

# Suburban Metro Area Continuum of Care (SMAC)

## HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Grants

### 2021 NOFO Competition

### 2021 Local Materials Packet for Agencies Applying for New Projects and Expansion Projects

September 9, 2021

## CONTEXT

---

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program (24 CFR part 578) is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, and youth, while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by persons experiencing homelessness; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

Each year the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) releases a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), signifying the beginning of a funding competition among approximately 450 Continuums of Care (CoCs), the community stakeholder groups that guide local responses to homelessness.

The FY 2021 CoC Competition consolidated application responses to the NOFA will consist of three parts: the CoC Application, which describes the CoC planning body governance structure, overall performance, and the strategic planning process; the CoC Project Listing, which ranks the project applications for HUD and identifies any rejected applications, showing the CoC's priorities for funding; and a number of Project Applications, each of which reflects one project seeking funding.

Before the application is submitted to HUD, the CoC is required to hold a local competition to determine which project applications will be included in the consolidated application, along with their relative priority. The results of the local competition dictate which projects the CoC will prioritize. As a project applicant, you must participate in the local review and rank process and have your project selected for submission with the CoC consolidated application in the national competition in order to be eligible for funding. You must follow local procedures and submit local documents, and you also need to prepare for the HUD submission of the project application. HUD requires the use of a web-based application and grants management system called e-snaps.

This TA Handbook contains information you need to know for the HUD process, and other materials provided contain information about the local process in this community.

There are three things to keep in mind when preparing your application:

1. Ensuring your application is competitive for funding in your CoC's local competition;
2. Ensuring the project you are applying for is eligible for HUD funding and compliant with HUD requirements, and;
3. Ensuring your application is filled out correctly.

# Table of Contents

---

I. 2021 Funding Overview and Tier 1 and Tier 2 System.....4

II. HUD’s Homeless Policy and Program Priorities.....6

III. Threshold to Apply.....8

IV. Program Requirements and Eligible Costs..... 10

V. Later Responsibilities.....11

VI. SMAC 2021 Timeline for New and Expansion Projects.....13

VII. SMAC 2021 NOFA Policies.....14

VIII. SMAC 2021 NOFA Priorities.....17

## 2021 NOFA Funding Overview

---

On August 18, 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Grants for FY 2021. In 2021, the Suburban Metro Area CoC expects to be eligible to apply for approximately \$4,039,751 in funding to support housing and services for homeless households, and approximately \$121,193 for CoC Planning Funds.

**Annual Renewal Demand Funding:** **SMAC 2021 \$4,039,751**

This funding supports the CoC's existing housing and services. The CoC has the option to continue to support those programs, or to reallocate those resources, in whole or in part, to Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, Joint TH-RRH, HMIS, or Coordinated Entry (SSO) projects. (Details regarding eligible populations follows.)

**Permanent Housing Bonus Funding:** **SMAC 2021 \$201,988**

This funding supports Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, or Joint TH-RRH projects. (Details regarding eligible populations follows.)

**Domestic Violence Rapid Rehousing Bonus Funding:** **SMAC 2021 \$433,649**

Up to \$102 million is available for the DV Bonus which will provide housing and services to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The DV Bonus funding can support: Rapid Re-housing (PH-RRH) projects, joint TH and PH-RRH component projects as defined in Section II.B.5 of this NOFA, SSO Projects for Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) to implement policies, procedures, and practices that equip the CoC's coordinated entry to better meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (e.g., to implement policies and procedures that are trauma-informed, client-centered or to better coordinate referrals between the CoC's coordinated entry and the victim service providers coordinated entry system where they are different).

**CoC Planning Funds:** **SMAC 2021 \$121,193**

This funding supports CoC planning activities, and only the collaborative applicant – Hearth Connection – may apply for it. The planning grant will not be ranked in this year's competition and is not competitive with housing or service projects.

## Tier 1 and Tier 2 System

---

**Anticipated Tier 1 Amount:** **\$4,039,751**

**Anticipated Tier 2 Amount:** **\$635,637**

As in past years, the funding that CoCs can apply for is divided into tiers, with projects prioritized in Tier 1 being more likely to be funded than projects of lower priority that are placed in Tier 2.

CoCs are required to either accept and rank or reject all projects submitted by project applicants in e-snaps, except CoC planning projects. CoCs are encouraged to consider the policy priorities established in the NOFO in conjunction with local priorities to determine the ranking of projects. All projects must pass HUD's eligibility and threshold requirements to be funded, no matter their priority.

**TIER 1:** In 2021, the amount of funding available for Tier 1 is equal to the amount of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand amount (in 2019, 2018, and 2017 it was 94 percent; in 2016 it was 93 percent). HUD will conditionally award projects from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC. Projects should be placed in priority order.

**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.

Funding will be determined by using the CoC Application score as well as the factors listed in Section II.B.11 of the NOFO.

*Tier 2 points are awarded as follows:*

HUD will award a point value to each new and renewal project application that is in Tier 2 using a 100-point scale:

(1) CoC Collaborative Application Score. Up to 50 points in direct proportion to the score received on the CoC Application; e.g., if a CoC received 100 out of 200 points on the CoC Application, the project application would receive 25 out of 50 points for this criterion.

(2) CoC Project Ranking. Up to 40 points for the CoC's ranking of the project application(s). To more evenly distribute funding across CoCs and consider the CoCs ranking of projects, point values will be assigned directly related to the CoCs' ranking of project applications. The calculation of point values will be  $50 \times (1-x)$  where x is the ratio of the cumulative funding requests for all projects or 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. For example, if a CoC is eligible to apply for projects totaling \$500,000 in Tier 2 and applies for 5 projects ranked in Tier 2 of \$100,000 each: the highest ranked project would receive 36 points and then the subsequently ranked projects would receive 28, 20, 12, and 4 points.

(3) Commitment to Housing First. Up to 10 points for how the permanent housing project application commits to applying the Housing First model as defined in Section III.B.2. Dedicated HMIS projects and centralized or coordinated assessment system will automatically receive 10 points.

**STRADDLING TIERS:** For any projects that straddle the two tiers, HUD will conditionally select the project up to the amount of funding that falls within Tier 1. Using the CoC score and other factors described in Section II.B.11 HUD may fund the Tier 2 portion of the project. If HUD does not fund the Tier 2 portion of the project, HUD may award the project at the reduced amount, provided the project is still feasible with the reduced funding (e.g., is able to continue serving homeless program participants effectively).

## HUD's Homeless Policy and Program Priorities

---

All projects should align with HUD's policy and program priorities, both to increase their likelihood of being funded in this cycle and to ensure that the funding is a good match for the project in the future.

CoCs and Project Applications will be evaluated based on the extent to which they further HUD's policy priorities. Aligned with Opening Doors: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, the policy priorities set forth in the NOFA are:

1. **Ending homelessness for all persons-** To end homelessness, CoCs should identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness. CoCs should measure their performance based on local data that consider the challenges faced by all subpopulations experiencing homelessness in the geographic area (e.g., veterans, youth, families, or those experiencing chronic homelessness). CoCs should partner with housing, health care, and supportive services providers to expand housing options, such as permanent supportive housing, housing subsidies, and rapid rehousing. Additionally, CoCs should use local data to determine the characteristics of individuals and families with the highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness to develop housing and supportive services tailored to their needs.
2. **Use a Housing First approach-** Housing First prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and does not have service participation requirements or preconditions. CoC Program funded projects should help individuals and families move quickly into permanent housing, and the CoC should measure and help projects reduce the length of time people experience homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should engage landlords and property owners to identify an inventory of housing available for rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing participants, remove barriers to entry, and adopt client-centered service methods. HUD encourages CoCs to assess how well Housing First approaches are being implemented in their communities.
3. **Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness-** In recent years, the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness has risen significantly, including a rising number of encampments in many communities across the country. People living unsheltered have extremely high rates of physical and mental illness and substance use disorders. CoCs should identify permanent housing options for people who are unsheltered.
4. **Improving System Performance-** CoC should be using system performance measures (e.g., average length of homeless episodes, rates of return to homelessness, rates of exit to permanent housing destinations) to determine how effectively they are serving people experiencing homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should use their Coordinated Entry process to promote participant choice, coordinate homeless assistance and mainstream housing, and services to ensure people experiencing homelessness receive assistance quickly, and make homelessness assistance open, inclusive, and transparent. CoCs should review all projects eligible for renewal in FY 2021 to determine their effectiveness in serving people experiencing homelessness, including cost-effectiveness. CoCs should also look for opportunities to implement continuous quality improvement and other process improvement strategies. HUD recognizes the effects of COVID-19 on CoC performance and data quality and, compared to previous CoC NOFOs, reduces the number of points available for rating factors related to system performance. However, HUD plans to significantly increase the points available for system performance rating factors in FY 2022 and subsequent CoC NOFOs.
5. **Partnering with Housing, Health and Service Agencies-** Using cost performance and outcome data, CoCs should improve how all available resources are utilized to end homelessness. This is especially important

as the CARES Act and American Rescue Plan have provided significant new resources to help end homelessness. HUD encourages CoCs to maximize the use of mainstream and other community-based resources when serving persons experiencing homelessness and should:

- a. Work closely with public and private healthcare organizations and assist program participants to obtain medical insurance to address healthcare needs;
  - b. Partner closely with PHAs and state and local housing organizations to utilize coordinated entry, develop housing units, and provide housing subsidies to people experiencing homelessness. These partnerships can also help COC Program participants exit permanent supportive housing through Housing Choice Vouchers and other available housing options. CoCs and PHAs should especially work together to implement targeted programs such as Emergency Housing Vouchers, HUD-VASH, Mainstream Vouchers, Family Unification Program Vouchers, and other housing voucher programs targeted to people experiencing homelessness. CoCs should coordinate with their state and local housing agencies on the utilization of new HOME program resources provided through the Homelessness Assistance and Supportive Services Program that was created through the American Rescue Plan;
  - c. Partner with local workforce development centers to improve employment opportunities; and
  - d. Work with tribal organizations to ensure that tribal members can access CoC-funded assistance when a CoC's geographic area borders a tribal area.
6. **Racial Equity-** In nearly every community, Black, Indigenous, and other people of color are substantially overrepresented in the homeless population. HUD is emphasizing system and program changes to address racial equity within CoCs. CoCs should review local policies, procedures, and processes to determine where and how to address racial disparities affecting individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
7. **Persons with Lived Experience-** HUD is encouraging CoCs to include in the local planning process people who are currently experiencing or have formerly experienced homelessness to address homelessness. People with lived experience should determine how local policies may need to be revised and updated, participate in CoC meetings and committees as stakeholders, provide input on decisions, and provide input related to the local competition process (e.g., how rating factors are determined). CoCs should seek opportunities to hire people with lived experience.

## Threshold to Apply

---

For new projects, the review process considers applicant and subrecipient eligibility and capacity, project eligibility, and project quality as part of the threshold review.

**Project Eligibility Threshold:** HUD will review eligibility threshold requirements on a pass/fail standard, and if standards are not met, the project will be rejected from the competition. Applicants and subrecipients must:

- Meet the eligibility requirements of the CoC Program as described in the Act and the Rule and provide evidence of eligibility required in the application (e.g., nonprofit documentation).
- Demonstrate financial and management capacity and experience to carry out the project and to administer federal funds
- Submit required certifications
- Propose an eligible population for the project type, as designated by the CoC Program Interim Rule and the NOFO
- Agree to participate in HMIS (except for victim service providers who must use a comparable database)

**Project Quality Threshold:** HUD will review all new project applications to determine if they meet project quality threshold requirements with clear and convincing evidence.

For new permanent housing projects, applications must receive at least 3 out of 4 possible points to be funded. Quality threshold factors include:

- Whether the type of housing, number, and configuration of units will fit the needs of the program participants;
- Whether the type of the supportive services offered will ensure successful retention in or help to obtain permanent housing, including all supportive services regardless of funding source;
- Whether the plan to connect clients to benefits meets program participant needs; and
- Whether participants are assisted in obtaining and remaining permanent housing in a manner that fits their needs.

For new Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects, applications must receive at least 3 out of 5 possible points to be funded. Quality threshold factors include:

- Whether the type of housing, number, and configuration of units will fit the needs of the program participants;
- Whether enough rapid rehousing assistance is available to ensure that at any given time a program participant may move from transitional housing to permanent housing;
- Whether the type of the supportive services offered (regardless of funding source) will ensure that participants obtain or retain permanent housing;
- Whether the plan to connect clients to benefits meets program participant needs;
- Whether participants are assisted in obtaining and remaining permanent housing in a manner that fits their needs; and



-Whether the project adheres to a housing first model.

For new SSO projects for centralized or coordinated assessment systems, applications must receive at least 2 out of 4 possible points to be funded. Quality threshold factors include:

-Whether the system is easily accessible to all in the CoC's geography who are seeking information about homelessness assistance;

-Whether the advertising strategy is designed to reach persons with the highest barriers;

-Whether there is a standardized assessment process; and

-Whether the project ensures participants are directed to housing/services that fit their needs.

For new HMIS projects, applications must receive at least 3 out of 4 possible points to be funded. Quality threshold factors include:

-How the HMIS funds will be expended in a way that is consistent with the CoC's funding strategy for the HMIS and furthers the CoC's HMIS implementation;

-Whether the HMIS collects all Universal Data Elements;

-Whether the HMIS un-duplicates client records; and

-Whether the HMIS produces all HUD-required reports and provide data as needed for HUD reporting (e.g., APR, quarterly reports, data for CAPER/ESG reporting).

Other threshold requirements:

-Project applicants and potential subrecipients must have satisfactory capacity, drawdowns, and performance for existing grant(s), as evidenced by timely reimbursement of subrecipients, regular drawdowns, and timely resolution of any monitoring findings.

-For expansion projects, project applicants must clearly articulate the part of the project that is being expanded. Additionally, the project applicants must clearly demonstrate that they are not replacing other funding sources.

-Project applicants must demonstrate they will be able to meet all timeliness standards per 24 CFR 578.85.

-HUD reserves the right to deny the funding request for a new project, if the request is made by an existing recipient that HUD finds to have significant issues related to capacity, performance, or unresolved audit/monitoring finding related to one or more existing grants. Additionally, HUD reserves the right to withdraw funds if no APR is submitted on the prior grant.

-All projects must have a DUNS number and active registration in SAM.

## Program Requirements and Eligible Costs

---

Recipients and subrecipients are required to provide cash or in-kind match from sources outside of this grant funding request in accordance with the CoC regulations.

The recipient or subrecipient must match all grant funds, except for leasing funds, with no less than 25 percent of funds or in-kind contributions from other sources. The 25 percent match must be provided on a grant-by-grant basis.

**Cash Match:** A recipient or subrecipient may use funds from any source, including any other federal sources (excluding Continuum of Care program funds), as well as State, local, and private sources, provided that funds from the source are not statutorily prohibited to be used as a match. (The recipient must ensure that the rules governing match funds allow them to be match for the CoC Program.)

The cash must be used for activities that are eligible under Subpart D of the CoC Interim Rule.

NOTE: Program income CAN be used as match. Project applicants that intend to use program income as match must provide an estimate of how much program income will be used for match.

**In-kind Match:** The recipient or subrecipient may use the value of any real property, equipment, goods, or services contributed to the project as match, provided that, if the recipient or subrecipient had to pay for them with grant funds, the costs would have been eligible.

Before grant execution, services to be provided by a third party must be documented by a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the recipient or subrecipient and the third party that will provide the services. Services provided by individuals must be valued at rates consistent with those ordinarily paid for similar work in the recipient's or subrecipient's organization. The MOU must establish the unconditional commitment, except for selection to receive a grant, by the third party to provide services, the specific service to be provided, the profession of the persons providing the service, and the hourly cost of the service to be provided.

Indirect costs (also known as "facilities and administrative costs" defined at 2 CFR 200.56) are eligible under the CoC Program, and if the applicant does not have an approved federally negotiated indirect cost rate, the applicant may use a de minimis rate of 10 percent of Modified Total Direct Costs. (See call out box on next page for more detail.)

Also remember:

- Staff training and the costs of obtaining professional licenses or certifications needed to provide supportive services are not eligible supportive services costs. Some limited training is eligible under administrative costs, however.
- Administrative costs do not include staff and overhead costs directly related to carrying out other eligible activities (e.g., rental assistance), because those costs are eligible as part of those activities.
- Time spent preparing the annual application to HUD is not an eligible use of CoC funds.

## Later Responsibilities

---

If your application is conditionally awarded, you will have a number of responsibilities. Please be sure that you are capable of carrying all of them out before submitting your application. The list that follows includes some of the recipient/subrecipient responsibilities. For 2018, these requirements are detailed in the 2018 General Section NOFA, 2018 CoC Program NOFA, and the CoC Interim Program Rule (24 CFR 578). All grant recipients and subrecipients should read these three documents carefully.

### **Pre-Contract Requirements:**

- Proof of site control, match, environmental review, and the documentation of financial feasibility must be completed within 12 months of the announcement of the award, or 24 months in the case of funds for acquisition, rehabilitation, or new construction. The 12-month deadline may be extended by HUD for up to 12 additional months upon a showing of compelling reasons for delay due to factors beyond the control of the recipient or subrecipient.
- Bi-Annual Audits: Any recipient expending \$750,000 or more in a year in federal funds must conduct a single or program-specific audit for that year in accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular No. A-133.
- Annual Performance Reports (APR): Your agency will be responsible for submitting an APR for each project every year, which provides client data, service utilization information, program outcomes, and financial information. HUD may terminate the renewal of any grant and require repayment if the APR is not filed on time or if HUD deems the APR unacceptable or showing noncompliance with grant requirements.
- Record-keeping: Recipients must maintain records and within the timeframe required, make any reports, including those pertaining to race, ethnicity, gender, and disability status that HUD may require. CoC applicants may report this data as part of their APR submission to HUD.
- Transparency Act: Award notices may also include requirements for subaward reporting in compliance with the requirements of the Federal Financial Assistance Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109-282) (Transparency Act) and Section 872 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Pub. L. 110-417)
- Impact/Success Indicators: All projects, except for HMIS, must provide systematic indicators for evaluating the positive impact/success the project will have on clients and reducing homelessness in the community. HUD will require projects to include measures for: length of time in the project; recidivism; movement to and stability in permanent housing; connection with mainstream benefits; and job and income growth for persons who are homeless. Projects may also indicate additional measures on which the project will chart success.
- Other Data Requests: Your agency must provide performance and other requested data to the CoC for community-level analysis and planning.
- Match Documentation: Your agency must maintain documentation of any required match funding in your financial reports on a grant-specific basis.
- HMIS Participation: Your agency must participate in the CoC's Homeless Information Management System and enter data consistent with the applicable HMIS Data Standards.
- Performance: Your agency must perform the tasks outlined in your application and grant agreement, including complying with all of the language in the Applicant Certifications, and following all HUD statutes and regulations applicable to the grant.

- Documentation of Homeless Status and Disability Status: HUD requires all recipients to document the homeless status, and in some cases the disability status, for all clients.

**Housing Related Requirements:**

- HUD required recipients to ensure: compliance with Housing Quality Standards (HQS), that housing is appropriate to the needs of the persons served, suitable dwelling size, and that housing rental amount is within HUD's guidelines.
- Service Related Requirements: Supportive housing programs must provide meals or meal preparation facilities, and residential supervision. All programs must provide ongoing assessment of supportive services.
- Fair Housing: HUD requires compliance with requirements related to Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity, and Resolution of Outstanding Civil Rights Matters. This includes outreach to underserved populations, including those with Limited English Proficiency.
- Calculation of Client Rent: HUD determines the amount of rent that can be charged to clients, and recipients must show documentation of rental calculations.
- No program fees: Recipients and subrecipients may not charge program participants program fees.
- Policies: All CoC recipients are required to institute certain policies including: participant participation, grievance procedures, due process for participant termination, staff rules, emergency safety and evacuation procedures, confidentiality restrictions, non-discrimination, free from religious influences, conflict of interest, anti-lobbying, drug-free workplace, etc.
- State and Local Requirements: Services provided with CoC program funds must be in compliance with all applicable State and local requirements, including licensing requirements.
- Mainstream Resources: You must coordinate and integrate your program with other mainstream health, social services, and employment programs for which your clients may be eligible
- Prevention and Discharge Planning: Any governmental entity serving as an applicant must agree to develop and implement to the maximum extent practical and where appropriate, policies and protocols for the discharge of persons from publicly funded institutions or systems of care (such as healthcare facilities, foster care other youth facilities, or corrections programs and institutions) in order to prevent such discharge from immediately resulting in such persons entering the homeless system.
- Coordination with Educational Agencies: Any program serving homeless families will have to certify that their programs will establish policies and practices that are consistent with, and do not restrict the exercise of rights provided by the education subtitle of the McKinney Vento Act and other laws relating to the provision of education and related services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. They must also designate a staff person to ensure that children are enrolled in school and connected to appropriate services within the community.
- Limited English Proficiency: Recipients and subrecipients must comply with Executive Order 13166, "Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)"
- Ethics: Recipients and subrecipients must not be debarred or suspended, not have delinquent federal debts, and must conduct business in accordance with core values and ethical standards/code of conduct.

## 2021 SMAC CoC NOFA Timeline for New Projects

---

October 7, 2021	New and Expansion applications due to CoC Coordinator in PDF form
October 11-14, 2021	Review and scoring by Monitoring and Evaluation Committee
October 15, 2021	Monitoring and Evaluation Committee Meeting: New/Expansion Project Applicants Selected Applicants notified of Monitoring and Evaluation Committee decisions
October 17, 2021	Selected Projects send draft of HUD Project Application to Coordinator
October 22, 2021	SMAC Monitoring and Evaluation Committee Meeting: Initial Ranking
October 28, 2021	SMAC Monitoring and Evaluation Committee Meeting (if needed): Vote on Final Ranking
October 28, 2021	Final Project Ranking posted on <a href="http://www.smacmn.org">www.smacmn.org</a>
November 1, 2021	Final Project Applications due in e-snaps

## 2021 SMAC NOFA Policies

---

### Reallocation:

- 1) Voluntary reallocation will always be fully explored first from all renewal projects.
- 2) If voluntary reallocation does not establish enough funding to create a sustainable project, SMAC will consider all projects scoring in the bottom 1/3 eligible to be considered for Reallocation. (It is anticipated that SMAC will have 18 renewal projects in 2021.)
- 3) If the project scores below 65% of the total points available to that project, the project will be considered for reallocation or a mandatory improvement plan.

### Additional Considerations:

- a. Historical scoring data- The Monitoring and Evaluation Committee will review if the project has scored in the bottom 1/3 past 3 NOFA competitions.
- b. Cost Effectiveness of project- The total HUD grant award amount will be divided by the number of successful outcomes. Successful outcome for all projects (other than PSH) is exiting to permanent housing. Successful outcome for PSH includes exits to permanent housing and remaining in permanent housing.
- c. Coordinated Entry data- The Ranking Committee will review Coordinated Entry data and other priority setting data used by the Governing Board to ensure needs and gaps are being met across the geography of the CoC.

### Example

A non-PSH project gets \$100,000 grant. 25 households successfully went to permanent housing. The cost per successful outcome is: \$4,000.

A PSH project gets \$100,000 grant. 5 households successfully went to permanent housing. 4 households remain in permanent housing. The cost per successful outcome is: \$11,111.

The Monitoring and Evaluation Committee will make the final decision regarding which projects will be recommended to the Governing Board for Reallocation. For the 2021 competition the Ranking Committee should consider offering Technical Assistance to the bottom 1/3 of projects as an alternative to Reallocation due to recent implementation of the current scoring tool and reallocation approach.

### Ranking:

- 1) HMIS grant will automatically be placed just above the SSO-CE grant(s) at the bottom of Tier 1. SMAC highly values having a functional HMIS. SMAC feels that it is essential to fund HMIS adequately and feels strongly that HMIS funds need to be protected in Tier 1.
- 2) SSO-CE grants will be placed just above any New project(s) created through reallocation at the bottom of Tier 1. To have a high quality, effective CES funding needs to be allocated to support infrastructure for CES activities. HUD has not provided guidance for how to score and evaluate these projects but encourages CoCs to maintain funding for these grants. Therefore, SMAC feels SSO-CE grants should be protected in Tier 1.

- 3) New projects created through reallocation will be ranked just above the new BONUS project(s) at the bottom of Tier 1. New projects will all be scored through the RFP process and evaluated on the New Project Application score tool. If a new project is selected through the RFP process it demonstrates the project will fill a gap in the CoC and will be prioritized as such through Tier 1 ranking.

The bottom of Tier 1 will look as follows:

- HMIS Project
  - Coordinated Entry Project
  - New project(s)/Expansion project(s) created through reallocation
- 4) The Ranking Committee will make a decision on Tier 1 Ranking for any BONUS project based on need and strength of the BONUS application.

### Scoring:

- 5) Once the total number of points are calculated, the number of points earned will be divided by the total possible points for that project type. The resulting percentage will be placed in descending order, highest at top and lowest at bottom. If there is a tie between projects, a tiebreaker score will be used.
- 6) The tiebreaker score will be based on cost effectiveness. The total HUD grant award amount will be divided by the number of successful outcomes. Successful outcome for all projects (other than PSH) is exiting to permanent housing. Successful outcome for PSH includes exits to permanent housing and remaining in permanent housing.

#### Example

A non-PSH project gets \$100,000 grant. 25 households successfully went to permanent housing. The cost per successful outcome is: \$4,000.

A PSH project gets \$100,000 grant. 5 households successfully went to permanent housing. 4 households remain in permanent housing. The cost per successful outcome is: \$11,111.

- 7) Rounding for all scoring will be standard rounding to the second decimal point.
- 8) Renewal Projects will be penalized for late application submission to the CoC. **Projects will lose 8 points for submitting a late application.** Timelines are critical during the NOFA process and it is essential that projects get all documents to the CoC on time.
- 9) New projects awarded in the last competition that have not yet begun and those projects that have not finished their first year or have not submitted their first APR but must submit a renewal application will be placed at the bottom of Tier 1 and exempt from the scoring process.
- 10) Projects that have completed only their first APR will be exempt from the following scoring categories: 1) Use of Federal Funds, 2) Unit Utilization, 3) Exits to Permanent Housing, 4) All

income measures, 5) Reoccurrence, 6) Mainstream Benefits, 7) Health Insurance . SMAC does not want to penalize projects that are new to CoC funding and have not had the opportunity to score well in these areas.

- 11) If an agency was not able to access eLOCCS during the course of the year through no fault of their own, the agency is responsible for notifying the CoC and providing confirmation from the HUD Field Office. If so, the agency would be exempt from the scoring criteria.



## 2021 SMAC Priorities

---

Projects that coordinate with a healthcare organization(s) to provide permanent housing and rapid rehousing services.