



**FY2023 HUD Continuum of Care Competition
Request for Proposals for Renewal and New/Bonus Projects
LA-502 Shreveport/Bossier City/Northwest Louisiana**

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 rehouse homeless individuals; families; persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

HOPE Connections, Collaborative Applicant for the HUD Homeless Continuum of Care in Northwest Louisiana, is accepting applications for CoC Renewal Projects in the eSNAPS system and Letters of Intent for New Permanent Housing Projects from agencies who are current grantees and agencies who are not current grantees.

Due date is Thursday, August 24th at 5:00 p.m. for the following:

- Renewal Projects submitted in eSNAPS and attachments emailed to Christa Pazzaglia at christa@nwlahope.org
- New, Bonus Project, and DV Bonus Project Letters of Intent and attachments emailed to Christa Pazzaglia at christa@nwlahope.org

All projects, including renewals and new/bonus projects will be notified by email by/on Monday, September 11th if they are Accepted, Rejected, or Reduced.

Funding Available

Each year, HUD issues each CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). For our CoC, all grant terms are for one year, and FY2023 HUD is allowing our CoC to apply for the following amounts:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| ○ Renewal and/or new projects created through reallocation | \$4,056,995 |
| ○ Bonus Project | \$283,990 |
| ○ DV Bonus Project (specifically to serve survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless under 24 CFR 578.3) | \$298,745 |
| ○ CoC Planning Grant | \$202,850 |

HUD Priorities

HUD will pursue two overarching priorities focused on increasing equity and improving customer experience.

HUD has identified the following homeless policy priorities in the FY2023 NOFA pages 7-9:

- Ending homelessness for all persons
- Use a Housing First Approach
- Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness
- Improving System Performance
- Partnering with Housing, Health, and Service Agencies
- Racial Equity
- Improving Assistance to LGBTQ+ Individuals
- Including and Valuing Input of Persons with Lived Experience
- Increasing Affordable Housing Supply

Local Priorities

The HOPE Board of Directors has identified the following local priorities:

- Prioritize high performing projects that strive to meet HUD priorities; improve the CoC's System Performance Outcomes; maximize HUD funding through project utilization, number of units, and providing effective services; and partner with a variety of healthcare and behavioral health providers.
- Prioritize projects that fully participate with the essential functions of the CoC, including participation in HMIS data collection, Coordinated Entry, the HOPE CoC Homeless Coalition and CoC Board.
- Prioritize projects that are willing to shift with the needs of the homeless population and genuinely work to create equitable access and environments for all people including people of color and LGBTQ+ individuals.

Project Categories, Application Requirements, and Scoring/Ranking

- Renewal Projects are submitted through the eSNAPS System. Projects are scored and ranked using objective data and submitted attachments by an objective committee using a CoC Board approved ranking tool.
- The Domestic Violence Rapid Rehousing Project for individuals/families experiencing homelessness due to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking can be applied for using the format outlined in this RFP and will be scored and ranked using the points listed in the format outline.
- The Permanent Housing Rapid Rehousing Bonus Project for individuals experiencing homelessness can be applied for using the format outlined in this RFP and will be scored and ranked using the points listed in the format outline.

The HOPE Board has selected an impartial Scoring and Ranking Committee. This committee reserves the right to reallocate projects according to the CoC Governance Charter Reallocation Policy which can be found on HOPE's website along with the Scoring and Ranking Policy at www.nwlahope.org

By Monday, September 11th, Renewal Applicants will be notified if projects will be ranked, reduced, or rejected; and New Project Applicants will be notified whether their Letters of Intent will be rejected or allowed to submit electronically to HUD in the eSNAPS system.

Other relevant information

- HUD CoC Projects have a 25% match requirement for all line items except leasing which has no match requirement.
- Applicants can request up to 10% in Administrative Funds.
- Applicants must be members of the HOPE Continuum of Care for a minimum of one year. Membership is free of charge and has no prerequisites.
- Projects that are awarded will be required to pay 3% of their award amount minus administrative funds as a Fee for Service to HOPE Connections.
- Existing and new HUD CoC Projects are required to enter data directly into and produce all reporting out of the statewide LSNDC Homeless Management Information System database.
- HUD CoC Projects are required to utilize the Coordinated Assessment Project for all referrals.
- Preliminary selection of projects locally does not guarantee award by HUD; it only gives the applicants the opportunity to submit application to HUD. HUD generally makes award announcements in January/February.

New/Bonus, and DV Permanent Housing Project Application

- Funding Available for New/Bonus Project - \$283,990
- Funding Available for DV Bonus Project - \$298,745

New/Bonus Project applicants should apply for Rapid Rehousing Projects for individuals that are defined as homeless under 24 CFR 578.3, #1.

Bonus DV Project applicants should apply for Rapid Rehousing Projects that serve individuals and families specifically to serve survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless under 24 CFR 578.3, #1 or #4.

Applications must be formatted as outlined below and submitted by email. Proposals that are not submitted in the following format will not be reviewed. This section shall not exceed five pages, double spaced in a 12-inch font. Answering questions with the headings listed and with each question answered in order and as concisely as possible ensures proper scoring. Each New/Bonus/DV Project Letter of Intent will be scored as follows:

Legal name of agency: _____

Agency address: _____

Tax ID Number: _____ UEI #: _____

Submitted by: _____ Title: _____

Phone number: _____ Cell number of submission contact: _____

Email Address: _____

I CERTIFY THAT ALL OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Signature of the Authorized Agency Representative

Date

Print Name of Authorized Agency Representative

Email Address

1. (20 Points) Provide a description that addresses the entire scope of the proposed project.

Provide a detailed description of the scope of the project including the target population(s) to be served, project plan for addressing the identified housing and supportive service needs, anticipated project outcome(s), coordination with other organizations (e.g., federal, state, nonprofit), and how the CoC Program funding will be used.

2. (5 Points) Provide detailed knowledge of how a Rapid Rehousing Program is operated.

3. (5 Points) Provide timelines for expected # of days for the activities listed to begin after receiving a signed contract.

Begin hiring staff or expending funds

Begin program participant enrollment

Program participants occupy rental assistance units and supportive services begin

4. (5 Points) Check the appropriate boxes if this project will have a specific subpopulation focus. (Select ALL that apply) Check the appropriate boxes to indicate this project will focus on one or more specific subpopulations. The boxes checked should match the information provided in the project description.

Substance use disorder Serious mental illness Developmental disability

Post-traumatic stress disorder Cognitive impairments resulting from brain injury

Chronic physical illness or disability

And/Or

Domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking

5. (10 Points) Does the proposed project agree to participate in the CoC's Coordinated Entry (CE) Process or if the recipient organization is a victim service provider, as defined in 24 CFR 578.3 and uses an alternate CE process that meets HUD's minimum requirements? Coordinated Entry is a process designed to coordinate program participant intake, assessment, and provision of referrals.

· Yes, if this project will participate in the CoC's CE process or applicant organization is a victim service provider and uses an alternate CE process that meets HUD's minimum requirements.

· No, if this project will not meet these criteria.

6. Housing First. Housing First is a model of housing assistance that prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing that does not have service participation requirements or preconditions (such as, sobriety or a minimum income threshold). A Housing First approach quickly connects individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing:

6a. (5Points) Will the project quickly move participants into permanent housing?

- Yes, if your project will rapidly move program participants into permanent housing and will not require additional steps
- No, if your project will require stay in transitional housing or a certain number of days of sobriety

If this is a Domestic Violence (DV) project application:

- Yes, if the project will rapidly move program participants into permanent housing after the participant determines their immediate safety needs have been addressed (e.g., survivor(s) believes they are not in danger and want to move into their own permanent housing).
- No, if the project requires additional steps prior to helping a program participant obtain permanent housing.

6b. (5Points) Will the project enroll program participants who have the following barriers?

- Having too little or little income,
- Active or history of substance use,
- Having a criminal record with exceptions for state-mandated restrictions,
- History of victimization (e.g., domestic violence, sexual assault, childhood abuse), and
- None of the above.

6c. (5Points) Will the project prevent program participant termination from the project for the following reasons?

- Failure to participate in supportive services,
- Failure to make progress on a service plan,
- Loss of income or failure to improve income,
- Any other activity not covered in a lease agreement typically found for unassisted persons in the project's geographic area, and
- None of the above.

7. (10 Points) Will program participants be required to live in a specific structure or unit, or will residents be offered choices (as available) of scattered site units?

- Yes, a portion of the project will be site-based or require program participants to live in a specific structure or unit.
- No, program participants will be offered choices of scattered site units.

8. (15 Points) Describe how program participants will be assisted to obtain and remain in permanent housing: As Rapid Re-Housing funds are short-term (up to 3 months) or medium-term (up to 24 months) tenant-based rental assistance, describe how the project applicant will help program participants obtain permanent housing, and provide the necessary services and support to help program participants successfully remain in permanent housing once assistance ends.

- determine the right type of housing that fits the needs of program participants.
- work with landlords to address possible issues and challenges.
- work with program participants to set goals towards successful retention of permanent housing.
- If this project will exclusively assist victims of domestic violence, the description must include safety planning addressing the needs of this particular homeless population towards meeting the goal of obtaining and maintaining permanent housing along with how trauma-informed and victim-centered approaches will be used.

9. Project Experience

- (10 Points) Describe agency's experience working with the proposed sub-population to be served and experience with the proposed housing type.
- (5 points) Describe agency's experience utilizing Federal funds

Attachments

- (5 points) Submit a copy of your agency's most recent financial audit
- (10 points) Provide a total project budget including all sources of funding that will be used for the project on the attached form, ensuring that HUD funded line items are reasonable and allowable. Identify sources of match.
- (5 Points) Copy of Client Non-Discrimination Policy that includes self-reported or perceived race, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Many other categories should be in the policy, but the purpose of this is to document agency awareness of HUD's focus on Racial and LGBTQ+ non-discrimination.

Total Points: 120 Points

<input type="checkbox"/> Rapid Rehousing for Individuals <input type="checkbox"/> Rapid Rehousing for DV Individuals and Families		1 Year Grant Term Is this proposal an expansion of an existing project? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Proposed Activities	HUD Funding Requested	Cash Match (25%)	Totals
1. Rental Assistance			
2. Supportive Services			
Match Source:			
Subtotal lines 1 through 4			
3. Administrative Costs (Up to 10%)			
4. Total Request		Total Cash Match	Total Budget (HUD Request + Cash Match)

Project Identifier: _____ Ranking: _____
 Project Budget: _____ # of Units: Singles _____ Families _____

Rating Element	Data	Possible Points	Points
Performance Measures:			
>90% Exits to Permanent Housing		10	
>180 days Length of Stay		10	
Rate of Returns to Homelessness after 6 months Rate of Returns to Homelessness after 12 months		5 5	
>20% New or Increased Earned Income and/or increased Non- Employment Income for Stayers and Leavers		10	
Serves High-Need Participants:			
100% of participants entered project from Coordinated Entry referrals from the regional By-Name List in order of chronicity and vulnerability		10	
100% of program participants at risk of eviction were reviewed through weekly Coordinated Entry Placement Meeting prior to eviction		10	
Number of elements within lease, sub-lease, and all addendums that do not reflect the Housing First Model		10	
Project applied to serve those with one or more disabilities. At least 3 types of disabilities must be selected in submission, with one of those being a physical disability		10	
Project Effectiveness:			
Project has reasonable costs per permanent housing exit		10	
90% project utilization rate (Sample date 4x per year measuring utilization/total # of units.)		10	
Racial and LGBTQ+ Equity			

Project Client Non-Discrimination Policy includes race, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression		10	
	Total Points		
	Bonus Points	10	
	Total Points Possible	110	
	Score		

Bonus Measure			
Project conducted a survey of program participants regarding satisfaction with quality of services provided.		10	

Attachments:

1. Copies of requested leases and sub-leases that include all addendums and/or additional rule information.
2. Copy of Client Non-Discrimination Policy that includes self-reported or perceived race, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Many other categories should be in the policy, but the purpose of this is to document agency awareness of HUD's focus on Racial and LGBTQ+ non-discrimination.
3. Copy of survey that was used to measure participant satisfaction with the project services and the compiled results.