



Beginner's CoC NOFO Funding Orientation

Alameda County Continuum of Care (CoC)

May 13, 2024

Zoom Tips to Guide Discussion



We love to see your faces! If possible, please turn on your **video**.



As you have questions or comments, please add them to the **chat** box, or raise your hand.



You were automatically placed on mute when you entered the meeting. Please feel free to **unmute** yourself when you are ready to speak.



If you have any technology **challenges** during the meeting, please use the chat feature or email alameda@homebaseccc.org for assistance.

Goals for Today

1. Provide an introductory overview of the Continuum of Care (CoC) funding source.
2. Gives potential applicants an orientation to HUD CoC requirements and project eligibility.
3. Briefly outlines the local competition process steps.
4. Offers an opportunity for potential applicants to ask questions about the New Project LOI (due May 15).



Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. HUD CoC Funding Overview
 1. HUD processes & available funding
 2. Eligible projects and costs
 3. Eligible participants
 4. Other grant requirements
3. Local Application Process Overview
4. Questions and Answers



Introductions - Presenters

Kate Bristol, Kate Bristol Consulting,
Alameda County NOFO Consultant

Esther Wilch, Senior Staff Attorney,
Homebase

Jose Lucio, Senior Policy Analyst,
Homebase



Please Introduce Yourself in the Chat



1. Your Name
2. Pronouns
3. Organization
4. Any key questions you have about new CoC projects



HUD CoC Funding Overview

Frequently Used Acroynms

- **CoC**- Continuum of Care (more on the next slide)
- **HUD** – United State Department of Housing and Urban Development. Federal Government agency that releases money and sets program rules
- **NOFO** – Notice of Funding Opportunity. Term used for many different funding programs, but today we mean specifically the notice for HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) funding.



Meaning of Continuum of Care

A “Continuum of Care” (CoC) refers to three things:

1. The planning body in a community that addresses homelessness.
2. **The HUD funding program for homeless housing and services.**
3. The system of services and housing interventions both short-term and long-term for people experiencing homelessness.



CoC Funding Process

HUD releases an annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Each CoC develops and manages a local application process to invite, rate and rank projects to submit for funding

CoC submits a Consolidated Application to HUD, including all the local applications organized into a Project Priority List.

HUD awards grants directly to individual applicants (the CoC is not a pass-through)



Available Funding

2023 Funding Allocation (2024 TBD):

- **Renewal Grants:** \$41,329,332 (*enough to fund all renewals for 1 year*)
- **New Housing Projects (CoC Bonus):** \$3,105,835
- **New Domestic Violence Housing Projects (DV Bonus):** \$1,506,575
- **CoC Planning:** \$1,500,000
- **YHDP Renewal/Replacement:** \$3,268,055

TOTAL: \$50,709,797



Eligible Applicants

- Non-profit organizations
- States
- Local governments
- Instrumentalities of State and local governments
- Public housing authorities
- Tribes and Tribal Entities



Allowable New CoC Projects - Overview

Project **MUST** provide housing
(except CE or HMIS)

Must fit specific HUD
housing program
types

Housing may be
permanent or time
limited

Services must be
connected to
housing

Must serve
participants that
meet HUD homeless
definitions



Projects Not Eligible for New CoC Funding

Emergency Shelter

Support Services
without housing
(except
Coordinated Entry)

New Transitional
Housing (except
combined with
Rapid Rehousing)

Homelessness
Prevention



New Project “Bonus” Categories

Applicants for new funding must apply for one of two possible types of “bonus” funding.

1. CoC Bonus – provides funding for housing projects serving people experiencing homelessness (as per HUD definitions of homelessness)
2. DV Bonus – provides funding for housing projects serving people fleeing domestic violence (as per HUD definition)

Different project types are allowed under each bonus.



Allowable New Project Funding Types

Project Type	CoC Bonus	DV Bonus
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	Yes	No
Rapid Rehousing (RRH)	Yes	Yes
Joint Transitional and Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH/RRH)	Yes	Yes
Coordinated Entry (CE)	Yes	Yes
HMIS	Yes	No



Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

Tenancy is NOT time limited – participants stay as long as they are in compliance with lease terms

Can be a single site or scattered sites

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Can be created through new construction, acquisition/rehab, master leasing, tenant-based rental assistance

Rapid Rehousing (RRH)

Program participation is time-limited (up to 24 months)

Scattered site model

Housing must be secured using tenant-based rental assistance (no leasing or operations costs allowed in budget)

Participants receive housing search services to secure a rental unit and housing stabilization services to help them assume the rent once assistance ends

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance

- Program helps participants find available housing units in the rental market
- Participants sign leases with third-party landlords
 - The rent must be low enough to fit within HUD's guidelines
- Participant pays a portion of the monthly rent (amount is based on their income)
- Program pays the balance of the rent to the landlord, which is reimbursed by the CoC grant
- Can be used for PSH (payments are not time limited) or RRH (payments are time limited and the participant takes on the full rent upon program completion)



Joint Transitional Housing/Rapid Rehousing

Combines two program models

Transitional Housing – single site or scattered site units in which participants may stay up to 24 months, after which they exit to permanent housing.

Rapid Rehousing – transitional housing participants are offered time limited tenant-based rental assistance (RRH) when they exit the transitional housing component of the program.

Joint Transitional Housing/Rapid Rehousing (TH/RRH)

- Transitional housing can operate in units owned or leased by the provider.
- The RRH component must include tenant-based rental assistance, housing search assistance and housing stabilization services (like regular RRH)
- Participants may choose to participate in just one component
- Program budget must include RRH slots equal to at least twice the TH slots (or RRH \$ must be double TH \$\$).



Coordinated Entry and HMIS

- Infrastructure Grants (not housing).
- CE Grants support implementation of the CoC's Coordinated Entry System
- CE/DV grants support development and implementation of policies and procedures to equip the CE system to better meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness who are fleeing DV.
- HMIS grants support implementation of the HMIS system
- Generally, only CE or HMIS administering entity can apply



Eligible Participants

Project Type	Eligible Population
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	People experiencing chronic homelessness (per HUD definition)
Rapid Rehousing (RRH) and Joint TH/RRH	People experiencing literal homelessness (Category 1), at-risk (Category 2) or fleeing DV (Category 4)
DV Bonus RRH and Joint TH/RRH	Must serve DV survivors who qualify as homeless either under Category 1 (literally homeless) or Category 4 (fleeing DV).

Ineligible Populations

CoC funding cannot be used to serve people who are housed or unstably housed, such as:

- Couch surfing
- Doubling up
- Staying in a sober living home or room and board
- Staying in a motel room paid for by client
- Renting own unit but housing is unstable



Serving Subpopulations

- Projects may target a specific subpopulation
- Must comply with anti-discrimination laws, e.g., can't exclude people based on a particular type of disability
- Common subpopulations:
 - Youth (18-24)
 - Families with children
 - Survivors of domestic violence
 - Veterans
 - People w/ disabling conditions



Eligible Budget Line Items/Costs

Housing costs: acquisition/rehab, new construction, leasing, operations, rental assistance

Supportive services: case managers, housing specialists, social workers, other specialists

Other costs: HMIS, Administration (indirect costs)



Other Requirements

Coordinated Entry

Housing First

Use of Homeless
Management
Information
System (HMIS)

Data Quality
standards

Recordkeeping &
Documentation

Match costs for the
program, generally
4:1 (25%)



Accepting Coordinated Entry Referrals

The Coordinated Entry System (CES)

- A centralized and coordinated process for intake, assessment, and referrals to ensure equal access to services
- Households are referred based on need and vulnerability

CoC-funded projects must:

- Use the CES as their only referral source
- Enroll all eligible households referred



Housing First

Program applicants are not screened out based on:

- Having too little or no income
- Active, or history of, substance use or a substance use disorder
- Having a criminal record
- History of domestic violence

Program participants are not terminated from the program for:

- Failure to participate in supportive services
- Failure to make progress on a service plan
- Loss of income or failure to improve income
- Being a survivor of domestic violence



Financial and Administrative Capacity

Applicants should have:

- Robust accounting system that meets GAAP
- Annual audits or at a minimum audited financial statements
- Experience with interpreting and implementing federal regulations
- Experience in HMIS data quality and other requirements or ability to quickly come up to speed



Match Requirements

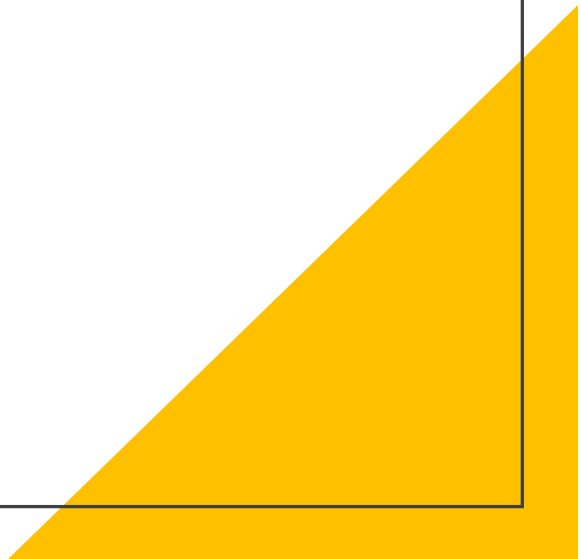
- A 25% match is required for all CoC funds (except leasing)
- The basic match ratio is 4:1 – for every \$4 you get from HUD (except leasing), you need to find and spend \$1 from some other source.
- Match funds must be spent on HUD eligible costs (in other words, if HUD won't pay for something in your budget, you cannot pay with another source and count it as match).
- Match must be spent on eligible participants (i.e. participants in the CoC-funded program)
- Match can be cash or in-kind





EveryOneHome

LOCAL CoC PROCESS AND EVALUATION FACTORS



CoC Funding Process

HUD releases an annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

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HUD CoC NOFO

- Annually, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) releases a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to apply for Continuum of Care (CoC) funding.
- The notice includes the amount of funding available and application instructions.
- Establishes the overarching rules that each CoC must follow in designing the local application process.



Local Competition

- Each CoC designs a local process aligned to HUD's NOFO requirements
- CoCs are required to evaluate, score and rank applications based on a transparent set of criteria
- Process includes both new and renewal projects (most are renewals)
- Each CoC can design its own process, including the timeline, content of the applications and how they are scored
- Scoring criteria should be as objective as possible, but can include subjective factors
- Objective factors for renewals must include project performance (drawn from HMIS data)



Tiering of Projects

Rating and ranking will generate two tiers of projects:

- **Tier 1**= higher scoring projects, that are guaranteed to receive funding
- **Tier 2**= lower scoring projects that are not guaranteed to receive funding

Project Priority List = list of projects placed in these two tiers that will be included in final Consolidated Application.

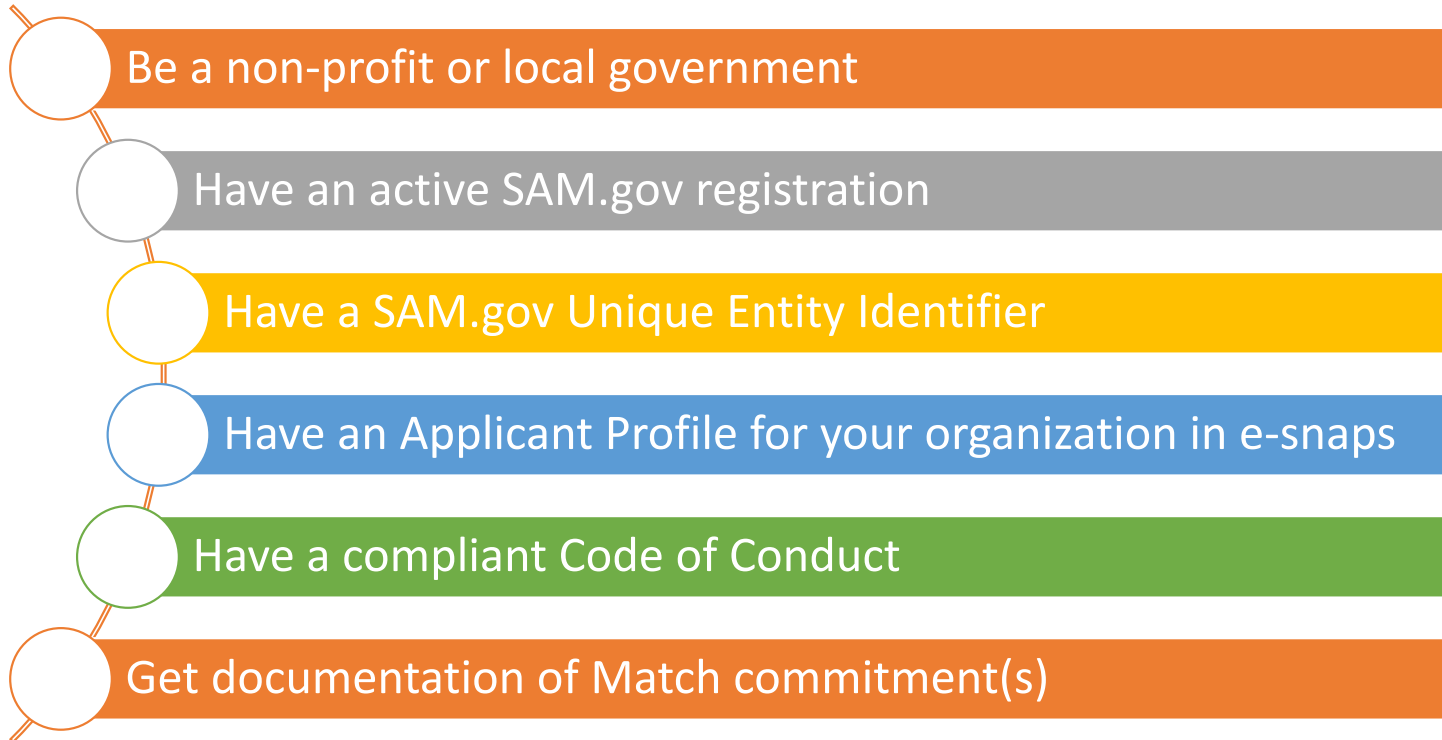


Process Steps and Timing

- HUD releases NOFO – usually in June or July
- CoC NOFO Committee develops and adopts local process, policies, and scoring factors using guidance approved by Leadership Board
- Bidder's Conference (local competition opens)
- Applicants submit local applications
- NOFO Committee completes rating and ranking of applications
- Appeals process
- Consolidated Application submitted to HUD – usually September



Before You Submit an Application!

- 
- Be a non-profit or local government
 - Have an active SAM.gov registration
 - Have a SAM.gov Unique Entity Identifier
 - Have an Applicant Profile for your organization in e-snaps
 - Have a compliant Code of Conduct
 - Get documentation of Match commitment(s)



Further Information and Resources

1. EveryOne Home website
2. HUD Websites
3. Send in an LOI – we will reach out to discuss and provide technical assistance. Due May 15th by 5 p.m.
4. Email questions to:
kate@kbristol.com cc: to
alameda@homebaseccc.org



QUESTIONS?

