Fort Worth/Arlington/Tarrant County Continuum of Care TX-601
FY23 CoC Program Local Competition and Non-competitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants RFP

RFP ISSUE DATE: July 17, 2023

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: **5:00 pm, August 18, 2023**

New projects apply at BOTH: https://www.zoomgrants.com/zgf/FY23CoCCompetition

AND https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/

Renewal projects apply at: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/

Table of Contents

Introduction

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, Indian Tribes or tribally designated housing entities (as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)), 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.

Every year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) makes available federal resources for homeless programming to communities around the country through its Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and its annual CoC Competition. Continuums access these funds by completing consolidated applications on behalf of the federally funded homeless programs in their CoC.

The CoC Program is authorized by subtitle C of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, (42 U.S.C. 11381–11389) (the Act), and the CoC Program rule found in 24 CFR part 578 (the Rule). The FY 2023 funds were authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023. The renewal and replacement of YHDP grants is authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act.

The goal of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) is to support the development and implementation of a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness and sharing that experience with and mobilizing communities around the country toward the same end. The population to be served by the demonstration program is youth experiencing homelessness, including unaccompanied and pregnant or parenting youth.

The TX-601 Ft Worth/Arlington/Tarrant County CoC has chosen the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition (TCHC) to serve as its Collaborative Applicant for FY2023.

Document Overview

This document is intended to provide CoC members with basic information about the FY23 CoC Program Local Competition and Non-competitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants.

Before submission of renewal or new projects for the FY2023 CoC Competition, please read the NOFO in its entirety.
FY 2023 CoC NOFO: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=COC

The FY2023 CoC competition NOFO information is only applicable to HUD CoC-funded projects renewing their CoC project funding in 2023, those organizations interested in applying for funding for a new CoC-funded project, or currently funded YHDP projects whose current contract ends in 2024.

The FY 2023 CoC Program Competition is administered under the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition NOFO and Rule. The FY 2023 YHDP non-competitive renewal and replacement of expiring YHDP grants is administered under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 which permits expiring YHDP projects to be renewed or replaced non-competitively through the CoC Program.

Priorities and Objectives
FY2023 CoC NOFO Priorities

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, those experiencing chronic homelessness, and people with disabilities, including those living with HIV/AIDS). 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 CoCs should measure and help projects reduce the length of time people experience homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should engage landlords and property owners to identify housing units 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 explore all available resources, including CoC and ESG funded assistance, housing subsidies, and supportive services to provide permanent housing options for people who are unsheltered.

4. Improving System Performance. CoCs 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 2023 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 recognized the effects of COVID-19 on CoC performance and data quality and reduced the points available for rating factors related to system performance in the FY 2021 CoC NOFO. This

FY 2023 CoC NOFO significantly increases the points available for system performance rating factors.

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 receive primary care, receive housing-related services, and obtain medical insurance to address healthcare needs. This includes developing close partnerships with public health agencies to analyze data and design approaches that reduce homelessness, improve the health of people experiencing homelessness, and prevent and address disease outbreaks, including HIV/AIDS.

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 (FUP) 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. Responses to preventing and ending homelessness should address racial inequities to ensure successful outcomes for all persons experiencing homelessness using proven approaches, such as: developing a coordinated community response created in partnership with a racially diverse set of stakeholders and people experiencing homelessness and partnering with organizations with experience serving underserved populations. CoCs should review local policies, 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.

7. Improving Assistance to LGBTQ+ Individuals. Discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation manifests differently for different individuals and often overlaps with other

forms of prohibited discrimination. CoCs should address the needs of LGBTQ+, transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary individuals and families in their planning processes. Additionally, when considering which projects to select in their local competition to be included in their application to HUD, CoCs should ensure privacy, respect, safety, and access regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation in projects. CoCs should also consider partnering with organizations with expertise in serving LGBTQ+ populations.

8. 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. People with lived experience should determine how local policies may need to be revised and updated to improve the effectiveness of homelessness assistance programs, including participating in planning and oversight activities and developing local competition processes. CoC leaders and stakeholders should also prioritize hiring people who have experienced homelessness in areas where their expertise is needed (e.g. peer outreach and support).

9. Increasing Affordable Housing Supply. The lack of affordable housing is the main driver of homelessness. CoCs play a critical role in educating local leaders and stakeholders about the importance of increasing the supply of affordable housing and the specific consequences of the continued lack of affordable housing. CoCs should be communicating with jurisdiction leaders, including for the development of Consolidated Plans, about the harmful effects of the lack of affordable housing, and they should engage local leaders about steps such as zoning and land use reform that would increase the supply of affordable housing. This FY2023 CoC NOFO awards points to CoCs that take steps to engage local leaders about increasing affordable housing supply.

FY23 TX-601 CoC Priorities

TX-601 has set the following local priorities based on the needs and gaps in the current CoC system:

1. **Dedicated Sponsor or project-based Permanent Supportive Housing that matches CoC housing vouchers with other local capital investments.**
2. **Rapid Rehousing**
3. **Geographic distribution of projects throughout the TX-601 area.**
4. **Individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness within the TX-601 area.**

NOFA Highlights

HUD will continue the 2 Tier funding process as defined below.

- Projects in Tier 1 will be conditionally selected from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC (or until funding runs out), provided the projects pass both eligibility and threshold review
- Tier 2 Projects will be assessed for eligibility and threshold requirements and funding will be determined using a HUD formulated score
- Two-tiered funding approach formula:
  - **Tier 1 TX-601: $16,300,923**

- o **Tier 2 TX-601: Up to $2,644,400**
  - ▪ Tier 2 = CoC Bonus ($1,226,951) + Domestic Violence Bonus ($1,417,449)

The Collaborative Applicant (TCHC) has the responsibility to assure that all individual project applications and attachments are accurate and complete. Therefore, application completeness will be a scored item in the local competition.

Threshold Requirements

You are encouraged to review the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition in its entirety. Threshold requirements are discussed on page 54.

Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus

Originally new in FY2018, CoCs will again have the opportunity to apply for a DV Bonus for PH-RRH projects, Joint TH/PH-RRH component projects, and Supportive Services Only (SSO) projects for coordinated entry (SSO-CE). Regardless of the type of project, the grant term must be 1-year. Minimum project application is $50,000. Only one SSO-CE project can be submitted per CoC; however, there is no limit on the number of PH-RRH and Joint TH and PH-RRH projects provided that each application is for at least $50,000.

New DV Bonus project applications passing project eligibility and project quality threshold may be selected:
a. with DV Bonus funds based on the CoC Application score, how the CoC collaborates with victim service providers, the need for the project, and how the provider will involve survivors with lived expertise in the policy and program development (Section II.B.11.e of this NOFO) which will remove the DV Bonus project application from the Tier 1 and Tier 2 ranking process; or
b. without DV Bonus funds as a new project where the project application will retain its ranked position in Tier 1 or Tier 2 and may be selected as outlined in Sections II.B.11. a or b of this NOFO.

HUD will conditionally select approximately $45,000,000 in new DV Bonus eligible projects. If HUD would conditionally select less than $52,000,000 for projects that applied for the DV Bonus either through the DV Bonus selection process or the HUD funding process described in II.B.11, then HUD will select additional projects through the DV Bonus selection process until the combined amount conditionally selected through the DV Bonus selection process and the HUD funding process is at least $52,000,000. To be eligible to receive a new DV Bonus project, a CoC must demonstrate it ranks projects based on how they improve system performance as outlined in Section VII.B.2.b of this NOFO. Additionally, to be eligible to receive a DV Bonus project for PH-RRH or Joint TH and PH-RRH component, all projects funded through the DV Bonus must adopt a housing first approach

DV Bonus projects will be assigned up to 100 points (separate from Tier 2 scoring) to compete nationally for DV Bonus dollars. See the breakdown of the DV Bonus scoring on page 29 of the FY23 CoC NOFO.

New Project Opportunities

In the FY2023 CoC Program Competition, in addition to requests for renewal projects and CoC planning project requests, CoCs may submit requests for new projects funded through reallocation, bonus, or a combination of reallocation and bonus, and DV bonus. If you are applying for a new project under the CoC NOFO, we encourage you to read the entirety of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition.

New projects are subject to the rules and regulations included in the HUD NOFA and the CoC Policies and Procedures; therefore, applicants should review these documents with care before submitting a proposal.

Reallocation or Bonus Projects

Through the voluntary or involuntary reallocation process and Bonus funds, CoCs may create the following types of new projects:

(a) PH-PSH projects.

(b) PH-RRH projects.

(c) Joint TH/PH-RRH component projects.

(d) Dedicated HMIS project for the costs at 24 CFR 578.37(a)(4) that can only be carried out by the HMIS Lead, which is the recipient or subrecipient of an HMIS grant and is listed on the HMIS Lead form in the CoC Applicant Profile in e-snaps. Additionally, if the CoC has organizations within its geographic area that are victim service providers, the HMIS Lead, or subrecipient, may request HMIS funds for a comparable database. Victim service providers may also request HMIS funds in their project application budgets to enter data into a comparable database.

(e) SSO-CE project to develop or operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system. Project applications for rental assistance cannot request more than 100 percent of the published FMR. New project applications must adhere to 24 CFR 578.51(f) and must request the full FMR amount per unit.

Currently funded CoC project applicants interested in voluntarily reallocating should notify TCHC in writing by emailing of their intent to voluntarily reallocate within 7 days of the release of the CoC Local Competition RFP. Emails should be sent to CoCPlanningDepartment@ahomewithhope.org.

Transition Grant

During the FY23 CoC Competition, a currently funded project can create a new CoC project by transitioning an eligible renewal project being eliminated through reallocation from one program component to another eligible new component over a 1-year period. The new transition project must meet the following requirements:

(1) transition grants in this Competition are eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for eligible activities of the new component;

(2) to be eligible to receive a transition grant, the current recipient must have the consent of its Continuum of Care;

(3) the new project application must meet project eligibility and project quality thresholds established by HUD in the CoC NOFO.

All remaining funds must be used for eligible activities awarded under the new component for the project. Transition grants conditionally awarded in the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition will have one year to fully transition from the original component to the new component during the normal operating year once the grant agreement is executed. The project's operating start date will be the day after the end of the previous grant term for the expiring component, i.e., the transition grant will have the same operating year as the expiring component project. For transition grants reallocated from more than one project, the operating start date of the transition grant will be the day after the end of the earliest expiring grant term. The grant term may be extended consistent with 2 CFR 200.308 and 2 CFR 200.309. By the end of the operating year for which FY 2023 funds were awarded, the transition grant must be fully operating under the new component and will be eligible to apply for renewal in the next CoC Program Competition under the component to which it transitioned.

For a new project to be considered a transition grant, the new project applicant must be the recipient listed on the current grant agreement for the eligible renewal grant(s) being eliminated and must include the grant number(s) of the project(s) being eliminated to create the new project and attach a copy of the most recently awarded project application (most projects will attach a copy of the FY 2022 CoC Program Competition project application).

To meet the requirements HUD will consider the following as CoC consent for the transition grant:
• the project application identifies the project as a transition project,
• and the CoC ranks the new transition grant project on the New Project Listing in the FY 2023 CoC Priority Listing.

If HUD determines a new project submitted as a transition grant does not qualify but meets all other new project requirements, HUD may award the project as a new non-transition grant project. If this occurs, the recipient will not be permitted to expend any FY 2023 funds until the new project grant agreement is executed by the local HUD field office.

Currently funded CoC project applicants interested in transitioning their current grant should notify TCHC in writing by emailing of their intent to transition within 7 days of the release of the CoC Local Competition RFP. Emails should be sent to CoCPlanningDepartment@ahomewithhope.org.

DV Bonus
Through the DV Bonus, CoCs may create the following types of new projects:

(a) PH-RRH projects dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless (24 CFR 578.3);

(b) Joint TH/PH-RRH component projects defined in Section III.B.2.r of this NOFO dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who are defined as homeless (24 CFR 578.3); or

(c) SSO-CE project 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.

Eligible Project Applicants

Eligible project applicants for the CoC Program are, under 24 CFR 578.15, nonprofit organizations, States, local governments, and instrumentalities of State and local governments. Public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100, are eligible without limitation or exclusion. For-profit entities are not eligible to apply for grants or to be subrecipients of grant funds.

Renewal Projects (Including YHDP)

Awards made under the CoC Program are eligible for renewal with FY 2023 funds if they are currently in operation and have an executed grant agreement that is dated no later than December 31, 2023, and expire in FY 2024 and is listed in the Grant Inventory Worksheet. **Renewal projects can request funding up to the amount listed in the Grant Inventory Worksheet.**

Eligible renewal projects requesting rental assistance are permitted to request a per-unit amount less than the Fair Market Rent (FMR) if the actual rent per unit under lease is less than the FMR. This will help reduce the number of projects receiving rental assistance that have large balances of unspent funds remaining at the end of the operating year. Renewal project applicants must ensure that the amount requested will be sufficient to cover all eligible costs as HUD cannot provide funds beyond what is awarded through this competition. Project applications for rental assistance cannot request more than 100 percent of the published FMR.

Expansion Project

HUD will allow project applicants to apply for a new expansion project under the DV Bonus, reallocation, and bonus processes to expand existing projects that will increase the number of units, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or to add additional activities to HMIS and SSO-Coordinated Entry projects. If the new expansion project will expand an existing eligible CoC Program renewal project, HUD will not fund capital costs (i.e., new constructions, rehabilitation, or acquisition) and HUD will only allow a 1-year funding request.

Expansion projects require a renewal application for the existing project AND a new application for the expansion information.

Consolidated Project

Applicants may use the consolidation process to combine two or more eligible renewal projects (e.g., permanent housing-permanent supportive housing projects) and may do so through the renewal project application.

Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP)

During the FY23 CoC Competition, YHDP projects with grant agreements expiring in 2024 and listed on the GIW will have the opportunity to renew or replace their projects. Renewals for YHDP will follow the processes outlined in this RFP for renewal projects.

HUD has decided to non-competitively renew or replace expiring YHDP grants; however, these project applications will be reviewed for compliance with project eligibility, project quality, and if applicable, project renewal thresholds. While YHDP projects can use the consolidation process as outlined in the CoC NOFO, these projects cannot consolidate with non-YHDP projects. YHDP projects cannot use the

expansion or reallocation processes outlined in the CoC NOFO. All YHDP renewal and replacement projects are subject to the following provisions of the Rule, as may be amended from time to time, except where they conflict with the NOFO requirements, with the special YHDP activities identified in Section V.B.4.a.(5) of this NOFO, or the requirement that grant funds may only be used to serve homeless youth, age 24 and younger. All YHDP renewal and replacement projects must comply with 24 CFR 578.93, except that in 578.93(c)(2), recipients must provide such information to the jurisdiction in which the project is located. Federal fair housing and nondiscrimination requirements cannot be waived.

YHDP Replacement Grants

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, permits the replacement of renewing YHDP projects under the CoC Program; therefore, renewing YHDP projects may be replaced with new YHDP projects that may wholly or in part include activities ineligible under the CoC Program if the replacement project demonstrates it will directly serve youth aged 24 and under experiencing homelessness. CoCs may replace a renewing YHDP project to create one or more YHDP Replacement projects. YHDP Renewal project applicants may submit renewal applications for minor changes to a project, including adding or modifying Special YHDP Activities, but larger changes to a project will require applying for a replacement project.

First Time Applicants

TX-601 encourages eligible new applicants to apply for funding in the FY23 CoC Program Competition.

Before submission of new projects, please read the NOFOs in its entirety.

If you do not have an eSNAPS account (The electronic grants management system managed by HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS*), create an account immediately.* For further information, visit: e-snaps : CoC Program Applications and Grants Management System - HUD Exchange

New applications are also processed through Zoom Grants at www.zoomgrants.com. The application in zoomgrants will be available on or before July 18, 2023.

Financial Management Requirements

It is important for applicants to review the financial management requirements that went into effect in December 2014 and will apply to the FY2023 CoC Program Grant; "Transition to 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Final Guidance", a.k.a "The Transition Notice." Applicants should have their financial managers review the notice at: https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=15-01sdn.pdf

Managers should also review the HUD CoC Virtual Binders with information on financial management, eligible costs, match, indirect costs and program requirements.

Project Budgets

CoC program eligible costs are detailed at 24 CFR 578.37 through 63.

Match

24 CFR 578.73 provides the information regarding match requirements. As authorized by the FY 2019 HUD Appropriations Act, program income may now be used as a source of match and must be

properly documented in the project application. A 25% match is required on all budget categories except leasing.

Indirect Costs

Normal indirect cost rules under 2 CFR part 200 apply. Project applicants that intend to charge indirect costs to the award must clearly state in the project application(s) the rate and distribution base the recipient intends to use, and if applicable, the rate and distribution base to be used by any sub-recipient(s). If the rate is a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, the project application must include the corresponding negotiated indirect cost rate agreement signed by the cognizant agency.

For each applicant or intended sub-recipient that meets the conditions for the de minimis rate under 2 CFR 200.414(f) and will use that rate to charge indirect costs, the project application must clearly state the intended use of the de minimis rate of 10 percent of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC). As described in 2 CFR 200.403, costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both.

Application Process

As the collaborative applicant, TCHC runs a local competition for HUD Continuum of Care funding and completes and submits the community's application to HUD. The CoC application processes for renewal projects, first time renewal projects, and new projects outlined below. **All application components are due submitted in eSNAPS and/or Zoom Grants on August 18, 2023, at 5:00 PM.**

Upon completion of the local competition, TCHC will compile all selected projects into the federal consolidated application. TCHC is required by HUD to review all project applications in eSNAPS for accuracy and quality. TCHC may need further information or application changes from the applicant before the submission of the federal consolidated application on September 25, 2023. By applying for the local competition, applicants agree to respond to TCHC requests for information in a timely manner to complete the federal consolidated application.

Renewal Projects including YHDP

Renewal projects application includes:
- Project Scorecard generated by TCHC (except projects that do not have one year of operational data- this includes YHDP)
- HUD CoC project application completed in eSNAPS www.esnaps.hud.gov
- HUD required documentation in eSNAPS

New Projects

New projects application includes:

- Local RFP Narrative Responses completed in Zoom Grants system (application questions attached) Use this link to complete an application in Zoom Grants: https://www.zoomgrants.com/zgf/FY23CoCCompetition
- HUD CoC project application completed in eSNAPS www.esnaps.hud.gov
- HUD required documentation in eSNAPS

In the FY 2022 Annual CoC NOFO, 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 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 the NOFO that will be awarded to CoCs that are promoting racial equity through the local CoC competition. These points were 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 what steps are being taken or will be taken to eliminate the identified barriers

Within the FY 2022 Annual CoC NOFO, HUD also revised 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 the NOFO that were 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. HUD has advised that CoCs should consider ensuring privacy, respect, safety, and access regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation in projects selected in their local competition to be included in their application to HUD.

To better align our CoCs priorities with HUD expectations during the ranking and review process, TCHC is asking all new projects applying for the FY23 Annual CoC Competition to answer the questions below.

Please describe how your project has identified any barriers to participation faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and what steps are being taken or will be taken to eliminate the identified barriers.

Please describe how your project will ensure privacy, respect, safety, and access to services regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.

New projects will answer these questions in zoomgrants under question 19. Please ensure you answer both questions.

In the FY22 CoC Competition, TCHC asked that all renewal applicants answer the two questions above and email their response to CoCPlanningDepartment@ahomewithhope.org. Those responses have been compiled and saved for future competitions. If a project would like to submit a new response or edit their previous response to these questions, they must submit the new response by email by August 18, 2023 at 5pm. If a project chooses not to resubmit a response, their response from the FY22 competition will be used. Responses to these questions will be reviewed and considered by the Allocations Committee during the ranking and review process.

Local Scoring & Ranking

Goals & Priorities for the FY2023 CoC Competition

The CoC has identified the following funding priorities for the FY2023 CoC Competition:
- Submit a consolidated application that meets threshold and maximizes available funding
- Fund projects that meet community needs and improve system performance

- Fund projects that are cost effective and maximize program and mainstream resources, including leveraging healthcare, workforce, and public housing authority
- Fund projects that successfully end homelessness
- Promote the use of best practices, including Housing First
- Fund projects that reduce unsheltered homelessness

The ranking of new and renewal project in the 2023 CoC Consolidated application are guided by the ranking goal: *To prioritize activities that are most successful in ending homelessness and maximize funding available to end homelessness in the CoC, while also providing an incentive to all funded providers to monitor and improve their performance, including efficiency with funds and ensure continued funding with CoC resources.*

To that end, the following priorities, in no particular order, will help guide development of a final ranking approach:
- The CoC may seek to preserve low-ranking projects at risk of losing funding where those projects represent the only CoC Program funding in their communities
- The CoC may seek to preserve low-ranking Permanent Housing (PH) projects at risk of losing funding where those projects represent the only CoC Program funded PH in their communities.
- The CoC may prioritize projects that have demonstrated the use of Housing First practices
- The CoC may consider reducing funding requests for the lowest ranked projects as a means to preserve funding for higher ranked projects, if needed, and keeping in line with other priorities
- The CoC may consider ranking new projects higher than some renewal projects, where the CoC believes doing so will better help the CoC meet the ranking goal outlined above.

Renewal CoC Projects are subject to performance review via the Renewal Project Scorecard which was adopted by the TX-601 Board of Directors. The scorecard reflects the HUD System Performance Measures, HUD Policy Priorities and local priorities and comprises 100% of the total renewal project score.

New project scores for the CoC NOFO will be entirely derived from the scored elements in the local RFP, which include HUD priorities and local priorities.

The TX-601 Board of Directors adopted the FY2023 Ranking Policy (Appendix D) and the FY2023 Reallocation Policy (Appendix C), which provides guidance to the Allocation Committee when determining project rank order.

A. HUD Ranking Requirements
The CoC must assign a unique rank to each project that it intends to submit to HUD for FY2023 CoC competition funding except for the CoC planning grant. Ranking of renewal projects must incorporate scoring on project performance, system performance and effectiveness. Each CoC must comprehensively review both new and renewal projects within its geographic area, using CoC-approved scoring criteria and selection priorities, to determine the extent to which each project is still necessary and addresses the listed policy priorities. Funds for projects that are determined to be underperforming, obsolete, or ineffective should be reallocated to new projects that are based on proven or promising models.

Any new or renewal project may be placed in Tier 1. CoCs should carefully consider the priority and ranking for all projects in Tier 1 and Tier 2. Projects in Tier 1 will be conditionally selected if applications pass both HUD's eligibility and threshold review. Projects in Tier 1 are selected from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC or until funds run out.

Projects placed in Tier 2 will be assessed for eligibility threshold and threshold requirements and funding will be determined using the CoC Applications score as well as factors listed in the NOFA.

B. Policy Priorities

CoCs should consider the policy priorities established in the NOFA in conjunction with local priorities to determine the ranking of new projects created through reallocation, CoC planning, and renewal project requests.

Project Evaluation Process

The CoC Board of Directors reviews and approves the evaluation process and project ranking approach. The evaluation process and related project ranking helps TX-601 fully maximize CoC Program funds, make informed funding decisions, and continue to move the CoC toward our goal of ending homelessness. Scoring and ranking of proposals is conducted by the CoC Allocations Committee Ranking Workgroup.

The CoC Competition has separate scoring for 1) Renewal Projects and 2) New Projects. Renewal projects are evaluated only on past performance as determined by a project performance score card. Per the CoC Ranking Policy, renewal projects with less than one year of operational data when scorecards are run are automatically ranked in Tier 1 according to how they address community needs. New projects for the CoC NOFO will be evaluated only with narrative responses to this RFP.

Request for Proposals and New Projects

New projects for the CoC NOFO are required to submit a response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) to apply for the local CoC competition. Applicants must submit one application per project. The local RFP contains narrative questions that must be completed by all applicants.

Narrative questions are derived from local priorities and HUD policies and priorities. Narrative questions vary by project type (i.e. PSH, RRH) and serve as an opportunity for applicants to provide more detail regarding their project. The Allocations Committee Ranking Workgroup is responsible for scoring this portion of the local competition. A scoring matrix is provided to this committee to assist with the scoring process.

The FY2023 RFP questions can be found in Appendix E: FY2023 RFP Narrative Questions.

New projects are required to submit a full application in eSNAPS and zoomgrants.

Renewal Project Scorecards

Renewal projects are evaluated utilizing performance and financial data, data quality elements, grant management efforts and CoC participation. The evaluation is used to establish which programs have been most successful in achieving HUD and locally determined performance standards; and to identify how programs are contributing to the overall System Performance of the CoC.

Performance data is gathered for each program via a scorecard report in TCHC's Greenriver data warehouse software for the date range of 4/1/2022-3/31/2023. The scorecard report uses Annual Performance Report (APR) and System Performance Measure (SPM) data for each program.

To build the scorecard, the CoC pulled aggregate data to provide a CoC-wide average baseline performance for the related scorecard measures. After calculating average performance of each applicable measure, a +/-5% deviation is established for the scoring range. The range nearest the average percentage is eligible for 5 points; project percentages above the specified average will receive 10 points; and project percentages below the specified average range will receive 0 points. This method allows programs to be compared and scored specifically to other programs of the same project component type and identify which projects are most improving the CoC System Performance. Ranges not related to APR measures were obtained from information derived from other sources including but not limited to NAEH, HUD, and eSNAPS project applications.

Before using project reports to establish scores, TCHC notifies renewing projects of the performance date range and deadlines to complete all data corrections. In FY2023, projects were notified on June 15, 2023 of the data parameters and expectations and were given a deadline of June 23, 2023 to have all data corrections complete. TCHC provided technical assistance via email, online video tutorials, and designed office hours to assist projects with data clean up and answer questions. Final scorecards for the FY2023 CoC Competition were sent on July 12, 2023. Non-HMIS users submit data from a comparable database with the same deadline of June 23, 2023.

A complete list of projects eligible for renewal in the FY2023 CoC Competition can be found in Appendix A: 2023 Renewal CoC Projects.

The 2023 Renewal Project Scorecard can be found in Appendix B: 2023 Renewal Project Scorecard.

The following areas are evaluated as part of the renewal project evaluation process.

Scorecard Category Weight	
Project Performance	50%
HMIS Data Quality	20%
Coordinated Entry Participation	20%
Grant Management & Financials	10%
Total Score	100%

Project Performance:
1. Quarterly Occupancy Utilization Rate
   a) Purpose: Indicates efficient use of community resources. High occupancy indicates system efficiency and community demand for services. Project occupancy data is reported to HUD three times a year via the Housing Inventory Chart (HIC), the Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA), and the Annual Performance Report (APR).
2. Percentage of participants who remained in PSH or exited to permanent housing
   a) Purpose: Indicates project success in ending homelessness by measuring the number of participants with a permanent destination at project exit and those who remained in a permanent supportive housing project compared to the total number of participants active in the project during the measured year.

3. Average length of stay of participants (RRH projects only)
    a) Purpose: Indicates the efficiency of the program and self-sufficiency of participants.
4. Percentage of adults at exit or annual assessment who gained or increased employment income
    a) Purpose: Indicates that the project is assisting households to increase self-sufficiency and stabilize housing by retaining or gaining employment income.
5. Percentage of adults at exit or annual assessment who gained or increased non-employment cash income
    a) Purpose: Indicates that the project is assisting participants toward self-sufficiency through retaining or increasing income by utilizing all possible resources available to participants.
6. Returns to Homelessness
    a) Purpose: Indicates the project's long-term success of participants who successfully exited two years ago.

HMIS Data Quality:
7. Personal Identifying Information Error Rate
    a) Purpose: To achieve accurate data collection and to satisfy HUD HMIS data requirements, projects must ensure that data entered into the local HMIS system is complete.
8. Universal Data Elements Error Rate
    a) Purpose: To achieve accurate data collection and to satisfy HUD HMIS data requirements, projects must ensure that data entered into the local HMIS system is complete.
9. Income and Housing Data Quality
    a) Purpose: To achieve accurate data collection and to satisfy HUD HMIS data requirements, projects must ensure that data entered in the local HMIS system is complete.

Data provided from non-HMIS participating agencies is unable to be processed through the electronic database utilized by HMIS participating agencies. The data is sent in a CSV format and will be reviewed outside of the system for data quality and completeness.

Coordinated Entry System Participation:
10. Time to Lease Up
    a) Purpose: TX-601 set a community-wide goal to house clients within 30 days of project enrollment. This metric will allow TX-601 to measure progress towards reaching this goal.
11. Accepted Referrals
    a) Purpose: TX-601 set a community-wide goal of accepting at least 90% of clients referred from Coordinated Entry (no more than 10% denial rate). This metric will allow TX-601 to measure progress towards reaching this goal.

Grant Management & Financials:
12. Projected Project Spend Down
    a) Purpose: Ensure the program is on track to spend down all project funds by the end of its current grant term.
13. Cost Efficiency
    a) Purpose: It is important to HUD that programs demonstrate cost efficiency – the annual cost to retain or move someone into permanent housing.
14. Percentage of total grant funds recaptured in the most recent grant closeout
    a) Purpose: It is important to HUD that programs show agency capacity to spend funds allocated in a timely manner and in full and allows for potential fund reallocation of unspent funds during the HUD CoC Competition.

15. 2023 PIT Count Participation
2   Purpose: Indicates if agency is participating in CoC-related activities.
1. CoC General Meeting Attendance
    a) Purpose: Indicates if agency is participating in CoC-related activities.

Review Only:
This section is **not** part of the FY2023 total project score. These are test questions to begin evaluating performance in the specified areas. These questions may be scored during future competitions.
   1. Site Monitoring
      a) Purpose: HUD requires that project meet threshold requirements throughout the life cycle of the project.
   2. CES Rejected Referrals
      a) Purpose: Ensure all programs are prioritizing services to those that need it most and abiding to fair-housing and anti-discrimination laws.
   3. PSH Move On
      a) Purpose: Ensure PSH projects are assisting clients to independent living and effectively utilizing project beds.

First Year Renewals and YHDP

First year renewals will not receive a score card because the project has not had the opportunity to complete a full year at the time score cards are run. First year renewals will automatically be renewed. In FY23, projects that did not have one year of operational data at the time that scorecards were completed are considered "first year renewals" and will be automatically renewed pending the submission of requested narrative responses in eSNAPS.

Victim Service Provider Projects

Domestic Violence project applications are reviewed, scored and ranked in the manner described in previous sections. All performance related data is provided by the Victim Service provider as generated from the non-HMIS Comparable Database.

All Domestic Violence applicants, whether new or renewing, will be required to describe methods and tools used to ensure and increase client safety while enrolled in the program through the local RFP.

For new projects seeking DV Bonus funding, additional questions will be required on the local RFP to demonstrate unmet community need and a proposed plan to address the unmet need, along with data sources and calculations used to establish the unmet need.

Total Project Score

The total project score for Renewal Projects with at least one full year of operation is comprised 100% from the project scorecard. TX-601 places an emphasis on project performance to align with HUD priorities. First year renewals or projects with less than one year of data when the scorecards were run will automatically be renewed pending the submission of requested narrative responses.

The total project score for New Projects for the CoC NOFO are 100% derived from the local RFP (narrative responses). Score cards are not applicable for these projects.

Fund Allocations Process

The Allocations Committee Ranking Workgroup, a committee of the TX-601 CoC Board, is comprised of objective community members who score project applications, rank projects as required, and make funding recommendations. The committee members are not affiliated with applicant agencies. Committee members are provided with multiple training opportunities regarding the CoC NOFA, the scoring process, and the ranking policy. Members are given materials prior to the deliberations meeting to review, score, accept/reject and rank project applications. The following project application materials are provided to each committee member:

- Renewal Project Score Card
- Local RFP responses for new projects
- Relevant eSNAPS data
- Relevant Project Financial Data
- Local Monitoring Materials

The scores from each member are returned to TCHC for initial project ranking per the CoC policy. Committee members deliberate in a closed meeting to make ranking, funding and reallocation decisions as guided by CoC policy. Additionally, the committee will make decisions related to which projects to accept and/or reject in the local competition. Once a consensus has been met, the committee will provide final ranking recommendations to the CoC Board of Directors for review and instruct the Collaborative Applicant to submit the project ranking within the HUD-required timeframe. The CoC will notify any projects that are rejected or reallocated within the HUD-required timeframe.

Appendix A: 2023 Renewal CoC Projects

Applicant Name	Project Name	Project Component
Housing Authority of the City of Arlington	AHA SPC FY2022	PH
Tarrant County	CTL 3CP	PH
MHMR of Tarrant County	Gateway to Housing FY22	PH
Presbyterian Night Shelter	Housing Solutions Combined	PH
Fort Worth Housing Solutions	SPC 1 2022 - 2023 (TX0106L6T012114)	PH
Fort Worth Housing Solutions	SPC 2 2022 - 2023 (TX0108L6T012114)	PH
Tarrant County	TBLA 114 Tarrant County	PH
Tarrant County	TBLA 13 MHMR	PH
Tarrant County	TBLA 15 Samaritan House	PH
Tarrant County	TBLA 17 MHMR	PH
Presbyterian Night Shelter	Mimi Hunter Fitzgerald Safe Haven	SH
Recovery Resource Council	Project New Start Renewal FY22	PH
Tarrant County	Samaritan House Grace Village	PH
Tarrant County	Salvation Army Veterans PSH Program	PH
Tarrant County Homeless Coalition	CoC HMIS FY22	HMIS
Tarrant County	Housing SPC	PH
Tarrant County	SafeTomorrows	PH
Fort Worth Housing Solutions	SPC 6 2022 - 2023 (TX0337L6T012110)	PH
Tarrant County Homeless Coalition	CoC Coordinated Entry System FY22	SSO
Fort Worth Housing Solutions	CHANGE 2022 - 2023 (TX0345L6T012108)	PH
SafeHaven of Tarrant County	SafeSolutions for Rapid Rehousing FY 2022	PH
Center for Transforming Lives	CTL Rapid Rehousing Renewal of 2108	PH
Tarrant County	TSA Housing First PSH Combined	PH
Housing Authority of the City of Arlington	AHA ANFP FY22	PH
Tarrant County	TSA SIMON PSH	PH
Housing Authority of the City of Arlington	AHA RRH FY22	PH
CitySquare	OnTRAC Tarrant TH/RRH	Joint TH & PH-RRH
Hearts Full of Love	HFOL RRH 2022	PH
Day Resource Center for the Homeless	Quail Trail	PH
Tarrant County Homeless Coalition	Optimizing CE for DV Clients FY22	SSO
Tarrant County Samaritan Housing, Inc.	Youth RRH Program	PH
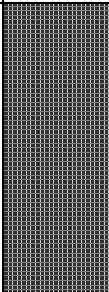
CitySquare	OnTRAC Tarrant TH/RRH Expansion	Joint TH & PH-RRH
CitySquare	OnTRAC Tarrant PSH	PH
Resources Inspiring Success and Empowering	RISE Excel Rapid Rehousing Initiative	PH
Dunes LGBT Homeless Solutions Foundation	Dune's LGBT Homeless Solution - CTH	TH
Seasons of Change, Incorporated	Seasons of Change, Inc - The Community Changers Project	Joint TH & PH-RRH

Appendix B: 2023 Renewal CoC Projects Score Card

Total Project Score					
	Scoring Category	**Total Points Achieved**	**Total Points Available**	**Category Weight**	**Percentage Achieved**
Total Project Score = **Project Performance Percentage Achieved** **+ HMIS Data Quality Percentage Achieved** **+ Coordinated Entry Participation Percentage Achieved** **+ Grant Management & Financials Percentage Achieved**	**Project Performance**	0	**40**	50%	**0%**
	HMIS Data Quality	0	**30**	20%	**0%**
	Coordinated Entry Participation	0	**20**	20%	**0%**
	Grant Management & Financials	0	**50**	10%	**0%**
	Total Score	**0%**			

Performance Criteria	Purpose & Source of Measurement	Formula Information		Performance Calculation	Points: 10	Points: 5	Points: 0	Total
Project Performance 50% Achieving project outcomes provides a benchmark for how well projects help to end homelessness. Assessing & monitoring project outcomes is necessary to understand a project's rate of success and contribution to CoC-wide performance goals.								
Quarterly Occupancy Utilization Rate	Household utilization rates demonstrate that the CoC is fully utilizing its inventory. Sage APR Q8b & Application	January Total (Q8b, Row 1, Column 1)		#DIV/0!	90%+	80%-89%	<=79%	
		April Total (Q8b, Row 2, Column, Column 1)						
		July Total (Q8b, Row 3, Column 1)						
		October Total (Q8b, Row 4, Column 1)						
		Adjusted Total from Project Application (Auto Calculates)						
		Proposed number of households served						
Percentage of participants who remained in PSH or exited to permanent housing	Successful housing outcomes are one of the most important measures of project success. Sage APR Q23c	Total Number of Persons Served (Q05a, Row 1)			PSH: >= 98% RRH: >= 95%	PSH: 90%-97% RRH: 90% - 94%	PSH: <= 89% RRH: <= 89%	
		Total Persons exiting to positive destinations (Q23c, 3rd row from bottom)						
		Total Exits (Q23c, 4th row from bottom)						
		Total persons whose destinations excluded them from the calculation (Q23c, 2nd row from bottom)						

		Unsuccessful exits (Auto Calculated)					
Average length of stay of program leavers	Length of Stay is measured to determine if clients are moving through the programs in an appropriate length of time and are efficiently moving towards a permanent and stable home. It also assists community system modeling efforts. Sage APR Q22b				RRH: >=3-18 months	RRH: 19-24 months	RRH: >=25 / <=2 months
Percentage of adults at exit or annual assessment who gained or increased employment income	Improving household access to financial resources is crucial to reducing vulnerability to homelessness. Increase in income is measured in the NOFA & System Performance Measures Sage APR Q19a1, Q19a2	N/A			PSH: >= 15% RRH: >= 56%	PSH: 9% - 14% RRH: 50% - 55%	PSH: <= 8% RRH: <= 49%
Percentage of adults at exit or annual assessment who gained or increased non-employment cash income	Improving a household's access to financial resources is crucial to reducing vulnerability to homelessness. Increase in income is measured through the NOFA & System Performance Measures. Sage APR Q19a1, Q19a2	N/A			PSH: >= 61% RRH: >= 21%	PSH: 55% - 60% RRH: 15% - 20%	PSH: <= 54% RRH: <= 14%

Returns to Homelessness	Reducing returns to homelessness is one of the most important measures of program success and is HUD System Performance Measure 2a. Greenriver Report				<= 5%	6% - 15%	>= 16%
HMIS Data Quality 20% HMIS participation and data quality are priorities for TX601 & HUD. Accurate, complete & timely data is crucial to determine how projects are contributing to ending homelessness. High quality data is key to understanding what projects are doing and how the CoC & HUD can make informed decisions about the project.							
Personal Identifying Information Error Rate	To achieve accurate data collection and to satisfy HUD HMIS data requirements, projects must ensure that data entered into the local HMIS system is complete. HUD Data Quality Report; Sage APR Q6a, Q6b, Q6c	N/A			0% - 1%	2% - 5%	>= 6%
Universal Data Elements Error Rate		N/A			0% - 1%	2% - 5%	>= 6%
Income and Housing Data Quality		N/A			0% - 1%	2% - 5%	>= 6%
Coordinated Entry System Participation 20% 24 CFR 578.(a)(8) states that CoCs must establish and operate a Coordinated Entry System to allocate assistance as effectively as possible, prioritizing services to those that need it the most.							
Time to Lease Up	TX-601 established Community-wide performance expectations in 2016 and identified that well-functioning Housing Crisis Response System moves households from homelessness to permanent housing in less than 30 days. Sage APR Q22c	Average Time to Lease Up			<= 60 days	61-75 days	>= 76 days
Accepted Referrals	TX-601 established Community-wide performance expectations in 2016 to allocate assistance as effectively as possible, prioritizing services to those	Number of CES Referrals		N/A	>=0%		
		Number of Accepted Referrals					

	that need it the most. GreenRiver Report						

Grant Management & Financials 10%
Projects must demonstrate understanding of compliance with federal & local regulations of project operations.

Projected Project Spend Down	Ensure the program is on track to spend down all project funds by the end of its current grant term Agency Self-Report and eLOCCS data	Funds expended to date, as reflected in eLOCCS				(+/-) 0 - 10%	(+/-) 11 - 15%	(+/-) 16% +
		Total Grant Amount Awarded						
		Number of months since start of grant term to present						
Cost Efficiency	It is important to HUD that programs demonstrate cost efficiency - the annual cost to retain or move someone into permanent housing. Project Application & Sage APR Data	Total CoC Budget Plus 25% Required Match				PSH <=$8,999 RRH <=$2,499	PSH $9,000 - 11,000 RRH $2,500 - 4,500	PSH >=$11,001 RRH >=$4,501
		Number of participants who exited to or remained in permanent housing during the reporting period						
Percentage of total grant funds that were recaptured in the most recent grant closeout	It is important to HUD that programs show agency capacity to spend funds allocated in a timely manner and in full and allows for potential fund reallocation of unspent funds during the HUD CoC Competition. Sage APR Data	Total Grant Award				0-2%	3-5%	>= 6%
		Total Spent						
		Unspent Amount	$ -					
2021 PIT Count Participation	The measure indicates if agency is participating in CoC-related activities PIT Registration or PIT Data	N/A				Yes		No
CoC General Meeting Attendance	To support collaboration between agencies and knowledge of	Number of Meetings			#DIV/0!	>= 75%	50% - 74%	<= 49%

local resources at the CoC will provides CoC wide meetings with varying topics related to homelessness and housing services. The measure indicates agency participation. TCHC Sign-In Sheets	Number Attended						

Appendix C: TX-601 Reallocation Policy

TX-601 Grant Reallocation Policy

For FY2023 CoC Program funding, HUD will prioritize those CoCs that demonstrate a capacity to reallocate funding in the FY2023 CoC Program Competition or have reallocated a total of at least 20 percent of the CoC's total ARD between FY 2015 and FY 2022 from lower performing projects to higher performing projects as demonstrated through the CoC's local selection process. TX-601 uses local data to determine the characteristics of individuals and families with the highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness in order to develop housing and supportive services tailored to their needs through the CoC competition. TX-601 uses the reallocation process to create new projects that improve the overall system performance and better respond to the community need. The policy below is in response to HUD's recommendation to reallocate low performing and underspent projects.

Types of Reallocation:

To meet HUD and community priorities, CoC programs that are not housing first, demonstrate low performance, or have a high recapture rate may be reallocated to fund higher-performing or new projects. TCHC will offer technical support and acknowledgment letters for agencies who voluntarily reallocate their grant awards. There are three types of reallocation.

Voluntary Reallocation

Voluntary reallocation is an act of permanently surrendering HUD grant funds for part of, or a whole project; these funds are then available for new project applicants or expansion projects to apply for. Voluntary reallocation happens when an agency determines their project is not meeting local needs, does not have the capacity to continue the project, or the reduction of the project would better serve the CoC.

Currently funded CoC project applicants interested in voluntarily reallocating should notify TCHC in writing by emailing of their intent to voluntarily reallocate within 7 days of the release of the CoC Local Competition RFP. Emails should be sent to CoCPlanningDepartment@ahomewithhope.org.

As noted by HUD, voluntary reallocation does not guarantee the agency will be chosen to operate a new eligible project utilizing the reallocated funds.

Reallocation to Transition (Transition Grants):

Currently funded CoC projects may reallocate their funding to transition an eligible renewal project from one program component to another eligible new component over a 1-year period.

The new transition project must meet the following requirements:
(1) transition grants in this Competition are eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for eligible activities of the new component;
(2) to be eligible to receive a transition grant, the current recipient must have the consent of its Continuum of Care;
(3) the new project application must meet project eligibility and project quality thresholds established by HUD in the Competition NOFO.

Currently funded CoC project applicants interested in reallocation to transition should notify TCHC in writing by emailing of their intent to reallocate within 7 days of the release of the CoC Local Competition RFP. Emails should be sent to CoCPlanningDepartment@ahomewithhope.org.

For more information regarding transition grants: Transition Project Requirements for the CoC Program Competition - HUD Exchange

Involuntary Reallocation:

Projects that do not meet competition threshold and the lowest 20% of ranked renewal projects will be evaluated by the Ranking & Review Committee for possible reallocation, in whole or in part. Involuntarily reallocation funding will be used to fund new or expansion projects that meet the needs of the CoC. When determining involuntary reallocation, the Ranking & Review Committee will compare performance data from the following categories:

Performance

Renewal projects will be assessed on their project quality and ability to meet performance outcomes such as occupancy rates, participant income growth, successful exits, and cost efficiency. Projects with the lowest performance rates may be reallocated to higher performing projects or new projects.

Spending History

HUD assumes that projects will spend 100% of the funds allocated to them. Projects that fail to spend the total grant award may see a decrease in funding as those funds are added to the pool of funds available for reallocation to other projects. Projects that have a high recapture rate for two consecutive program years, may be reduced to the amount disbursed at the end of the 12- month review. An exception to this policy may be made for new projects that could not expend funds due to implementation barriers.

HMIS Participation

HMIS participation is required to meet HUD renewal project threshold requirements. Non-HMIS providers must use a comparable database that meets the needs of the local HMIS to meet this threshold. The midterm performance review along with data quality reports will be examined to determine if agency participation in HMIS is adequate. Projects with a data error rate of 10% or more will be placed on a data error plan to correct existing errors and prevent future occurrences. The data error plan will consist of a series of required data quality workshops for users within the project. Projects that do not meet threshold requirements or have the highest rates of data errors may be reallocated to higher performing projects or new projects.

Appendix D: TX-601 Ranking Policy
TX-601 Project Ranking Policy

CoC TX-601 will use the following process to rank all project applications in the 2023 Continuum of Care Program Competition to accomplish the following objectives:

- To prioritize those activities that are most successful in ending homelessness
- To maximize funding available to end homelessness in the CoC
- To provide an incentive to all funded providers to monitor and improve their performance, including efficiency with funds, to ensure continued funding with CoC resources

Projects are scored utilizing objective criteria including: project quality, past performance, cost effectiveness and contributions made to improve overall system performance. Domestic Violence providers will be evaluated utilizing data generated from a comparable database and are held to the same performance standards as non-domestic violence focused projects. TX-601 monitors HUD required and local performance and compliance standards throughout the year and findings are incorporated into the scoring process.

TX-601 uses a project renewal scorecard to evaluate all projects. This scorecard is generated through our data warehouse, Green River. The scorecard is based on APR data pulled through the Green River system and may have minimal variances from the APR data generated in the ETO system. TX-601 will use the scorecards with the Green River data and not the ETO data. During the scorecard process, agencies will have an opportunity to make data corrections to ensure an accurate scorecard. TX-601 will provide periodic scorecards to programs throughout the year so that they have ample time to make any corrections throughout the year.

After completing all renewal project scorecards, the Allocations Ranking Workgroup will preliminarily rank all renewal projects according to their scorecard score – e.g., projects with higher scores will be ranked higher in the project listing, regardless of project component type. However, the Allocations Ranking Workgroup and CoC Board will not make final ranking or funding recommendations until HUD releases the FY2021 CoC Competition Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). Any unforeseen requirements stated in the FY2021 CoC Competition NOFA may impact ranking priority order, any necessary changes will be finalized and approved by the Allocations Performance Workgroup Committee.

Projects that are renewing for the first time, and subsequently have not completed a full project year and have not submitted an APR to HUD will not have a Project Renewal Score Card. These projects will be automatically renewed and will be given ranking priority over new project applications. Further, any project that has been under contract for 24 months or less will be automatically renewed and given ranking priority over new project applications.

New projects are not subject to a renewal project scorecard and will be required to complete a narrative response that will be scored by the Allocations Ranking Workgroup. New projects will be ranked in score order below renewing projects.

As HMIS and Coordinated Entry are HUD mandated activities, these projects will be placed in Tier 1 to secure the funding needed for these activities. The CoC Planning Grant is non-competitive and is not a ranked project in this competition.

The CoC Board approves all funding recommendations.

Renewal Project Score Threshold

All scored renewing projects are subject to an eligibility threshold. Projects that score in the lowest 30% of all Renewal Projects may be moved to a lower ranking status and may be subject to reallocation. For example, the Allocations Ranking Workgroup may choose to rank a new project above a renewing project that scores in the bottom 30%.

Geography

HUD has determined that geographic diversity is an appropriate consideration in selecting homeless assistance projects in the CoC competition. Likewise, TX-601 recognizes that geography is an appropriate consideration for the local competition. Projects may be ranked higher to ensure CoC funded programs are accessible to people experiencing homelessness throughout the entire TX-601 geography.

Vulnerable/High-Needs Populations/Priority Populations

TX-601 recognizes that high quality projects that serve vulnerable and high-needs populations-- such as youth, chronic homelessness, domestic violence, severe mental illness, criminal history, and substance abuse--are a critical component to ending homelessness. To address these needs and vulnerabilities of program participants during the ranking and selection process, the Allocations Ranking Workgroup of the CoC may rank the projects higher to ensure that needs of these populations are being served through CoC funded programs. These programs must meet a need in the community, show positive housing related outcomes, and provide choice to participants seeking the services offered.

New projects applying for the Domestic Violence Bonus funds will be ranked in Tier 2 to ensure that existing high performing renewal projects that serve high-needs populations will remain prioritized in the competition. If there are no other Domestic Violence renewal projects in Tier 1, Domestic Violence Bonus projects will be considered for Tier 1.

The Allocations Ranking Workgroup of the CoC may rank new projects that provide services to priority populations outlined in the 2023 CoC Competition Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and/or the local Request for Funding (RFP) higher to ensure that needs of these populations are being served through CoC funded programs.

Appendix E: FY2023 RFP Narrative Questions for New Projects for CoC and Special NOFO

Please note that there will be additional questions within e-snaps that are not included in this RFP. It is highly recommended to access e-snaps as quickly as possible to ensure agencies are prepared to answer all questions.

Agency specific information is questions 1 through 4.

5. GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Provide a description that addresses the entire scope of the proposed project. The project description should be complete and concise. Please also describe your organization's capacity to implement the project.
   Please address: target population, expansion or new project, type & number of units, if participants be housed in or have the option of project-based, tenant-based, or sponsor-based housing*, specific services to be provided, projected outcomes, coordination with partners, how project meets community needs in its service area, and organization capacity.*
   Note: HUD recommends using more general data (e.g., this project will serve 10 persons over the term of the grant) rather than using specific dates (e.g., in CY 2024, this project will serve 10 persons) to reduce the need to change project descriptions for annual renewals.

6. Will the project target any of the following populations?
   People with physical disabilities
   People who were previously unsheltered
   People with mental illness
   People with substance abuse disorders
   People with criminal histories
   People charged with a sexual offence (Registered Sex Offender)

7. Will the project follow a "Housing First" approach, as well as participate in Coordinated Entry process? Housing First includes no barriers to entry (e.g., sobriety, treatment, or service participation requirements), no preconditions (e.g., sobriety, income) and does not terminate program participants from the project for lack of participation.
   Yes
   No

8. Does the proposed project leverage funding for housing or rent outside of the CoC or ESG programs to provide housing for the proposed project? If so, please state the percent of units in this application that will leverage housing funding outside of CoC or ESG. Examples include private funding for participants' rent, Public Housing Agency project-based vouchers, state or local government funding, HOME funding, or other federal programs outside of ESG or CoC.

9. Does the proposed project use healthcare resources to help program participants? Examples include direct contributions from a public or private health insurance provider for the project or the provision of health care services by a private or public organization (including substance abuse services for all program participants that want to participate). If so, please provide the dollar value of the leveraged healthcare resources.

10. Do you commit to: using HMIS or a comparable database (for DV projects) for this project; requiring staff to attend HMIS training annually; require staff to maintain timely data entry and excellent data quality? Check all that apply.
    Yes
    No

11. How will you help participants: 1) obtain permanent housing, 2) remain in permanent housing or exit to a stable permanent situation, and 3) access mainstream health, social, and employment resources according to their individual needs?
    Examples include transportation, case management, safety plans, etc.
    Note: This question may be broken into multiple questions within e-snaps. Please ensure each question is adequately answered within zoomgrants and e-snaps.

12. HUD increasingly relies on data-driven performance to evaluate success. CoC's submit system performance measures each year to demonstrate community-wide performance. Describe project strategies to contribute to the CoC's success.

13. Describe your estimated project implementation timeline; including the schedule for proposed activities, management plan and method for ensuring effective and timely completion of all work.

14. In July 2017, the Continuum of Care Board of Directors adopted a policy which requires all CoC-funded projects to adopt an Emergency Transfer Plan. If you do not currently have a plan, please describe how you will develop & implement a plan. Attachment (if applicable): Emergency Transfer Plan

15. In September 2017, the CoC Board of Directors approved Non-Discrimination & Fair Housing Policy which requires all programs to adopt an anti-discrimination policy. Describe how the policy is being implemented or will be developed in your agency. Attachment (if applicable): Anti-Discrimination Policy

16. How does your agency systematically provide information to staff about mainstream benefits, including up-to-date resources on eligibility and program changes that can affect homeless clients?

17. How will your program work with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families increase their cash income?

18. Indicate how the project will inform individuals & families who become homeless of their eligibility for educational services; or explain how you plan to develop & implement such a policy

19. Describe how this project will identify any barriers to participation faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and what steps will be taken to eliminate the identified barriers.

Please describe how your project will ensure privacy, respect, safety, and access to services regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.

20. Will the project screen out participants based on the following items? Select all that apply.
Having too little income
Active or history of substance use
Having a criminal record
History of victimization (e.g. DV, sexual assault, child abuse)
None of the above

21. Does the project ensure that participants are not terminated from the program for the following reasons? Select all that apply.
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
None of the above

22. CoC JOINT TH-RRH ONLY: Please define the specific subpopulation this project is proposing to serve and provide justification that this type of project is necessary for the CoC. Please also indicate how you will ensure enough RRH is available for participants who want to move from TH to RRH when they are ready and without delay (examples include more RRH than TH units).

23. DV Bonus Only: Please report the number of DV survivors in the CoC that have a need for housing or services.

24. DV Bonus Only: Please report the number of DV survivors that the CoC is currently serving.

25. DV Bonus Only: Describe how the number of DV survivors needing housing or services was calculated and identify the data source used.

26. DV Bonus Only: Provide the project proposed Rate of Housing Placement and Rate of Housing Retention of DV Survivors by Percentage.

27. DV Bonus Only: Describe how the rate of housing placement and retention was determined and the data source used.

28. DV Bonus Only: Describe how the project will ensure the safety of DV survivors experiencing homelessness and how it will measure the ability to ensure safety.

29. DV Bonus Only: Describe the applicant experience with trauma-informed, victim-centered approaches and how the project will utilize the approaches to meet needs of participants.

30. DV Bonus Only: Describe how the project will meet service needs and ensure participants quickly move into permanent housing while addressing safety needs.

31. DV Bonus Only: Provide justification for why a DV Bonus project is necessary for the CoC.

Appendix F: New Projects RFP Scoring Criteria

Scoring Category	Measurement	Points Available
General Description and Organization Experience	This is a two part question, with each part worth up to 10 points for a total maximum score of 20 points. Up to 10 points will be awarded to applicants who clearly articulate how their project meets community needs, the target population(s) to be served, the project's plan for addressing the identified housing and supportive service needs, projected project outcome(s), and coordination with other source(s)or partner(s). Up to 10 points will be awarded to organizations who demonstrate capacity and experience to manage federal funding, effectively serve homeless populations, and meet performance objectives in their application. **5.GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Provide a description that addresses the entire scope of the proposed project. The project description should be complete and concise. Please also describe your organization's capacity to implement the project.** *Please address: target population, expansion or new project, type & number of units, specific services to be provided, projected outcomes, coordination with partners, how project meets community needs in its service area, and organization capacity. If your new project is a dedicated Sponsor or project-based Permanent Supportive Housing project, please describe if your project will match CoC housing vouchers with other local capital investments.*	**20**
Unsheltered and People with Barriers	Maximum points will be awarded to projects that will serve at least 3 of the populations outlined below. Projects that will serve none of the populations outlined below will receive zero points for this question. **6.Will the project target any of the following populations?**	**10**
Housing First/Coordinated Entry	*This question is not scored.* **7.Will the project follow a "Housing First" approach, as well as participate in Coordinated Entry process?** **Housing First includes no barriers to entry (e.g., sobriety, treatment, or service participation requirements), no**	**This question is not scored. Projects that do not plan to participate in Coordinated Entry and implement**

	preconditions (e.g., sobriety, income) and does not terminate program participants from the project for lack of participation.	housing first practices will be screened out.
Leveraging Housing Resources	Maximum points will be awarded to projects that leverage at least 25% of proposed units through funding outside of the CoC or ESG. Projects without any outside leverage for housing units and rent receive zero points. **8.Does the proposed project leverage funding for housing or rent outside of the CoC or ESG programs to provide housing for the proposed project? If so, please state the percent of units in this application that will leverage housing funding outside of CoC or ESG. Examples include private funding for participants' rent, Public Housing Agency project-based vouchers, state or local government funding, HOME funding, or other federal programs outside of ESG or CoC.**	**10**
Leveraging Healthcare Resources	Maximum points will be awarded to projects who either provide substance abuse treatment to all participants who want it or have a dollar value of leveraged support that is at least 25% of the requested funding. Zero points will be awarded to projects who do not provide any healthcare resources leverage. **9.Does the proposed project use healthcare resources to help program participants? Examples include direct contributions from a public or private health insurance provider for the project or the provision of health care services by a private or public organization (including substance abuse services for all program participants that want to participate). If so, please provide the dollar value of the leveraged healthcare resources.**	**10**
HMIS	*This question is not scored.* **10.Do you commit to: using HMIS or a comparable database (for DV projects) for this project; requiring staff to attend HMIS training annually; require staff to maintain timely data entry and excellent data quality? Check all that apply.**	**This question is not scored. Projects who do not plan to participate in HMIS will be screened out.**
Supportive Services	This is a 3 part question with each part worth 5 points and the total question worth 15 points. Up to 5 points will be awarded to applications that provide robust supportive services to help clients get into permanent housing that are tailored to individual needs. Up to 5 points will be awarded to applications that provide robust supportive services to help clients maintain permanent housing or exit successfully to stable housing that are tailored to individual needs.	**15**

FY23 TX 601 Local RFP 5.8.23

	Up to 5 points will be awarded to applications that provide robust services to help clients access mainstream services in a way that is tailored to individual needs. **11.How will you help participants: 1) obtain permanent housing, 2) remain in permanent housing or exit to a stable permanent situation, and 3) access mainstream health, social, and employment resources according to their individual needs? Examples include transportation, case management, safety plans, etc.**	
System Performance Measures	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants that demonstrate how their project will contribute to the CoC's overall success for the stated system performance measures. Applicants should use quantifiable and measurable data to demonstrate their contributions to the system, as well as how they will continue to improve their performance and strategies to improve the system. **12.HUD increasingly relies on data-driven performance to evaluate success. CoC's submit system performance measures each year to demonstrate community-wide performance. Describe project strategies to contribute to the CoC's success.**	**15**
Timeline Description	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants who clearly describe their project timeline including, but not limited to, development of the program, hiring staff, enrolling clients, and participating in HMIS and coordinated entry. **13: Describe your estimated project implementation timeline; including the schedule for proposed activities, management plan and method for ensuring effective and timely completion of all work.**	**5**
Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Policy	*This question is not scored.* **14: In July 2017, the Continuum of Care Board of Directors adopted a policy which requires all CoC-funded projects to adopt an Emergency Transfer Plan. If you do not currently have a plan, please describe how you will develop & implement a plan.** **Attachment (if applicable): Emergency Transfer Plan**	**Not scored. Applicants without a plan to implement a Emergency Transfer Plan will be screened out.**
Anti-Discrimination Policy	*This question is not scored.* **15: In September 2017, the CoC Board of Directors approved Non-Discrimination & Fair Housing Policy which requires all programs to adopt an anti-discrimination policy. Describe how the policy is being implemented or will be developed in your agency.** **Attachment (if applicable): Anti-Discrimination Policy**	**Not scored. Applicants without a anti-discrimination policy or a plan for one will be screened out.**

Income	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants who clearly articulate how they systematically update program staff on mainstream resources. **16: How does your agency systematically provide information to staff about mainstream benefits, including up-to-date resources on eligibility and program changes that can affect homeless clients?**	**2**
	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants that describe a good plan and past experience with collaborating with health care organizations to help households enroll in health insurance, and help clients access benefits. **17: How will your program work with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families increase their cash income?**	**3**
Educational Access/Services	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants who clearly describe policies and procedures for educational services. **18: Indicate how the project will inform individuals & families who become homeless of their eligibility for educational services; or explain how you plan to develop & implement such a policy**	**2**
Racial Equity/LGBTQ	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants who identify any barriers faced by persons of different races and ethnicities and how those barriers will be addressed. **19.Describe how this project will identify any barriers to participation faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and what steps will be taken to eliminate the identified barriers.** **Please describe how your project will ensure privacy, respect, safety, and access to services regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.**	**3**
Housing First / Low Barrier	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants whose answer is none of the above. Applicants who check 3 or more boxes receive zero points. **20: Will the project screen out participants based on the following items? Select all that apply.**	**10**

Housing First / Low Barrier	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants whose answer is none of the above. Applicants who check 3 or more boxes receive zero points. **21. Does the project ensure that participants are not terminated from the program for the following reasons? Select all that apply.**	**10**
New Joint TH/RRH Projects Only		
New TH/PH-RRH: Description	This is a two part question. Each part of the question is worth 5 points for a total of 10 points. Up to 5 points will be awarded to applicants who clearly articulate why their program is vital to the Continuum of Care. Up to 5 points will be awarded to applicants who have demonstrated they will have enough RRH capacity in a Joint TH/RRH project. This might be demonstrated by having more RRH units in their project than TH projects. **22. JOINT TH-RRH ONLY: Please define the specific subpopulation this project is proposing to serve and provide justification that this type of project is necessary for the CoC. Please also indicate how you will ensure enough RRH is available for participants who want to move from TH to RRH when they are ready and without delay (examples include more RRH than TH units).**	**10**
DV Bonus Projects Only		
Unmet Need for DV Survivors	This criteria is scored across three questions. The total point value for the three questions is 5 points. Up to 2 points is awarded for question 25 if the reviewer feels the number reported demonstrates need. Up to 1 point is awarded for question 26 for an answer. Up to 1 point is awarded for question 27 and if the calculation method and data sources are sound. **23: Please report the number of DV survivors in the CoC that have a need for housing or services.** **24: Please report the number of DV survivors that the CoC is currently serving.** **25: Describe how the number of DV survivors needing housing or services was calculated and identify the data source used.**	**5**
Placement & Retention for DV Survivors	This criteria is scored across two questions. The total point value for the two questions is 5 points.	**5**

	Up to 3 points is awarded to question 28 if the rate of housing placement and rate of housing retention for the proposed project meets the community's need. Up to 2 points are awarded to question 29 if the calculation methods and data sources are sound. **26: Provide the project proposed Rate of Housing Placement and Rate of Housing Retention of DV Survivors by Percentage.** **27: Describe how the rate of housing placement and retention was determined and the data source used.**	
Ensuring Safety for DV Survivors	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants who are able to clearly describe their method for ensuring client safety; and, describe any tools such as best practices, models, and/or assessments used to ensure ongoing and improved safety for enrolled clients. **28: Describe how the project will ensure the safety of DV survivors experiencing homelessness and how it will measure the ability to ensure safety.**	**5**
Trauma-Informed, Victim-Centered Approach	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants who clearly describe applicant experience and planned utilization of trauma-informed, victim-centered approaches to meet needs of participants. **29: Describe the applicant experience with trauma-informed, victim-centered approaches and how the project will utilize the approaches to meet needs of participants.**	**10**
Service Needs for DV Survivors	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants who address safety needs to ensure participants move quickly into Permanent Housing. **30: Describe how the project will meet service needs and ensure participants quickly move into permanent housing while addressing safety needs.**	**10**
Need for DV Bonus Project	Maximum points will be awarded to applicants who are able to clearly demonstrate the need for the DV Bonus project and how it will address and meet needs of DV survivors in the continuum; and who those clearly articulate why their program is vital to the Continuum of Care. **31: Provide justification for why a DV Bonus project is necessary for the CoC.**	**15**
Project Score	**Project Score Percentage = Points Earned / Applicable Points** **FY2023 Annual CoC Project Applications – Total Points Available:** All projects except Joint TH/RRH and/or DV Bonus projects: 115 Joint TH/RRH project (that is NOT a DV Bonus also): 125	**--**

	DV Bonus Project (that is NOT Joint TH/RRH also): 165 Joint TH RRH & DV Bonus Project: 175	

Appendix G: Budget

When completing the budget of this RFP, please input the **ANNUAL** amount requested.

HMIS fees average $2,500 annually. Applicants are encouraged to include those costs in the budget below.

Budget Line Item	**Annual** Funding Request	**Annual** Match Requirement (25%), if applicable.
Leased Units		
Leased Structures		
Rental Assistance		
Supportive Services		
Operating		
Project Administration (up to 10%)		
HMIS		
Total		

Appendix H: Resources

FY 2023 CoC NOFO: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=COC

ZoomGrants Portal 2023 NOFA Application: https://www.zoomgrants.com/zgf/FY23CoCCompetition

eSNAPS Log In: e-snaps : CoC Program Applications and Grants Management System - HUD Exchange

Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW): CoC GIW | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HEARTH Act: https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/hearth-act/

CoC Program Interim Rule:
https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoCProgramInterimRule.pdf

eSNAPS Resources: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/

TCHC Funding Opportunities Webpage: http://ahomewithhope.org/coc/funding-opportunities/