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Speaker 0 00:00:00 Good afternoon, everybody. I'm Karen de Blassio. I'm a division director in the Snaps office. Welcome to the FY 2022 Continuum of Care Competition, debrief, office Hours, just to make sure everybody is in the right place. Again, this is for the 2022 C O C competition. This is not the debrief for the, um, the special NOFO, the unsheltered or rural NOFO. We will be doing a debrief for that competition at a later date. Um, so welcome. Um, we are very happy to see so many of you, um, on the, on the call today. We have a lot of really great information for you. You'll be hearing from a lot of staff, um, will be talking to you about the Continuum of Care consolidated application. We will be giving you some tips and tricks on, um, how to improve, you know, potentially score better. Um, we will be talking to you about, um, the DV bonus section, um, discussing some areas where folks did well in the competition.

Speaker 0 00:01:02 And we will also be talking with folks, um, about the project application as well. Um, just a couple of housekeeping slides. Next slide, please, or housekeeping items. Um, so everybody is muted today. Um, there's, uh, um, almost 800 people on the call. So as you can see, so, um, we, we just don't want to take the chance of unmuting folks and then people not going back on mute and think we've all experienced that, where it, um, can be kind of frustrating. So everybody's going to stay muted, but we definitely want to hear from you. Um, we want to hear for from you, um, through the chat, uh, the chat function in, in the webinar. Um, so what I'd like for everybody to do is just take a quick look at the bottom of your screen, make sure you can see that little chat bubble. Um, if you click on that, that should open up the chat box.

Speaker 0 00:01:52 Um, so just again, ask away. We want to hear from you. Um, just know that we will, unfortunately, because of the number of people on the call, we won't be able to unmute people to ask questions personally. Um, that said, we are going to try our best to answer as many of your questions as we can. Um, there are some questions that we will not be able to answer. Um, a lot of folks may have questions that are very specific to their application, very specific to their, um, C O C. We cannot, this is a national webinar, so we cannot dive down. It would be not, not be fair because we can't answer everybody's specific questions. Um, there's just not enough time, so we won't be able to answer those very specific nuanced questions that you may have. Um, what we would like for you to do, if you have a question that, that you do pose in the chat that is not answered, um, we would like for you to submit that to c c NOFO hud.gov and we'll put that in the chat for you.

Speaker 0 00:02:49 And I think it's on a slide at the end. Um, but we're asking for folks to submit questions that aren't answered during today's webinar, um, to that email address as well. Um, we, a, as I said, we have a lot of information, but we also have, um, provided time at the end where we are going to look at all of the, um, questions that have been answered in the, in the chat and review some of them. Cause oftentimes, um, people, you know, ask the same question, it's very hard to keep track of everything in the chat. Um, so we want to make sure that, you know, if we have several folks that have the same question, we'll review that at the end. Um, I think we did put this in the chat, and it does say here on the slide that, um, we are recording today's session.

Speaker 0 00:03:32 It will be available on the exchange along with this slide deck that you're, that you're seeing, and with the transcript of the, the q and a or the chat box, so you can see the questions and the answers that, um, that we, uh, that, that we answer during the webinar. So if you can go to next slide, please. Again, just to make sure that everybody sees the chat feature. Um, we have it marked here

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on red. Um, it's at the very bottom right of your screen in WebEx. You should see a little chat bubble. If you click on that, it opens up the chat box. The only other thing I want to make sure everybody is aware of, please make sure that in the two box right above where you actually ask the an, the question, um, make sure that that is switched to everyone. We want to make sure that everybody sees and we are able to record all of the questions and answers. So please switch that to everybody. Um, if you have a question, I encourage you to ask questions. We're going to try to answer as many as we can. Um, and what I want to do now is hand it over to Norm Sochar, the director of the Snaps office, to give you an overview of the, um, the C O C competition for 2022. So, norm,

Speaker 1 00:04:40 Thanks so much, Karen. Uh, and again, uh, please keep those questions coming in the chat window. So let's move to the next slide, please. As Karen mentioned, I'm going to talk about, uh, uh, just give a broad comp, uh, overview of the competition, and then we have some specialists who will go into, uh, take deeper dives into different parts of the competition. So moving, let's move on to the next slide here. This gives a overview of what we funded. Uh, so we, the overall award was 2.76 billion. Uh, that seems like a lot. Um, and, uh, about 166 million was awarded to new projects, uh, that included projects through the DB bonus, through the C o c bonus and through reallocation. And you can see below that a breakout of that a hundred, 166 million in what kinds of new activities it went to, uh, pr primarily to new permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing, uh, a little to, uh, joint transitional housing and rapid rehousing projects, uh, and smaller amounts to coordinated entry in H M I S.

Speaker 1 00:05:46 Uh, so let's go to the next slide now, and I want to talk a little bit about how the tier one and tier two, uh, funding process worked. We have done it a similar way in each of the past several years through the competition, but I know a lot of people are new, and a lot of people probably don't spend, you know, a hundred percent of their time thinking about this stuff. So I want to walk through how the tiering process works. Uh, I'm going to have a, uh, chart coming up here, but I'm just going to sort of talk about it qualitatively here for, uh, we set a tier one threshold. Uh, and what tier one means is that projects that are ranked in tier one, uh, are essentially if they pass eligibility and threshold, they're going to be awarded. Uh, they, we do not sort of apply additional competitive criteria to those.

Speaker 1 00:06:41 And you're wonder, you may be wondering, how do you put a project in tier one or tier two? You don't really identify a project in tier one or tier two as in the application. You just submit to us your entire ranked list of projects. And we take the first, you know, 95% of your annual renewal demand, let's say that's a million dollars. Uh, and we set the line there, and we, anything that's above that line, uh, we identify as tier one. Uh, and again, as long as it passes, uh, eligibility and threshold, it's going to, uh, be awarded. Um, and anything below that might be in tier two or occasionally, uh, people apply for more than they're allowed to overall. And in tho those cases, they wouldn't be in any tier. So, tier one this year was 95% of the CO C'S annual renewal demand.

Speaker 1 00:07:33 Uh, tier two is basically all the rest that you're allowed to apply for. So the difference between that tier one amount and the total amount you are allowed to apply for, uh, we do the tiering before we do calculations of F M R updates. We didn't have that many FM r updates this year. Uh, but, uh, we do those calculations before that. In addition, there are several, and I'll talk in a second about how we evaluate tier two projects, because those are very competitive. Um, so, uh, there are several types of projects that are non-com competitively awarded. Uh, and there are several reasons for that. But, uh, this year the non-competitive projects were c c planning grants, U F a cost grants and Youth homelessness demonstration, uh, renewal or replacement grants. Uh, so those were not included in any

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tiers. So let's go to the next slide and we'll talk about tier two and how we evaluate projects that are in tier two.

Speaker 1 00:08:37 So this is where the competitive process really happens. Uh, and so we give each project in tier two, we give a score two, the score goes up to a hundred points. 50 of those points are just based on the C O C score. So the, the you, you could get a maximum of 200 points this year on your, uh, in the C O C part of the competition. So we just divide that by four, and that's your, your C O C score amount. Uh, so if you got a hundred out of the 200 points, you're going to get 25. The projects that you, that are in tier two for that C O C are going to get 25 points for this portion of the C O C, uh, for this portion of the score. The next factor is, uh, C O C project ranking. Uh, basically this is, uh, an element that, uh, gives points based on how highly the C O C ranks the project.

Speaker 1 00:09:34 So projects ranked at the top of tier two are going to get more points. Projects at the bottom are going to get fewer points. Again, I have a slide coming up next that will, uh, explain exactly how we calculate those points. And then the last criteria is commitment to housing first strategies. Uh, there are, there are several questions in the project application that are used to determine whether the project is committing to using a housing first approach. Uh, and we give up to 10 points based on the answers to those questions. Uh, one point I'll make here is that, uh, when you, uh, if a project indicates that it's going to use a housing first approach in the application, they are required to do so. Uh, when in operating the grant, this gets incorporated into the project's grant agreement. And so the, the project actually has to operate using a housing first approach if they commit to that in the, uh, in the, um, application.

Speaker 1 00:10:34 So let's go to the next slide. And I have a very complicated chart that I'll walk through really quick that just sort of explains how we do that. Second part of the, uh, the C O C ranking, the tier two score, uh, which is the C O C ranking. So what I have here is a chart, and it has several projects that are, that are sized by the amount of the project. So there's A, B, and C, well, they're like, in tier one, you can't see those just for illustrative purposes. We just made it so you can't see those. And then project D is entirely still within tier one, right? That dotted line is sort of the line between tier one. So you can imagine your projects are sort of stacked from lowest ranked, uh, up to highest ranked. So projects A, B, and C are above this bar chart.

Speaker 1 00:11:25 Then project D, which is entirely within tier one. Then Project E actually straddles tier one and tier two. So you have some portion of that project that's, uh, in tier one, some portion that's in tier two. And project F and G are projects, F and G are both in tier two. So couple things here. One is how do we handle projects that straddle tier one in tier two? Uh, in this case, we basically consider, consider the part, the portion of the project, uh, which in this chart we're showing is E one. That is, that portion is considered a project that is low that is, uh, um, ranked in tier one. And that portion of the project will be awarded automatically assuming the project passes threshold and eligibility requirements. So it's, we, we basically split the project in two. And the P portion that's in tier one, we treat like a tier one, uh, project.

Speaker 1 00:12:21 And the portion that's in tier two, we treat like a tier two project. We score it like any tier two project. If the tier two portion gets awarded, we award the whole project as one project. If the tier two portion does not get, uh, awarded, then we just award the project at the amount that is in tier one. So that's how we treat straddle projects. And then how do we assign those point values up to 40 points? I think this is the sort of easiest way to really see how this works, which is that if you just

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imagine your tier two projects stacked up, uh, and you put a ruler, uh, with 40 notches, uh, right beside it. So you can imagine that, uh, project point values, uh, uh, axis is a, like a ruler, and the projects are sort of stacked up. Uh, basically the midpoint of the project, you just sort of like draw a line over to the ruler and that's how many points that project is going to get.

Speaker 1 00:13:27 Uh, there we have a complicated math formula. If you're into math, you should look at the NOFO. You can probably sort of decipher how all these elements come together. But conceptually what we're doing is we're saying, okay, we'll just sort of take the midpoint of the project, we'll draw a line over to the ruler, and that's how many points it's getting. And as you can see, if you, you know, your top rank project in this case is going to get a little over 38 points. Uh, your middle project there is going to get 24 points, and your bottom ranked project is going to get six points. Uh, so that's how we do the, the tier two scoring. And that explains why, you know, some COCs get some of their tier two projects, but not all of them. Uh, it's because they're higher ranked ones. We're getting these extra points.

Speaker 1 00:14:14 Uh, so, uh, we did have one question that I want to address here because, uh, because I think it's important. The question is why do we not just make tier one set at a hundred percent of the, uh, the annual renewal demand so that everybody gets their renewals every year? Uh, and so there are a couple reasons for this, but the main one is, uh, that you can't really have a competition. Like we essentially have enough funding to fund all the renewals plus the de domestic violence bonus, plus the Y H D P renewals, uh, that are coming in. And really not anything more than that. So without sort of like, if we set tier one at, uh, a hundred percent, there would really be no competitive process here. And we are required to run this as a competition. So funding some COCs at less than a hundred percent is what's going to create the sort of funding to, uh, allow other COCs that score well to get above a hundred percent of their annual renewal demand.

Speaker 1 00:15:18 So it is what makes the program competitive. Um, and it's sort of, it, it's what makes it so that, you know, every year the the competition matters and, uh, has real weight to it, which, which we're required to do. And also, which I think is sort of our effort to help, uh, keep the, the field and our projects evolving and getting better every year. It's also something that Congress has been, uh, both directed us to do, but also been, uh, very supportive of. Uh, so let's move on to the next slide here. Uh, the next section is about the DV bonus. I'm going to turn things over to Latoya, uh, who's going to walk through, uh, the DV bonus section. Uh, Latoya are you, I know you were having some technical problems. Are you able to, uh, hear us and, and join in? Great.

Speaker 2 00:16:07 I'm here. Thank

Speaker 1 00:16:08 You. Great. Over to you.

Speaker 2 00:16:10 Awesome. Okay, so let's talk a little bit about the DV bonus selection and ranking. Um, okay. So as a reminder, the DV bonus is dedicated to survivors of domestic violence, dating, violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking who qualify under paragraph four of the definition of homelessness. So, um, A C O C may apply for up to 10% of its preliminary parota need, um, to create a new DV bonus project. And amount is really limited to, um, it, it's limited to 10% or a minimum of 50,000, whichever is greater, or 10% of the P p RN or a maximum of 50 million, whichever is less. And so, using the a hundred point scale here, um, I'm going to just break down a little bit of what that actually looks like, cuz we actually added a few new sections here. And so for rapid rehousing and joint

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transitional housing and permanent housing, um, with rapid rehousing, there is the C O C score that's up to 50, um, 50 points.

Speaker 2 00:17:30 Um, and this score is based on the C O C application. One of the new pieces of this ranking factor was the C O C collaboration with victim service providers. Um, and so you can, as you see here, that is up to 10 points, um, that really looked at, uh, addressing the needs of DV survivors and how, uh, the C O C is able to demonstrate that victim service providers are voting members, um, and that they're constantly updating, um, C O C Y policies to ensure our housing and services are provided, um, in the C O C are trauma informed and able to meet the needs of survivors. There's also a key piece around comparable database that's included in that portion. Um, the next piece that we have here is the need for the project, which was up to 10 points. Um, that is really just based on the extent of the C O C being able to quantify the need.

Speaker 2 00:18:35 Um, the other thing that we have here is the quality of the project application experience up to 15 points. Um, one of the other, um, newly added things for FY 22 was also the demonstration of inclusion of victim service practice practices, which was, um, up to eight points. And that really was based on, um, the quality of the project plan to address the housing and safety needs of survivors by adopting victim se, um, victim center practices, including housing first, trauma informed care and confidentiality in operating their project. And so, um, another piece that we have here is also, uh, the demonstration of the plan to include survivors with lived experience, which is up to seven points. And that, um, that really focused on, um, involving survivors in policy and program development throughout the projects operation. And so for the s sos, um, SS o coordinated entry, again, we have the C O C score, which was up to 50 points. In addition to the C O C population with victim service providers, the need for the project up to 25 ports, and also the demonstration of the plan to include survivors with lived expertise. So a little bit of the same, um, new things that were added in FY 22 for Rapy housing joint th um, were also included in the, um, supportive services and coordinated entry portion as well. Next slide, please.

Speaker 2 00:20:24 Okay. So looking at how we awarded and what was awarded, um, the DV bonus projects, um, we awarded over, uh, 121, um, continuum Cares in 42 different states, uh, which was inclusive of Arab urban, suburban, and rural CLCs. Um, we really made sure that we, um, balanced it, um, here to make sure that, um, there was 3 million that was awarded to, um, supportive services and coordinated entry projects. Um, 12 million to the joint transitional housing and rapid rehousing projects. And there was an additional 39 million, um, awarded to wrap rehousing projects. So overall for, um, um, FY 22, there was a, um, an award, a little bit over 52 million, um, directly to DV bonus funds. Um, and so that captures a little bit of, um, the DV bonus election Ranking Pro process and awards. I'm actually going to hand it off to Karen,

Speaker 0 00:21:32 You Latoya. Great job. Thank you Norm. Um, before I get started, oh, you can go to the next slide, sorry. Um, I have a couple of slides on the C O C consolidated application. Uh, but before I get started, um, I just want to just touch on a couple of housekeeping things cuz I see a lot of, um, questions in the chat. If you're hearing us. And if you're on your computer, you should be able to see slides. The slides are not just for the presenters to see. So if you do not see slides, um, go to that chat box, hopefully you can see the chat box, go to the chat box and select instead of everyone, select event producer and the, they can help you with any technical, um, technical issues that you might have. Um,

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another thing that we've seen a couple of these, and this is a very general, we can go over this again at the end.

Speaker 0 00:22:20 Um, we have sent out debriefing materials. You should have received that from your field office. If you have not, um, please contact your rep at your field office because those should have the debriefing for your, um, your c c, uh, should have, you should have received it. Check with your c c, um, you know, the, uh, the, somebody with the collaborative applicant. That's usually who we send it to. And if you guys don't have it in your community, definitely check with your, um, with your field office. Um, so what I'm, what I'm going to do now, you can go ahead to the next, um, section or next slide, sorry. We want to talk a little bit again about the C O C consolidated application. Um, it's a big application, right? We know how much work you all do on this application, and we definitely appreciate it.

Speaker 0 00:23:04 We put a lot of thought and work into actually reviewing and scoring your applications. So we just wanted to take some time here to review with you some of the really important sections and, and, um, give you an idea of kinda the lens that we have when we're looking and, and give you some ideas on, um, on how to improve and, and also some areas where people do well, um, in this application. So the first slide, um, we're going to talk a little bit about the local competition. Um, this is a really big piece of that application. We take a lot of time. We have a special team of folks that look specifically at this section. We're looking to make sure that you are running a local, um, you know, a local competition that you're rating and ranking project, you're reviewing project applications, you're looking at them based on performance and need in your community.

Speaker 0 00:23:51 Um, and we're looking to make sure that, um, you know, all of the local deadlines that, that are set forth that we kind of hold you to through the NOFO. We're looking to make sure that all of those deadlines are met as well. Um, so it's important that attachments are clear. We're, we're going to touch on this on a couple of slides. Um, Kevin Turner is here with us and he'll be talking about this a little bit. Um, but it just, you know, again, the local competition piece is a big piece of the application that we look pretty closely at. And these are some of the things that we're looking to make sure you're reviewing your applications to make sure that you're making decisions on rating and ranking based on need. And, um, we're looking at all of those attachments. This is the section that I think has the most attachments and we're looking at all of them and we're looking at dates on them.

Speaker 0 00:24:36 So, um, you know, again, a very important, uh, important section that, that most folks do very, very well on. You guys have all been doing this for a while now, so, um, you're kind of, uh, you're experts at, uh, at the local competition piece of things. Um, next slide please. So, um, and Norm touched on a little bit of this when he was talking about the competition in general, but when we're looking at the consolidated application, um, you know, there, um, there are some commonalities that we see among the CSCs that tend to score higher or you get, you know, score higher for certain questions or just overall, which in turn means that, you know, they receive, um, increased funding. Um, we're, we see that these app, these COCs that are, um, that are scoring higher, um, we see that they've reduced homelessness and they're demonstrating that in their application.

Speaker 0 00:25:22 Um, they've used performance criteria to rate and rank projects, like I said, in that, in that local, um, applic, uh, local process section. Um, housing first is another big important thing that we're looking at and, um, that will impact your score if you're not, um, using, if your projects are not operating under housing first. Um, increasing r h units, I think we're going to talk about that a little bit

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later because there's been a lot of chat, um, about the, um, about increasing r h units. Um, we also are looking to make sure, again, that in through your local process, you're reallocating your lower performing projects to kind of get the biggest bang out of the, um, out of your money that you can and, and making sure that your clients are getting the best services. So those are the types of things that we see, or the commonalities that we see among the COCs that tend to score higher. Next slide, please.

Speaker 0 00:26:12 So there are also COCs that on certain, um, sims may score a little bit lower. Um, the good news is, um, on average for any given question in the consolidated application, um, about three quarters of COCs get full point. That's, that's great. That's amazing. Again, we know how hard this application is to write. It is not easy. It requires a lot of work and a lot of coordination. Um, and so most of the questions, um, you know, and, and most of you all do really well on most of the questions, but there are some reasons and some things that we see, um, for some of the questions and in some of the applications that lead to, um, you know, possibly lead to a lower score for, um, any given question. Um, sometimes the responses just are not clear, um, or they're not relevant to the question asked.

Speaker 0 00:27:02 Um, again, you know, many of us in the office have been in your shoes. We know that this, again, this is not a one person job. Um, this is a, you know, uh, could be 10 person jobs depend on the size of your C O C. So you've got many people writing, you know, answers to different questions, things like that. And you're cutting and pasting and, and we totally understand that. But it's really important to make sure that you have somebody do a complete read through, make sure that answers are lining up with questions. Um, unfortunately we can only score and, and kind of respond to and review the answer that is any snaps for that question. We have, people have made errors and it's very apparent that they have copy and pasted the wrong answer to a question, but there's nothing we can do about that.

Speaker 0 00:27:50 Um, so please make sure that review your answers, make sure that the, um, make sure that you know, the, the, the text in your answer is what is answering the question. Um, cuz we do, we do see that unfortunately, um, sometimes the responses just do not meet the criteria to receive full points. And we'll talk about this, you know, a little bit later as well. Um, and the other thing that we find is, is kind of quite frankly, and to be transparent on us, the question itself is not clear. I want to go to the next slide. Um, so we review all of the questions, we look at the scores, we review all of the questions to see are there any questions where we are seeing a lot or the majority of c o c scoring low. Um, because in our mind that means we need to look at the questions, we need to look at us, right?

Speaker 0 00:28:38 I mean, it's kind of that old adage, like, if, if a teacher teaches the class and there's a test, then the whole class fails the test. Is it the class or is it the teacher? Um, so we want to, you know, make sure that the question was clear, because if most of you all are scoring really low and it's because, um, the question is unclear, then we want to, we want to make that better. Um, so we will make, and and I think you guys have probably noticed this or seen this over the last couple of years, we will make clarifying changes to questions. We will try to unpack questions we've tried to do better in recent years, um, and not ask you, you know, 16 different questions as in one question because that makes, makes it hard to answer, makes it hard to review. I think it just makes it hard on everybody. Um, so we try to, um, make any clarifying changes that we can, we try to make any clarifying changes or additions to the detailed instructions. Again, that will hopefully help help you for in the following year. Um, and the good news is with unclear questions, it, it impacts almost everybody. Um, so we don't find this to be impacting the overall scores. We're not necessarily dinging people. Um, when there's a, when

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the question is unclear, we're trying to move forward and make it better for the following for the following year. Um, next slide.

Speaker 0 00:29:59 Um, so one of the other things that's important to, uh, you know, to, to talk about here is, um, questions that don't meet the criteria. So, unfortunately, we have to ask some questions and you see her on the slide. We have the famous two a five bed coverage rate. Um, the reality of it is we ask that question, it's not going anywhere. And the reality of it is we know about 55% of COCs actually have the 85% needed that will give you full points for that question. So that means almost half of you all aren't able going into this, aren't able to get full points for that question. We know that. Um, and unfortunately, you know, we can't, you know, there's not a lot we can do about it, but we do provide, um, in those instances, we do provide, um, areas for you to add, you know, text about explaining what are you doing to try to improve your bed coverage rate in this example.

Speaker 0 00:30:56 And so we do, um, you know, offer opportunities to, um, you know, kind of, uh, get partial points or what we call buyback points. So, you know, we're, we're trying not to ding as far as we can, not to just completely ding people. Um, so it, you know, if you don't meet the criteria, we still need you to answer, answer, you know, um, letting us know what you're doing. And, um, you know, we will definitely, um, you know, continue to do this so that we can, um, so that we can, uh, you know, fairly score everybody. Um, particularly with questions that again, we have to ask. And we know that there's, you know, there are some challenges in some communities, particularly with meeting things like bed coverage rates or working with PhDs. So what I'd like to do now is hand it over to our, um, uh, one of our SNAP specialists, Kevin Turner, he's going to talk a little bit more about ways to comp, uh, improve on the C O c uh, consolidated application. Kevin.

Speaker 3 00:31:54 Thanks, Karen. Next slide, please. So, uh, there were noticeable differences in how COCs responded to questions. Uh, we thank you for applying the comments, uh, from our previous webinar. I, I, I think this year we did a free briefing and we provided you all with information and tried to assist as much as we could in this particular, uh, competition. And we have seen, we have seen a lot of improvement, but we also recommend that there are areas where, where you all can still improve your scores. And we think that, we think that one of the issues is, is using the detailed instructions when responding to questions, because they definitely explain how to successfully respond. Uh, it's, we said this in the pre-briefing, it's going to be impossible for you to answer some questions and score well without the detailed instructions because you just won't know how to respond to 'em.

Speaker 3 00:33:01 And so it's important to use those in tandem while you're answering questions. And also it's important that you respond to all elements of multipart questions. And we have recommended, and we will continue to recommend that you label those the same as we do for, uh, the same as we lay them out in the detailed instructions. This helps you to organize and helps you to be sure that you answered all parts of the question. It helps us when we review to, uh, see whether you answered all parts of the question. So it's just helpful for, for, for everything. And, and the other thing is, you know, we're not going to accept any information that's not submitted with the application. And so, like, uh, we also, we also deal with appeals. If, if someone submits an appeal for a project and they're trying to provide additional information about the project, I mean about the, uh, c O C application that was not submitted in any snaps, cannot consider that. So it's, it is important to ensure that each response addresses the specific elements of the question. And again, if you don't understand the question, you can submit those questions to coc NOFO hud.gov. Next slide, please.

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Speaker 3 00:34:34 So, uh, one of the other challenges is that often, uh, well, when we see people scoring lower in some areas is because of the attachments. They may not have attached all of the, uh, required documents. And as Karen stated, uh, especially for the one e section, this is a section that's, uh, attachment, and we tend to scrutinize those attachments very carefully. And just a note here for people who, for, for COCs who run your competition, uh, before we release our NOFO. So we still expect you to be able to provide, uh, screenshots of advanced notification of your continuum of care, uh, local competition. And we still expect you to meet all the elements. You don't have to run your competition after we do the NOFO, or at least for renewal projects. But it is important that you be able to document that you met those public, uh, requirements.

Speaker 3 00:35:47 And we are certainly, we're certainly looking at dates and time stamps and all of that. And so that's one of the things that actually, uh, have a negative effect on your score if you do not include the, uh, correct attachments. And when we see manually inter dates and things of that nature, we are not going to give points for those types of things. So, a again, and, uh, for example too, down here we talk about uploading your competition scoring document. We need to see how you scored the application. So in, in the, you have the public, you have the public posting where you tell people, we're running a competition and this is the deadline for it. If you have new and renewal projects and you run different competitions, then you need documentation for the new and the renewal. If you have, uh, different iterations of competitions, you need to be able to demonstrate that you informed the, uh, public in advance of those, uh, application deadlines. And you need to be able to demonstrate that you inform the public how you would score those applications. I think this is my last slide, and I'll be turning it over to Sid, who's going to do an overview of the project application.

Speaker 4 00:37:22 Thanks, Kevin. Uh, next slide please. Okay. Um, this is my slide and I'm going to pass it off to, uh, Robert after this to talk about reallocations. But before we get to that, uh, talking about updating your applicant profile, uh, if you've had any change, your collaborative applicant or pro recipients, and those changes could be things like con uh, the main contact or phone numbers have changed. We ask that you update your EAPs profiles. Um, as a reminder, if you e update your EAPs profiles, it does update and post award. Uh, so don't be scared if you're updating something and it doesn't come forward. It will, everything will move forward from, from your profile. Uh, this saves time later, uh, to avoid any potential deficiencies in your application if you forget to, uh, update your profiles. And it is very important, um, to update your u e i your unique, unique entity ID in, in ESNs as you need a, a current u e i to be able to go to grain agreement. Uh, so hopefully I didn't go too fast, uh, covering the applicant profile, but want to give Robert, uh, enough time to cover reallocations as there seems to be a few questions about that. So I'm passing this off to Robert.

Speaker 5 00:38:38 All right, thank you, Sid. Uh, next slide, please. Okay, uh, let's see. Uh, it looks like we're not on the right slide. Could we move?

Speaker 6 00:39:12 Looks like Robert disconnected.

Speaker 1 00:39:29 Uh, while Robert, uh, uh, sort of gets back connected, I can, uh, I can go ahead and, uh, talk through the, uh, reallocation content here. Uh, so as Robert, uh, actually, can we just back up probably one slide here. Okay. So, uh, reallocation, uh, I think everyone's familiar with the reallocation process generally, but it is the ability to, uh, partially or fully, uh, reduced funds for one project that you're applying, uh, one renewal project that you're applying for. So you can take all the funds from that project or a part of the funds from that project, and you create a different project, which

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can be a new, uh, expansion project. So you're essentially, uh, taking funds from one project and adding it to a different project. It can be a transition grant. So you, uh, you have one project that is like just not working as a project and you want to convert it to something else.

Speaker 1 00:40:28 You can create a transition grant through reallocation, or you can just use it to fund an entirely new grant. Uh, so what the nice thing about reallocation, it allows you to really, as a community to look at your portfolio and to really, um, uh, try to make adjustments that aren't necessarily all or nothing adjustments or sort of, don't necessarily assume that you need to fund all your renewals, but you can take some of your lower performing renewals and add them to, uh, new, uh, to create new types of grants. Uh, let's go to the next slide, please. Uh, Robert, just want to check in. Did you make it back online?

Speaker 5 00:41:08 Yes, I'm back, norm. Thank you.

Speaker 1 00:41:10 No worries. Uh, take it away.

Speaker 5 00:41:13 All right. All right. Sorry guys. Uh, an inopportune moment to have a technical difficulty. All right. Um, so we're at the slide with the common errors. Um, so HUD has identified several common reallocation errors over the years. Um, one being, uh, co C'S reallocating first time renewals. Um, HUD recognizes that first year grants take time getting started, uh, and these grants are not likely to meet the performance outcomes that are expected, uh, in comparison to grants that have been operating for some time. Um, therefore, projects cannot be reallocated until after they've completed at least one, uh, renewal year. Under the C O C program, um, failure to identify new projects, uh, uh, with the funds made available to relocation, uh, is also a common error. Um, HUD is encountered many COCs, uh, reducing budgets or eliminating grants through reallocation and either incorrectly allocating, uh, funds for new projects, and, uh, essentially leaving money on the table, uh, from projects that have, uh, been, uh, removed from the Co C'S portfolio of grants.

Speaker 5 00:42:34 Um, and, uh, other instances, of course, is relocating grants and not, uh, identifying new projects at all. Um, and this results in the loss of funding and the reduced, uh, a r d for many COCs. Um, so if, if we encounter this, HUD is, uh, sort of forced with the task of trying to decipher what the NCO C'S intentions are, uh, and, uh, we have to figure out ways to reconcile these errors, um, so that sometimes it, it also, you know, can, uh, add time to the review process and, uh, delays in, uh, getting funding out there, uh, for, uh, COCs that are coming up on their renewal deadlines. Um, another error is, uh, that we encounter is, uh, COCs not documenting, uh, reallocations on their priority listing. Uh, and this result in scenarios where HUD may reject a new project application, uh, that this co c intended to fund the reallocations.

Speaker 5 00:43:34 So, uh, it's important to take the time and, and review, uh, your reallocation, uh, documents, uh, in, in, uh, the priority listing, uh, to make sure that, um, you're accurately accounting for, uh, all the grants that have been reallocated, uh, for, uh, the development or, or the award of new projects. Um, Sid, uh, I know that you had some topics, some, some information you wanted to share on, uh, on these slides as well. So I just wanted to give you the opportunity, uh, to chime in if there was something in particular that I might not have touched on that you wanted to bring up.

Speaker 4 00:44:16 Um, I think the only thing really to, um, emphasize was the, the projects being reduced and no corresponding new project. That was something that was found by a lot of just in review

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periods. And so to just really, uh, make sure that when you're reducing budgets, that you are making sure that that money that's being reduced is being allocated somewhere else. Uh, so it, um, so that we can, that money's being used for another project, that was something that we saw a lot. And another was, uh, making sure your priority listing is up to date. Um, we know that there's always a lot of moving parts, uh, to the CCC application, CCC program, and, um, people are, you know, are overwhelmed with a lot of things, but to make sure that your prior listing is totally up to date before you submit it, uh, is, uh, very important in the process. So we have a good, uh, kind of backdrop to know what projects are being, uh, being, um, funded with reallocation, um, might be consolidations or expansions, things like that, uh, that will re, that really helps us in our review period.

Speaker 5 00:45:18 Yeah. Thank you, sir. Um, so I, I just wanted to go back, uh, for a moment. I'm not sure, um, what Norm may have touched on earlier while I was trying to get back online. Um, but I wanted to point out, um, that, um, during the co c's, uh, local, um, competition, uh, this is where COCs try to determine, uh, where projects are and, uh, what projects are may be underperforming, uh, that, uh, you may have to, uh, consider, uh, other corrective actions for these projects. Uh, for projects that aren't, um, meeting the CO C'S requirements or HUD requirements, um, these projects, um, COCs should take a hard look and consider, uh, whether they are, uh, still, I guess, meeting the needs of the community. Um, and I understand that throughout time, these, these needs may change. Um, so you should always make sure that, um, the reallocation process, um, it identifies projects that are most likely to reduce homelessness, uh, that encourages, should encourage COCs to, uh, more actively, uh, manage and oversee the projects in the geographic areas, uh, and to make sure that they're effective and efficient.

Speaker 5 00:46:44 Uh, and we should, in and through this process re ensure that homelessness programs are using housing first approaches to serve people who most need assistance, uh, and then are doing so through client-driven approaches. Um, and while HUD monitors project performance, uh, and c o c should be monitoring the performances of these grants as well, um, they should be, uh, directing funding towards project that serve again, the highest need individuals and families. Uh, they should be rapidly moving participants from homelessness and helping participants obtain permanent housing. And, and in doing so, the seal, the project should be providing the services necessary to ensure, uh, long-term housing stability.

Speaker 5 00:47:30 All right. Uh, next slide. So, uh, here's, here are some, uh, solutions, uh, to some of the errors that, that we found. Um, you should, uh, carefully review, uh, the c o c NOFO. Uh, we provide a lot of information in there, and I know it, it can be overwhelming, uh, but, uh, these, there, the specific sections in the NOFO that describes the difference between consolidations, uh, expansions, transitions, uh, grants and reallocation, and the reallocation process, um, is important to understand the differences between these, these items. Um, uh, I particularly, I, uh, important for COCs to know, uh, that if, uh, a grant is up for consideration, uh, for reallocation. Uh, but the reason it for this, uh, reallocation is to, um, uh, change the population focus or to, uh, make significant changes to a pro the project model of a grant. Um, sometimes, uh, it might be, uh, more beneficial to, uh, look at the possib possibility of, uh, the grant applying for, uh, transition.

Speaker 5 00:48:50 Uh, this would allow the project to, uh, continue operating, uh, where in comparison of reallocated grant, um, it's not a continuation of, of an existing renewal. Uh, the project is essentially is, is it's a new project, uh, and it's only, uh, permitted to serve, uh, new activities and, and

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new participants. Um, so take some time, review the NOFO. If you have questions. Uh, be sure to look at, or I'm sorry, to be sure to contact us, uh, at the co c NOFO hud.gov, uh, email inbox, um, review the, uh, the, the navigation guides, the, the, uh, detailed instructions also provide a lot of information on how to complete these processes. Um, and I think that's all I have for the moment. Anything you wanted to add here, Sid?

Speaker 4 00:49:49 No, not right now.

Speaker 5 00:49:51 Great. All right. Thank you everyone. I think it goes back to you, Sid.

Speaker 4 00:49:56 It does. Uh, next slide, please. Uh, so we're nearing the end of the presentation. We'll have a lot of time looking like we'll have a lot of time left for answering questions. Uh, before we get to the end, we just have a couple slides left to talk about. Um, one of these is talking about unfunded projects. Uh, what exactly can these projects do? So for, uh, we, uh, you should have all received a memo about, uh, e extending projects, um, possibly projects with funding and present without funding. Uh, if you did not receive a memo, uh, please, uh, you know, contact, if you're field obs, just discuss this with you. Uh, you can please contact your, uh, c o C about this. Uh, but, um, for projects that were unfunded, um, some of the things that can be done with those is extending those grants with that have funds remaining.

Speaker 4 00:50:48 Um, so projects that were unfunded, you are able to extend those grants, uh, if you do have funds remaining in locks, uh, to kind of, um, uh, run those grants, uh, to, to be able to spend down all those funds. Uh, you're doing grant closeouts for grants, um, that no longer have funding, uh, and that, and that did not get funded, uh, with csc, uh, funds. Uh, the other thing of in time that ties in with projects that don't get funded with csc money and, um, I have to, uh, close is helping program participants move out of those projects and or transfer to another option if necessary. Uh, so please, um, if you, you see that some of your projects were now funded, uh, to please contact your field office, uh, to discuss ways to, um, help transfer, figuring out ways to transfer, um, participants to different projects if necessary.

Speaker 4 00:51:38 Uh, some projects might have had restrictive covenants, uh, and if there is a need to use those projects, maybe possibly, um, turn those projects into, uh, uh, different types of projects. Uh, there'll have to be some, uh, changes to the restrictive covenant that's on them. And there you will need to contact your field office, discuss, um, how to, uh, proceed with that. Um, and again, as I've kind of mentioned pretty much all these bullet points is working with your field office on how to move forward on a lot of these projects that meet these, uh, descriptions and to please request technical assistance, um, if you encounter any problems, um, and, and need help with how to, how to move forward with, uh, certain unfunded projects. Uh, next slide please.

Speaker 4 00:52:25 And so, a note on F M R updates. We saw, um, some questions in the chat about this, about why, um, the 2022 grants didn't get an f r bump. Uh, but 2021 did. So we entered a kind of a unique situation, um, over the last two years where the FY 21 competition and the FY 22 competition both closed in the same fiscal year. So the FY 21 competition closed in November of 2022, uh, which was late. Um, and because it closed in November of 2022, the, uh, the FY 21 competition projects qualified for the FY 22 FMRs. So all the FY 21 projects were bumped up to the 22 fmr. The FY 22 SEA Competition CLO closed in the same fiscal year. Uh, they clo it closed on, I believe September 30th, 2022, uh, which meant that the FY 22 competition was also awarded the FY 22 fmr.

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Speaker 4 00:53:26 So there was no FMR bump that most people are, are accustomed to. Um, so the only ones that really got the bump in FY 22 were those that may have sent an appeal about their FMR areas, uh, for 2022. And, um, were granted that appeal and a, and that, um, FMR rate was, um, was changed for them. So our hope is for f O 2023 competition, we are able to get back on track schedulewise so that when for FMRs, they are, we, you get the, the annual bump happens, um, for the FY uh, 23 competition. But really it was just a unique circumstance this year of that the FY 21 competition ended late and the FY 22 competition really, uh, ended within the same fiscal year as FY 21. That is why the F M R rates stayed the same, uh, between both competitions. And we understand that, um, that can be frustrating when, when trying to figure out funding, uh, and keeping up with rents across the country. But unfortunately, that was just the situation that that hit us this year. Uh, but we're trying hard not to ha um, have a repeat, uh, situation for the FY 23 competition. Um, with that, um, I will pass us off to Karen. I'm, we, I think the question and answer stage will start, will open. Thanks.

Speaker 0 00:54:53 Thanks, Sid. Just my dog started working just as you as I unmuted, so sorry, everybody <laugh>. Um, so it, um, while we're on FMRs, we, we have a lot of questions. We actually have an hour with you guys still right to answer questions, so don't go anywhere. Um, but while we're on FMRs, I see a couple people just asked in the chat, um, if it is still possible to appeal FMRs and people asking for a little bit more detail around that. So, um, I don't know if Sid or somebody wants to, can talk a little bit about how, what that process looks like for folks.

Speaker 4 00:55:31 Uh, when it comes to appealing FMRs, um, you have to put in a formal appeal. I'm not sure what the, uh, what the deadline was for the FY 22 FMRs. Um, I don't know if anyone else on the panel has, has better information on that, but it's possible you may have already passed the FY 22 FMR appeal date. Uh, but with the FY 23 FMRs out, if you, if you notice something is not accurate, you might be able to to contact. Um, we have, uh, our PDN R is the people who, who develop our fmr, our rates for hud. Um, if others have more information, please speak upon ONM R rates

Speaker 1 00:56:14 With this, I believe the deadline for, uh, first of all, it's the PHA that has to appeal your FMRs. And I think the deadline is typically in December or so of each year for them to submit an appeal to the F M R determinations. Uh, so there's a notice that is published by the Office of Policy Development Research every year. It's the actual, it's the FMR notice, uh, and that explains what the process is for appealing FMRs. There's no 2022 FMRs are long gone, so there's no way to appeal those. Uh, and the deadline for appealing 2023 FMRs, uh, has also passed.

Speaker 0 00:56:55 Thanks, Syd. Thanks, norm. Um, so I'm, like I said, we have an hour, we're trying to answer as many questions as we can in the chat. Um, we also are tracking the questions. There are some that we want to kind of review. Um, so you all, if you missed them in the chat, you missed the question and the answer, everybody, um, you know, can, can hear the answer here. Um, so one of the, uh, first questions I think that we get often and we've had throughout the chat is, what about FY 23? Um, we are, uh, obviously this is the debrief for 2022. Um, we start working on the 2023 NOFO before we're done with 2022. Thankfully we have a, um, a good sized staff, but, um, we are anticipating that the 2023, um, C O C competition will open, um, sometime in May or June.

Speaker 0 00:57:42 Um, so that's what we're shooting for. Um, hopefully we can get back on track there. Um, there was another question here. Oh, um, the appeal deadline. So we had, I think a couple people ask that they think there might be some errors and some scoring. Um, section 10, I believe it is in the NOFO every year, talks about how to appeal, um, denied or decreased funding. So look at that

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section. There are some deadlines in there. I think that the deadline to appeal, um, any funding decisions, um, is May 12th. There's a special mailbox that you need to submit your, um, your request to appeal to. So please, um, you know, read through that section. If you have any questions, you can, um, ask those questions on the co c NOFO at hut.gov mailbox. Um, before I start talking questions with some other people, there's another one here that I think was asked, asked very early on, and I want to make sure it doesn't get missed.

Speaker 0 00:58:35 Um, it's about, um, somebody had asked about, oh, now I lost it. Um, somebody had asked about, they have a recipient currently that sub-grants their award and the recipient no longer wants to, to do the project. Um, so they're asking if the sub-grantee wants to apply, I'm assuming in the future for that, for that grant, um, would they be considered renewal or new? Um, the one thing that I want you to walk away from this room, go to your field office now and discuss this with your field office. Um, by law we cannot award, um, somebody who is for a renewal. We cannot award a renewal project to a quote unquote new applicant. Um, we know that oftentimes things happen with some of our recipients and they're not able to continue to do the work for whatever reason. They close down, they shift what they're doing, whatever it happens, field offices are very adept at, at how to address that.

Speaker 0 00:59:31 You don't want to wait to address that right before you have to submit your application. Um, so if you know that you have a recipient who's already telling you as the student, we don't want to do this anymore, we can't do this anymore, talk to your field office. They will look at the specific situation and explain whether there needs to, you know, be a, a transfer of the grant to a new, um, recipient and what has to happen there. Um, because you don't want to find yourself kind of at the end of the application deadline with, um, nobody to apply for that grant. You want to make sure that, um, that everything's done. Um, so as soon as you hear kind of rumblings from a, from a recipient about that, please, um, please make sure that you talk to your field office and they'll walk you through that. Um, okay. Let me see. Um, so some other questions. Um, I think, I think we answered most of the, uh, FMR questions. Um, let me look to see some other, there was, um, we did have a couple of housing and healthcare questions. Norm, I think Norma, William, I'll let you guys, uh, decide who wants to handle this. Um, there was a question on, um, with section three, a coordination with housing and healthcare of bonus section. What if we did not have any new projects that had renewal projects that coordinated with healthcare? We'd like to answer that.

Speaker 1 01:00:53 William, do you want to take this one?

Speaker 7 01:00:58 Sure. Um, that's a good question. So this year when we evaluated that question, we decided that it didn't actually make sense to make it a bonus question. Uh, one of the reasons was your score based on whether or not it's a bonus question, right? If somebody gets bonus points, that actually still factors into the total CO C score. So calling it a bonus question actually didn't have a, uh, like a large outward effect that was going to be any different than calling it a regular question. Uh, this is a perfect example of us knowing not everyone is there and trying to incentivize, uh, what we can towards getting some of these partnerships. Um, some of the leveraging, uh, that's there again, we totally recognize that that's not possible for everyone. Uh, and that's part of our, uh, the fund of what we balance in the competition of trying to ensure the incentives are there to, to go and do the partnerships, but also, um, uh, take into account the various factors that plan into running a competition and running an entire co c norm. I don't know if you have, uh, more to add.

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Speaker 1 01:02:01 I would add that one of the reasons we only gave the points for new projects is because, uh, we actually have in our, in our, uh, funding bill, we have specific language that requires that we do incentives for COCs to create new, uh, permanent housing projects that coordinate with, uh, their healthcare and mainstream housing systems. So this is actually kind of a required, uh, element that we had to have in the, the competition. It's also one we really, uh, believe strongly in. We are trying to incentivize new partnerships of this type. Uh, and so that's why we, uh, scored it like that. Uh, obviously we also encourage renewal projects to form these partnerships and, uh, you know, I think you, um, you know, there are various other places, including in the PHA scoring, where having these kinds of partnerships are going to get you extra points in other ways. But for that particular question, it was just focused on new projects.

Speaker 0 01:03:04 Thank you guys. Um, okay, so there was one question. I believe it may have been answered in the chat, but I want to, there's been, there were a lot of questions around, um, uh, r r h. Um, so the norm, this might be a question for you. Um, one of our projects was cut approximately \$30,000. What would cause them to lose funds? It is an r h program.

Speaker 1 01:03:29 So that's a great question. Uh, there are a couple reasons A project might lose some of their funds. It actually has nothing to do, whether with whether it was an r h or different kind of project. It just happened to be an r h project in your case. Uh, the main reason is that it was a project that straddled tier one and tier two and, uh, and you, you know, it didn't score high enough to get the tier two portion of the project. So that's the most common reason that a project would, uh, receive only part of its funding. There are a couple other reasons. Uh, if you submit an application and it has ineligible activities included in the application, uh, sometimes that might result in a reduction in funding. Uh, but, uh, and it's also, although it wouldn't have been the case this year, it's also the case that sometimes a project will get less funding if their F M R goes down, uh, in a particular year. Again, that wouldn't have, that wouldn't have been the case this year, but the most common reason, especially this year, is because it straddled tier one and tier two. Like that chart I was showing in the tier two portion did not, uh, score high enough to get an award.

Speaker 0 01:04:45 Thank you. Norm. Um, we have a couple of Y H D P Youth Homelessness Demonstration program questions, um, that, um, enormoussness may be for you or maybe Sid, you, you could probably answer these as well. Um, the first is for Y H D P grants that ended and were part of the non-competitive portion of the 2022 NOFO, will they be considered first year renewals for the 2023 NOFO?

Speaker 4 01:05:17 Um, I think it depends. If you are a WE SHPE renewal, I would not believe you'd be considered a first time renewals If you've, uh, if you came in as a WEP renewal, if you are a WE SHPE replacement, that might be a question we'll have to ask as you are technically changing your project from a renewal into a replacement that, that is designated something new. Uh, but we'll, we'll, uh, we'll have to talk about, um, how that, uh, that description for first time renewals for Y H G P on replacements.

Speaker 0 01:05:53 Thank you. Um, here's another project application question. Um, this is about expansion. It's an expansion that's funded for an existing project. Does the full grant then get 18 months to spend the new expansion amount? That might be a SID too. Not sure.

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Speaker 4 01:06:16 I might ask, I don't want to place Ebony <laugh> on the spot, but that might be more of an Ebony question on, um, on that 18 months.

Speaker 8 01:06:25 So expansions are expanding the already renewal grant. So the goal would be to, to have that, the funds for the expansion to join in, in a renewal, um, grant and continue the same, you know, operating the start date and end date. So you won't necessarily have an you that grant won't, um, the grant won't be, you know, a separate new grant expansion. It will become part of your renewal grant. It become sort of like a consolidation in it's part of renewal grant. So you, it will be the same, what do you call it? The same start and end date as the renewal grant that is expanding.

Speaker 3 01:07:07 And, uh, Ebony isn't the purpose for the 18 months anyway, to give people startup time. So if

Speaker 8 01:07:14 You're correct, new

Speaker 3 01:07:15 Project,

Speaker 8 01:07:17 Yeah, we noticed that, um, and, and, and you guys already know this, people on a call that it may take a little longer than 12 months to get the grant agreement, you know, to get everything running off the ground. So that's why we allow for, for new projects to, um, to extend to 18 months. They don't have to, they can request up to 18 months. They can request 15 months if they want, um, or just 12 months. Um, and for expansion grants, we consider that just, you know, additional funds for the, for the renewal that you already have.

Speaker 0 01:07:58 Thank you, Ebony. Okay. Um, sorry, I had a question and it just sit here. Okay. Um, here's one that I think we answered in the chat, but I'll go ahead and, and kind of re um, reread it to everybody. The question in the answer, um, if the reallocation does go to a new project, will that be included in the a r d or will the, or will the a r d be reduced? So the answer that was in the chat that I'll just repeat for everybody is that the overall a r d is not reduced during the competition due to reallocation, but if the new project is that's being funded with reallocated money does not pass threshold and does not get funded, then your a r D would be, would be decreased. So hopefully that, um, that answers, uh, that question for folks. Um, there's another one, I think for the project application team. Oh, sorry,

Speaker 1 01:08:58 Sorry. Does somebody want to add, just want to add a little, just want to add a little nuance to that mm-hmm. <affirmative>, because like, I think there's a timing question here. So if you are, if, if you apply for a, uh, if you reallocate funding from one whe when, when we determine the a r d for a given competition year, it never changes during that competition year, regardless of what happens during the competition. So, uh, as lo well, the one exception is if we find that, you know, on your G I w there was a project that was not eligible for renewal, uh, like it, it doesn't expire until the following year, uh, then we would pull it out. But the a r d calculation is just based on how, uh, uh, on the renewal need for all the projects that are eligible for renewal. How you reallocate funds is irrelevant to the question of, uh, how har how what your a r d level is going to be.

Speaker 1 01:09:54 And it won't change your a r d level if a project, uh, is found ineligible, like the other projects just sort of slide up into tier one, uh, and sort of fill that hole. The, the, but the following year, like if you don't, if you have projects that don't come to grand agreement in time, or, you know, the following year will do the same calculation of annual renewal demand. It's everything eligible for

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renewal that, uh, expires in that calendar year. So if you had a reallocation project that took a while to get under grant agreement, it might, as Karen was saying, it might reduce your a r d for that following year because it's not eligible for renewal, uh, uh, in that following year. So, uh, one thing I just, I, I wanted to underline is that we have worked really super hard on the C O C competition to make it so there's no disincentive to relocating. Uh, so you never get penalized for trying to reallocate, uh, if the project's found ineligible, other projects slide up. Uh, it doesn't change your a r d we have, we are very trying very hard to, uh, to incentivize reallocation, make sure there's no disincentive for you to do that. Thanks, Karen.

Speaker 0 01:11:12 Thank you, norm. So, I, I, I keep, uh, hitting the project application guys up, but I think Robert, there's a couple, um, questions around reallocation. So I think this may be, uh, you know, Robert or maybe said, um, one of the questions is, so does this mean that C does C O C cannot reallocate a renewing grant and its first renewal or its second renewal?

Speaker 5 01:11:38 Yes. Uh, so, uh, when I'm trying to figure out the best way to explain this. So when a grant is coming in for renewal for the first time, it's still considered, I guess you can look at that as that's still a new project, uh, because it hasn't renewed yet. So once the grant is renewed, the following funding cycle is when, uh, A C O C can determine whether it should be reallocated. Hopefully that makes sense.

Speaker 0 01:12:16 If we, if if that doesn't hit right on your question, let us know in the chat and we'll try to clarify more. Um, there's another one, Robert, I think for you, um, is Robert saying that projects that have received two years of funding could be reallocated in the third year. For example, if a project received first time funding in 2021 and then renewal funding in 2022, could some or all of the project be reallocated in 2023?

Speaker 5 01:12:42 That's exactly right. Yep. Yep.

Speaker 0 01:12:45 Okay. Okay. Um, lemme see, I think we already answered the Y H DP one. Um, well actually, so this might be for you. I think you part consider eing for Y ytp. I'd say we already answered this. I, I'm sorry. Um, for Y HTP grants that ended and were part of the non-competitive portion of the 2022 NOFO, will they be considered first year renewals for the 2023 NOFO? Did we already answer that?

Speaker 1 01:13:21 Yeah, we already answered it.

Speaker 0 01:13:23 Okay. Sorry. Name unhighlight. Um, let, so, okay. Norm, I think that's maybe for you. Um, a couple people have asked about the funding announcement, obviously being a little bit later this year, um, than we usually do it. Renewal projects with early start dates like February or March, um, are basically footing the bill, um, because we don't have grant agreements out yet. Um, so they're asking when they, if they can be expedited or what they can do in these cases. Um,

Speaker 1 01:14:01 We're,

Speaker 1 01:14:03 Yeah, I'm, no, I'm happy to take that. We're really trying to get the grant execution process, uh, uh, you know, fired up and ready to go. We have asked all our field offices to prioritize, and they just generally have done a really good job of prioritizing the ones that expire earliest or that have already expired the renewals that have already expired, uh, and are prioritizing those for grant

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execution. So those are the first, uh, projects that, uh, that a field office is going to try to execute. Uh, if you have concerns about the order, then that your sort of projects are being executed, I'd definitely encourage you to reach out to your field office about those. Um, right now they, uh, they don't have all the data and things aren't loaded into our financial systems for them to be able to, uh, do grant agreement execution, but that will start up very, very soon. Uh, and again, they're, they're, you know, we all agree with you. We want to prioritize those with those renewals that, uh, have funds that have already expired.

Speaker 0 01:15:07 Thanks, maam. Um, okay. Lemme see. This is project application again. Will we be getting notifications soon for our consolidation request?

Speaker 4 01:15:25 Um, it should be, I guess the, the, you should have, sorry. Let me re uh, consolidations and expansions were on the overview report and in the award notes. So if you, um, so the overview report that your field officers received should state, um, what consolidations were awarded, uh, and then when post-war and EAPs officially opens, uh, the consolidations that were awarded, the surviving grants are the ones that are, that will appear in post-award. So, uh, that's how you'll know, um, you'll know from the ovary report and what's in EAPs as well.

Speaker 0 01:16:04 Okay. We've got a couple, we've got two FMR questions that we may have answered. Um, can you repeat or add clarity to the topic of the FMRs for renewals? Are they not increasing from last year, even though the FMRs have gone up? Um, rents have been going up a lot. When will the rental amount, um, rental assistance amounts increase? Again,

Speaker 1 01:16:33 I'm happy to take this one on. So, for the vast majority of continuums of care, uh, the, uh, the FMRs did not change from their 2001 awards to their 2002 awards. There are a few, uh, those would've been COCs that, um, essentially where their pha uh, appealed their F M R levels in 2022, and their appeal was successful. Uh, that's about 10, um, market areas, uh, F M R, uh, market areas in the country. Uh, so those COCs will see an increase in their FMR this year. FMRs will increase next year for a lot, for most, maybe all COCs. It will be actually a very large increase. So the increase you've seen in FMRs or heard about in FMRs, a lot of that's going to get reflected this year. For, for our program, uh, I think we're going to spend three times as much, uh, maybe more on FMR adjustments this year than we have in the past. Uh, so, uh, for the 2023 grants, uh, again, most COCs will see fairly large FMR increases.

Speaker 0 01:17:50 Thanks, norm. Um, here's another reallocation question. Um, is reallocation considered reallocation, whether it is voluntary or involuntary? Um, it's, I, we don't really, it doesn't really look at why the project is being reallocated. It's simply that you, the community made a choice to reallocate it. I don't know if anybody wants to add anything to that, or if the person that's asking the question let us know if, if that doesn't quite get to the, um, the answer that you need.

Speaker 5 01:18:24 Yes, I I can expound on that a bit too. Uh, Karen, um, thanks. So in, in, in some instances, the reallocation is involuntary, um, because the c o C identified a project that was underperforming. Um, and of course, when the c o C makes these decisions, it should be based on, uh, written standards. So it's not really to the surprise of any, uh, particular program. Um, projects could also come to the co C in state. All right. Look, I I, I'm not sure I'm going to be able to continue operating or, um, I'm not expending all my funding. I don't want to be, uh, dinged by the C O C because I'm not filling, uh, all the beds, uh, that I stated that I'd be ser uh, serving. Uh, so the c o c in a project could agree to reduce the budget of a, of a grant, uh, and the CO and the grant would have the opportunity to, um,

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make adjustments to, uh, their budgets and, uh, including their person served accordingly. Um, so it could be voluntary or involuntary, but we hope that co cs, uh, do, uh, outline, uh, these requirements and how they make these determinations and their written standards.

Speaker 3 01:19:46 Uh, I, I'd just like to add something to that. Uh, one of the questions in the reallocation requires that COCs have a written reallocation policy. And so one of the questions in the section deals with your policy, and I think that, uh, uh, norm the question in the chat about how you can get points for that reallocation. But what's important is that you do have a written policy, uh, to, uh, kind of dovetail with what Robert was saying.

Speaker 0 01:20:25 Thanks, Kevin. Um, here's another, uh, NOFO question. Um, norm, I'll let you take this one. Has HUD considered making the CSE program a multi-year grant program like other federal agencies such as Ham, sansa, and hrsa?

Speaker 1 01:20:42 Uh, my goodness, yes. Uh, we <laugh>, we actually, uh, because of the way our statute is written, we are required to run this competition annually. Uh, we have asked for authority to switch it to an every other year competition. Uh, we have, you know, proposed language for Congress to do that, and we're working very closely with them to try and make that happen. Uh, so as soon as we get the authority to do that, uh, we will be more than delighted to switch to an every other year process. Uh, we know that the c o c competition, while it does a lot of important things, uh, is also a lot of work. And it's the kind of thing where, uh, it would probably be better to spend one year doing the competition and the other year doing things like making your projects work better and all the other things you need to do. Uh, so we're very supportive of switching to an every other year process. And, uh, again, we just need, uh, we just need authority from Congress to be able to do that.

Speaker 0 01:21:49 Yeah, we would, we would love that. <laugh>. Thanks, norm. Um, somebody asked a question in here, um, looks like early on asking us to please talk more about advanced local, um, yeah, advanced local competitions and local notifications. So I'm not quite sure, um, if you're still on, and you can, um, let us know since we have some time, if you can let us know in the chat exactly. If you have specific questions to the local competition and local notification, um, we'd love to, uh, be able to answer, answer any questions you have. Um, let me see. Um, there's another one on the CSC application. This May, this is probably a norm or a William Question for questions one D two and one D two A in the CSC application, if you have a hundred percent housing first, how would you not receive full points? William, you want to take that? I might have lost William. Norm, can you take that one? Sorry, I was just on mute here. So,

Speaker 7 01:23:05 Go ahead,

Speaker 1 01:23:05 William.

Speaker 7 01:23:06 Sorry. We don't, I don't necessarily have all the questions, memoriz, right? So I'm just going off of, uh, of what I recall for these questions. So one D two was broken up, uh, for the rapid or for the housing first in two ways. Looking at the percent of your projects that actually do housing first, that literally is based on the number. Uh, so we're straight up looking at the percent, but there's also a narrative involved, and we're looking to see that, uh, you're meeting, uh, the requirements of housing first, including whatever elements we laid on the, in the NOFO. Those NOFO elements are then transcribed, essentially into the project application or the C O C application question itself. I think that's

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one D two A, if I recall off the top of my head. Uh, and that is, again, based, uh, we score that we look for all the elements there. We look for whether you're evaluating, uh, housing first within your continuum, and then we provide a score accordingly.

Speaker 0 01:24:07 Thank you, William. William. Um, here's a question for the project application team. Uh, so, so Robert, I'll let you, or maybe may, it should, um, our transition grant request more secure than reallocation project request?

Speaker 5 01:24:29 Uh, I, I did answer that in a chat, but, um, uh, oh, I wouldn't necessarily, uh, label it as secure, uh, because, uh, security is, I guess, more so determined by, uh, the ranking of the project, uh, and the priority listing. But I, I, I will say that the tr the funding, uh, for the transition grant is based on, uh, the amount of funding available or the a r a, uh, of the grant that's being transitioned. So you can say that the funding is available for the transition grant, that amount of funding is secure for that particular project. Um, but, uh, overall security is, is really, uh, determined by the ranking of the project.

Speaker 0 01:25:23 Thanks, Robert. Um, so this goes back to competition overview. Norm, I think this might be you. Um, is there a way to get a HUD debrief specific to R C O C score and what we need to do to improve, um, basically at, you know, we're not able to give individual debriefs to all COCs. Um, Norma, I don't know if you want to expand on that at all. Unfortunately, our hands are kind of tied there.

Speaker 1 01:25:51 Yeah, I think, uh, earlier Robert and others were giving sort of advice about how, and Kevin we're giving advice about how to best sort of assess that. We do give obviously some detail, the scores, uh, with respect to sort of like where you are doing well and where you're not. I really just encourage people to, uh, look at the detailed instructions and, uh, they're pretty literal. So like, if, if, for example, uh, and I know I'm just repeating what Kevin said earlier, but if there are sort of four bullet points about what you need to show in your answer to get full points, like we're going to look for those four bullet points to be addressed in the response. Uh, but that's the, that's, that's the, um, best way to really assess how you're scoring. Uh, but I also want to just get back to something I think, uh, I think it was Ebony said earlier, which is like, there's a, the, by far the most points in the, uh, NOFO are just performance related.

Speaker 1 01:26:51 And the best thing you can do, and I know this is hard, but like that, that's kind of the point. That best thing you can do is like house more people and house them faster, uh, and have fewer them return to homelessness. Uh, and that's really, it's both where we want people to spend their energy and also, like, at the end of the day, that's kind of the point of the program. Uh, so we, if you're looking for ways to just improve your c o C score, I would definitely just lean into that, uh, performance focus and try to see, you know, how can we, uh, house more people, whether that's through our projects or really partnering with others. Um, and if you are trying to figure out what, uh, you know, what to do on that front, we're happy to provide, uh, technical assistance or any other help, uh, to help you do that. Thanks.

Speaker 0 01:27:40 Thanks, norm. Um, actually Norm, uh, don't go away. Um, this is for you. Uh, will, where, sorry. Will there be a special NOFO this year for new funds appropriated for capital investments in p p f h?

Speaker 1 01:27:57 Great question. There will be a NOFO later this year after the c o c competition closes, um, for 75 million, uh, for development costs. So that's acquisition, rehab, and new construction

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for new permanent supportive housing. Uh, we don't have details yet. We will try to provide details, uh, as soon as we can. It's still something we're developing. Um, but we are very excited about this. Uh, we haven't really had dedicated development funding, uh, well, essentially ever. Uh, so this is a really excited, exciting opportunity. We will share information, uh, as you know, as soon as we can. Uh, but I can say like, we will not put out that NOFO at the same time the c o c NOFO is out. Uh, we will likely also allow more time to complete that NOFO just because we understand that the d putting together a development application is just an inherently complicated thing. Uh, but what I would recommend in the meantime is start conversations within your community about, cuz this funding is going to come out, you're going to be eligible to apply for it. Uh, start those conversations about like, what would it take to do a development project, uh, for, uh, for new permanent supportive housing.

Speaker 0 01:29:18 So while we're on this, uh, folks are asking if there's going to be another unsheltered NOFO anytime soon. <laugh>?

Speaker 1 01:29:25 Uh, great question. Uh, not anytime soon. Uh, we sort of, I, I don't want to get into the details, but we had a very specific pot of money that is just isn't available all the time, uh, to do that NOFO. Uh, and we don't have that right now. Uh, we're definitely going to be looking at the outcomes of this and looking at, uh, you know, how it will influence our future, um, funding. But, uh, that we will not have a special NOFO like that this year. Um, and we don't know when we will have that opportunity again.

Speaker 0 01:30:02 Thanks, norm. Um, so I think that I've covered almost all of the questions, um, that we highlighted to kind of review with everybody. So I'm going to ask everybody on the team, if there's anything that I've missed, please let me know. Feel free to jump on and, um, read the question and answer it. Um, while people are looking through there, I think Norm, there's one more question that's probably for you. Um, is there any consideration of changing the formula for planning grants to consider a percentage of p pn instead of a r d that would be a considerable help to small and rural COCs?

Speaker 1 01:30:43 Uh, I think the formula for P P R, uh, is actually based on F P R N, which is the higher of P P R N or a r d. So I think we actually, uh, already are doing what you'd like us to do. So, uh, if, if the, if, if not, please reach out to us, cuz there must be something funny going on. One thing I will say, want to say add about, uh, uh, planning funding, um, we, uh, asked Congress for authority to increase the amount for planning grants. Uh, so, uh, currently the formula is up to 3% of your F P R N. Uh, we asked to be able to raise that up to fi the greater of 5% or \$50,000. So sets a floor. Uh, Congress gave us the authority. They didn't really give us money to do it. So that's going to be, I don't know what we're going to do.

Speaker 1 01:31:40 We're going to have to figure this out. Um, but, uh, you know, we do have that authority, so that's at least a positive step. We know how important planning funding is, especially like, like during the, uh, during C O V I D, uh, and the pandemic. And we're asking you to partner with so many more people and, uh, work with your PhDs and work with your healthcare agencies. We know that that just doesn't magically happen, that you actually have to pay people to do that work. Uh, and it's really important. Um, so stay tuned for more information about that and we will, uh, provide that as soon as we can.

Speaker 0 01:32:19 Thank you guys. Um, so like I said, I think I've touched on everything. Um, I I will say, um, that one of our, uh, snappers here was just lamenting to us that nobody asked about the

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beautiful photo on the, our last slide here, and I think we have a plant in the audience because like a minute later somebody asked where the picture came from because it's beautiful. So I'm going to let Micah tell us, uh, where the picture, uh, the photo is from.

Speaker 9 01:32:50 Well, Karen, thank you so much. <laugh>, uh, that is a, uh, uh, a sunrise, uh, over Africa from the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro, uh, where I was just a few weeks ago. And I guess I needed a sunset to represent the closing of the conversation. <laugh>, uh, I'll try to remember that next time. But thank you for indulging me.

Speaker 0 01:33:15 Thanks Micah. Um, so I think we're about ready to wrap up. Um, again, I've been trying to look at questions and look at the chat, so if I've missed anything, I'm going to kind of ask snappers to step up and, and, uh, let me know if there's anything, um, urgent that I missed. I'll encourage folks to, um, please submit any questions, um, that either we weren't able to get to today, or questions that you have after, um, after this webinar to c c NOFO hud.gov. Um, we, and that address is on the screen. Um, as always, we appreciate immensely the work that you all do, not just on the application, but every year we know how hard your jobs are. Um, many of us have, have been where you are, um, working in communities, and we just cannot thank you all enough. Um, you know, we know how hard you work for our clients and it, it really does mean a great deal to us.

Speaker 0 01:34:07 So, um, we're happy to do these debriefs. Then we'll do a pre brief for the 2023 application. Probably, you know, once the, once we get the NOFO out, so look, look for that. I will put a plug in for the, um, the snaps and the, uh, the HUD ofv listervs and the list serves on the HUD exchange. Please make sure that you are subscribed to our listervs. Um, there is one specifically for the competition. Um, so you want to make sure that if you go to hud.gov, um, subscribe to it a minimum, that one if you're involved in the competition, so that you make sure that you get all of the, um, all of the application, um, competition related emails. And then we also have one that's more programmatic content, um, that we also send emails out. Um, so, um, norm, do you have anything that you would like to add or are we, we good to go ahead and wrap up?

Speaker 1 01:34:56 I we're good to wrap up. Thanks so much, Karen.

Speaker 0 01:35:00 All right. Thank you everybody. Talk to you again soon.

Speaker 3 01:35:05 Thanks everybody.

Speaker 6 01:35:07 That concludes our conference. Thanks for event services. You may now disconnect.