities of the new program component.
3. **CoC Evaluation**: HUD revised its rating factors regarding CoC evaluation of racial disparities to place greater emphasis on racial equity and increased the number of points on whether CoCs and homeless providers have identified barriers that lead to racial disparities, have taken steps to eliminate barriers to improve racial equity, and have implemented measures to evaluate the efficacy of the steps taken.
4. **CoC rating factors**: HUD revised of the rating factors for addressing the needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) individuals to place greater emphasis on CoCs implementing and training their providers on the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policies that ensure LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive supportive services, shelter, and housing free from discrimination.
5. **COVID-19**: Throughout the past two years, as CoCs responded to the challenges of COVID-19, partnerships were developed between CoCs, homeless service providers, and state and local public health agencies. In the FY 2022 CoC Program Competition, HUD is asking CoCs to demonstrate how they will build on these partnerships to ensure they are prepared to prevent and respond to future infectious disease outbreaks amongst people experiencing homelessness.
6. **Tier 2 scores:** Ambiguous language in the Tier 2 Scoring process described in II.B.11.b.(2) was corrected. The language now states that the calculation for the CoC Project Ranking factor will be 40 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, which matches the examples.
7. **DV Bonus:** As described in Section II.B.11.e of this NOFO, for new projects DV Bonus, HUD revised the point value distribution based on the CoC Application score and responses to the revised domestic violence bonus specific questions in the project applications. For the FY 2022 CoC Program Competition, HUD added scoring factors based on the responses to questions that demonstrate CoCs’ collaboration with victim service providers in the CoC Application, projects’ plans to include survivors with lived experience in policy and program development and the inclusion of victim-centered practices in operating their projects.

**HUD Policy Priorities & Program Highlights**

1. ***Ending Homelessness for All persons.*** To end homelessness, CoCs should identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness. CoCs should measure their performance based on local data that consider the challenges faced by all subpopulations experiencing homelessness in the geographic area (e.g., veterans, youth, families, those experiencing chronic homelessness, and people with disabilities, including those living with HIV/AIDS). CoCs should partner with housing, health care, and supportive services providers to expand housing options, such as permanent supportive housing, housing subsidies, and rapid rehousing. Additionally, CoCs should use local data to determine the characteristics of individuals and families with the highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness to develop housing and supportive services tailored to their needs.
2. **Using a Housing First Approach.** Using the Housing First model to prioritize rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing without service participation requirements or preconditions.
3. ***Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness.***In recent years, the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness has risen significantly, including a rising number of encampments in many communities across the country. People living unsheltered have extremely high rates of physical and mental illness and substance use disorders. CoCs should explore all available resources, including CoC and ESG funded assistance, housing subsidies, and supportive services to provide permanent housing options for people who are unsheltered.
4. ***Improving System Performance.***CoCs should be using system performance measures (e.g., average length of homeless episodes, rates of return to homelessness, rates of exit to permanent housing destinations) to determine how effectively they are serving people experiencing homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should use their Coordinated Entry process to promote participant choice, coordinate homeless assistance and mainstream housing, and services to ensure people experiencing homelessness receive assistance quickly, and make homelessness assistance open, inclusive, and transparent.
5. ***Partnering with Housing, Health, and Service Agencies.***Using cost performance and outcome data, CoCs should improve how all available resources are utilized to end homelessness. This is especially important as the CARES Act and American Rescue Plan have provided significant new resources to help end homelessness. HUD encourages CoCs to maximize the use of mainstream and other community-based resources when serving persons experiencing homelessness.
6. ***Racial Equity.***In nearly every community, Black, Indigenous, and other people of color are substantially overrepresented in the homeless population. HUD is emphasizing system and program changes to address racial equity within CoCs. Responses to preventing and ending homelessness should address racial inequities to ensure successful outcomes for all persons experiencing homelessness using proven approaches, such as: developing a coordinated community response created in partnership with a racially diverse set of stakeholders and people experiencing homelessness and partnering with organizations with experience serving underserved populations.
7. ***Improving Assistance to LGBTQ+ Individuals.*** Discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation manifests differently for different individuals and often overlaps with other forms of prohibited discrimination. CoCs should address the needs of LGBTQ+, transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary individuals and families in their planning processes.
8. ***Persons with Lived Experience.***HUD is encouraging CoCs to include in the local planning process people who are currently experiencing or have formerly experienced homelessness. People with lived experience should determine how local policies may need to be revised and updated to improve the effectiveness of homelessness assistance programs, including participating in planning and oversight activities and developing local competition processes.
9. ***Increasing Affordable Housing Supply****.* The lack of affordable housing is the main driver of homelessness. CoCs play a critical role in educating local leaders and stakeholders about the importance of increasing the supply of affordable housing and the specific consequences of the continued lack of affordable housing. CoCs should be communicating with jurisdiction leaders, including for the development of Consolidated Plans, about the harmful effects of the lack of affordable housing, and they should engage local leaders about steps such as zoning and land use reform that would increase the supply of affordable housing. This FY2022 CoC NOFO awards points to CoCs that take steps to engage local leaders about increasing affordable housing supply.

**Important information to consider when preparing for the FY2022 NOFO:**

* **Performance based decisions**
	+ New project applications are not allowed unless through reallocation unless the CoC evaluates & competively ranks projects based on how they improve system performance
	+ HUD will prioritize funding for CoC’s that have demonstrated the capacity to reallocate funding from lower to higher performing projects
* **Indian tribe, or Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHE’s) may be:**
	+ A Collaborative Applicant
	+ Receive grant amounts from another entity that receives a grant directly from HUD
* **Transition grants** - A grant to fund a new project to transition an eligible renewal project being eliminated through reallocation from one program component to another eligible new component over a 1-year period.
* **Coordination with Housing & Healthcare -** 14 points if Priority List includes new PA’s through reallocation or bonus that utilize housing vouchers and healthcare provided through an array of healthcare service providers.
* **Domestic Violence Bonus** - $52 million dollars in funds available for rapid re-housing projects and supportive service projects providing Coordinated Entry in the 2022 NOFO
* **Consolidation project** – Project Applicants can consolidate two, but not more than ten eligible renewal projects during the application process (see section V.B.4.a. (7) of the NOFO)
* **Youth Homeless Demonstration projects** – if renewals, may be approved
* **HMIS** – as directed by congress, HUD must provide an annual estimate of all individuals and families experiencing homelessness and provide information to project recipients and applicants for needs analysis and funding priorities.
* **Review of CoC Rankings** – CoC’s will be required to rank all new reallocated, CoC Bonus, DV Bonus, and renewal project applications submitted by project applicants in e-snaps.
* **HUD funding process** – HUD will continue the Tier 1 & Tier 2 funding selection process.
	+ Tier 1 is 95% of the CoCs Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) and will be conditionally selected
	+ Tier 2 is 5% of the CoC’s Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)
* **Projects straddling tiers** – if project applications straddle Tier 1 & Tier 2, HUD will conditionally select the project up to the amount that falls in Tier 1. Using the Tier 2 scoring process, HUD may fund the Tier 2 portion. If HUD does not fund the Tier 2 portion, the project may be awarded at the reduced Tier 1 portion if it is still feasible with the reduced funding.
* **DV Bonus** – HUD will award a point value to each DV Bonus project requested combining the CoC Application score and the responses to the DV bonus specific questions. CoC Bonus funds to include the following projects:
	+ Rapid Re-housing that follow a housing first approach
	+ Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects that follow a housing first approach
	+ SSO Projects for Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) – only 1 is allowed for each CoC – Hennepin funds the Domestic Abuse Project currently for this opportunity.
* **Participant Eligibility** – projects funded through this NOFA must meet the following eligibility criteria for program participants:
	+ All must participate in Coordinated Entry
	+ Selection of program participants must be consistent with CoCs Coordinated Entry process
* **Renewal projects PH-PSH** must serve:
	+ Program participants eligible under projects current grant agreement
	+ Dedicated PLUS where applicable in project application, or
	+ Persons experiencing chronic homelessness at the time they initially enrolled
* **New projects PH-PSH** must serve:
	+ DedicatedPLUS or
	+ Persons experiencing chronic homelessness at the time they initially enrolled
* **New PH-RRH, Joint TH/PH-RRH & SSO-CE** must serve:
	+ (1), (2), or (4) homeless definitions
* **Expansion projects** - can be requested under the bonus or reallocation in order to expand existing units in a project or serve additional persons, or in the case of HMIS, grant activities will be expanded within CoC and fits into the funding parameters of bonus or reallocation. Expand an existing project with DV Bonus

**Collaborative Application point breakdown:**

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| --- | --- |
| Points | Score area |
| 83 | Coordination/Engagement |
| 30 | Project capacity, review, rank |
| 9 | Homeless Management Information System |
| 5 | Point in Time Count |
| 59 | System Performance Measures |
| 14 | Coordination with Housing/Healthcare |
| **200 total** |  |

**Important links:**

* Competition page: [View Opportunity | GRANTS.GOV](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=342855)
* HUD Ask A Question (AAQ): Email questions to: CoCNOFO@hud.gov
* Hennepin County CoC website: <https://www.hennepin.us/headinghomehennepin>

(select FY 2022 CoC NOFO tab)

**New and Renewal Project Eligibility information (page # 30-37 & 57 of NOFO)**

* SAM Registration Requirement
* UEI Number requirement
* Faith based organizations may apply for this award, but cannot discriminate against organizations religious character, affiliation, or exercise.
* Eligibility Requirements for HUD NOFO: Cannot have outstanding delinquent federal debt, debarments, and/or suspentions, pre-selection review of performance, sufficiency of financial management systems, false statements, mandatory disclosure requirements, Code of Conduct, Prohibition against lobbying activities,
* Resolution of any Civil Rights matters
* 25% match for all projects in required
* Project application, charts, narratives, attachments
* Documentation of Applicant and Subrecipient eligibility
* Applicant Code of Conduct – if the organizations Code of Conduct is not on HUD’s website, the project must attach the Code of Conduct in the Project Applicant Profile in e-snaps
* SF-424
* HUD-2880
* SF-LLL – Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
* HUD-50070 – Drug free workplace
* Applicant Certifications