

HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs

#### FY 2021 Continuum of Care Program Competition Debrief

# Housekeeping

- Participants can post questions during this webinar through the "Q&A" pane.
- HUD will answer questions from the question pool in the second part of the webinar.
- All Lines are muted

# **Funding Overview**

## HUD Awarded over \$2.6 billion

- **\$257 million** awarded to new PH projects through reallocation, DV Bonus, and CoC Bonus
  - \$34 million increase in PSH
  - \$84 million increase in RRH

# Tier 1 and Tier 2–Overview

#### Tier 1

- **100%** of CoC's ARD
- Projects are safe—if they pass eligibility and quality threshold review.

#### Tier 2

 Difference between Tier 1 and CoC's ARD plus any bonus projects (excluding DV Bonus projects and before adjustments to PH leasing, operating, and rental assistance BLIs based on changes to FMR).

### Tier 2 Selection and Ranking

HUD awarded points to each new and renewal project application in Tier 2 using a 100-point scale:

**CoC Score** – Up to 50 pts

**CoC Project Ranking** - Up to 40 points

**Commitment to Housing First** - Up to 10 points

#### DV Bonus Selection and Ranking

CoCs could apply for up to **15 percent of PPRN** or a minimum **\$50,000** whichever is greater, or **15 percent of PPRN** or maximum **\$5 million** whichever is less.

HUD used 100-point scale:

**Rapid Rehousing/Joint TH and PH-RRH**:

**CoC Score**–Up to 50 points **Need for Project–**Up to 25 points **Quality of Project Applicant–**Up to 25 points

SSO-CE:

**CoC Score**–Up to 50 points **Need for Project–**Up to 50 points

#### DV Bonus What HUD Awarded?

\$4 million–SSO-Coordinated Entry Projects\$34 million–Joint TH-RRH Projects\$65 million–RRH Projects

**149 CoCs in 42 states**—including rural, suburban, and urban CoCs

## **Local Competition**

- CoCs should rank projects based on performance and need
- Projects in Tier 2 are at risk
- CoCs should review project applications

#### Why CoCs Received Increased Funding?

CoCs with higher CoC Application scores:

- **Reduced homelessness** in their communities
- Used **performance criteria** to rank projects
- Used Housing First practices
- Increased RRH units
- **Reallocated** lower performing projects

## Observation on When Scores are Below Average

- On average 75% of CoCs get full points on each question
- There are 2 main reasons CoCs score well below that for a given question
  - 1. The question itself is unclear
  - 2. CoCs aren't doing the thing being asked about or don't meet the criteria

# Below Average: Unclear Question

- When a question is poorly worded CoCs tend to do universally poor
- Impact because it impacts all CoCs the scores are simply low
- We will revisit the question next year
- Examples
  - 1C-16: Persons with Lived Experience–Active CoC
    Participation
  - 1D-7: Addressing Possible Increase in Domestic Violence
  - 1E-2 (element 5): Objective criteria for evaluating whether VSPs improved safety

#### Below Average: CoCs Don't Meet the Criteria

- There are some questions that HUD must ask where HUD knows the overall score will be lower due to realities on the ground
- This is most common with performance and data questions
- Examples
  - 2A-5: Bed Coverage Rate
  - 2C-2 (the metric evaluation as opposed to the narrative): Length of Time Homeless

# Where Applicants Could Improve

- Review the detailed instructions carefully they are intended to explain "how" to successfully respond to the questions.
- **Respond** to all parts of multipart questions.
- Include Entire Response (avoid referring to other questions, attachments, websites, other resources).
- Make sure the response addresses the specific elements of the question—if you don't understand the question, submit a question to HUD.

## Where Applicants Could Improve

- Attach all of the required documents and ensure they cover the requested content.
  - Ex. 1 Dates should be actual dates (based on screenshots vs manually-entered dates)
  - Ex. 2 question 1E-2 requires uploading an annual scoring document

# What to do about Grants not Funded?

- Extending Grants with funds remaining
- Grant Closeouts
- Helping program participants move out of projects or transfer to another option if necessary
- Restrictive Covenants (HUD Exchange)
- Work with the Field Office
- Request Technical Assistance

# **Update Applicant Profiles Now**

- If there has been any change to your collaborative applicant or project recipients please ensure you update your e-snaps profiles
- This saves time later and avoids potential deficiencies in your application
- Especially important to ensure your Unique Entity ID (UEI) is correct in e-snaps

# **Questions?**

