

Bridge: Welcome to the FY 2021 YHDP NOFO information for American Indian and Alaska Native tribes. Thanks for joining us today. Before we begin, please ensure you have opened the Zoom chat panel by using the associated icon located at the bottom of your screen. Please note that all audio connections are muted. You may submit a written question throughout today's conference by selecting everyone from the dropdown menu in the chat panel. Type your question in the box provided and hit enter to send. If you require technical assistance, please send a message to the host. With that, I'll turn the conference over to Sid Nilakanta, SNAPS specialist.

Sidhartha Nilak...: Hi everyone. This is the webinar for the Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Round Six Notice of Funding Opportunity. This webinar is specifically American Indian and Alaska Native tribes. We had a webinar yesterday that was for everyone. This one is specific for Indian Native tribes. If you go to the next slide, please. This is how the webinar will work. This is the welcome and introduction. We're going to cover the background of the program, and we'll have an overview of the Youth Homeless Demonstration Program. We'll tell you how tribes can participate in the program, how HUD will support the tribal communities that apply, and we'll have a question/answer session at the end of the webinar.

Next slide, please. For those who have joined the call, can you please, in the chat, let us know what your name and pronouns are, what organization you part of, where you are in the country, and your tribal affiliation if you have any? We'll wait a couple minutes for people to put that in the chat. All right. Saw that first. All right. It looks like people are starting to put their information in the chat. I will now hand this off to Jemine Bryon, our assistant secretary for HUD, for our program. Jemine, you can take it next.

Jemine Bryon: Thank you so much, Sid. Good afternoon, everybody. Thank you for joining the webinar today to discuss this YHDP funding opportunity, and specifically as it relates to tribes and tribally designated housing entities. Congress gave HUD the authority to award funding and projects directly to tribes and TDHEs in December of 2020, not too long ago. The YHDP NOFO that will be discussed today is the first to be issued with this new authority. We have been working with our colleagues in the Office of Native American Programs, ONAP, to do outreach and consultation with tribes to help shape the program. The need is clear. A 2018 study by Chapin Hall found that American Indian and Alaska Native youth have twice the risk of homelessness as other young adults. The earlier YHDP grantees report that of the nearly 21,000 youth that were served through YHDP projects, only about 3.5% of them were American Indian or Alaskan Native.

With the ability to fund tribes and TDHEs, we hope that these funds will help increase our service to those communities. In this webinar, HUD staff will walk through some of the ways that tribes and TDHEs can participate in YHDP. I want to really stress that this is not a one-time opportunity. These opportunities for collaboration between tribes and CoCs will continue through the planning phase

of YHDP, as well as in future rounds of YHDP. This is a great opportunity for new funding in communities that can help create new partnerships, fund new recipients, and help young people who may not have been served as well by older models.

Please do the outreach to one another, and know that HUD stands ready to make connections, provide information, and/or facilitate discussions. Successful applicants get started early, partner strongly with youth, and take full advantage of youth homelessness resources that are available on the HUD exchange. I and the entire YHDP team are so passionate about this program. We are really eager to bring on the next round of YHDP awarded communities. I wish you the best of luck on your application. Thank you for your enduring commitment to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-reoccurring for everyone in our country, but again, for our youth. Thank you so much. Enjoy the webinar. Back to you, Sid.

Sidhartha Nilak...:

All right. Thank you, Jemine. We can go to the next slide, please. All right. These are going to be the speakers for our webinar, as you just heard from Jemine. We also have Norm Suchar, Nili Soni, Ebony Rankin. Marlisa Grogan, Sidhartha Nilakanta, that's myself, and Caroline Crouse will be speakers on this. Our team members for the YHDP program are Juanita Perry, Anita Crews, April Mitchell, Rachel Duplessis, Tre Lee, Regina Lee, Jeanine Beasley, Erin Collick, Amy Harmon Darrow, and Rolisha Handy. I will now hand this over or to Marlisa, and you can move to the next slide.

Marlisa Grogan:

Hi, everybody. Great to be here with you today. On this slide, we're referring to the appropriations language that Deputy Assistant Secretary Bryon just referred to. This was back in December of 2020 that Congress passed the Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations Act. It's this language which amended the McKinney-Vento Act. That allows tribes and tribally designated housing entities to apply for CoC program funding, to form their own CoC, and to also make formula areas, which is the term that's defined in the Indian housing block grant IHBG program at 24 CFR 1000.302, we can put that reference into the chat, make those areas eligible to be added to the geographic areas of existing CoCs, or to become newly formed continuums of care. Consistent with this authority, tribes and tribally designated housing entities can apply for and be designated as YHDP communities or YHDP project recipients, as well as carry out projects in tribes formula areas, which would include trust lands, and reservations. Next slide, please.

We want to let you all know upfront that we are being very intentional in making necessary changes to the longstanding existing processes that are currently in place for the CoC competitions, with the goal of facilitating the participation of tribes and TDHEs. It's not as quick of a process as we'd all like, but we're taking incremental steps when and wherever we can. We also understand that there's no way to quickly integrate tribes into the CoC framework without taking that necessary time and careful consideration to better understand what changes are needed, and to do it right the first time. We strongly encourage you to seek feedback from tribal members, and if you're

a tribal member yourself, to provide your comments and recommendations to the email address on the screen, CoCTribalConsult@hud.gov. We take comments extremely seriously, and we'll definitely integrate those into the changes that we make and get back to you with any of the comments that you submit to us. Thanks so much. With that, I'm going to turn it over to Ebony Rankin.

Ebony Rankin:

Thanks. Marlisa. Good afternoon, everyone. I'm going to give a quick, YHDP program overview. If you were on a call yesterday, these slides may be familiar to you. Next slide. Okay. The goal of this Round Six YHDP NOFO is to support up to 25 communities in developing and implementing a coordinated community approach to prevent and end youth homelessness. In a population that we serve with, YHDP, our youth who are experiencing homelessness, and this includes unaccompanied and pregnant or parenting youth, no member in a household can be older than 24 years old. Next slide.

What you see here is a visual representation of all 77 communities who have been awarded YHDP funds so far since 2016. Like I said, we're on our Round Six right now. We announced just recently our Round Four and Five, which was a total of 33 communities. Hopefully we'll be filling out this map a little bit more once we announce Round Six. Next slide. The NOFO will about \$72 million to up to 25 communities. Out of those 25 communities, we will choose up to eight locations that have substantial rural populations. The maximum award for this round is \$15 million for one community, and a minimum is a \$1 million. If you're a chosen community, you will get at least \$1 million. Our formula and explanation of the formula is in the NOFO. Funding is allowed to be used for any project that's currently eligible under our continuum of care regulations, planning, grants, any of our housing grants, and services grants. Our project funds except for our planning and hard costs are renewable under future CoC competitions. Next slide.

This is just a overview and a general timeline of our YHDP current process for Round Six. Starting between now and Summer 2022, where you're actually reviewing the NOFO and communities are working with their other partners to be able to respond to the NOFO, the responses are due June 28th. Then after June 28th, HUD will be reviewing applications. Shortly after that, we will announce who the communities are for our Round Six. Once we announce the communities, they will go directly into working on a coordinated community plan. That happens in the fall of this year to the spring of next year, because you get, in general, six months to create that plan.

You have some flexibility to extend six months, but it's a pretty intense process of developing your coordinated community plan. After that plan is approved, and that will be around the spring/summer of next year, you will start putting in your project applications. Once you have your CCP and you've been working with all your community stakeholders, you'd be ready for your project applications and you'll be submitting those around the spring/summer of next

year. It gives you a general timeline of what we are looking at for Round Six. Next slide.

What does YHDP offer? I talked about the funding. \$72 million total for this round, up to 25 communities. Innovation. Projects in YHDP are allowed to request special activities in order to operate new and innovative projects. We have an Appendix A for more that you can read when you're looking at the NOFO. There are two appendices. One is Appendix A that will go into more detail about the special activities and have examples of what communities will be able to do with their funding to be able to bring about innovative projects.

We also offer collaboration. From application through CCP through project application, we require our applicants to work with community stakeholders and youth with lived experience to be part of the team, to not only help with the application, but help after receiving funds, and also help extensively in the planning process. Then we also, there will be more information about technical assistance. But we do have extensive technical assistance that we offer to each of the selected communities that start the minute we announce the communities up, and through actually administering your projects. It's not only with our TA providers, but you have access to our HUD desk officers, and to other communities that are going through the same thing your community is going through, to be able to learn from each other. Next slide. Now I will pass it over to Nili, who will talk a little bit about the funding process.

Nili Soni:

Thanks, Ebony. I wanted to just quickly share that as previous NOFOs for YHDP, HUD will rank all applications based on the rating factors that is listed on the NOFO. HUD will select the 16 highest ranking communities and run the funding formula as outlined in Section II.C of the FY21 YHDP NOFO. If sufficient funds are remaining, HUD will add additional community and rerun the funding formula. We will repeat this process until not enough funds remain for another community, or 25 communities are selected, whichever happens first. For each community collected under this competition, HUD will make a minimum of a million dollar available for total YHDP funding. This total funding may be split among any number of projects in the community. For example, if you are a community that has been awarded, you can select one project, or you could split it among 10 or more projects or less. The rating factor, the next slide, please. Thank you.

For the rating criteria, we are using the same as we have used in the past. Again, it is mentioned in the YHDP NOFO. It's similar to the five categories that we have, and plus the rural bonus for 10 points. It's leadership capacity, community need, collaboration, youth collaboration, data and evaluation capacity. Next slide, please. This is, again, similar to the information that we shared yesterday. The eligible applicants are going to be the CoC Collaborative Applicants. A Collaborative Applicant is the entity that has been designated by your CoC during the most recent CoC Program Registration Process to apply for a grant on behalf of the CoC, including those formed by tribes and TDHEs. The Collaborative Applicant must be an applicant for each community applying for

participation in the demonstration. The Collaborative Applicants who may apply for any community located within a CoC geographic area or multiple communities located within a CoC geographic area. Only one application per CoC will be selected for funding. Sorry, next slide. The NOFO deadline is June 28th by 11:59:59 PM seconds, Eastern time. You can your application by using grants.gov. I think I'm turning over to Caroline on the next slide.

Caroline Crouse:

Thanks, Nili. We wanted to go through a few ways that we feel like tribes can participate in the YHDP. Next slide. The first opportunity to be for tribal participation in the YHDP is for a tribe to be designated as a YHDP community. There are a couple of ways that this can happen. If a tribe is forming a CoC, or of a CoC partners to cover tribal areas, those areas can be designated as YHDP community via the YHDP NOFO, what we're discussing on this call. In order to do that, those tribal areas would need to be associated with a CoC that's registered for the FY2022 CoC competition. We've had some questions before of what happens if your CoC was previously designated a YHDP community, and you have partnered with tribal areas in order to expand that geography under this registration notice. You can apply for that additional area that was not covered by the CoC previously to be designated as a new YHDP area.

I do want to emphasize that this is a change that is ongoing. Even if there are no additional areas that are identified for the 2022 CoC competition, we will be having at least one future round of YHDP funding. It's a good idea to keep in mind that this will be an option for the next round of funding as well. It's not a one and done opportunity. Certainly something to keep in mind is that the tribal areas could be covered either as their own CoC or as part of a CoC in the future. Next slide, please.

Another option for being involved in YHDP is to be part of the Coordinated Community Plan planning group. As Ebony mentioned in her slide, after a YHDP community is announced, once applications come in for the notice of funding opportunity, HUD will review the applications, and then announce the selected YHDP communities. Those communities will then start an intensive planning period to create what we call the Coordinated Community Plan, which identifies the needs that are in the community for youth at risk of and experiencing homelessness, as well as identifying partnerships and action steps that the community will take to create a youth homeless system response using the YHDP funds and other funds that may be in the area. In previous rounds of YHDP, we've had tribes that have been very active members within that planning process to really emphasize the needs of the tribal youth that may be in the area or other American Indian and Alaska Natives in the community.

We really encourage any tribes, tribal designated housing entities, or other tribal organizations to become active in that planning process. We really encourage the YHDP leadership to make sure that there is an active voice of tribes and tribally designated housing entities and other organizations within that planning process. It's a critical step to make ensure that the plan that's created for the community covers all the youth that are in the community. Next

slide, please. Finally, tribes and tribally designated housing entities are now eligible to become direct recipients of YHDP projects. As Ebony mentioned, that process is going to come later. Those projects will be applied for and selected later in spring or summer of 2023, after the coordinated community planning process is complete. Those projects can target youth based on their identified needs, and can be operating directly with the grant from HUD now that we have this new language. Next slide, please.

We know this is all a new effort. As Marlisa was saying, we are trying to be very mindful about how we are approaching this and making sure that we are working with communities to get the support we need. Next slide. I want to discuss a couple ways that we are trying to support tribes in their work in the CoC program and within YHDP. We know that this is a process for tribes. I do want to make sure that people are aware that tribes and tribal organizations can request technical assistance from HUD to create or implement continuums of care or projects within existing CoCs, including YHDP projects. There's a screenshot on the right side of your screen that has the form that you can go to request that technical assistance on the HUD webpage.

You can do that specifically for youth projects, but you can do it for other CoC projects as well. I would encourage everyone to consider whether having some technical assistance on these matters would be helpful. Additionally, once YHDP communities are selected, we have robust technical assistance that we provide to communities to help them create the coordinated community plan, as well as to plan out and help implement the projects that are developed with YHDP funds. We are really trying hard to make sure that the TA that's offered through this YHDP is culturally sensitive, and to be responsive to requests about TA from tribal organizations. That is something that we are being mindful of and already planning. We will need help as we go, and definitely it's a learning process. But we do want to make sure you understand that there's plenty of support available, and we are listening to you to understand, too, how we should make that TA available. With that, I think I'm going to turn it back over to Sid.

Sidhartha Nilak...:

All right. You can go to the next slide, please. All right. HC contacts. Make sure I am unmuted. I am. All right. HC contacts. We are available at all times to answer emails. We ask that you send all your questions to the youth demo mailbox, that's youthdemo@hud.gov. We will try to answer your questions as quickly as possible. However, we cannot assist applicants in preparing your applications. If you are having technical issues, like maybe accessing [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov), trying to find the YHDP NOFO on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov), we can help with that. But in terms of trying to give you pointers on how to answer a certain question, we can't really do that. But for all other questions, be it on the NOFO, or if you're worried and you have questions on just regular project applications for the YHDP program, you can send them to the youth demo mailbox at youthdemo@hud.gov. You can go to the next slide, please. These are some of our resources. The YHDP website has been officially moved to hud.gov webpage. It's been moved away from the HUD exchange website. But the next two resources are still on the HUD exchange.

The YHDP technical assistance website is on the HUD exchange, and the CoC analysis tool, race and ethnicity tool is also on the HUD exchange. Just remember that if you're looking for the YHDP website, we ask you go to hud.gov. For the technical assistance or the CoC analysis tool for race and ethnicity, you go to the HUD exchange. The links are posted in the chat. Thank you, Ebony. We can go to the next slide, please. That's the end of the presentation portion of our webinar. We are now open for questions. Please put your questions in the chat, and we will try to answer them as quickly as possible. All right. Thank you.

Norm Suchar: Great. Thank you, Sid, and Ebony, and Caroline, and Nili. We are going to start on the Q&A portion of our session today. As Sid just mentioned, if you have questions, please go ahead and type them in the chat window. It would help, in the "to" box near the bottom, if you had everyone selected, so everyone can see the questions. We will answer some of them out loud, and some of them we're answering just in the chat window as we go along. But we have a few already, so we're going to go ahead and get started with these. The first one I think we'll direct to Nili, if you could talk about this one. The question is about whether there are extra funds specifically for tribes in the YHDP NOFO, or does this all come out of the same pot of funding?

Nili Soni: Thanks, Norm. The fundings actually come out of the YHDP NOFO. Sorry. I'm trying to click my video on. There's no additional extra funds. It is coming out of the YHDP funding.

Norm Suchar: There isn't a specific side aside for tribes, everyone's applying under the same pot of funding. Great. Thank you. Another question we had, and this question came up a couple times, actually, is about whether a tribe or TDHE has to work with an existing CoC to apply for funding. Ebony, I know you covered this a little bit in your presentation. But I wonder if you could expand on, how does the application process work? Does a tribe have to work with an existing CoC? How does all that work?

Ebony Rankin: Right now, the eligible applicants for YHDP are collaborative applicants. If a tribe is not its own CoC or collaborative applicant, they have to work with a CoC that may have the tribe as part of its geography to be able to apply for project applications. If a tribe is not its own CoC and is not a registered collaborative applicant, they will have to work with a CoC and that CoC's collaborative applicant when applying to be a select community. Once a community is selected, a tribe also can work with the collaborative applicant or the selected community as far as applying for project applications.

Norm Suchar: Thank you. I want to walk through a couple different scenarios here, because there are a lot of different relationships between a CoC and a tribe or TDHE. One example might be that a continuum of care covers a geography that doesn't necessarily include trust lands, or reservations, but it might be served by a tribal organization. In those cases, would the tribe be able to apply for funding? At what stage of the process would that happen?

Ebony Rankin: You're saying if the tribe is already part of the CoC's geography?

Norm Suchar: Yeah. In cases where, if a tribe is serving an area that isn't necessarily trust land reservation, but it is serving an area that is already part of the CoC's geography.

Ebony Rankin: Then yes, if that geography was a selected community, that tribe can be a project applicant, and can apply for and can receive funding through YHDP, and can serve youth in that community.

Norm Suchar: Great. I wonder if we could walk through the steps for cases where a tribe wants to have a project that covers a trust land or reservation. Can you walk through, what are the steps that have to happen? How does the tribe partner with the CoC in those cases?

Ebony Rankin: I will turn that part over to Caroline.

Norm Suchar: Great. Caroline?

Caroline Crouse: Yeah. Sorry. In those cases, what you would need is you would need to have the tribal area, formula area reservation, identified as a partner within that CoC registration process. But we do anticipate that then at that point, you would be able to have projects in those areas. Remember, the registration process happens each year, and that registration process, I believe, the projects aren't going to be formed until next spring or summer. Those projects could potentially be covered within on that land next year, or in that geography.

Norm Suchar: In those cases, the steps that would have to happen is, when the CoC is registering, and this could be a tribe or tribally designated housing entity, could register as its own CoC, or there could be a partnership between a tribe and a continuum of care that agree to cover the geographic area that the trust plans for reservations. Then they could apply for YHDP projects that covered that geographic area as well. The YHDP application to be selected as a community is what this NOFO is. But can you remind us again, if a site is selected, then they would have to apply for specific projects during what timeframe?

Caroline Crouse: Those projects will come in spring or summer of 2023, so about a year from now is when we anticipate those projects being created.

Norm Suchar: Great. Thank you very much. Another question. Sid, I'm going to direct this your way. We have a question about cash match. The question is, once the project gets started, is there going to be a cash match required? Can you talk about the match requirements in the YHDP program?

Sidhartha Nilak...: Yes. In the YHDP program, yes, there's no cash match for the YHDP application when you're applying under the NOFO. But if you are awarded funds, we do have a match requirement, but you do have the ability to get a match, I think it's called an exemption, exception, I always get the two mixed up. But we have a

list of special YHDP activities that are listed in the NOFO. One of them, that allows you to waive that 25% match requirement. That would require you that when you are applying for that specific project, that you would select that special YHDP activity. Then there are some requirements involved with applying for that activity. If you meet those requirements, then you would be in able to waive that match requirement. But again, that is something that impacts just after you've been awarded and you start applying for your projects. There is no match requirement for applying for just a regular YHDP NOFO application.

Norm Suchar: Great. Thank you very much. We have question that I'm not sure we're going to be able to answer here. I just wanted to highlight it and ask the questioner to maybe submit a question to us in one of the email boxes. The question is about, can an existing CoC amend their plan to incorporate tribal areas? There are a lot of different flavors and nuances to this. I want to be sure. I think we'll probably need a longer conversation to discuss the specifics of your situation. But we'd love to try to answer your question as best we can. But if you wouldn't mind submitting that question to us so we can start the conversation about that, would be extremely helpful. Thank you.

I want to remind everyone that if you have questions, please go ahead and type them in the chat window. We don't have a ton of questions that we haven't been able to answer yet. But we'd love to hear more questions. We have a question that's come up. Caroline, I'd like to send this your way, please. If there is a tribe nearby that wants to partner with a CoC, can they include HMIS and TA planning to help set them up to capture the necessary data, and to participate in the CoC application process? Can you talk about how that would work?

Caroline Crouse: Sure. That sounds like a situation where the CoC is wanting to make sure they're partnering with the tribe so that in future CoC competitions, they would be able and ready to apply. I think definitely TA would be available to help the CoC and the tribe to make sure that they can get that planning in place, and we would really encourage communities to seek out that TA. I believe that they could use their HMIS and planning money to help create those plans. They could use, I think, that as part of their planning grant application. You wouldn't be able to put a new project on there right away. But definitely being able to incorporate that in planning or HMIS, I think, would be allowable.

Norm Suchar: Yes. I can definitely confirm that you can use existing planning grants and HMIS grants to facilitate that. Certainly something you could look at as part of your YHDP planning grant as well. Great question. Thank you very much. We did have a question come in about the NOFO deadline, which is obviously very important. Ebony, can you remind us what the deadline for the YHDP NOFO is?

Ebony Rankin: Yes, the deadline is June 28th at 11:59 PM. You have a little less than three months to get your applications in.

Norm Suchar: Great. Thank you. I think we've covered are all the questions we can that have come in through the chat so far. We're going to hold for a couple minutes to see

if anybody has any additional questions. Again, if you do have questions, please go ahead and type them, and make sure you select everyone in the "to" box so we can see your questions.

All right. I think we're in pretty good shape. I wonder if we could just quickly put up the slide that shows the mailbox where people can submit questions or request additional information. Don't remember which slide that was. Oh, Caroline, thank you for putting the mailbox in the chat window. If you do think of questions after we are done with this webinar, you are welcome, encouraged, we'd love to see your questions. Please send them in to that youthdemo@hud.gov mailbox that Caroline posted in the chat window. We will post a copy of the presentation as soon as we are able. It'll be a couple days. Earlier in the chat, we posted the link where we will post the webinar.

We'll try to post that again in the chat window so you can see that again. Great. Thank you very much. That's that last link there will is where you will find the recorded version of this webinar. Caroline also posted HUD exchange site where you can request additional technical assistance. Thank you, Caroline. With that, I want to thank everyone who participated in the webinar, all our presenters. I want to thank you in the audience who joined the webinar today. Again, if you have questions or recommendations for us, we'd love to hear from you. I want to stress some of the comments Jemine made earlier about how this is the start of a long term partnership that we are very excited to participate in and strengthen. We very much appreciate your recommendations, your suggestions, your partnership, and we hope that you will get a chance to participate in the YHDP program. With that, I want to wish everyone a great rest of the day. That concludes our webinar.

Bridge:

That concludes our conference. Thank you for using event services. You may now disconnect.