Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Grants

Q&A webinar transcript

December 6, 2023

Speaker 0 00:00:00 <silence> Welcome, and thank you for joining the Youth Homelessness System Improvement YHSI, grant Grant's q and a. Before we begin, please ensure you have your chat panel open by clicking the chat icon located at the bottom right of your WebEx screen. If you require any technical assistance, please use the chat to send a message to the event producer for q and a. You can submit questions to the chat at any time in the dropdown menu, make sure you select all panelists, then enter your question in the message box and click the send icon. With that, I'll turn the call over to Caroline Crouse.

Speaker 1 00:00:48 Hi everyone. Uh, thank you so much for joining today. We're so excited to have, uh, what is for us a second, uh, webinar for the Youth Homelessness System Improvement Grants. Um, we hosted a, well, we recorded A-A-Y-H-S-I or YHSI, uh, webinar, um, and posted that to our website the day that we dropped the NOFO. Um, but this is our first live, um, presentation. So I'm going to go through just a brief overview of the program. So the agenda is just going to be, it's going to be a real brief overview, just quickly running through some of the basics of the program. But if you want more information, we'll have information on where to get that information later. And then we're going to jump straight into live questions. So, um, please start putting your, uh, questions in the chat. We are going to be doing a facilitated, uh, q and a, so if you put your questions in the chat, we will be getting those and answering them live or in the chat.

Speaker 1 00:01:45 Um, but we're not going to have people come off mute, because sometimes that can turn into a real adventure. Um, so the presenters today are going to be Nili Soni, the director, uh, the division director that oversees the YHSI and YHDP programs, Emma Famili, Caroline Crouse, and Micah Snead. So the YHSI goals are, the goals of the YHSI program are really to help communities, um, and communities mean a lot, a variety of geographical areas. It is not confined specifically to A COC, whereas some of our other programs are within, um, this maps office. So the goal of YHSI is to increase state and local capacity to better serve youth and create projects that are responsive to the needs of youth that are at risk of homelessness and those experiencing homelessness. YHSI is really a, a new program that's meant to help build the capacity of communities and states in order to address youth homelessness in a, in a comprehensive, um, way.

Speaker 1 00:02:49 The funding available through this notice is $50 million total. Um, the awards can range in size from $200,000 to a million dollars. Um, if you come in as a single kind of, if, if you come in as an applicant, that covers a single COC. Um, and we have different, like, pots of money that we are designating for specific amounts of funding for each grouping of funding. Um, please note that for each of these, uh, funding categories, you can apply for multiple funding categories within a project application. Um, and so would be, uh, able to apply for, you know, uh, planning and partnership and data. So your total application could go up to $700,000. Another thing to note is that, um, the maximum of award amount doubles if you are, um, an applicant that is covering, um, geographic areas that have more, two or more COCs, um, or if the application geography covers the entire state.

Speaker 1 00:03:49 Um, so with this program, we really are trying to encourage a regional approach, looking at systems from a high level to ensure the greatest, uh, up, uh, uptake of the work and the greatest impact. So for eligible applicants, um, it is state, county, and local governments. Um, those, uh, state governments include, um, states, territories, districts of Columbia, and, um, other ENT entities such as American Samoa and the Mariana Islands, um, tribal governments, tribally designated housing entities, non-Pro and non-profit organizations. There are funding, as I mentioned before, funding, and then also scoring incentives for applicants that cover a larger geographic area. And I do want to emphasize that current former and future YHDP recipients are eligible to apply for and receive, uh, yes, e grants. There are just a few additional, um, there are, there's one additional question in our rating factors that ask how the goals and the activities will expand upon the YHDP that you've already done in your community.

Speaker 1 00:04:56 How can I get more information or background information on YHSI after this ridiculously fast overview? Um, here's some information there. The YHSI website is a really great, uh, resource. It has links to all of our materials, uh, including a fact sheet, including building link to the grants.gov, uh, website. It also has links to the different webinars. Um, there's one that happened this last Monday, and PointSource Youth will be posting that. Um, and then we have a couple more coming up, and then you can always email us at YHSI at HUD dot gov if you have additional questions or if you have a question today that we don't answer, or if you have a question that's very specific to your region, it might make more sense to be answered directly regarding your community. One more thing I want to just share before we get into, um, the q and a is that we've made a couple of NOFO changes after the publication, and so I want to make sure everyone's aware of that.

Speaker 1 00:05:48 Um, in the initial NOFO that was posted, there was a section that was erroneously included, uh, on affirmative marketing and saying that a narrative needed to be submitted, um, to ensure that there was affirmative marketing that is not actually a requirement. And so we corrected the NOFO on that a couple weeks ago. We also submitted a change just yesterday. Um, there had been, um, an incorrect definition of project applicant that indicated that the COC collaborative applicant needed to designate an applicant for the YHSI applications, and that's not correct. So we also have a new, um, definition of project applicant, just that they are people that are an organization, uh, that meets the eligible applicant, um, requirements. And that, um, yeah, that's what it's, that meets the eligibility, uh, criteria in section three A of the NOFO. So one thing to just give as a tip is that you should always just go, when you're looking, trying to read, um, the NOFO, it's always a good idea to go to the grants.gov, uh, webpage, and it's linked on the YHSI page just to make sure you're looking at the most recent version of the NOFO. So I think with that, we're onto the q and a section. Um, I'm actually, so that I can see the chat, I'm going to stop sharing my window. Um, and I think we're ready to, to get started. Thanks everyone. I'm turning it over to Nili now.

Speaker 2 00:07:13 Thanks, Caroline. Um, we are getting some great questions in, so I'm going to start taking those questions and turn it over. Um, the first question is, will this be recorded? Yes, this is going to be recorded and transcripts are going to be a labeled. So we will be posting this fairly soon. Um, give us a couple of days, but, um, you should see it on hot.gov, um, under YHSI website. Um, same thing for receiving slides. Uh, all information would be posted fairly soon. Um, we had a question that came in about will YHDP communities be prioritized to receive this funding? Um, Caroline, I'm going to turn it over to you for this question.

Speaker 1 00:07:59 Yeah. We aren't prioritizing YHGP funding. Um, there is one question on YHDP communities to receive Yes, E funding. I think a lot of the work that's been done in, uh, the coordinated community planning process for YHDP can be a real asset in a, um, in a YHSI application, but those, uh, plans are not, um, unique to YHDP. Um, so yeah, there's no, uh, requirement or real, uh, leg up in the competition if you are A-Y-H-D-P um, community.

Speaker 2 00:08:32 Great. Um, see, there's a question about, um, double funding. So this is about, someone said that we are A COC that covers all counties, but one county, so out of nine, they cover 90, 91 counties, uh, out of the 92. So if we wanted to apply for double funding in categories, would we need to apply with other CSC in our state in those categories?

Speaker 1 00:09:03 So that's a really good question and something that I think we're going to need to be reviewing the NOFO, um, to just determine what the answer to that is. So with that question, I think we do need to follow up, uh, with the community, if they could submit that to YHSI at HUD dot gov. Um, and let us know what state you're from, please.

Speaker 2 00:09:23 Um, kind of, this is the, uh, again, project related question. So the NOFOr references around $50 million to be distributed nationally. Um, and why approximately awarding 35 awards, that could range from 200 to 2 million. So could there be more than 35 awards? Um, for example, um, the average grant is not around 1.4 million, but perhaps around 1 million or even less. So they're wondering if there could be more than 35 grants.

Speaker 1 00:09:56 Yes. So a little secret to when we create these NOFOs is that they say, how many grants are you going to give out? And we have to guess. So that was our best guess. Um, but there's no reason to say that we can't do more or fewer than that. It's just kind of our best estimate. Um, looking at what the available funding was and what we thought the average amount would be for communities that are applying.

Speaker 2 00:10:20 Um, additional question again about, you know, um, identify projects. So, uh, de NOFO basically says that describe how partners in this applicant, um, were identified and recruited to partner in the proposed project. So do federal procurement requirements apply here? Are applicants expected to conduct RFPs to identify sub-recipients before applying, um, to accurately detail all the partnerships and budgets? Sorry, Caroline. So,

Speaker 1 00:11:03 Yeah, so I, I believe, and I, I have to say I am not an expert in federal procurement, uh, by any means. Um, I believe that there's a difference between sub-recipients, uh, sub-grantees and partners. Um, and so what we're looking for is the partners, um, of who you're bringing together. So for example, if an application is proposing that you will, that your application will create an exit strategy for child welfare system statewide, we would expect that there would be a letter of commitment from the child welfare agency that would cover that area. Um, and any partners that you identify that may also be involved in that, uh, we aren't asking that you actually identify sub-grantees or sub-recipients necessarily, but really looking at that partnership level and, and not just identifying partners that you've reached out to, but really looking at partners that, that have made a commitment to work on this application. The application only allows one applicant, right? But we are looking at this as a partnership and that's why we have those commitment requirements.

Speaker 2 00:12:04 Um, uh, this is a good question, <laugh>. So, uh, it says, how does not requiring collaborative applicant or lead agency of the COC to be applicant? You know, it would be interesting to understand why that is.

Speaker 1 00:12:19 I'm going to take that one again. Sorry. Yeah, just button in here. All, all over. Um, so that's a great question. And the yes, C is really looking at something that is a, uh, we wanted to encourage regional or statewide applications that wouldn't necessarily make sense. There would be one collaborative applicant that would designate an application. So for example, like the, the example I was just giving about a state, uh, child welfare agency creating a, uh, working with partners to create an exit strategy that isn't necessarily the guise under the guise of one COC, but could be in a variety of COCs. Additionally, we are really encouraging tribal partners, um, and other, um, entities that aren't necessarily directly connected with the COC to, uh, be to apply for these funds. So, um, we do really encourage partnerships with CoCs. That's obviously the structure in which a lot of our programs operate, but these funds are, are able to be used outside of that structure as well, which is why we don't why we changed that definition.

Speaker 2 00:13:23 So could you or Emma give examples of like, what that looks like, you know, who are the eligible applicants, um, beyond COC, um, of the lead agency?

Speaker 3 00:13:35 Yeah, I can take that one. I think we're really encouraging people to think outside of the box. Um, but we are also accepting, you know, non CoCs, we're accepting nonprofits, um, and people who work with CoCs as well,

Speaker 2 00:13:55 And schools apply for this. Schools, colleges, universities,

Speaker 1 00:14:07 Yeah, so that's definitely schools, colleges, universities are definitely eligible applicants as long as they meet the applicant eligibility, uh, standards that are outlined in, um, section three A of the NOFO. Um, specifically I will say that private institutions would not necessarily, I don't know enough about structure of, of private universities, but nonprofits are eligible for-profit entities are not eligible. And so it would really, look, I would really encourage any applicant to be looking at that eligible applicants section. I do know that we are really excited about the idea of educational partnerships of universities really looking at how they can, uh, address homelessness and risk of homelessness among their students, or even including research in part of this, or how they, they can better address that work.

Speaker 2 00:14:57 So, um, there's a question that came in is what is the level of approval that is required for applicants from their COC? Um, do you require official approval to apply from a COC board? Does that have to be documented? The COC board meeting minutes? Um, are applicant's required to have public comment period before submission?

Speaker 1 00:15:27 So there is no requirement for the COC to, to give its approval? So, um, the question, you know, the answer would be that there is no required level.

Speaker 2 00:15:47 All right. Sorry about the background there. Um, okay, so, um, oh, there's a question about, this is something in our NOFO and Caroline, I'm going to ask you to respond to this then. So can you tell me what is the difference between covering the entire state and covering at least 75% of the state? What descriptors have been used in the NOFO?

Speaker 1 00:16:14 Right. And they actually apply to different, uh, bonuses for more regional approaches. So if you look at the, um, at the allowable amount that you can, uh, apply for that is, um, I believe that's 100%. And if you look at the additional points in the rating factors, those are for up to 75%. So it's just kind of a difference in the areas. The covered, um, both of them do have, um, you know, information on if you cover more the geographic area in, in two or more COCs. Um, but again, um, you know, that's something we can look at via the, via the email questions as well if people have questions about their specific geographic area.

Speaker 2 00:17:00 Um, so this is, uh, either Emma or Caroline, um, can, can you, can we apply for each funding category or could we combine, um, two funding category?

Speaker 3 00:17:15 Yeah. So we're encouraging, um, for people to,

Speaker 2 00:17:24 Uh, Emma, I think I could not hear you. I'm not sure if others could hear you

Speaker 3 00:17:29 Microphone issues all week. Uh, we, we are encouraging people to apply for each funding category if possible.

Speaker 2 00:17:37 Your mic is still not working. It's hard to hear. Sorry,

Speaker 3 00:17:51 I,

Speaker 2 00:17:52 Yeah, that was better

Speaker 3 00:17:54 <laugh>. Um, but we are encouraging people to apply for each funding category if possible.

Speaker 2 00:18:09 Can everyone hear her? If you can know, um, Caroline, can I, um, turn it over to you while, uh, Emma tries to work under Mike? Sorry about that. Sure, sure.

Speaker 1 00:18:25 Uh, I have in the meantime now forgotten the question. I apologize.

Speaker 2 00:18:29 <laugh>. Okay. So can we apply for each funding category, could we combine, uh, you know, two categories?

Speaker 1 00:18:36 Yes. So, um, the yes, NOFO is, I think both really exciting, honestly, being, uh, hot staff, a little scary of what we're going to get in terms of how, what it's going to look like, right? So what we did was we really created these broad categories of really trying to look at both what congress wanted, what we heard from our national partners, and, um, addressing like what we've heard from communities of what is needed to really create a youth homeless response system. And we, we arranged those into those four categories. That isn't to say that you only look at one category or you look at specific things in there, but rather to look at what the need is to create such a system in your community and how it would fit into those categories. So we would really encourage people to not just stick to one category, but really look at what the need is and, and, uh, apply based on what it would look like to address that need in your community. Um, so that could be just one category, if that's what makes sense for you, or up to all four.

Speaker 2 00:19:35 Right. Thank you. So really looking at the needs of the community is, is what we're looking for. Okay. So, um, this is a question about, um, I think this, Caroline, you responded, but someone needed a little bit more clarification around, um, you know, can you explain again, if our CC applies, does that mean, um, as we, as a nonprofit and the CC cannot apply? Or do we have to ensure that the CC does not apply for the same category as we're

Speaker 1 00:20:10 No, there's no requirement that you look to see who's applying in your geographic area and then don't apply. Now, if you're a nonprofit that works closely with your COC, I would really encourage you to go forward to try to create a collaborative application, not a collaborative applicant. I shouldn't have used those words. Uh, but to work with your COC to create a, an application that would make sense for the COC, if that's what makes, what would be appropriate or, or multiple COCs, if that makes sense, uh, for your area. Um, so we do in the NOFO explain that we have, um, we do feel that geographic diversity is an important part of the awards for this, um, for this funding opportunity. So we do reserve the right to fund lower scoring applications if we need it to do so to preserve the geographic diversity. What that essentially means is that if we get of all of the top scoring applications are all in one state, we probably will skip down to some other applications to make sure we're not funding a lot of applications just in one area. So I do want to just, uh, really emphasize that partnership is a key part of this program, and it is going to really lead to better scoring, I would think, in the rating factors if you do create and establish and, and work on those partnerships, but it does not require them. Um, so you don't have to do that double check to make sure.

Speaker 2 00:21:39 Um, so this is about scoring, um, the point system, Caroline. Um, so could you please explain, uh, the preference points referenced on page 32 of the NOFO? Are these bonus points added after scoring?

Speaker 1 00:22:06 Oh, I, I think what they're referring to are the preference points in the section on the NOFO. Okay. Um, yeah, yeah. I'm guessing I'm seeing that on page 31, but I'm, that's what I'm going to answer. And if that's not correct, please put it in the chat. Um, there, actually, it's a, it's a little confusing part of a sec of the NOFO, and I apologize for that, but it does not, we don't offer any preference points. Um, there are preference points that we are allowed to offer, and we have opted not to, we have worked in some of these, um, the reason their preference points is because they are, um, real, they're, they're, uh, priorities for HUD and we've worked them into the NOFO in different ways, uh, but well for some of them. Um, so, but it, we didn't, we're not offering the preference points. We're working them in, into the rating factors in other ways.

Speaker 2 00:23:02 Great. Oh, that's a very good question. So Will YHSI actually helps supplement the heart to keep going YAB in the Y HT P community?

Speaker 1 00:23:20 Yes, definitely. Um, you'll see if you look at the, uh, partnership, the planning and partnership funding activity, a lot of those, um, eligible activities are related to, uh, creating and establishing and reinforcing and strengthening, um, the work of youth, uh, in the community, including YABs. So that is definitely something we are looking for. I think one of the up, um, ideas that we heard thrown out of like what you could use, yes, E four is even creating a statewide YAB. So creating, um, taking, you know, what are, is working in some areas and making that a statewide area and going outside of just, you know, working within the COC but working at a larger systemic level as well.

Speaker 2 00:24:10 So, um, I know you referenced airline a few minutes ago about, you know, working in collaboratively, col collaboratively with other partners. So if we are applying with partners in mind, should the partners also have to apply individually or it can one application be sufficient and we highlight all the partners there, Speaker 1 00:24:30 You should have one applicant, um, do the application and then you can work to make sure that the, uh, awards can be sub granted or have, um, subrecipients of parts of that. But we want each, uh, applicant application to reflect it one kind of overall project, right? With the associated partners, um, included in that partnership planning with their letters of commitment. Um, so it would just be one application, one lead applicant, and then we would work with you to figure out, you know, to help with that structure if needed.

Speaker 2 00:25:07 So NOFO actually says that HUD could fund up to six months for ground startup activities for the project. So what kind of startup activities are fundable?

Speaker 1 00:25:21 So that's such a great question and um, someone asked that the other day as well, and I realize I don't know that I have a great answer for what a startup, uh, cost is for community or for a project that isn't directly housing or serving youth versus one that is, um, I would think a lot of those startup costs would be associated with hiring, um, doing planning for staff, getting, uh, you know, if you need to have space set up for the project to be, uh, to, to work, then something like that. Um, so that's where I would expect some of those startup costs to be.

Speaker 2 00:25:57 Yeah. So the following question, someone did ask, um, can this funds be used for capacity building consultants or something like that?

Speaker 1 00:26:06 Yeah, it can definitely be used for capacity building for, I didn't hear that last part, but it can definitely be used for capacity building for the yap, which we would really encourage if that was the question.

Speaker 2 00:26:17 Oh, this is a good question. So if travel organizations apply, will they be, will they be required to participate in cord entry?

Speaker 1 00:26:26 No. So there's, um, there is a slide on one of the, um, on a couple of the webinars actually looking at what the difference between YHSI and YHDP is. So coordinated entry, um, is a process that any, uh, uh, funding that you would receive from the, uh, continuum of care program, from the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program or the ESG program, um, the referrals for participation in that have to go through coordinated entry. Um, and, but because these grants cannot be used to provide direct housing or services, you wouldn't actually be required to go through coordinated entry for that. Now, the one caveat I would say is that coordinated entry is actually a required, or is a possible category that you can get funding for. And we would expect that the coordinated entry systems that are used within that would follow our guidance, uh, for establishing a coordinated entry system, um, which is in a notice that we published in 2017. I can put the link in the chat. Um, but what we wouldn't, we wouldn't be looking for an external different way of doing coordinated entry necessarily if you are a tribal organization, but you certainly accepting the funding doesn't require you to use tribal, uh, use coordinated entry for other projects.

Speaker 2 00:27:46 Okay, got it. So, um, okay. If a collaborative applicant or, or an applicant applies or receives the SE funding, are they still eligible to receive a YTP grant in 2024? Would you encourage a yes E recipient to, uh, still apply for Y HTP during the, um, grant period?

Speaker 1 00:28:08 Yeah, that's a great question and we have heard that in a couple different ways. Um, and when we have discussed what Ys E could look like, uh, if you have no interest in A-Y-H-G-P or if you've already been A-Y-H-D-P, um, so I think that there's a lot of work that could be done through the YI funding. Uh, if you've already had A-Y-H-D-P and you're using that funding through the YHSI to really work on specific aspects of the coordinated community plan that you maybe can go to the next step on, right? Maybe you're ready to take that next big move with getting data sharing with other partners and it was identified as a want during the planning, but you didn't have the opportunity to do it, that's a great opportunity. If you have not had A-Y-H-D-P, it's a really great opportunity to start identifying those partners and getting the systems in place so that when you get A-Y-H-D-P, those projects are going to be working much more smoothly and much more effectively. And if you don't have interest in YHDP, I think you should look at it. Because I really like the YHDP, but it isn't a required, uh, match there. But I think that the YHDP funds, and yes, e can go really well together, either if you've already had YHDP or if you haven't had it, but you're thinking of applying.

Speaker 2 00:29:23 Um, so this is, um, oh, actually this is a follow up to that preference points question. Um, Caroline, so it says in the NOFO, um, on that, I think it's on page 31, order 13, uh, 9 85, you may receive up to two preference points if you're an applicant designated as a minority serving institution.

Speaker 1 00:29:52 Yeah. And again, this is just a really confusing, um, area of the NOFO, and I apologize for that. We, um, have language in what's called the template, and that template is, is mandatory. So if you see it says you could receive up to two points, and then I believe later it says, but we are not offering those points. So, um, yeah, so if you see there's a paragraph that says, pursuant to some executive orders, you may receive up to two preference points if you are designated as a minority serving institution. And then the next line says, this program does not offer preference points related to minority serving institutions. Why we would have that first paragraph when we then say it's not eligible. I don't, I can't answer that. I'm sorry. We did try to get that removed and, um, it just, it, it needs to stay there, I guess. So, um, we do, um, really encourage, I will say, working with minority certain institutions and HBCUs. And you can see we referenced that a few, uh, several times in the NOFO of really trying to consider, um, MSIs and HBCUs as partners and looking to, to see if there, uh, would be some good projects that would involve or be led by those institutions. Uh, but no, we are not offering those preference points.

Speaker 2 00:31:16 Um, so I know you mentioned in the last slide was about the sections that were updated. So someone asked if you could clarify what that is, um, especially around the affirmative marketing, um, piece that was removed from the NOFO. Um, if someone needed some additional information on that,

Speaker 1 00:31:39 On the affirmative marketing. So the affirmative marketing language is specifically saying that, um, you need to show how you're doing affirmative marketing for the, um, the people that you are housing or serving, uh, or providing services to. And again, because this, uh, NOFO is, um, not, these funds cannot be used to directly provide housing or services, um, or indirectly, you can't, you can't provide housing or services with these funds. These are really system level funds. Um, there's no reason to be having required language on affirmative marketing if the affirmative marketing language doesn't apply. Again, this was a little snafu with our template. Um, there were just a few extra boxes clicked right before they were published, and we, we didn't notice them right away. So we absolutely support affirmative marketing. I will say affirmative marketing is a requirement, uh, under all coordinated entry systems. So it's something you'll need to think about if you are doing your coordinated entry system, but you won't be actually, you could do actually the affirmative marketing or improve your affirmative marketing using yes e funds, but it's just that that requirement for a submission of language just didn't apply to this.

Speaker 1 00:32:50 This NOFO, it does apply to other, um, COC funds and YHGP funds that serve, directly serve, um, people using through housing and services. So we definitely stand behind it. It just didn't make sense in to have that requirement in this NOFO.

Speaker 2 00:33:08 Right. Um, so there's a question about eligible activities that is listed in the NOFO. Um, are those the only reliable activities or, um, or we could propose additional activities?

Speaker 1 00:33:26 So when we created those activities, we really were trying to, um, both think and, um, speak broadly. So if it's something that's within the spirit of those four categories and something that's indicated there, then that is something that you should, you should include. If you have questions about specific op, um, activities, um, I would re recommend that you email us at YHSI at HUD dot gov to see if that makes sense within these. So, you know, you can see like we have question or we have things about system mapping and planning. Well, what does that mean? It can mean kind of a variety of things. So I would really encourage, if you have questions about that, definitely just write us, uh, an email. We're turning around questions within about a week at least now. Um, so, um, just if you have questions, please feel free to email us there.

Speaker 2 00:34:16 Great. Um, all right. So will reviewers actually have access to performance measures of current YHTP projects

Speaker 1 00:34:30 Of current YHTP projects?

Speaker 2 00:34:33 Yeah, and I don't know who, um, the reviewers they're referencing here. Is it internal, local or are they asking on the No phone, like are on, on hub side?

Speaker 1 00:34:47 Um, so the YHDP performance metrics are very similar to the ones that we have for the COC program, but we do look at some other data points including, um, oh man, I knew this answer when we had the 2022 data standards, and I am forgetting what the differences are now for the 2024 because a lot of our work impacted that. Um, we, uh, we do look at some data, um, including language that, like cross crosses, like how many youth of color are, um, have a positive school status or how many, um, L-G-B-T-Q youth are, um, have increased income. Um, so we do a lot of, um, additional work with in within YHDP in terms of data collection and reporting, and that would be something that could be really great within a YHSI rant. Um, if you have questions about that again, um, I don't know if we have that published or where we have it published, if we do. Um, but it is available, it is public information, so you can again, just email YHSI at HUD dot gov and we can help connect you with that.

Speaker 2 00:35:57 Great. Uh, alright, so, um, I like this question. So this is about could there be a way for HUD to incorporate a YTP application into the CC NOFO in the same way that HUD has added a dv uh, the domestic violence sustainable bonus into the, to the yearly CC NOFO?

Speaker 1 00:36:20 Well, Nili, it kind of sounds like people don't want to be answering no fos year round, and I can't imagine that that's the case. Um, so I, I guess I'll just say that sounds like a really great idea and we should look into that. Um, I definitely understand that we have a lot of no foes happening all the time, uh, and we feel that because we are also reading and reviewing all those all the time. So I would love it if we could simplify all of our lives and try to get this all together. That being said, a lot of that comes from how our, uh, funding is appropriated from Congress. And so it's often not something that we can actually change, uh, within HUD. It's something that Congress would need to address. Um, but yeah, we will definitely look into that.

Speaker 2 00:37:07 Yeah. Um, all right. So, um, a little bit more about the, um, compensation or salary. So can activities include providing staff salary and benefits relevant to planning needs? Um, this is actually beyond the compensation for, um, the app members?

Speaker 1 00:37:30 Yeah, that's a great question. I just want to clarify too, and Emma, please correct me if I'm wrong, I am not trying to answer all these questions, but my understanding is that Emma's microphone is still giving her trouble. So I'm sorry if you're getting sick of my voice. I am too. Um, so if you look within each of the categories, the eligible funding categories, um, those, um, categories don't say staff salary, but they mean like if you're developing a community-wide partnership, some of that will include staff time, um, and staff salaries. So if you are paying staff to do that, if you're bringing in a consultant, those are eligible costs as long as they're working on the eligible activities that are outlined in the NOFO. I do want to stress one thing though. These are one time funds, right? The, the projects at the most can last for 30 months.

Speaker 1 00:38:15 And so one thing we do expect people to do is think about how we understand that a lot of work in systems really require a large upfront investment, but they do require ongoing costs, right? In terms of salaries, in terms of system, you know, infrastructure, things like that. And we want YAI to be used for that one-time investment. It's really can only be used for that one-time investment. And we do ask you to really identify how you'll maintain those, um, ongoing costs. Um, and that's actually even a question in the rating factor. So it's something to be thinking about,

Speaker 2 00:38:49 Right? Um, so this an again, interesting question. So can these actually funds be used to pay pre documented, um, youth participating in the app? And when they say pre documented means like asylum and immigrant asylum seeking or immigrants,

Speaker 1 00:39:11 I would talk to your council, um, about how you are structuring pay and what the requirements for documentation would be. Uh, I think a lot of that would be, um, relevant to employment law and possibly state and local law. So it's not something that I think we can answer here. Um, but um, you know, it's definitely something to explore different types of payment, um, and structures that you may be able to, um, to help, uh, to bring, to pay the pre documented youth.

Speaker 2 00:39:44 Okay. <laugh>, I like this question too. So will the YHDP NOFO be delayed so that the Yes. Have a chance to respond? I am sure everyone is tired of responding to all the NOFO. Um,

Speaker 1 00:40:00 Well,

Speaker 2 00:40:01 Yeah, <laugh>,

Speaker 1 00:40:03 I hope not because we need to get on the faster cycle with YHDP, but I will say that we, a lot of the questions you're going to see in the yes, NOFO may look very familiar to the y some of the YHDP questions from pre previous years. So one place that I would start your YHSI application is, you know, go through those rating factors, look at your, any previous YHDP applications you may have submitted, and see if some of that, those responses can be used or, or, you know, modified to answer these, we don't. If you can use past responses, um, that is a great idea. So I would dust those off and, and take a look as a first step.

Speaker 2 00:40:44 Great. So, um, can a nonprofit actually work with more than one state or tribe on different applications if they're not the primary applicant,

Speaker 1 00:40:56 If they're not the lead applicant? Yes. Mm-Hmm, <affirmative>.

Speaker 2 00:41:02 All right. Um, so Caroline, did I understand, um, you correctly that the ytp office at HUD or via, uh, or via yes, C HUD dot gov could provide us with use specific data for region and or state if we reach out to you?

Speaker 1 00:41:23 Uh, we're not going to provide you specific data. Uh, what we can do is there are specific data. Um, there's a, what we call a supplemental reporting tool, uh, in the, uh, as a requirement for the YHDP, um, project recipients. That's something that we can share. Um, it, but if you're doing data in terms of need or the such, um, that's something you'll need to gather on your own. Um, there is a lot of data on the HUD site. Uh, you could look at, um, you know, your Stella, um, tool to see what's going on in your, your COC or if you're a regional or a statewide applicant, you could look at that. Um, you could look at the point in time data and the, um, housing inventory count. Um, so we definitely have data, but we're not going to provide that for you via the, the, um, email box. But if anyone's interested in that, uh, supplemental reporting tool, I think we have it posted somewhere. So I'm just kind of drawing a blank on it right now. Not we need to post it. Micah, really good job getting all those links in. You're quick.

Speaker 2 00:42:24 Um, all right. So our YSTP grant recipient applications published,

Speaker 1 00:42:34 No.

Speaker 2 00:42:36 So I think this is about the Appendix A of our NOFO, um, that covers the project application information.

Speaker 1 00:42:48 I think you're getting YHDP and yes, E next up. Um, so there is no applica, there's no appendix, uh, for Yes.

Speaker 2 00:42:57 And, uh, I meant for that question, for Y HDP specifically, they were asking, and so I'm, I

Speaker 1 00:43:03 Dunno. Oh, I'm assuming they

Speaker 2 00:43:04 Were asking Yeah,

Speaker 1 00:43:06 The project applications under YHDP, if we publish those, we don't publish the applications. Um, I do believe we have to do some reporting via the federal register that says who has received HUD funds. Um, maybe, is that right, Nili?

Speaker 2 00:43:21 Yeah. Okay. All right. Um, while we are waiting to see additional questions come in, I am going to ask a question about match requirement, um, for YHSI. Caroline, could you actually, Caroline and Emma, I don’t know if Emma's mic is working, but could you talk about what is the match requirement for YHSI?

Speaker 3 00:43:48 This is working a little bit. Okay. Um, yeah, so I'll try to do a little bit fast. So YHSI, we don't, we require cost sharing or matching, but applicants, they can receive the maximum number of points on the budget question if they can demonstrate, um, through some kind of letter or commitment or other documentation that they will receive 10% of the total budget amount requested from other sources. Hopefully people heard, but <laugh>, I'll repeat or put in the chat if,

Speaker 2 00:44:32 What is the age of youth that we should be, you know, working here? Is this a similar YHDP?

Speaker 3 00:44:44 So it has to be before Youth's 25th birthday.

Speaker 2 00:45:01 So with, um, we're partnering with, um, state balance state make US eligible, um, for the regional approach.

Speaker 1 00:45:18 Yeah, so a balance of state will be a really great, um, partner, um, to be looking with. Um, the application for, again, we would be looking, um, balance of states can really vary in geographic size. Um, so the way that we wrote the NOFO was trying to, um, acknowledge those, those different sizes and geographical coverage of those larger COCs. Um, but yeah, a, a co a balance of state I think would be a really great place to be looking at the systemic change.

Speaker 2 00:45:53 So, um, why YSCP is, you know, really heavily focused on homelessness, um, young adults. Um, is this a work truly targeted for youth prevention and the flow of foster care, the, you know, the Department of Justice, the department of Juvenile justice, uh, RHYN under 18 into homelessness?

Speaker 1 00:46:15 Yeah, so the YSI grants can really look at, we want you to take a look at what the youth homeless response system is, and that includes working how you work with youth who are already experiencing homelessness, but also looking at the inflow in your system and how to prevent, uh, homelessness. So you prevent that, that inflow. Um, so we would really encourage, um, you know, the com, um, applicants to, to partner with justice with, um, child welfare. Also, you know, there's uh, a recent pilot project that was announced from our, um, partners at, um, Famililly Youth Services Bureau at HHS for some prevention. Um, I think there are a lot of prevention initiatives across the state or across the United States. So I think that's a really great place to look, uh, for partners. So it is a little different right from a lot of the things that we do in snaps because usually we are looking only at working with, uh, youth or people experiencing homelessness. So this is really taking a step back and figuring out how you can get your community down to functional zero, or how you can prevent and end youth homelessness in your, in your community and planning on how to do that.

Speaker 2 00:47:24 Okay. Uh, can you, um, tell us, us, uh, Caroline, the required application materials say that we need to have a budget that includes a variety of costs. So is there a form or a tool that would be, uh, that, you know, people should use?

Speaker 1 00:47:42 So there isn't a required tool, so we want people to use what, um, what makes sense for them. I will say that there is a form that if you choose to use it, you may be able, that might be a good tool or reference. And it covers the materials that are required under the required application materials. That's called the, and it, this is a fun one, A 4 2 4 CBW. Um, but we'll put the link in the chat for that. Um, it might be just a good thing to have handy, even if you choose not to use it. Again, it's not required, but, um, it could be a good tool for you.

Speaker 2 00:48:14 So the required application material says that we need to have a list of other garment assistance received. So is there a form or a tool again for that, that we should be using?

Speaker 1 00:48:26 Yeah, that's a similar answer. So again, there's no required form for that, but there is a form that recover or that covers those. Um, the, the information that's required in there that is called the HUD form 2, 2 8 8 0. Again, it really flows off the tongue. Uh, and we will put links to both the PDF and the word documents, uh, files for that. Um, again, it's not required, but it may be a good tool and if you do want to use it, you're welcome to.

Speaker 2 00:48:57 Um, alright. Um, there are two additional questions that came in to chat. Um, someone asked the NOFA notes that the TA will be included if the provider of at no, uh, TA public, uh, who would be providing that assistance be selected? Uh, the assistance to selected applicants. So is the TA information being public?

Speaker 1 00:49:27 Um, so we have a variety of TA providers that we use for youth homelessness. Um, the, I don't know that we have a list published anywhere, but it is public information. Um, we have not finalized what the structure of the TA will look like, but we do think it will be along the lines of, um, of, um, communities of interests. So if we have a number of communities, like if we have a few applications that we fund that are specifically for exit strategies from child welfare, for example, that would make sense to really have as, um, kind of a group learning tool that's supported by one of our UTA providers, um, for communities, you know, that if, if they're doing a lot of in depth work with increasing the capacity of their yass, we would probably look at creating a group there. Um, there probably will be some direct ta, meaning one-on-one TA between a TA provider and your community. But again, that's all kind of, it's all kind of evolving and we're determining what that will look like. Uh, finally, if you have questions about who our TA providers are, happy to share that.

Speaker 2 00:50:29 Okay. Um, Caroline, can you please clarify the prohibitions and funds used for housing and services? This is particularly around, uh, improving corner entry category, um, in some communities because that's going to be, you know, very much involved in creating services I related to position.

Speaker 1 00:50:49 That's a really good question and it isn't. So, um, that's one of the things that, you know, if you are creating a coordinated entry system, so if you're setting up a new, um, a new assessment location or you're developing, um, a use specific, uh, assessment tool, for example, those would be eligible uses of the YHSI funds. It would not be an eligible use of the funds to be paying the case managers that would be doing those assessments for doing the assessments. Now, if the case managers are also working on creating a specific tool, that time could be billed to the YHSI, but the time that's spent, that's actually spent assessing and assisting youth through the coordinated entry project is not, um, is not an eligible use of the YHSI funds.

Speaker 2 00:51:39 Um, do you see any, um, possible disadvantages of partnering up?

Speaker 1 00:51:45 No, I only see advantages, honestly. I think that's going to make a much stronger application.

Speaker 2 00:51:54 Um, I mean

Speaker 1 00:51:57 As, as long as your partners are like, as long as that makes sense, then I see only advantages probably didn't need it.

Speaker 2 00:52:04 Yes. Um, can we offer rental assistance as compensation?

Speaker 1 00:52:16 I didn't quite hear that. Nili, could you repeat the

Speaker 2 00:52:18 Question? Yeah. Can we offer rental assistance as compensation?

Speaker 1 00:52:25 No. You know, you can, you can provide funding to people that are doing the work, but you may not. And that would be just, you know, give them funding and they can use that for rental assistance, but you can't like trade a voucher for them to work on a project.

Speaker 2 00:52:45 Right. Okay. Um, someone asked, um, where can I find the eligible expense form? I think like, uh, you put it in the chat, right?

Speaker 5 00:53:05 That was the budget worksheet. Um, I don't know the eligible expense form that was a airline reference.

Speaker 1 00:53:18 Okay. Uh, well we don't, we don't have an eligible expense form. We have eligible expenses as they're outlined in the, the NOFO Mm-Hmm. Which you can get from grants.gov. Um, but the only you know forms, I, I hope the only forms I've referred to are the ones that you could use, uh, both for budgeting or listing your other, uh, government assistance that your a, um, organization gets.

Speaker 2 00:53:45 Um, that's a, this is a good question. So, um, question one, under the proposed project activity seems like it would be answered easier using a logic model type table along with some narrative. So can we use tables in the rating factor, uh, narrative?

Speaker 1 00:54:07 Yes. Uh, you'll want to be mindful of space, um, because there is a 25 page limit there. But if it makes sense for things to be in a table, we love when things are in tables because they're often easier to read.

Speaker 2 00:54:24 Um, what are the eligible sources of match for match? Can we use COC dollars such as hundred entry or

Speaker 1 00:54:44 Planning? So there isn't actually a match requirement for thee funds. You can get additional funding for, um, for leverage for the project. And that's outlined in the rating factors. Um, what you would want to look for is determining whether, um, you know, the, the leverage really needs to be looking at how it's going to direct, um, be assisting this direct project. Um, and you would want to be explaining that and then making sure that anything you propose as leverage is allowed to be used as leverage from that source. So if you have a, a funding source that says it can't be used as a leverage, then, then that wouldn't be allowable

Speaker 2 00:55:24 Are APRs required for these projects. I mean, for this brand,

Speaker 1 00:55:31 No. Uh, APRs are a specific requirement of the COC projects and the YHDP projects, but not of YHSI projects.

Speaker 2 00:55:42 Okay. Um, is there a template for the milestone tracker?

Speaker 1 00:55:49 No, that would've been nice, huh? Um, I think, you know, just a general kind of table that's looking at the required elements of the column would seem very nice.

Speaker 2 00:56:07 Okay. Uh, okay. If we were awarded funds, what leverage documentation would be required to submit?

Speaker 1 00:56:22 So the documentation for leverage is really at the application stage. So we would be looking for, um, indications that you have that leverage, uh, within the required, um, in, in, in response to the rating factors. But as an ongoing thing, we don't require match or a specific form of leverage. So that's not something we would be, we would be following up with you on after the initial determination that you do have leverage in terms of whether you were awarded the SE funds.

Speaker 2 00:56:56 Um, someone is talking about the grants.gov, um, you know, especially very confusing when, uh, they're attempting to upload documents. Is there any guidance on that process?

Speaker 1 00:57:10 So the NOFO has a section in it that outlines who to call for help for, uh, grants.gov. Um, we are not the people that can help with that. I'm so sorry, but I, I think the people@thegrants.gov helpline are actually quite helpful. Um, so I would look at there, if you're having a hard time accessing the NOFO, um, feel free to send us, uh, an email at YHSI at HUD dot gov and we can, um, or you, you could just look at Micah who's quick on the draw and we'll put the support link in there, uh, and you can contact them.

Speaker 2 00:57:42 All right, so we're four o'clock. Um, I will take one last question here and then, um, you know, um, the session, but we definitely, you know, reach out to us, use the <inaudible> email box and email us if you have additional questions. Uh, so just one last question, Caroline. Um, could you, um, you know, again, repeat, I know you said this earlier, but if an applicant applied for all four project types, what is the no for referencing on page 17? Section test number six.

Speaker 1 00:58:19 Oh, we're getting into sections. Hold on. <laugh>. Okay, so we're looking at

Speaker 2 00:58:39 Section, um, page 17, section F number six.

Speaker 1 00:58:43 Okay. Oh yeah. So we're looking for if what we don't want is application we don't want every organization to send us for applications or like 20 applications, you can have up to two. Uh, one can be, and it you can only have two if one is a statewide um, application and one is a non statewide application. Now that doesn't mean you can't partner in other applications, but if commute, if um, like nonprofit a wants to submit an application, they can submit one application, they can include up to all four of those eligible activities, but they can't submit any other applications unless they get a statewide application going with partners statewide and they can be the lead applicant there. But that nonprofit a could be a partner in a different person or a different community's um, application or a different organization's application. It just may want, you want people to kind of take a step back and think, um, probably what, what makes the most sense for this project, right? Because when you apply for the se, that is your project and if you're funded you will have a grant agreement, uh, and you will be expected to do all of the activities that you outlined in your milestone chart and in your project proposal. So it isn't an opportunity I wouldn't think to just kind of do a lot of quantity, but really look at what the quality of, um, the project application will be and what work you want to do with your partners.

Speaker 2 01:00:15 Great. Thank you Caroline. Thank you everyone for staying extra two minutes. We really appreciate your time and look forward to reading your applications. If you have questions, please email the <inaudible> email box. We look forward, you know, to responding to you quickly and you know, keep the questions going because that really helps us inform, um, as well as better, you know, respond to the questions. So thank you again for your time. Thanks Caroline. Thanks Emma. Thanks Micah. Um, and we'll be in touch. Bye everyone.

Speaker 0 01:00:52 Thank you very much for your time. This concludes our conference. You may now all disconnect.