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NOFA 101

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1. Each year the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) publishes a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Continuum of Care (CoC) funds for housing programs and services for people who are experiencing homelessness signifying the beginning of a funding competition among approximately 450 Continuums of Care (CoC), the community stakeholder groups that guide local responses to homelessness.
2. In HUD Fiscal Year 2017, BoSCoC's renewal projects were all funded, including HMIS, HMIS Coordinated Entry and Planning Grants, and one expansion project! Congratulation's Cross Roads House/ Concord Coalition to End Homelessness who was awarded a bonus expansion project to expand their current project from 20 beds to 28 beds!
3. The CoC Program (24 CFR part 578) 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 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.
4. Provisions at 24 CFR 578.9 require CoCs to design, operate, and follow a collaborative process for the development of an application in response to a NOFA issued by HUD.
5. Before the application is submitted to HUD, the CoC is required to hold a local competition to determine which projects will be included in the consolidated application, along with their relative priority. The results of the local competition dictates which projects the CoC will seek funding for.
6. The annual CoC application is composed of three parts:
 - a) Consolidated Application;

- b) Project Applications; and
 - c) The Priority Listing
7. The details regarding HUD priorities and additions threshold requirements are release for each funding year at the time of HUD's Notice of Funding Availability for the CoC program.
 8. The 2017 NOFA was released on July 14th, 2017.
 9. The Consolidated Application is prepared and submitted by the BOSCO's designated Collaborative Applicant, Bureau of Housing Supports.
 10. HUD assesses CoCs' on a nationwide system-wide performance outcomes and coordination and scores and ranks CoC's accordingly to determine which CoCs' will receive priority for project application by CoC in the Priority Listing.
 11. HUD may add to overall funding available, any available funds that have been carried over or recaptured from previous fiscal years.
 12. The available amount of funding may not be sufficient to fund anticipated eligible renewal projects in FY 2018.
 13. HUD will continue to require Collaborative Applicants to rank all projects, except CoC planning and Unified Funding Agency (UFA) Costs, in two tiers.
As in past years, the funding that CoCs can apply for is divided into tiers, with projects prioritized in Tier 1 being more likely to be funded than projects of lower priority that fall in Tier 2. HUD is confident it will be able to fund all Tier 1 requests. Projects in Tier 2 will be selected and funded based on a score related to: overall CoC score, the project's ranked order, project type, and Housing First implementation.
 14. CoCs are expected to critically evaluate projects for ranking purposes
 15. Bonus projects will be ranked and reviewed by HUD in the same way as other projects; there is not a separate pool of funding.

A. Application Structure

The CoC Consolidated Application is made up of three parts:

1. CoC Collaborative Application: Includes information about the CoC planning body, governance structure, overall performance, and the strategic planning process. This part of the application is scored and will determine the order in which CoCs are funded.
2. Project Applications
3. CoC Priority Listing: Ranks projects in order of priority and identifies any project applications rejected by the CoC

B. Ranking Information

CoCs will be required to rank all projects submitted by project applicants, except CoC

planning projects. Ranked projects will include renewal projects, new projects created through reallocation, and permanent housing bonus projects. All projects must pass HUD's eligibility and threshold requirements to be funded, no matter their priority.

The BoSCoC established a local process for assessing local gaps and needs, determining funding priorities for its CoC program, determining possible reallocations, inviting, and reviewing, scoring and ranking projects according to successful performance that reflects the project's ability to assist with addressing system-wide progress towards ending homelessness. The BoSCoC has established policies and procedures for this process.

C. GIW SUBMISSION and COC REGISTRATION

- BOSCO has submitted the required GIW Change form and CoC Registration, in order to apply for the NOFA.
- **May 8, 2018** - CoCs must complete GIW reviews and provide any GIW Change Forms to their local HUD field offices. No changes will be accepted by HUD field offices after May 8, 2018. CoCs should not wait to send GIW Change Forms to their local HUD field offices, but rather, begin review and submit early as field offices will review and approve or deny changes before the GIW Change Forms are sent to SNAPS.
- **May 28, 2018** - HUD will post all revised GIW revisions to the HUD Exchange no earlier than May 28, 2018. A listserv message will be sent to confirm completion of the FY 2018 GIW process.
- **April 30, 2018 at 9:00 AM EDT**: CoC Program Registration is available.
- **May 14, 2018 at 5:00 PM EDT**: Registration submission deadline.

D. RENEWAL AND NEW PROJECT APPLICATIONS

Once the NOFA is released BHS will review it for project priorities, new project components, and additional thresholds in order to finalize the renewal and new project applications, and ranking and scoring tools. I will be developing instructions for the new project applications due to the amount of questions last year from potential applicants.

BoSCoC will be applying for 30 renewal grants, including all 3 HMIS project funding for the 3 CoCs', one PSH project in MCOC, one PSH project in GNCOC, coordinated entry, and the planning grant, which is a new project each NOFA for a grand total of 31 grants. None of the renewal projects have expressed interest in reallocating, except Gilpin House who expressed an interest last year in reallocating their project from TH to PSH.