FY 2022 CoC Special Unsheltered NOFO Program Competition Bidder's Conference

September 2, 2022

Presented by the Mayor's Office of Homeless Services on behalf of the Baltimore City Continuum of Care

THE JOURNEY HOME

Agenda

Housekeeping

- **This webinar will be recorded and posted along with the slides presented today on the MOHS website**

- **All attendees will be muted to prevent background noise.**

- **All questions will be answered at the end of the webinar.**

- **Only questions about the competition process and the application templates will be answered during this webinar—if you have a specific question about your project, please send it to HSPapplications@baltimorecity.gov**

Overview & Timeline

What is the CoC NOFO?

- CoC NOFO is shorthand for the Department of Housing and Urban Development's annual national funding competition for homeless services funding. The full name is the HUD Continuum of Care Program Notice of Funding Opportunity.

- HUD requires communities to conduct a local competition to determine which projects will be included in the CoC's application to HUD that includes a project ranking list.

Unsheltered NOFO Description

- The purpose of this Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered Homelessness (Special NOFO) is to target efforts to reduce unsheltered homelessness, particularly in communities with very high levels of unsheltered homelessness.
- Through this Special NOFO, HUD will award funding to communities to implement coordinated approaches -- grounded in Housing First and public health principles -- to reduce the prevalence of unsheltered homelessness, and improve services engagement, health outcomes, and housing stability among highly vulnerable unsheltered individuals and families.
- HUD expects applicant communities to partner with health and housing agencies to leverage mainstream housing and healthcare resources.

THE JOURNEY HOME

CoC's Unsheltered Plan

CoC's must submit a Coordinated Community Plan for serving individuals and families experience homelessness with severe service needs.

What needs to be included:
- Leveraging Housing Resources and Coordination with Housing Authority of Baltimore City
- Landlord Recruitment Strategy
- Leveraging Healthcare Resources
- Current Outreach and Low-Barrier/Emergency Shelter Strategy for individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness
- Current strategy to provide immediate access to low barrier permanent housing for individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness
- Use of data and best practices to enhance performance
- Identify and prioritize households experiencing or with histories of unsheltered homelessness
- Involving individuals with lived experience of homelessness in decision making
- Supporting underserved communities and supporting equitable community development

THE JOURNEY HOME

FY 2022 Special NOFO Competition Timeline	
June 22, 2022	HUD Continuum of Care Special NOFO Released
August 1, 2022	Continuum of Care Planning Meeting To review the CoC NOFO Competition process and prepare for the release of local materials.
August 22, 2022	Local Competition Published
September 16, 2022	Deadline: New Projects Due by 5:00pm
September 26, 2022	Notification to all project applicants indicating whether project is accepted or rejected.
September 29, 2022	Resource Allocation Committee – Review and Ranking of all projects
October 3, 2022	Final Ranking Sent to CoC
October 5, 2022	Draft CoC Applications to sent to CoC for input and review
October 18, 2022	Public Posting of Final CoC Consolidated Application
October 20, 2022	Final Application submitted to HUD on or before October 20 by 8:00pm

NOFO Submission

There are three parts to the NOFO submission:

- **CoC Application:** This is the CoC's overall application, and primarily focuses on the CoC's progress on ending unsheltered homelessness, strategic initiatives, and adoption of HUD's funding and policy priorities. This includes the required attachments per the Notice of Funding and the CoC's Plan for serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs.

- **Project Ranking:** This is an ordered ranking of all projects the CoC is submitting in the application for funding. The project ranking should reflect HUD funding priorities, local need, and a data-driven process for evaluating individual project performance. The project listing forms rank all project applications in order of priority and identify any project applications rejected by the CoC. In this competition, HUD is also requiring Collaborative Applicants to rank CoC planning.

- **Project Applications:** Each project approved for inclusion in the local project ranking is included in the CoC's submission to HUD. Each project application must meet HUD's threshold review in order to receive funding in addition to undergoing the competitive scoring process.

FY 2022 Available Funding

FY2022 Special CoC NOFO Available Funding		
Amount	**Type**	**Description**
$20,033,710	**Unsheltered Set Aside Amount for MD-501**	**This is the set aside amount that CoC is eligible to apply for 3 years of funding.**
$619,259	**CoC Set Aside Planning Funds**	**CoC Planning Funds may not exceed the set aside amount for 3 years of funding.**
$20,641,969	**Total Amount of Funding Available (Over 3 Years)**	

If awarded the full funding this is $6,947,860 annually for Baltimore City.

Project Applications should submit a 1 year Budget with their proposals. All proposals will be calculated automatically for a 3-year grant term.

THE JOURNEY HOME

How CoC Funds Are Allocated?

The Resource Allocation Committee of the Continuum of Care Board oversees the development of the local NOFO submission, which includes:

○ Developing an annual or multi-year funding strategy for allocating HUD CoC funding according to local need, HUD policy priorities, and overall system performance

○ Reading and analyzing the annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), developing an annual reallocation strategy, developing the annual project rating and ranking criteria, utilizing performance and program data to evaluate and rank project applications

○ Developing a communications plan for informing the Continuum of Care and ensuring full participation

○ Approve final submission for the annual CoC application to HUD

○ Overseeing the work of the Collaborative Applicant (MOHS) to prepare the NOFO submission

How are local funds allocated?

The Mayor's Office of Homeless Services (MOHS) is the Collaborative Applicant for the Baltimore City Continuum of Care. MOHS is responsible for:

- Facilitating the local Request for Proposals to solicit new, expansion, and renewal project applications in alignment with the priorities and directives of the CoC's Resource Allocation Committee

- Collecting and preparing data at the system level and project level for use by the Resource Allocation Committee in scoring and ranking of projects

- Preparing and submitting the 3 parts of the application: annual CoC application, project ranking, and project applications to HUD according to the decisions made by the Resource Allocation Committee

Reduce Unsheltered Homelessness

Use a Housing First Approach

Advance Race Equity

Involve a Broad Array of Stakeholders

HUD Policy Priorities

THE JOURNEY HOME

Funding Priorities & Eligible Projects

Funding Priorities

Ensuring that permanent housing and support services are prioritized for individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

- The March 2022, Strategic Investment Plan estimates 1,100 households reside in encampments and unsheltered settings that include abandoned buildings and other places not meant for human habitation

- Over the last 4 years the average unsheltered individuals counted in the Point-in-Time Count is 337 individuals.

What goes into the ranking?

- **HUD requires communities to rank projects.** CoCs must review and either accept and rank, or reject project applications submitted to them, including project applications for CoC Planning.

- The CoC's written procedures that are publicly posted for all interested stakeholders and applicants that clearly describe the project-level review and ranking process that is used by the CoC to determine which CoC Program project applications submitted to the CoC are submitted to HUD.

  - This written process or tool must demonstrate it used objective criteria (e.g., cost effectiveness, performance data, type of population served, or type of housing proposed) to review, rate, and rank project applications.

FY2022 Eligible Projects Special NOFO

1. Permanent Housing – Permanent Supportive Housing (PH-PSH)
2. Permanent Housing – Rapid Re-housing (PH-RRH)
3. Street Outreach (SSO-SO)
4. Standalone SSO

Additional Projects that will be evaluated, but only submitted by the Lead Agency (MOHS).

1. Planning Grant
2. HMIS Project
3. SSO- Coordinated Entry

Permanent Supportive Housing

- The type of housing proposed, including the number and configuration of units, will fit the needs of the program participants.
- Supportive services that will be offered to program participants will ensure successful retention in or help to obtain permanent housing, including all supportive services regardless of funding source.
- Specific plan for ensuring program participants will be individually assisted to obtain the benefits of mainstream health, social, and employment programs for which they are eligible to apply and which meet the needs of program participants (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, Food Stamps, local Workforce office, early childhood education).
- Program participants are assisted to obtain and remain in permanent housing in a manner that fits their needs (e.g., provides the participant with some type of transportation to access needed services, safety planning, case management, housing that meets accessibility related needs, additional assistance to ensure retention of permanent housing).
- **Additional consideration for projects that are able to demonstrate that up to 50 percent of the housing is through the utilization of housing subsidies or subsidized housing units, and not funded through the CoC or ESG Programs (e.g., Housing Choice Vouchers, HOME-ARP, HOPWA)**

Rapid Re-Housing

- The type of housing proposed, including the number and configuration of units, will fit the needs of the program participants.
- Supportive services that will be offered to program participants will ensure successful retention in or help to obtain permanent housing, including all supportive services regardless of funding source.
- Specific plan for ensuring program participants will be individually assisted to obtain the benefits of mainstream health, social, and employment programs for which they are eligible to apply and which meet the needs of program participants (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, Food Stamps, local Workforce office, early childhood education).
- Program participants are assisted to obtain and remain in permanent housing in a manner that fits their needs (e.g., provides the participant with some type of transportation to access needed services, safety planning, case management, housing that meets accessibility related needs, additional assistance to ensure retention of permanent housing).
- **Additional consideration for projects that are able to demonstrate that up to 50 percent of the housing is through the utilization of housing subsidies or subsidized housing units, and not funded through the CoC or ESG Programs (e.g., Housing Choice Vouchers, HOME-ARP, HOPWA)**

Street Outreach

- Project will fund street outreach activities. Street outreach offers services necessary to reach unsheltered homeless individuals and families to connect them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services and provide urgent non-facility-based care to those who are unwilling or unable to access emergency shelter, housing, or an appropriate health facility.

  - A strategy for providing supportive services to those with the highest service needs, including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services.

  - Program participants are assisted to obtain and maintain permanent housing in a manner that fits their needs.

  - Specific plan for ensuring program participants will be individually assisted to obtain the benefits of mainstream health, social services, and employment programs for which they are eligible to apply and which meet the needs of the program participants (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, Food Stamps, local Workforce office, early childhood education).

  - The projects are required to participate in coordinated access system .

Support Services Only - Standalone

- Project will fund stand-alone support services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness or who have been homeless in the prior 6-months but are now residing in permanent housing (that is not PSH or RRH). This means, the recipient is providing supportive services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness for whom the applicant is not also providing housing or housing assistance. Examples of stand-alone supportive services include (1) housing navigation activities for people experiencing homelessness when the applicant is not also providing any ongoing housing assistance (e.g., rental assistance), (2) childcare services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness, (3) drop-in centers that provide supportive services to people experiencing homelessness, and (4) family reunification services to reunite people experiencing homelessness with their families.

  - A strategy for providing supportive services to those with the highest service needs, including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services.

  - Program participants are assisted to obtain and maintain permanent housing in a manner that fits their needs.

  - Specific plan for ensuring program participants will be individually assisted to obtain the benefits of mainstream health, social services, and employment programs for which they are eligible to apply and which meet the needs of the program participants (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, Food Stamps, local Workforce office, early childhood education).

  - The projects are required to participate in coordinated access system .

Threshold Requirements

Project Eligibility Threshold

Projects will be evaluated based on HUD's project eligibility threshold as follows:

- Provide documentation that organization is a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization or another city government agency
- Demonstrate the financial and management capacity and experience to carry out the proposed project as detailed in the application and the capacity to administer federal funds.
- The population to be served must meet the definition of "homeless" under 24 CFR 578.3
- Must agree to participate in the local HMIS system (however, victim service provider must use a comparable database that meets the needs of the local HMIS)

Additional Threshold Requirements

- Applicants must maintain an active SAM registration
- Applicants must provide a valid UEI number, registered and active
- In Good Standing with the State of Maryland (must be dated within 30 days of the application)
- Last 2 years' single audit or independent financial audit that demonstrates the financial and management capacity
- Commitment to operating the program under the Housing First model
- Documentation of at least 25% cash or in-kind match
- Project has reasonable costs and is financially feasible

Match Requirements

Match Requirements – All Projects

- Match refers to actual cash or in-kind resources contributed to the grant. All costs paid for with matching funds must be for activities that are eligible under the CoC Program, even if the recipient is not receiving CoC Program grant funds for that activity. All grant funds must be matched with an amount no less than 25% of the awarded grant amount (excluding the amount awarded to the leasing budget line item) with cash or in-kind resources. Match resources may be from public (not statutorily prohibited by the funding agency from being used as a match) or private resources.

- Recipients of CoC Awards must document match along with their monthly expenditure reports.

Match Requirements – All Projects

- Every project must match 25% of the total amount of the grant (minus leasing costs) with cash or in-kind resources
- All costs under matching funds must be for activities that are eligible under the CoC Program, even if the recipient is not receiving CoC Program grant funds for that activity.
- Cash match and in-kind match needs to be documented by a letter.

  - Note program income can be counted as cash match. You must indicate that in your application, and must provide a description of the source of program income and how it will be documented

  - In-kind contributions can include the value of any real property equipment, goods, or services contributed to the project as match, provided that if the recipient or subrecipient had to pay for them with grant funds, the costs would have been eligible under Subpart D
- In-kind match for services provided by a third party must also be documented with a Memorandum of Understanding.

THE JOURNEY HOME

Match Calculation Examples

Without Leasing	With Leasing
Total amount requested from HUD (without leasing): ➢ Rental Assistance funding = $90,000 ➢ Supportive Services funding = $10,000 ➢ Project Administration funding (10%) = $10,000 ➢ Total amount requested = $110,000 **Total amount requested from HUD x .25 = Minimum Match Requirement** **$110,000 x .25 = $27,500**	Total amount requested from HUD (with leasing): ➢ Leasing funding = $80,000 ➢ Supportive Services funding = $20,000 ➢ Project Administration funding (10%) = $10,000 ➢ Total amount requested = $110,000 ➢ Total amount requested from HUD, excluding amount requested for leasing = $110,000 - $80,000 = $30,000 **Total amount minus leasing x .25 = Minimum Match Requirement** **$30,000 x .25 = $7,500**

Eligible Costs for Match

All match contributions (cash or in-kind) in the CoC Program must be for eligible activities/costs **per Subpart D of the CoC Program Interim rule**, regardless of whether the activities/costs are included in the HUD-approved project budget. The eligible categories of match are as follows:

➢ **Supportive Services:** Assessment of Service Needs, Assistance with Moving Costs, Case Management, Child Care, Education Services, Employment Assistance, Food, Housing/Counseling Services, Legal Services, Life Skills, Mental Health Services, Outpatient Health Services, Outreach Services, Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services, Transportation Utility Deposits

➢ **Operating:** Maintenance/Repair, Property Taxes and Insurance, Replacement Reserve, Building Security, Electricity, Gas, and Water, Furniture (must remain with the project), Equipment (lease, buy – must remain with the project)

➢ **HMIS:** Purchase/lease of computers, leasing office space where HMIS activities are conducted, utilities necessary to operate or contribute data, staff travel costs to conduct intake

➢ **Admin:** General Management, oversight, and coordination; Training on CoC requirements

Preparing the Project Budgets

What to Include in Project Budgets

All project budgets should be for 1 year term. If selected the project will be calculated for a 3-year grant term.

- Project staffing should be detailed, and should be aligned with the number of proposed clients served and support services.
- Funding Request – Should include details of the project staffing in the correct line item. Be brief, but descriptive.
- Only select 1 – either Rental Assistance or Leasing

    ○ If leasing is selected, you can also apply for operations

- HMIS costs if you have specific staff that will be working on data contribution or need to purchase/lease equipment for data entry

Resources

- **Make sure to carefully review all NOFO documents released by MOHS, including:**

    https://homeless.baltimorecity.gov/fy-2022-coc-unsheltered-special-nofo-program-competition

- **HUD resources:**

    https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO

- **National Alliance to End Homelessness:**

    https://endhomelessness.org/resource/2022-unsheltered-and-rural-homelessness-supplemental-nofo-resource-series/

Reminders

- Carefully review the Local Competition Process and Timeline, the local Project Application Guide, and the NOFO released by HUD

- Ensure that your agency meets the threshold requirements before submitting a project proposal

- Ask questions early, so there is time to respond. This is a new notice of funding, and therefore additional AAQs may need to be submitted to HUD directly.

    - HSPApplications@baltimorecity.gov

THE JOURNEY HOME

Q & A
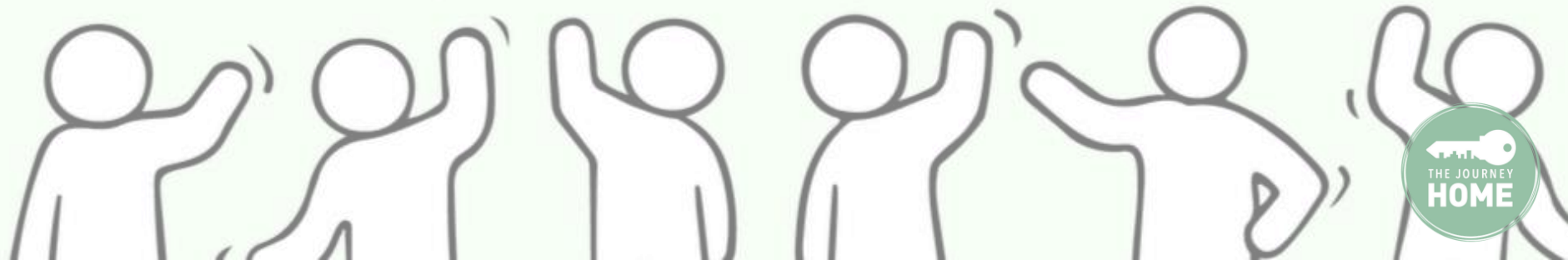
Please submit your questions now!

We'll be putting the webinar on mute for 5 minutes while we collect your questions.

THE JOURNEY
HOME