August 11, 2022

HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

For FY 2022 Continuum of Care Funds Sonoma County Request for Proposals (RFP)

On August 1, 2022 the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued the Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for 2022 Continuum of Care Funds. Based on recent communications with HUD, Sonoma County applicants are eligible for a combined total of approximately **$4.5 million for new and renewal** FY 2022 Continuum of Care projects. A total of **$4,042,618** is approved for renewal projects. The following funds are available for NEW projects:

* A total of **$202,131** in bonus funding is competitively available for one or more permanent supportive housing projects (PSH), rapid rehousing projects (RRH), joint transitional housing-rapid rehousing projects (TH-RRH), HMIS projects, or Coordinated Entry projects.
* A total of **$191,288** in Domestic Violence (DV) bonus funding is competitively available for one more projects serving victims of domestic violence.
* A total of **$0** is currently available in reallocated funding, this may change upon providers response to the reallocation questionnaire or the committee’s decision to reallocate underperforming projects.

Local application guidance for both new and renewal projects is attached to this Request for Proposals (RFP). Prospective applicants should review the Continuum of Care NOFO in full at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2022-coc-program-nofa-coc-program-competition/>

Please also review the provisions of this local RFP in full, and note the local and final deadlines as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Bidders conference for NEW Projects  | August 15,2022 |
| Renewal/Reallocation Questionnaires  | August 15, 2022 |
| Technical Assistance Session (e-snaps and applications) | August 16, 2022 |
| Open Office Hours  | August 19, 2022 |
| Local Submission in e-snaps | August 26, 2022 |
| Finals Submission by CoC (8:00 PM EST) | September 23, 2022 |

For further information contact:

Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator: 707-565-1884 or Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org

And

Araceli Rivera, Homeless Projects Specialist: 707-565-2387 or Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org

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# Submission Timeline and Local Deadlines

In the annual Continuum of Care competition, all applications are submitted as a single, consolidated application. Thus, both local and final submission deadlines are needed. The final local of the CoC Collaborative Application submission deadline is **September 23, 2022**. The 2022 Continuum of Care Application Detailed Timeline (Attachment 1) ensures the collaborative application is complete and ready for submission by the final submission deadline of **September 30, 2022 (8:00 PM EST).**

A brief **Renewal/Reallocation Questionnaire** is required to confirm renewal applicants’ intent to apply for funding, and to ascertain whether funds are available for reallocation, beyond those currently identified. This form is due **August 15, 2022** and appears in this RFP as Attachment 2.

A competition for new project funding will be conducted using HUD’s electronic application system, e-Snaps. **All new applications must submit the Supplemental Questionnaire (Attachment 5) outside of e-Snaps** to the CoC Coordinator by 11:59 PM on **August 26, 2022**. The Sonoma County 2022 CoC Competition Evaluation Committee will review submissions for new projects on **September 1, 2022** and will bring funding recommendations to the Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board at its virtual meeting on held the week of September 5th (date TBD). The Continuum of Care Board will make the final decision on new bonus project(s), and additional project(s) to be created with reallocated funds (if applicable). Final scores and selections will be posted on the Community Development Commission website by **September 12, 2022**: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/development-services/community-development-commission/divisions/homeless-services/continuum-of-care/2022-continuum-of-care-competition>

**All full project applications** (both new and renewal) must be submitted in e-Snaps, by 11:59 pm Pacific Time on Friday, **August 26, 2022**.

Between August 30th and September 13th, the CoC Coordinator will review all approved project applications, and applicants will have the opportunity to make technical corrections to project applications prior to final submission.

# Tiered Submission

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care, is responsible for prioritizing projects and placing all submitted projects into one of two tiers. Projects placed in Tier 1 will be funded first, from HUD’s FY2022 allocation of $2.8 billion. Projects placed in Tier 1 are virtually guaranteed funding, assuming they pass threshold review by HUD. This year, HUD has determined that Tier 1 funding will be equal to 95% of the total Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). In previous years, HUD would put between 5%-15% of the ARD at risk in Tier 2. Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the maximum amount of renewal reallocation, and CoC Bonus funds that a CoC can apply for. Underperforming projects may be at risk of being placed into Tier 2, and ultimately could have their projects eliminated or reduced if a new project application is ranked above it as projects are funded on a nationally competitive basis.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Total Possible CoC Award | $4,557,326 |
| New CoC Bonus Project Funding | $202,131 |
| New DV Bonus Funding | $191,288 |
| Continuum of Care Planning Grant | $121,279 |
| Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) | $4,042,618 |
| Anticipated Tier 1 funding | $3,840,487 |
| Anticipated Tier 2 funding | $595,500 |
| Reallocated funds currently available for new Tier 2 project(s) – this amount may increase | $0 |
| Balance to be put at risk in Tier 2 | $202,131 |

# Tier 2 Funding

Tier 1 is equal to 95 percent of the CoC’s Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). Tier 2 projects will be funded on a nationally competitive basis and Sonoma County CoC may place one or more projects either fully or partially into Tier 2. The local policy for making such decisions is located within this RFP, attachment 7- Sonoma County Continuum of Care – Process for Making Cuts: FY 2022.

At this point, there are currently three CoC-funded projects that have been identified of being at-risk for eliminated or reduced funding.

Applicants for renewal projects are required to submit a **mandatory Renewal/ Reallocation Questionnaire**, to confirm their intent to apply for all contracted and approved funds, and/or to offer funds for reallocation. **The Renewal/Reallocation Questionnaire is due August 15, 2022** (see Attachment 2). HUD rewards communities that reallocate funding, which means reallocating funds will increase the chance of receiving funding for all renewal projects, new bonus projects, and new projects created through reallocation. If this is not possible, staff will bring to the Continuum of Care Board a proposed strategy for placement of projects into Tier 2. This decision will be on the agenda of the Continuum of Care Board’s Special meeting, the week of September 5th.

# Bonus Projects and New Projects Created through Reallocation

In 2021, bonus funding is available in the amount of $199,829 for the CoC Bonus, 10% of the Sonoma County Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN) for the DV Bonus (total amount TBD upon HUD’s notice), and $0 is currently available through reallocation. Bonus Projects and new projects created through reallocation will be scored separately from renewal projects in the national competition and can include one or more new bonus projects listed below.

Eligible Bonus projects include:

* Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects that serve 100% chronically homeless individuals and families or meet the requirements of DedicatedPlus as defined in of the federal NOFO.
* Permanent housing-Rapid Re-Housing Projects (PH-RRH) must serve homeless individuals, transition age youth, or families.
* Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Re-Housing projects which include transitional housing and permanent housing-rapid rehousing in a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness, including victims of domestic violence.
* DV Bonus projects providing housing and services to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. Per the federal NOFO, Sonoma County CoC may submit applications for one of each of the following projects: 1) Rapid Re-housing project, 2) Joint TH and PH-RRH project, 3) SSO projects for Coordinated Entry to implement policies, procedures, and practices that equip the CoC’s Coordinated Entry to better meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, and 4) Expand an existing renewal project, not dedicated to this population, so long as the DV Bonus funds for expansion are solely for additional units, beds, or services dedicated to persons eligible to be served with DV Bonus funding.

Additional requirements of Bonus Projects (please refer to federal NOFO for all details):

* Bonus projects may include expansion of existing CoC-funded PSH Projects.
* Project applicant does not have any certain open monitoring Findings or a history of slow expenditure of grant funds (e.g., funds left unspent at contract year-end). Please see NOFO for more details.
* The type, scale, and location of the housing fit the needs of program participants; type and scale of services fits the needs of participants.
* A specific plan is in place to ensure program participants will be individually assisted to obtain the benefits of the mainstream health, social, and employment programs for which they are eligible to apply.
* Program participants must be assisted to obtain and remain in permanent housing in a manner that fits their needs.
* Applicant must agree to accept referrals solely from the CoC’s Coordinated Entry System and follow a Housing First approach.

Bonus projects will also be scored nationally on criteria below, therefore these criteria are incorporated into the local scoring (see Attachment 3).

* Prioritizing the Highest Need per Notice CPD-16-11: Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing, issued July 25, 2016.
* A Housing First model must be adequately described in the project narrative as well as collaboration with Coordinated Entry. Local applicants are required to complete Attachment 5 – Supplemental Questionnaire.
* Using an Evidence Based Approach and cost effectiveness
* Maximizing use of mainstream resources for supportive services, especially Medicaid-financed services and/or formal partnerships with Medicaid-billable providers (such as Federally Qualified Health Centers).
* Prioritizing new projects with partnerships with substance use providers, health care organizations, and Public Housing Authorities. Bonus points are available in the overall CoC Application in the amount of 14 points for new projects that show a committed partnership with a 25% match of subsidized housing, substance use services, and/or healthcare services provided that are outside of the CoC and ESG Program.

Applicants for Bonus funds are strongly advised to review and understand the grant terms, especially those described in the NOFO. Additional eligible projects (such as expansion projects and consolidated projects) are described in Attachment 6 – “What’s New in FY 2022”)

# Renewal Projects

Per HUD guidance, **renewal projects will be assigned a priority number** based on the results of project evaluations conducted by the 2022 CoC Competition Evaluation Committee earlier in 2022. The highest performing/highest need projects will be placed at the top of the project listing, and the lowest performing/ lowest need projects will be placed at the bottom of the listing.

Renewal projects supporting required system infrastructure, such as HMIS and Coordinated Entry renewals, will be prioritized into Tier 1 following all Tier 1 housing projects. **All new projects must submit the Supplemental Questionnaire, Attachment 5, by August 26, 2022 outside of e-snaps**. The Continuum of Care Board will approve final project rankings at the meeting scheduled the week of September 5th.

# Administrative Expenses

In this funding cycle, both new and renewal project applicants may claim up to 10% of the CoC project budget, for administrative expense. **A chart showing approved summary budgets for all Sonoma County CoC renewal projects is included as Attachment** **4**.

# Mandatory Bidder’s Conference

A **Mandatory Bidder’s Conference for New Projects** will be held virtually on **August 15, 2022** from 9:30 – 11:30 am. The Bidder’s Conference will address Continuum of Care funding regulations and options for using available funds. Virtual meeting login information is located on **Attachment 1 – 2022 Continuum of Care Application Detailed Timeline**, and will be posted on our website using the following link: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/development-services/community-development-commission/divisions/homeless-services/continuum-of-care/2022-continuum-of-care-competition>

# Local Submission Deadline

All projects approved for submission—new bonus and reallocation (if applicable) projects, and all renewal projects—must be **submitted in e-Snaps** by 11:59 p.m., **Friday, August 26, 2022**.

# Materials to Be Submitted to the Sonoma County Continuum of Care

In addition to the e-Snaps submission, agencies that are new to the CoC funding process must submit the following documents:

* Applicant’s most recent fiscal audit, with accompanying management letter.
* Materials from the most recent Board of Directors meeting (agenda, approved minutes, committee reports, and any other materials presented at the most recent meeting).
* Organizational Chart
* List of 3 funder references
* Current strategic plan, if available.
* Supplemental Questionnaire
* HUD’s Housing First Assessment Tool, located for download here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5294/housing-first-assessment-tool/>

**Please submit the above materials to the CoC Coordinator by 11:59 p.m. August 26, 2022** by email to Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org . Applicants may deliver required electronic documents on a flash drive, by the same deadline, to Sonoma County Continuum of Care, c/o Sonoma County Community Development Commission, 1440 Guerneville Road, Santa Rosa CA 95403, Attention: Karissa White.

**Renewal Projects must submit the 2022 Renewal/Reallocation Questionnaire**, Attachment 2. This form is required of all renewal project applications, and must be submitted by email to Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org **by 5:00 p.m. Monday, August 15, 2022**.

**All full applications**—both new and renewal—must be submitted within **e-Snaps by 11:59 pm, Friday August 26, 2022**.

# New Project Scoring

The scoring schema is organized into four areas (total points: 100):

* Ending Chronic Homelessness & HUD Priorities (34 points)
* Project Design & Description (22 points)
* Budget & Cost Effectiveness (18 points)
* Organizational Capacity & Experience (26 points)

This schema is designed to maximize the chances of both Bonus and Tier 2 New and Renewal projects being awarded. It incorporates HUD’s key policy priorities for the 2022 CoC Competition. **All new projects must complete and submit the Supplemental Questionnaire, Attachment 5, which addresses key scoring criteria.**

Scoring for DV Bonus Projects will follow the same scoring schema as new projects created through reallocation or Bonus Project funding. If a DV Bonus project ranked in Tier 1 is selected with DV Bonus funds, the project will be removed from this tier and the projects below it will move up one rank position. However, if a new DV Bonus project is not selected with DV Bonus funds, the project will retain its ranked position (see Section II.B.11.e of the NOFO). Agencies serving victims of domestic violence projects will be scored on non- identified data submitted through a comparable database.

*As noted previously, the Continuum of Care Board may elect to place a Bonus Project into Tier 1. The experience of the previous competitions indicates a Bonus project is less likely to be awarded if placed into Tier 2. DV Bonus Projects will be ranked with a unique identifier per the federal NOFO.*

*Only applicants new to the CoC funding process need to submit financial and organizational materials. New projects will be scored on agency capacity.*

# New Project Rating and Ranking

New projects will be scored by the 2022 CoC Competition Evaluation Committee at its **September 1, 2022** meeting. The CoC Competition Evaluation Committee’s recommendations will be brought to the Continuum of Care Board for final approval during the special meeting to be scheduled the week of September 5th.

Final project priorities will be announced through the Sonoma County Continuum of Care website at the following URL: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/development-services/community-development-commission/divisions/homeless-services/continuum-of-care/2022-continuum-of-care-competition> . Letters will be sent to all new project applicants by **September 12, 2022**, to communicate whether projects are accepted, reduced, or rejected and their priority placement.

# Appeals

Due to necessary technical review, rating and ranking, and the extremely short timeline before final submission, the CoC Board’s selection of projects to be included in the Sonoma County Consolidated CoC Application will be final.

Consistent with HUD rules, an organization may appeal the CoC Board’s decision not to include it in the Sonoma County Consolidated CoC Application and submit a solo application to HUD, if that application is submitted by the competition deadline of **September 23, 2022**. Applicants appealing this decision may seek technical assistance for solo application via the federal CoC Competition web page at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2022-coc-program-nofa-coc-program-competition/> and the “Ask A Question” function at [https://www.hudexchange.info/get-assistance/my-question /](https://www.hudexchange.info/get-assistance/my-question%20/)

If HUD finds that the solo applicant was not permitted to participate in the Continuum of Care funding process in a reasonable manner, then HUD may award the grant to that solo applicant and may direct the Sonoma County Continuum of Care to take remedial steps to ensure reasonable participation in the future. HUD may also reduce the consolidated award to the Sonoma County Continuum of Care.

# Technical Assistance Session and Office Hours

A **Technical Assistance Session on the e-Snaps electronic submission system and application review** will be held in person, at the Sonoma County Community Development Commission on **Tuesday, August 16th from 1:30-3:30 pm**. It is highly recommended that you bring your laptop with you so staff can walk through opening up your application in the system. Meeting address, date and time are listed on Attachment 1-2022 Continuum of Care Application Detailed Timeline. Technical assistance sessions are open to all applicants (new or renewal). New applicants should obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (EUI) number and begin SAM registration prior to this session. See Recommended Steps, next page, for UEI and SAM guidance. This training will focus on basic e-snaps navigation, Project Applications and attachments; applicants should have access to the e-snaps system while participating in the meeting. E-snaps information: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/>

The Technical Assistance session is designed to improve the quality of the Sonoma County Consolidated CoC Application as a whole. Those with e-Snaps experience are expected to assist newer applicants in this collaborative application, either through the technical assistance sessions or via one-on-one help.

Sonoma County Community Development staff will also be holding optional Office Hours to assist with any questions or issues with the e-snaps system**. Office hours will be held virtually on August 19th from 11:00-12:30pm.** Link to the virtual meeting login information is located in Attachment 1.

The published meetings are the only times Sonoma County Continuum of Care staff will be available for assistance prior to technical corrections, and it is strongly recommended that those preparing applications attend.

If applicants attend the TA sessions and are still experiencing difficulties, they should contact the Continuum of Care Coordinator, Karissa White, for additional assistance at Karissa.white@sonoma-county.org or by phone at 707-565-1884.

# Questions

Questions may be directed to the Continuum of Care Coordinator, Karissa White, at Karissa.white@sonoma-county.org or by phone at 707-565-1884.

# Recommended Steps

Potential applicants are urged to take the following steps as soon as possible:

1. To receive up to date information about the 2022 Continuum of Care NOFO, join a listserv at https:// [www.hudexchange.info/mailinglist/](http://www.hudexchange.info/mailinglist/) .
2. All local communications about the competition will be posted on the Lead Agency’s website at: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/development-services/community-development-commission/divisions/homeless-services/continuum-of-care/2022-continuum-of-care-competition>
3. Obtain a UEI number: Applicants must provide a valid UEI number, registered and active at <https://sam.gov/content/duns-uei> in the application. The DUNS number remains the official identifier for doing business with the U.S. Government only until April 4, 2022. As of April 4, 2022, entities doing business with the federal government must use the Unique Entity Identifier created in SAM.gov.
4. Register with the federal government’s System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://sam.gov/SAM/pages/public/loginFAQ.jsf> . This process takes the place of the old Central Contractor Registry and can take several weeks if there are problems. If you were registered in CCR, these files were migrated into SAM but you must set up a new account in SAM to access or update them. If your CCR or SAM registration has expired, you need to set up an account and update the file. Once complete, it can still take several days for it to update everywhere in the SAM system. Note: A UEI Number and SAM assistance document is located at <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/1245/dun-and-bradstreet-duns-number-guide/> (See General Resources tab.)
5. Set up an individual user profile on the e-Snaps electronic application site: <https://esnaps.hud.gov/grantium/frontOffice.jsf>
6. If there have been changes to the Authorized Representative since your last application, please see the Authorized Representative Resource at [https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2906/instructions-for-updating-coc-project-applicant- authorized-representative/](https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2906/instructions-for-updating-coc-project-applicant-%20authorized-representative/) . It can take several weeks to complete this change, so do not delay.
7. Once you have obtained a number and registered with SAM, set your organization up on the e- Snaps site on the Applicants tab. This is comparable to the SF-424 cover sheet submitted with every other federal grant. This process will also be covered at the August 16th Technical Assistance Session; tutorials are also available at: [https://www.hudexchange.info/e- snaps/guides/coc-program-competition-resources/](https://www.hudexchange.info/e-%20snaps/guides/coc-program-competition-resources/)

# Resources

The federal FY2022 Continuum of Care NOFO is available at: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=342855>

Also review:

FY 2022 CoC Program NOFO Policy Requirements and General Section: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2022-coc-program-nofa-coc-program-competition/>

Notice on Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing and Recordkeeping Requirements for Documenting Chronic Homeless Status, at : [https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5108/notice-cpd-16-11- prioritizing-persons-experiencing-chronic-homelessness-and-other-vulnerable-homeless-persons-in- psh/](https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5108/notice-cpd-16-11-%20prioritizing-persons-experiencing-chronic-homelessness-and-other-vulnerable-homeless-persons-in-%20psh/)

Notice on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/affht_pt.html>

The Continuum of Care Program Interim Rule can be found at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2033/hearth-coc-program-interim-rule> /

E-Snaps, the online submission system, can be accessed at: <https://esnaps.hud.gov/grantium/frontOffice.jsf>

A series of useful tutorials on the E-Snaps electronic submission system are at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/e-snaps/guides/coc-program-competition-resources>

HUD regularly updates its Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at: [https://www.hudexchange.info/e- snaps/faqs/](https://www.hudexchange.info/e-%20snaps/faqs/)

CoC Program Toolkit - Introduction to the CoC Program: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/toolkit/>

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Local Competition Page: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/development-services/community-development-commission/divisions/homeless-services/continuum-of-care/2022-continuum-of-care-competition>

HUD’s CoC Virtual Binders: <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/?utm_source=HUD+Exchange+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=aa5cc12e9b-New_CoC_ESG_Binders_HUDX_6_16_21&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f32b935a5f-aa5cc12e9b-19343217>

# Attachment 1- 2022 Continuum of Care Application Detailed Timeline

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Action** |
| August 01 | NOFO for FY 2022 Funds Released |
| August 11  | Local Request for Proposals issued, including new funding availability and Renewal/Reallocationforms. |
| **August 15**  | **MANDATORY Bidder’s Conference for NEW Projects- virtual** 9:30am -11:00am, Virtual Zoom meeting, login information listed below Zoom Meeting Link:<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/99830486890?pwd=ekpPcGt0R3JUWDRPK0NjUG13VlB3UT09>Meeting ID: 998 3048 6890 Passcode: 500224 Telephone: +1 669 900 9128 US |
| **August 16** | **Technical Assistance Session for Applicants: Introduction to *e-Snaps and Applications in e-Snaps review (in person, please bring your laptops if you would like assistance walking through opening your application)***1:30pm – 3:30pmLocation:Sonoma County Community Development Commission1440 Guerneville Road, Santa Rosa *This is a collaborative application. Those with e-snaps experience are expected to assist newer applicants. New applicants should obtain a UEI number and SAM registration prior to the session if possible.* |
| **August 15**  | **Renewal and Reallocation Questionnaire Due to CoC Coordinator by 5pm** |
| **August 19**  | ***FY 2022 CoC Competition Open Office Hours (optional)*** 11:00am-12:30pm, Virtual Zoom meeting, login information listed below Zoom Meeting Link:<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/91669584503?pwd=WEp4L2dtdUxMVUlueTgrNUpoZlR2UT09> Meeting ID: 916 6958 4503 Passcode: 249687 Telephone: +1 669 900 9128 US |
| **August** **26** | **New and Renewal Project Application(s) and Supplemental Questionnaire due in e-Snaps, 11:59pm** |
| September 1  | Sonoma County 2021 CoC Competition Evaluation Committee Review of New Project Applications |
| TBD Special Meeting Week of September 5th | Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Final Approval of New Projects and Ranking and Ratings |
| September 12 | Publication of new project selections and Priority Listings *(earlier if possible)* on the Sonoma County Continuum of Care Competition website at: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/development-services/community-development-commission/divisions/homeless-services/continuum-of-care/2022-continuum-of-care-competition>  |
| September 12 | Notice of new and renewal project acceptance, reduction, or rejection to applicants. |
| Aug 30-sept 13 | Technical review/corrections, priority ranking & Consolidated Plan certifications |
| September 23 | Public Posting of full Consolidated Application |
| September23 | Final Submission of CoC Application Due in e-snaps (8:00 PM EST) |

# Attachment 2- Renewal and Reallocation Questionnaire, Due August 15th

A completed, signed questionnaire must be received at the Sonoma County Community Development Commission, 1440 Guerneville Rd, Santa Rosa, CA. 95403 no later than 5 :00 pm on August 15, 2022. Email scanned questionnaires to: Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org

Applicant Organization:

Contact Name: Phone: Fax: Email:

Intent to Apply for Renewal Funds:

[ ] We Intend to Apply for renewal of the following projects (please name separately):

Name of project: Award amount: $

Name of project: Award amount: $

Reallocation: Would you consider reducing all of part of funding for any project? [ ] No

[ ] Yes, all (specify amount: $ ) [ ] Yes, part (specify amount: $ )

Reductions in renewal requests can be reallocated to a new Permanent Housing project. If a renewal request is reduced, objectives and numbers served can also be reduced from previous contract levels. For information, consult the NOFO and/or call Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator, at 565-1884 or Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org

If yes, please complete the following:

1. Current HUD contract number(s) of the grant(s) to be reduced:
2. Component of the grant to be reduced (leasing, housing operations, supportive services, etc.
3. Reason for reducing your request and the impact on level of service:
4. If applicable, please attach a proposed budget revision.

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Executive Director Name (please type or print) Executive Director Signature Date

# Attachment 3- New Project Scoring Criteria

*Scoring methodology is subject to revision upon review and approval of the CoC Competition and Evaluation Committee and the Coc Board.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Measurement** | **Possible points** |
| **HUD Priorities: Ending Chronic Homelessness, Coordinated Entry, Housing First, System Performance Measures, Racial Equity, LGBTQ+, Lived Experience, and Mainstream Resources:** | **40** |
| 1. Housing Stability. (System Performance Measure) Proposed percentage of clients served in project to meet this outcome.

*Scoring methodology: 5 points available. Highest percentage of project participants remaining permanently housed at year-end earns full points; the 5 points are prorated from highest to lowest percentage of project participants permanently housed at year end, to lowest. Example if the high is 100% remain in permanent housing at project year-end, and the low is 20% permanently housed, the 100% proposal earns 5 points and the 20% proposal earns 1 points.* | 5 – staff will calculate |
| 1. Exits to Permanent Housing. (System Performance Measure) Proposed percentage of clients served in the project to meet this outcome.

*Scoring methodology: 5 points prorated for the highest percentage of project participants**Exit to permanent destinations. Highest rate of income growth for participants at exit earns full points. Ex: If 100% of individuals is the highest rate and the lowest rate is 5%, the high score earns 5 points and the low score earns .25 points* | 5 – staff will calculate |
| 1. Increase in earned income. (System Performance Measure) Proposed percentage of clients served in the project to meet this outcome.

*Scoring methodology: 5 points prorated for the highest percentage of project participants**increasing employment income at annual assessment and exit. Highest rate of income growth for participants at annual assessment and exit earns full points. Ex: If 100% of individuals is the highest rate and the lowest rate is 5%, the high score earns 5 points and the low score earns .25 points* | 5 – staff will calculate |
| 1. Increase in non-employment income. (System Performance Measure) Proposed percentage of clients served in project to meet this outcome.

*Scoring methodology: 3 points prorated for the highest percentage of project participants**increasing other income at annual assessment and exit. Highest rate of other income growth for participants at annual assessment and exit earns full points. Ex: If 100% of individuals is the highest rate and the lowest rate is 5%, the high score earns 5 points and the low score earns .25 points* | 5 – staff will calculate |
| 1. Maximizing the use of mainstream resources: Agency plan and commitment to a specific plan for assisting eligible participants with mainstream health, social, and employment programs. Proposed percentage of clients served in project to meet this outcome.

*Scoring methodology: 4 points prorated for a commitment of up to 100% of participants linked to mainstream resources in new PSH projects. (A 75% commitment earns 3 points; a 50% commitment earns 2 points; a 25% commitment earns 12 points a 10% commitment earns .5 point; a 100% commitment earns 4 points.)* | 4 - staff will calculate |
| 1. Housing First approach and Coordinated Entry: A HF approach identifies, engages, and

connects homeless persons with the highest level of need; and works to eliminate any barriers to housing in front of the people that need our help the most. Extent to which narrative reflects how the agency is working to implement a Housing First approach.*Scoring methodology: Please see the local questionnaires on Housing First. Reviews will**award 0.5 points for each item effectively addressed for 10 questions. 5 points awarded for agency narrative in supplemental questionnaire that includes specific information on**accepting new clients, exiting clients, lack of preconditions to entry, reducing barriers, and**addressing situations where housing is jeopardized and compliance with Coordinated Entry. 5 points awarded based on score from HUD’s Housing First Assessment Tool.*  | 10 |
| 1. Improving Assistance for LGBTQ+ Individuals: Addressing the service needs of LGBTQ+, transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary individuals and families in agency planning process, employment, and agency anti-discrimination policies.

*Scoring Methodology*: Full points for addressing service needs, hiring practices, and having an agency anti-discrimination policy; Half points for addressing the needs, but do not have an anti-discrimination policy; and zero points for no action/work pertaining to meeting the needs of this population. | 2 |
| 1. Racial Equity: Emphasizing system and program changes to address racial equity using proven approaches and partnership with racially diverse stakeholders who have experience serving underserved populations. Extent to which narrative reflects how agency is working to eliminate barriers to improve racial equity and to address disparities. Such as: review procedures, and processes with attention to identifying barriers that result in racial disparities, and taking steps to eliminate barriers to improve racial equity and to address disparities.

 *Scoring Methodology*: Full points for reviewing data and implementing a plan to address these needs as an agency; half points for reviewing the data without implementing a plan; and zero points for no action/work completed to address racial inequities in the agencies programming.  | 2 |
| 1. Persons with lived Experience: Incorporating Persons with lived experience or those who have formerly experienced homelessness in program planning, policy development, employment, decision making bodies, etc.

*Scoring Methodology*: Full points for the inclusion of those with lived experience on decision making bodies and with employment opportunities; half points for only meeting one of the two options for full points; and zero points for no participation from those with lived experience.  | 2 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Measurement** | **Possible points** |
| **Project Design & Description** | **21** |
| 9. **Narrative** is understandable; project design reflects experience of applicant in working with proposed population; applicant understands client needs, type and scale and location of the housing fit population being served, how clients are assisted in receiving mainstream benefits, performance measurement indicators for housing and income meet HEARTH benchmarks, plan to assist clients with rapidly obtaining permanent housing is clear and accessible. \***Domestic violence projects will be evaluated based on the degree they improve safety for the population they serve and employ trauma-informed victim centered approaches to service delivery.** | 10 |
| 9a. **Bonus:** Coordination with Housing and Healthcare (create new projects that coordinate with housing providers and substance use/ healthcare organizations to provide permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing services)*Scoring methodology: 3 points ( 2 points provided to new projects that have identified partnerships Healthcare organizations to provide supportive services; 4 points for new projects that have a written commitment from a health care organization that services are being provided that is**equivalent to 25% of the funding being requested; 6 points new projects that will receive subsidized housing units for at least 25% of the units for PSH and 25%of individuals served in RRH not funded through the CoC or ESG Programs partnered with a written commitment of services from healthcare organizations).* | 5 |
| 10. **Project readiness:** Plan for opening services and housing is understandable, realistic, and timely (e.g., open within 90 days of contract execution). Extent to which narrative addresses expedited plan for housing placement after technical submission of contract (within 60 days, 120days, and 180 days) | 6 |
| **Measurement** | **Possible Points** |
| **Budget & Cost Effectiveness** | **15** |
| 11. **Budget:** up to 6 points for a budget that is reasonable and meets threshold requirements for eligible expenses. Line item narratives document how CoC funds requested are essential to helping people become permanently housed. Cash match is adequate, from appropriate sources, and accurately calculated.*A 2-point bonus is available for projects that demonstrate at least 10% of services funding from other "mainstream" federal programs as possible in narratives and budget section, e.g., Medi-Cal funding of services.* | 5 |
| 12. **Cost Effectiveness:** Total Project Budget (including estimated match) ÷ number projected to achieve housing performance measures defined in the project application.*Scoring methodology: 5 prorated points; lowest cost per successful projected housing outcome earns full points. The difference between the highest and lowest cost per successful outcome is spread over the 5 points to create a deduction factor per added dollar cost. (If the lowest cost per successful outcome is $100 and the highest is $200, the $100 difference is spread over 5**points to create a .05-point factor to be deducted per added dollar. The $100/outcome project receives 5 points; the $200/outcome project receives 0 points; a $135 per outcome project receives a deduction of 1.75 points and a score of 3.25.)* | 5 - staff will calculate |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 13. **Financial Audit and Health:** *Scoring based on most recent audit including identification of agency as “low risk”, number (if any) of findings, documented match, etc. 5 points = no findings, timely audit,**documented match, 3 points = 1 finding in past 3 years, inaccurate/inconsistent match; 0-1 points =**multiple findings, late audit, etc.**.* | 5 –staff will calculate |
| **Measurement** | **Possible Points** |
| **Organizational Capacity & Local Priorities** | **24** |
| 14. **Organizational capacity and experience:** Relevant experience of the project applicant and partners, as described in the e-snaps submission and via review of CoC and Supplemental Application. | 5 |
| 15. **Local Priorities:**Alignment with 10-year plan goals. 1 point for each goal this is in the project: 1) Evidence of project’s collaborations with corrections partners 2) Evidence of SSI/SSDI Outreach Access & Recovery (SOAR) benefits advocacy 3) Evidence of current practices to prioritize chronically homeless or otherwise medically compromised for permanent housing. (Ex: linkage to HOST or linkage to healthcare partners) and 4) Alignment with Upstream Investments and evidence-based practices. | 4 |
| 16. **Demonstrated capacity managing CoC awards:***Scores will be drawn from the 2022 CoC Project Evaluations, or for new applicants, from the 2022 Supplemental Questionnaire; cumulative rankings from past 3 CoC Competitions. Full points awarded to agencies scoring in the Top 5 of the previous 3 CoC Competitions with no projects falling into At-Risk Tier in past 3 competitions.* | 5 -staff will calculate |
| **17.HMIS data quality, timeliness and coverage of all programs serving homeless:** There are 3 criteria:* 1. Universal Data Elements (Name, SSN, DOB, gender, race & ethnicity) are at least 95% complete;
	2. Assessment data is entered in HMIS 5 days or less after assessments are administered;
	3. Data Validation Reports from HMIS are clean

Full points for meeting all 3 criteria; pro-rated points for missing one or more criteria**\*\*For Victim Services providers, this will be measured by analysis of data quality submitted by victim services providers that does not contain identifying information.** | 10 -staff will calculate |
| **Total** | **100** |

# Attachment 4- Approved Renewal Projects with Final Budgets

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Priority Ranking | Applicant | Project Name | Leasing | Rental Assistance | Supportive Services | Operating costs | HMIS | Admin Costs | Total ARA |
|  1 | COTS |  Community Based PSH | $239,283 | $0 | $28,968 | $12,828  | $0 | $11,764 | $292,843 |
| 2 | Social Advocates for Youth | Sponsor Based Rental Assistance (Consolidated Project) | $0 | $197,760 | $95,231 | $0 | $0 | $12,338 | $305,329 |
| 3 | Buckelew Programs | Sonoma SCIL | $174,645 | $0 | $48,360 | $32,103 | $0 | $11,162 | $266,270 |
| 4 | SCCDC | Youth withDisabilities | $0 | $76,608 | $0 | $0 | $0 | $4,058 | $80,666 |
| 5 | West County Community Services | Mill Street Supportive Housing | $0 | $0 | $12,579 | $80,924 | $0 | $4,339 | $97,842 |
| 6 | Buckelew Programs | Samaritan FACT | $71,227 | $0 | $13,331 | $19,924 | $0 | $4,444 | $108,926 |
| 7 | SCCDC | Rental Assistance – Persons with HIV/AIDS | $0 | $605,544 | $0 | $0 | $0 | $49,870 | $ 655,414 |
| 8 | YWCA | RRH forVulnerable Survivors of DV | $0 |  $104,676 | $148,707 | $0 | $0 |  $6,657 |  $260,040 |
| 9 | Catholic Charities | PSH 2(Consolidated Project) | $491,520 | $0 | $248,208 | $2,130 | $0 | $43,103 | $784,961 |
| 10 | Community Support Network | Stony Point Commons | $0 | $0 | $17,228 | $39,384 | $0 | $2,722 | $59,334 |
| 11 | Community Support Network | Sanctuary Villas | $0 | $0 | $46,644 | $11,710 | $0 | $4,200 | $62,544 |
| 12 | Reach for Home | North County RRH | $0 |  $57,672 |  $30,259 | $0 | $0 | $0 |  $87,931 |
| N/A New  | St Vincent de Paul\* | St Vincent de Paul Commons | $0 | $0 | $239,100 | $64,260 | $0 | $0 | $303,360 |
| N/A | SCCDC\*\* | Coordinated Intake Expansion Project | $0 | $0 | $327,096 | $0 | $0 | $22,895 | $ 349,991 |
| N/A | SCCDC\*\* | HomelessManagement Information System (HMIS)Expansion Project | $0 | $0 | $0 | $0 |  $305,767 |  $21,390 |  $327,157 |

\*Denotes project is newly funded without an APR to score and has not yet began serving individuals.

\*\*Denotes project was a mandated system component.

# Attachment 5- Supplemental Questionnaire for New Projects, Due on August 26, 2022

*A completed, signed questionnaire must be received at the Sonoma County Community Development Commission, 1440 Guerneville Rd, Santa Rosa, CA 95403 no later than 11:59 pm on September 24, 2021.*

*Email scanned questionnaires to:* *Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org* *or fax them ATTN: Karissa White to 707-565-7583*

Applicant Organization:

Contact Name: Phone: Fax: Email:

In addition to the narrative submitted in e-snaps, all new projects must endure that the following information is included:

**Section 1: Design of Housing and Supportive Services**

Describe the extent to which the applicant:

* Demonstrates understanding of the needs of the clients to be served
* Demonstrates the type, scale, and location of the housing fit the needs of the clients to be served
* Demonstrates the type and scale of all supportive services, regardless of funding source meets the needs of the clients to be served
* Demonstrates how clients will be assisted in obtaining and coordinating the provision of mainstream benefits
* Establish performance measures that for housing and income that are objective, measurable, trackable, and meet or exceed and established HUD/HEARTH, benchmarks (include proposed percentages for the project’s housing stability/retention, exits to permanent housing, increasing income from employment and increasing income from non-employment income).
* Domestic violence projects should describe the trauma-informed, victim centered approaches to service delivery that will be employed, including the plan for improving safety.
* Describe the plan to assist clients rapidly secure and maintain permanent housing that is safe, affordable, accessible, and acceptable to their needs
* Describe how clients will be assisted to increase employment and/or income to maximize their ability to live independently

\*Limit 500 words for Question #1

**Section 2: HUD Policy on Implementing a Housing First approach—All new project applicants must complete this question.**

*For maximum points in the local competition, applicants for new PSH, RRH, and Joint TH-RRH projects must complete and submit the following Housing First Questionnaire with detailed responses as well as a narrative describing your agency’s implementation of a Housing First approach.*

Part 1: Please answer the following questions related to your Continuum of Care project’s Housing First approach.

1. Does your project proposal require a background screening prior to program entry (this does not include a credit check conducted by a private market landlord)? If any background check (including check of criminal records) is required, please describe the rationale for the background check below and why it is conducted.
2. Does your project proposal require participants to be sober prior to program entry or during program stay? Do any projects/programs with your agency (including non-CoC funded projects/programs) with your agency require sobriety? If so, please describe the reason and list the programs/projects below.
3. Does the project proposal require participants to have a mental health evaluation/screening prior to program entry? If so, is the evaluation used to ensure that the most vulnerable individuals are prioritized for program placement?
4. Does the project proposal require participants to have income at time of program entry? Please describe your procedure for ensuring that individuals with little or no income are placed into your program.
5. Does the project proposal require participants to participate in supportive services programs as a term of enrollment (such as vocational training, budgeting, life skills classes, etc)? What is your process for outreach and engagement for individuals who decline services? How are participants informed of services available to them and their option to decline services?
6. Does the project proposal require participants to be “progressing” in their goals in order to remain in the project? Describe your process for engaging individuals and service planning.
7. Does the project proposal include curfews and /or required “lights” out time for all participants? What is your guest policy?
8. Will Separation of Housing and Services exist (e.g. are property management and case management functions are separate and distinct)? Please detail if there is a division between service provision and property management. If there is a distinction, please describe how your organization will ensure that CoC Program regulations are followed.
9. Does the project proposal include any requirements, outside of those in a standard lease, for housing readiness? Please discuss your rationale for any provisions not found in a standard lease and how participants are accepted into the program and prioritized based on vulnerability.
10. Will services be participant-driven? Please discuss the ways in which participants guide their service plans.

Part 2: Please describe your agency’s implementation of Housing First, including how you accept new participants, exit participants, ensure there are no preconditions to program entry, reduce barriers, and address situations in which a participant’s housing is in jeopardy. (Limit 250 words)

**Section 3: Incorporation of individuals with lived experience, addressing racial inequities, and work to address needs of the LGBTQ+ population.**

1. How does the perspective of individuals with Lived Experience guide policymaking, process and program development in your agency? What role do individuals with Lived Experience have within your agency (e.g. participation on decision making bodies, peer outreach or support, staffing, feedback mechanisms in place for program improvement, etc.)?
2. Has your organization reviewed data for racial and ethnic disparities in the provision of or the outcome of homeless assistance? If racial or ethnic disparities are present, has your organization worked to identify barriers faced by these populations that resulted in being less likely to receive assistance or receive a positive outcome (e.g., lack of outreach) and steps taken or will take steps to eliminate the identified barriers faced by these populations? If yes, please describe efforts made to address racial equity within your programs (including staffing and individuals served). If you would like technical assistance support from CoC Lead Agency staff, please describe the support needed.
3. How does project/agency address the needs of LGBTQ+, transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary population? Do you have an agency anti-discrimination policy? If you have an anti-discrimination policy, how are participants informed and how are staff trained on the policy? Are staff trained on HUD’s Equal Access Rule?

# Attachment 6- What’s New in FY 2022 Competition

For full details on all changes in the FY 2022 CoC Competition, please review the full federal NOFO and the detailed instructional guides listed on the HUD website. These changes will be reviewed at the Technical Assistance sessions on August 16, 2022. HUD has not yet released the New, Changes and Highlights for the Competition document or any AAQ’s for the competition. Additional information will be provided as an addendum to this RFP as more HUD guidance is released.

2022 CoC Program NOFO: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=335322>

Competition Guide Resource Page: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2022-coc-program-nofa-coc-program-competition/>

Tier 1 and Tier 2

During the FY 2022 Competition tier 1 is equal to 95% of the CoC’s Annual Renewal Demand and Tier 2 is equal to the difference between Tier 1 and the maximum amount of renewal, reallocation, and CoC Bonus funds that a CoC can apply for.

Renewing DedicatedPLUS Projects:

Projects that were awarded as DedicatedPLUS in a previous CoC Program Competition are required to continue to include households with children to qualify as a DedicatedPLUS project in the FY 2022 CoC Program Competition.

Indian Tribes or Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHE):

In the FY 2022 competition, HUD published PPRNs for all formula areas, including tribal formula areas and allowed CoCs to include tribal formula areas in their CoC geography during the FY 2022 CoC Program registration process. A Tribe or TDHE could also form a CoC including only tribal formula areas as part of their geography through the CoC registration process. Additionally, beginning in FY 2022 CoC Program Competition Tribes and TDHEs can be designated as Collaborative Applicants. As in the FY 2021 Competition, any applicant that is not a Tribe or TDHE proposing to site a project on a reservation or trust land must include a tribal resolution from the tribe authorizing the applicant to do so or a letter from an official or principal of the Indian Tribe or TDHE who is authorized to act on behalf of the Indian Tribe or TDHE. Tribes do not need to include a tribal resolution to site a project on their own reservation or trust land.

HUD Transition Grants:

New this year, CoCs will not be limited to only 50 percent of awarded funds to be used for the costs of eligible activities of the program component originally funded. Instead, recipients may use as much of the awarded grant funds on the costs of eligible activities of the program component originally funded; however, by the end of the operating year, the recipient must be fully operating the new program component. Recipients will be eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for eligible activities of the new program component. See Section III.B.2.cc for more information on Transition Grants.

 Revised rating Factors, Racial Disparities:

HUD revised its rating factors regarding CoC evaluation of racial disparities to place greater emphasis on racial equity and increased the number of points in Section VII.B.1.q of the NOFO on whether CoCs and homeless providers have identified barriers that lead to racial disparities, have taken steps to eliminate barriers to improve racial equity, and have implemented measures to evaluate the efficacy of the steps taken. Additionally, points were added to Section VII.B.2.e of the NOFO that will be awarded to CoCs that are promoting racial equity through the local CoC competition. These points will be awarded on the rating factors; review, selection, and ranking processes used; and if rating and ranking of projects is based on the degree to which projects have identified any barriers to participation (e.g., lack of outreach) faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and are taking or will take steps to eliminate the identified barriers.

Revised Rating Factors for LGBTQ+:

HUD revised of the rating factors for addressing the needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) individuals to place greater emphasis on CoCs implementing and training their providers on the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policies that ensure LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive supportive services, shelter, and housing free from discrimination. Further, points were added to Section VII.B.1.f of the NOFO that will be awarded to CoCs that are updating their CoC-wide anti-discrimination policies based on stakeholder feedback and assisting providers in developing their own agency anti-discrimination policies that are consistent with the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policies*.*

Addressing Challenges Related to COVID-19:

HUD is asking CoCs to demonstrate how they will build on these partnerships to ensure they are prepared to prevent and respond to future infectious disease outbreaks amongst people experiencing homelessness. See Section VII.B.1.o for more information.

Tier 2 Scoring Process:

Ambiguous language in the Tier 2 Scoring process described in II.B.11.b.(2) of the NOFO was corrected. The language now states that the calculation for the CoC Project Ranking factor will be 40 times the quantity (1-x) where x is the ratio of the cumulative funding requests for all projects or Page 9 of 102

portions of projects ranked higher by the CoC in Tier 2 plus one half of the funding of the project of interest to the total amount of funding available in Tier 2, which matches the examples.

New Projects:

New projects the CoC would like to be considered as part of the DV Bonus, HUD revised the point value distribution for project applications based on the CoC Application score and responses to the revised domestic violence bonus specific questions in the project applications. For the FY 2022 CoC Program Competition, HUD added scoring factors based on the responses to questions that demonstrate CoCs’ collaboration with victim service providers in the CoC Application, projects’ plans to include survivors with lived experience in policy and program development and the inclusion of victim-centered practices in operating their projects.

Additional Rating Factor:

HUD added an additional rating factor at Section VII.B.1.t. that awards points to CoCs that take steps to engage local leaders about increasing affordable housing supply.

Prioritizing Projects Partnering with Healthcare/Substance Use Organizations:

HUD will incentivize CoCs that create projects that coordinate with housing providers and healthcare/substance use organizations to provide permanent housing and rapid rehousing services.

HUD has increased the amount of points available to a CoC related to coordination with Public Housing Authorities, substance use and/or health care providers. A total of 14 points is available if the Sonoma County CoC has new project applications with at least 25% match from a Public Housing Authority (PHA), and/or substance use/healthcare organization for services or rental subsidy outside CoC and ESG funding. In order to receive full points, we must have new project applications that have committed in-kind match documentation from a PHA, and substance use and/or healthcare provider.

Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities:

This competition, HUD is placing a focus on racial equity and increased the number of points related to whether people of different races or ethnicities are less likely to receive homeless assistance or positive outcomes, whether racial or ethnic disparities are present, and whether CoCs and homeless providers identified barriers that led to these disparities and have taken steps to eliminate these barriers to improve racial equity.

Inclusion of Individuals with Lived Experience:

An expanded category has been added to the NOFO that promotes inclusion in the local planning process of current and former homeless persons with lived experience to address homelessness and participate in the CoCs local planning and evaluations.

Addressing Challenges Related to COVID-19:

Determining the impact of COVID-19 as CoCs faced challenges due to the outbreak of COVID-19 affecting individuals and families experiencing homelessness in congregate and non-congregate shelter or housing as well as increased risks for individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Points were added to the NOFO related to how CoCs addressed challenges resulting from the outbreak of COVID-19 affecting individuals and families experiencing homelessness, including increased calls due to domestic violence, the need for additional assistance related to mainstream benefits and other assistance, and changes needed to the CoC’s coordinated entry system.

Emergency Solutions Grants CARES Act Coordination:

Points are being awarded for coordination with ESG regarding CARES Act funding and distribution with the CoC's geographic area and use of these funds to address homelessness and COVID-19.

New Projects:

New projects can be created through reallocation, CoC Bonus, a combination of Reallocation + CoC Bonus, and Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus.

# Attachment 7- Sonoma County Continuum of Care- Process for Making Cuts FY 2022

To create a pool of reallocated funds from which to create new projects, the Sonoma County Continuum of Care works through its Renewal Project Evaluation Process to make voluntary and involuntary cuts; and makes additional voluntary cuts during the NOFO period if new opportunities emerge.

1. **Reallocation via Renewal Project Evaluations**

The Sonoma County CoC’s 2022 CoC Competition Evaluation Committee both prioritizes renewal projects for the CoC application, and identifies projects with capacity concerns for corrective action and technical assistance. Scoring is based on unmet housing need, alignment with 10-year plan goals, performance on HUD measurements, and grant management. Because of the scoring schema’s weighting by unmet housing need (a need which is overwhelmingly for permanent supportive housing), SSO, RRH and TH projects must perform exceedingly well to be approved for renewal.

Projects are scored by the CoC Coordinator on a preliminary basis. The 2022 CoC Competition Evaluation Committee meets to review preliminary scores and conduct a risk assessment to guide evaluation. A threshold for unconditional renewal is set at 80% of top score; projects scoring above the line are scheduled for monitoring visits only. Projects scoring below that line are invited to a meeting of the full Committee to discuss the challenges faced by the project and design a Corrective Action Plan. Known problems are described in the invitation and applicants are asked to address them and bring any other concerns to the Committee’s attention; under-spent contracts and other issues are noted for discussion and possible follow-up.

At the meeting, applicants and the Committee together identify areas of improvement and what resources are needed to help the project improve its performance. Grantees have the opportunity to provide new information that sometimes raises their score above the unconditional renewal threshold. Through a summary letter recording the conversation and follow-up communications, over the course of 6 weeks each applicant is guided through a process of determining whether to submit additional documentation to revise scoring, undertake Corrective Action or to voluntarily release the project funding for reallocation. If corrective action plans and technical assistance are unsuccessful in improving project performance to the expected level over several years, or in particularly egregious cases (for example, serious concerns about grant management), the Committee can recommend reallocating funds without further corrective action.

The Committee’s work is followed by a full report to the CoC governing body, which reviews its work both in process and at the end of the designated period to develop Corrective Action Plans. The CoC governing body makes the final decision regarding renewal with or without conditions vs. reallocation.

 Note: Since publication of the CoC Interim Rule in 2011, the 2022 CoC Competition Evaluation Committee has also reviewed each project’s continued eligibility under the new CoC regulation. If eligibility concerns emerge, these are discussed with the grantee even if the project scores above the threshold for unconditional renewal.

Reallocations are made in the following situations:

* **Voluntary Cuts:** Following discussion of performance and/or continued project eligibility, and applicant consideration of corrective action needed, the applicant may voluntarily opt not to renew and/or to seek continued funding from non-CoC sources.
* **Involuntary Cuts:** In cases where the 2022 CoC Competition Evaluation Committee records major concerns over several years, the Committee may recommend cutting the project without further corrective action. This decision must be confirmed by the Continuum of Care Board. Applicants may appeal the decision, and the appeal must be considered by the Continuum of Care Board.
1. **Reallocation based on new opportunities identified during the NOFO Period:**

Upon HUD’s release of the annual NOFO, all provisions of the NOFO are reviewed. If the NOFO indicates further ways to maximize Annual Renewal Demand, renewal grantees are polled with a Renewal Intent to Apply Questionnaire, to confirm that they intend to apply for the full approved amount, or to indicate they are open to a reduction. Continuing discussion takes place with those agencies to ensure the reduction makes sense. **All cuts at this phase are voluntary.**

Determinations on final cuts and reallocations will be made at the Continuum of Care Board special meeting during the week of September 5th (date to be determined).