

Before Starting the Special CoC Application

You must submit both of the following parts in order for us to consider your Special NOFO Consolidated Application complete:

1. the CoC Application, and
2. the CoC Priority Listing.

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

As the Collaborative Applicant, you are responsible for reviewing the following:

1. The Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (Special NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The Special NOFO Continuum of Care (CoC) Application Detailed Instructions for Collaborative Applicants which provide additional information and guidance for completing the application.
3. All information provided to ensure it is correct and current.
4. Responses provided by project applicants in their Project Applications.
5. The application to ensure all documentation, including attachment are provided.

CoC Approval is Required before You Submit Your CoC's Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application

- 24 CFR 578.9 requires you to compile and submit the Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application on behalf of your CoC.
- 24 CFR 578.9(b) requires you to obtain approval from your CoC before you submit the Consolidated Application into e-snaps.

Answering Multi-Part Narrative Questions

Many questions require you to address multiple elements in a single text box. Number your responses to correspond with multi-element questions using the same numbers in the question. This will help you organize your responses to ensure they are complete and help us to review and score your responses.

Attachments

Questions requiring attachments to receive points state, "You must upload the [Specific Attachment Name] attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen." Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed—including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process. Include a cover page with the attachment name.

- Attachments must match the questions they are associated with—if we do not award points for evidence you upload and associate with the wrong question, this is not a valid reason for you to appeal HUD's funding determination.
- We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).

1A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Identification

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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1A-1. CoC Name and Number: GA-501 - Georgia Balance of State CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

1A-5.	New Projects	
	Complete the chart below by indicating which funding opportunity(ies) your CoC applying for projects under. A CoC may apply for funding under both set asides; however, projects funded through the rural set aside may only be used in rural areas, as defined in the Special NOFO.	
1.	Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside	Yes
2.	Rural Homelessness Set Aside	Yes

1B. Project Capacity, Review, and Ranking–Local Competition

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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1B-1.	Web Posting of Your CoC Local Competition Deadline–Advance Public Notice. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Deadline attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC published the deadline for project application submission for your CoC's local competition.	08/09/2022

1B-2.	Project Review and Ranking Process Your CoC Used in Its Local Competition. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.a.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Scoring Tool attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ranked and selected new project applications during your CoC's local competition:	
	1. Established total points available for each project application type.	Yes
	2. At least 33 percent of the total points were based on objective criteria for the project application (e.g., cost effectiveness, timely draws, utilization rate, match, leverage), performance data, type of population served (e.g., DV, youth, Veterans, chronic homelessness), or type of housing proposed (e.g., PSH, RRH).	Yes
	3. At least 20 percent of the total points were based on system performance criteria for the project application (e.g., exits to permanent housing destinations, retention of permanent housing, length of time homeless, returns to homelessness).	No

1B-3.	Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	1. Did your CoC reject or reduce any project application(s)?	Yes
	2. Did your CoC inform the applicants why their projects were rejected or reduced?	Yes
	3. If you selected yes, for element 1 of this question, enter the date your CoC notified applicants that their project applications were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, list the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 6/26/22, 6/27/22, and 6/28/22, then you must enter 6/28/22.	09/30/2022

1B-3a.	Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Accepted attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC notified project applicants that their project applications were accepted and ranked on the New Priority Listings in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, list the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 6/26/22, 6/27/22, and 6/28/22, then you must enter 6/28/22.	09/30/2022
1B-4.	Web Posting of the CoC-Approved Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Web Posting–Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC posted its Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application on the CoC’s website or affiliate’s website–which included: 1. the CoC Application, and 2. Priority Listings.	10/18/2022

2A. System Performance

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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2A-1.	Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless—Risk Factors.	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.b.	
	Describe in the field below:	
1.	how your CoC determined which risk factors your CoC uses to identify persons becoming homeless for the first time;	
2.	how your CoC addresses individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless; and	
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time or to end homelessness for individuals and families.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC utilizes national literature and feedback from local providers to identify relevant risk factors for first time homelessness. Additionally, the CoC utilizes a diversion and prevention screening tool as part of the coordinated entry process to collect data on homeless and at-risk individuals and households seeking housing assistance, and provide training at least annually. This tool is integrated in the HMIS system. This data, along with other HMIS data, will be analyzed as part of the ongoing evaluation why people experience homelessness for the first time in the BoS CoC. This analysis will influence changes and improvements to the CoC's coordinated entry strategy, including the assessment tool and process, marketing strategy, and CE Written Standards, Policies and Procedures.

To address individuals and families at risk of being homeless, rapid resolution and crisis management training will be offered not less than annually to CoC members, CE assessment staff, and partner agencies. BoS staff are certified in rapid resolution training and train the trainer, to provide this training. This strategy is specifically focused on first time homeless and how to rapidly exit them to housing, conflict resolution, and client empowerment.

The CoC actively coordinates with the statewide ESG program (housed under the collaborative applicant) and homeless prevention projects funded through other local ESG entitlements to reduce the number of first time homeless households. SSVF also provides homeless prevention for veterans in a large portion of the CoC.

The Collaborative Applicant works closely with the team administering the statewide Emergency Rental Assistance Program and has marketed through the CoC, so funds can reach those most in need. With the 80% AMI threshold the ERA program is significant in preventing homelessness. Since the program's inception in March of 2021 over \$378 million has been distributed to landlords and tenants.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as the Collaborative Applicant, is responsible for overseeing this strategy.

2A-2.	Length of Time Homeless–Strategy to Reduce. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.c.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless;	
	2. how your CoC identifies and houses individuals and persons in families with the longest lengths of time homeless; and	
	3. provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

The strategy of the CoC to reduce the length of time homeless is centered around the coordinated entry system and rapid re-housing. All aspects of coordinated entry access points are intended to be low barrier and housing focused, including emergency shelters. Quick and immediate access to shelter with a focus on connecting individuals and families to appropriate permanent housing and supportive services options will ultimately reduce the length of time homeless for those who engage the system.

The CoC continues to encourage a robust outreach strategy and expand partnerships with local providers. The ultimate goal of these focused efforts is to connect persons experiencing homelessness to our coordinated entry system and as a result to housing opportunities. Through collaboration with the HOME-ARP team overseeing the states allocation 250 new permanent housing units will be developed over the next 5 years. These units will be filled leveraging the existing CES and staffing capacity will be increased to accommodate this plan. Additionally through the implementation of the EHV program CES is quickly identifying eligible individuals and completing referrals to collaborative applicant staff. Increase in staff, affordable housing stock and voucher availability help to address the length of time a person experiences homelessness.

Length of time homeless is a BoS prioritization factor for coordinated entry, and the CoC assessment tool collects information on length of time homeless. HMIS data may also be used to determine length of time homeless when applicable. This is primarily how the CoC identifies those with the longest length of time homeless.

CoC Coordinated Entry (CE) policy requires rapid response to referrals with a timeline to respond to referrals within 7 days. The CoC has also deployed a diversion strategy to encourage rapid resolution.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as the Collaborative Applicant, is responsible for overseeing this strategy.

2A-3.	Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention. (All Applicants)	
Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.d.		
Describe in the field below how your CoC will increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in:		
1.	emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations; and	
2.	permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC's strategy to increase the rate at which households in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and rapid re-housing exit to permanent destinations is based on the Housing First approach. This is communicated through training and technical assistance, and is built into the local coordinated entry planning process. In 2020, the CoC launched a CoC preference HCV in partnership with the state housing authority with the goal of furthering a moving on strategy to assist residents of PH projects maintain permanent housing. In 2021 the CoC in partnership with two housing authorities launched the EHV program. Incorporating these vouchers into our CES allows a greater opportunity for those in homeless interventions to exit to a permanent housing destination. The Collaborative Applicant has continued Technical Assistance to providers on eligibility, referral, and housing search and placement. The collaborative applicant has collaborated with the Team administering the States' HOME-ARP allocation. Their allocation plan concentrates on the development of new units in rural areas. The plan is to develop 250 permanent units over the next five years and to fill those units leveraging the CoC's coordinated entry process. Increasing affordable housing stock will be helpful in increasing permanent housing exits.

Exits to permanent housing from PH projects other than RRH have been stable, ranging from 92% to 93% over the last four years. The CoC continues to emphasize a Housing First approach in which clients are not terminated from projects unreasonably. This approach, paired with appropriate services and case management, will ensure that households are not discharged from PSH into destinations that are not permanent. The CoC also encourages follow-up on clients exiting projects to ensure that they are able to maintain housing after discharge.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as the Collaborative Applicant, is responsible for overseeing these strategies.

2A-4.	Returns to Homelessness–CoC's Strategy to Reduce Rate. (All Applicants)	
Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.e.		
Describe in the field below:		
1.	how your CoC identifies individuals and families who return to homelessness;	
2.	your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness; and	
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families return to homelessness.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC utilizes the SPMs and the LSA insights to identify recidivism within the CoC homeless crisis response system. The CoC implemented a strategy to utilize the Stella Performance Module and HMIS data to identify and analyze the percentage of households that returned to the homeless system bi-annually. CoC staff members can utilize data to strategically assess programmatic areas of needed training and resources pertaining to client housing stability, financial stability, or other as determined. The CoC believes the provision and implementation of these trainings and resources, developed specifically as a result of data analysis, will reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness. Additionally, the CoC's strategy includes the continued development of a system wide performance plan based on SPMs, incorporating the returns to homelessness population. This will allow the CoC to utilize multiple data sources to identify projects struggling with this measure, investigate common risk factors, and provide targeted technical assistance.

Housing First and appropriate supportive services will be emphasized throughout the system to minimize the chances of a household exiting in to a situation that would likely result in a return to homelessness. The CoC also encourages follow-up case management in order to monitor households and provide necessary support after project exit to identify and assist households that may be at risk for returning to homelessness.

The CoC is also diligently working to create formalized opportunities for persons to increase income through employment, gain increased access to mainstream benefits, and have appropriate and increased subsidized housing available. The collaborative applicant's PHA Administrative Plan (149 counties) has a supply of HCV for persons who are homeless and referred by the CoC.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as the Collaborative Applicant, oversees this strategy.

2A-5.	Increasing Employment Cash Income–Strategy. (All Applicants)	
Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.f.		
Describe in the field below:		
1.	the strategy your CoC has implemented to increase employment cash sources;	
2.	how your CoC works with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families increase their cash income; and	
3.	provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase income from employment.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC’s strategy to increase non-employment cash income is to increase outreach and information sharing through the Coordinated Entry System. Additionally, the CoC works with a collaborative group of agencies that includes the Dept of Family and Children Services, Technical Schools and Workforce Division of Georgia, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Youth Action board along with representation from grant recipients. This collaboration is currently developing a sustainable process that creates access to non-employment cash income for participants when appropriate.

Through Coordinated Entry and development of the collaborative group of state agencies and grant recipients, the CoC can identify participants in need of non-employment cash resources. The CoC is developing a regional structure that supports prompt identification of participants to connect them rapidly to the non-employment cash resources. CoC will work with our agency partners to identify internal programs focus areas to ensure participants needing these resources are being directed to the correct interventions whether it is Diversion, Prevention or Homeless services.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as the Collaborative Applicant, oversees this strategy.

	<p>2A-5a. Increasing Non-employment Cash Income–Strategy. (All Applicants)</p>	
	<p>Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.f.</p>	
	<p>Describe in the field below:</p>	
	<p>1. the strategy your CoC has implemented to increase non-employment cash income;</p>	
	<p>2. your CoC’s strategy to increase access to non-employment cash sources; and</p>	
	<p>3. provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC’s strategy to increase non-employment cash income.</p>	

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC continues to collaborate with the statewide ESG entitlement, which distributes state funding for employment support and child care to move clients to work. CoC grant recipients work with participants to connect them with appropriate employment supports. Through the CoC NOFO competition policy, the CoC requires applicants to provide a written narrative detailing how they work with local employment agencies and employers to prioritize training and employment opportunities for participants, or how project will do so going forward.

Specifically for youth, the CoC is developing a strategy to engage workforce development through the CoC's Youth Homelessness Advisory Committee to increase employment opportunities. Local coordinated entry planning brings appropriate employment related agencies into the planning process whenever possible.

The CoC works with the Department of Labor and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) on the CoC Board. Each of these agencies holds a seat on the Board as defined in the CoC Governance Charter. This ensures that the overall CoC strategy is informed by these agencies. DBHDD contracts with providers to operate supportive employment services, which offers counseling, helps participants identify vocational skills and interests, and facilitates job searches to obtain employment in an integrated community setting.

2B. Coordination and Engagement–Inclusive Structure and Participation

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2B-1.	Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Sections VII.B.3.a.(1)	
	In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022:	
	1. select yes or no in the chart below if the entity listed participates in CoC meetings, voted—including selecting CoC Board members, and participated in your CoC’s coordinated entry system; or	
	2. select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist in your CoC’s geographic area:	

	Organization/Person	Participated in CoC Meetings	Voted, Including Electing of CoC Board Members	Participated in CoC’s Coordinated Entry System
1.	Affordable Housing Developer(s)	No	No	No
2.	Agencies serving survivors of human trafficking	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
5.	CoC-Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
6.	Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes	No
7.	Disability Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
9.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	Hospital(s)	No	No	Yes
12.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent	No	No
13.	Law Enforcement	Yes	Yes	Yes
14.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	No
15.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	No	No	No
16.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	Yes
17.	Local Jail(s)	Yes	No	Yes
18.	Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes

20.	Non-CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
21.	Non-CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
22.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes	Yes	Yes
23.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	No	No	No
24.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes	No	No
25.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	No
26.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
29.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
30.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
31.	Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	Youth Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)			
33.	Us Dept of Veterans Affairs	Yes	Yes	Yes
34.	Ga Dept of Labor	Yes	Yes	No

2B-2.	Open Invitation for New Members. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(2), V.B.3.g.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	communicated the invitation process annually to solicit new members to join the CoC;
2.	ensured effective communication with individuals with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats;
3.	conducted outreach to ensure persons experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless persons are encouraged to join your CoC; and
4.	invited organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in the geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, other People of Color, persons with disabilities).

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC sends out an email notice to interested parties located within or providing services to people experiencing homelessness in the Balance of State's jurisdiction to solicit membership (over 1,100 people) annually. In addition, the CoC's web site includes an open invitation process for becoming a member. The CoC also solicits new members through DCA's Coordinated Entry Coordinators in local planning sessions and at technical assistance/training sessions provided by the CoC. Finally, the CoC has targeted a number of providers who are based in other CoCs. Many of these agencies are directly recruited to join the Balance of State CoC and apply for funding in areas with unmet needs. This approach has been very successful in growing membership and coverage in the provision of services.

Every effort is made to assist individuals needing an accommodation due to a disability, including ensuring that capable staff are available to assist any such individuals, and creating effective communication formats that can be accessed by persons with disabilities. Because emails and PDFs can now readily be accessed by persons with visual impairments, membership solicitation and other critical information is conveyed in electronic format. DCA also consults with established existing partners including the Statewide Independent Living Council of Georgia (Centers for Independent Living) on how to best communicate and work with the population they represent.

The CoC continues to work with youth who are homeless and/or formerly homeless on the Youth Action Board, and they participate regularly. The CoC continues to make associated outreach efforts to encourage those with lived experience of homelessness to participate in the CoC.

CoC membership currently includes organizations that represent culturally Latino communities and persons with disabilities experiencing homelessness. The CoC will continue work to further expand representation.

2B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(3)	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	solicited and considered opinions from a broad array of organizations and individuals that have knowledge of homelessness or an interest in preventing and ending homelessness;
2.	communicated information during public meetings or other forums your CoC uses to solicit public information; and
3.	took into consideration information gathered in public meetings or forums to address improvements or new approaches to preventing and ending homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Significant efforts are made to obtain stakeholder input and participation from those with expertise in addressing homelessness. Input was solicited from BoS CoC membership on the CoC's funding priorities for the State ESG competition. The CoC continues to solicit provider and local government input within coordinated entry (CE) implementation regions in Bartow, Bibb, Colquitt, Gwinnett, Glynn, and Hall counties. The CoC is also working with the additional communities of Dougherty, Douglas, Clayton, and Lowndes counties for coordinated entry. Through the CE evaluation process, staff conducted interviews and focus groups to gain input in the CE process. The CoC met regularly with homeless and/or formerly homeless youth that serve on the Youth Action Board and each is a voting member of the CoC.

Input is solicited on a regular basis from meetings of and communications with the CoC Board, which consists of representation from 7 agencies assisting homeless households statewide, and those working regionally and locally. Nonprofit providers, homeless coalitions, and community action agencies are represented on the committee that drafts policy and documents for Board approval regarding the implementation of CE. Entitlement jurisdictions and nonprofits also provided input into the development of written standards. The CoC convened a USICH listening session with Joe Savage. CoC members and interested parties attended and provided feedback and insight for the federal strategic plan for addressing homelessness. The CoC has a YHDP advisory group comprised of youth focused homeless providers and stakeholders. The Georgia State Agency collaborative is a collection of representatives from state agencies serving youth and young adults. These groups lead the conversation and feedback on strategies to address youth homelessness.

Public meetings are advertised by the CoC and by partners in CE access point communities as applicable. The CoC sends public meeting notices and agendas to an extensive email list of interested parties in electronic format (PDF). The CoC also communicates regularly through email notices regarding membership meetings, where staff solicit information.

Information received from the public is considered by collaborative applicant staff as it oversees homeless strategy implementation approved by the CoC Board. Improvements and new approaches are integrated into strategy planning when they are feasible and allowable under HUD regulation and guidance.

2B-4.	Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Funded. (All Applicants)
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(4)

Describe in the field below how your CoC notified the public:	
1.	that your CoC's local competition was open and accepting project applications;
2.	that your CoC will consider project applications from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding;
3.	about how project applicants must submit their project applications;
4.	about how your CoC would determine which project applications it would submit to HUD for funding; and
5.	how your CoC effectively communicated with individuals with disabilities, including making information accessible in electronic formats.

(limit 2,500 characters)

On 6/20/22, the CoC held a 2021 CoC Competition Debriefing for membership organizations, many of which do not receive CoC funding. In addition to reviewing 2021 competition results, training was provided for interested applicants on the CoC Program, the local CoC process, CoC eligibility, and competition best practices in an effort to generate interest in the competition.

On 8/9/22, advertisement seeking new proposals was posted on the CoC website. In addition, a notice seeking new proposals was issued to over 1,100 persons representing nonprofits, faith-based organizations, coalitions, local governments, and other interested parties throughout the CoC. On 8/11/22 and 8/12/22 the CoC held web-based new project applicant meetings to train all prospective applicants on eligibility related to new projects, activities, persons served, and match/leveraging. Prospective applicants were briefed on priorities, application scoring criteria, threshold factors, submission requirements/process, and other CoC and HUD requirements.

This year, the CoC received one application for a new project in the annual competition. This project was from an organization previously awarded CoC funds, however, the local competition was open to all interested applicants. Based on interested party input, the short turnaround time for the annual competition was one of the factors first-time applicants chose the special competition to submit new proposals.

All new applicants that meet threshold requirements for organizational capacity and other eligibility requirements are scored with the same methodology and objective scoring criteria where the project application score will determine final ranking for the project listing. Organizational capacity is assessed by the CoC to determine if an applicant has the basic financial, administrative, and general organizational infrastructure necessary to successfully implement a HUD CoC project.

The CoC policy was released in electronic format (PDF). CoC policy included the following language: Any individual who needs an accommodation because of a disability or documents in accessible electronic formats (e.g.PDF) should contact Tina Moore at 404-327-6870 or email fairhousing@dca.ga.gov. Individuals who are hearing- or speech-impaired should use the Georgia Relay services at 1-800-255-0056 or by dialing 7-1-1 (no charge to use Georgia Relay within the local calling area). More information on Georgia Relay can be found at <https://georgiarelay.org/>.

2C. Coordination / Engagement—with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations

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2C-1.	Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.b.	
	In the chart below:	
	1. select yes or no for entities listed that are included in your CoC’s coordination, planning, and operations of projects that serve individuals, families, unaccompanied youth, persons who are fleeing domestic violence who are experiencing homelessness, or those at risk of homelessness; or	
	2. select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist within your CoC’s geographic area.	

	Entities or Organizations Your CoC Coordinates with for Planning or Operations of Projects	Coordinates with Planning or Operations of Projects
1.	Funding Collaboratives	No
2.	Head Start Program	Yes
3.	Housing and services programs funded through Local Government	Yes
4.	Housing and services programs funded through other Federal Resources (non-CoC)	Yes
5.	Housing and services programs funded through private entities, including Foundations	Yes
6.	Housing and services programs funded through State Government	Yes
7.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Yes
8.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)	Yes
9.	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Yes
10.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent
11.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes
12.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	No
13.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes
14.	Private Foundations	No
15.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes
16.	Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Yes
17.	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)	
18.	DJJ Youth Re-Entry Taskforce	Yes

2C-2.	CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.b.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG funds;
2.	participated in evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients;
3.	provided Point-in-Time (PIT) count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area; and
4.	provided information to Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions to address homelessness within your CoC's geographic area so it could be addressed in Consolidated Plan update.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The Continuum consults regularly with ESG Recipients. In June, the CoC met with the Georgia Non-entitlement to develop funding priorities for ESG-CV activities, and Collaborative Applicant staff facilitated obtaining priority input for the allocation of State ESG funds from Clayton County, Gwinnett County, and Macon-Bibb County.

The CoC has collaborated with ESG Program recipients through the CES planning and implementation process. CES staff communicates with ESG program recipients that fund projects that are a part of the regional CES implementations in the BoS. CES staff shares data and reports specific to the management and effectiveness of the CES. The data and reports include data quality, APR, and referral outcomes. These reports allow ESG recipients to look at the performance of their funded projects, understand their level of participation in coordinated entry, and understand overall performance of the coordinated entry system.

The BoS CoC has worked closely with the Georgia Non-Entitlement ESG program recipient during the ESG-CV funding allocation. CoC staff provided feedback on ESG applicant's participation in the BoS CES. Additionally, when ESG-CV allowable activities were expanded to include Coordinated Entry, the BoS CoC and the state ESG non-entitlement created a plan to allocate ESG-CV funds to agencies that are leading the coordinated entry implementations in the BoS. That collaboration has resulted in the distribution of \$393,000 of ESG-CV funds that go to directly support the CES efforts in the BoS.

The CoC sent data to the 14 consolidated planning jurisdictions that operate within the Balance of State on local homelessness that includes a brief analysis of the 2022 PIT, the 2022 HIC and System Performance Measures to ESG program recipients, so homelessness can be addressed in Consolidated Plan updates.

2C-3.	Discharge Planning Coordination. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.c.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC actively coordinates with the systems of care listed to ensure persons who have resided in them longer than 90 days are not discharged directly to the streets, emergency shelters, or other homeless assistance programs.

1.	Foster Care	Yes
2.	Health Care	Yes
3.	Mental Health Care	Yes
4.	Correctional Facilities	Yes

2C-4.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–SEAs, LEAs, School Districts. (All Applicants)
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the entities your CoC collaborates with:

1.	Youth Education Provider	No
2.	State Education Agency (SEA)	Yes
3.	Local Education Agency (LEA)	No
4.	School Districts	Yes

2C-4a.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–SEAs, LEAs, School Districts–Formal Partnerships. (All Applicants)
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.

Describe in the field below:

1.	how your CoC collaborates with the entities checked in Question 2C-4; and
2.	the formal partnerships your CoC has with the entities checked in Question 2C-4.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC governance charter requires that one member of the CoC Board of Directors be appointed from the Georgia Department of Education. This appointment ensures input from the educational system for CoC planning purposes. CoC-wide policy adopted by the Board of Directors then has direct influence on how the homeless response system is implemented at the local level. The CoC has also formed a Youth Homelessness Advisory Group, which consists of membership and input from education agencies serving youth in the CoC. Additionally, the CoC has convened the Georgia State Agency Collaborative with representatives from the Technical College System of Georgia, Division of Family and Children services, Department of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Early Care and Learning. GSAC is a small group focused on high-level state agency collaboration tasked with creating the overall strategy related to youth homelessness prevention and diversion.

Each coordinated entry implementation in the 152 county CoC is led by a local planning group. The planning guide provided for these groups by the CoC requires that they collaborate with youth education providers, local education agencies, and school districts in the area. Additionally, the education policy adopted by the CoC requires that all CoC and ESG funded providers have a designated staff person to coordinate with the local McKinney-Vento Local Education Liaison.

CoC staff, partner agencies, and representatives from coordinated entry local planning groups regularly attend homeless coalition meetings throughout the CoC. The CoC collaborates with representatives from local education systems and McKinney-Vento Local Education Liaisons at these coordinated entry planning sessions.

2C-4b.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth—Informing Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

Describe in the field below written policies and procedures your CoC adopted to inform individuals and families who become homeless of their eligibility for educational services

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC has adopted a formal education policy, which has been in place since 2015. The policy requires all CoC and ESG funded providers to maintain regular contact with local school liaisons, and other community education representatives, to ensure families receive immediate services and that schools provide additional support as needed. The policy also requires that specific staff are designated within each agency to ensure participants are informed of their educational rights and children and youth have access appropriate education services. Agencies are required to ensure that families have the ability to exercise their right to choice when selecting educational opportunities.

Agencies are required by the policy to contact the local homeless liaison to access services for families with school aged children upon program intake. Due to significant variation in structure and processes set forth by homeless liaisons in across the 152 county coverage area of the CoC, agencies are instructed by the policy to always respect local procedures.

2C-5.	Mainstream Resources–CoC Training of Project Staff. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.e.	

Indicate in the chart below whether your CoC trains project staff annually on the following mainstream resources available for program participants within your CoC’s geographic area:

	Mainstream Resource	CoC Provides Annual Training?
1.	Food Stamps	No
2.	SSI–Supplemental Security Income	No
3.	TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	No
4.	Substance Abuse Programs	No
5.	Employment Assistance Programs	No
6.	Other	

You must select a response for elements 1 through 6 in question 2C-5.

2C-5a.	Mainstream Resources–CoC Collaboration with Project Staff Regarding Healthcare Organizations. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.e.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	systemically provides up-to-date information on mainstream resources available for program participants (e.g., Food Stamps, SSI, TANF, substance abuse programs) within your CoC’s geographic area;
2.	works with project staff to collaborate with healthcare organizations to assist program participants with enrolling in health insurance;
3.	provides assistance to project staff with the effective use of Medicaid and other benefits; and
4.	works with projects to promote SOAR certification of program staff.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The Collaborative Applicant (CA) convened a group of state level mainstream providers to address gaps in accessing mainstream resources and coordinating training for providers to connect participants to resources. Members include Technical Schools and Workforce Division of GA, Dept of Family and Children Services Child Welfare, TANF, and Dept of Early Care and Learning. The CoC has engaged the Dept of Community Health, the State's Medicaid provider to join this group, and will continue to seek their participation to better utilize Medicaid and other benefits.

The state maintains a website (<https://gateway.ga.gov/access/>) that allows a quick and updated assessment of benefits a household may qualify for, which project agencies and program staff are systematically encouraged to use. The CA provides a call center that provides updated referral information to assist with locating resources.

The CoC is developing a plan to connect CES regional leads to primary contact for mainstream benefits in each local DFCS office that is within that CE region. The CoC is developing a formal process with mainstream providers to provide this information frequently.

The CoC is working with DCA's GIS team to develop a mobile app for providers and consumers to identify available housing, services, and mainstream resources throughout rural Georgia. For mainstream resources with multiple offices in each county, the CoC will have links for each location.

DCA continues to award state funding for specialized case management for PSH programs. Funded agencies are expected to train staff on how to assist clients with access to mainstream benefits, including Medicaid and health insurance where applicable.

The CA is also working diligently with the Dept of Behavioral Health and funded PSH agencies to utilize state/federal health Medicaid funding to meet the needs of clients.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs is responsible for overseeing this strategy.

3A. New Projects With Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

3A-1.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects. (Rural Set Aside Only).	
	Special NOFO Section VII.A.	
	If the answer to the question below is yes, you must upload the CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Is your CoC requesting funding for any new project(s) under the Rural Set Aside for housing rehabilitation or new construction costs?	No

3B. Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes

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- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

3B-1.	Designating SSO/TH/Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Projects to Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. (Rural Set Aside Only)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.C.	

Is your CoC requesting to designate one or more of its SSO, TH, or Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects to serve families with children or youth experiencing homelessness as defined by other Federal statutes?	No
--	----

3B-2.	Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. (Rural Set Aside Only)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.C.	
	You must upload the Project List for Other Federal Statutes attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	If you answered yes to question 3B-1, describe in the field below:	
	1. how serving this population is of equal or greater priority, which means that it is equally or more cost effective in meeting the overall goals and objectives of the plan submitted under Section 427(b)(1)(B) of the Act, especially with respect to children and unaccompanied youth than serving the homeless as defined in paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of the definition of homeless in 24 CFR 578.3; and	
	2. how your CoC will meet requirements described in Section 427(b)(1)(F) of the Act.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

N/A

4A. Attachments Screen For All Application Questions

Please read the following guidance to help you successfully upload attachments and get maximum points:

- | | | |
|--|----|---|
| | 1. | You must include a Document Description for each attachment you upload; if you do not, the Submission Summary screen will display a red X indicating the submission is incomplete. |
| | 2. | You must upload an attachment for each document listed where 'Required?' is 'Yes' |
| | 3. | We prefer that you use PDF files, though other file types are supported—please only use zip files if necessary. Converting electronic files to PDF, rather than printing documents and scanning them, often produces higher quality images and reduces file size. Many systems allow you to create PDF files as a Print Option. If you are unfamiliar with this process, you should consult your IT Support or search for information on Google or YouTube. |
| | 4. | Attachments must match the questions they are associated with. |
| | 5. | Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed—including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process. |
| | 6. | If you cannot read the attachment, it is likely we cannot read it either.
- We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).
- We must be able to read everything you want us to consider in any attachment. |
| | 7. | Open attachments once uploaded to ensure they are the correct attachment for the required Document Type. |

Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1B-1. Local Competition Announcement	Yes	Local Competition...	10/18/2022
1B-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	Local Competition...	10/18/2022
1B-3. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	Notification of P...	10/18/2022
1B-3a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	Notification of P...	10/18/2022
1B-4. Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application	Yes		
3A-1. CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs	No		
3B-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No		
P-1. Leveraging Housing Commitment	No	Leveraging Housin...	10/18/2022
P-1a. PHA Commitment	No	PHA Commitment - ...	10/18/2022
P-3. Healthcare Leveraging Commitment	No	Healthcare Levera...	10/18/2022
P-9c. Lived Experience Support Letter	No	Lived Experience ...	10/18/2022
Plan. CoC Plan	Yes	CoC plan for Unsh...	10/18/2022

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local Competition Announcement & Deadline - 1B-1

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local Competition Scoring Tool - 1B-2

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced - 1B-3

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Projects Accepted - 1B-3a

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: Leveraging Housing Commitment P-1

Attachment Details

Document Description: PHA Commitment - P-1a

Attachment Details

Document Description: Healthcare Leveraging Commitment - P-3

Attachment Details

Document Description: Lived Experience Support Letter - P-9c

Attachment Details

Document Description: CoC plan for Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness

Submission Summary

Ensure that the Special NOFO Project Priority List is complete prior to submitting.

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	10/18/2022
1B. Project Review, Ranking and Selection	10/18/2022
2A. System Performance	10/18/2022
2B. Coordination and Engagement	10/18/2022
2C. Coordination and Engagement–Con't.	10/18/2022
3A. New Projects With Rehab/New Construction	No Input Required
3B. Homelessness by Other Federal Statutes	10/18/2022
4A. Attachments Screen	Please Complete
Submission Summary	No Input Required

1B-1

Local Competition Announcement & Deadline – Advance Public Notice

- Web Posting w/date and time
- Competition Notice e/Deadline
- Competition Policy w/Deadline

ASSISTANCE
Providing resources, tools, and technical assistance to cities, counties, and local authorities to help strengthen communities

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Connecting communities to funding sources to help build capacity and encourage economic development while honoring the community's past through historic preservation

SAFE & AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Helping communities meet housing needs and connecting people with housing assistance

2022 CoC Supplemental Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (Special NOFO)

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Basic Info

August 9, 2022 - The FY2022 Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care Special Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness is now open (Special NOFO). The Georgia Balance of State CoC Board of Directors is seeking applications from eligible projects as outlined in the Special NOFO Competition policy and related materials listed below. All prospective 2022 applicants under the Special NOFO may review full details of the requirements as they are released on this page.

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2022 Balance of State Continuum of Care Special NOFO Application Documents

- 2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Application (not available)
- 2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Project Priority Listing (not available)
- 2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Project Ranking Chart (not available)

BoS CoC Policy - Supplemental NOFO

- [2022 Georgia BoS CoC Special NOFO Competition Policy](#) - Includes DEADLINES
- [Outline of Overarching Policy Priorities Highlighted in 2022 Special NOFO](#)

BoS CoC Webinars - Georgia BoS Special NOFO Applicant Webinars

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 - Monday, August 15, 2022 (3:00 PM)
 - Tuesday, August 16, 2022 (12:00 PM Noon)

Proposal Outline, Application Documents, and Certifications - Supplemental NOFO

- [2022 Balance of State CoC Proposal Outline - Special NOFO](#)
- [2022 BoS CoC NEW Special NOFO Project Review Affidavit](#)
- [2022 Balance of State CoC Special NOFO - Competition Certification Policy v Addendum](#)
- [2022 Balance of State CoC Special NOFO - Coordinated Entry Policy Addendum](#)

Project Scoring Criteria Form - Supplemental NOFO

- [2022 Georgia BoS CoC NEW Project Scoring Form - Unsheltered and Rural](#)

Additional Materials and Resources for Applicants - Supplemental NOFO

- [Section 3](#) (coming soon)
- [HUD Project Quality Threshold Checklist Tool - Special NOFO](#)

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- [2022 Balance of State CoC Special NOFO - Competition Certification-Policy Addendum \(/sites/default/files/fy2022_bos_coc_special_nofo_-_certification-policy_addendum.docx\)](/sites/default/files/fy2022_bos_coc_special_nofo_-_certification-policy_addendum.docx)
- [2022 Balance of State CoC Special NOFO - Coordinated Entry Policy Addendum \(/sites/default/files/fy2022_bos_coc_special_nofo_-_coordinated_entry_policy_addendum.docx\)](/sites/default/files/fy2022_bos_coc_special_nofo_-_coordinated_entry_policy_addendum.docx)

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- [Rural County Listing \(Appendix B\) - Special NOFO \(/sites/default/files/appendix_b.pdf\)](/sites/default/files/appendix_b.pdf)
- [Listing of Housing Tax Credit Program \(LIHTC\) Developers - Applicants and Selected Projects \(/node/3814\)](/node/3814)

Related Links:

[HUD CoC Supplemental to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness - HUD Competition Page](#) 

[Rural County Listing - Special NOFO - Rural Homelessness Set Aside](#) 

[HUD CoC Supplemental to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness Grants.Gov](#) 

Documents



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Applications (/node/8048/documents/2091)

Tina Moore

From: Josh Gray
Sent: Tuesday, August 9, 2022 4:08 PM
To: HAD Office of Homeless & Special Needs
Subject: Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness Supplemental NOFO is now Open
Attachments: 2022_ga_bos_coc_special_nofocompetition_policy_approved.pdf; 2022 Balance of State CoC Proposal Outline - Special NOFO (1).docx

Good afternoon –

The Georgia's Balance of State (BoS) Continuum of Care (CoC) Special Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness is now open. The BoS CoC is issuing the attached guidance for the 2022 Continuum of Care Supplemental to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness Notice of Funding Opportunity (Special NOFO) competition. This guidance applies to all agencies that are seeking funds in the BoS CoC. This notice is being announced in accordance with HUD's Supplemental NOFO for the HUD Continuum of Care programs (Docket No. FR-6500-N-25s), <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=341301>.

This information relates to projects that are in Georgia's 152 county Balance of State Continuum of Care jurisdiction. Projects in the following jurisdictions are not eligible to be submitted under the State's BoS CoC application: Atlanta, Fulton County, DeKalb County, Cobb County, Columbus-Muscogee County, Augusta-Richmond County, Athens-Clarke County, and Savannah-Chatham County. To submit an application in one of the listed jurisdictions, please contact the appropriate CoC jurisdiction for information.

The information pertaining to the Rural Set Aside relates to projects within the 106 Rural counties in Georgia as defined in Section III.C.2.k and listed in Appendix B at https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO/supplemental.

Interested parties should please read the attached notice thoroughly. Please note that this is a new competition. All applicants and interested parties are strongly encouraged to read this document (attached), as well as the HUD FY 2022 Continuum of Care Supplemental NOFO and any supplemental materials posted on HUD.gov and the HUD Exchange web site

(https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO and <https://www.hudexchange.info/new/s/coc-program-supplemental-nof-address-unsheltered-and-rural-homelessness/>) in their entirety to ensure there is complete understanding of the information provided. Applicants must ensure that they note the differences and threshold requirements so that they can consider which type of project to submit a funding request for.

In the 2022 Balance of State CoC Special NOFO Competition, only Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Rapid Rehousing (RRH), Joint TH and PH-RRH Component, Supportive Service Only Coordinated Entry, Supportive Service Only Street Outreach and Standalone Supportive Service Only projects will be eligible for ranking. Applicants will need to select the Funding Set Aside (Unsheltered or Rural) and project type they are seeking funding for. Please note that the Acquisition, New Construction, and Rehabilitation activities are only eligible within the Rural Set Aside as a PSH project. Development activities are not eligible in the Unsheltered Set Aside.

Complete review criteria, the required Review Applications for new projects, the required Certification-Policy Addendum, the required Coordinated Entry Policy Addendum, and other related materials are posted on the Georgia BoS CoC webpage at: <https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/2022-0>. Please note that competition documents are now available on this web page, and other documents will be posted on this web page as they are available. Applicants are strongly advised to review the scoring criteria and the 2022 Special NOFO competition policy before submitting an application.

Agencies interested in submitting a NEW Project application should complete and submit the attached “2022 Balance of State Proposal Outline - Special NOFO” to alert the Collaborative Applicant of their intent. The Proposal Outline form is attached and also available on the BoS CoC web page listed above. **Proposal Outlines should be received by Tina Moore, CoC Program Coordinator, at BosMonitoring@dca.ga.gov, by August 17, 2022 (review application packages for NEW projects due on August 29, 2022).** This will alert DCA staff to forward information as necessary. Please note that there is a very short turnaround time, and new applicants should not wait for the webinar to begin completing the review application.

There will be **three webinars for NEW Applicants on Thursday August 11, at 10:00 A.M. Monday, August 15, 2022, at 3:00 P.M. AND Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 12:00 P.M.** to discuss the Review Application document, competition policy, scoring criteria, etc. To receive login details for these webinars, you will need to register, and once registered, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar. **Please see the attached policy document for the links to register for the webinar time slot you prefer (the second and third webinar will be a repeat of the first).**

Should you have questions, please contact Tina Moore (tina.moore@dca.ga.gov), Josh Gray (Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov), or Rick Heermans (Rick.Heermans@dca.ga.gov).

Thank you for your continued dedication to serving people in need, and have a great afternoon!

(Please note: This notice was sent to all members of the Balance of State CoC in addition to all Balance of State interested parties on the mailing list of the Office of Homeless and Special Needs Housing. If you would like your contact information removed from the database, please let me know.)

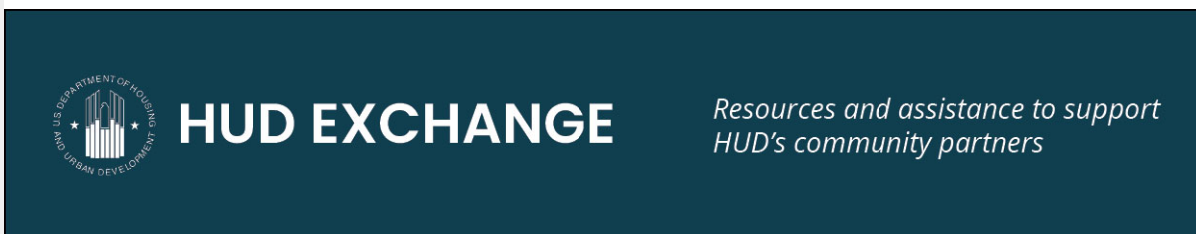
Thank you,
Joshua Gray

Josh Gray
Continuum of Care Program Manager
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
Direct 404-327-6811
Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov



From: HUD Exchange Mailing List <news@hudexchange.info>
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2022 9:09 AM
To: Josh Gray <Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov>
Subject: CoC Program Supplemental NOFO to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness

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CoC Program Supplemental NOFO to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness

This information was originally distributed via HUD.gov. HUD Exchange is redistributing the information for awareness.

HUD announced the [Continuum of Care \(CoC\) Program Supplemental Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\) to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness](#), which makes \$322 million in competitive funding available to communities to address unsheltered and rural homelessness. Applications must be submitted no later than **October 20, 2022, at 8:00 PM EDT**.

To apply, CoCs will need to demonstrate a comprehensive community approach to reduce homelessness among people experiencing homelessness with severe service needs, especially those with histories of unsheltered homelessness. Funding is available for permanent housing, street outreach efforts and other supportive services, and Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).

Visit the HUD Exchange [e-snaps page](#) for helpful resources regarding accessing, navigating, and submitting applications in *e-snaps*, including the [e-snaps 101 Toolkit](#) and the [e-snaps 201 Toolkit](#). Please note, there are no project application resources available for this NOFO.

For more information, read the full [Press Release](#).

YInz #kh#FrF#Surjudp #/xsschp hqwd#R IR #

Upcoming Webinars

HUD will be sponsoring the following two special NOFO webinars:

- [Register for the Special NOFO Kick Off Webinar – June 28, 2022 – 2:30 PM EDT:](#)
This webinar will provide an overview of the NOFO and answer participant questions.
- [Register for the Special NOFO Rural Webinar – June 29, 2022 – 2:00 PM EDT:](#)
This webinar is intended for communities applying for the \$54.5 million set aside for rural communities.

SNAPS Mailing List Subscription

Stay up to date on HUD's SNAPS news and updates for grantees and interested stakeholders:

- [Sign up for SNAPS Competition Information](#) through HUD.gov
- [Sign up for SNAPS Program Information](#) through HUD.gov
- [Sign up for SNAPS Technical Assistance Information](#) through the HUD Exchange

[Learn more about SNAPS mailing lists.](#)



Visit the HUD Exchange at <https://www.hudexchange.info>

This email was sent to josh.gray@dca.ga.gov by news@hudexchange.info. Do not reply to this message. Contact the HUD Exchange at info@hudexchange.info.

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Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care**Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care Governance Board**
Approved August 9, 2022**2022 Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care Special Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness**

The Georgia Balance of State (BoS) Continuum of Care (CoC) is issuing the following guidance for the 2022 Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (Spec NOFO) competition. This guidance applies to all new applications submitted either for rapid re-housing (RRH), permanent supportive housing (PSH), Joint Transitional Housing (TH) and Permanent Housing Rapid Re-housing (PH-RRH) component, supportive services, Homeless Management and Information System (HMIS), and CoC Planning. This announcement is being provided in accordance with the HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Continuum of Care Supplemental to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (Docket No. FR-6500-N-25S) at: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO. Information can also be found at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/news/coc-program-supplemental-nofo-address-unsheltered-and-rural-homelessness/>.

Funding for new projects under this Special NOFO is only available for projects that serve rural areas as defined in section III.C.2.k (Rural Set Aside), and for projects as part of the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside. Based on HUD's determination as defined in the Special NOFO (see Appendix A) the Balance of State CoC may create new project(s) through the Rural Homelessness Set Aside, which is expected to be around \$11,485,847, through the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside, which is expected to be around \$25,279,593.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), designated as the Collaborative Applicant for the Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC), is responsible for overseeing and managing the application process for the 2022 HUD Spec NOFO funding process. HUD requires that the CoC develop a process for submitting one consolidated application for the Spec NOFO. The Collaborative Applicant works with the Standards, Rating, and Project Selection Committee to develop and recommend the process for CoC Board approval. The BoS CoC Board approved this policy on August 9, 2022.

The following document outlines the policy and process for the Spec NOFO funding cycle.

Timeline

June 22, 2022 – Special NOFO released by HUD.

August 3, 2022 - Standards, Rating, and Review Committee meeting to approve policy, materials, and recommend process for scoring and ranking held.

August 9, 2022 - CoC Board meeting to approve policy, materials, and process recommended by the Standards, Ratings, and Review Committee held.

August 9, 2022 – Balance of State CoC Spec NOFO Competition Policy, Process, Timeline, Review Applications, Scoring Criteria, Addendum, and other Competition materials released (approved by the BoS CoC Standards, Rating, and Project Selection Committee and the Balance of State CoC Board).

August 11th, 15th, and 16th, 2022- Informational Webinar for New PSH, RRH, Joint TH & PH-RRH, and SSO applicants held by DCA, and materials from the webinar were posted.

August 17, 2022 – Proposal Outlines for New PSH, RRH, Joint TH & PH-RRH Component, or SSO projects due.

August 29, 2022 - Review Applications (including both Addendums) for NEW PSH, RRH, Joint TH & PH-RRH Component, SSO-Street Outreach, Standalone SSO, and SSO Coordinated Entry projects, as well as all required copies and supplemental documents (listed on pages 11-12 of this document), due by 3:00 pm.

August 31-September 15, 2022 – Review Team Sub-Committee application review of new projects.

September 14, 2022 – ALL new project applications (PSH, RRH, Joint TH & PH-RRH Component SSO-CE, SSO-SO, Standalone SSO, CoC Planning, and HMIS) and updated certifications must be entered into *e-snaps* by 5:00 pm.

September 21 or 22, 2022 - Standards, Rating, and Review Committee meeting to approve and recommend results and ranking of projects for Special NOFO held.

September 28 or 29, 2022 - CoC Board meeting to approve results and ranking recommended for Special NOFO by the Standards, Ratings, and Review Committee held.

September 30, 2022 - Notification given to all applicants whether their project application(s) will be accepted and ranked on the CoC Priority Listing, rejected, or reduced by the CoC in the Special NOFO (due 10/5/22).

October 7, 2022 - ALL Special NOFO project application corrections (if applicable) should be completed in *e-snaps* by 2:00 pm.

October 17, 2022 – Estimated public posting of CoC Application (due 10/18/22).

October 18, 2022 – Estimated CoC application submission to HUD (due 10/20/22).

Summary of Policy Priorities for the FY 2022 Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care Special Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness

Please note that there have been significant changes in the process and method by which local CoCs are being scored under Federal priorities in recent years. All applicants and interested parties are strongly encouraged to read this document, as well as the HUD FY 2022 NOFO Continuum of Care Supplemental to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (Docket No. FR-6500-N-25S) and any supplemental materials at: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO and

<https://www.hudexchange.info/news/coc-program-supplemental-nofo-address-unsheltered-and-rural-homelessness/> in their entirety to ensure there is complete understanding of the information provided. There are differences between this Special NOFO and previous annual competitions. Some of the key elements and policy priorities include:

- Through both the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside and the Rural Homelessness Set Aside the following types of new project applications will be accepted: (a) Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH); (b) Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) for individuals and families; (c) Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects; (d) Supportive Services Only Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE); (e) Supportive Services Only Street Outreach (SSO-SO); and (f) Standalone SSO. In addition to selecting the project type, applicants must determine which funding source they are requesting funding under within the Balance of State CoC Review Application, and within HUD's electronic application in e-snaps.
- All permanent housing (Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-Housing), Joint TH and PH-RRH Component, and SSO projects must follow a Housing First approach as defined in Section III.C.2.e of the HUD Special NOFO.
- Only organizations serving as the Lead Agency in a Coordinated Entry Implementation Site/Region are eligible to apply for a SSO Coordinated Entry project. This includes agencies that have been identified as the lead agency for the local coordinated entry implementation but have not yet fully implemented coordinated entry.
- Participant Eligibility. Projects funded through this Special NOFO must have the following eligibility criteria for program participants (page 9 of HUD's Special NOFO):
 - o Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside. Projects funded through the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside must have the following eligibility criteria for program participants:
 - meet the criteria of paragraph (1) of the definition of homeless at 578.3, except that persons coming from transitional housing must have originally come from places not meant for human habitation, emergency shelters, safe havens, or institutions where they resided for 90 days or less and originally came from places not meant for human habitation, safe havens, or emergency shelters; or
 - meet the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless at 578.3.
 - o Rural Set Aside. Projects funded through the Rural Set Aside may serve any program participant meeting the criteria of the definition of "homeless" in 24 CFR 578.3. Please note the CoC does not have approval to serve individuals and families meeting the criteria of paragraph (3) of the definition of homelessness.
 - o For both funding opportunities, references to paragraphs of the definition of homelessness refer to the paragraphs listed under the definition of "homeless" in 24 CFR 578.3. All projects must participate in coordinated entry. Additionally, all projects must operate consistently with the CoC Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs described in Section VII.B.4 of HUD's Special NOFO.

HUD will review all project applications to determine if they meet the project quality threshold requirements. If awarded, a recipient is required to meet all the criteria listed in the criteria column for its component as listed in the HUD Special NOFO. Additionally, the housing and services proposed must be appropriate to the needs of the program participants and the community. A determination that a

project meets the project quality threshold is not a determination by HUD that a recipient is compliant with applicable fair housing and civil rights requirements.

- Under the HUD Special NOFO, CoCs are required to competitively rank all project applications to be considered in the selection process, including project applications for CoC Planning, submitted by project applicants in e-snaps as outlined in Section VII.B.2.b of the NOFO.

- HUD Funding Process: HUD will use two processes to select projects for this Special NOFO -one for the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside and one for the Rural Set Aside. The maximum amount of funding available for each set aside can be found in Section III.j of the HUD Special NOFO.
 - a. Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside. HUD will select CoCs for funding based on CoC score, meaning the highest scoring CoC will have its rated and ranked projects that pass thresholds as described in Section V.C.3 and VIII.A.1 of the HUD NOFO conditionally selected for funding. HUD will select projects in this manner until no more funds are available.
 - b. Rural Set Aside. Projects included on the CoC's Rural Set Aside project listing will be selected in order, up to the CoC's maximum funding amount, based on project application scores HUD will award as follows: HUD will award a point value to each project application that is on the Rural Set Aside project listing using a 100-point scale (please see full details on page 8 of the NOFO):
 - CoC Score – up to 50 points in direct proportion to the score received on the questions required to be answered for the Rural Set Aside;
 - CoC Project Ranking – up to 40 points for the CoC's ranking of the project application(s); and
 - Serving Structurally Disadvantaged Areas – 10 points if the project applicant makes a commitment to serve individuals and families in geographic areas that have high levels of homelessness, housing distress, or poverty, and are located where CoC services have until now been entirely unavailable, such as, for example, trust lands and reservations.

CoCs must demonstrate how they will leverage both mainstream housing and healthcare resources to assist in their efforts to end unsheltered homelessness and stabilize individuals and their families in housing and increase access to employment opportunities for those experiencing homelessness. The CoC is actively working to secure written commitments of both housing and healthcare resources. Applicants that make it into the final ranking may be given access to these resources as they are available and applicable.

- New project applications requesting funding for acquisition, new construction, or rehabilitation activities under the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside are not eligible under this HUD NOFO, and will not be accepted.

- The CoC will submit New PSH project applications requesting funding for acquisition, new construction, or rehabilitation activities under the Rural Homelessness Set Aside provided they meet feasibility and capacity requirements. Requirements for PSH project applications requesting funding for development activities under the Rural Homelessness Set Aside include:
 - HUD has set the initial grant term for 3 to 5 years, with up to 2 years of that time to complete the acquisition, new construction, or rehabilitation
 - Projects are limited to up to ten (10) units at any one site

- Required to describe the proposed development activities if you are requesting capital costs (i.e., acquisition (24 CFR 578.43), rehabilitation (24 CFR 578.45), new construction (24 CFR 578.47). 24 CFR 578.25 provides the requirements for site control, including a 15-year use period (24 CFR 578.81) that will remain in place even if the project no longer receives CoC Program funding. You should review 24 CFR part 578 for all requirements related to capital costs as not all are included in these instructions.
- If requesting new construction, applicants are required to justify using new construction instead of rehabilitation
- The per unit cost must be reasonable and adequate justification provided
- Applicant must have a dollar-to-dollar match for capital costs from sources other than the CoC Program or ESG Program.
- If requesting programmatic costs, must meet the services or housing support from other sources expectation
- PSH project application must score high enough, regardless of funding source for administering the project after development is complete

As part of the application, the applicant must submit a letter from the CoC in support of the new construction and rehabilitation activities. The support letter must include specific details as to how the project will comply with Section 3 of the housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u) (Section 3) and HUD's implementing rules at 24 CFR part 75 to provide employment and training opportunities for low- and very low-income persons, as well as contracting and other economic opportunities for businesses that provide economic opportunities to low- and very low-income persons.

- Application materials that will be posted on the Balance of State CoC Special NOFO competition web site will include a list of developers that have worked with DCA in the past to develop affordable housing. This list is meant as a resource and not a recommendation on suitable vendor for development.
- For the Rural Set Aside if more applications are received than funding available: After exhausting the allowable funding with the highest ranked projects, the CoC will consider new projects that pass eligibility and quality threshold as Unsheltered Set Aside projects as funding allows.
- While using a Housing First approach is a threshold requirement, points in the scoring criteria will be available for the level that projects demonstrate they will operate under a Housing First model of housing assistance that prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing that does not have service participation requirements or preconditions. To receive any of these points, applicants that pass threshold should demonstrate that the project is low-barrier, prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and has no service participation requirements and no preconditions to entry.

Points in the scoring criteria will be available to all project applications that commit to being low barrier projects and will not terminate program participants for failure to participate in supportive services, make progress on a service plan, loss of income or failure to improve income, or other activities not covered in a lease agreement typically found for unassisted persons in the area.

- Bonus points will be available for new projects proposed by applicant actively serving as a lead agency in a Coordinated Entry implementation. Actively serving as a lead agency is defined as managing the local assessment, prioritization, and referral process for Coordinated Entry. Agencies

that have been identified as the lead agency for a local coordinated entry implementation but have not yet begun actively serving as the lead agency are not eligible for these bonus points. They are eligible to submit a SSO-CE project application. Bonus points will be available for applicants who served as a homeless count coordinator for the 2022 Homeless Count in February 2022, in an effort to assist the CoC to identify people experiencing homelessness in their area. Bonus points will also be available for Rural Set Aside projects that demonstrate they will be located in geographic areas that have high levels of homelessness, housing distress, or poverty, and are located where CoC services have until now been entirely unavailable.

- New BoS CoC PSH projects that do not have 100% of their beds dedicated to people who are chronically homeless will be required to prioritize at least 90% of their non-dedicated beds to people who are chronically homeless*. The BoS CoC Written Standards prioritizes homeless individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness consistent with *Notice CPD 16-011: Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing and Recordkeeping Requirements for Documenting Chronic Homeless Status*. Chronically homeless individuals and families should be given priority for permanent supportive housing beds not currently dedicated to this population as vacancies become available through turnover. Permanent supportive housing renewal projects serving specific disabled subpopulations (e.g., persons with mental illness or persons with substance use disorder) must continue to serve those subpopulations, as required in the current grant agreement. However, chronically homeless individuals and families within the specified subpopulation should be prioritized for entry. The full notice can be found at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5108/notice-cpd-16-11-prioritizing-persons-experiencing-chronic-homelessness-and-other-vulnerable-homeless-persons-in-psh/>. *Projects that committed to prioritizing 100% of non-dedicated beds to people who are chronically homeless in previous competitions are required to continue at 100%.
- In order to maintain alignment with HUD priorities for this funding and to address the needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, the BoS CoC will rank projects within the following groupings for the Unsheltered Set Aside:
 - o New PSH, RRH, Joint TH and PH-RRH Component, and SSO projects (based on score)
 - o New CoC Planning and HMIS projects
 - o New Projects that met project eligibility and quality threshold that were originally submitted as Rural Set Aside projects but did not score well enough to be included within maximum funding allocated to the CoC (based on score)
- In order to maintain alignment with HUD priorities for this funding and to address the severe service needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in rural areas, the Balance of State CoC will rank projects submitted as scored for the Rural Set Aside provided that:
 - o Project meets feasibility, eligibility, and threshold
 - o Inclusion of the project does not push the overall application request over the maximum amount of funding available to the CoC
 - o Development projects must demonstrate capacity to execute both development and implement the project within the allocated time frame
- Compliance with Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Rule. On November 16, 2016, HUD published its VAWA final rule (81 FR 80798), which provides various protections to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking under the CoC Program and other HUD programs. The grants to be awarded under this NOFO must comply with the VAWA rule as provided

in 24 CFR 578.99(j). To enable full compliance with this rule, the CoC established an emergency transfer plan under 24 CFR 578.7(d) and made related updates to the written standards for administering CoC program assistance under 24 CFR 578.7(a)(9)(ii), (iii) and (v) on 6/20/17. All CoC-funded projects must follow the *Georgia Balance of State CoC Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Policies and Procedures* established on 6/20/17 (located at:

<https://www.dca.ga.gov/housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/policies>) and be fully compliant. New and first-time renewal projects should be fully compliant by the time the local CPD Field Office issues the FY 2022 grant agreement for a project in the CoC's geographic area.

The Collaborative Applicant will submit an application for planning funds as allowed by HUD. The amount of funds requested will be equal to three (3) percent of the total amount awarded within the Unsheltered set Aside. CoC Planning applications are required to be ranked under this Special NOFO and will be included as described in the grouping above.

General Information

In addition to the information presented in this document, it is expected that all applicants read the HUD Continuum of Care supplemental NOFO to address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness, related scoring criteria, and any supplemental materials (https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO and <https://www.hudexchange.info/news/coc-program-supplemental-nofo-address-unsheltered-and-rural-homelessness/>) in their entirety to ensure there is complete understanding of the information provided.

All agencies submitting an application, must submit a complete application packet for each project requested, as described below, in order to be considered for scoring.

It is the responsibility of the agencies to ensure that all the application materials are received by DCA, by the established deadlines. Applications are required to be scored and ranked by the CoC in order to be included in the CoC's project listing submitted to HUD, and an applicant's failure to meet deadlines may result in the denial of an applicant's request for funds.

Agencies submitting an application must select either the Unsheltered Set Aside or the Rural Set Aside and must submit one (1) application per project they are proposing. If submitting a Rural Set Aside project then all project participants must reside within rural areas within the Balance of State as described in Section III.C.2.k (and Appendix B located at: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO/supplemental)

All new project applications must pass both an organizational threshold review and project quality threshold review. They will then be scored according to specific criteria. The criteria will consist of agency capacity, agency experience, program description and design, commitment to participation in the CoC's Coordinated Entry System, proposed project performance, commitment to Housing First, cost effectiveness, project commitment to serving the most vulnerable participants with severe service needs and vulnerability, leveraging housing and healthcare, supportive services offered, and advancing equity. The review application will be scored by an independent review panel. The independent review panel will submit their results to the Collaborative Applicant who will consolidate all scores, rank projects, and publish the results with the BoS CoC Board's approval. Please note, as indicated in the HUD Special NOFO on pages 25-30, HUD will review all project applications to determine if they meet

the project quality threshold requirements. If awarded, a recipient is required to meet all the criteria listed in the criteria column for its component.

Severe Service Needs means any combination of the following factors: facing significant challenges or functional impairments, including any physical, mental, developmental or behavioral health disabilities regardless of the type of disability, which require a significant level of support in order to maintain permanent housing (this factor focuses on the level of support needed and is not based on disability type); high utilization of crisis or emergency services to meet basic needs, including but not limited to emergency rooms, jails, and psychiatric facilities; currently living in an unsheltered situation or having a history of living in an unsheltered situation; experiencing a vulnerability to illness or death; having a risk of continued or repeated homelessness; and having a vulnerability to victimization, including physical assault, trafficking or sex work.

The CoC continues work to assess racial disparities in the provision or outcome of homeless assistance. In order for the CoC to assess each project, applicants submitting a new project are asked to identify steps they will take to identify barriers to participation in their project faced by person of different races and ethnicities, and what steps will be taken to eliminate identified barriers. All projects reviewed will be scored on this.

New project applications that score high enough will be eligible to be included in the final prioritization ranking presented to HUD. Please note, however, eligibility does not guarantee funding. The BoS CoC Board will make the final determination of which projects will be ranked and presented to HUD for funding consideration within the limited funding available.

In addition to the application packet required to score and rank projects, all new projects must also complete the HUD application in *e-snaps*. Completing the application in *e-snaps* does not guarantee that the project will be put forth in the HUD application, nor does it guarantee that the project will be funded.

The BoS CoC is required by CoC regulations to operate a HMIS and carry out planning activities in accordance with the Continuum of Care Program Interim Rule. Therefore, any new application(s) for HMIS and CoC Planning will be prioritized for placement in the final ranking submitted to HUD.

DCA, as the Collaborative Applicant, will post any additional details of the competition and HUD resources as they become available on the Continuum of Care webpage specifically for the CoC Supplemental to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (Special NOFO). It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that they check both the BoS CoC (<https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/2022-0>) and the HUD CoC (https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO AND <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/>) websites regularly for the latest updates. Please note that all of HUD's competitions and e-snaps materials, notices, and training guides can be accessed on the HUD pages.

Project applicants must agree to enter client data into Georgia's BoS Homeless Management Information System (ClientTrack), participate in the CoC's Coordinated Entry System, and participate in the homeless counts in Georgia's BoS jurisdiction. However, in accordance with Section 407 of the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act, any victim service provider that is a recipient or subrecipient

must not disclose, for purposes of HMIS, any personally identifying information about any client. Victim service providers must use a comparable database that meets the needs of the local HMIS.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as the Collaborative Applicant, believes in a commitment to end homelessness throughout the State of Georgia. To this end, DCA generally encourages all grantees to ensure that no household is turned away because they have previously resided in a differing Continuum. However, as these projects are funded to address unsheltered homelessness in the Balance of State Continuum of Care, each project must demonstrate how they are targeting, providing outreach, and participating in local coordinated entry implementation areas (as applicable), or working with providers in the county(ies) of the project's location, in order to reduce homelessness in the Balance of State CoC. Please note that under this Special NOFO, to be considered for Rural Set Aside funding, project applications must serve 100 percent rural areas in the Balance of State CoC as described in Section III.C.2.k (and Appendix B located at: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO/supplemental) and must be ranked on the Rural Set Aside project listing.

Project applicants are required to be registered with <https://www.sam.gov/SAM>, if they have not already done so, and complete or renew their registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) per Section V.A.1 of the FY 2022 Special NOFO. For more information on the SAM registration and required UEI number requirement go to: <https://sam.gov/content/duns-uei>. HUD will not enter into a grant agreement with an entity that does not have a UEI Number or an active SAM registration.

All project applicants must ensure their organization has a Code of Conduct that complies with the requirements of 2 CFR part 200 and is on file with HUD at: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/spm/gmomgmt/grantsinfo/conductgrants. If the organization's Code of Conduct does not appear on HUD's website, the project must attach its Code of Conduct that includes all required information to its Project Applicant Profile in *e-snaps*.

All project applicants must have a Certification of Consistency from the jurisdiction in which each of the proposed project(s) will be located. This assures the application for funding is consistent with the jurisdiction's HUD-approved consolidated plan as described in the NOFO. DCA staff will work with applicants and the appropriate Consolidated Planning jurisdiction for the required form *HUD-2991 - Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan*, but it is the applicant's responsibility to follow up with respective jurisdictions to ensure those jurisdictions have the project information they need to provide the certification(s) in a timely manner. Certifications must be dated between June 22, 2022 and October 20, 2022.

Project applicants must ensure that applications (Review Application and HUD application in the E-Snaps system) are complete and the information within the application is consistent throughout the application. Narratives must be fully responsive to the question being asked, and responses should meet all the criteria for that question as required by the Special NOFO and the detailed instructions provided in E-Snaps. Applicants must also ensure that proposed program participants are eligible for the program component type selected, and proposed activities are eligible under 24 CFR part 578. Applicants should also ensure that all required attachments correspond to the attachments as required in E-Snaps contain accurate and complete information.

Appeals

In accordance with 24 CFR part 578.35 and Section X of the Special NOFO (pages 60-64), applicants have the right to appeal if they believe that they were improperly denied the right to participate in the CoC planning process in a reasonable manner; were improperly denied or decreased funding; or were improperly denied a Certification of Consistency from the local government with the Consolidated Plan. The appeal MUST be carried out in the timeframe and process announced by HUD within the Special NOFO.

New Project Application Information

In line with information presented in the Special NOFO, the BoS CoC will seek applications for the following new projects under the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside: Permanent Housing projects including permanent supportive housing (PH-PSH) projects and permanent housing-rapid rehousing (PH-RRH) projects; Supportive Service Only projects including SSO Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) projects, SSO Outreach (SSO-SO) projects, and Standalone Supportive services only (SSO) projects; and Joint TH and PH-RRH projects that will serve homeless individuals and families that meet the criteria of paragraph (1) of the definition of homeless at 578.3, except that persons coming from transitional housing must have originally come from places not meant for human habitation, emergency shelters, safe havens, or institutions where they resided for 90 days or less and originally came from places not meant for human habitation, safe havens, or emergency shelters; or meet the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless at 578.3..

In line with information presented in the Special NOFO, the BoS CoC will seek applications for the following new projects under the Rural Set Aside: Permanent Housing projects including permanent supportive housing (PH-PSH) projects and permanent housing-rapid rehousing (PH-RRH) projects; Supportive Service Only projects including SSO Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) projects, SSO Outreach (SSO-SO) projects, and Standalone Supportive services only (SSO) projects; and Joint TH and PH-RRH projects that will serve homeless individuals and families that meet the criteria of the definition of "homeless" in 24 CFR 578.3. Please note the CoC does not have approval to serve individuals and families meeting the criteria of paragraph (3) of the definition of homelessness.

Eligible project applicants for this Special NOFO are found at 24 CFR 578.15 and the Act and include nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments, Indian Tribes and TDHEs (as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103). Public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100, are eligible without limitation or exclusion. For-profit entities are ineligible to apply for grants or to be subrecipients of grant funds (Section V.A and V.B.3.a of the Special NOFO).

All agencies interested in applying for a new PH-PSH, PH-RRH, Joint TH and PH-RRH Component, SSO-CE, SSO-SO, or Standalone SSO project should complete and submit a Proposal Outline (Intent to Apply) to alert the Collaborative Applicant of their intent no later than August 17, 2022. The Proposal Outline form is attached to the notice, and it will also be available at: <https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/2022-0>. Submitting a Proposal Outline will signal DCA staff to forward information to organizations (intending to submit a new project application) regarding HUD training events, webinars, etc., as well as any updated CoC policies, updated scoring criteria, notice of CoC changes, etc.

As indicated in Section V.B.3.c (page 20) of the Special NOFO, HUD has set the initial grant term for projects awarded funds for acquisition, new construction, or rehabilitation (which are only permissible for projects awarded under the Rural Set Aside) and other activities to serve program participants will be 3 to 5 years. These grants will provide up to 2 years to complete the acquisition, new construction, or rehabilitation activities, and upon completion of the acquisition, new construction, or rehabilitation, will require the remaining grant activities to serve program participants for 3 years. The initial grant term for all other projects will be 3 years, including for CoC planning and UFA costs. Grant terms may be extended, consistent with 2 CFR 200.308 and 2 CFR 200.309.

There will be **three webinars for NEW Applicants on Thursday, August 11, 2022, at 10:00 A.M., Monday, August 15, 2022, at 3:00 P.M., AND Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 12:00 P.M. Noon** to discuss the Review Application document, competition policy, scoring criteria, etc. To receive login details for these webinars, you will need to register, and once registered, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar. **Please click below to register for the webinar time slot you prefer (the second and third webinars are a repeat of the first):**

- To register for 2022 Balance of State Continuum of Care **Special NOFO Applicant Webinar #1 on Thursday, August 11, 2022, 10:00 AM** go to: <https://gadca.webex.com/gadca/j.php?RGID=re50a3a6d959e2232452b1f4639b47f00> (meeting password: BoSSpecialNOFO)
- To register for 2022 Balance of State Continuum of Care **Special NOFO Applicant Webinar #2 on Monday, August 15, 2022, at 3:00 PM** EDT go to: <https://gadca.webex.com/gadca/j.php?RGID=r329add7536b975e9a9add0a54283afe4> (meeting password: BoSSpecialNOFO)
- To register for 2022 Balance of State Continuum of Care **Special NOFO Applicant Webinar #3 on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 12:00 PM** Noon EDT go to: <https://gadca.webex.com/gadca/j.php?RGID=r374f67c564f8425c46df00aff0ae7df2> (meeting password: BoSSpecialNOFO)

All agencies submitting an application for a new PSH, new RRH, new Joint TH and PH-RRH component, SSO-CE, SSO-SO, or Standalone SSO project must submit a complete application package to the Department of Community Affairs. A complete application package includes the following for each project requested:

- The Review Application for new projects (including match/leveraging documentation and both required Addendum documents (FY 2022 BoS CoC *Special NOFO - Competition Certification-Policy Addendum* and FY BoS CoC *Special NOFO - Competition Coordinated Entry System Policy Addendum*) for each project requested);
- The agency 501(c)(3), if applicable (the 501(c)(3) for any sub-recipients must also be attached);
- A current list of Board of Directors;
- The most recent independent financial audit, or equivalent financial statement; and
- A current 990 IRS Form: Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, if applicable.

All complete new project packages must be received by the CoC Collaborative Applicant, the Department of Community Affairs, by August 29, 2022 at 3:00 pm. Submissions must be emailed to Tina Moore, CoC Program Coordinator at BoSMonitoring@dca.ga.gov.

It is the responsibility of the agencies to assure that a complete copy of all application materials are received by Tina Moore, by the above deadline (for each project). No late submissions for new projects will be accepted.

In addition to the application packet described above, applicants for new RRH, PSH, Joint TH and PH-RRH Component, SSO-CE, SSO-SO, and Standalone SSO projects must also complete, and submit, the HUD application (including all required certifications and documentation) in *e-snaps*.

The complete scoring criteria for new PSH, RRH, and Joint TH and PH-RRH Component, SSO-CE, SSO-SO, and Standalone SSO projects will be posted on the Balance of State Continuum of Care webpage at: <https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/2022-0>. Applicants are strongly advised to review the criteria before submitting an application.

Applicants must clearly demonstrate that they have experience and sufficient capacity to serve fragile, chronically homeless, and service resistant clients, and that sufficient services will be provided to clients proposed to be served.

Points will be awarded to new PH-PSH or PH-RRH projects that will utilize housing subsidies or subsidized housing units not funded through CoC or Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG), where at least 50% of units in project are subsidized by Non-CoC, Non-ESG source.

Points will be awarded to new PSH or RRH projects that will utilize healthcare resources to help participants. Value of healthcare services provided must be at least 50% of funding requested.

Threshold Criteria for All New Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, Joint TH and PH-RRH Component, SSO Coordinated Entry, SSO Street Outreach, and Standalone SSO project applications.

The CoC reserves the right not to review incomplete applications or projects that don't meet eligibility requirements. Applications may receive a threshold denial for any of the following reasons;

- Agency does not meet HUD's eligibility criteria.
- Agency does not demonstrate adequate capacity to carry out grant.
- Application proposes ineligible costs or activities.
- Application proposes to serve ineligible populations.
- Application does not show required match or insufficient commitments for leveraging.
- Proposed project does not have a specific plan to coordinate and integrate with other mainstream health, social, and employment programs to ensure that program participants are assisted to obtain benefits from the mainstream programs for which they may be eligible (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, Food Stamps, local Workforce office, early childhood education).
- Compliance or performance issues on current projects.
- Project does not demonstrate adequate impact or cost effectiveness.
- Project does not meet key federal requirements.
- New proposals requesting funding through the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside must be located within Georgia's 152 county Balance of State Continuum of Care jurisdiction.

Applications proposing projects in the following jurisdictions are not eligible to be submitted under the BoS CoC application: Atlanta, Fulton County, DeKalb County, Cobb County, Columbus-Muscogee County, Augusta-Richmond County, Athens-Clarke County, Savannah, and Chatham

County. To submit an application in one of the listed jurisdictions, you should contact the appropriate CoC jurisdiction for information.

- Agency submits an incomplete application, which includes not submitting the necessary documents listed above, or certifications/documentation as required in the HUD application.
- Agency does not utilize, or commit to utilize, ClientTrack HMIS (or a comparable family violence HMIS alternative) to capture client-level data on all clients in the project.
- Agency does not follow, or commit to follow, the Balance of State CoC's Coordinated Entry System policy and process.
- Project does not demonstrate compliance with the Fair Housing Act and 24 CFR 5.105(A)(2) – Equal Access to HUD.

Additional Threshold Criteria for projects requesting Funding under the Rural Homelessness Set Aside are as follows:

- To be considered for the Rural Set Aside project applications must serve 100 percent rural areas as described in Section III.C.2.k and must be ranked on the Rural Set Aside project listing. Projects not meeting this requirement will not be considered under this selection process in Sections II.B.2 and VIII.A of the HUD NOFO.
- A listing of Georgia Balance of State CoC counties that are defined as “Rural” as described in Section III.C.2.k can be found in Appendix B at: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO/supplemental).
- Generally, project applicants will need to select the funding type for which they are applying. However, project applications submitted requesting Rural Homeless Set Aside funding where the coverage area or project location includes one or more counties not included on Appendix B, will be reviewed as a request for Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside funding. As such, it will be required to meet eligibility requirements of the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside funding.

Additional Threshold Criteria for Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects are as follows:

- The Joint TH and PH-RRH component project combines two existing program components—transitional housing and permanent housing-rapid rehousing—in a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Recipients should prioritize those with the highest needs using an evidence-based approach designed to provide stable housing and services that, to the greatest extent possible, move the participant towards self-sufficiency and independence.
- Joint component projects must:
 - Demonstrate the project will follow a low barrier approach and prioritize rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing.
 - Demonstrate the project will be able to provide both components to all participants.
 - Use a Housing First approach with client-driven service models and a focus on helping people move to permanent housing as quickly as possible.
 - Incorporate client-choice
 - Target and prioritize people experiencing homelessness with higher needs and who are most vulnerable.
 - Limit costs as follows:
 - Leasing and operating costs for TH portion only
 - Short- or medium-term tenant-based rental assistance in RRH portion
 - Supportive services, HMIS (including for a comparable database for victim service providers), and administrative costs across the entire project.

Match and Leveraging

Applications must meet HUD's match requirements and have at least 25% of the amount of the HUD funding request in total match (outside of the amount for leasing), as well as the CoC's requirement to report an additional 75% of the amount of the HUD funding request in total leveraging, to score the maximum amount of points available for match and leveraging for the BoS CoC scoring (100% match and leveraging). Leveraging includes all funds, resources, and/or services that the applicant can secure on behalf of the client being served by the proposed project. While leveraging includes all cash and in-kind matching resources, it is broader in scope, including any other services, supplies, equipment, space, etc. that are provided by sources other than HUD.

Review Application guidelines for New projects state that projects should only report match and leveraging where there are commitment letters on file that are dated January 1, 2022 or later, and documentation should be submitted to HUD as required. New project application packages are required to include match and leveraging documentation for the scoring and ranking process.

Rural Set Aside PSH Projects ONLY: In addition to demonstrating match and leveraging for programmatic costs requested, organizations requesting capital costs for a project (i.e., acquisition, rehabilitation, or new construction) must provide documentation demonstrating there will be a dollar-for-dollar match supporting proposed development activities.

E-Snaps Information for All Renewal and New Applications

Applicants should review and follow the steps as outlined herein and in the NOFO to ensure that applications are complete and submitted in a timely manner.

For reference, the Continuum of Care Program Interim Rule was published in the Federal Register on July 31, 2012, and was effective on August 31, 2012. This information can be accessed at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2033/hearth-coc-program-interim-rule/>.

For information on accessing HUD's *E-Snaps* system to complete and submit a full BoS CoC Project Application, please go to: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/>. Note that once the competition begins, there will be a significant time delay if applicants need to register new users on the *E-Snaps* system. All applicants should ensure that they have access to the system immediately.

Other Information

DCA is committed to providing equal access to all of its programs, services and activities regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability or age. Any individual who needs an accommodation because of a disability or documents in accessible electronic formats (e.g. PDF) should contact Tina Moore at 404-327-6870 or email fairhousing@dca.ga.gov. Individuals who are hearing- or speech-impaired should use the Georgia Relay services at 1-800-255-0056 or by dialing 7-1-1 (no charge to use Georgia Relay within the local calling area). More information on Georgia Relay can be found at <https://georgiarelay.org/>.

GA DCA Contacts:

Joshua Gray

Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov

Phone: (404) 327-6811

Tina Moore

Tina.Moore@dca.ga.gov

Phone: (404) 327-6870

Cordaryl Turner

Cordaryl.Turner@dca.ga.gov

TM/tm

Attached is one (1) document:

- 1) 2022 Balance of State CoC Proposal Outline – Special NOFO

1B-2

Local Competition Scoring Tool

- Special NOFO New Project Scoring Tool

2022 Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care Review Team Scoring
NEW Projects Scoring Criteria – Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
Special NOFO

Reviewer Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Name: _____

Application/Funding Type Requested:

Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside

Rural Homelessness Set Aside

HUD Project Type: PSH; RRH; Joint TH-RRH; SSO Street Outreach;

Standalone SSO; SSO Coordinated Entry; PSH w/Development Activities (Rural Only)

Requested Amount (General Information Question 6): _____

Proposed Number of Individuals and/or Families to Serve

(Total number of households, Question 4b, second chart): _____

Please read each application fully first before scoring. Each scoring section has the question from the application that applies specifically to that scoring criteria. As the individual point amounts may vary just slightly, please read each scoring criteria fully prior to assigning a score.

There is a “Comments/Scoring Rationale” box following the scoring chart in each section. It is important that reviewers are able to provide rationalization for each project scoring, therefore, please provide comments on scoring rationale.

Threshold Information

Threshold Statements	Yes/No	Score
1. Agencies submitting new projects had 13 requirements to address that may impact eligibility to be considered for this funding (Joint TH-RRH must also meet HUD minimum standards**).	All the requirements checked and/or addressed = Yes One or more of the requirements not checked or addressed = No may impact eligibility for this funding	

Project Threshold Criteria	Scoring	Reviewer Score
Applicant meets HUD’s eligibility and threshold criteria.	Pass/Fail	
Applicant demonstrates adequate capacity to carry out grant (attachments required).*	Pass/Fail	
Project meets eligible costs or activities requirements.	Pass/Fail	
Project sufficiently demonstrates eligible populations will be served.	Pass/Fail	
Project shows required match & sufficient commitments for leveraging to implement project.	Pass/Fail	
Applicant does not have serious compliance or performance issues on current projects.	Pass/Fail	
Project demonstrates adequate impact or cost effectiveness.	Pass/Fail	

Project meets HUD Joint TH & PH-RRH Component Minimum Standards**	Pass/Fail	
Other, as identified by reviewers.	Pass/Fail	
Threshold Statements Comments		

Agency Capacity*	Possible Points	Score
<p>Agency demonstrates they have the capacity to carry out and implement the project proposed.</p> <p><u>(20 possible points)</u></p> <p>New project applicants must sufficiently describe experience administering federally funded grants, and submit the most recent financial audit, IRS Form 990, and list of current board members. New projects should also adequately describe how project will reach full operational capacity. New project applications that do not demonstrate capacity to carry out project may be rejected by the review team.</p>	<p>Response is clear and concise; financial statements/IRS Form 990 are current (without concerns); board consists of volunteer/ diverse members; applicant has experience administering federal funds; and there are no match/ leveraging concerns for reaching capacity = 20 Excellent*</p> <p>Response is adequate; financial statements/IRS Form 990 are current (any concerns addressed); board consists of volunteer/ diverse members; applicant has experience administering government funds; and there are no match/leveraging concerns for reaching capacity = 15 Good</p> <p>Response unclear and leaves unanswered questions; financial statements and/or IRS Form 990 are not current (with concerns); board consists of local volunteer/diverse members; applicant has experience administering grant funds; and/or there are match/leveraging concerns for reaching capacity = 5 Adequate</p> <p>Response and required documentation does not demonstrate experience or capacity to carry out project = 0 (May be rejected by the review team)</p> <p>*Local government applicants (county or municipality) should receive full points for this criteria provided that match has been adequately demonstrated.</p> <p>Applicants with open (unresolved) monitoring findings or concerns from HUD, DCA, or any other governmental or foundation funder, that doesn't demonstrate a satisfactory corrective plan of action may lose additional points or be determined not to meet threshold.</p>	
TOTAL (20 points maximum)		

Agency Capacity Comments	

Proposed Project Information

Agency Experience	Possible Points	Score
<p>2.</p> <p>PSH: Homeless and Permanent Supportive Housing Experience</p> <p>RRH: Homeless and Rapid Re-housing Experience</p> <p>Joint TH-RRH: Unsheltered and Youth Homeless, Transitional Housing, and Rapid Re-housing Experience</p> <p>Supportive Services: Standalone SSO, SSO Street Outreach, or SSO Coordinated Entry: Homeless and related SSO Experience</p> <p>(Question 1a, 1b, & 1c)</p> <p>(20 possible points)</p> <p>*Weighed heavily due to the importance of the experience*</p>	<p>Response is clear and concise and gives a complete picture of the relevant experience of the applicant = 20</p> <p>Response gives an adequate description of related experience, but the experience is limited = 15</p> <p>Response gives an adequate description of experience, but leaves a few unanswered questions = 10</p> <p>Response unclear and leaves unanswered questions about the experience = 0</p> <p>Response does not describe experience working with people who are homeless and/or managing a similar program type (PSH, RRH, or TH-RRH) = 0</p>	
<p>3. Leasing, Rental, Support Services, and HMIS Experience (and Development as applicable)</p> <p>(Questions 1d & 1e)</p> <p>(5 possible points)</p>	<p>Response is clear and concise and gives a complete picture of the relevant experience of the applicant and potential subrecipients (if any), for all four aspects = 5</p> <p>Response gives an adequate description of related experience, but the experience is limited for one or two aspects = 3</p> <p>Response gives an adequate description of experience, but the experience is limited for three or four aspects = 2</p> <p>Response unclear and leaves unanswered questions about the experience = 0</p> <p>Response does not describe experience related to leasing, rental assistance, support services and/or HMIS = 0</p>	
<p>TOTAL (25 points maximum)</p>		

Agency Experience Comments

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<p>4. Monitoring Findings or Concerns</p> <p>(Questions 1f & 1g)</p> <p>(4 possible points)</p>	<p>Agency has no open (unresolved) monitoring findings or concerns, and there are no outstanding Federal debts = 4</p> <p>Agency is currently working to address monitoring findings or concerns, but a response letter has not been received by applicant = 2</p> <p>Agency has open findings or concerns that aren't being addressed, or findings or concerns were of a serious financial or programmatic nature that causes capacity concerns = 0</p>	
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TOTAL
(4 points maximum)

Program Monitoring

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General Description	Possible Points	Score
<p>5. Program Description</p> <p>(Question 2a and 3b)</p> <p>(8 possible points)</p> <p>(Each checked applicable box = 1 point)</p>	Response has a clear description of how the project meets the community need for housing (or expansion if applicable) = 1	
	Response has a clear description of the target population that will be served = 1	
	Response has a clear description of a plan to address the housing and support service needs of the participants = 1	
	Response has clear proposed outcomes, <u>and</u> the proposed outcomes seem reasonable = 1	
	Response includes a description of planned and established partnerships = 1	
	Response is clear in describing why CoC support is necessary for the project = 1	
	Response clearly describes the plan to reach full project capacity in a timely manner = 1	
	Response clearly describes how project will target and prioritize people with higher needs and who are most vulnerable = 1	

<p>6. Severe Service Needs</p> <p>(Question 2b)</p> <p>(5 possible points)</p>	<p>Response is clear and concise and gives a complete picture of how project will target and prioritize individuals and families experiencing homelessness with severe services needs = 5</p> <p>Response gives an adequate description of how project will target and prioritize individuals and families experiencing homelessness with severe services needs = 3</p> <p>Response is not targeting persons with severe service needs, is unclear and leaves unanswered questions about the experience = 0</p> <p>Response does not describe how project will target and prioritize individuals and families experiencing homelessness with severe services needs = 0</p>	
<p>7. Leveraging Housing Resources</p> <p>(Question 2c)</p> <p>(5 possible points)</p>	<p>Leveraging Housing Resources: PSH or RRH project that will utilize housing subsidies or subsidized housing units not funded through ESG or CoC.</p> <p>For PSH or RRH housing projects at least 50% of the units included in project are subsidized by Non-CoC, Non-ESG source.</p> <p>Applicant demonstrates partnerships exist at or above 50% = 5</p> <p>Applicant demonstrates partnerships exist, but 50% not demonstrated = 3</p> <p>No partnerships exist = 0</p>	
<p>8. Leveraging Healthcare Resources</p> <p>(Question 2d)</p> <p>(5 possible points)</p>	<p>Leveraging Healthcare Resources: PSH or RRH projects that will utilize healthcare resources to help participants. Value of Healthcare services provided is equal to at least 50% of proposed funding requested.</p> <p>Applicant demonstrates partnerships exist at or above 50% = 5</p> <p>Applicant demonstrates partnerships exist, but 50% not demonstrated = 3</p> <p>No partnerships exist = 0</p>	
<p>9. Estimated Schedule</p> <p>(Question 2e)</p> <p>*Development projects include additional criteria</p> <p>(3 possible points)</p>	<p>Applicant provided a complete timeline showing when the project implementation milestones will occur, and they seem reasonable = 3</p> <p>Applicant provided a timeline showing when project implementation milestones will occur, but is missing 1 or 2 milestones or some of the milestones seem unrealistic = 2</p> <p>Implementation timeline is unclear or project has some feasibility concerns = 0</p> <p>*PSH applicants requesting capital costs (Only PSH under Rural Set Aside) were also requested to describe the estimated schedule for proposed activities related to development, the management plan, and the method for assuring effective and timely completion of all development.</p> <p>For PSH projects requesting funds for development activities:</p> <p>Applicant provided a complete timeline showing when the project implementation milestones will occur, management plan, and method for assuring effective timely completion of all development activities, and they seem reasonable = 3</p>	

	<p>Applicant provided a timeline showing when project implementation milestones will occur, management plan, and method for assuring effective timely completion of all development activities, but is missing milestones or some of the milestones seem unrealistic = 0</p> <p>Implementation timeline, management plan, and development activities are unclear or project has some feasibility concerns = 0 (project may be rejected)</p>	
<p>10. Capital Costs Development Projects (PSH Only/Rural Set Aside Only)</p> <p>(Questions 2e.1 (a-c) & 2b)</p> <p>(3 possible points)</p>	<p>Applicants requesting Capital Costs were asked to describe (e1.a) proposed development activities, site control and the 15-year use period, unit location, property details; (e1.b) estimated total cost for each proposed development activity, a justification for the per unit cost, and if applicable for new construction, the builder's estimate for the total cost with demonstration these costs would be less than those associated with rehabilitation or a lack of available units; and (e1.c) how project will comply with Section 3.</p> <p>Applicant provided complete detail of proposed activities, site control, property details, total activity/per unit costs, justifications, and compliance with Section 3, and they seem reasonable = 3</p> <p>Applicant provided some detail of proposed activities, site control, property details, total activity/per unit costs, justifications, and compliance with Section 3, but some narratives are incomplete, or responses seem unrealistic = 0</p> <p>Proposed development activities, site control, property, total activity/per unit costs, justifications, or compliance with Section 3 are unclear or project has some feasibility concerns = 0 (project may be rejected)</p>	
<p>11. Housing First Model</p> <p>(Question 2f)</p> <p>(3 possible points)</p>	<p>Description of how the project will incorporate a Housing First model of housing assistance that prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing that does not have service participation requirements or preconditions is thorough and leaves no unanswered questions = 3 points</p> <p>Description is adequate but leaves some unanswered questions = 1 point</p> <p>Explanation is unclear or does not align with a Housing First design = 0 points</p>	
<p>12. Housing First</p> <p>(Question 2g)</p> <p>(8 possible points)</p>	<p>Agencies were required to check each criteria that there would NOT be a policy or practice that would prevent project entry (other than state/federal-mandated exceptions) <u>and</u> to provide an explanation to support other requirements based on housing readiness. Projects that did not check one or more of the four barriers that would not prohibit participants from being enrolled in the project were required to provide an explanation. If explanation or other narratives indicate barrier is not one mandated by an outside authority, award zero points for related criteria.</p> <p>Award two points for each criteria that was selected for not being a barrier to project entry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having to little or little income: check = 2 • Active or history of substance abuse: check = 2 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having a criminal record with exceptions for state/federal mandated restrictions: check = 2 • History of victimization (e.g. domestic violence, sexual assault, childhood abuse): check = 2 • None of the above: check = 0 • Other requirements based on “housing readiness”: if satisfactory explanation can award 1 point for relevant barrier if 2 points weren’t awarded <p>Applicants that did not select any of the above policies/practices as not being a barrier for accepting a client into the project should describe the rules that would prevent entry into a project.</p>	
<p>13. Housing First (Question 2h) (8 possible points)</p>	<p>Agencies were required to indicate which, if any, factors that there would NOT be a policy or practice that would cause a client to be terminated from the project. Projects that did not check one or more of the four items, that would not be a cause for termination, were required to provide an explanation. If explanation or other narratives do not back up answer award zero points for related criteria.</p> <p>Award one point for each factor that was selected and not a cause for termination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to participate in supportive services: check = 2 • Failure to make progress on a service plan: check = 2 • Loss of income or failure to improve income: check = 2 • Any other activity not covered in a lease agreement typically found for unassisted persons in the project’s geographic area: check = 2 • None of the above (see below): check = 0 <p>Applicants that did NOT select any of the above policies/practices for termination should describe rule violations that would cause a client to be terminated from the project and any corrective measures taken prior to termination.</p>	
<p>14. Determinations by Project Type</p> <p>PSH: Prioritization of Chronically Homeless</p> <p>RRH and Joint TH-RRH: Leasing and Rental Assistance Procedure</p> <p>SSO-SO, Standalone SSO, or SSO-CE: Strategy for services to those with highest needs</p> <p>(Question 2I)</p>	<p>PSH projects: Response clearly describes a plan for identifying and prioritizing the people with the most severe needs, <u>and</u> clearly explains the outreach process that will be used to engage people living on the streets and in shelter = 6</p> <p>Response describes a plan for identifying and prioritizing the people with the most severe needs, and explains the outreach process that will be used to engage people living on the streets and in shelter, but leaves some unanswered questions = 4</p> <p>Response describes a minimal plan for identifying and prioritizing the people with the most severe needs, and may or may not include an outreach process, and leaves unanswered questions = 1</p> <p>Response unclear, incomplete, or severity of needs not considered = 0</p> <p>RRH and Joint TH-RRH projects: Response is clear and describes a consistent plan regarding assistance = 6</p> <p>Response gives an adequate description of the assistance plan, but leaves unanswered questions= 3</p>	

<p>(6 possible points)</p>	<p>Response unclear or incomplete = 0</p> <p>SSO-SO, Standalone SSO projects, or SSO Coordinated Entry: Response clearly describes a strategy for providing supportive services to those with the highest service needs, including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services = 6</p> <p>Response describes a strategy for providing supportive services to those with the highest service needs, including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services, but leaves some unanswered questions = 4</p> <p>Response describes a minimal strategy for providing supportive services to those with the highest service needs, including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services, and leaves unanswered questions = 1</p> <p>Response unclear, incomplete, or severity of needs not considered = 0</p>	
<p>15. SSO Coordinated Entry (Only)</p> <p>(Question 21 last determination by project type)</p> <p>(10 possible points)</p>	<p>SSO Coordinated Entry Lead Agencies were required to describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Geographic area to be covered = 1 point if fully addressed and demonstrates requirement will be met b) How the coordinated entry (CE) process will be affirmatively marketed and easily accessible by program participants seeking assistance = 2 points if fully addressed and demonstrates requirement will be met c) The advertisement strategy for the CE process and how it is designed to reach those with the highest barriers to accessing assistance = 2 points if fully addressed and demonstrates requirement will be met d) If the CE process will use a comprehensive, standardized assessment tool, describe the standardized assessment and referral process that directs individuals and families to appropriate services and housing = 2 points if fully addressed and demonstrates requirement will be met e) If the CE process includes differences in access, entry, assessment, or referral for certain subpopulations, are those differences limited to only the following five groups (adults without children, adults with children, unaccompanied youth, households fleeing DV, and persons at risk of homelessness) = 1 point if fully addressed and demonstrates requirement will be met f) Will the CE project refer program participants to projects that specifically coordinates and integrates mainstream health, social services, and employment programs for which they may be eligible = 2 points if fully addressed and demonstrates requirement will be met 	

<p>16. Coordinated Entry Participation</p> <p>(Question 2m)</p> <p>Assessment, Prioritization, & Eligibility Requirements</p> <p>(9 possible points)</p>	<p>Agencies were required to explain and discuss:</p> <p>a) plans to assess clients using the appropriate VI-SPDAT, or participate in a local Coordinated Entry implementation (as it relates to assessment) = 3 points if fully addressed and demonstrates requirement will be met</p> <p>b) how the project will work to ensure they are prioritizing people with the highest needs or participate in a local Coordinated Entry implementation (as it relates to prioritization of clients and project acceptance of clients through the referral process) = 3 points if fully addressed and demonstrates requirement will be met</p> <p>c) participant eligibility requirements around homelessness and disability (as applicable for PSH) for homeless persons to access and be accepted into this program = 3 points if fully met and demonstrates requirement will be met</p> <p>Agencies <i>not</i> providing a complete response may not receive full points (A-C). Projects determined <i>not</i> willing to participate in the CoC's Coordinated Entry System or <i>not</i> targeted for eligible populations may not meet threshold.</p> <p>Award three points for each criteria that fully addresses and clearly demonstrates each requirement will be met. (9 possible total points)</p>	
<p>TOTAL (73 points maximum)</p>		
<p>General Description Comments</p>		

Supportive Services	Possible Points	Score
<p>17. Educational Liaison</p> <p>(job title, responsibilities, and services)</p> <p>(Question 3a)</p> <p>(5 possible points)</p>	<p>Response identifies a job position that serves as the educational liaison, describes the roles of the position, and has a plan to ensure that children are enrolled in school, McKinney-Vento services, and other related programs = 5</p> <p>Response answers some of the above, but leaves unanswered questions = 3</p> <p>Response is unclear or incomplete = 0</p>	

<p>18. Permanent Housing Stability</p> <p>(Question 3b)</p> <p>(5 possible points)</p>	<p>Response is clear and concise, gives a complete picture of the plan to assist participants in remaining housed, and includes addressing the needs of the target population, through both case management and accessing outside services. Response should also clearly demonstrate proposed housing type meets the needs of participants, how project will work with landlords, assistance, and support to be provided to participants, and how project will work to help participants set goals. = 5</p> <p>Response is clear and concise, gives an adequate picture of the plan to assist participants in remaining housed, and includes addressing the needs of the target population, through both case management and accessing outside services. Response adequately demonstrates proposed housing type meets the needs of participants, how project will work with landlords, assistance and support to be provided to participants, and how project will work to help participants set goals = 4</p> <p>Response gives an adequate description of proposed plan, but does not address all points above = 3</p> <p>Response gives an adequate description, but leaves unanswered questions = 2</p> <p>Response unclear or incomplete = 0</p> <p>Projects proposed to exclusively serve victims of domestic violence should also describe safety planning to address the needs of participants.</p>	
<p>19. Increase in Income</p> <p>(Question 3c & 3c-1)</p> <p>(10 possible points)</p>	<p>Response is clear and concise, gives a complete picture of the specific plan to assist participants in increasing their employment and/or income, and includes addressing the needs of the target population, through both case management and coordination with mainstream service programs to ensure participants are assisted in accessing mainstream services. Response also addresses how the service delivery will result in increased employment and/or mainstream benefits, leading participants towards increased financial independence. = 10</p> <p>Response is clear and concise, gives an adequate picture of the specific plan to assist participants in increasing their employment and/or income, and includes addressing the needs of the target population, through both case management and coordination with mainstream service programs to ensure participants are assisted in accessing mainstream services. Response also addresses how the service delivery will result in increased employment and/or mainstream benefits, leading participants towards increased financial independence. = 7</p> <p>Response unclear or incomplete = 0</p> <p>Responses that do not include a specific plan to coordinate and integrate with other mainstream health, social services, and employment programs and ensure participants are assisted to obtain benefits from mainstream programs for which they may be eligible will not meet HUD threshold requirements.</p>	

<p>20. Supportive Services</p> <p>(Question 3d & 3e)</p> <p>(5 possible points)</p>	<p>Response indicates that at least 11 of 16 services will be offered/provided for the participants in order to implement a comprehensive program, and description of services is clear, frequency is often, and leaves no unanswered questions = 5</p> <p>Response indicates that at least 11 of 16 services will be offered/provided for the participants, but description of services is not clear, frequency is acceptable, or leaves some unanswered questions = 4</p> <p>Response indicates that 7-10 services will be offered/provided for the participants, and description of services is clear, frequency is acceptable, and leaves no unanswered questions = 3</p> <p>Response indicates that 7-10 services will be offered/provided for the participants, but description of services is not clear, frequency is questionable, or leaves some unanswered questions = 1</p> <p>Response indicates that less than 7 services will be offered/provided to the participants = 0</p>	
<p>TOTAL (25 points maximum)</p>		
<p>Supportive Services Comments</p>		

Project Participants	Possible Points	Score
<p>21. Racial & Ethnic Equity (Identification of barriers to participation)</p> <p>(Question 4c)</p> <p>(10 possible points)</p>	<p>Response is clear and concise, gives a complete picture of the specific plan to identify barriers to participation in this project and steps that will be taken to eliminate identified barriers = 10</p> <p>Response is clear and concise and adequately describes specific plan to identify barriers to participation in this project and steps that will be taken to eliminate identified barriers = 7</p> <p>Response includes a plan to identify barriers to participation and steps to eliminate barriers, but leaves unanswered questions = 3</p> <p>Response is unclear or incomplete = 0</p>	
<p>TOTAL (10 points maximum)</p>		
<p>Housing Type and Location and Project Participants Comments</p>		

Proposed Performance Measures	Possible Points	Score
22. Housing Stability (Question 5a) (4 possible points) Standard Baseline = 85% of households	Response indicates that the project has a plan that is thorough and realistic that will help at least 85% of participants reach housing stability = 4 Response indicates that the project has a less thorough or realistic plan to help 85% of participants reach housing stability = 2 Response does address or adequately describe how project will help participants reach housing stability, or narrative notes an anticipated rate less than 85% of households = 0	
23. Income (4 possible points) Increase in Total Income (Question 5b) Standard Baseline = 54% of households	Response indicates that the project has a plan that is thorough and realistic that will help at least 54% of participant households increase income = 4 Response indicates that the project has a less thorough or realistic plan to help at least 54% of participant households increase income = 2 Response does not address or adequately describe how project will help participant households increase income = 0	
TOTAL (8 points maximum)		
Proposed Performance Measures Comments		

Budget	Possible Points	Score
24. Budget (Question 6) (10 possible points)	The budgets and rationale for the requested amounts are complete, accurate, and realistic, and leave no questions = 10 The budgets and rationale for the requested amounts complete, accurate, and realistic, but leave unanswered questions = 7 The budgets and rationale for the requested amounts are acceptable, but leave unanswered questions = 5 The budgets and rationale for the requested amounts are not clear, complete, accurate, or realistic, and/or leave too many unanswered questions = 0	
TOTAL (10 points maximum)		
Budget Comments		

Project Match and Leveraging	Possible Points	Score
<p>25. Match (Cash or In-Kind Resources)* New projects must demonstrate required match resources equal to at least 25% of the total requested HUD funding, including project and administrative costs. *New project applicants must attach agency commitments for match (specifically dedicated to this project).</p>	<p>Match: Well defined = 5 Acceptable = 3 Unacceptable = 0 (commitments required)</p>	
<p>26. Leveraging (Cash or In-Kind Resources)* The CoC goal for all leveraged resources 75% of the grant amount (above and beyond the match amount). For this section, agencies should have reported leveraged resources outside of the match resources listed above to insure no duplication. *New project applicants must attach agency commitments for leverage (specifically dedicated to this project).</p> <p>**New PSH project applicants requesting Rural Set Aside funding that includes capital costs for acquisition, rehabilitation, or new construction)</p>	<p>Leveraging (outside of match): 75% or more = 9 50-74% = 6 40-49% = 3 Less than 40% = 0 (commitments required)</p> <p>**Leveraging criteria for PSH Rural projects requesting funding for development activities 100% or more = 9 75-99% = 4 Less than 75% = 0 (commitments required)</p>	
TOTAL (14 points maximum)		
Match and Leveraging Comments		

TOTAL APPLICATION POINTS (189 maximum points): _____

Bonus Points	Possible Points	Score
<p>Point in Time Coordinator – Bonus points available to project applications submitted by an agency that served as a homeless count coordinator for the Annual Point in Time Count conducted in February 2022.</p>	<p>Yes = 10</p> <p>No = 0</p>	

<p>Structurally Disadvantaged Area – Bonus points for Rural Set Aside projects that demonstrate they will be located in geographic areas that have high levels of homelessness, housing distress, or poverty, and are located where CoC services have until now been entirely unavailable.</p>	<p>Yes = 10 No = 0</p>	
<p>Coordinated Entry Implementation – Project proposed is critical and proposed by applicant currently managing the assessment, prioritization, and referral process for a Coordinated Entry implementation area. (20 possible bonus points)</p>	<p>Yes = 20 No = 0</p>	

TOTAL POSSIBLE BONUS POINTS (40 maximum points): _____

TOTAL APPLICATION POINTS (189 maximum) _____

+

TOTAL BONUS POINTS (40 maximum) _____

=

TOTAL POINTS (229 maximum) _____

Overall Comments, Concerns or Recommendations

1B-3

Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced

- Written Notice to Projects Rejected
- Email to All Applicants notifying them of public posting of ranking, project scores, and funding amounts
- New Project Ranking Listing (emailed and publicly posted)
- Evidence of Public Posting of Ranking and Scores
- Written Notice to Organization that submitted an intent to appeal and two project summaries on October 15, 2022, followed by submitting 2 project applications in e-snaps on October 17, 2022.

Tina Moore

From: Josh Gray
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2022 1:06 PM
To: Jim Lindenmayer - 80
Cc: Tina Moore; Cordaryl Turner
Subject: Balance of State Special Competition Results

Dear Mr. Lindenmayer,

Regretfully I am writing you to let you know that the Balance of State Continuum of Care will not be advancing your request for Rapid Re-Housing funds for American Legion Thomas M. Brady Post 45 through the HUD Continuum of Care special competition.

Threshold eligibility issues centered on the following areas:

- The proposed Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) project design did not meet the parameters of an RRH project. Application narratives indicated that the proposed RRH assistance would be provide in a hotel (measured by over/under 28 day stay). RRH requires that rental assistance be provided in rental units where the lease is in the participant's name. In addition, application language did not demonstrate that this is a permanent housing project, and emergency shelter is not an eligible activity under the Continuum of Care Program.
-
- Permanent housing as defined in 24 CFR 578.3 the program participant must be the tenant on a lease for a term of at least one year, which is renewable for terms that are at a minimum of one month long, and is terminable only for cause. <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2017-title24-vol3/xml/CFR-2017-title24-vol3-part578.xml>
 - *"Permanent housing means community-based housing without a designated length of stay, and includes both permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing. To be permanent housing, the program participant must be the tenant on a lease for a term of at least one year, which is renewable for terms that are a minimum of one month long, and is terminable only for cause."*

Other issues noted by application reviewers included concerns that the narrative did not fully describe the program or that participates would be homeless as defined under the CoC program.

While the Balance of State Continuum of Care is unable to support funding from HUD for this project at this time, we wish you every success in securing necessary funds to continue all of the good work of your agency.

Should you wish to have technical assistance prior to a future competition on eligible activities and costs under the CoC program please reach out to schedule some time. Should you have questions or concerns, please contact me at any time. You can also contact Tina Moore for questions at (404) 327-6870 or tina.moore@dca.ga.gov.

Sincerely,

Joshua Gray



Learn more about our commitment to [fair housing](#).



Josh Gray
Continuum of Care Program Manager
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30329

Direct 404-327-6811
Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov

Tina Moore

From: Josh Gray
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2022 1:05 PM
To: lhartman@safeharborcenterinc.org; jclark@safeharborcenterinc.org; Kathy Flournoy
Cc: Tina Moore; Cordaryl Turner
Subject: Balance of State Special Competition Results

Dear Ms. Hartman, Mr. Clark, and Ms. Flournoy,

I am writing you to let you know that the Balance of State Continuum of Care received a fourth application in e-snaps requesting Supportive Service Only funds for Safe Harbor Children's Center, Inc. through the HUD Continuum of Care special competition. This fourth e-snaps application was determined to be a duplicate. This email serves as formal notice that the Balance of State Continuum of Care will not be advancing this duplicate request for funding through the HUD Continuum of Care special competition.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time. You can also contact Tina Moore for questions at (404) 327-6870 or tina.moore@dca.ga.gov.

Notice regarding the other three applications submitted in the Balance of State Continuum of Care special competition has been sent in another email.

Sincerely,

Joshua Gray



Learn more about our commitment to [fair housing](#).



Josh Gray
Continuum of Care Program Manager
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30329

Direct 404-327-6811
Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov

Tina Moore

From: Tina Moore
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2022 3:01 PM
To: HAD Office of Homeless & Special Needs
Subject: Georgia BoS 2022 CoC Special Competition - Applicant Notification of Project Ranking
Attachments: 2022 Balance of State CoC Project Priority Ranking - Special Competition.pdf

Good afternoon 2022 Balance of State CoC Special Competition Applicants,

By now all direct applicant agencies should have received individualized results for new projects submitted under the 2022 Balance of State Continuum of Care Special Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness. We had conference calls with the CoC Review Teams on September 14st, and the scoring results and/or threshold results have been sent to each applicant agency. If you do not see that you have received your results, please contact me.

Attached please find the final Priority Chart showing the project ranking results approved by the Balance of State CoC Board on September 29, 2022, following approval by the Standards, Rating, and Project Selection Committee on September 21, 2022. This information is also posted on DCA's web page at: <https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/2022-0>. Please note that there are budget corrections pending for new projects, and the updated priority ranking chart will be posted once all corrections are made. This will not impact the ranking for either listing.

As noted in the CoC Supplemental NOFO (<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=341301>), HUD will score the FY 2022 CoC Application under the special competition with the criteria set forth in Section VII.B of the Supplemental NOFO. HUD will use two processes to select projects for this Special NOFO -one for the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside and one for the Rural Set Aside, as outlined in Section II.B.2 of the HUD Special NOFO (page 4).

The next steps are:

- Our staff is working to complete the review of project applications in e-snaps, and will be in contact with new applicants regarding corrections and adjustments required and to set up a meeting time to discuss.

Should you have questions, please contact me (tina.moore@dca.ga.gov) or Josh Gray at (Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov).

Thank you,
Tina



Learn more about our commitment to [fair housing](#).



Tina Moore

Continuum of Care Program Coordinator
Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Direct 404-327-6870
tina.moore@dca.ga.gov

**2022 Georgia Balance of State Special NOFO Project Application Priority Ranking
Rural Homelessness Set Aside and Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside
Approved 9/29/22**

Rural Homelessness Set Aside Project Scores and Ranking

<u>Ranking</u>	<u>Funding Group</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Project Type</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
New project applications submitted under both set asides were scored & ranked using the same scoring criteria. Projects under the Rural Homelessness Set Aside were then ranked based on score.						
1	Rural	Safe Harbor Children's Center, Inc	Rural Coordinated Entry	SSO-CE	133.50	\$716,700
2	Rural	Advocates for Bartow's Children	SSO Youth Project (Rural Standalone SSO)	Standalone SSO	128.68	\$455,400
3	Rural	Union Mission Inc	Rural Permanent Supportive Housing	PH-PSH	113.00	\$1,535,538
4	Rural	Safe Harbor Children's Center, Inc	Rural Street Outreach	SSO-SO	110.00	\$663,300
5	Rural	Albany Area CSB	Rural PSH	PH-PSH	94.33	\$1,582,299

Total Rural Homelessness Set Aside Funding Requested \$4,953,237

Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside Project Scores and Ranking

<u>Ranking</u>	<u>Funding Group</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Project Type</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
New project applications submitted under both set asides were scored & ranked using the same scoring criteria. Projects under the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside were then ranked in the following order: Group 1 - New PSH, RRH, Joint TH & PH-RRH Component, and SSO projects based on score; Group 2 - New HMIS and CoC Planning projects; and Group 3 - New projects that met eligibility/quality threshold originally submitted as Rural Set Aside project, but did not score well enough to be included in maximum amount allocated to CoC (if eligible). There were no projects for Group 3.						
1	Unsheltered	Macon Bibb County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc.	Macon Bibb County Standalone SSO	Standalone SSO	137.50	\$462,000
2	Unsheltered	Safe Harbor Children's Center, Inc	Coastal Coordinated Entry	SSO-CE	137.50	\$214,500
3	Unsheltered	Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD)	DBHDD Care Outreach Teams	SSO-SO	136.00	\$8,170,044
4	Unsheltered	Clayton County Community Service Agency	Rapid Rehousing	PH-RRH	114.50	\$621,500
5	Unsheltered	Georgia Housing and Finance Authority	HMIS	HMIS	bottom of ranking	\$510,342
6	Unsheltered	Georgia Department of Community Affairs	Unsheltered Planning Grant	Planning	bottom of ranking	\$284,041
N/A	Unsheltered	American Legion Thomas M Brady Post 45	Cherokee County Homeless Veteran Rapid Rehousing (Did not meet threshold)	PH-RRH	N/A	\$0

Total Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside Funding Requested \$10,262,427

*Pending budget corrections, new project funding request amounts are subject to change.

9/29/2022

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE
Providing resources, tools, and technical assistance to cities, counties, and local authorities to help strengthen communities

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Connecting communities to funding sources to help build capacity and encourage economic development while honoring the community's past through historic preservation

SAFE & AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Helping communities meet housing needs and connecting people with housing assistance

Safe & Affordable Housing > Homeless and Special Needs Housing > Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care > 2022 CoC Supplemental Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (Special NOFO)

2022 CoC Supplemental Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (Special NOFO)

Basic Info

September 30, 2022 - UPDATE: Please find the 2022 Balance of State CoC Priority Ranking posted below, as approved by the Balance of State CoC Board on 9/29/22. The FY2022 Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care Special Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness was opened on August 9, 2022, where the Georgia Balance of State CoC Board of Directors was accepting applications for eligible projects as outlined in the Special NOFO Competition policy and related materials listed below.

On June 22, 2022, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released a first-of-its-kind package of resources to address unsheltered homelessness and homeless encampments, including funds set aside specifically to address homelessness in rural communities. HUD is providing CoCs the opportunity to submit project applications for two funding opportunities through this Special NOFO: (1) Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside and (2) Rural Set Aside. CoCs may apply for projects under one or both funding opportunities as follows:

- 1. Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside. Projects included in this funding opportunity may serve any geographic area within the CoC and must meet all eligibility and quality threshold requirements established in this Special NOFO.
2. Rural Set Aside. Projects included in this funding opportunity must serve geographic areas that meet the definition of "rural area" as defined in Section III.C.2.k of the NOFO and meet all eligibility and quality threshold requirements established in this Special NOFO.

Please note, this competition is separate from the annual competition. Information for the regular competition that is held annually can be found at 2022 CoC Competition - Annual Competition page.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs, as Collaborative Applicant for the Balance of State CoC, is committed to providing all persons with equal access to its services, programs, activities, education and employment regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability or age. Additional information can be found on DCA's Fair Housing Statement page at https://dca.ga.gov/fairhousing.

2022 Balance of State Continuum of Care Special NOFO Application Documents

- 2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Application (coming soon)
2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Project Priority Listing (coming soon)
2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Project Ranking Chart

BoS CoC Policy - Supplemental NOFO

- 2022 Georgia BoS CoC Special NOFO Competition Policy - Includes DEADLINES
Outline of Overarching Policy Priorities Highlighted in 2022 Special NOFO

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2022 CoC Supplemental Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (Special NOFO)

Basic Info

September 30, 2022 - UPDATE: Please find the 2022 Balance of State CoC Priority Ranking posted below, as approved by the Balance of State CoC Board on 9/29/22. The FY2022 Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care Special Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness was opened on August 9, 2022, where the Georgia Balance of State CoC Board of Directors was accepting applications for eligible projects as outlined in the Special NOFO Competition policy and related materials listed below. The final

CoC Application and Priority Ranking Listing for the special competition are expected to be posted to this page by October 18, 2022.

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2. *Rural Set Aside*. Projects included in this funding opportunity must serve geographic areas that meet the definition of "rural area" as defined in Section III.C.2.k of the NOFO and meet all eligibility and quality threshold requirements established in this Special NOFO. CoCs whose geographic areas do not include any rural areas are not eligible for funding under this funding opportunity. A CoC's maximum award amount for this funding opportunity is described in Section III.J of the NOFO.

Please note, this competition is separate from the annual competition. Information for the regular competition that is held annually can be found at [2022 CoC Competition - Annual Competition page \(/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/2022-coc\)](https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/2022-coc).

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2022 Balance of State Continuum of Care Special NOFO Application Documents

- 2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Application (coming soon)
- 2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Project Priority Listing (coming soon)
- [2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Project Ranking Chart \(/sites/default/files/2022_balance_of_state_coc_project_priority_ranking_-_special_competition.pdf\)](/sites/default/files/2022_balance_of_state_coc_project_priority_ranking_-_special_competition.pdf)

BoS CoC Policy - Supplemental NOFO

- [2022 Georgia BoS CoC Special NOFO Competition Policy \(/sites/default/files/2022_ga_bos_coc_special_nofo_competition_policy_approved.pdf\)](/sites/default/files/2022_ga_bos_coc_special_nofo_competition_policy_approved.pdf)- Includes DEADLINES
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BoS CoC Webinars - Georgia BoS Special NOFO Applicant Webinars

- [2022 Georgia BoS CoC Special NOFO Applicant Webinar Presentation \(/sites/default/files/2022_ga_coc_specnofo_applicant_meeting_-_aug_11_15_16.pdf\)](/sites/default/files/2022_ga_coc_specnofo_applicant_meeting_-_aug_11_15_16.pdf) - **SAVE THE DATE** - Registration Links can be found in the Competition Policy
 - Thursday, August 11, 2022 (10:00 AM)
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Project Scoring Criteria Form - Supplemental NOFO

- [2022 Georgia BoS CoC NEW Project Scoring Form - Unsheltered and Rural \(/sites/default/files/2022_ga_bos_coc_new_project_scoring_form_-_unsheltered_rural.pdf\)](/sites/default/files/2022_ga_bos_coc_new_project_scoring_form_-_unsheltered_rural.pdf)

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- [Listing of Housing Tax Credit Program \(LIHTC\) Developers - Applicants and Selected Projects \(/node/3814\)](/node/3814)

Related Links:

[HUD CoC Supplemental to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness - HUD Competition Page](#) 

[Rural County Listing - Special NOFO - Rural Homelessness Set Aside](#) 

[HUD CoC Supplemental to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness Grants.Gov](#) 

Documents



Forms (/node/8048/documents/10)



Publications
(/node/8048/documents/11)



Presentations
(/node/8048/documents/2083)



Awards (/node/8048/documents/2084)



Applications (/node/8048/documents/2091)

Tina Moore

From: Josh Gray
Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2022 12:55 PM
To: icofgeorgia@yahoo.com; pamturn211@gmail.com
Cc: Tina Moore; Cordaryl Turner
Subject: 2022 Balance of State Special Competition response

Dear Ms. Turner:

On October 15, 2022 we received your Notice of Intent to Appeal and submit a solo application along with some summary documents. Throughout the course of the competition we did not receive a review application from you or your agency nor did we receive a notice of intent to apply in our Special NOFO competition to address rural and unsheltered homelessness.

On October 17, 2022 an application for Joint TH & PH-RRH was submitted to the Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC) in e-snaps under the Unsheltered Set Aside. Additionally, on October 17, 2022 an application for Joint TH & PH-RRH was submitted to the Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC) in e-snaps under the Rural Set Aside. Regretfully I am writing you to let you know that the Balance of State CoC will not be advancing your requests for Joint TH & PH-RRH funds for Good Samaritans Inn Phrase 2 and 3, Inc. through the HUD Continuum of Care special competition to address Rural and Unsheltered Homelessness.

Please note all competition deadlines to submit an application for a housing project have passed. The deadline for project application packages to be received by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) was August 29, 2022. Pages 11-12 of the Balance of State CoC Special NOFO Competition Policy found at <https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/2022-0> states the following:

All agencies submitting an application for a new PSH, new RRH, new Joint TH and RRH component, SSO-CE, SSO-SO, or Standalone SSO project must submit a complete application package includes the following for each project requested:

- The review Application for new projects (including match/leveraging documentation and both required Addendum documents (*FY 2022 BoS CoC Special NOFO - Competition Certification-Policy Addendum and FY 2022 BoS CoC Special NOFO - Competition Coordinated Entry System Policy Addendum*) for each project requested);
- The agency 501(c)(3), if applicable (the 501 (c)(3) for any sub-recipients must also be attached);
- A current list of Board of Directors;
- The most recent independent financial audit, or equivalent financial statement; and
- A current 990 IRS Form: Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, if applicable.

All complete new project packages must be received by the CoC Collaborative Applicant, the Department of Community Affairs, by August 29, 2022 at 3:00 pm. Submissions must be emailed to Tina Moore CoC Program Coordinator at BoSMonitoring@dca.ga.gov.

It is the responsibility of the agencies to assure that a complete copy of all application materials are received by Tina Moore, by the above deadline (for each project). No late submissions for new projects will be accepted.

While the Balance of State Continuum of Care is unable to support funding from HUD for these projects at this time, we wish you every success in securing necessary funds to continue this work.

Should you have questions or concerns, please contact me at any time. You can also contact Tina Moore(404-327-6870 or tina.moore@dca.gov) for questions.

Sincerely,
Joshua Gray



Learn more about our commitment to [fair housing](#).



Josh Gray
Continuum of Care Program Manager
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30329

Direct 404-327-6811
Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov

Tina Moore

From: Pamela Turner <icofgeorgia@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 15, 2022 2:59 PM
To: Tina Moore
Subject: Appeal Application
Attachments: Unsheltered Homelessness with Written Commitment (2).pdf; Rural Homelessness Set Aside .pdf

From; Good Samaritans Inn Phrase 2 and 3, Inc.

To; Ms. Tina Moore, COC Program Coordinator

Written Notice of Intent to Appeal,

Type of Appeal: Solo Applicant

This is a Solo Application attachment, for the special NOFO FR-6500-N-25S Continuum of Care Supplemental to address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness.

Application due Oct 20, 2022

Please Feel free to email me at icofgeorgia@yahoo.com

it is a different email than pamturn211@gmail.com

"Application attachment below"

Thank you,
678-973-9591

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

1B-3a

Notification of Projects Accepted

- Applicant email notification of project ranking (with priority ranking listing)
- New Project Ranking Listing
- Posting Evidence

Tina Moore

From: Tina Moore
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2022 3:01 PM
To: HAD Office of Homeless & Special Needs
Subject: Georgia BoS 2022 CoC Special Competition - Applicant Notification of Project Ranking
Attachments: 2022 Balance of State CoC Project Priority Ranking - Special Competition.pdf

Good afternoon 2022 Balance of State CoC Special Competition Applicants,

By now all direct applicant agencies should have received individualized results for new projects submitted under the 2022 Balance of State Continuum of Care Special Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness. We had conference calls with the CoC Review Teams on September 14st, and the scoring results and/or threshold results have been sent to each applicant agency. If you do not see that you have received your results, please contact me.

Attached please find the final Priority Chart showing the project ranking results approved by the Balance of State CoC Board on September 29, 2022, following approval by the Standards, Rating, and Project Selection Committee on September 21, 2022. This information is also posted on DCA's web page at: <https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/2022-0>. Please note that there are budget corrections pending for new projects, and the updated priority ranking chart will be posted once all corrections are made. This will not impact the ranking for either listing.

As noted in the CoC Supplemental NOFO (<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=341301>), HUD will score the FY 2022 CoC Application under the special competition with the criteria set forth in Section VII.B of the Supplemental NOFO. HUD will use two processes to select projects for this Special NOFO -one for the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside and one for the Rural Set Aside, as outlined in Section II.B.2 of the HUD Special NOFO (page 4).

The next steps are:

- Our staff is working to complete the review of project applications in e-snaps, and will be in contact with new applicants regarding corrections and adjustments required and to set up a meeting time to discuss.

Should you have questions, please contact me (tina.moore@dca.ga.gov) or Josh Gray at (Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov).

Thank you,
Tina



Learn more about our commitment to [fair housing](#).



Tina Moore
Continuum of Care Program Coordinator
Georgia Department of Community Affairs

Direct 404-327-6870
tina.moore@dca.ga.gov

**2022 Georgia Balance of State Special NOFO Project Application Priority Ranking
Rural Homelessness Set Aside and Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside
Approved 9/29/22**

Rural Homelessness Set Aside Project Scores and Ranking

<u>Ranking</u>	<u>Funding Group</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Project Type</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
New project applications submitted under both set asides were scored & ranked using the same scoring criteria. Projects under the Rural Homelessness Set Aside were then ranked based on score.						
1	Rural	Safe Harbor Children's Center, Inc	Rural Coordinated Entry	SSO-CE	133.50	\$716,700
2	Rural	Advocates for Bartow's Children	SSO Youth Project (Rural Standalone SSO)	Standalone SSO	128.68	\$455,400
3	Rural	Union Mission Inc	Rural Permanent Supportive Housing	PH-PSH	113.00	\$1,535,538
4	Rural	Safe Harbor Children's Center, Inc	Rural Street Outreach	SSO-SO	110.00	\$663,300
5	Rural	Albany Area CSB	Rural PSH	PH-PSH	94.33	\$1,582,299

Total Rural Homelessness Set Aside Funding Requested \$4,953,237

Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside Project Scores and Ranking

<u>Ranking</u>	<u>Funding Group</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Project Type</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Funds Requested</u>
New project applications submitted under both set asides were scored & ranked using the same scoring criteria. Projects under the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside were then ranked in the following order: Group 1 - New PSH, RRH, Joint TH & PH-RRH Component, and SSO projects based on score; Group 2 - New HMIS and CoC Planning projects; and Group 3 - New projects that met eligibility/quality threshold originally submitted as Rural Set Aside project, but did not score well enough to be included in maximum amount allocated to CoC (if eligible). There were no projects for Group 3.						
1	Unsheltered	Macon Bibb County Economic Opportunity Council, Inc.	Macon Bibb County Standalone SSO	Standalone SSO	137.50	\$462,000
2	Unsheltered	Safe Harbor Children's Center, Inc	Coastal Coordinated Entry	SSO-CE	137.50	\$214,500
3	Unsheltered	Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD)	DBHDD Care Outreach Teams	SSO-SO	136.00	\$8,170,044
4	Unsheltered	Clayton County Community Service Agency	Rapid Rehousing	PH-RRH	114.50	\$621,500
5	Unsheltered	Georgia Housing and Finance Authority	HMIS	HMIS	bottom of ranking	\$510,342
6	Unsheltered	Georgia Department of Community Affairs	Unsheltered Planning Grant	Planning	bottom of ranking	\$284,041
N/A	Unsheltered	American Legion Thomas M Brady Post 45	Cherokee County Homeless Veteran Rapid Rehousing (Did not meet threshold)	PH-RRH	N/A	\$0

Total Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside Funding Requested \$10,262,427

*Pending budget corrections, new project funding request amounts are subject to change.

9/29/2022

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE
Providing resources, tools, and technical assistance to cities, counties, and local authorities to help strengthen communities

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Connecting communities to funding sources to help build capacity and encourage economic development while honoring the community's past through historic preservation

SAFE & AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Helping communities meet housing needs and connecting people with housing assistance

Safe & Affordable Housing > Homeless and Special Needs Housing > Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care > 2022 CoC Supplemental Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (Special NOFO)

2022 CoC Supplemental Competition to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (Special NOFO)

Basic Info

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2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Project Priority Listing (coming soon)
2022 Balance of State CoC Supplemental NOFO Project Ranking Chart

BoS CoC Policy - Supplemental NOFO

- 2022 Georgia BoS CoC Special NOFO Competition Policy - Includes DEADLINES
Outline of Overarching Policy Priorities Highlighted in 2022 Special NOFO

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Awards (/node/8048/documents/2084)



Applications (/node/8048/documents/2091)

P-1 (e-snaps) / P-1a (detailed instructions)

Leveraging Housing Commitment

- Georgia Public Housing Authority (Georgia Department of Community Affairs) Commitment Letter
- Georgia Department of Community Affairs HOME ARP Commitment Letter
- The Georgia Balance of State CoC has included applications for 64 units of PSH in the Rural Set aside and 7 units of RRH in the Unsheltered Set Aside. The PHA commitment of over 100 units is more than enough to leverage the submitted program applications.

October 11, 2022

SENT VIA EMAIL TO Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov

Joshua Gray
Continuum of Care Program Manager
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

RE: Special NOFO, PHA Commitment

Dear Mr. Gray:


This letter serves as written commitment by the Georgia PHA to support the Balance of State (BoS) Continuum of Care (CoC) in its application for the Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness. Through this commitment, the PHA will leverage a continuing CoC preference for eligible individuals as well as the designation of more than one hundred (100) vouchers to support greater housing resources and choice for those eligible.

Utilizing the BoS's Coordinated Entry System (CES), eligible participants are referred directly to the PHA for priority issuance of a voucher, thereby shortening their time experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness across the BoS geography. Individuals or families fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking are included eligible participants for this priority status. The Georgia PHA has a 149-county coverage area, including Bulloch, Calhoun, Decatur, Early, Miller, and Seminole counties (those with proposed PSH projects through this special NOFO).

This preference is applicable to current and future voucher programs, including the Housing Choice Voucher, Emergency Housing Voucher, and future Stability Voucher Program which is still currently being discussed between the CoC and PHA teams. The partnership and voucher preference provide increased housing stock for eligible participants outside of CoC-funded programs, thereby extending the reach of the CoC's impact through utilization of resources from this separate entity and instilling resident choice in the housing search process. The PHA commits to designating at least 100 vouchers for the CoC preference and may make more than this initial amount available as needed.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with the CoC through this special funding opportunity.

Sincerely,


Waquele Holley
Director of Operations
Housing Choice Voucher Division

October 11, 2022

SENT VIA EMAIL TO Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov

Joshua Gray
Continuum of Care Program Manager
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

RE: Special NOFO, Leveraging Housing Commitment

Dear Mr. Gray:

This letter serves as written commitment by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Office that administers the HOME Program, to support the Balance of State (BoS) Continuum of Care (CoC) in its application for the Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness. DCA has established the budget for HOME-ARP funding to grow temporary and permanent housing opportunities across the BoS geography.

The HOME-ARP allocation plan concentrates development of new units in rural areas to provide greater access to housing and emergency shelter where both resources have been lacking historically. HOME-ARP funds create an opportunity for long-lasting impact, through development of new and rehabilitation of existing housing stock, with eligible projects funded through September 2030.

Most HOME-ARP funds (73.5%) are designated for rural affordable rental housing development, thereby increasing the available stock across the state. With a total of \$64,424,131, funds will be dispersed over five years (from 2023 to 2027) to develop 50 units of affordable housing each year for the stated five-year period. HOME-ARP funds can pay up to 100% of the cost of construction and provide an operating reserve for the fifteen-year affordability period.

The HOME-ARP plan additionally allocates funding for non-congregate shelter units operated by nonprofits and public agencies. Envisioned as transitional in nature, these units will serve to support individuals and families moving from emergency shelter into more permanent housing opportunities. This funding (\$8,765,517) will be distributed through subsequent annual competitions in 2023, 2024, and 2025 to eligible projects. Recognizing the lack of this type of resource in many parts of the BoS geography, the plan seeks to remove people from unsheltered circumstances as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,



Samanta Carvalho
Director, Office of Community Housing Development
Housing Finance & Development Division

P-1a (e-snaps) / P-1b (detailed instructions) PHA Commitment

- Georgia Public Housing Authority (Georgia Department of Community Affairs) Commitment Letter

October 11, 2022

SENT VIA EMAIL TO Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov

Joshua Gray
Continuum of Care Program Manager
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

RE: Special NOFO, PHA Commitment

Dear Mr. Gray:


This letter serves as written commitment by the Georgia PHA to support the Balance of State (BoS) Continuum of Care (CoC) in its application for the Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness. Through this commitment, the PHA will leverage a continuing CoC preference for eligible individuals as well as the designation of more than one hundred (100) vouchers to support greater housing resources and choice for those eligible.

Utilizing the BoS's Coordinated Entry System (CES), eligible participants are referred directly to the PHA for priority issuance of a voucher, thereby shortening their time experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness across the BoS geography. Individuals or families fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking are included eligible participants for this priority status. The Georgia PHA has a 149-county coverage area, including Bulloch, Calhoun, Decatur, Early, Miller, and Seminole counties (those with proposed PSH projects through this special NOFO).

This preference is applicable to current and future voucher programs, including the Housing Choice Voucher, Emergency Housing Voucher, and future Stability Voucher Program which is still currently being discussed between the CoC and PHA teams. The partnership and voucher preference provide increased housing stock for eligible participants outside of CoC-funded programs, thereby extending the reach of the CoC's impact through utilization of resources from this separate entity and instilling resident choice in the housing search process. The PHA commits to designating at least 100 vouchers for the CoC preference and may make more than this initial amount available as needed.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with the CoC through this special funding opportunity.

Sincerely,


Waquele Holley
Director of Operations
Housing Choice Voucher Division

P-3 (e-snaps) / P-2 (detailed instructions) Healthcare Leveraging Commitment

- Georgia Department of Behavioral Health Commitment Letter



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health
& Developmental Disabilities

Judy Fitzgerald, Commissioner

Office of Supportive Housing

Date: October 11, 2022

SENT VIA EMAIL TO: Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov

Joshua Gray
Continuum of Care Program Manager
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

RE: Special NOFO, Healthcare Leveraging Commitment

Dear Mr. Gray:

This letter serves as written commitment by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) to support the Balance of State (BoS) Continuum of Care (CoC) in its application for the Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness by providing access to behavioral health services for all program participants who qualify and choose these services.

DBHDD serves and supports individuals with behavioral health disabilities, including the provision of care and recovery services to those with mental health and substance use challenges. Across DBHDD's six regions there are 22 Community Service Boards (CSBs) within the BoS geography, most of which are also PSH providers. The population served is one of the most vulnerable and traditionally most difficult to serve.

Individuals lack access to needed health services for a variety of reasons, notably based on difficulty experienced with the application/intake process (possibly because of a disabling or other health condition) as well as the high cost of services, especially for those who are uninsured. SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery) specialists assist eligible individuals to apply for SSI/SSDI benefits, sometimes considered the first step in working toward support and recovery. DBHDD has measurable success collaborating with community health departments/organizations, especially those which provide services to vulnerable populations.

DBHDD trained and operated PATH (Projects for Assistance in Transitioning from Homelessness) outreach teams connect individuals to community providers to allow the individual to enroll in a more long-term treatment plan or program, if desired. These are just some of the health resources that are available to eligible individuals through DBHDD's statewide provider network.

Sincerely,

Maxwell Ruppensburg, MPA, PMP
Director, Office of Supportive Housing, Division of Behavioral Health
Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

CC: Monica Johnson, Director, Division of Behavioral Health, DBHDD

P-9c

Lived Experience Support Letter

- Georgia BoS CoC Youth Action Board Support Letter

Brian P. Kemp
Governor



Christopher Nunn
Commissioner

October 11, 2022

SENT VIA EMAIL TO Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov

Joshua Gray
Continuum of Care Program Manager
Georgia Department of Community Affairs
60 Executive Park South, NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

RE: Special NOFO, Lived Experience Support Letter

Dear Mr. Gray,

This letter serves as written commitment by the Youth Action Board to support the Balance of State (BoS) Continuum of Care (CoC) in its application for the Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness

We, the undersigned, have reviewed the CoC's plan for this Special NOFO and are in support of the outlined priorities for serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness with severe service needs across the BoS geography. We represent a sub-committee of the central CoC board, and each have our own lived experience of homelessness or housing instability. We look forward to continuing our work to combat youth homelessness, and homelessness generally across our state.

Sincerely,


Taelor Austin (Oct 14, 2022 19:04 EDT)

Taelor Austin, YAB member


Immanuel Laidlaw (Oct 18, 2022 14:41 EDT)

Immanuel Laidlaw, YAB member


Sierra Phipps (Oct 15, 2022 14:14 EDT)

Sierra Phipps, YAB member


Mary Sanders (Oct 17, 2022 17:54 EDT)

Mary Sanders, YAB member

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Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care (GA-501) Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs

Leveraging Housing Resources

- 1) Development of new units and creation of housing opportunities. (when available, to whom, etc.)**
 - a. (This section requires a letter of commitment, no narrative)**
- 2) Landlord Recruitment**

The current landlord recruitment strategy utilizes Landlord Engagement Specialists as partners alongside community agencies. In this way, Specialists bridge gaps in understanding around ESG-CV guidelines, share resources, and connect landlords with agencies in their area seeking housing resources for clients. These Specialists have backgrounds in real estate, drawing upon industry knowledge to support all relevant stakeholders.

Pre-pandemic, this strategy was one that worked well across our BoS geography. However, the role has evolved and grown following the increased need for permanent, affordable housing in the current housing market. The Landlord Engagement team is finding its rhythm within a larger team, reflecting an ever-changing strategy driven by what suits each community best. Georgia is experiencing a housing affordability crisis, compounded by the fact that each community/county/region is different from the next and needing its own unique approach. Currently, habitable spaces are 98% filled, making it extremely difficult to place individuals in need of housing. Specialists continue to connect with landlords and strengthen relationships with former ones in the interim.

The present strategy could be strengthened by concentrating more resources at the community level. Funding set aside for communities who have their finger on pulse of needs/realities in different pockets of the state would assist at a more local level, as well as funding for local real estate agents to identify housing resources. This strategy proves most effective when agencies have the funding to get creative in their identification and recruitment of available units. Funding dedicated to this work will help build and foster steady relationships through the maintenance of relationships and housing pipelines. Hosting breakfasts or other local events could present an opportunity to identify prospective landlords, to engage and maintain contact for future vacancies. Regional representatives, each responsible for one of twelve regions in the state, could assist in this relationship building especially noting their engagement on a local level within their assigned region. The team is also assembling a marketing campaign to create more publicity around its landlord recruitment efforts across the state.

The Georgia Rental Assistance (GRA) program emerged in early March 2021 to help Georgia renters with past due rent and utilities payments. To date, this program has paid over \$416 million to eligible participants, engaging with more than 7,300 landlords across the state thereby supporting and strengthening housing stability for more than 46,000 renters and their families. Leveraging this access to landlord information gathered throughout the span of the

GRA program's assistance could serve as the beginning of a central database of Georgia landlords from which to draw in the future. These contacts could be combined with the regional approach suggested above have portfolios of landlords by region, county, or some other designation that retains a localized approach. DCA's effort to support landlords through the pandemic represents a good faith effort to work together more closely on future subsidized housing programs.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta compiles data within its Southeastern Rental Affordability Tracker. Using data from the American Community Survey (ACS) from 2015 to 2019, surplus and deficit numbers of affordable and available rental units are compiled for individuals living at 30%, 50%, and 80% of AMI. Data compiled from the Metropolitan Statistical Areas within the BoS geographic area show staggering need for affordable and available units, notably for populations earning 30% and 50% of AMI in their respective regions. In 2019, there was a deficit of approximately 41,122 units (30% AMI) and 35,746 units (50% AMI). These numbers have likely only increased since the most recent data capture in 2019, signifying a particular burden or instability for low-income individuals and families. A tool like this allows for the identification of need and the scale at which a deficit or surplus exists, representing an excellent resource to focus landlord engagement efforts and perhaps bring to local governments and municipalities to inform their policies around affordable housing accessibility. Monthly or quarterly reports from community providers may provide greater insight into more current numbers and the geographic location of individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Leveraging Healthcare Resources (this section requires a “written commitment from a health care organization”)

CoC's Current Strategy to Identify, Shelter, and House Individuals and Families Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness.

1) Current Street Outreach Strategy.

The CoC continues work with the Georgia Non-Entitlement ESG Recipient to prioritize street outreach in the Balance of State. There are 10 ESG funded outreach programs and 6 ESG-CV funded street outreach programs to cover 53 counties (representing 35% coverage within our BoS geography). Five of the outreach teams are operated by mental health providers, and ten are connected to coordinated entry implementation sites. When available, regional coordinated entry systems coordinate with local, faith-based organizations to provide outreach when there is no ESG funded outreach in the area.

The CoC also leverages outreach teams employed by the department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). Utilizing the DBHDD teams, coverage is 152 counties (100% of the CoC) for severe and persistent mentally ill homeless. The relationship between the agencies is defined by a formal MOA.

DBHDD operates PATH (Projects for Assistance in Transitioning from Homelessness) teams in each of its six regions across the state. These outreach teams focus on individuals experiencing literal homelessness, with severe and persistent mental health needs as well as possible substance abuse issues. In its capacity across its six regions, the teams provide outreach and case management to vulnerable individuals. Teams currently operate in Atlanta, Augusta, Columbus, Gainesville, Savannah, and Valdosta.

PATH teams are not intended to provide long-term care for those individuals identified, but instead serve as case management to immediately engage this vulnerable population. The teams' mission is to develop rapport (of particular importance for this population which is most in need of services and least likely to reach out to receive said services) and connect/ refer to relevant and quality community resources.

CSBs serve as referral sources for individuals in need of more targeted care, but also play an important role in the outreach process. In some instances, a CSB will provide services, manage outreach teams, and operate housing programs like PSH that prioritize supportive health outcomes. This network of CSBs operate within designated geographic BoS regions and understand the unique needs and issues of their respective communities. Some CSBs have acknowledged the growing negative impact of the opioid/fentanyl epidemic, for example. This issue is notably present in the more rural counties within the BoS geography, and an expansion of such connected teams will positively impact and provide greater support to corners of the state that are in most need of services. It is this familiarity with conditions on the ground that allows vital behavioral health providers to identify and assist the most vulnerable populations in our CoC's geographic area.

Our health care providers and CSBs are knowledgeable about their own client needs assessments and how to connect those clients to relevant services; our service providers across the state are local experts on connecting clients to services regarding their experiences with homelessness. To bridge the gap between these two vital services, the CoC will facilitate trainings by DBHDD staff to providers (specifically CES access points) to access behavioral and other health services. The same type of training will be provided for health services providers to better orient them to the referral process for housing resources. Behavioral/ mental health needs and housing instability represent co-dependent struggles for many clients served in these systems. Through educating service providers on the referral process for both sides of the issue, the CoC hopes to streamline the way that clients access needed services to work toward more healthy, sustainable, and self-sufficient lives.

Non-health care providers operate their own dedicated outreach teams, all of which are coordinated at a local level and cover the indicated geography on a consistent basis, providing transportation to housing and services. Street outreach is most successful when basic communication and community are built. It is imperative to build rapport with individuals experiencing homelessness to gain their trust and be better able to direct them to services that they most need. Street outreach teams canvass areas considered within the Category 1:

Literally Homeless definition provided by HUD; examples include abandoned buildings, under bridges, in the woods, etc.

Many street outreach teams are composed of 2-3 people, with one person serving as the engager and one to two people serving as observers to maintain safety for all. Team members are trained on safety measures, dress code, and establishing boundaries prior to working in the field. Street outreach teams continuously map the movement and locations of known camps and contacted individuals to maintain current information and engage in relevant outreach efforts based on where need/presence is concentrated. Many outreach teams choose to go out each day of the week, often splitting between morning and afternoon shifts. Efforts are made to diversify outreach teams, especially in relation to age, to better meet the needs and comfort of those individuals engaged in the field. Strategies like this one are typical of agencies that often serve as PIT Count Leads, providing some of the most accurate numbers to better inform our homelessness data.

2) Current Strategy to Provide Immediate Access to Low-Barrier Shelter and Temporary Housing for Individuals and Families Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness.

Through access of the Coordinated Entry System (CES), the CoC seeks to connect individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness with needed resources to make their experience with homelessness rare, brief, and nonrecurring. The CoC's CES takes a regional approach, allowing regions to choose the model type that best fits available resources and community needs. There are multiple physical access points across the Balance of State, with additional physical access points in development. Households seeking services can call a toll-free number and be connected with a local agency trained on the assessment, prioritization and referral process.

Each CES implementation is required to create an advertisement strategy that follows guidelines set forth in the lead agency's Language Access Plan. Communities are instructed to use multiple methods to advertise their CES to reach as many people as possible. Each implementation is tasked with outreach and engagement of community partners such as CSBs, DCS, faith-based organizations, school systems, and other local stakeholders to ensure that all people who need access to homeless resources are aware of the CE process and access points. The CoC is currently working on a state-wide CES marketing plan.

Under the current process, lead agencies act as anchor sites/communities based on a community-wide vote after the agency has expressed willingness to serve in the role. At times, these agencies may be serving multiple counties in their region due to lack of homelessness-specific resources or general service deserts where no providers exist. Some parts of the state have taken a regional approach, led by an agency that operates in the multiple counties that it represents.

Lead agencies support their community through knowledge and familiarity with the resources available within their geography. Implemented communities benefit from access to this central system when homelessness resources are required. Lead agencies have been encouraged by the CoC to apply for this funding opportunity to build their system with exclusive CES funds for the first time. However, unimplemented communities have no leads or guidance to access localized homelessness resources. Plagued by service deserts and other issues such as lack of transportation, many parts of the BoS CoC have no service providers or have small-scale faith-based or nonprofit organizations which lack the bandwidth and/or funding to take on the lead agency role. While successful for those communities with ample resources, the structure of the current process is unsustainable for service desert communities.

To better support these communities, the BoS CoC has envisioned a new process to create a more balanced and strengthened process for individuals and families experiencing homelessness who need to access resources. Under the new process, the CoC would serve as a central lead agency through use of the HMIS system, with the goal of providing coverage for all counties in the BoS regardless of the presence of service providers or a designated lead agency at the local level. Through this hybrid model, regional implementation will continue being supported by the expertise of local lead agencies, while service deserts with no providers to speak of will be supported by DCA to be connected with needed resources regardless of their location in the BoS geography.

Through HOME-ARP funding, the CoC plans to hire 2 additional Coordinated Entry coordinators as well as a team lead. Through this staffing expansion, efforts and interaction across the state are also supported in their expansion. In addition to Coordinated Entry-specific efforts, landlord engagement and recruitment will be housed within this team to better support those individuals and agencies accessing the CE system. The AmeriCorps VISTA program provides CES capacity building support to agencies across the BoS operating in implemented CE regions, further supporting the work to continuously improve the accessibility and volume of supportive resources within that system.

Of the more than \$87.5 million allotted to Georgia through HOME-ARP funding, \$8,765,7517 (10%) is designated for the development of non-congregate shelters. These shelters will be operated by nonprofits and public agencies to support eligible populations moving from emergency shelter to stable affordable housing.

During the regular ESG competition, hotel/motel vouchers are eligible expenses for funded projects with no available shelters in their areas. ESG-CV funding dollars were leveraged throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to provide these vouchers and expand access to shelter in more places. The pandemic has highlighted areas of need and lacking coverage, influencing other funded opportunities in the BoS.

3) Current Strategy to Provide Immediate Access to Low Barrier Permanent Housing for Individuals and Families Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness.

The goal of the CES is to connect individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness with permanent housing to minimize the chance of recurring homelessness in the future. With goals of expanding and improving CE, our BoS CoC community would also see expanded opportunities to access permanent housing programs. Through this funding opportunity, the CoC hopes to expand PSH opportunities to new counties that have not historically been served. We anticipate this expansion will see more people housed and receiving the care and case management that they need.

While a decrease in the availability of affordable housing stock has created an increase in those experiencing unsheltered homelessness, other factors such as PTSD and the growing opioid/fentanyl epidemic further contribute to this issue. Provider agencies in the BoS CoC recognize these issues and have placed substantial emphasis on the need for increased funding to address these pressing needs. Despite our large geographic area, provider agencies at the local level are most attuned to their clients' needs which include youth, veterans, and individuals facing mental health or substance abuse issues. The expansion of the services being provided in some parts of the BoS CoC to additional counties and regions would greatly reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

Through formal partnership with our PHA, the CoC leverages a voucher prioritization preference for eligible individuals, identified through the CES referral process. All CE providers are trained on the process to refer someone to the PHA through the CoC referral process, utilizing preference for a Housing Choice Voucher (or other operating voucher program) to provide stability through long-term subsidy.

The Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program awarded 798 vouchers to the BoS CoC. This provision of vouchers, in a time where sheltered and unsheltered homelessness are at an all-time high, establishes a pathway to permanent housing for those eligible individuals and families following the EHV regulation. With funding support through 2030, this resource gives the opportunity for rebuilding and reestablishment following the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The lack of affordable housing across the BoS has intensified over the past year. The CoC has been an active participant in determining the needs (of eligible populations) and designation of HOME-ARP funds for the Georgia HOME jurisdiction and impacted eligible populations. More than 73% of these funds have been dedicated to developing affordable housing in rural communities where it is most lacking. Utilizing the CES, these new developments will be filled through referrals from the coordinated entry process, thereby addressing the permanent housing needs of eligible individuals and families in these under-resourced BoS communities.

The CoC's move on strategy enlists the help of case managers to consider moving a client from PSH to referral for voucher. If it is determined that an individual can live more independently through a voucher, the voucher pays the rent on a unit and a PSH vacancy is created to serve an individual who is more in need of the intensive case management that this program provides.

Under this strategy, all clients are unique. This is not a one-size fits all strategy, and portfolios are built to match the needs of the client being served.

Updating the CoC's Strategy to Identify, Shelter, and House Individuals Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness with Data and Performance.

The Balance of State CoC will begin the planning process of coordination between the BoS CE implementation sites and the PATH programs. The focus will be to refine current processes to align with the expansion of the PATH programs with the regional BoS CE implementation sites throughout the state, with the additional funding from this opportunity. The BoS will work to expand the partnerships with key organizations in our communities. This collaboration will be done by continuing to attend local meetings and forums; engaging to understand successes and challenges in reaching those individuals who are not connected to housing or services; educating and garnering support of service providers, local and county entities such as your local law enforcement, health care facilities, other homeless providers, advocate organizations; and connecting to individuals with lived experience that may be significant in identifying areas of challenge. Individuals with lived experience are particularly well poised to conduct surveys and participate in other activities that engage this community, in order to gather and work with more meaningful data to better inform our homelessness response.

Support staff funded through this initiative will work closely with the PATH Teams to train and provide TA assistance on entering the required data in the designated Georgia HMIS system. The support staff will monitor data quality to ensure accuracy, completeness and timeliness standards are met and implement plans to guarantee predetermined thresholds are maintained. Data analysis will be conducted to track progress of contacts made, contacts converted into engagements, reengagements, number of enrollments and services provided, referrals and exit information. This team will work with the State PATH Contract (SPC) on establishing benchmarks. The support staff will be responsible for the quarterly reporting under this funding resource.

The CoC will work with the HMIS Lead to incorporate the PATH data into the DCA Data warehouse to further understand what systems the client interacts with and to determine clients served under one system but eligible for services from another system. In addition, the Data warehouse will expose opportunities for efficiency across system and/or determine gaps in services that may exist.

Identify and Prioritize Households Experiencing or with Histories of Unsheltered Homelessness.

While ending homelessness remains the Continuum's overarching goal, the Continuum is laser-focused on immediately (same day) moving all unsheltered persons to a shelter or otherwise safe location (hotel/motel, etc.). At the same time, and with a priority on best practices for rapid re-housing, the Continuum will persistently focus its efforts to mitigate the trauma of homelessness by working with all stakeholders to immediately link persons to appropriate

homeless and mainstream services and to shorten the length of time that persons remain unsheltered or in shelters. Further priority will be placed upon moving all homeless persons to stable housing that optimizes self-sufficiency. The only exception to this goal is for individuals, typically not families, for whom transitional housing is the most appropriate intervention. In this case, the move to transitional housing will take place as quickly as possible.

The CoC uses the VI-SPDAT to assess, prioritize and match households experiencing homelessness with the appropriate resources. The VI-SPDAT surveys people to assess vulnerability including physical/mental wellness, risk factors such as interaction with law enforcement or experiences of violence, and socialization and daily functioning. In addition to use of the VI-SPDAT score to assist in prioritization, CoC prioritization standards ensure vulnerable populations are prioritized first for available resources such as chronically homeless individuals and families, youth, and veterans.

Noting the documented issues and inequities present in the VI-SPDAT, the CoC is working toward development of a new assessment and prioritization tool. Our team engages regularly with HUD-provided technical assistance addressing the CES overall, including appropriate steps forward for a localized assessment that is adaptable to different circumstances. The BoS CoC geography is wide-ranging, with challenges faced in some areas of the state (particularly rural areas) that differ vastly from those experienced in others. We recognize the need to create a tool that is not one-size-fits-all, but instead dynamic, configurable, and reflective of the realities of those in our geography. In the development of this new tool, the CoC will engage individuals with lived expertise to ensure that the needs and experiences of this population are captured. The new tool will be meaningful and equitable in the ways that it prioritizes and quantifies vulnerabilities. We will also enlist the guidance and resources of agencies with strong histories engaging unsheltered communities, especially those experiencing behavioral or mental health needs. Finally, the tool will encourage and empower outreach team members to be involved in case conferencing to advocate for the best housing solution for an individual. With these teams responsible for building trust and rapport, they may possess pertinent details or understanding of an individual's past attempts at stability, health maintenance, etc. that they are less willing (or possibly ashamed) to share with a stranger. Fostering this collaboration and advocacy will help support a system that connects individuals to their most-needed services, utilizing relevant details to increase instances of meaningful service provision and stability.

The CoC recognizes the need to establish a formal, collaborative strategy in partnership with service providers to support those individuals who are repeatedly engaged by outreach teams. These individuals may represent a different population than those referred to as chronically homeless and should be addressed as such. Following the identification of these repeat engagements, the established strategy should propose more substantial care based on the individual's identified needs and geographic location.

Involving Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Decision Making.

The Youth Action Board (YAB) is a formal committee of the BoS CoC. The committee consists of 5 members (with the ability to expand to a maximum of 12 members), aged 18 through 24 years old, of whom all are either currently experiencing or have formerly experienced homelessness or housing instability. The YAB provides insight of the youth perspective to guide the work of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program, especially including the CCP to prevent and end youth homelessness, provide input on other ongoing policy making decisions particularly related to preventing and ending youth homelessness. As necessary, the YAB helps gather information and feedback from youth and various youth stakeholders in the region by conducting focus groups and other engagement efforts.

The CoC prioritizes authentic youth collaboration by engaging the YAB and relying on their expertise and experience to help guide policy and decisions related to youth homelessness as well as the CoC's overall strategy to end homelessness. YAB members are invited to participate in all scheduled CoC Board meetings, which includes opportunity to raise issues or concerns during the period of open comment. During the most recent CoC NOFO competition the YAB provided feedback on the competition policies, priorities, and ranking and review process. A debrief session was held after the competition with the YAB to gain additional feedback.

The YAB exists to provide BoS CoC staff and Board input on the development and implementation of a CCP to prevent and end youth homelessness; ongoing policy making decisions, particularly related to preventing and ending youth homelessness; and ensuring housing interventions for young people address stable housing, permanent connections, education, employment, and health and well-being.

Member terms are two years and renewable for multiple cycles. The YAB is led by a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. Through majority vote, the YAB will elect the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from among its members who will serve a term of one year. The chairs may serve more than one term but must be elected for each term. The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson help define the YAB meeting agendas, with input from CoC staff and the YHAG, and facilitate the YAB meetings. When appropriate and needed, the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are the designated signatories for partnership and support agreements, as approved by the YAB.

CoC provider agencies make efforts to hire individuals with lived experiences of homelessness to be more culturally competent when working with this vulnerable population. PATH team hiring represents a strong example of this, as they seek employees with similar lived experience as those to whom they are providing outreach and connection to community providers. Youth-serving agencies have taken a similar approach to elevate the lived experiences of their staff. A trans youth transitioned during their own shelter stay, a process that the shelter and its staff embraced to better support all youth that present for services. The youth, who identifies as both trans and autistic, now serves as a mentor with the agency and has aided in the fostering of a more inclusive and informed space for youth of all identities and backgrounds.

The CoC has been in discussions with our HUD TA provider about making a session available to agencies within the CoC on partnering with individuals with lived experience. It is anticipated that this session(s) will provide insight into this type of partnership, especially on a local level. At a CoC level, plans to create an advisory group comprised of persons with lived experience (separate from and in addition to the Youth Action Board) are in the works. We aspire for authentic collaboration within an equitable and meaningful space, where lived experience is elevated, those participants feel knowledgeable and valued, and our policies and approaches to addressing homelessness across our CoC's geography are informed and improved in the process.

Supporting Underserved Communities and Supporting Equitable Community Development.

The BoS CoC conducted its 2022 sheltered and unsheltered HIC/PIT Count earlier this year. Compared with the last conducted PIT Count measuring unsheltered homelessness in 2019, numbers have grown across all racial and ethnic categories. Total numbers of those experiencing unsheltered homelessness on the night of the count increased for all races and ethnicities. From 2019 to 2022 total numbers for White; Black, African American, or African; and Latinx individuals changed as follows: 1144 to 2445; 1046 to 1391; and 96 to 252.

Black, African American, or African individuals comprised the highest number of those experiencing both sheltered and unsheltered homelessness in the 2019 count (2080) compared with White (1905) and Latinx (257) individuals. However, 2022 numbers show a dramatic change in ranking based on racial or ethnic identity, with White individuals experiencing the highest numbers of homelessness compared with Black and Latinx individuals, respectively: 3182, 2487, and 436. The growth in numbers across each identity category suggests that there are many factors at play, notably a lack of affordable housing across the state as well as other mental health, behavioral health, and substance abuse issues that compound the central struggle.

Our demographic data focuses heavily on White and Black, African American, or African individuals and families, with far less data on the Latinx population in the BoS. This discrepancy is not unusual, as this population presents for services less often than other groups. We believe that a combination of cultural practices and fear may explain the lack of data for this ethnic group. Culturally, community members take care of their own and may be doubled- or tripled-up to avoid homelessness. Legally, lack of documented status represents a substantial fear for members of this community and a barrier to presenting for services even if they are needed. Looking to our provider agencies as local experts within their own communities, the CoC will continue to encourage partnerships with organizations that work with distinct immigrant populations to bolster the support and access available to low English proficient (LEP) individuals and families. While Language Access Plans (LAPs) are required for provider agencies, a fellow native speaker provides a LEP individual with a more comfortable, safe, and culturally relevant context from which to seek assistance.

A similar case could be made for LGBTQIA+ individuals, specifically those who identify as transgender or gender non-conforming. In these subset populations, fewer than 40 individuals were identified in the 2022 PIT count and only 9 in the 2019 PIT count. Data show that this group is particularly vulnerable to housing instabilities and other struggles including food insecurity and threats of violence. Both instances of low numbers suggest that efforts to foster acceptance and safety must be continued and, in some cases, amplified to adequately serve all individuals in need of support and resources.

The CoC adopted a three-phase Racial Equity Improvement Framework, modeled on the data gathered from the 2019 Point in Time (PIT) Count. These data showed that Black or African American individuals made up 50% of those experiencing homelessness on a given night, while representing roughly 25% of the general population. Phase 1 analyzes data on racial ethnic disparity, as well as disparities within the provision or outcome of homeless assistance. Phase 2 focuses on capacity building, data collection, data analysis, strategic planning, and Phase 3 implements changes based on the prior two phases.

The CoC's data team has assembled a racial equity Power BI dashboard to better understand and visualize racial and ethnic data across our geography, an internal effort to address Phase 2 and lead into Phase 3 of the Racial Equity Improvement Framework. The data input to the dashboard is a combination of providers' own HMIS data on the individuals they've served, as well as census data presented from the county level. While some counties' racial and ethnic census data match the proportion of those served by individual agency projects, others are quite skewed, serving significantly more Black, African American, or African clients than are represented in the county's demographic statistics. Building upon the initial data gathered from the 2019 PIT Count, the dashboard allows for greater scrutiny and investigation to address the unequal access to homelessness resources between racial or ethnic groups.

As noted in a recent research study released by the Department of the Treasury and the Office of Evaluation Sciences, Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) funds have been shown to support low-income and Black renters most prominently in maintaining housing stability. In fact, these populations (in addition to women) were overrepresented when reviewing their share of those who received ERA funds compared to eligible population.

- Extremely low-income renters comprised 64% of the recipient population, compared to their share as 32% of the eligible population.
- Black renters' share of the recipient population was 21-22 percentage points higher than their proportion of the eligible population for this assistance.
- ERA funds received by women-identifying applicants were distributed at 14-15 percentage points higher than their share of the eligible population.

This data supports the overrepresentation of these populations in seeking homelessness prevention resources and services, with statistics that are most staggering during the present COVID-19 pandemic. While the numbers suggest that particular identity groups are accessing

services at rates higher than their share of the population, we can be sure that the programs and service providers involved are indeed reaching and addressing the immediate needs of those who are most marginalized. The CoC will continue to work toward equitably supporting the individuals and families most in need across our geography, maintaining best practices and relevant data through service delivery, trainings, and resource allocation.