Cleveland/Cuyahoga County CoC FY 2019 NOFA Competition Project Rating and Ranking Procedure

Purpose

On an annual basis, the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Continuum of Care is required to rate and rank all new and renewal projects submitted to HUD for funding in an order that reflects the CoC's needs and priorities. Additionally, HUD requires CoCs to review the performance of all funded projects and seek to reallocate funding away from low performing projects or those providing services that are of a lower priority in preventing and ending homelessness.

The Cleveland/Cuyahoga County CoC is seeking to accomplish the following in the ranking and reallocation of projects:

- Incentivize all providers to focus on outcomes and to seek to achieve the performance targets specified by the CoC in order to improve the performance of the CoC as a system.
- Encourage providers to adopt evidence based practices including Housing First to more effectively employ CoC resources.
- Replace projects that are not high performing, cost effective, or following evidence based practices with new projects that follow CoC and HUD priorities.

Policy

All new and renewal projects will be ranked by the CoC. The primary factor controlling the ranking of projects will be the rating scores assigned to renewal and new projects Scoring is based on project performance, severity of need of population served, grant management, system outcomes, cost-effectiveness and adherence to policy priorities. Grantees are required to participate in HMIS and the Coordinated Entry system, accepting new participants based on priorities established by the CoC.

Projects will be ranked, in part, based on their participation in coordinated entry and admitting participants based specific needs and vulnerabilities including chronic homelessness and victimization, and other barriers to housing such as substance use, criminal backgrounds, no credit, and eviction history.

Except as specified below, projects will be ranked in the NOFA competition by the scores assigned to renewal or new projects.

There are two categories of projects that will not be ranked according to performance scores:

- Projects that are essential to the operation of the CoC. This includes funding for HMIS and Coordinated Entry. These are unique projects focused on CoC operations and that cannot be readily evaluated or compared to other CoC funded projects. Failure to renew this funding would have negative consequences for the CoC and jeopardize future funding opportunities.

- First time renewal of newly funded grants. HUD requires newly funded one-year project grants to be renewed in the competition. In most instances, these projects will not be able to report on a full year of operations in the APR.

The two project types identified above will not be assigned scores. These projects will be ranked by the CoC to assure – to the maximum extent possible – that they will be funded in the competition. Subject to review based on the actual NOFA, these projects will be ranked below other renewal applications but above the new applications.

All other CoC projects will be ranked according to scores

- Renewal projects that qualify for renewal based on the renewal performance evaluation will be ranked above new projects. The scoring criteria for the renewal projects are attached to this document.
- New projects will be ranked according to scores below the renewal projects. The new projects will be rated using the new projects threshold review and the new projects rating tool as provided at: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5292/project-rating-and-ranking-tool/ New projects will be eligible for up to 100 points.

Reallocation Policy

Current CoC grantees may elect to reallocate some or all of the funding associated with their project. These reallocated projects will be scored as new projects and ranked according to score the same as all new and renewal projects. CoC grantees in good standing (no outstanding HUD or CoC monitoring findings and no open audit findings) may voluntarily reallocate their funding and will not have to compete with other organizations for that funding.

The minimum score for automatic renewal of CoC funded projects is 65% of the highest scoring project.

The Project Improvement Plan must specify how the project will improve performance and meet standards in the upcoming year. If the CoC board accepts the Project Improvement Plan, the grantee will be allowed to apply for renewal funding.

Any legal applicant for CoC funds can apply for new projects from the bonus pool or the uncommitted reallocation pool. The CoC will only rank new projects for which there is sufficient funding in the bonus or reallocation pool to fully fund the project.

Policy on Expenditure of Grant Funds

Funds unexpended at the completion of the grant term are recaptured by HUD. In some instances these funds are then allocated to other CoCs or in other cases are returned to the federal treasury. The Cleveland/Cuyahoga CoC seeks to minimize this recapture of funding and to the maximum extent possible ensure that homeless assistance funding allocated to the CoC is used to support homeless people in the County.

Under expenditure policy

It is the policy of the Cleveland/Cuyahoga CoC that CoC funds granted to an applicant agency will either be fully expended to assist eligible homeless people or the CoC will recapture the unspent funding and add it to the pool of resources available for reallocation.

CoC grantees that expended less than 90% of their funding in the most recent grant year will face recapture of unexpended funding that exceeds 10% of the grant funds. If, for example, the CoC grant was for $100,000 and $85,000 was expended, the grantee would see $5,000 in funding recaptured. Recapture of unexpended funding that exceeds 10% of the total grant will be automatic. Grantees may prevent this automatic recapture by submitting an appeal to the Advisory Board of the CoC. The appeal will need to: explain the reason for the under-expenditure and provide a plan for fully expended the grant in the current cycle. The Board may approve the request at its discretion. However, if the funds are restored and under-expended in the subsequent grant cycle funding will be recaptured as indicated above. All CoC board decisions can be appealed but a second appeal would require extraordinary circumstances to be approved.

Renewal Performance Standards

The Renewal Performance Standards are found in the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County CoC – Performance Standards 2019 document.

Renewal Evaluation Standards	PSH/Safe Haven	Maximum Points	RRH/PH	Maximum Points	RRH/ES	Maximum Points
Occupancy	100% = 15 points 92-99% = 10 85-91% =5	15	100% = 15 points 92-99% = 10 85-91% =5	15	100% = 15 points 92-99% = 10 85-91% =5	15
Stayers with cash income at annual assessment	≥70% = 15 points 60-69= 10 points 50-59% = 5	15				
Participants with cash income			≥70% = 15 points 60-69 = 10 points 50-59% = 5 < 50% = 0	15	≥60% = 15 points 50-59% = 10 45-49% = 5 <45% = 0	15
Stayers with non-cash benefits	≥70% = 15 points 60-69 = 10 points < 60% = 0	15				
Participants with non-cash benefits			≥70% = 15 points 60-69 = 10 points 55-59% = 5 < 55% = 0	15	≥75% = 15 points 65-74% = 10 55-64% = 5 <55% = 0	15
Number of days in shelter					≤ 60 days = 10 61-90 days = 5 91-120 days = 1 > 120 days = 0	10
Remaining in PSH or exiting to PH (exclude deceased)	100% = 15 points 95-99% = 10 90-94% = 5 below 90% = 0	15				
Exits to PH			100% = 20 points 92-99% = 10 85-91% = 5 < 85% = 0	20	100% = 15 points 85-99% = 10 70-84 = 5 <70% = 0	15
Exits to Shelter or Unknown	0% = 10 points 1-10% = 5 >10% = 0	10	0% = 10 points 1-9% = 5 points 10-20% = 3 points > 20% = 0	10	≤ 5% = 10 points 6-10% = 5 points 11-20% = 3 points > 20% = 0	5
Consumer satisfaction surveys - satisfaction	satisfaction score: 50 possible points based on survey responses. Converted to 20 point scale	20	satisfaction score: 50 possible points based on survey responses. Converted to 15 point scale	15	satisfaction score: 50 possible points based on survey responses. Converted to 15 point scale	15

Cuya_a CoC 2018 Renewal Evaluation Standards	PSH/Safe Haven	Maximum Points	RRH/PH	Maximum Points	RRH/ES	Maximum Points
Consumer satisfaction, survey return rate	≥35% = 10 points 25-34% = 5 < 25% = 0	10	≥35% = 10 points 25-34% = 5 < 25% = 0	10	≥35% = 10 points 25-34% = 5 < 25% = 0	10
Subtotal Points		100		100		100

Proposed Additional Standards for 2019	PSH/Safe Haven	Maximum Points	RRH/PH	Maximum Points	RRH/ES	Maximum Points
Length of time from RRH program entry date until date housed*			≤ 30 days = 10 points ≤60 days = 5 points > 60 days = 0	10	≤ 30 days = 10 points ≤60 days = 5 points > 60 days = 0	10
Returns to Homelessness w/in 12 months*	≤ 6% = 15 points 7-9%= 10 points 10% or higher = 0 points	15	≤ 6% = 15 points 7-9%= 10 points 10% or higher = 0 points	15	≤ 6% = 15 points 7-9%= 10 points 10% or higher = 0 points	15
Returns to homelessness w/in 24 months*	≤ 20% = 10 points	10	≤ 20% = 10 points	10	≤ 20% = 10 points	10
Moving on to PH from PSH	rate of those exiting to PH ≥5%	10				
Housing First Compliance	Scored based on HF self-assessment	15	Scored based on HF self-assessment	15	Scored based on HF self-assessment	15
Subtotal Additional Criteria		50		50		50

Data to be Collected but Not Scored in 2019. Evaluation	PSH/Safe Haven	Scoring	RRH/PH	Scoring	RRH/ES	Scoring
Cost-effectiveness	Based on a matrix of housing outcomes and supportive services costs per household - projects with the highest outcomes combined with lowest services costs are scored highest	not scored in 2019 - propose 10 points	Based on cost per permanent housing placement calculated by dividing annual budget by number of exits to PH. Projects in lowest quartile score 10; projects second lowest quartile score 5	not scored in 2019 - propose 10 points	Based on cost per permanent housing placement calculated by dividing annual budget by number of exits to PH. Projects in lowest quartile score 10; projects second lowest quartile score 5	not scored in 2019 - propose 10 points

* These standards will require custom reports from HMIS as they are not in the APR.

Homeless Innovations 7-6-18

December:

Date	# of Families	# of People
12/3/2018	8	24
12/4/2018	5	14
12/5/2018	4	15
12/6/2018	5	15
12/7/2018	6	17
12/10/2018	3	9
12/11/2018	3	7
12/12/2018	0	0
12/13/2018	3	7
12/14/2018	4	9
12/17/2018	6	14
12/18/2018	5	12
12/19/2018	5	11
12/20/2018	3	6
12/21/2018	4	8
12/24/2018	4	9
12/25/2018	HOLIDAY	CL. CLOSED
12/26/2018	3	8
12/27/2018	3	7
12/28/2018	5	12
12/31/2018	4	9
Average:	4 Families	11 persons

January:

Date	# of Families	# of People
1/1/2019	HOLIDAY	CL. CLOSED
1/2/2019	4	10
1/3/2019	7	20
1/4/2019	7	22
1/7/2019	8	27
1/8/2019	10	34
1/9/2019	9	32
1/10/2019	9	32
1/11/2019		
1/14/2019	7	22
1/15/2019	5	22
1/16/2019		
1/17/2019		
1/18/2019		
1/21/2019		
1/22/2019		
1/23/2019		
1/24/2019		
1/25/2019		
1/28/2019		
1/29/2019		
1/30/2018		
1/31/2018		
Average:	7 Families	26 people

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN OVERFLOW IN JANUARY: 10 DAYS

NUMBER OF FAMILIES ON WAIT LIST: 16 - 20

	Average # of Families per night
November	12
December	4
January	7

Cleveland Mediation Center Diversion Stats. Sept 2, 2018 - Jan 11, 2019

Diversion type	Count of Diversion type	108
Diverted	44	40.74%
Not Diverted	51	47.22%
Diverted Self-Resolved	3	2.78%
Supervisor Diverted	8	7.41%
Kids Diverted	2	1.85%

Total Diverted	44	40.74%
Total Not Diverted	51	47.22%
Other Diversions	13	12.04%

Exit Destination	Count of Exit Destination	108
Foster care home or foster care group home	0	0.00%
Group home	0	0.00%
Halfway house	0	0.00%
Hotel/motel paid w/o emergency shelter voucher	8	7.41%
Owned by client, No housing subsidy	0	0.00%
Permanent housing for formerly homeless (SHP. EDEN. Etc.)	0	0.00%
Rental by client, No housing subsidy	5	4.63%
Rental by client, with other (non-VASH) subsidy	0	0.00%
Rental by client, with VASH housing subsidy	0	0.00%
Staying or living in a family member or friend's room, apt., or house	39	36.11%
Substance abuse treatment or detox center	0	0.00%
Emergency Shelter	51	47.22%
Client refused to provide information	0	0.00%
Place not meant for human habitation	0	0.00%
Singles Shelter	2	1.85%
Client Never Returned	3	2.78%

Housing First Self Questionnaire

Organization Name: _____ **Project Name:** _____

Housing First projects are effective in assisting all sub-populations of homeless persons to access and sustain permanent stable housing. It has been demonstrated that projects can be well-run and safe without requirements that prevent many homeless individuals from entering and/or remaining in housing.

As part of the NOFA solicitation for new and renewal projects applicants are required to answer the following questions related to the proposed project's eligibility criteria and project rules. Each question will be scored as indicated. At the completion of the questionnaire, the applicant will tabulate the total score. Maximum points is 15.

1. **Low Barrier access:**

    a. **Will/Does the project require clients to pass a background screening prior to project entry (excluding sexual offender/predator check)?**

       Yes ☐ No ☐ [No = 1 point)

    b. **Will/Does the project prohibit all persons with specified criminal convictions on a blanket basis to be excluded from admission (excluding registered sexual offender/predator, and background screening imposed by other funders)?**

       Yes ☐ No ☐ [No = 1 point]

    c. **Will/Does the project require participants to be clean and sober for a specified period prior to project entry as a condition for admission?**

       Yes ☐ No ☐ [No = 1 point]

    d. **Will/Does the project serve individuals and families regardless of sexual orientation, family composition, or marital status and are transgendered persons served according to the gender with which they identify?**

       Yes ☐ No ☐ [Yes = 1 point]

    e. **Will/Does the project expedite the admission process including aiding in assembling necessary documents in order to support the application for admission and using person-centered and flexible processes for admission to the project?**

       Yes ☐ No ☐ [Yes = 1 point]

f. Does the project actively participate in coordinated entry including attendance at meetings and case conferencing and, if applicable, are all new project entrants being referred through coordinated entry?

Yes ☐ No ☐ [Yes = 1 point]

2. **Housing Retention**

a. Will/Does the project terminate participants for failure to participate in treatment or support services including case management?

Yes ☐ No ☐ [No = 1 point}

b. Will/Does the project terminate participants solely for engaging in substance use?

Yes ☐ No ☐ [No = 1 [point]

c. Will/Does the project require participants to obtain legitimate income as a condition of remaining in the project?

Yes ☐ No ☐ [No = 1 [point]

d. Will/Does the project make all efforts to avoid discharging participants into homelessness including referral back to coordinated entry for those who cannot remain in the project?

Yes ☐ No ☐ [No = 1 point]

e. Will/Do project participants be held to standards/behaviors not found in mainstream leases (such as not being allowed visitors, curfews, required to do chores, or not be allowed to have alcoholic beverages in their unit)?

Yes ☐ No ☐ [No = 1 point]

3. **Participant engagement**

a. Will/Does the project provide participant choice in accessing services and are efforts made to connect participants to community based services?

Yes ☐ No ☐ [Yes = 1 point]

b. Will/Does the project provide regular opportunities for program participants to provide input on project policies and operations?

Yes ☐ No ☐ [Yes = 1 point]

c. Will/Does the project employ Person Centered Planning as a guiding principle of the service planning process?

Yes ☐ No ☐ [Yes = 1 point]

d. Are/Will the project staffed be trained in clinical and non-clinical strategies to support participant engagement including harm reduction, motivational interviewing, trauma informed approaches, and strength based?

Yes ☐ No ☐ [Yes = 1 point]

TOTAL SCORE: _____   % of applicable points: _____

Certification of Responses

By submitting this document to the Continuum of Care, the applicant certifies that the responses are accurate and truthful. If upon monitoring by the CoC, it is found that the project is not following the practices as identified above, the applicant acknowledges that this may result in sanctions up to an including reduction in CoC funding or reallocation of all funding from the CoC for the project.

Applicant Organization: _____

Responsible Official (name and title): _____

Email: _____