

Cleveland/Cuyahoga Continuum of Care OH-502

July 14, 2023

Local Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition is Open

Invitation to Bid: The Cleveland Cuyahoga CoC announces the opportunity to apply for funding under the 2023 HUD Continuum of Care Notification of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). Detailed instructions for renewal and new project applications are below.

2023 Continuum of Care Competition

This opportunity is available for renewal and new projects under the annual Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity. All Continuum of grants expiring in Calendar Year 2024 **MUST** apply for renewal as part of this competition.

RENEWAL GRANTS: Any organization with HUD Continuum of Care funding in the OH-5025 CoC that is expiring in Calendar Year 2024 must apply for renewal funding through this funding opportunity. Failure to submit a renewal application under designated timeline or other application requirements, may result in exclusion in the Collaborative Application and funding being discontinued.

BONUS PROJECTS: (New projects) Opportunity to apply for bonus funding to create new permanent housing projects. The amount of potential bonus funding has increased for 2023. The CoC has previously issued a request for new project applications – only organizations that applied under that RFA and whose proposals were accepted will be allowed to apply for new project funding.

Eligible new project types include:

- Rapid Rehousing (PH-RRH)
- Joint Transitional- Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH-RRH)
- Permanent Supportive Housing (PH-PSH)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BONUS: opportunity for project applications that exclusively serve populations eligible for services under HUD Category 4 Homeless. The DV bonus was also

included in the previously issued request for applications. Only those organizations whose proposals were accepted will be allowed to apply for DV Bonus funding.

Eligible project types include:

- Rapid rehousing (RRH)
- Joint Transitional- Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH-RRH)

LOCAL COMPETITION: The Cleveland/Cuyahoga Continuum of Care is pleased to announce the start of the local competition for HUD Continuum of Care Funding. This competition is to award funding made available through the [HUD CoC NOFO 2023](#) that was issued on July 5, 2023.

In the 2023 competition all grants that are listed on the Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW) for the Cleveland/Cuyahoga CoC **MUST** submit renewal project applications in E-SNAPS in order to continue their programs. Failure to submit an application in the format and schedule as stated in this announcement could result in the permanent elimination of funding for the project. The recently awarded Youth Homeless Demonstration Project funding is not part of this competition.

RANK AND REVIEW: Under the Continuum of Care NOFO, HUD requires CoC's to rank project applications in priority order and to base that ranking, at least partially, on how the project succeeds in meeting HUD system performance measures. Due to the need to continue providing services and support to households currently receiving CoC assistance, the CoC policy has been to prioritize well-performing renewal projects. Renewal projects with the exception of projects renewing for the first time and lacking a full year of operational experience and those essential to the operation of the CoC (coordinated entry) are ranked according to their renewal evaluation score. That score, in turn, is based on HUD system performance measures and compliance with CoC and HUD requirements and policies as determined collectively by the Cleveland/Cuyahoga CoC.

OVERVIEW OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

There is significant information in the [FY 2023 NOFO](#), including some changes from prior competitions. This includes:

- Tier 1 is 93% of the community's Annual Renewal Demand – this is an increase in the amount of funding in Tier 2 (which is the funding at risk) from last year. For the OH-502 CoC, the amount of renewal funding in Tier 2 is just over \$2.5 million.
- The funding not at risk for the CoC, Tier 1, is \$33,253,994.
- The amount of CoC bonus funds has increased from 5% of final pro rata need to 7% of final pro rata need. Therefore, the total possible CoC bonus funding is just over \$2.5 million.
- There is a DV bonus again this year. Scoring for the bonus is the same as in 2022. Half of the 100 possible points will be based on the CoC score; remaining factors include: CoC

collaboration with victim services providers (10), need for the project (10), quality of project applicant experience (15), use of victim-centered practices (8) and plan to include survivors with lived experience (7).

- Eligible populations for new PH-RRH and Joint TH/RRH projects. New projects may apply to serve category 1, 2 or 4 of the homeless definition. Category 2 is a household at imminent risk of homelessness. New PSH projects may only serve the chronically homeless or DedicatedPLUS populations.
- Multiple DV Bonus RRH and/or TH-RRH Projects may be submitted
- Current DV Bonus projects can be expanded – projects that were funded other than as DV bonus projects can apply to expand their projects using DV Bonus funds and only serving survivors in the DV program expansion.

Additionally, HUD is continuing to offer some opportunities that began in prior competitions. These opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- **Expansion** Projects – new project applications that add to existing CoC projects by serving more people, providing new or additional supportive services or both.
- **Consolidation** of 2-10 grants into one project to streamline grant administration.
- **Transition** grants that allow an existing CoC grant to change components (i.e., shift from PSH to RRH) during the course of the next program year. These are new project applications.
- Opportunities to submit new project applications for new PSH, RRH, TH-RRH, HMIS and/or Coordinated Entry-SSO grants.
- DV Bonus applications for RRH or joint TH/RRH

Eligible Applicants. Eligible organizations¹ are invited to submit new or renewal applications for CoC funding to be included in the 2023 Collaborative Application. The only entities that may submit a renewal application are current HUD CoC grantees that have a grant with an end date in calendar year 2024.

Supportive Materials

Review the FY23 [NOFO](#) carefully and take full advantage of the hyperlinks included within the NOFO that link to a vast amount of HUD supportive documentation and resources.

Review the HUD issued Detailed Instructions for the applicable project type(s) being applied for. HUD CoC Competition Materials are found here:

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/competition. Materials for the 2023 competition are still being developed and will be released on the HUD website when completed.

¹ Eligible organizations include nonprofit organizations and government entities including public housing agencies. Individuals and for-profit entities are ineligible to apply.

This information and more resources related to the FY23 CoC Competition are located on the [COC website](#) – please refer to the website routinely throughout the local competition for immediate access to the latest information on the competition.

Deadlines and Training Information

Please take careful note of the following deadlines and training dates. There are separate training dates for renewal, YHDP, and new project applicants.

New and renewal project applications submitted after the deadlines listed below may not be considered for funding in the FY2023 Cleveland/Cuyahoga COC competition.

Renewal Project Applicants:

Renewal applications must be submitted in the ESNAPS grants management system no later than **August 18, 2023 at 5pm** Eastern Time.

The Cleveland/Cuyahoga CoC is providing a webinar to support the renewal project application process. The webinars will cover the FY2023 NOFO for renewal applicants, ESNAPS training and have time for Q&A.

Renewal Project webinar for CoC grants details follow:

- **July 21, 2023, 10 am Eastern time**

Method for Submission of Renewal Applications

All renewal applications must be submitted in the e-snaps grants management system operated by HUD. Project applications submitted in e-snaps are received and reviewed by the CoC. All renewal applications will be scored and ranked using the Renewal Performance Evaluation Standards for FY 2023. The recently awarded Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP) funding is NOT included in this year's competition.

New Project Applicants:

The Cleveland/Cuyahoga CoC issued a [Request for Proposals for New Projects](#) on **May 22, 2023**. An information session on the opportunity was held on June 14, 2023 -Recordings of the sessions and the slides are available on the [CoC website](#) in the funding section. New Project Proposals were due June 30, 2023, at 5pm Eastern Daylight Time. These proposals are being reviewed by the CoC Committee charged with this purpose. Projects accepted by the CoC NOFO Review Committee and approved by the CoC Advisory Board will be invited to apply directly to HUD. HUD will make the final determination as to whether new projects selected by the CoC will receive funding.

The CoC will notify the highest scoring new project letters of interest of their approval to submit new project applications in the ESNAPS grants management system. This communication is anticipated to be in early August. For those invited to apply, the ESNAPS new project applications must be submitted in the ESNAPS grants management system no later than **August 25, 2023 at 5 pm** Eastern Daylight Time. Please take careful note of this two-step new project application process.

New Project letters of interest not selected for submission of an ESNAPS new project application will be notified of that decision via email. This communication is anticipated to be in early August. This notification will be made in writing and outside of the ESNAPS system.

The CoC is **providing a webinar to support the new project application process.** This webinar will cover the FY2023 NOFO for all types of new project applicants, including new projects under the DV Bonus opportunity, the regular CoC Bonus opportunity, reallocated funding, and new projects to transition, expand and/or consolidate existing renewal projects. ESNAPS training and time for Q&A will also be included.

New project webinar details follow:

- **August 7, 2023 10 am Eastern time.**

Invitation to organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding:

The CoC actively seeks applications from organizations that have not previously received HUD CoC funding. HUD places considerable requirements on grantees and the application process can be challenging. Organizations without CoC grant experience are invited to reach out to the CoC by contacting Allison Gill (agill@cuyahogacounty.us) and request assistance in understanding program requirements or the application process. Requirements on eligible participants and activities are very stringent and organizations are encouraged to discuss potential projects and the application process.

Applicants for all new and renewal projects will be notified in writing, outside of the eSNAPS system, on or before September 8, 2023, as to whether their project(s) will be accepted and included in the Cleveland/Cuyahoga CoC's Collaborative Application to HUD.