

## Transcript – CoC Office Hours October 2021

Niki Deininger: Great. Hi, everybody. Thanks for joining us for today's CoC Competition Office Hours. I'm Niki Deininger from the Cloudburst Group. And before we begin, I'll go over some text for today's call. Vanessa, if you could proceed to the next slide? There we go.

Alright. So, before we get started, I'll review some steps for using Zoom. So, we recommend that you close any open browser windows and tabs that you're not actively using on today's call. So, this includes email and any other programs.

If you have questions during today's session, please use the chat box. So, you should see a button with a little speech bubble that says, "Chat," on the bottom of your screen. You can click that button to open the chat panel.

If you're having technical issues, please try signing out of Zoom and then, signing back in. If you continue to have any technical issues, you can request help using the chat box.

For your audio, you can have your audio come in through your computer speakers or you can come into the session using your phone. To adjust your audio, you can click on the carrot or chevron icon above the Mute button, which is at the bottom left of your screen. You can then click the Switch to Phone Audio and follow the prompts to enable your preferred audio source.

So, with that, I'll turn it over to the group to get started.

Brian Fitzmaurice: I think that's me. Hello, everyone. My name is Brian Fitzmaurice and I am one of the Division Directors here in SNAPS in the Homeless Office at HUD. And I want to welcome all of you to our second Office Hours for the 2021 CoC Competition process.

Before we move on, I wanted to ask you to mark your calendars for our third and final Competition Office Hours, which will be in a couple weeks on Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, at the same time from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. That will be our final Office Hours for the Competition process.

Today we - the HUD presenters - we will keep our presentation fairly brief so we can make as much time as possible for your questions.

A couple reminders before we get to our HUD presenters. As always, we please encourage you as strongly as we can to use the detailed instructions posted on our Competition website. And we will have those, I believe it is - I think we have those links in our very next slide. So, please make use of those. I know a lot of you definitely do but a lot of excellent information is

in there that hopefully will answer a lot of your questions.

We likely will not be able to get to all of your questions today. We're going to try to get to as many as we can. So, please continue to submit your - any remaining questions you have today, if we can't get to them today, to the CoCNOFO@HUD.gov email box for our response. And again, I'll give you that address; CoCNOFO@HUD.gov email inbox.

Finally, as is always the case, when we - our responses, we cannot tell you how to answer a question for your unique community situation. What we can do - and what the law allows us to do - is to clarify HUD's intent, you know, what we presented to everyone in the NOFO, our intent, and to clarify how you should be understanding what HUD is asking for. So, that's the context. When we answer questions, that's how we're going to answer them.

So, I believe that's all I have. What I'd like to do now is hand it over to Siddhartha Nilakanta who will start - has a couple slides on the project application process. Sid.

Sid Nilakanta:

Alright. Thank you, Brian. We can go to the next slide, please.

Alright. Our first slide is about updating your Project Applicant Profile. Please do this first before you start submitting your - putting anything into your applications. It's critical to complete and update your Project Applicant Profile before proceeding to the application. Please carefully review the Profile for any required updates, including the authorized rep, secondary contact, or to the HUD 2880. And if a change to the 2880 is required once in the main application, return to the Project Applicant Profile to make the change.

Just a reminder; the HUD 2880 pulls from the Project Applicant Profile. So, if you need to update your HUD 2880, you need to do that in your Project Applicant Profile so that it gets pulled into your regular application. And other parts of your - first part of your application like you SF 424; also, pull from your Project Applicant Profile. So, if you noticed outdated information in that area of your application, please update your Project Applicant Profile and then, you'll be able to see it updated in your actual application.

And below are some helpful Project Applicant Profile resources for you to find. They're all linked and so, you click on that, you should be able to get those exact documents. Next slide, please?

SSO Coordinator Entry Applications. We've received a few questions about these projects in the AAQ. So, to go over some of our answers that

we've kind of given out; a CoC can only submit one new SSO-CE project application that is requesting DV Bonus funds. So, this is in Section II.B.11.e of the FY 2021 CoC Program Competition NOFO.

However, there is no limitation on the number of SSO-CE project applications requesting funds from the CoC bonus or reallocation process. So, we've gotten questions of, you know, people asking, "Wait, can I only request only one from SSO-CE bonus reallocation?" No, you can request - there's no limit on the number of SSO-CE projects you can request using CoC bonus reallocation. But if you use DV bonus, you can only request one SSO-CE project.

And lastly, the SSO-CE project must request activities from the seventeen eligible activities identified in the CoC Interim Rule and spelled out on page 88 of the New Application Detailed Instructions, which are linked here.

A reminder; SSO-CE projects should only request funds in eligible cost categories that are specifically relevant for developing and implementing the CoC's coordinated entry process. So, we will be assessing these when they come in so, please make sure that you're putting cost in the eligible activities. And you can - if you don't know or can't remember, please read the detailed instructions to have a good idea of what those eligible activities are. Next screen, please?

This is another - we've gotten this question a lot this year. This is about discrepancies between the e-snaps budget and the Grant Inventory Worksheet.

So, our first thing is if you notice a discrepancy, please check back with your HUD field office on the accuracy of your GIW. Look for approved amendments or other changes not reflected on the GIW. And the field office can inform SNAPS and the HUD headquarters of updates to the GIW prior to the submission deadline.

Additional updates won't be posted on the GIW - that's posted on HUD.gov - but it will be - but we will update it on our GIWs that we use when we are assessing your project. So, when we're making sure that your budgets are accurate compared to your GIW.

Remember, you need to update your e-snaps budget for if you're using actual rents. Make sure to use - remember that actual rent report we had sent out earlier this, I think last month? You have to update your leased units, your leased structures, and you're operating to what's based in your GIW.

Now, again, if there is an amendment that you have done and it has been approved, there can be changes to that GIW. You just need to let your field office know and the field office will let your SNAPS \_\_\_\_\_ [00:08:41] officer know so they can make updates to the GIW.

If your e-snaps budget exceeds your GIW, double-check the accuracy of both the incorrect - if you chose the correct FMR or if your bedroom distribution is correct. Many times, we've seen that the reason the budgets are exceeding GIW is either the FMW is incorrect, a wrong FMR has been chosen, or the bedroom distribution that is in the GIW is not the same that's in the project application. And so, that is something where it should line up and if it does line up, then, usually the budget and the e-snaps are matching the budget with GIW.

So, just to reiterate; if you notice an issue between your e-snaps budgets and your GIW, contact your HUD field office on the actual GIW so they can also contact SNAPS headquarters to see if there need to be any updates to the GIW. And please, if you continue to see issues, please send it to the CoC NOFO email and we can help you out. But most of the times we're seeing is there's either - it's either a GIW issue or it's an incorrect FMR or incorrect bedroom distribution issue. So, next slide, please? I believe this will be the last slide for me.

Grant agreement amendments cannot be processed in project application. So, as I was talking about grant [stumble] - grant agreement amendments, sorry - grant agreement amendments must be approved by the field office prior to the application submission deadline.

At this point, it may be too late to attempt an amendment prior to application submission but please confirm with your field office if you need something changed.

But if there is a change that occurs to me - if there is a change compared to the GIW but it's not covered by an amendment, we're not going to be able to move that forward. But if you make a change and it is covered by an amendment prior to application - prior to the NOFO closing - of the NOFO closing, you should be able to keep that change into the application. Because we'd be able to cover that into the GIW.

But just remember there, we do have a - that deadline is quickly approaching. So, if you do require an amendment, please get that submitted today and approved today by - or submit it as soon as you can and approved as soon as you can from the field office so we can put that onto our GIW and we won't have a discrepancy between the application and the GIW.

So, that's my last slide. I believe I'm handing it off to Kevin Turner. Alright.

Kevin Turner: Thanks a lot. Next slide, please.

Commonly asked CoC application questions. Next slide, please?

So, we've got a number of questions about 1C-15a with regard to racial equity. And so, we recognize the CoCs serve diverse populations. This question is really intended to measure the CoC's ability to serve all persons experiencing homelessness in their geographic area, not just one racial or ethnic population. The phrase, "People of different races or ethnicities," means all people who are homeless in your CoC geography.

And then, we go through this slide that tells you - you know, some have found this to be confusing. But the question asks whether this is what your survey found for Questions 1 through 4 and 6. For Questions 1 through 4 and 6, you're saying, "Yes, if your survey did this and no, if it didn't." And for Question Number 5; if you did not find any racial disparities, you answer, "Yes." So, that could be a little confusing. Next slide, please.

1E Questions. We've got a number of questions about what we mean by "rapid returns to permanent housing." We are looking for evidence that the CoC is successfully placing people in permanent housing. I think this is an old question; it was worded kind of interestingly. But that's actually what we're looking for.

The 1E-2 attachments; we are looking for three things. We're looking for scoring tool; we're looking for an actual score form used by most renewal projects that shows maximum points a project can receive for each criterion the CoC is reviewing and the actual points that project received. And we're looking for a score form that contains all the projects.

Now, depending on how your score tool is set up, it may already have this. Some of you may send out a form to your applicants to tell them the maximum points and what they scored. And we're looking for that - again, that whole project that's used by most people and we want to see that.

And so, you could - if your tool contains everything that we're asking for, then, it would be sufficient. But it's important that we get those scores.

And for 1E-3; what "promoting racial equity" means, we're looking to see if your CoC is taking active steps to avoid racial bias in your competition by including a diverse set of stakeholders in the local competition.

And we're looking to see if your CoC rated and ranked projects based on

the degree to which program participants mirror the homeless population demographics. Next slide, please.

This is one we keep getting to the 2C questions where people are wondering which metric we're expecting them to respond to. And so, we're not expecting you to respond to any of those specific metrics. We're expecting you to give us a response that focuses on the overall strategy of that particular question.

Now, it is true that we will use that metric in scoring that question but that's a separate thing to the narratives, which would include the narrative and the metric for the total maximum points for that question. Next slide, please.

And 3A Questions. So, this is about the housing and healthcare bonus. So, what we want you to know is that expansion grants count as new projects but only the expansion portion of the grant.

And the bonus questions apply to any new projects - CoC Bonus, DV Bonus, and reallocation.

And the 25% is based on the following calculation. So, we give you an example of  $\$100,000 \times .25$  gives us a total of \$25,000 for match or leverage.

And so, I would just say that if you are applying for a DV bonus and housing bonus, you would need to meet the requirements for both. And if you were applying for both in the one project, you would need to meet the requirement for them both. I think that is my last slide. Next slide, please?

And now, I'm turning it over to William Snow.

William Snow:

Alright. Thanks, everyone, for getting content. Now, we're excited to kind of switch gears here and see if we can tackle some of the questions we have in the chat. Again, thank you for all the questions you have there. We will do our best to get to them and let's jump into it.

So, I'm going to start with - let's see, there are a lot of questions around e-snap. So, one thing that I'll say, actually, before we get too far in that is if you submitted a question specific to a technical issue regarding e-snap to the CoC NOFO inbox already, that's something that we will be looking into. Often, it requires us to go in the back end and talk to the folks running that. And so, I'm sure if you've already submitted that, that's something that we're aware of and are working on.

So, thank you for reiterating that and we promise we will get back to you

when we're able to resolve that.

So, let's turn to a question around - let's see - grant consolidation. So, there are a couple of questions around grant consolidation. And I'm going to defer to Sid and Scott and Brian on this.

So, I'm going to give you two questions. First one is; where can I find detailed instructions for grant consolidation? And the second question is; well, what's the intent behind grant consolidations? Could you give us a little bit more in terms of pros and cons?

Brian Fitzmaurice: This is Brian. I can start on that question. That's a good question. I don't know if you all see me. Yes?

So, the intent - well, maybe you can't see me. Anyway, oh, that's just - alright, now you can see me. So, the intent - and we've been doing grant consolidations really for quite a while. Previously, we did them outside of the competition in the process of amending grant agreements. And we found that to be rather cumbersome not only for us but for you.

So, I guess it's been - oh, gosh - at least three or four years, maybe around that, that we have been doing grant consolidations through the competition. In other words, we completely switched over from doing them through the amendment process to doing them in the competition process and that is the only time you can consolidate grant agreements is through the competition process.

And really, the intent is to - when you're consolidating grant agreements, you have the same amount of assistance - total assistance - between the two individual grants of two or more. But the administrative - it's really for administrative ease. So, you have - say you're consolidating three together, you know? Where before you had three, now you have one; it's less administrative burden, really, for - you know, primarily, for you the recipient. You have one set of APRs who will have one application to prepare and submit and once the project is going, there is one project - one grant - instead of three that you have to report on.

So, that, I think, is the basic rationale behind it, which helps you, the recipient. But it also helps us at HUD because we have that many less individual projects to review. You know, the size of your projects collectively does not decrease. It's just that you will have less individual projects. So, that really is the rationale behind it.

As far as instructions on how to submit an application for consolidation, I would point you toward the renewal detailed instructions on our CoC Competition website. We do have that link, as Sid was explaining earlier

speaking about it; it was our first slide. I realize that we will be posting these slides to our website. It will take a little bit. You won't see them today. But if you go to the Competition website on HUD.gov, go to the Renewal Detailed Instructions and that should lead you through the process of what's required to submit consolidations.

And there was one question that I already answered, and this is a key one; that you can only consolidate grants from the same recipient, the same component. So, the one question came in that it's a different recipient. No, you cannot consolidate grants from two different recipients or grantees. Hopefully, that answers that question.

William Snow: Great. Thank you, Brian.

Brian Fitzmaurice: You're welcome.

William Snow: I'm going to shift gears a little bit here to move to Kevin. We're going to talk a little bit around the CoC application; some questions we're seeing there.

So, one question is regarding your rating and ranking process. And we were asked; can HUD clarify the objective Project Performance Rating factors and the System Performance Project Rating factors are interchangeable? Meaning that System Performance Rating factors can be considered objective rating factors towards the 33% threshold.

Kevin Turner: And I would say yes. Yes, they can be. In fact, one could meet the - I think it's the System Performance one where you can meet the criteria with all System Performance. I think that's what the detailed instructions state.

William Snow: Yeah. It makes sense that they're interchangeable. The System Performance measures should be objective criteria so, we should see that they would likely be a subset of your larger objective criteria.

I know folks on the same kind of thread of rating and ranking; there was a question around; why is there no supportive service only, coordinated entry, or HMIS aspect to that? I think the short answer is we've seen enough variance at the CoC level that we at HUD decided that it actually isn't helpful for us to add it there. We don't have unique criteria. And often, CoCs, they're determining their rating and ranking process for those types of projects, they had different sets of criteria altogether, right? Like they're not comparing client performance because typically, that's not what you find in those type projects.

So, we did not venture into potential scoring criteria in the rating and ranking tool because, again, we just figure we would leave it up to you.

We don't have a better answer for the way you should look at all of your HIMS grants or things like that.

So, probably not the best answer or the one you're looking for but that's how we were looking at it when we built the tool.

Let's shift gears a little bit to YHDP. I know I've seen a few YHDP questions. I'm going to look to either Caroline or Neily to answer this and just some clarification here.

So, someone quotes the detailed instructions around the replacement aspect and they say, "The CoC program required rule is PHRH units must be twice the amount of those provided through the TH. For example, if a project has thirty transitional housing, then, sixty Rapid Rehousing units are required." Can you please confirm that this is a requirement for YHDP replacement project applications?

Caroline Crouse: Yeah, it is still the same requirement. I think in the past with YHDP applications, we've allowed for a little bit of variance there in terms of it doesn't have to be exactly two-to-one. But we're still essentially looking for that \_\_\_\_ [00:25:40].

William Snow: Great, thank you. Alright, let's see. There's a couple of questions around DV bonus. So, there's one - and I think I'll take a first stab at this; if an organization receives DV funding for a project implemented by a sub recipient organization, is the parent organization classified as the VISN service provider? Can the collaborative applicant apply to the DV Shelter Housing Fund and pass it through to a sub?

So, the VISN service provider designation rests at the organization level. So, if a sub is a VISN service provider, that sub doesn't give that designation to the recipient, per se, although the recipient who, since they use that sub, will have to follow the correct limitations around VISN service providers.

But merely having a VISN service provider as one of many subs doesn't confer that designation to the recipient themselves. That's an important designation. We do have some guidance around that that we've provided in the past around whether or not you're a VISN service provider.

Yes, in terms of the collaborative applicant itself, they can apply. That all depends on your local circumstances, right? You have generally your own rules around who can apply for what and you have your own local kind of agreements around whether the collaborative applicant can apply directly.

But it is common, I guess, in many areas to use the collaborative applicant

as the direct recipient and for them to sub recipient out. So, that is absolutely an option available to you as you are considering your DV bonus.

Alright. Let's shift gears here. Let's see. We've gotten lots of questions around the 2880 so, I'm going to see if I could find one or two that we can pop up. We have a variety of folks on today but we also have some who are not on. So, I'm hoping the folks who are here can answer that one but if not, we may have to get back to you.

Do match funds already accounted for in the project application documentation still need to be noted in the 2880? I think Scott, that might be best to go to you.

Scott: Sorry, I was answering another question. What was the exact question on the 2280? Sorry.

William Snow: Yup. Do match funds already accounted for in the project application documentation still need to be noted on the 2880?

Scott: No. It's about the application amounts, not about match. There would be not anything related to that from that.

William Snow: Alright, thank you. Alright. So, we have a question around the partnership and the new housing and healthcare partnership bonus sorts of questions.

So, one question was; do all new projects have to have a housing and healthcare partnership in order to receive bonus points? Let's see, Kevin, is that - are you the best one to look to to that question?

Kevin Turner: Well, so, I can answer part of it. We're looking - the NOFO said one project. It could be one project, it could be two. But no, it's not all projects; it's any one or however many projects might be applying for - might be applying to get points for - to get the bonus points.

So, if they have a [interruption]...

Willam: Correct.

Kevin Turner: ... number of projects that are doing that, yeah.

William Snow: Well, and one further just clarification so we're all on the same page; those bonus points are limited to project applications for permanent housing, right? So, your Rapid Rehousing and permanent supportive housing.

So, it certainly would not apply to all projects to the extent you have projects that are not applying for those funding sources or funding types. So, if you're applying for that, it does not have to apply to every single one of even those type projects. But in order to be eligible for that funding, at least one has to be able to meet the criteria there.

And that could apply to a variety of scenarios with new projects, as Kevin covered very well earlier, right? Could be an expansion project, could be a reallocation project. Lots of variety there.

Alright, Kevin, I'm going to sit with you for a second. There's another question with regard to rating and ranking. The question is; can you clarify that 1E2 - again, this is about rating and ranking - is just related to the scoring tool for renewals? We've gotten conflicting responses on whether the rating factors apply to new project scoring and most of the elements don't make sense for the new projects.

Kevin Turner: So, that's a good point. We are looking for performance and we're looking for how a project did. That's one of the reasons why we ask for the renewal project application that most projects apply for in your competition. So, we're going to be looking - we're going to be evaluating this based on the renewals, not based on new.

William Snow: Right, thank you. Alright. So, let's see. Series of questions around - well, can we get some around the healthcare question? So, let's see if we can answer this one. And again, Kevin, I may continue to pick on you for a moment although, Karen, if you're on, you may have some insight on this, as well.

The NOFO states, "A healthcare MOU with a new project application will award the CoC application five points. And a housing MOU with a new project will allow the CoC application to receive an additional five points." However, did Kevin Turner just state you would need both MOUs for a new project application in order to receive any points?

Kevin Turner: So, it's asking if you need both to receive any?

William Snow: Yup. So, I'll read that last part. "Did you just state that you would need both MOUs for a new project application in order to receive any points?"

Kevin Turner: What I meant to state was that in order to receive all bonus points, you would need to have both. If you have bonus points for one or bonus points for the other, you can receive those bonus points. If you want to get all of them - and the thing I clarified is you could do this in one project. But you would have to meet the requirements for both in the one project or you

could do it in multiple projects where one project met the healthcare and the other met the housing.

William Snow: Perfect. Yeah, I mean, I think the best way that I think of this is we'd look at them independent, right? So, each set of questions will look at the MOU with regard to healthcare when we look at the healthcare question. So, we'll start there and we'll look at the attachment associated with that. So, to receive [sound distortion] maximum points there, you'll need to have it for the healthcare piece. Then, we'll switch gears when we review the housing piece and we'll say, "Hey, is the MOU attached to the housing piece there?" And we'll look at that independently.

So, to receive maximum points, you'd have to have all of it. But we'll look at each criteria on its own merits.

Alright, I'm going to shift this a little bit to consolidations again. Just a question really about the back end of consolidation. So, this could be to Sid, Brian, or Scott. If you apply for a consolidation, how do you calculate the start date? Is that something that we're going to provide assistance for on the back end?

Brian Fitzmaurice: Well, I'll take an initial stab at it. This is Brian. The start date for a consolidation will always correspond to the start date of the earliest expiration. So, in other words, if you're consolidating - we'll just use an example of two, although it goes all the way up to ten - of the grants that are consolidated, what we call their "surviving grant," will be the grant that's expiring earliest in the given calendar year.

So, that will be the starting date of the consolidated grant, which will now consume/subsume the other grants that are being consolidated into it.

We have seen a number of questions coming into the CoC NOFO mailbox about this and I guess they're good, valid questions. But as far as applying, you know, you don't have to - a lot of the questions - you know, and I don't want to get beyond this immediate question but they're concerned about, well, you know, when there are staggered expiration dates and everything, how do we figure that out? That will take place on the back end in the post award. We don't want folks to get overly concerned about that when they're applying.

So, the start date will correspond to the grant in the group that is the earliest expiring grant. And I hope that answers that question.

William Snow: Yeah, if that didn't make sense, we promise you we'll help you on the back end.

Brian Fitzmaurice: Yeah, that we will. [overtalking] That we will.

William Snow: So, we'll make sure that that happens.

Brian Fitzmaurice: Yeah. And you know what? I'll say one quick thing. I know it goes a little bit beyond the question but on consolidations, just want to remind everyone this year that both for consolidations and expansions, a new feature this year is that we do not have an application for the combined grant. The last time we did consolidations in 2019, we did. Starting this year, we're going back to - I guess it's similar to what we did in 2018; that you will apply for all the grants individually, right? And we will combine them on the back end.

So, there is no combined grant application that you will be submitting. I answered one of those questions earlier. But that will help us but we think it can also be definitely of benefit to the applicants. If something happened where we just couldn't combine them, it was unclear, you know, what was the surviving grant and such, we would just go ahead and renew, hopefully, the individual one.

So, it takes some of that risk out of it for the applicant, as well, if the applications are unclear on our end on the consolidation. So, hopefully, everyone understands that, as well.

William Snow: Yeah, we saw some \_\_\_\_\_ [00:37:09] in the chat box around that so, that's really great. Again, we may have to bump our way into getting to the best spot with consolidations over the next couple of years. We'll make no promises that this is all going to be perfect. I think you all know that this - we're doing our best in trying to make sure it ends with the result that you're intending.

So, we'll keep moving there but hopefully, this year is going to get us a good leap forward.

Brian Fitzmaurice: Yes, indeed.

William Snow: I'm going to ask a question. Kevin, I'm going to look to you although I'll take the first stab at it and you can see if I've covered everything. Jackson raised a question around the bonus funding. Again, the last questions on the healthcare and housing bonus and around the 25%.

So, in her question, she says, "I thought the instructions say 25% of the unit but the presenter just said 25% of the funding." So, to clarify, it actually is both of those. It just depends on the standard you're looking at.

So, the 25% of units applies to the housing section and the 25% of funding

applies to the healthcare section. I will say even within that healthcare section, there's a separate carveout in terms of the substance abuse and recovery assistance. So, look carefully at the NOFO on that.

But you're right; there's a difference in the unit and funding piece and it just depends on the question that you're looking at.

Alright, I'm going to keep scrolling down but I'm going to ask folks on our team if there are questions that you already know that you want to answer. Kevin or anyone on the Project Application team; do you have something you would already like to address from what you're seeing in the questions?

Kevin Turner: So, someone asked whether if they got an extension for their LSA submission, should they select, "yes?" And the answer is you should select "yes." HUD will verify whether or not your organization met the extension that we granted.

William Snow: Yeah, great clarification. Sid or Scott, do you have any questions that you saw that you definitely want to make sure you cover?

Sid Nilakanta: I think I saw one where someone from YHDP was asking why, for certain components, they're seeing screens that usually don't apply - that don't apply to their component type. And the reason is that for YHDP renewals and replacements, the application is fully open so, you're going to see all the screens just to provide you the greatest flexibility.

However, a lot of those screens do not have required questions. So, if you read your detailed instructions, it will tell you exactly how to answer those questions if you're like an HIMS project or an SSO-CE project, and that there are options in that application of just like NA or what to input in certain fields so that it can be submitted. And then, because that certain component type is being submitted, those won't be reviewed in assessment because they're not related to your component.

But we've left it wide open and in the detailed instructions, it give you instructions of what to do in those situations.

Unidentified Male: Hey, Sid, I've got a good question on the 2880 where people are asking if they should put a TIN number on a third screen or something is going on. I think you all might know about this and they're not supposed to put anything there?

Sid Nilakanta: Correct, they can leave that blank. I think you're talking about - I think it's - what - Part 3 or Paragraph 3, something? I can't remember exactly what that says. But with that table in Part 3, they can leave that section blank.

Unidentified Male: Is that the Social Security number, Sid?

Sid Nilakanta: Yeah, I think that's what they're talking about; the SSI/EIN thing? Yeah.

Unidentified Male: Yes, definitely. That's something that, you know, please leave blank. Hopefully, maybe we can fix that 2880 next year and take that question out. But we can't do that unilaterally.

William Snow: Alright. Yeah, that's a great one. We get that often and we've seen a few of that - a few of those questions here. So, good one to clarify.

I've seen a few questions around HDX, right? What if the HDX report has an error? And I saw a helpful response back already within the chat from communities who've had that, as well.

You can always submit a question. That one, actually, the technical issue; best to go through the AAQ and just say, "Look, we found an HDX issue."

However, if it's helpful to know, we also run the data, like the raw data, when we actually do our scoring. So, we rely on the data as it currently stands in HDX so, the competition report is the starting point but it's not an ending point for us.

So, we will verify all data to ensure that it is most accurate at the time that we conduct our analysis. So, that's good to know.

We've seen a few questions, as well, around the webinar itself. Are the materials going to be up? Will we provide transcripts and all that? Yes, we will do that; hopefully, faster than the original CoC webinar, which now, all of those materials are available, as well.

But it is our intent to take all of the materials and make them presentable for publication and release it to all of you.

Alright. Let's turn back. There's a lot of great questions I'm seeing in my message chat; there's 113 messages, the ones I'm looking at, so, lots coming in.

So, things around - there are a few questions around actual rent. Somebody had mentioned, "Hey, I haven't gotten my actual rent document and I've emailed the CoC NOFO inbox." So, if you're already notified us through the CoC NOFO inbox, that team has, in turn, talked to the person responsible in our office to send that out.

If you sent that and, in your email, included your contact information, we

should be able to get that out. So, we'll look into that and make sure that we're responding to that.

Somebody had asked how do we come up with actual rent amounts. I think I'll turn to either Sid or Scott for that, right? If somebody is looking at, or thinking of using actual rent amounts, how do they make that determination?

Brian Fitzmaurice: I can answer. I think I might've answered that question, or one of them about that. And what I saw was actual rents - and this is for rental assistance - this is when a recipient of rental assistance determines that they do not need the full FMR - 100% of the FMR amount. And I will also state that if you are applying for a new project with rental assistance, you don't have a choice. You have to request the full FMR.

But when you come in for renewal, you know, if you think, based on different factors in your local situation, including the tenant-paid rents and the actual rental amounts that you're working, if you can get by with something less than the full FMR, you have the ability to perhaps move some of that money from the rental assistance budget line item to a different budget line item. That's typically why recipients will go to actual rents.

But it is the choice - it's not a HUD designation. However, sometimes we do get questions about going back to the full FMR. And to do that, that's definitely more complex and you would have to document that your rents have, in fact, gone back up to the full FMR. And we handle that, more or less, on a case-by-case basis.

But as far as the lists that we sent out to continuums to provide to their projects that have - that we showed shows actual rents in the 2019 competition, we just - real quickly, we sent those out to CoCs asking CoCs to provide that information down to the bedroom size level to those projects. And we pulled that out of our system - out of e-snaps - based on what was applied for in 2019. And the reason we had to send that out; it goes back to the unique situation we have for 2020 where we did not have what we call the competitive process through the NOFO. And that was due to all the factors of COVID and all the - you know, everything that happened with that.

So, there was not - there is no e-snaps information for 2020. We skipped over e-snaps. We did it in renewal. So, the information that was sent out was so we could update those amounts in the system this year so you would be set up with the 2020 amounts so we can increase them to 2021.

So, I mean, I hope that answers about actual rents. But it is not something that HUD determines; it is something that the recipient opts for.

William Snow: Great. Thanks, Brian. That is really helpful.

Alright. There are lot of great questions again on the housing and healthcare so, we're going to return to a few of those.

One question is; where do the bonus points get applied, right? Is this at the CoC level? Is this at the project level? Will it only apply to those projects that are seeking to make those connections with housing or healthcare?

The short answer is these bonus points only apply to the CoC level. So, we'll look at your new applications, right? Your project applications. But the actual points will apply at the CoC level and the maximum will be ten points, right? So, you're not going to get ten points per applicable project; you could get a maximum of ten points total.

There are other questions around the housing and healthcare. I wonder if Kevin or Karen; is there any that are kind of popping up for you that would be helpful to address that you're seeing?

Kevin Turner: Someone asked if behavioral healthcare counts. And seems like healthcare. I would think yes.

William Snow: Yeah, I don't think we give a priority to physical health over mental health or behavioral health. So, yes, partnerships with your behavioral health would be treated and considered as part of that bonus - in our review of your bonus application. So, yes, we're bumped up for the bonus points. You can definitely [interruption] do that.

Karen: And I'll just add, William, too; I think a couple people asked about where, for the healthcare bonus questions, where you attach the MOUs. And they should be attached to the CoC application, not the project application.

William Snow: Yes. Actually, I was going to ask you that so, that's great.

There are also questions around who that relationship is with, right? So, if you're requiring an MOU, that MOU with the project applicant and/or the CoC or who is it with?

So, the NOFO itself is not explicit about that. We would expect that it would likely be between the project applicant and the healthcare organization or the housing partner.

However, there's nothing to prohibit if that relationship, for whatever

reason, if there's a good reason to have it at the CoC level, that's something that we could consider.

But there's nothing to prohibit that. So, either approaches are fine. The key is to ensure that if it is at the CoC level, that that commitment is still a commitment to the new project and kind of bounded by that project. So, we'll look at, for instance, if you have \$1,000,000 in your CoC and you're talking about one project that has \$100,000, we're going to run your 25% off of that specific \$100,000 project.

So, that's just the important thing to make sure you're clear on is the commitment needs to clearly tie to the project that you're kind of using for your commitment here.

Alright. So, good questions here. I'm going to ask another one with regard to YHDP. Can you please confirm if it is okay for YHDP replacement project budget line item amounts to differ from the BLI amounts on the GIW? That's probably a Neely or Caroline or maybe a Sid question.

Sid Nilakanta: It can differ. The YHDP replacement can be completely different than the YHDP renewal it is replacing. It just has to maintain the same total - it just cannot exceed the same total that the YHDP renewal had.

So, if you had like - so, if you had a rental assistance budget and supportive services budget, an HMIS budget; those don't have to match what the YHDP had. But the total amount altogether has to be the exact same as the YHDP renewal.

William Snow: Right, alright. Okay, I'm going to keep with you for a second, Sid. Or again, we may expand it but with regard to YDHP. Could you clarify that YHDP funding is only for replacement renewal and not new projects funding?

Sid Nilakanta: Correct, only for YHDP renewal or replacement.

William Snow: Yeah, it's a good question. If you want new funding for YHDP, you've got to go through the YHDP applications process through NOFO. So, good question.

Let's see. I'll look to kind of other than the team to see if there's something that pops up for you in terms of priority. Either the project team or the CoC App team; is there something that you feel you keep seeing or you want to make sure you address?

Kevin, looks like you're talking but you are on mute.

Kevin Turner: Thank you, sir. I would say that people have been asking questions about 186; about what we mean by the final application. We mean the consolidated application that contains the priority listing with all new renewal projects, projects that were rejected, the CoC application, and I can't think of what the third thing is.

But this would be the one. The final one is the one that - I would think, the one you submit to HUD.

Now, I think where some confusion might be is that in order to get the points, that would have to be posted two days before HUD submission deadline. I think this is where people are having an issue because this is two days before we close the competition. But that's what you have to do in order to get the points associated with that question. We would need the application that's approved by your CoC. And "approved by your CoC" means whatever written process you all have to approve those three aspects of the consolidated application.

William Snow: Alright, good clarification. I see a fun question for the CoC App team just around kind of the variations in what you can apply for.

So, can one project be reduced through reallocation and the same project also request expansion through a DV bonus? [Pause]

Kevin Turner: That had to be [overtalking] a project app team.

William Snow: Yup.

Brian Fitzmaurice: I'm sorry, William. Can you repeat that? I was reading the questions on my chat line.

William Snow: Yup, yeah, no worries. So, here's the question. Can one project be reduced through a reallocation and the same project also request expansion through a DV bonus?

Brian Fitzmaurice: Well, that's [sound distortion] [interruption]...

Scott: I'll take that so, yeah.

Brian Fitzmaurice: Go for it, Scott.

Scott: Sorry. Sorry, Brian. Yes, that is acceptable, would work, just as long as the amounts are entered correctly for the reduced project and you're connecting through the questions in the expansion of e-snap screens. That will work, yes.

William Snow: Great. Scott, are there any other permutations that would be helpful here? For instance, I believe we said unlike in the past, if you do a consolidation, you cannot also do an expansion on that same consolidation grant. Is that true? And are there other things to kind of bear in mind as they're thinking through kind of mixing and matching some of the opportunities here?

Scott: That's correct. You cannot expand and consolidate in the same year. We tried that in '19 and it was not good. So, it's to everybody's benefit that we don't connect those.

But for the reallocation, that's a different process. I'm not thinking of anything else other than the questions in e-snaps and the detailed instructions are pretty clear, you know, how to enter the information in. Obviously, the earliest start date for the surviving grant is the key feature that we are asking people to check. That's all we can pass along for now.

William Snow: Great. I saw a more kind of technical question around eligibility and kind of regulation question from Tony around the Rapid Rehousing cost allowance. Tony asks; Do Rapid Rehousing programs use leasing instead of rental assistance? The short answer is no. That's not allowable at this point by regs. The Rapid Rehousing projects must use rental assistance. That's actually kind of part of the definition of Rapid Rehousing for the purposes of our funding. So, no on that one.

Caroline, I'm going to ask you - or again, it could be Sid or Neely - regarding YHDP. We have a new YHDP recipient and they're asking do they need to renew those grants this year. So, it might be helpful to kind of say, well, if you were a 2019 recipient, what's expected of you? And if you were maybe awarded in 2018, what's expected of you?

Caroline Crouse: Sure. So, the key part of the information there is if your grant year, you have an ending date of 2022 and it's not a planning grant; then, you are eligible to - and you should - apply for renewal or replacement under this competition.

So, who is not eligible or who shouldn't be worrying about this right now? There are some Round 3 or FY 2018 grantees that just put in their project applications and received their grant agreement claim within the last couple months. You are not eligible.

If you are a Round 3 YHDP community and your grant ends in 2022, you are eligible. So, that Round 3 are the only YHDP community that have kind of some yes, some no.

And the other; if you were just designated as a YHDP community under the Round 4 and 5 NOFO - or the 2019/2020 - you are not eligible because

we don't have any projects that are ending \_\_\_\_\_ [00:58:02] planning project.

William Snow: Alright, thank you. And so, congratulations if you are one of those who were recently awarded. That's exciting. We love to see our YHDP recipients.

Alright. Let's see. I have a question here from Jan. How do is, as a CoC, release an application back to the applicant for edit? So, this is a technical e-snap question. I wonder if Scott or Sid, if either are you are probably best to answer that.

Scott: Sorry, can you repeat that? I was just answering something else.

William Snow: Yeah. No, they're just wondering if they need to send back a project application, how do they send it back to the recipient within e-snaps?

Sid Nilakanta: Scott, correct me if I'm wrong. I think the CoC has the ability to amend the project back to a recipient, correct?

Scott: Yes, that is the CoC's responsibility, correct.

Unidentified Male: And it's important that if they do that, that when the person resubmits, that they look to see that so they can be sure it's part of their priority listing.

William: Yeah, and I think that's where that process happens. And so, if you're looking for a more technical; like what are the buttons I push, there is a guide and it's - well, I'd say look in the chest because it's there. But there are a lot of messages in the chest; you may not find them.

But on our CoC Competition page on the HUD Exchange, we have some technical assistance resources that go through things like how to use e-snaps or various ways to sort of navigate your way through there.

We do have a guide that covers the project listing and that's actually where you would find the instructions on that.

I see that we are at time today. Again, I'm positive we didn't get to all the questions. I even see a few questions of, "Hey, are you ignoring me? What's going on here?" I promise you, that is not the case. If you look at the chat, you'll see the sheer volume of questions here. We act weren't essentially ignoring anybody; we simply have a lot to cover here and are grateful for all of your questions. Would love to see them come through the CoCNOFO.gov email if you weren't able to get an answer here today.

We'll have one more shot at this, as well. On November 4<sup>th</sup>, we'll do

another round of CoC Competition Office Hours and in that, we will attempt to get through some last-minute questions.

Again, we're grateful for all that you do. We know this is a tough time and this is not a fun process. So, we will try to support you as best we can.

With that, we will close the Office Hours today. Thank you very much.