**Alameda County CoC Local Application Process**
**2019 HUD Continuum of Care NOFA**
**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS #2**
**8/3/2019 – 8/16/2019**

<u>**Questions received via e-mail 8/3/2019 – 8/16/2019**</u>:

1) Can DV providers submit an application for funding for a comparable database?

   A: Only the HMIS Lead can request funds for a comparable database.  However, DV providers may request HMIS funds under an eligible new project's budget <u>to enter data into a comparable database</u> through either the available CoC Bonus or DV Bonus funds.

2) Regarding Coordinated Entry and Serving Highest Need Populations: How do we earn points since we do not have vacancies over the past several years. How do we get evaluated on "especially filling project vacancies, and providing any data the project has on the time from referral to enrollment/move-in."?

   A: Responding to the best of your ability to the renewal Local Applications' Coordinated Entry and Serving Highest Need Populations, Section 3, is the way to earn <u>up to 8 points for this section.</u>  Given that HUD has eliminated specific target populations and is focusing on serving those with highest need, we are asking CoC funded projects to describe how they have been participating in or are ready to participate in Coordinated Entry in order to fill vacancies.  A renewal PSH project should also have at this point an executed MOU with Home Stretch - which articulates many of the CE and HomeStretch requirements.  You may describe how the project has operationalized its participation in CE in anticipation of filling a potential vacancy, whether or not it has had any vacancies. Any protocols or documents that the project has developed related to CE could also be included in the narrative. In addition, since there is a need to enroll simply and quickly any referrals coming from HomeStretch/Coordinated Entry, add any changes to the project's protocols that have been instituted to house people quickly, from referral to enrollment to move in.

3) We need guidance on whether or not our project needs to submit page 1 or an entire application.  We did not receive the executed grant agreement from HUD until 9/25/17 and the project began providing services after the grant agreement was received; our first HMIS program enrollment, which is the date the first tenant leased up in this project is 1/5/2018 therefore we do not have a full year of operating data.  The EOH renewal application states: "Has this project been in operation since 10/01/2017? If no, and the program does not have access to one year of operating data your application is complete."  But the local application instructions state: " Renewing new projects that do not have access to one year of operating data since October 1, 2017 need only to submit an updated and completed Cover Sheet." Should the project submit a completed renewal application packet or answer "no" on page 1 of the EOH renewal application and submit this page to EOH?

A: This project is unique, as it is the only renewal project in the package that has been awarded in 2015, which did not have an executed contract with HUD until 9/2017 and has been included in several competitions without submitting an application.  Consistent with instructions for other renewing projects and in fairness to other recently awarded projects instructed to submit an application and evaluate their performance, the NOFA Committee recommends this project completes a renewal application and provides the corresponding APR submitted to HUD in 2018.  In addition, the project is encouraged to articulate in detail in the Local Application's outcome performance and spending narrative sections any challenges faced in the implementation of this project, including description of project's more recent data (within the last six or nine months) that demonstrates outcome improvements.  In the scoring and ranking process, the NOFA committee will be mindful and consider the reasons and challenges the project has faced in leasing up, getting up to capacity, and spending its funds.

4) There is a discrepancy for Outcome B as the application describes Outcome B for RRH, TH, TAY-TH as Adults who Gained or Increased Income, while the 2019 Scoring Tool for Outcome Measures describes Outcome B for General (non-youth serving) Transitional Housing as Adults who maintain or increase income.  For General TH which is it – gain/increase, or maintain/increase income? Should I just use the "TH, RRH, and TAY-TH Outcomes" worksheet on the NOFA calculator tool, and not worry about what the outcome is labelled?

   A: <u>Please ignore the description for Outcome B on the Application's Scoring Tool – as it is erroneous.</u>   For General TH, Outcome B, please use the instructions in the Application and the optional calculator.  For General TH/RRH and Youth TH, the appropriate measure is adults who gained/increased income and the benchmark is 30% of leavers and stayers.

5) Need for Expansion of DV Bonus SSO-CE Project.  Building Futures (BF) and Family Violence Law Center (FVLC) are interested in applying for an expansion of its HUD Domestic Violence Bonus SSO-CE Coordinated Entry Project (SSO-CE Project).  As of August 16, 2019, BF and FVLC are under contract with HUD for the FY 2018 DV Bonus Project.  In addition, the project is eligible to apply for renewal and expansion as articulated in the FY 2019 CoC Program Competition.  BF and FVLP are requesting that the NOFA Committee reconsider not inviting the expansion of our SSO-CE DV Bonus Project.

   A: Yes, the Committee invites the SSO-CE project to propose and expansion that will enhance the existing SSO-CE Project and assure appropriate resources to enhance CE access for DV survivors and provide needed capacity building and system-wide training.  In addition, the Committee would like to make sure the CoC DV Bonus available funding is shared with other proposed RRH and Joint TH and PH-RRH new permanent housing projects targeting DV survivors.