

# 2023 Annual CoC Program Competition

Northeast MN Continuum of Care

1:00pm - 2:00pm

July 31, 2023



# What to Expect

HUD COC PROGRAM COMPETITION OVERVIEW

LOCAL COMPETITION PROCESS & TIMELINE

RESOURCES AND Q&A



# About the NE CoC

The Continuum of Care is a **regional community planning body** designed to promote a shared commitment to the **goal of ending homelessness** with a focus on:

- quickly rehousing individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by housing instability;
- promoting access to and utilization of mainstream resources and benefits; and
- optimizing stability and self-sufficiency for individuals and families while homeless and once housed.

The NE MN CoC region includes Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching & Lake Counties – including Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, & Leech Lake Reservations.

# About the CoC Program Competition

- U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) released the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on July 5, 2023 for CoC Homeless Program Funding.
- CoC Program Competition is often referred to as “the NOFO”
- Nationwide funding competition among approx. 450 Continuums of Care.

# CoC Program Competition Components

Project Applicants

[-----Continuum of Care-----]



Developed based on CoC priorities & need

Highlights CoC-wide performance & strategies to end homelessness

CoCs submit all application materials to HUD to participate in the nationwide competition

# Available Funding

NE CoC Available Funding				
Estimated ARD	Tier 1	CoC Bonus	DV Bonus	CoC Planning
\$477,186	\$443,783	\$33,403	\$50,000	\$50,000

- Tier 1 = 93% of CoC Annual Renewal Demand
- Tier 2 = The difference between Tier 1 and the maximum amount a CoC can apply for.
- HUD will conditionally select project applications in Tier 1 from the highest to lowest scoring CoC applications and according to CoC ranking on the CoC priority list. Project applications must pass both project eligibility and quality threshold review and, if applicable, project renewal threshold.

# HUD NOFO Policy Priorities 2023

End Homelessness	End homelessness for all persons
Housing First	Use a Housing First approach
Unsheltered	Reduce unsheltered homelessness
System Performance	Improve system performance
Partnerships	Partner with housing, health, and service agencies
Racial Equity	Advance racial equity and address racial disparities
LGBTQ+	Improve assistance to LGBTQ+ individuals
Lived Experience	Engage persons with lived experience
Affordable Housing	Support local engagement to increase supply of affordable housing

# What's New in the 2023 NOFO?

## HUD NOFO Changes Applicable to the NE CoC Include:

- **CoC Planning Increase** – CoC Planning Grant application maximum is the greater of \$50,000 or 5% of the Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN) (increase from 3% of FPRN).
- **New Eligible Activities** – VAWA Costs and Rural Costs have been added as new budget line items in this year's NOFO.
  - New applicants can apply for these activities.
  - Renewal applicants may request to expand existing renewal grants to add new funding to these line items or request a budget modification during the competition to add funds from an existing line item.
    - Renewal Projects may shift up to 10 percent of funds from one eligible activity to the VAWA costs line item.



# NEW VAWA Eligible Activities: Emergency Transfers

## Examples of Eligible VAWA Costs for Emergency Transfer Facilitation:

- **Moving costs** to move survivors for an emergency transfer.
- **Travel costs** for survivors and their families to travel for an emergency transfer.
- **Security & utility deposits** for the safe units the survivor is transferring to via emergency transfer.
- **Housing fees** related to the emergency transfer (*application fees, pet fees, trash fees, holding fees, broker fees, etc.*)
- **Case management** to pay staff time to assess, coordinate, and implement emergency transfers.
- **Navigation** to pay staff time to identify safe units and facilitate moves into housing for survivors through emergency transfers.
- **Technology** to make a unit safe (*including but not limited to doorbell cameras, security systems, phone and internet service when necessary to support security systems*)

# NEW VAWA Eligible Activities: Monitoring Compliance

## Examples of Eligible VAWA Costs for monitoring compliance with the VAWA confidentiality requirements include:

- Monitoring and evaluating compliance with VAWA confidentiality requirements.
- Developing and implementing strategies for corrective actions and remedies.
- Program evaluation of confidentiality policies, practices and procedures.
- Training on compliance with VAWA confidentiality requirements.
- Reporting to Collaborative Applicant, HUD and other interested parties on compliance with VAWA confidentiality requirements
- Costs for establishing methodology to protect survivor information.
- Staff time associated with maintaining adherence to confidentiality requirements.

# NEW Rural Eligible Activities

**Project in rural areas can use CoC program funds to pay for the following eligible activities:**

- Payment of short-term emergency lodging, including in motels or shelters, directly or through vouchers.
- Repairs to units in which homeless individuals and families will be housed; or are currently not fit for human habitation.
- Staff training, professional development, skill development, and staff retention activities.

## **Rural areas in the NE CoC:**

- **RURAL:** Aitkin, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching & Lake Counties and Bois Forte Reservation and Off-Reservation Trust Land (Itasca & Koochiching Counties) are designated as rural areas by HUD.
- **NOT RURAL:** Carlton County and Fond du Lac Reservation are not designated as rural areas by HUD.

# Eligible New Projects

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**New Projects:** CoCs may apply for new projects created through reallocation, CoC Bonus, a combination of reallocation & CoC Bonus, DV Bonus, and CoC planning.

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**Transition Projects:** Applicants may transition their project(s) from one CoC Program component to another (e.g., Transitional Housing to Rapid Rehousing, Rapid Rehousing to Permanent Supportive Housing) over a one-year grant cycle.

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**Consolidation Projects:** Applicants may consolidate two or more renewal projects into one project during the application process. Projects must be the same type (e.g. applicants cannot combine a RRH and TH project).

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**Expansion Projects:** HUD will allow project applicants to apply for a new expansion project under the DV Bonus, reallocation, and CoC bonus processes to expand existing projects by adding units, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or to add additional activities to HMIS and SSO-Coordinated Entry projects within the CoC geographic area

# Eligible Project Types – New Projects

## COC BONUS OR REALLOCATED FUNDING

Permanent Housing

- Permanent Supportive Housing (PH-PSH)
- Permanent Housing- Rapid Re-housing (PH-RRH)

Joint TH and PH-RRH

Supportive Service Only - CE

HMIS

## DV BONUS

Permanent Housing – Rapid Rehousing  
(PH-RRH)

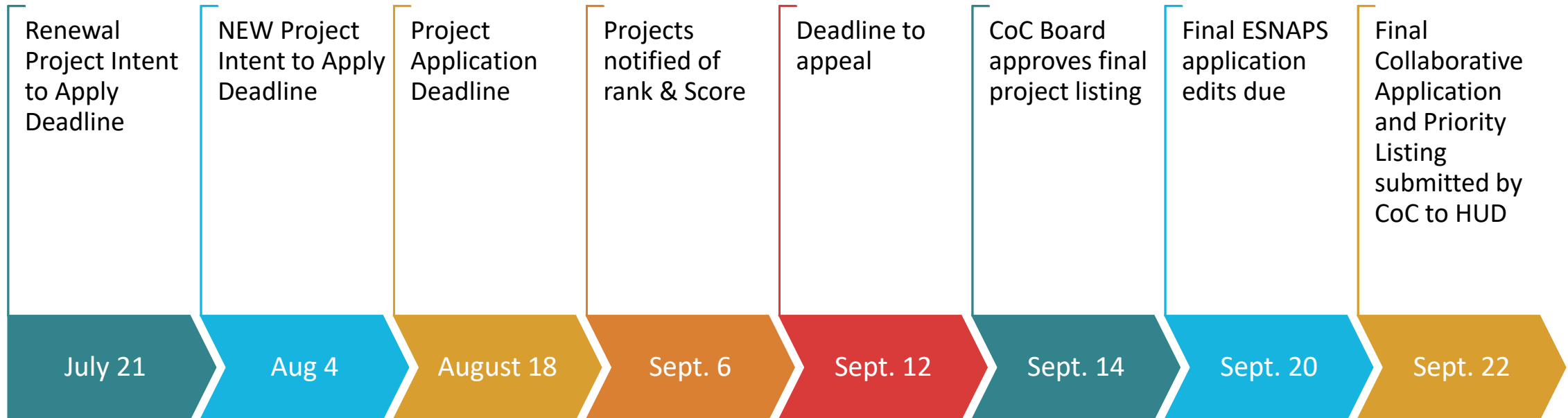
Joint TH and PH-RRH

Supportive Service Only - CE

# NE CoC Local NOFO Process

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# Local Timeline – Key Dates



# Local Threshold Criteria

Eligible entity – nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments, Indian Tribes and TDHE

Eligible service population

Project application materials submitted by the deadline

HMIS – Capacity and plan to participate

Match – Meets HUD requirement of 25% match for everything but leasing

CoC participation – Participates in 50% of CoC Board meetings

Coordinated Entry – Participates in Coordinated Entry (training, assessments, referrals to program)

HUD Monitoring – No unresolved significant findings

Admin costs do not exceed HUD limits

Annual Training – Participates in mandatory trainings including: Fair Housing/Equal Access, Mainstream Benefits 101, and Safety & Best Practices for DV Survivors

APR Submitted for Previous Grant Year (Renewals)



# Local Scoring Criteria

CoC Priorities & Need	Grant Administrative Performance (Renewals)	Coordinated Entry Participation	Advancing Equity	System Performance (Renewals)	DV Bonus (NEW DV Bonus)	CoC Priorities (NEW Projects)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Chronic Homeless (PSH Only)</li><li>•Veterans</li><li>•Housing First</li><li>•Rapid Rehousing</li><li>•Ending Family &amp; Youth Homelessness</li><li>•Ending Youth Homelessness</li><li>•Connection to K-12 Education &amp; Early Childhood Development</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Funding Management (Spending &amp; Drawdowns)</li><li>•Data Quality</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Assessments</li><li>•Case consultation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Addressing Inequities to Housing</li><li>•Culturally Specific/Responsive Programming</li><li>•Service population reflects population experiencing homelessness</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Returns to Homelessness</li><li>•Maintain/Increase Income</li><li>•Retention/Exit to Permanent Housing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•DV Experience</li><li>•Specialized Services</li><li>•Rate of Housing Placement &amp; Retention</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•HUD Grant Experience</li><li>•Meets community needs</li><li>•Connection to Mainstream Benefits</li><li>•Housing &amp; Healthcare Leverage</li></ul>

# Application Requirements

## Required Renewal Project Application Elements for CoC Local Competition:

- Renewal Project Supplemental Application
- Financial Assessment Form (including required ELOCCS screenshots)
- PDF Copy of ESNAPS Project Application
- Note: The CoC will also review information in Sage and HMIS as part of the renewal application review.

## Required New Project Application Elements for CoC Local Competition:

- New Project Supplemental Application
- PDF Copy of ESNAPS Project Application

CoC Project Application materials can be found on the NE CoC NOFO Page: [NEMinnesotaContinuumofCare.org](https://NEMinnesotaContinuumofCare.org)

All application materials must be submitted via email to: [clundquist@live.com](mailto:clundquist@live.com) by 11:59pm on August 18, 2023

# Project Application Review Process

- Applicants submit all application materials to CoC by the deadline
- CoC Ranking & Review Committee reviews and scores applications using CoC approved tools and policies.
- CoC Ranking & Review Committee recommends draft project ranking and scoring.
  - Draft Project Ranking & Scoring posted to CoC website for public review and comment.
  - All applicants are notified of proposed rank and score and are provided the opportunity to appeal.
- CoC Board votes to approve Project Ranking & Scoring.
- CoC Coordinators review your ESNAPS project application and send recommended changes.
- Projects submit final ESNAPS application.
- CoC Coordinators submit final Project List and Collaborative Application in ESNAPS.
- HUD reviews applications at a national level.



# Application Tips!

- Schedule time in your calendar to focus on your NOFO Application and START EARLY!
- Use the detailed instructions and navigation guide for your ESNAPS application.
- Review the local application materials and scoring from last year's NOFO as a starting place for this year (contact Cara if you don't have these!)
- Take advantage of application technical assistance with your CoC Coordinators (email Cara to schedule).
- NEW Projects – Start reaching out to HRAs and Healthcare providers early about leveraging/partnerships to serve your CoC program participants.
- STAY CALM!

# Helpful Resources

## Local Resources (NE CoC)

### NE CoC Website: [NEMinnesotaContinuumofCare.org](https://www.neminnesotacontinuumofcare.org)

- Renewal & New Project Intent to Apply Forms
- Renewal & New Project Supplemental Applications
- Financial Assessment Form (Required for Renewal Projects ONLY)
- Project Scoring & Ranking Criteria – Includes total points available for applications
- CoC Ranking & Reallocation Policies
- NE CoC NOFO Schedule
- Local NOFO Updates

### Application Technical Assistance

- Contact Cara ([clundquist@live.com](mailto:clundquist@live.com)) to schedule 1:1 technical assistance.

## Other Resources

### HUD CoC Competition page

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/coc/competition](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/competition)

- HUD 2023 CoC Program NOFO
- ESNAPS Detailed Instructions & Navigation Guides
- Grant Inventory Worksheet

### HUD CoC Virtual Binder:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/>

- CoC eligible activities
- Overview of project components
- Match requirements
- Grant administration

# Q&A

