

Outline of Overarching Policy Priorities Highlighted in FY 2019 NOFA

1. Ending Homelessness for All Persons
 - a. Identify, engage and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness
 - b. Measure performance based on local data that take into account challenges faced by
 - i. Veterans
 - ii. Youth
 - iii. Families
 - iv. Chronically homeless
 - c. Comprehensive outreach strategy to identify and continuously engage all unsheltered individuals and families
 - d. Use local data to determine characteristics of individuals and families with highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness to develop housing and services tailored to their needs
 - e. Reallocation to projects that improve overall performance and better respond to needs
2. Create a Systematic Response to Ending Homelessness
 - a. Measure System Performance to determine effectiveness of programs
 - b. Create an effective Coordinated Entry process
 - c. Promote participant choice
 - d. Plan as a system
 - e. Make the delivery of homeless assistance more open, inclusive, and transparent
3. Strategic Resource Reallocation
 - a. Comprehensive Review of Projects
 - b. Maximizing the Use of Mainstream Resources
 - c. Partnerships with Public Housing Authorities and other available options for exiting PSH participants
 - d. Review of eligible renewal projects to determine effectiveness
4. Using an Evidence- Based Approach
 - a. Prioritize projects that employ strong use of data and evidence, including cost effectiveness and impact of programs on positive housing outcomes, recovery, self-sufficiency, and reducing homelessness
5. Increasing Employment
 - a. CoCs and CoC-funded projects should work with local employment agencies and employers to prioritize training and employment opportunities for people experiencing homelessness
 - b. CoCs should promote partnerships with public and private organizations that promote employment
6. Providing Flexibility for Housing First with Service Participation Requirements
 - a. Two basic parts of traditional Housing First approach:
 - i. First, individuals are rapidly placed and stabilized in permanent housing without any preconditions regarding income, work effort, sobriety or any other factor. Placement into permanent housing without preconditions, is an important priority to ensure that federal funds are allocated to providers that serve the most vulnerable homeless individuals.
 - ii. Second, once in housing, individuals never face requirements to participate in services as a condition of retaining their housing.
 - b. The 2019 HUD NOFA maintains the commitment to unconditional acceptance of individuals into housing, especially for people with a high degree of vulnerability. At the same time, allowing service participation requirements once a person has been stably housed may promote important outcomes. As such, this HUD NOFA provides communities and programs with flexibility, without penalty, to use service participation requirement after people have been stabilized in housing (consistent with 24 CFR 578.75(h)).