

Indiana Balance of State Continuum of Care – Requests for Applications for Inclusion in the 2021 Collaborative Application for HUD Continuum of Care Funding

Date: August 31, 2021

Invitation to Bid

On behalf of the Indiana Balance of State Continuum of Care, IHEDA, the collaborative applicant, invites eligible organizations¹ to submit new or renewal applications for CoC funding to be included in the 2021 Collaborative Application to HUD. The only entities that may submit a renewal application are current HUD CoC grantees that have a grant with an end date in calendar year 2022. Additionally, to be eligible for renewal an existing grantee must enter into a contract with HUD for FY 2020 funding prior to December 31, 2021.

Any eligible organization may apply for new project funding. Eligible organizations include: nonprofit organizations, Public Housing Agencies (PHAs), or units of local government.

All new and renewal applications must be completed using HUD's online application platform, the E-SNAPS system. **Applications must be submitted in E-SNAPS by the following schedule:**

- **New and Renewal project applications** must be submitted in E-SNAPS no later than **5 pm EDT on October 1, 2021.**
- Applications not submitted according to the above schedule may not be considered for funding.

Information and Resources

All information required for this competition will be posted on the CoC website, found here: <https://www.in.gov/iheda/indiana-balance-of-state-continuum-of-care/internal-competition/>.

Information posted on the website includes:

- The NOFO published by HUD and supporting information provided by HUD.
- The CoC's policies for review and ranking of new and renewal applications
- CoC's policies regarding reallocation – including voluntary and mandatory reallocation.
- Scoring factors for the review of renewal applications
- Scoring factors for new project applications.
- Links to resources available from the Department of Housing and Urban Development in support of the competition.

Possible application types

Eligible organizations may submit one or more of the following application types:

- **Renewal application.** Any organization with a CoC funded grant that is expiring in calendar year 2022 must submit a renewal application in order to continue operating the project. The renewal

¹ Eligible organizations include nonprofit organizations and government entities including public housing agencies. Individuals and for-profit entities are ineligible to apply.

application must be fully consistent with the total funding associated with the project as detailed in the Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW) provided by HUD. The amount requested for renewal grants may not exceed the total amount shown for the grant on the GIW. Renewal grants may elect to not renew or to renew at a dollar amount below that shown on the GIW. In these instances, the amounts not applied for will be added to the pool of funds made available to potential new projects through reallocation. Current grantees not intending to renew their grants or those willing to reduce the size of their grants should contact IHEDA as soon as possible so the unapplied for funds can be added to the pool available for relocation.

All renewal projects that have at least one full year of operational experience will be ranked in the competition according to the scores received in the renewal evaluation process. Projects that do not meet the minimum threshold score for renewal must either submit and obtain approval for a Project Improvement Plan or agree not to renew the grant and to reallocate the funding. Projects that have not been operational for a sufficiently long period to have a full year's worth of operations, will not be subject to renewal evaluation until they have secured this experience. These grants will be ranked without a score in the 2021 competition.

- **New project application.** New project applications may be for any of the eligible new project categories:
 - Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) where 100% of the beds are either dedicated to serving chronically homeless or DedicatedPLUS² projects.
 - Rapid Rehousing (RRH) projects serving individuals and families who meet the HUD homeless definition of categories 1, 2, or 4.³ RRH projects emphasize housing search and relocation services and short- and medium-term rental assistance to move homeless persons and families (with or without a disability) as rapidly as possible into permanent housing.
 - Joint TH-RRH projects are also projects serving individuals and families who meet the HUD homeless definition of categories 1, 2, or 4. Designed to provide homeless individuals and families with the interim stability and support to successfully move to and maintain permanent housing. Transitional housing may be used to cover the costs of up to 24 months of housing with accompanying supportive services. The Transitional Housing (TH) component should consist of short-term crisis housing and the resources earmarked for the RRH component should be twice those designated for the TH component.

Funding for new projects will come from bonus funding and from any funds that may be available from reallocation.

- **Transition application.** An existing renewal application may be submitted as a 'transition' application. A transition application will start the program year as one component (TH, for

² To understand who qualifies to reside in a 'DedicatedPLUS' project please see this FAQ from HUD:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/faqs/3284/what-is-a-dedicatedplus-project/>

³ For a quick guide to HUD Homeless Categories see here:

https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HomelessDefinition_RecordkeepingRequirementsandCriteria.pdf

example) and through the course of the program year, the project will transition from that component to one of the eligible new project components. No more than 50% of the project funding may be used for the prior component and at the completion of the program year, the project will renew under the new component. A transition application may be the most effective way to accomplish a ‘voluntary’ reallocation where the grantee with funds to reallocate is also the planned grantee for the reallocated project. Grantees interested in the transition application process must contact and obtain approval from the CoC. Please contact the IHCD Community Services division at communityservices@ihcda.in.gov for additional instructions. Transition grants are new project applications, and the grant must ‘transition’ to an eligible new project activity during the program year.

- **Consolidated Application.** A grantee with more than one grant with the same program component (e.g., RRH, PSH, TH) may consolidate those individual grants into a single grant. Up to ten grants could be consolidated through this process. To submit a consolidated application, applicants must submit renewal applications for each project. The renewal grant with the earliest start date will be designated as the ‘surviving’ grant. All renewal applications being consolidated must be indicated as such in the renewal applications. Each of the individual project applications must be given its own unique rank in the project priority list; if HUD approves all the renewal grants to be consolidated, they will be combined into the ‘surviving’ grant and given that rank. Grants and applicants must be in good standing with HUD to consolidate.
- **Domestic Violence Bonus Projects.** Applications may be submitted for Domestic Violence Bonus Projects in which all persons served are survivors of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking. The following types of new projects may be submitted for the DV Bonus – please note, all projects applying for the DV bonus are required to follow the Housing First model, as well as being trauma informed and person-centered:
 - Rapid rehousing exclusively serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless.
 - Joint TH-RRH projects exclusively serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless.

Existing DV bonus projects may be expanded in the competition. There is no limit on the number of DV projects that may be submitted, only that no project may be for less than \$50,000 and the total requested from the CoC cannot exceed the amount available to the CoC (\$3,934,294).

Potential applicants for DV bonus funds in the 2021 competition should be aware of the potential availability of DV Bonus funds as a sub-recipient to IHCD. Prior to applying for DV Bonus funds, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact IHCD to apply for inclusion as a sub-recipient on a currently operational DV Bonus project.

Rating and Ranking of Projects

Renewal projects will be ranked in the Collaborative Application according to the rating score provided through the renewal evaluation process. New project applications will be reviewed by an independent panel with subject matter expertise but no conflicts of interest with regard to the application. The new

projects will be evaluated according to criteria set by HUD in the project rating tool found here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5292/project-rating-and-ranking-tool/> .

Invitation to organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding:
The CoC actively seeks applications from organizations that have not previously received HUD CoC funding. HUD places considerable requirements on grantees and the application process can be challenging. Organizations without CoC grant experience are invited to reach out to the CoC at: IHCD Community Services <communityservices@ihcda.IN.gov> and request assistance in understanding program requirements or the application process. Requirements on eligible participants and activities are very stringent and organizations are encouraged to discuss potential projects and the application process.

Presentation and Question and Answer Session

The CoC will conduct an information session regarding this request for renewal applications on Sept. 9, 2021, at 10 am EDT and for new project applications on Sept. 10, 2021, at 1 pm EDT.

Register for the webinars:

- **September 9, 2021, at 10:00 AM EDT:** COC FY2021 Competition Informational Session: Request for Renewal Applications: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/91202707799110156>
- **September 10, 2021, at 1:00 PM EDT:** COC FY2021 Competition Informational Sessions: New Project Applications: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8629887963317240848>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Following the completion of these sessions, a recording of each webinar will be posted on: <https://www.in.gov/ihcda/indiana-balance-of-state-continuum-of-care/internal-competition/>

Funding Amounts

According to HUD, the Indiana Balance of State CoC can apply for bonus funding for new projects up to:

- \$1,311,431 in Bonus funding for new projects is potentially available to the CoC;
- Up to \$3,934,294 may be applied for by projects seeking the DV Bonus;
- Additional new projects may be created using reallocated funding – it is expected that there will be approximately \$50,000 in reallocated funds available to support new projects.
- Tier 1 – the level of funding that is most assured of funding by HUD is \$18,327,627 – this is sufficient to meet the entire annual renewal demand for projects