

Before Starting the CoC Application

You must submit all three of the following parts in order for us to consider your Consolidated Application complete:

1. the CoC Application,
2. the CoC Priority Listing, and
3. all the CoC’s project applications that were either approved and ranked, or rejected.

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

1. The FY 2023 CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The FY 2023 CoC Application Detailed Instructions 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.

Your CoC Must Approve the Consolidated Application before You Submit It
- 24 CFR 578.9 requires you to compile and submit the CoC Consolidated Application for the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition 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 an Attachment to the 4B. 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

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1A-1. CoC Name and Number: VA-603 - Alexandria CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: City of Alexandria, a municipal corporation of Virginia

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: City of Alexandria, Office of Community Services

1B. Coordination and Engagement–Inclusive Structure and Participation

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
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| | | |
|--------------|--|--|
| 1B-1. | Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry. | |
| | NOFO Sections V.B.1.a.(1), V.B.1.e., V.B.1f., and V.B.1.p. | |
| | In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023: | |
| | 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 CoC Board Members | Participated in CoC’s Coordinated Entry System |
|-----|---|------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. | Affordable Housing Developer(s) | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 2. | CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 3. | Disability Advocates | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 4. | Disability Service Organizations | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 5. | EMS/Crisis Response Team(s) | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 6. | Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 7. | Hospital(s) | No | No | Yes |
| 8. | Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations) | Nonexistent | No | No |
| 9. | Law Enforcement | Yes | No | Yes |
| 10. | Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBTQ+) Advocates | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 11. | LGBTQ+ Service Organizations | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 12. | Local Government Staff/Officials | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 13. | Local Jail(s) | No | No | Yes |
| 14. | Mental Health Service Organizations | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 15. | Mental Illness Advocates | Yes | Yes | Yes |

| | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|
| 16. | Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color | No | No | Yes |
| 17. | Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons | No | No | No |
| 18. | Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities | No | No | No |
| 19. | Other homeless subpopulation advocates | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 20. | Public Housing Authorities | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 21. | School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 22. | Street Outreach Team(s) | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 23. | Substance Abuse Advocates | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 24. | Substance Abuse Service Organizations | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 25. | Agencies Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 26. | Victim Service Providers | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 27. | Domestic Violence Advocates | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 28. | Other Victim Service Organizations | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 29. | State Domestic Violence Coalition | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 30. | State Sexual Assault Coalition | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 31. | Youth Advocates | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| 32. | Youth Homeless Organizations | No | No | Yes |
| 33. | Youth Service Providers | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| | Other: (limit 50 characters) | | | |
| 34. | | | | |
| 35. | | | | |

By selecting "other" you must identify what "other" is.

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| 1B-2. | Open Invitation for New Members. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(2) | |
| | Describe in the field below how your CoC: | |
| 1. | communicated a transparent invitation process annually (e.g., communicated to the public on the CoC's website) to solicit new members to join the CoC; | |
| 2. | ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats; and | |
| 3. | invited organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in the geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, and persons with disabilities). | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

CoC membership is open to the public and requires a signature of support submitted on our “Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness Membership Form” by individuals or organizations interested in working to advance our mission in the City of Alexandria. General membership is publicly advertised biannually prior to the CoC’s Full Partnership meetings, which serves as an opportunity for interested citizens to learn more about our work and get involved. There is no definitive time or resource commitment for prospective members, keeping The Partnership diverse and engrossing of our entire community, though deeper collaboration is required of organizations that directly serve homeless clients.

Membership of the more crucial community stake holders including homeless assistance organizations, formerly homeless persons, regional housing developers, public housing agencies, mental health care and medical service providers, homeless education liaisons, affordable housing advocates, and veteran aid programs is solicited by the CoC Nominating Committee through ongoing outreach. These groups are earmarked votes on the CoC Governing Board so as turnover is anticipated representatives from the sector with an upcoming vacant chair are proposed to the board for a vote each July. In FY23 a new representative with lived experience in homeless assistance programs, and a recent resident of the Alexandria Community Shelter, was voted on to the CoC Governing Board.

The opinions of homeless and formerly homeless residents are especially important when making changes to CoC policy and Alexandria acknowledges that fact through their inclusion in the Continuum from the Governing Board on down. The addition of another voting member with lived expertise spurred the CoC to explore incentivizing such positions on subcommittees, a strategy piloted in FY22-FY23 and being formalized in FY24.

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| 1B-3. | CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(3) | |

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| 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; |
| 3. | ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats; and |
| 4. | 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)

The CoC engages stakeholders in an integrated process, through membership to the Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness, and through informal involvement on issues affecting homeless and at-risk populations. The Partnership’s open structure encourages input from all parties involved in homeless assistance including domestic violence and youth service providers, hospitals, school social workers, non-profit housing developers, police, mental and medical healthcare providers, and formerly homeless persons, promoting diversity of perspective and experience on homeless issues.

Biannual Full Partnership Meetings are held to inform the public about the CoC’s recent success and challenges, forge stronger relationships within the Partnership, and recruit new champions to the cause. Partnership meetings are publicly announced via email listservs maintained by the CoC, Office of Housing, Faith Communities, and the Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations, as well as posted as PDF’s to the CoC’s webpage. Similar news blasts accompanied by online postings are used to disseminate Full Partnership presentation materials and other CoC publications, conduct surveys of the Partnership or community, and make requests for funding proposals. All CoC meetings are held in ADA accessible public facilities and materials are made available via email.

The most recent example of public input solicitation has occurred at the CoC’s spring Partnership Meeting. In June 2023, engaged students from a local middle school were engaged in focus group discussions, hosted by the Homeless Education Liaison, about their views on homelessness and homeless services in the City. Later, they presented some of their ideas to the entire CoC at a virtual public meeting, including a web-based list of affordable units in the City, more after school programming, and a hub for youth community engagement. This has spurred excitement for the Office of Housing’s affordable unit webpage and left several opportunities for the CoC to further engage Alexandria City students around some common goals, which is on the calendar for this fall of 2023.

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| 1B-4. | Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Awarded CoC Program Funding. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(4) | |

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| Describe in the field below how your CoC notified the public: | |
| 1. | that your CoC will consider project applications from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding; |
| 2. | about how project applicants must submit their project applications—the process; |
| 3. | about how your CoC would determine which project applications it would submit to HUD for funding; and |
| 4. | ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

In July the CoC Gaps & Needs Committee, consisting of program administrators and CoC Board members, issued a recommendation following analysis of annual system performance data. The report was broadcast to the community, and highlighted current service needs in the CoC.

On August 3rd, 2023, the FY21 HUD-CoC Competition was announced on the CoC's webpage and broadcast via listservs maintained by the CoC, faith communities, Dept. of Housing, and the Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations. The communication solicited proposals for new funding opportunities and included formatted Notices of Intent to Apply and links to HUD and local resources. New and renewing agencies were equally encouraged to apply, and all publications were posted to the CoC's webpage in PDF format.

Only project types highlighted by the Gaps & Needs Committee's recommendations, those that increased housing stock, were eligible. In total, one NOI was submitted for the HUD-CoC bonus funding opportunity, and none for the DV bonus. The submitted proposal is a collaborative application between a current HUD grantee and active service provider in the CoC.

Within the NOI, agencies answered specific questions that outlined the full scope of their program including target population, number served, services provided, and proposed budget. NOI's were tailored to the project type being pursued so that questions solicited answers about the organization's application of those specific services. Organization's submitting for DV Bonus were asked to answer additional questions that required collaboration with the City's DV program.

The Priorities Committee, consisting of key CoC members that do not receive HUD funding, then chose the best NOI to move forward for each new funding opportunity based on the answers in the NOI's, organizational experience, and the community need addressed, as outlined in the Recommendation Report.

1C. Coordination and Engagement

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

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| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 1C-1. | Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.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 the Planning or Operations of Projects? |
|-----|---|--|
| 1. | Funding Collaboratives | Yes |
| 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) | No |
| 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 | Yes |
| 13. | Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities | Yes |
| 14. | Private Foundations | Yes |
| 15. | Public Housing Authorities | Yes |
| 16. | Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) | Yes |
| 17. | Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) | Yes |
| | Other:(limit 50 characters) | |

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| 18. | | |
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| 1C-2. | CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.b. | |

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| Describe in the field below how your CoC: | |
| 1. | consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG Program 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 the Consolidated Plan update. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is the ESG recipient, and as a subrecipient of that funding through a competitive grant process, the Alexandria CoC provides all community information necessary to inform funding priorities. DHCD receives annual PIT and HIC data and solicits the CoC's opinion on ESG resource allocation each quarter. During regular grant operations the CoC monitors Alexandria's ESG program utilization, exit outcomes, and system performance measures monthly, compiling the results to inform an objective application for prevention, emergency shelter, and rapid rehousing funds.

Recent ESG processes grew to include the Homeless Reduction Grant (HRG), which the Alexandria CoC supported and applied for on behalf of interested CoC service providers, leading to over \$500,000 additional dollars in FY23 that is being applied for again in FY24. The CoC achieved this by mobilizing coordinated entry and public health data to project the changing local need for rapid rehousing. That process continues through the Gaps and Needs Committee for its proven effectiveness in filling the ever-changing systems gaps created by adjustments in funding levels and program requirements.

The Office of Housing is the lead agency for the City of Alexandria's Consolidated Plan and sits on the CoC Governing Board. They receive PIT and HIC data reported in HUD's Homeless Data Exchange, as well as the CoC's own local analysis for the Con Plan. The Con Plan is updated annually via an Action Plan process, during which CoC staff consult daily with counterparts in the Office Housing to ensure our clients' needs are addressed.

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| 1C-3. | Ensuring Families are not Separated. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.c. | |

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| Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ensures emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing (PSH and RRH) do not deny admission or separate family members regardless of each family member's self-reported sexual orientation and gender identity: |
|---|

| | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1. | Conducted mandatory training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated. | Yes |
| 2. | Conducted optional training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated. | Yes |
| 3. | Worked with ESG recipient(s) to adopt uniform anti-discrimination policies for all subrecipients. | Yes |
| 4. | Worked with ESG recipient(s) to identify both CoC- and ESG-funded facilities within your CoC's geographic area that might be out of compliance and took steps to work directly with those facilities to bring them into compliance. | Yes |
| 5. | Sought assistance from HUD by submitting questions or requesting technical assistance to resolve noncompliance by service providers. | Yes |

| | | |
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| 1C-4. | CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth—SEAs, LEAs, School Districts. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.d. | |

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

| | | |
|----|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Youth Education Provider | Yes |
| 2. | State Education Agency (SEA) | Yes |
| 3. | Local Education Agency (LEA) | Yes |
| 4. | School Districts | Yes |

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1C-4a. | Formal Partnerships with Youth Education Providers, SEAs, LEAs, School Districts. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.d. | |

Describe in the field below the formal partnerships your CoC has with at least one of the entities where you responded yes in question 1C-4.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The Homeless Education Liaison (HEL), who is responsible for protecting the rights and educations of students experiencing homelessness within Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS), is a voting member of the CoC Governing Board. In that role, she represents the Local Education Agency (LEA) and liaises with the State Education Agency (SEA) on behalf of the CoC, providing updates on the current scope of youth homelessness in the City, as well as policy changes or best practice improvements to youth education services. The HEL’s office and ACPS have an MOU with the Alexandria Dept. of Community and Human Services (DCHS) which houses the CoC’s Lead Agency, the Office of Community Services (OCS), ensuring all residents with school age children who present for services are connected to the LEA.

OCS the CoC’s Gaps & Needs Committee Chair have representation on Alexandria’s Youth Services Coordinating Council, responsible for executing aspects of the LEA’s Strategic Plan, and Alexandria’s Children and Youth Master Plan. The HEL is reciprocally a member of the CoC’s Gaps and Needs Committee, which manages macro-level service planning for the City’s homeless residents, and she attends bi-weekly shelter case management meetings to ensure all youth in the homeless assistance system are quickly connected to the appropriate education services. This HEL of course serve households defined as homeless under federal statutes beyond those defined by HUD, so outside of HUD defined homeless programs, the HEL also coordinates services at the State, City, and private agency level for all school age children and their families who are doubled-up, unstably housed, or otherwise at risk of homelessness.

| | | |
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| 1C-4b. | Informing Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services. | |
| NOFO Section V.B.1.d. | | |

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

The Continuum’s current policies and procedures for securing education services for homeless persons are mandated within the emergency shelter screening process for households with children. Upon accessing Alexandria’s housing crisis response system, households with children will review all available literature on eligible education services and City schools with the coordinated entry staff, and are assisted in completing applications for transportation assistance, subsidized lunch, or other eligible services. Those assessed to be unstably housed are linked to the City’s Homeless Education Liaison (HEL), who is responsible for securing education for students experiencing housing instability within Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS). Additionally, a standard educational assessment for each child in the household is included in the family’s housing stabilization plan, while ongoing school concerns are addressed by caseworkers at shelter, school social workers, and the HEL. For infants and toddlers involved in homeless assistance, referrals are made for developmental assistance and education as necessary, while children under five are triaged for mental health services and HeadStart if needed. As an entity of local government and representative of the City’s Dept. of Community and Human Services, the CoC Lead Agency in Alexandria is mandated to report unaccompanied minors or homeless youth to Child Protective Services. Education policies for this segment of the homeless population are managed via Alexandria’s Dept. of Child and Family services, though the experience for youth and children is similar in that linkage to ACPS, the HEL, and any auxiliary assistance is prioritized just after the child’s safety.

| | | |
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| 1C-4c. | Written/Formal Agreements or Partnerships with Early Childhood Services Providers. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.d. | |

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC has written formal agreements or partnerships with the listed providers of early childhood services:

| | | MOU/MOA | Other Formal Agreement |
|-----|--|---------|------------------------|
| 1. | Birth to 3 years | No | No |
| 2. | Child Care and Development Fund | Yes | Yes |
| 3. | Early Childhood Providers | Yes | Yes |
| 4. | Early Head Start | Yes | Yes |
| 5. | Federal Home Visiting Program–(including Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home and Visiting or MIECHV) | Yes | Yes |
| 6. | Head Start | Yes | Yes |
| 7. | Healthy Start | Yes | Yes |
| 8. | Public Pre-K | Yes | Yes |
| 9. | Tribal Home Visiting Program | No | No |
| | Other (limit 150 characters) | | |
| 10. | | | |

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| 1C-5. | Addressing Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors—Collaboration with Federally Funded Programs and Victim Service Providers. |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.e. |

In the chart below select yes or no for the organizations your CoC collaborates with:

| | Organizations | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1. | state domestic violence coalitions | Yes |
| 2. | state sexual assault coalitions | Yes |
| 3. | other organizations that help this population | Yes |

| | |
|--------|---|
| 1C-5a. | Collaboration with Federally Funded Programs and Victim Service Providers to Address Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors. |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.e. |

Describe in the field below how your CoC regularly collaborates with organizations indicated in Question 1C-5 to:

| | |
|----|--|
| 1. | update CoC-wide policies; and |
| 2. | ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC’s geographic area are trauma-informed and can meet the needs of survivors. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

Victim-centered policies are in place across the CoC to ensure security needs of Domestic Violence (DV) survivors are met at all entry points. Anyone experiencing housing crisis is assessed by the Homeless Services Assessment Center (HSAC), who screen for safety and link to victim services before collecting any other information. Any concerns trigger a referral to the confidential 24-hour hotline for a risk and safety assessment where immediate needs are determined. Those in need of safe housing are transported to the DV Shelter, which maintains an undisclosed address, and assigned a family service specialist to set safety, then housing goals.

Referrals to all of Alexandria’s federally funded housing programs, CoC and ESG, are maintained by the CoC Lead Agency and prioritized by metrics captured on the CoC’s Coordinated Entry Assessment. The assessment uses trauma informed language to create quantified measures of clients’ housing barriers and homeless history, giving extra weight to DV cases. The DV shelter completes the same assessment, submitting non-identifiable metrics to the CoC Lead Agency so clients can be anonymously prioritized.

Besides RRH, the only federally funded housing programs in the City are for Chronically Homeless persons of which there have been none experiencing DV in the past 5 years. RRH providers however maintain strong relationships with the DV shelter, which employs its own housing locator, making safe transitions to clients’ desired housing location a collaborative process that starts once safety is secured. The DV housing locator is trained in victim centered-services and works to maximize client choice in the search for safe housing. She also sits on the Data Committee, responsible for monitoring the effects of housing priorities and making recommendations for improvement, as well as the Housing Crisis Response Committee who implements changes to prioritization and staffs hard to solve cases.

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| 1C-5b. | Coordinated Annual Training on Best Practices to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.e. | |
| | Describe in the field below how your CoC coordinates to provide training for: | |
| 1. | project staff that addresses best practices (e.g., trauma-informed, victim-centered) on safety and planning protocols in serving survivors of domestic violence and indicate the frequency of the training in your response (e.g., monthly, semi-annually); and | |
| 2. | Coordinated Entry staff that addresses best practices (e.g., trauma informed care) on safety and planning protocols in serving survivors of domestic violence and indicate the frequency of the training in your response (e.g., monthly, semi-annually). | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The Alexandria Domestic Violence (DV) Program operates the DV Intervention Project (DVIP), which manages the City’s coordinated community response to DV situations and addresses relevant training needs of first responders, including implementing trauma-informed, victim centered approaches in the process. This group, including the Alexandria DV Program, Child and Adult Protective Services, Police, EMS, Faith Organizations, and the CoC, meets monthly to update local service providers on national best practices and analyze de-identified local data to highlight trends Alexandria’s in DV cases.

The CoC’s Coordinated Entry point, the Homeless Services Assessment Center (HSAC) hosts annual guest speakers from the DV Program and the Sexual Assault Center at a Case Management Subcommittee meeting to review DV safety and confidentiality protocol and provide contacts for victim service referral. All service provider employees within the CoC receive annual Trauma-Informed Care training through and receive additional support via City initiatives supported by the City’s DV Program. Staff are also conditioned in the strengths-based case management model and receive standard annual training on Cultural and Linguistic Competency, LGBTQ Inclusivity, Equal Access, and Fair Housing policy. All CoC utilized assessment tools, client surveys, entry forms, releases of information and other documents are equally vetted by the CoC for use of non-discriminatory, trauma-informed language and pursuit of strengths based, client-centered interventions.

The DV Program is a voting member of the CoC board and is responsible for coordinating training and information sessions for the Continuum’s direct service staff, maintaining CoC representation any auxiliary DV training that could benefit homeless assistance programs. Over the course of FY23 DVP recruited and trained new volunteers to increase the pool of trauma-informed, victim-centered advocates, capable of meeting further increases in instances of DV, and established intern positions to assist survivors with safe reintegration.

| | | |
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| 1C-5c. | Implemented Safety Planning, Confidentiality Protocols in Your CoC’s Coordinated Entry to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.e. | |
| | Describe in the field below how your CoC’s coordinated entry includes: | |
| 1. | safety planning protocols; and | |
| 2. | confidentiality protocols. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

All survivors who are in our COC’s Coordinated Entry are referred to the Domestic Violence Program or given the number to the Domestic Violence Program to engage in services. The Domestic Violence Program provides all clients with Safety planning. The Domestic Violence Program is bound by confidentiality and cannot release any information without a Time-sensitive written release by the survivor.

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1C-5d. | Used De-identified Aggregate Data to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.e. | |
| | Describe in the field below: | |
| | 1. the de-identified aggregate data source(s) your CoC used for data on survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and | |
| | 2. how your CoC uses the de-identified aggregate data described in element 1 of this question to evaluate how to best meet the specialized needs related to domestic violence and homelessness. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

Domestic Violence and Victim Services in Alexandria are operated by the City’s Domestic Violence (DV) Program, which is legally required to use the state of Virginia’s confidential database, VaData. This system parallels Homeless Management Information System implementation across the commonwealth, with the crucial distinction that it does not capture any identifiable client information.

Alexandria’s DV Program manages the City’s VaData system and aggregates metrics when necessary to report to State and Federal funders, advocate for additional DV focused resources in the Alexandria, or conduct basic local analysis of DV trends in coordination with the Continuum of Care. As operators of the City’s only confidential DV shelter, the DV program also conducts the Point in Time Count for clients actively fleeing instances of domestic or sexual violence and provides housing inventory information for programs designated to serve DV population. In all instances the data is de-identified and aggregated on excel spreadsheets by DV Program staff prior to submission.

The City’s DV program and separate, secure coordinated entry process utilizes the same standard housing needs assessment that the CoC utilizes at coordinated entry on guests at the DV Shelter. The assessment provides quantified measures homeless history and housing barriers, scoring higher for DV cases, before recommending an appropriate intervention. This allows the CoC to include de-identified DV shelter clients amongst the prioritized By Names List (BNL) of homeless housing referrals and compare their subsequent housing outcomes to clients involved in traditional homeless assistance. The DV program maintains representation on the Housing Crisis Response Committee who implements prioritization of the BNL, and the Data Committee who aggregates subsequent outcomes to inform recommended priority adjustments.

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1C-5e. | Implemented Emergency Transfer Plan Policies and Procedures for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.e. | |

| | |
|----|--|
| | Describe in the field below how your CoC communicates to all individuals and families seeking or receiving CoC Program assistance: |
| 1. | whether your CoC has policies and procedures that include an emergency transfer plan; |
| 2. | the process for individuals and families to request an emergency transfer; and |
| 3. | the process your CoC uses to respond to individuals' and families' emergency transfer requests. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

When accessing any services in Alexandria, including the CoC's coordinated entry center, households are asked a series of questions related to their immediate safety and experience with Domestic Violence (DV). Residents assessed to be at immediate risk are referred to the City's DV Shelter and assisted with relocation, potentially with the help of police. Households not at immediate risk but still in need of housing supports may be referred to regular emergency shelter, but not before being connected to the DV program for survivor specific services.

The City's DV program is advertised on the City website, at the local social services building, and on posted pamphlets and flyers at all CoC programs, as well as local churches, charities, libraries, recreation centers, parks, and other public spaces. Upon entering shelter or CoC housing programs, residents are again assessed for service need including survivor assistance and are notified that appropriate referral will be made to Alexandria's DV Program if needed. Once referred to Alexandria's DV Program in any capacity, clients complete a confidential safety screening via phone and are immediately supported with services appropriate for their specific situation, including safe and confidential relocation with the assistance of service professionals, and law enforcement if necessary.

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 1C-5f. | Access to Housing for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.e. | |

| | |
|----|--|
| | Describe in the field below how your CoC: |
| 1. | ensures that survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking have safe access to all of the housing and services available within the CoC's geographic area; and |
| 2. | proactively identifies systemic barriers within your homeless response system that create barriers to safely house and provide services to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

Alexandria’s Domestic Violence (DV) Program provides all survivors’ services in the City, including operating the City’s DV hotline and sole DV Safehouse, and maintaining a safe and confidential coordinated entry process between the two. This includes conducting a housing barrier assessment for all survivors that present with emergency housing needs and referring to the appropriate service. To maintain objectivity, the DV Program utilizes the same housing barrier assessment as coordinated entry for traditional shelter, allowing DV Safehouse residents to be fairly prioritized for housing opportunities against all residents actively experiencing homelessness.

DV Safehouse residents appear with non-identifiable information on the CoC’s bi-weekly housing priority lists, and from there are enrolled in Transitional Housing (TH), Rapid Rehousing (RRH), and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), as opportunities come available. DV clients are slightly more likely to be offered CoC housing assistance through this process than traditional shelter residents because higher-barrier clients are prioritized first, and DV experiences are one of the quantified barriers.

DV specific housing opportunities also become available, although infrequently, and are filled through a similar collaborative process between the DV Program and CoC Lead Agency. In FY23, the Alexandria CoC executed several VAWA vouchers, and referred extremely low-income residents to a tax-credited redevelopment where the property owner asked to prioritize DV survivors. The CoC maintains flexibility in its prioritization processes so that nuanced opportunities like the example above can be seized, but generally DV survivors are competing with all residents experiencing homelessness for the same housing assistance. To instead establish a micro-continuum specific to survivors would require renewable, DV-specific housing, a resource the CoC hopes to acquire through the DV bonus proposal in this application.

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 1C-5g. | Ensuring Survivors With a Range of Lived Expertise Participate in Developing CoC-Wide Policy and Programs. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.e. | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Describe in the field below how your CoC: | |
| 1. | ensured survivors with a range of lived expertise are involved in the development of your CoC-wide policy and programs; and |
| 2. | accounted for the unique and complex needs of survivors. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The Domestic Violence Program and Sexual Assault Center Division Chief sits on the Governing Board and staff from those programs are on various committees representing survivor's voices. They meet with clients daily and learn about the various challenges/barriers survivors face within the system. The Staff members on the committees can voice these challenges/barriers that the survivors are expressing. Survivors also can provide input on the COC’s strategic plan by participating in feedback sessions. In addition, survivors can participate in the Full Partnership meetings.

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 1C-6. | Addressing the Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer+–Anti-Discrimination Policy and Training. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.f. | |

| | | |
|--|--|-----|
| | 1. Did your CoC implement a written CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy ensuring that LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive supportive services, shelter, and housing free from discrimination? | Yes |
| | 2. Did your CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement the Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity (Equal Access Final Rule)? | Yes |
| | 3. Did your CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement Equal Access in Accordance With an Individual's Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs (Gender Identity Final Rule)? | Yes |

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 1C-6a. | Anti-Discrimination Policy–Updating Policies–Assisting Providers–Evaluating Compliance–Addressing Noncompliance. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.f. | |

Describe in the field below:

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | 1. how your CoC regularly collaborates with LGBTQ+ and other organizations to update its CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy, as necessary to ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC are trauma-informed and able to meet the needs of LGBTQ+ individuals and families; | |
| | 2. how your CoC assisted housing and services providers in developing project-level anti-discrimination policies that are consistent with the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy; | |
| | 3. your CoC’s process for evaluating compliance with your CoC’s anti-discrimination policies; and | |
| | 4. your CoC’s process for addressing noncompliance with your CoC’s anti-discrimination policies. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC’s lead agency, the Office of Community Services, is an entity of local government, and updates its anti-discrimination policy in alignment with local, state, and federal guidelines, and leverages the appropriate community partners to solicit feedback when necessary. All CoC partners that serve persons experiencing homelessness and participate the CoC’s coordinated entry system are similarly required to maintain policy and procedure documents that meet local criteria as exemplified and reviewed by the CoC Lead Agency as changes are mandated. Organizations without current polices are assisted by the CoC Lead Agency and appropriate partners, including the City’s LGTBQ+ Taskforce, to update language and receive accompanying training. The CoC reviews policy and procedure documents of federally funded programs at least annually to ensure compliance, and all other CoC organizations semi-annually, or upon changes to local, state, or federally funded mandates. Organizations that have polices that are not in compliance are supplied with acceptable examples from partnering organizations and given a deadline by which alignment is required. Programs that do not have sufficient documentation of policy alignment on things such as anti-discrimination will lose points in monitoring and be less likely to receive funding during competitive community application. If non-compliance persists, it could be used a justification to support a reallocation of a program’s local, state, or federal funding.

| | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 1C-7. | Public Housing Agencies within Your CoC's Geographic Area--New Admissions--General/Limited Preference--Moving On Strategy. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.g. | |

You must upload the PHA Homeless Preference\PHA Moving On Preference attachment(s) to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

Enter information in the chart below for the two largest PHAs highlighted in gray on the current CoC-PHA Crosswalk Report or the two PHAs your CoC has a working relationship with--if there is only one PHA in your CoC's geographic area, provide information on the one:

| Public Housing Agency Name | Enter the Percent of New Admissions into Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program During FY 2022 who were experiencing homelessness at entry | Does the PHA have a General or Limited Homeless Preference? | Does the PHA have a Preference for current PSH program participants no longer needing intensive supportive services, e.g., Moving On? |
|--|---|---|---|
| Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority | 20% | Yes-Both | Yes |
| | | | |

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1C-7a. | Written Policies on Homeless Admission Preferences with PHAs. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.g. | |

Describe in the field below:

1. steps your CoC has taken, with the two largest PHAs within your CoC's geographic area or the two PHAs your CoC has working relationships with, to adopt a homeless admission preference--if your CoC only has one PHA within its geographic area, you may respond for the one; or
2. state that your CoC has not worked with the PHAs in its geographic area to adopt a homeless admission preference.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Over the past several years the CoC has seized collaborative opportunities between homeless services and the only local PHA, the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority (ARHA). Prior to 2018, ARHA's leadership was redeveloping most of their properties and drawing the spotlight of City politics, but since has helped incrementally improve affordability through partnership with the CoC.

Especially since the pandemic, ARHA leadership has proven more receptive to affordable housing advocacy and homeless preference implementation, highlighted by their active participation on the CoC Governing Board, at CoC Housing Stability Systems Committee Meetings, and with the faith-based emergency financial providers in Alexandria. As the only PHA in the City, their absence in these conversations had cast a shadow on the efforts of CoC providers and other human service commissions and organizations in Alexandria.

Several projects since FY21 required constant collaboration between the CoC and ARHA, and more importantly, secured federal resources for clients experiencing homelessness in Alexandria. In FY20 the CoC assisted ARHA in application for 50 Housing Choice Vouchers for Non-Elderly Disabled persons experiencing homelessness or those moving on from permanent supportive or rapid rehousing programs. In that process an MOU was crafted identifying the CoC as the authority on homeless referrals, a document the Continuum expanded on to create the MOU for Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV's). Since executing the 38 EHV's at a 98% utilization rate, the CoC has memorialized the special voucher prioritization processes within its housing prioritization standards, keeping the CoC prepared to respond to new PHA opportunities, and pass that benefit on to residents experiencing homelessness.

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1C-7b. | Moving On Strategy with Affordable Housing Providers. | |
| | Not Scored—For Information Only | |

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate affordable housing providers in your CoC's jurisdiction that your recipients use to move program participants to other subsidized housing:

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1. | Multifamily assisted housing owners | Yes |
| 2. | PHA | Yes |
| 3. | Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments | Yes |
| 4. | Local low-income housing programs | Yes |
| | Other (limit 150 characters) | |
| 5. | | |

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1C-7c. | Include Units from PHA Administered Programs in Your CoC's Coordinated Entry. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.g. | |

In the chart below, indicate if your CoC includes units from the following PHA programs in your CoC's coordinated entry process:

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1. | Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) | Yes |
| 2. | Family Unification Program (FUP) | Yes |
| 3. | Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) | Yes |
| 4. | HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) | Yes |
| 5. | Mainstream Vouchers | Yes |
| 6. | Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) Vouchers | Yes |
| 7. | Public Housing | Yes |
| 8. | Other Units from PHAs: | |
| | | |

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1C-7d. | Submitting CoC and PHA Joint Applications for Funding for People Experiencing Homelessness. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.g. | |

| | | |
|----|---|------------------------|
| 1. | Did your CoC coordinate with a PHA(s) to submit a competitive joint application(s) for funding or jointly implement a competitive project serving individuals or families experiencing homelessness (e.g., applications for mainstream vouchers, Family Unification Program (FUP), other programs)? | Yes |
| | | Program Funding Source |
| 2. | Enter the type of competitive project your CoC coordinated with a PHA(s) to submit a joint application for or jointly implement. | Non-Elderly Disabled |

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1C-7e. | Coordinating with PHA(s) to Apply for or Implement HCV Dedicated to Homelessness Including Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV). | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.g. | |

| | | |
|--|--|-----|
| | Did your CoC coordinate with any PHA to apply for or implement funding provided for Housing Choice Vouchers dedicated to homelessness, including vouchers provided through the American Rescue Plan? | Yes |
|--|--|-----|

| | | |
|----------|--|--|
| 1C-7e.1. | List of PHAs with Active MOUs to Administer the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program. | |
| | Not Scored–For Information Only | |

| | | |
|--|--|-----|
| | Does your CoC have an active Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with any PHA to administer the EHV Program? | Yes |
|--|--|-----|

If you select yes to question 1C-7e.1., you must use the list feature below to enter the name of every PHA your CoC has an active MOU with to administer the Emergency Housing Voucher Program.

| |
|----------------------|
| PHA |
| Alexandria Redeve... |

1C-7e.1. List of PHAs with MOUs

Name of PHA: Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority

1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

| | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1D-1. | Discharge Planning Coordination. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.h. | |

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 | No |
| 3. Mental Health Care | Yes |
| 4. Correctional Facilities | Yes |

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 1D-2. | Housing First—Lowering Barriers to Entry. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.i. | |

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| 1. | Enter the total number of new and renewal CoC Program-funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects your CoC is applying for in FY 2023 CoC Program Competition. | 5 |
| 2. | Enter the total number of new and renewal CoC Program-funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects your CoC is applying for in FY 2023 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach. | 5 |
| 3. | This number is a calculation of the percentage of new and renewal PSH, RRH, SSO non-Coordinated Entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC has ranked in its CoC Priority Listing in the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition that reported that they are lowering barriers to entry and prioritizing rapid placement and stabilization to permanent housing. | 100% |

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 1D-2a. | Project Evaluation for Housing First Compliance. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.i. | |

You must upload the Housing First Evaluation attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

| | |
|----|---|
| | Describe in the field below: |
| 1. | how your CoC evaluates every project—where the applicant checks Housing First on their project application—to determine if they are using a Housing First approach; |
| 2. | the list of factors and performance indicators your CoC uses during its evaluation; and |
| 3. | how your CoC regularly evaluates projects outside of your local CoC competition to ensure the projects are using a Housing First approach. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

In formal evaluation of HUD and ESG funded programs, grantees are required to respond to the same list of standards that is included in the Consolidated Application for both low-barrier and housing first policies. This whether programs put preconditions on services, tie services to housing, or in circumvent serving the most vulnerable. Missing any portion results in the loss of points on the CoC’s Performance Monitoring Scoring Tool, which is utilized by the CoC Priorities Committee in program ranking, and in funding reallocation decisions. Even further, programs’ permanent housing stability rates, and recidivism rates, are scored, resulting in compounding deductions when programs are not adhering to housing first philosophies.

In monthly processes, the CoC’s Gaps and Needs Committee reviews changes to program data in the metrics listed above, and more, for all Alexandria homeless assistance programs. In that role, the Committee conducts ad-hoc program monitoring of housing first applications across the CoC regularly. Discrepancies in the execution of housing first are often highlight on an individual program basis by tracking metrics like time from referral to move in, or average housing barrier score at entry, then monitoring changes. In these instances, recommendations are issued to the Governing Board for action to be taken, and the program in question works with a committee of CoC providers towards a resolution. Record of these recommendations are also issued to the Priorities Committee to inform their funding decisions.

| | | |
|-------|------------------------|--|
| 1D-3. | Street Outreach—Scope. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.j. | |

| | |
|----|---|
| | Describe in the field below: |
| 1. | your CoC’s street outreach efforts, including the methods it uses to ensure all persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness are identified and engaged; |
| 2. | whether your CoC’s Street Outreach covers 100 percent of the CoC’s geographic area; |
| 3. | how often your CoC conducts street outreach; and |
| 4. | how your CoC tailored its street outreach to persons experiencing homelessness who are least likely to request assistance. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

Historically the City’s homeless outreach program consisted of one full time PATH funded employee. Alexandria is only 15 square miles so coverage of the CoC’s area was effectively managed through field visits and diligent data tracking. The PATH outreach worker sits in the Office of Community Services (OCS), the CoC Lead organization, which allows the CoC to monitor the scope of unsheltered homelessness via HMIS and leverage the data for additional resources.

In the field, the PATH Outreach workers cover the entire community at least weekly, conducting daily visits to City emergency shelters, day centers, meals programs, churches, parks, libraries, and any locations they know homeless individuals to access. She employs progressive engagement strategies with residents she meets, and with a tablet can track live services in HMIS and make direct referrals to mainstream and CoC assistance.

As an employee of OCS, the PATH worker has access to all coordinated referral within Alexandria Social Services, including connection to interpreters for most languages and sign-language, as well as resources published for non-English speakers or persons with disabilities. All Alexandria Dept. of Community and Human Services (DCHS) assistance, including homeless outreach and housing assistance, is advertised locally on City buses and in the paper in accordance with fair housing, and all services rendered meet those standards.

| | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 1D-4. | Strategies to Prevent Criminalization of Homelessness. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.k. | |

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate strategies your CoC implemented to ensure homelessness is not criminalized and to reverse existing criminalization policies in your CoC's geographic area:

| | Your CoC's Strategies | Ensure Homelessness is not Criminalized | Reverse Existing Criminalization Policies |
|----|---|---|---|
| 1. | Engaged/educated local policymakers | Yes | No |
| 2. | Engaged/educated law enforcement | Yes | No |
| 3. | Engaged/educated local business leaders | Yes | No |
| 4. | Implemented community wide plans | Yes | No |
| 5. | Other:(limit 500 characters) | | |
| | | | |

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 1D-5. | Rapid Rehousing–RRH Beds as Reported in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) or Longitudinal Data from HMIS. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.i. | |

| | HIC Longitudinal HMIS Data | 2022 | 2023 |
|--|----------------------------|------|------|
| Enter the total number of RRH beds available to serve all populations as reported in the HIC or the number of households served per longitudinal HMIS data, e.g., APR. | HIC | 36 | 110 |

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 1D-6. | Mainstream Benefits–CoC Annual Training of Project Staff. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.m. | |

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

| | Mainstream Benefits | CoC Provides Annual Training? |
|----|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Food Stamps | Yes |
| 2. | SSI–Supplemental Security Income | Yes |
| 3. | SSDI–Social Security Disability Insurance | Yes |
| 4. | TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families | Yes |
| 5. | Substance Use Disorder Programs | Yes |
| 6. | Employment Assistance Programs | Yes |
| 7. | Other (limit 150 characters) | |
| | | |

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1D-6a. | Information and Training on Mainstream Benefits and Other Assistance. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.m | |

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, SSDI, TANF, substance abuse programs) within your CoC's geographic area; |
| 2. | works with project staff to collaborate with healthcare organizations, including substance abuse treatment and mental health treatment, to assist program participants with receiving healthcare services; and |
| 3. | works with projects to promote SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) certification of program staff. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

All Alexandrians seeking assistance are triaged to the appropriate services via the Dept. of Community and Human Services' (DCHS) shared Customer Relations Team, which determines immediate need before referring clients to available programs. For homeless and non-homeless clients alike, this includes referrals to Alexandria's Public Benefits office in charge of TANF, SNAP, Medicaid, the City's Workforce Development Center (WDC), and to City SOAR workers who can expedite applications for SSI and SSDI.

Clients in a housing crisis that access CoC services through the walk-in process follow are provided a warm hand-off referral to the City's collocated Office of Public Benefits by the Homeless Services Assessment Center. Emergency shelter and housing providers within the continuum likewise employ SOAR certified staff for their clients' federal benefits and can access the DCHS call center for mainstream assistance managed by the City. These parallel processes ensure residents in crisis are connected to all mainstream assistance they are eligible for, no matter their entry point or service need.

The CoC also utilizes an Employment Navigator at Alexandria's WDC, whose responsibility is to liaise between those resources and homeless assistance programs, making direct referrals from shelter and outreach to SNAP-ET, the VIEW program, WIOA, and traditional employment opportunities.

Updates to mainstream services are provided to frontline staff at monthly meetings of the Housing Crisis Response Workgroup, and in more detail during annual presentations from the Office of Public Benefits. Higher level policy discussions, like Virginia's expansion of Medicaid and its effect on homeless programs, are managed by the CoC's Gaps and Need Committee. SOAR certifications are maintained in coordination with the Northern VA SOAR Lead.

| | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 1D-7. | Increasing Capacity for Non-Congregate Sheltering. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.n. | |

| |
|---|
| Describe in the field below how your CoC is increasing its capacity to provide non-congregate sheltering. |
|---|

(limit 2,500 characters)

In response to COVID-19, the CoC took several initial steps to secure the immediate safety of households residing in homeless assistance programs. In coordination with the Alexandria Health Department (AHD) and Virginia Department of Health (VDH), the CoC contracted with a local hotel to use hotel rooms to place households experiencing homelessness in shelter, while still socially distancing. Simultaneously, shelter facilities limited their capacity so they could continue to serve households while maintain social distance, including designated isolation and quarantine rooms. Later, the CoC utilized a City Rec Center that had suspended activities, to extend low-barrier seasonal shelter services through the summer, ensuring no residents were left outside, or forced into dangerous situations. AHD also partnered with Fairfax County to refer COVID+ households who were experiencing homelessness who needed a place as they recovered.

From the start of FY20 pandemic through FY22, all non-congregate facilities were available to residents in all CoC programs, and that was crucial in the CoC’s ability to address confirmed cases and stop potential outbreaks. Due to that success, steps were taken to memorialize those contracts, agreements, and processes, into standard operating procedures that could be revived in the event of another public health crisis, or other circumstances that require shelters to de-congregate. That work proved beneficial when the CoC saw family homelessness spike in response to the closing rental assistance programs, while shelters were still mandated to operate at limited capacity. The groundwork laid previously allowed the CoC to quickly respond and prevent households from experiencing street homelessness.

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| ID-8. | Partnerships with Public Health Agencies—Collaborating to Respond to and Prevent Spread of Infectious Diseases. | |
| NOFO Section V.B.1.o. | | |
| Describe in the field below how your CoC effectively collaborates with state and local public health agencies to: | | |
| 1. | develop CoC-wide policies and procedures to respond to infectious disease outbreaks; and | |
| 2. | prevent infectious disease outbreaks among people experiencing homelessness. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

Learning from the COVID-19 pandemic, the CoC has formalized a systemic response to infectious disease outbreak designed to secure the immediate safety of households residing in homeless assistance programs. Alexandria’s CoC Lead Agency, the Office of Community Services (OCS) has a direct line of communication with the Alexandria Health Dept. (AHD) via the Dept. of Community and Human Services (DCHS) and AHD liaison. This position is responsible for disseminating public health mandates and guidelines across DCHS affiliated programs, which includes all service providers with the CoC. The DCHS-AHD liaison schedules CoC program site visits from AHD representatives to review facilities and service delivery for any safety concerns and recommends alternate strategies. The DCHS-AHD partnership also assists CoC programs with onsite testing, scheduling vaccinations, and securing regular shipments of PPEH, in addition to maintaining non-congregate emergency housing for exposed persons residing in congregate care settings. AHD is in direct alignment and constant communication with the Virginia Dept. of Health (VDH) ensuring all City policies coincide with state directives. To ensure any changes to safety protocol are disseminated quickly, the DCHS-AHD liaison attends monthly Housing Stability Systems Committee meetings where CoC providers can ask questions directly, and AHD representatives meet with shelters and other congregate care providers as high-impact updates are issued.

The CoC also counts the City’s largest community healthcare provider for the uninsured, Neighborhood Health, among its ranks, and leverages this organization to gain further information on public health. In this role, Neighborhood Health helps the CoC forecast healthcare needs for the population we serve and provides many of the actual services for high-barrier clients. They also serve a liaison between the CoC and Alexandria’s largest, yet privately funded, hospital, INOVA-Alexandria.

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| ID-8a. | Collaboration With Public Health Agencies on Infectious Diseases. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.o. | |
| | Describe in the field below how your CoC: | |
| 1. | shared information related to public health measures and homelessness, and | |
| 2. | facilitated communication between public health agencies and homeless service providers to ensure street outreach providers and shelter and housing providers are equipped to prevent or limit infectious disease outbreaks among program participants. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC’s Lead Agency, the Office of Community Services (OCS), sits within Alexandria’s Dept. of Community and Human Services (DCHS), which created a position to liaised with City of Alexandria Health Dept. (AHD), first on COVID, and subsequently on all infectious diseases. OCS’ position within that structure ensures that all homeless assistance programs in the City, federally and privately funded, are treated akin to all congregate City facilities, receiving guidance and safety equipment directly or indirectly through AHD’s community health response.

AHD tours shelters and congregate housing programs to recommend the appropriate configurations in the event of community outbreak, advises staff and residents on appropriate make mandates, and distributes PPE in collaboration with DCHS biweekly to providers. The DCHS-AHD liaison attends the CoC’s Housing Stability Response regularly and AHD’s lead doctor has presented several times, to further educate providers on how to implement safety measures. In limiting spread of infectious diseases, AHD also worked with shelters and other congregate service facilities in the CoC to implement mass testing for residents, which included transportation to and from testing centers, and set aside time slot to specifically serve CoC clients.

Neighborhood Health, Alexandria’s primary community health provider, also proved to be an invaluable partner, attending Housing Stability Systems and keeping the CoC abreast on the current local status of public health. They also liaise between the CoC and the City’s largest hospital, Alexandria INOVA, to get insured clients connected, while being one primary care providers for uninsured residents in the region. Neighborhood health recently collocated services with DCHS, further bolstering those connections.

| | | |
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| 1D-9. | Centralized or Coordinated Entry System–Assessment Process. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.p. | |

| | |
|--|--|
| | Describe in the field below how your CoC’s coordinated entry system: |
|--|--|

| | |
|----|---|
| 1. | covers 100 percent of your CoC’s geographic area; |
| 2. | uses a standardized assessment process; and |
| 3. | is updated regularly using feedback received from participating projects and households that participated in coordinated entry. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The Homeless Services Assessment Center (HSAC) is a low barrier coordinated entry point serving all of Alexandria that assesses clients for homeless service need. All residents in housing crisis are screened by HSAC to ensure consistent determination of homelessness and appropriate referral to housing. Assessments are conducted on a walk-in or scheduled basis during regular business hours, and to ensure 24-hour access, shelters accept walk-ins overnight and accommodate clients until they can receive HSAC’s standard assessment.

If determined literally homeless clients are referred to shelter and their HSAC assessment, which provides a quantitative measure of housing barriers and history of homelessness before identifying an appropriate housing intervention, is uploaded into HMIS. The CoC’s outreach worker and the DV Shelter complete the same assessment on their clients, before entering them into HMIS and a non-identifiable spreadsheet, respectively. Collectively this data forms Alexandria’s pool of actively homeless clients, capable of being prioritized by need, homeless history, and other program specifics like chronic homelessness or unsheltered status. The pool is managed by the CoC Lead Agency, which adjusts prioritization policies in collaboration with shelter and housing providers to meet the changing needs of the homeless population. Currently CoC Housing programs enroll clients with the longest homeless duration and highest housing barriers first.

All entry points for City social services, including HSAC and Homeless Outreach, have 24/7 access to language line translators and TTY devices for the speech or hearing impaired. HSAC employs bilingual staff and maintains all program literature in the four languages. The Office of Community Services, which houses HSAC, also conducts weekly outreach to three separate ministry programs for the underserved and refers clients for case management, financial assistance, and other homeless services.

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 1D-9a. | Program Participant-Centered Approach to Centralized or Coordinated Entry. | |
|--------|--|--|

NOFO Section V.B.1.p.

Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry system:

| | |
|----|--|
| 1. | reaches people who are least likely to apply for homeless assistance in the absence of special outreach; |
| 2. | prioritizes people most in need of assistance; |
| 3. | ensures people most in need of assistance receive permanent housing in a timely manner, consistent with their preferences; and |
| 4. | takes steps to reduce burdens on people using coordinated entry. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

Alexandria’s Coordinated Entry hub, the Homeless Services Assessment Center (HSAC) is advertised throughout the City. Information can be found on the City website, at the local social services building, and on posted pamphlets and flyers at local churches, charities, libraries, recreation centers, parks, and other public spaces. In addition, weekly outreach efforts are conducted to support anyone unsheltered. Outreach includes everything from the provision of basic needs for residents who are not yet willing to engage in services, up to a complete coordinated entry screening in the field, and support relocating to shelter, or directly into housing.

When shelters reach capacity, HSAC prioritizes households for available shelter bedspace by need, considering several areas of vulnerability and producing a total score for each household. Scores are updated as households’ situations change, and vulnerabilities include homelessness, DV experience, age, and medical needs, etc. HSAC applies a similar process to prioritize residents for available CoC housing opportunities once in shelter or involved with Outreach using the National Alliance to End Homelessness’ Housing Barrier Assessment.

HSAC meets households where they are, offering screenings at the City’s social services building, by phone, or in the community. The team ensures clients feel heard, respected, and supported with their needs. While HSAC’s primary focus is to assist residents in housing crisis, they also provide referrals to clothing, food, employment, and health services. HSAC first diverts households from entering shelter, assisting with legal services to support landlord/tenant concerns, advocating to keep households in place, and providing transportation to connect with households with personal support networks. HSAC also utilizes language line to assist any households that need translation services.

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 1D-9b. | Informing Program Participant about Rights and Remedies through Centralized or Coordinated Entry–Reporting Violations. | |
|--------|--|--|

NOFO Section V.B.1.p.

Describe in the field below how your CoC through its centralized or coordinated entry:

| | |
|----|---|
| 1. | affirmatively markets housing and services provided within the CoC’s geographic area and ensures it reaches all persons experiencing homelessness; |
| 2. | informs program participants of their rights and remedies available under federal, state, and local fair housing and civil rights laws; and |
| 3. | reports any conditions or actions that impede fair housing choice for current or prospective program participants to the jurisdiction(s) responsible for certifying consistency with the Consolidated Plan. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

At the Homeless Services Assessment Center (HSAC), we review multiple documents with households seeking services. This includes, but is not limited to:

- City of Alexandria Release of Information (which includes the right to revoke)
 - Notice of HMIS Data Entry and Personal Privacy (which includes the contract information for the Homeless Services Coordinator for any additional information or support)
 - Consent to Authorize HMIS Data Sharing with Contributing Organizations
- Households are informed of their rights to grant permission for their information to be shared in different systems and with providers as they see fit to best support their needs. They are also advised of the right to revoke any form of permission and how to complete that process. Every household is also provided the contact information for the Homeless Services Coordinator (HSC) who oversees HSAC, to reach out with any questions, concerns, or complaints. Households are able to contact the HSC at any point in the process. This includes while working with HSAC, waiting to enter a homeless service program, while in a homeless service program, and/or when leaving or having already left a homeless service program.

Additionally, for households in homeless service programs there are appeal and grievance procedures that can be utilized as needed. As these programs are managed by non-profit providers, each has their own process that is not overseen by HSAC. However, for any household asked to leave shelter, they are informed by shelter staff on the process to request a case staffing through HSAC. The case staffing is meeting with the household, City personnel, and shelter staff that shortens the wait time of returning to shelter and developing a plan to help with success upon returning to shelter.

| | | |
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| 1D-10. | Advancing Racial Equity in Homelessness—Conducting Assessment. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.q. | |

| | | |
|----|---|------------|
| 1. | Has your CoC conducted a racial disparities assessment in the last 3 years? | Yes |
| 2. | Enter the date your CoC conducted its latest assessment for racial disparities. | 07/21/2023 |

| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| 1D-10a. | Process for Analyzing Racial Disparities—Identified Racial Disparities in Provision or Outcomes of Homeless Assistance. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.q. | |

Describe in the field below:

| | |
|----|--|
| 1. | your CoC’s process for analyzing whether any racial disparities are present in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance; and |
| 2. | what racial disparities your CoC identified in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC’s Data Committee is responsible for monitoring system performance metrics of all CoC programs monthly, and since FY19, has been charged with overlaying all outcomes with a racial equity lens. In that, every datapoint the CoC reviews is shown in aggregate, and broken out by clients’ identified race and ethnicity, so that any nuances related to racial biases can be highlighted. These system performance metrics are reported to the CoC Gaps & Needs Committee each month, who then total them quarterly into Recommendation Reports for the CoC Governing Board that suggest policy changes based on recent quantitative data trends. The CoC also utilizes regional and national equity tools, and signs on to external initiatives when made available, including HUD’s Racial Disparity Assessment, and the DC-Metro Regional Racial Equity Audit

Qualitative data related to racial disparities can be tougher to collect, but this does not prevent the CoC from employing methods like consumer satisfaction surveys and resident focus groups to highlight clients’ perspective on racial disparities in homeless services. In the update the Strategic Plan, the CoC tasked a consultant with soliciting shelter residents’ opinions on housing assistance services in the City, and specifically asked questions about perceived inequity or racial bias. The results of those sessions were developed in the City’s Strategic Planning Goals, then sent to Alexandria’s Office of Race and Social Equity for review, another sounding board that the CoC utilizes to ensure all policy and actions related to racial disparities are aligned with Alexandria’s approach and national best practice.

Going forward, the CoC has established a Racial Equity Action Committee, who are charged with unifying the CoC’s varied equity initiatives into a cohesive strategy and maintaining lived experience input in those discussions through a compensation plan. It is the hope that this committee will become a sustainable source for qualitative feedback around the application of racial equity in CoC homeless programs.

| | | |
|---------|---|--|
| 1D-10b. | Implemented Strategies that Address Racial Disparities. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.q. | |

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the strategies your CoC is using to address any racial disparities.

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1. | The CoC’s board and decisionmaking bodies are representative of the population served in the CoC. | No |
| 2. | The CoC has identified steps it will take to help the CoC board and decisionmaking bodies better reflect the population served in the CoC. | Yes |
| 3. | The CoC is expanding outreach in geographic areas with higher concentrations of underrepresented groups. | Yes |
| 4. | The CoC has communication, such as flyers, websites, or other materials, inclusive of underrepresented groups. | Yes |
| 5. | The CoC is training staff working in the homeless services sector to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness. | Yes |
| 6. | The CoC is establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of different races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector. | Yes |
| 7. | The CoC has staff, committees, or other resources charged with analyzing and addressing racial disparities related to homelessness. | Yes |
| 8. | The CoC is educating organizations, stakeholders, boards of directors for local and national nonprofit organizations working on homelessness on the topic of creating greater racial and ethnic diversity. | Yes |

| | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| 9. | The CoC reviewed coordinated entry processes to understand their impact on people of different races and ethnicities experiencing homelessness. | Yes |
| 10. | The CoC is collecting data to better understand the pattern of program use for people of different races and ethnicities in its homeless services system. | Yes |
| 11. | The CoC is conducting additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness. | Yes |
| | Other:(limit 500 characters) | |
| 12. | Lived Experience Compensation Plan | Yes |

| | | |
|---------|--|--|
| 1D-10c. | Implemented Strategies that Address Known Disparities. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.q. | |

Describe in the field below the steps your CoC is taking to address the disparities identified in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Beyond HUD’s Racial Disparity Assessment, the CoC has worked to center racial equity within its processes, first by normalizing the conversations around race, ensuring that all CoC members and service organization are speaking from shared definitions and a common understanding of racial inequity. In FY20, the CoC Governing Board adopted the Government Alliance on Racial Equity’s (GARE) Racial Equity Framework, which now guides board meetings and all CoC subcommittees. Racial equity likewise has been added as an agenda item in all CoC meetings, giving members a chance to update their peers on current work they or their organizations are doing, and create multiple opportunities to center race in CoC decision making.

Regionally, the Alexandria CoC completed an initiative in collaboration with other DC-Metro CoC’s to review racial equity within the area’s homeless assistance services, making recommendations for policy and process improvements. Center for Social Innovation (C4), the initiative’s lead vendor, recommended CoC’s build Racial Equity Action Councils (REAC), made up of intake workers, case managers, and residents with lived expertise, who will serve as the local steering committees for the equity efforts in each jurisdiction. REAC was formalized into a standing CoC Committee by the CoC Governing Board in FY22, with its first initiatives focused on compensating persons with lived experience and developing a CoC training curriculum to include best practices in promoting equity. In FY24, the CoC will be taking Board members on the Africa American History tour of Alexandria to help our policy leaders understand the historical context of some of the trends we see in housing assistance services.

Locally, the CoC has also take steps to include race and ethnicity as a measurement in the housing barrier assessment conducted at coordinated entry. Using HMIS trend data highlighting the prevalence of homelessness based on race and ethnicity, the CoC justified an adjustment to housing assessment scores based on the same metrics. In this way, scores produced are more accurately representative of the housing barriers residents experiencing homelessness face, and conversations on the intersections of race and housing instability can be carried further.

| | | |
|---------|--|--|
| 1D-10d. | Tracked Progress on Preventing or Eliminating Disparities. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.q. | |
| | Describe in the field below: | |
| 1. | the measures your CoC has in place to track progress on preventing or eliminating disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance; and | |
| 2. | the tools your CoC uses. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

All new initiatives, policy changes, or process adjustments that are implemented with a goal of eliminating disparities are required to have measurable outcomes and with a set target, so that the CoC Data Committee, Gaps & Needs Committee, and eventually the Governing Board, can evaluate them for efficacy. For example, a change to the CoC Assessment tool in FY21 to include race and ethnicity as a quantified housing barrier was intended to improve enrollment in CoC housing programs, particularly Rapid Rehousing (RRH) for Black and Hispanic residents. Following the change, the Data Committee closely monitored the demographics of enrollments and move-ins for all CoC housing programs and compared them to the same time period the year prior. To date, proportional representation of Black residents enrolled RRH, and moved-into housing via the program, has greatly improved since that change. On a more macro level, progress in all metrics, including racial equity, is monitored monthly where metrics are compared to the previous month, and quarterly, and annually, where metrics are compared to the same time-period in previous years. This gives the CoC an idea of the race-equity impacts that are being felt in real time because of new mandates or initiatives, as well as long-term race-equity trends in the City that highlight some historically intractable systems promoting inequity.

Less quantifiable but no less important in this arena is progress around normalizing race equity conversations and getting all CoC staff familiar with the terms, tools, and strategies. Measuring progress here includes counting the number of organizations that attend microaggression and unconscious bias training, adopting the GARE Racial Equity Framework, or maintain representation on the Racial Equity Action Committee (REAC). Future measures will include the number of Board Members or service organization staff that attend CoC hosted Racial Equity training, and the percentage of leadership positions in partnering organizations that are occupied by persons of color.

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 1D-11. | Involving Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Service Delivery and Decisionmaking—CoC’s Outreach Efforts. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.r. | |
| | Describe in the field below your CoC’s outreach efforts (e.g., social media announcements, targeted outreach) to engage those with lived experience of homelessness in leadership roles and decision making processes. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC's Outreach worker is funded by the PATH Outreach Program and draws on a wealth of experience serving residents experiencing unsheltered homelessness, and particularly single men with chronic health histories, which makes up most Alexandrians in need of outreach. The Outreach program conducts client satisfaction surveys at least annually, like all CoC participating programs, and utilizes that feedback to improve service delivery and access where applicable. The CoC's outreach worker also serves on CoC planning and decision-making committees including the Gaps & Needs Committee, and CoC Governing Board, where she represents the voices of those that she serves in policy changes pertinent to outreach or the unsheltered population. The CoC also maintains multiple positions on its Governing Board for membership of individuals with lived experience, after adding an additional spot for lived expertise in FY21. These Board members are responsible for representing the voice of all Alexandrians experiencing housing instability in CoC policy discussions and apply a macro-level analysis to all housing assistance services including homeless outreach. Going forward, the CoC is exploring all feasible avenues to amplify the voice of persons with lived experience at every level of homeless assistance, starting with a standard compensation plan for all service consumers that provide feedback on Alexandria's housing assistance policies. The CoC Racial Equity Action Committee is tasked with developing a permanent, and sustainable plan to pay residents for sharing their experiences in any capacity, an initiative we hope will improve the quality, and amount input received. The job description for the compensation plan is currently being finalized, but once completed, will be circulated throughout the CoC, including by the PATH Outreach worker to solicit participation from households that are engaged in unsheltered services.

| | | |
|---------|--|--|
| 1D-11a. | Active CoC Participation of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.r. | |

You must upload the Letter Signed by Working Group attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

Enter in the chart below the number of people with lived experience who currently participate in your CoC under the four categories listed:

| | Level of Active Participation | Number of People with Lived Experience Within the Last 7 Years or Current Program Participant | Number of People with Lived Experience Coming from Unsheltered Situations |
|----|---|---|---|
| 1. | Included in the decisionmaking processes related to addressing homelessness. | 50 | 5 |
| 2. | Participate on CoC committees, subcommittees, or workgroups. | 50 | 2 |
| 3. | Included in the development or revision of your CoC's local competition rating factors. | 50 | 5 |
| 4. | Included in the development or revision of your CoC's coordinated entry process. | 50 | 5 |

| | | |
|---------|--|--|
| 1D-11b. | Professional Development and Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.r. | |

Describe in the field below how your CoC or CoC membership organizations provide professional development and employment opportunities to individuals with lived experience of homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

All Alexandria CoC homeless assistance programs include employment-related eligibility requirements which participants need to abide by to continue being active and engaged in programs. Some of these requirements include maintaining / increasing income, applying for SNAP, Medicaid, and/or SSI. These individuals make daily external referrals to recruiters, employers, vocational programs, and the Alexandria Workforce Development Center (WDC), to help clients work towards their earning potential. The WDC has an Employment Navigator dedicated to assisting CoC residents in navigating the continuum of employment assistance resources in the City. In FY22, the position will be promoting access ticket-to-work programs for single homeless residents.

The Employment Committee is appropriately responsible for implementing all employment-based initiatives within the CoC, including hosting job fairs, standardizing pre-employment training and interview coaching, securing job vacancies for homeless clients, and generally advocating employability of the population. The CoC also maintains representation from the business community on its Governing Board who is responsible for voicing the ongoing employment concerns of the homeless services system at the board level.

In FY23, the CoC’s Racial Equity Action Committee (REAC) is developing a compensation plan for persons with lived experience who participate in CoC planning and decision-making. This initiative will include supervision and professional development for all compensated lived experience positions and will be an active member of the Governing Board, along with REAC and the Gaps and Needs subcommittee.

Emergency shelters host regular residential meetings, creating a space to seek input, hear concerns, answer questions, and share resources with residents of the shelter. In FY22, the Strategic Planning Committee coordinated with the residential meetings to share the draft of the 2023-2028 Strategic Plan, and gain their responses, reactions, questions, and concerns. Residents who participated received gift cards of their choosing, along with light meals and beverages for their participation. The Strategic Plan used their input to improve and update the strategic plan to better align with what was shared in the residential meetings.

| | | |
|---------|--|--|
| 1D-11c. | Routinely Gathering Feedback and Addressing Challenges of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.r. | |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Describe in the field below: | |
| 1. | how your CoC routinely gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness; |
| 2. | how your CoC routinely gathers feedback from people who have received assistance through the CoC or ESG Programs; and |
| 3. | the steps your CoC has taken to address challenges raised by people with lived experience of homelessness. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

Collecting accurate feedback from residents that are confronting a housing crisis is challenging for obvious reasons. This requires the CoC to have an adaptable, persistent approach with several different methods of data collection. First, all programs that participate in the CoC’s coordinated entry system and enter data into Alexandria’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) are required to collect client satisfaction surveys from program participants at least annually and submit a summation of the responses to the CoC Lead Agency during program monitoring. While this data can be limited, it provides a standard format of client feedback that can be compared across services and highlight challenging experiences that might be specific to a program or provider.

Next, the CoC maintains multiple positions on its Governing Board for persons with lived experience to serve in a strategic planning and decision-making capacity for Alexandria’s homeless service system. These members are tasked with elevating their experience to the macro-level to help influence policy change in an inclusive and equitable way. These positions turn over every two years and are recruited by CoC service providers from their rosters of current and former clients.

Finally, the CoC also conducts ad-hoc focus groups of residents of CoC programs, as well as at risk households in the community, to support community driven initiatives such as the CoC’s racial equity review, and the update to the CoC’s Strategic Plan to End Homelessness. In these settings, an unbiased facilitator solicits residents’ opinions and experiences about the City’s housing assistance system, and participants are compensated for their time and feedback. In FY22, the Strategic Planning Committee coordinated with residential meetings to share the draft 2023-2028 Strategic Plan and solicit their residents’ responses. Participants received gift cards, along with light meals, and the Committee used their input to better align the Strategic Plan with community needs. Some of the topics learned include service gaps like transportation barriers, language access, the impact of Emergency SNAP and Medicaid unwinding, and the need for affordable housing as the rental prices continue to increase. Going forward, the CoC’s Racial Equity Action Committee is developing a sustainable plan to compensate persons with lived experience who serve the CoC and are involved in program planning and decision-making.

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1D-12. | Increasing Affordable Housing Supply. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.t. | |
| | Describe in the field below at least 2 steps your CoC has taken in the past 12 months to engage city, county, or state governments that represent your CoC’s geographic area regarding the following: | |
| 1. | reforming zoning and land use policies to permit more housing development; and | |
| 2. | reducing regulatory barriers to housing development. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The following was accomplished in FY23:

- 81 committed affordable rental units constructed at The Waypoint at Fairlington.
- 102 committed affordable rental units under construction, comprising affordable set-aside units secured through the development process.
- 1,736 units in the pipeline, comprising 1,094 units created, converted, or preserved through partnerships, 316 units created through the development process, and 326 units created or preserved through redevelopment support to ARHA.
- 11 first-time homebuyers received loans for down payment and closing cost assistance, including through a SPARC grant allocation from Virginia Housing discounting mortgage rates.
- Five projects were completed through the Home Rehabilitation Loan Program.
- Ten grants (\$5,000+) were issued through the Rebuilding Together DC-Alexandria Program.
- One grant was issued through the Rental Accessibility Modification Program.
- \$1.1 million was pledged by developers to the Housing Trust Fund; and \$0.55 million was received in developer contributions.
- City Council’s FY 2019 resolution to increase the City restaurant meals tax rate from 4% to 5% which now generates nearly \$6 million per year in dedicated funding for affordable housing. Another \$1 million per year is also dedicated to affordable housing purposes in the budget pursuant to the City’s 2018 pledge to mitigate impacts to housing affordability related to Amazon HQ2.
- The City was allocated \$1,143,364 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and \$693,431 in Home Investment Partnership (HOME) funding. CDBG funds were used to provide overnight winter shelter to 278 individuals; help 54 individuals move into stable housing; rehabilitate the homes of five low-income homeowners; rehabilitate the elevators and lobbies of a building with 141 low-income tenants; and conduct one round of fair housing testing. HOME funds assisted four first-time homebuyers become homeowners and will be used to support FY24 affordable housing projects.
- In the Housing section of the FY 2024 Capital Improvement Project budget, \$14.5 million in CIP funds allocated as follows: \$2.5 million to assist with capital improvements at the Arlandria Chirilagua Housing Cooperative; \$10 million for infrastructure requirements related to Housing Alexandria’s Arlandria Mount Vernon-Glebe project; and \$2 million towards the cost of the City’s flex space.

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

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 1E-1. | Web Posting of Your CoC’s Local Competition Deadline–Advance Public Notice. NOFO Section V.B.2.a. and 2.g. You must upload the Web Posting of Local Competition Deadline attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen. | |
|-------|---|--|

| | | |
|----|--|------------|
| 1. | Enter your CoC’s local competition submission deadline date for New Project applicants to submit their project applications to your CoC—meaning the date your CoC published the deadline. | 08/17/2023 |
| 2. | Enter the date your CoC published the deadline for Renewal Project applicants to submit their project applications to your CoC’s local competition—meaning the date your CoC published the deadline. | 08/14/2023 |

| | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 1E-2. | Project Review and Ranking Process Your CoC Used in Its Local Competition. We use the response to this question and the response in Question 1E-2a along with the required attachments from both questions as a factor when determining your CoC’s eligibility for bonus funds and for other NOFO criteria below. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., 2.d., and 2.e. You must upload the Local Competition Scoring Tool attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen. Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ranked and selected project applications during your 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). | Yes |
| 4. | Provided points for projects that addressed specific severe barriers to housing and services. | Yes |

| | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 5. | Used data from comparable databases to score projects submitted by victim service providers. | Yes |
| 6. | Provided points for projects based on the degree the projects identified any barriers to participation (e.g., lack of outreach) faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and has taken or will take steps to eliminate the identified barriers. | Yes |

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 1E-2a. | Scored Project Forms for One Project from Your CoC's Local Competition. We use the response to this question and Question 1E-2. along with the required attachments from both questions as a factor when determining your CoC's eligibility for bonus funds and for other NOFO criteria below. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., and 2.d. | |

You must upload the Scored Forms for One Project attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.
 Complete the chart below to provide details of your CoC's local competition:

| | | |
|----|---|--------|
| 1. | What were the maximum number of points available for the renewal project form(s)? | 43 |
| 2. | How many renewal projects did your CoC submit? | 5 |
| 3. | What renewal project type did most applicants use? | PH-PSH |

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1E-2b. | Addressing Severe Barriers in the Local Project Review and Ranking Process. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.2.d. | |

Describe in the field below:

| | |
|----|---|
| 1. | how your CoC analyzed data regarding each project that has successfully housed program participants in permanent housing; |
| 2. | how your CoC analyzed data regarding how long it takes to house people in permanent housing; |
| 3. | how your CoC considered the specific severity of needs and vulnerabilities experienced by program participants preventing rapid placement in permanent housing or the ability to maintain permanent housing when your CoC ranked and selected projects; and |
| 4. | considerations your CoC gave to projects that provide housing and services to the hardest to serve populations that could result in lower performance levels but are projects your CoC needs in its geographic area. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

Alexandria’s five FY23 renewal programs have operated for years, and the CoC received only one new proposal for bonus opportunities, so trend data was used to compare the programs. To measure varied HUD projects against each other, the CoC delineates target outcomes by project type in Performance & Compliance Monitoring and includes clients’ average assessment score in the ranking processes. This ensures the vulnerabilities of the varying populations in these programs are considered when the CoC must prioritize funding. Monitoring scores are the primary metrics informing ranking and are designed to set more accurate outcome targets for programs serving clients with higher housing barriers. In some cases, short-term subsidy programs are evaluated on different metrics than PSH, like the rate of housing exits versus rate of housing maintenance. In others the scoring scale is minimized, like a lower target percentage for clients employed in PSH versus Rapid Rehousing. Secondary metrics used by the Priorities Committee include clients’ average assessment score at entry, and percentage of beds dedicated to special populations like the Chronic Homeless (CH) or DV. The latter two metrics are sourced from HMIS and HDX respectively and were used specifically to highlight programs with service needy clients. The CoC Gaps & Needs Committee also offers the Priorities Committee recommendations based on current System Performance so special consideration to those programs that served them. With these criteria, the Priorities Committee prioritized the highest performing program first, which was a singles PSH program that was also serving the population with the highest average housing barrier score at entry. A lower performing PSH program, Sheltered Homes, was spared from Tier Two by the Priorities Committee because the average housing barrier score for client entries was higher than Notabene, a comparable PSH program operated by the same

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| 1E-3. | Advancing Racial Equity through Participation of Over-Represented Populations in the Local Competition Review and Ranking Process. | |
| NOFO Section V.B.2.e. | | |
| Describe in the field below: | | |
| 1. | how your CoC used the input from persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, to determine the rating factors used to review project applications; | |
| 2. | how your CoC included persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population in the review, selection, and ranking process; and | |
| 3. | how your CoC rated and ranked projects based on the degree to which their project has identified any barriers to participation (e.g., lack of outreach) faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and has taken or will take steps to eliminate the identified barriers. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC's Gaps and Needs Committee is made up of representatives from all local homeless assistance programs in the City, as well as Alexandria Dept. of Community and Human Services (DCHS) staff, and community advocates. Members of the committee identify as a multitude of races including all that are predominately represented within the population of residents experiencing homelessness. The Committee is responsible for reviewing monthly system performance data from all homeless assistance programs and making recommendations for service or policy adjustment, and they do so with a racial equity lens. The demographic breakdowns of each program, and of outcomes within each performance metric, are tracked separately so that inequities can be spotted in real time, and adjustments can be mandated through formal recommendation to the CoC Governing Board or Priorities Committee. The CoC's Priorities Committee is an informed, unbiased body of homeless assistance and affordable housing advocates responsible for making funding decisions for the CoC during competitive funding applications, which includes the annual HUD-CoC project ranking process. The group includes 2 men and 3 women who identify as either Black or African American, or White, which make up approximately 90% of the City's homeless population. In ranking, their decision is informed by the programs' compliance with HUD guidelines, annual performance outcomes, and formal recommendations from the CoC's Gaps and Needs Committee. In FY23 the Priorities Committee ranked the HUD-CoC RRH program second, particularly for its high permanent housing rate as well as its equitable representation as a housing program that served over 80% black or African American households. That population made up about 78% of shelter residents in FY22 and has been identified as a high need by the Gaps and Needs Committee, so programs that have proven effective for those residents were prioritized.

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| 1E-4. | Reallocation—Reviewing Performance of Existing Projects. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.2.f. | |

Describe in the field below:

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|----|---|
| 1. | your CoC's reallocation process, including how your CoC determined which projects are candidates for reallocation because they are low performing or less needed; |
| 2. | whether your CoC identified any low performing or less needed projects through the process described in element 1 of this question during your CoC's local competition this year; |
| 3. | whether your CoC reallocated any low performing or less needed projects during its local competition this year; and |
| 4. | why your CoC did not reallocate low performing or less needed projects during its local competition this year, if applicable. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC initiates reallocation to address community need or poor performance. Both scenarios result from monthly monitoring of system performance by the Data Committee and quarterly analysis by the Gaps & Needs Committee. Data through three quarters is aggregated into the CoC Needs Assessment, which identifies service gaps and recommends funding strategies to address them, including potential reallocation. Three-quarter data also informs the annual update to the Compliance & Performance Scorecard, where the Selection Committee sets new outcome targets for ranking and may request reallocation of a low performer. Both documents are public, and the process is detailed in a document referenced in the approved CoC Charter. providers also maintain representation on the Data and Gaps and Needs Committees involving them in reallocation discussions from the start. Any redistribution of funds is facilitated by the CoC Lead through public Request for Proposal.

The CoC did not initiate reallocation in 2023 because, through its reallocation processes, had been providing technical assistance to a perennially low performing grantee, Notabene families and singles PSH, in effort to improve the effectiveness of the services and outcomes for the clients. Over the course of FY22 the program made sufficient improvements to service delivery and program entry processes that led to improved system performance outcomes last year. A new relationship was also forged between the City’s Domestic Violence shelter and Notabene during the technical assistance process that has eliminated the utilization issues which previously challenged the program’s family units.

Unfortunately, one Notabene family was exited to shelter in FY23 which significantly degraded performance outcomes this year. The CoC Priorities Committee granted that this circumstance was situational, but Notabene still had a longer trend as the lowest performing program. Thus, the Committee did not recommend reallocation but left Notabene straddling the tiers and recommended that any program dollars lost be taken from program’s family units, as they produced the negative outcome in FY23 and have consistently impeded the program’s performance metrics.

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| 1E-4a. | Reallocation Between FY 2018 and FY 2023. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.2.f. | |

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| | Did your CoC cumulatively reallocate at least 20 percent of its ARD between FY 2018 and FY 2023? | Yes |
|--|--|-----|

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| 1E-5. | Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.2.g. | |
| | You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen. | |

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1. | Did your CoC reject any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition? | No |
| 2. | Did your CoC reduce funding for any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition? | No |
| 3. | Did your CoC inform applicants why your CoC rejected or reduced their project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition? | Yes |

| | | |
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| | <p>4. If you selected Yes for element 1 or element 2 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, enter the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 06/26/2023, 06/27/2023, and 06/28/2023, then you must enter 06/28/2023.</p> | |
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| 1E-5a. | <p>Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps.</p> <p>NOFO Section V.B.2.g.</p> <p>You must upload the Notification of Projects Accepted attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.</p> | |
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| | <p>Enter the date your CoC notified project applicants that their project applications were accepted and ranked on the New and Renewal Priority Listings in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, enter the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 06/26/2023, 06/27/2023, and 06/28/2023, then you must enter 06/28/2023.</p> | 09/08/2023 |
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| 1E-5b. | <p>Local Competition Selection Results for All Projects.</p> <p>NOFO Section V.B.2.g.</p> <p>You must upload the Local Competition Selection Results attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.</p> | |
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| | | |
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| | <p>Does your attachment include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project Names; 2. Project Scores; 3. Project accepted or rejected status; 4. Project Rank–if accepted; 5. Requested Funding Amounts; and 6. Reallocated funds. | Yes |
|--|---|-----|

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| 1E-5c. | <p>Web Posting of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application 2 Days Before CoC Program Competition Application Submission Deadline.</p> <p>NOFO Section V.B.2.g. and 24 CFR 578.95.</p> <p>You must upload the Web Posting–CoC-Approved Consolidated Application attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.</p> | |
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| | <p>Enter the date your CoC posted the CoC-approved Consolidated Application on the CoC’s website or partner’s website–which included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the CoC Application; and 2. Priority Listings for Reallocation forms and all New, Renewal, and Replacement Project Listings. | 09/27/2023 |
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| | <p>1E-5d. Notification to Community Members and Key Stakeholders that the CoC-Approved Consolidated Application is Posted on Website.</p> <p>NOFO Section V.B.2.g.</p> <p>You must upload the Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.</p> | |
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| | Enter the date your CoC notified community members and key stakeholders that the CoC-approved Consolidated Application was posted on your CoC's website or partner's website. | 09/27/2023 |
|--|--|------------|

2A. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Implementation

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

| | | |
|-------|---------------------------------|--|
| 2A-1. | HMIS Vendor. | |
| | Not Scored—For Information Only | |

| | | |
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| | Enter the name of the HMIS Vendor your CoC is currently using. | WellSky |
|--|--|---------|

| | | |
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| 2A-2. | HMIS Implementation Coverage Area. | |
| | Not Scored—For Information Only | |

| | | |
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| | Select from dropdown menu your CoC’s HMIS coverage area. | Single CoC |
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| 2A-3. | HIC Data Submission in HDX. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.3.a. | |

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| | Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2023 HIC data into HDX. | 04/28/2023 |
|--|---|------------|

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| 2A-4. | Comparable Database for DV Providers—CoC and HMIS Lead Supporting Data Collection and Data Submission by Victim Service Providers. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.3.b. | |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| | In the field below: | |
| 1. | describe actions your CoC and HMIS Lead have taken to ensure DV housing and service providers in your CoC collect data in HMIS comparable databases; | |
| 2. | state whether DV housing and service providers in your CoC are using a HUD-compliant comparable database—compliant with the FY 2022 HMIS Data Standards; and | |

3. state whether your CoC's HMIS is compliant with the FY 2022 HMIS Data Standards.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC serves Domestic Violence (DV) survivors with immediate safety concerns in the undisclosed DV shelter, which is operated by the City of Alexandria's Dept. of Community and Human Services (DCHS). No other victim specific programs exist within the CoC's geographic region. Data from the DV shelter is maintained in a separate confidential database, which collects data according to HUD-HMIS data standards. The DV shelter utilizes the same housing assessment as regular coordinated entry so same assessment data can be de-identified and clients can be anonymously prioritized for housing on the same By-Names-List (BNL) as all literally homeless clients or filtered for DV specific voucher opportunities. Using the same assessments allows the CoC's data committee and others to compare relative vulnerabilities of the DV population, as well as demographic trends. The CoC's Gaps & Needs Committee monitors CoC system performance metrics of HMIS programs monthly and, at the charge of the Priorities Committee last year, has begun reviewing comparable metrics from the City's Domestic Violence program including hotline calls, persons served through victim accompaniment and advocacy, and the number of youths served through supportive counseling. There are still issues of the DV shelter's safety priorities misaligning with some of the homeless system's housing-first metrics, but as the Committee begins to build trend data, metrics key to the DV shelter's success will be highlighted, then work to improve them will begin. DV data collection improvement led directly to Alexandria submitting a proposal for the DV Bonus funds for the first time in this application. Two service providers that maintain representation on the Gaps & Needs Committee were able to craft a project application for DV survivors using metrics presented in committee meetings, and if funded, will be able to eliminate a service gap within the CoC.

2A-5. Bed Coverage Rate—Using HIC, HMIS Data—CoC Merger Bonus Points.

NOFO Section V.B.3.c. and V.B.7.

Enter 2023 HIC and HMIS data in the chart below by project type:

| Project Type | Total Year-Round Beds in 2023 HIC | Total Year-Round Beds in HIC Operated by Victim Service Providers | Total Year-Round Beds in HMIS | HMIS Year-Round Bed Coverage Rate |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Emergency Shelter (ES) beds | 121 | 18 | 103 | 100.00% |
| 2. Safe Haven (SH) beds | 12 | 0 | 12 | 100.00% |
| 3. Transitional Housing (TH) beds | 34 | 0 | 34 | 100.00% |
| 4. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds | 110 | 0 | 110 | 100.00% |
| 5. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds | 63 | 0 | 63 | 100.00% |
| 6. Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds | 3 | 0 | 3 | 100.00% |

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 2A-5a. | Partial Credit for Bed Coverage Rates at or Below 84.99 for Any Project Type in Question 2A-5. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.3.c. | |

For each project type with a bed coverage rate that is at or below 84.99 percent in question 2A-5, describe:

| | |
|----|--|
| 1. | steps your CoC will take over the next 12 months to increase the bed coverage rate to at least 85 percent for that project type; and |
| 2. | how your CoC will implement the steps described to increase bed coverage to at least 85 percent. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

N/A

| | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 2A-6. | Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Submission in HDX 2.0. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.3.d. | |
| | You must upload your CoC's FY 2023 HDX Competition Report to the 4B. Attachments Screen. | |

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| Did your CoC submit at least two usable LSA data files to HUD in HDX 2.0 by February 28, 2023, 8 p.m. EST? | Yes |
|--|-----|

2B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

| | | |
|-------|----------------------|--|
| 2B-1. | PIT Count Date. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.4.a | |

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|--|---|------------|
| | Enter the date your CoC conducted its 2023 PIT count. | 01/25/2023 |
|--|---|------------|

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| 2B-2. | PIT Count Data–HDX Submission Date. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.4.a | |

| | | |
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| | Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2023 PIT count data in HDX. | 04/28/2023 |
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| 2B-3. | PIT Count–Effectively Counting Youth in Your CoC’s Most Recent Unsheltered PIT Count. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.4.b. | |

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|---|---|
| Describe in the field below how your CoC: | |
| 1. | engaged unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations in your CoC’s most recent PIT count planning process; |
| 2. | worked with unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations to select locations where homeless youth are most likely to be identified during your CoC’s most recent PIT count planning process; and |
| 3. | included youth experiencing homelessness as counters during your CoC’s most recent unsheltered PIT count. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

There are no unaccompanied youth service organizations in the CoC’s jurisdiction. To ensure these individuals are included in the regular PIT count, the CoC works closely with the Homeless Education Liaison (HEL) ahead of the survey to ensure all youth are accounted for, and emails surveys to those that aren’t.

In of more robust data collection during the traditional PIT Count, the CoC executes planning for a separate Youth PIT Count through the CoC Gaps & Needs Committee because members include all City homeless assistance providers as well as Alexandria City Public Schools’ (ACPS) Homeless Education Liaison. Support of ACPS was critical in that any data sourced from school-aged youth would require their Board’s approval to be made public or be used by an external group like the CoC. Beyond that, the Committee’s chair also serves on Alexandria’s Youth Services Coordinated Council (YSCC), made up of child welfare and foster care representatives, family service specialists, local non-profits, and faith organization that serve youth, allowing that group to serve as a sounding board for the proposed PIT strategy.

Dates and times for the Youth PIT Count were identified by the Gaps & Needs Committee with the help of the Homeless Education Liaison ahead of the FY22 Count, focusing on either end of the school year when families were already required to report homeless status to ACPS through mail in forms. Next, and Youth PIT specific survey was crafted and vetted by the YSCC, including at-risk youth that support the Council’s work, and strategies for dissemination were discussed. Multiple City locations including parks, libraries, business, and after school programs and events, were identified for survey locations, but Alexandria’s Homeless Education Liaison and YSCC cautioned against collecting data outside of ACPS’ typical processes, at least for the CoC’s first attempt at a Youth PIT.

This year, the decision was made to follow the same Youth PIT process as in FY22 and solicit responses via the Homeless Education Liaison’s closeout survey of families at the end of the school year. Again, the CoC collected PIT data on a staggering number of unstably housed youth that are unknown to the CoC, largely because of HUD and DOE’s competing definitions of homelessness. Looking to FY24, the CoC aims to develop a trend report using Youth PIT data from the past three years to better advocate for services for the population.

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| 2B-4. | PIT Count–Methodology Change–CoC Merger Bonus Points. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.5.a and V.B.7.c. | |
| | In the field below: | |
| | 1. describe any changes your CoC made to your sheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2022 and 2023, if applicable; | |
| | 2. describe any changes your CoC made to your unsheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2022 and 2023, if applicable; and | |
| | 3. describe how the changes affected your CoC’s PIT count results; or | |
| | 4. state “Not Applicable” if there were no changes or if you did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2023. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

N/A

2C. System Performance

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

| | | |
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| 2C-1. | Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless–Risk Factors Your CoC Uses. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.5.b. | |

In the field below:

| | |
|----|---|
| 1. | describe how your CoC determined the risk factors to identify persons experiencing homelessness for the first time; |
| 2. | describe your CoC’s strategies to address 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 |

(limit 2,500 characters)

Within the Office of Community Services (OCS) is the Homeless Services Assessment Center (HSAC). When individuals present in housing crisis, a standard assessment is given, and the previous five years of homelessness history is recorded. This gives the CoC greater context of homeless history than HUD’s report as the data can be tied to individual demographics and outcomes produced by CoC services. To start, the assessment records factors that led to a household’s current episode of homelessness, giving the CoC a self-reported source for first time experience. Coupling this information with prevention and diversion data has proven the CoC’s best method for identifying why Alexandrians are becoming homeless for the first time.

The CoC’s Gaps and Needs committee collects this data monthly to determine the most prevalent sources of homelessness in Alexandria, and through analysis has managed to recommend more upstream interventions. OCS is also the City’s Community Action Agency and primary provider of short-term rental assistance. These services, as well as case management and housing location are offered first, and last resort referral is made to shelter.

As the short-term assistance provider and operator of coordinated entry, OCS is doubly concerned with preventing residents from experiencing homelessness. Most households that experience homelessness simply cannot afford a one-bedroom unit in Alexandria, showing that housing affordability remains the primary cause of first-time homelessness. To be proactive the CoC focuses on initial homelessness from specific zip codes, often with concentrations of subsidized housing, and targets prevention resources to those neighborhoods, engaging the PHA or private landlords to keep residents in housing. Recently, the CoC conducted a data-dive into instances of homelessness versus recidivism and found that most people experiencing first time homelessness enter the CoC through seasonal winter shelter, and often utilize no other services. Conversely, this population self-reports experiencing homelessness sometime in the last three years at a rate of 90%. This relationship, and the profile of winter-shelter users, is thus being further explored in FY24.

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| 2C-1a. | Impact of Displaced Persons on Number of First Time Homeless. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.5.b | |

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| Was your CoC’s Number of First Time Homeless [metric 5.2] affected by the number of persons seeking short-term shelter or housing assistance displaced due to: |
|--|

| | | |
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| 1. | natural disasters? | No |
| 2. | having recently arrived in your CoCs’ geographic area? | No |

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| 2C-2. | Length of Time Homeless—CoC’s Strategy to Reduce. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.5.c. | |

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| In the field below: |
| 1. describe your CoC’s strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless; |
| 2. describe 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)

All clients experiencing homelessness, whether entering through our Domestic Violence (DV) Shelter, Winter Shelter, Street Outreach, or coordinated entry, receive the same standard assessment that measures client's housing barriers and history of homelessness. Having the same assessment at each entry point allows for better data consistency and comparability of client responses across each access point. Bi-weekly, this data is pulled into our By Names List (BNL) by our HMIS Administrator, at which point referrals are made based on client's rank on that list. The BNL prioritizes clients based on significance of housing barrier, race, and ethnicity, and is currently being adjusted to account for length of stay in a more quantifiable way.

Using increased and reallocated Rapid Rehousing (RRH) funds, the CoC has been using permanent housing placement to reduce the shelter length of stay. This highlights that when funds are allocated to high performing organizations who are invested in positive client outcomes, RRH is an effective method to reduce the length of stay and improve the permanent exit rate. In addition, using data-driven decision making and statistical analysis via our BNL the CoC has efficiently and effectively utilized vouchers to move people out of shelter and out of permanent supportive housing to allow long used units to come available for those in need of PSH.

Currently the length of time homeless is displayed in an easily identifiable way on the BNL, essentially denoted by a client's entry date into our shelter programs. The list is routinely analyzed and adjusted basis by the Housing Crisis Response Committee to respond to current needs. The Gaps and Needs Committee evaluates its impact on homelessness duration and housing placement. In most circumstances, subsequent changes to BNL algorithms are made based on the recommendations illustrated by the Lead CoC Administrator in Quarterly Recommendation reports.

| | | |
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| 2C-3. | Exits to Permanent Housing Destinations/Retention of Permanent Housing—CoC's Strategy | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.5.d. | |

In the field below:

| | |
|----|--|
| 1. | describe your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations; |
| 2. | describe your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations; and |
| 3. | provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and families exit to or retain permanent housing. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

More than 50% of FY23 CoC’s housing resources fund Rapid Rehousing (RRH), so the CoC targets those programs to best influence permanent exits, using its Housing Crisis Response Committee implement policy changes and the Data Committee to monitor performance improvements. During the past year specifically, the CoC requested and executed over \$400,000 additional RRH subsidies, largely through the Homeless Reduction Grant (HRG). That strategy was plotted and monitored by the CoC’s Gaps & Need Committee to new housing needs resulting from the sunseting of COVID specific resources like the COVID Homeless Emergency Relief Program (CHERP). As the consumer of performance monitoring data, the Gaps & Needs Committee recommends potential project configurations that could improve permanent placement and retention. Data showed an existing unstably house population that would be unable to access homeless prevention specifically during the moratorium. This confirmed the CoC’s need to address homelessness for many households further downstream than usual. To maximize housing placement and retention, Gaps & Needs recommended that all the initial CHERP fund shelter and RRH, and subsequently reallocated CHERP Prevention to RRH as well. The approach helped the CoC maintain placement rates throughout the pandemic. The CoC also extended its length of assistance, particularly the provision of rental subsidy, at this time to help residents maintain housing within despite persisting economic factors. Adjustments like these are likewise recommended through regular monitoring of move on strategies, managed by the Data, Housing Crisis Response, and Gaps & Needs

| | | |
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| 2C-4. | Returns to Homelessness—CoC’s Strategy to Reduce Rate. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.5.e. | |
| | In the field below: | |
| 1. | describe your CoC’s strategy to identify individuals and families who return to homelessness; | |
| 2. | describe 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 Office of Community (OCS) manages Alexandria’s rental and utility assistance programs and operates coordinated entry in the City. This continuity of care and client record allows OCS to monitor homeless recidivism from different data sets, giving greater detail to the cause of repeated homelessness in Alexandria. 6- and 12-month follow-ups with homeless prevention and Rapid Rehousing clients provides an early barometer of recidivism, while deduplication from non-homeless housing assistance data highlights factors creating recidivism further upstream. Even further, the CoC’s coordinated entry assessment quantifies households’ history of homeless assistance in the past five years, taking on a broader definition of recidivism than the HUD report. The CoC is aware that recidivism is too common an occurrence among residents experiencing homelessness, and thus, several strategies are being analyzed to not only better track the situation, but to prevent it as part of the mission to prevent and end homelessness. A component that has been missing in prior approaches is the application of a racial equity to recognize the systemic causes and effects of homeless recidivism within different communities. Currently, the HMIS Data Committee is in discussion with CoC case managers and the committee that oversees their services, the Housing Crisis Response Committee (HCRC), to include one or two more questions on our standard assessment that speak primarily to generational or network impoverishment. Recently, the CoC conducted a data-dive into instances of homelessness versus recidivism and found that most people experiencing first time homelessness enter the CoC through seasonal winter shelter, and often utilize no other services. Conversely, this population self-reports experiencing homelessness sometime in the last three years at a rate of 90%. This relationship, and the profile of winter-shelter users, is thus being further explored in FY24.

| | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 2C-5. | Increasing Employment Cash Income—CoC’s Strategy. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.5.f. | |
| | In the field below: | |
| 1. | describe your CoC’s strategy to access employment cash sources; | |
| 2. | describe how your CoC works with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness increase their employment 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 Alexandria CoC employs several congruent strategies to increase homeless residents' employment income, both through mainstream employment assistance resources and through CoC specific initiatives. At the ground level, in all CoC homeless assistance programs there are employment specific staff tasked with maintaining and increasing income and employment for program participants. These individuals make daily external referrals to recruiters, employers, vocational programs, and the Alexandria Workforce Development Center (WDC), in effort to help clients work towards their earning potential.

At a committee level, the Employment Committee is appropriately responsible for implementing all employment-based initiatives within the CoC, including hosting job fairs, standardizing pre-employment training and interview coaching, securing job vacancies for homeless clients, and generally advocating employability of the population. Outside of events the committee monitors monthly employment outcomes within the CoC and recommends improvement strategies for Governing Board Approval. The CoC also maintains representation from the business community on its Governing Board who is responsible for voicing the ongoing employment concerns of the homeless services system at the board level.

To specifically address this issue the CoC utilizes an Employment Navigator, a position that sits at WDC and assists CoC clients navigate the continuum of employment assistance resources in the City. The Employment Navigator has proven successful in bridging the skills gap between homeless residents and the workforce, compelling the CoC to implement some additional data tracking requirements within the program to better inform the application of the service to clients from all levels of the Continuum. In FY22, the CoC is continuing to promote access ticket-to-work programs for single homeless residents as system performance data shows SSI/SSDI remains the primary source of income for that population.

| | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 2C-5a. | Increasing Non-employment Cash Income—CoC's Strategy | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.5.f. | |
| | In the field below: | |
| 1. | describe your CoC's strategy to access non-employment cash income; and | |
| 2. | provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income. | |

(limit 2,500 characters)

At coordinated entry, the Homeless Services Assessment Center (HSAC) screens clients for housing barriers, including monthly income and primary source, which informs shelter case managers in development of a housing plan. HSAC is collocated with the City’s Public Benefits Office so eligible clients are immediately referred for TANF, SNAP, SSI/SSDI, and other mainstream assistance programs. Once in shelter, staff are experienced in the relationship between income and housing in the CoC’s high-cost area and are keen to include housing plan goals that aim to increase client income to make housing attainable. To make that approach common practice, the CoC has implemented holistic Housing First training for all case managers, emphasizing connection to sustainable supports like cash and non-cash benefits simultaneous to the search for housing.

HUD-CoC funded programs in the Continuum are required to make SOAR certified staff available to all clients and all other programs in the CoC can equally access those services for clients that need SSI/SSDI applications expedited. The CoC’s PATH outreach worker, who is also SOAR certified, is responsible for coordinating with the Northern Virginia SOAR led to secure CoC staff certifications, update training, and track progress made on the CoC’s SOAR applications.

Alexandria’s Office of Public Benefits assists CoC partners in applying Virginia’s recent Medicaid expansion within their services, offering resources, contacts, and additional support to providers to ensure clients that were covered received access. That partnership continues to grow especially with federal changes to healthcare, and the CoC will continue to leverage those transitions to further improve the collaboration between benefits and homeless services.

3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

| | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| 3A-1. | New PH-PSH/PH-RRH Project–Leveraging Housing Resources. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.6.a. | |
| | You must upload the Housing Leveraging Commitment attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen. | |

| | | |
|--|--|----|
| | Is your CoC applying for a new PH-PSH or PH-RRH project that uses housing subsidies or subsidized housing units which are not funded through the CoC or ESG Programs to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness? | No |
|--|--|----|

| | | |
|--------------|--|--|
| 3A-2. | New PH-PSH/PH-RRH Project–Leveraging Healthcare Resources. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.6.b. | |
| | You must upload the Healthcare Formal Agreements attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen. | |

| | | |
|--|--|----|
| | Is your CoC applying for a new PH-PSH or PH-RRH project that uses healthcare resources to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness? | No |
|--|--|----|

| | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| 3A-3. | Leveraging Housing/Healthcare Resources–List of Projects. | |
| | NOFO Sections V.B.6.a. and V.B.6.b. | |
| | If you selected yes to questions 3A-1. or 3A-2., use the list feature icon to enter information about each project application you intend for HUD to evaluate to determine if they meet the criteria. | |

| Project Name | Project Type | Rank Number | Leverage Type |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| This list contains no items | | | |

3B. New Projects With Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

| | | |
|--------------|--|--|
| 3B-1. | Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.s. | |

| | |
|--|----|
| Is your CoC requesting funding for any new project application requesting \$200,000 or more in funding for housing rehabilitation or new construction? | No |
|--|----|

| | | |
|--------------|--|--|
| 3B-2. | Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects. | |
| | NOFO Section V.B.1.s. | |

If you answered yes to question 3B-1, describe in the field below actions CoC Program-funded project applicants will take to comply with:

| | |
|----|---|
| 1. | Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u); and |
| 2. | 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. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

N/A

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

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

| | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 3C-1. | Designating SSO/TH/Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Projects to Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. | |
| | NOFO Section V.F. | |

| | | |
|--|--|----|
| | 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 |
|--|--|----|

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| 3C-2. | Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. | |
| | NOFO Section V.F. | |

You must upload the Project List for Other Federal Statutes attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

If you answered yes to question 3C-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. DV Bonus Project Applicants for New DV Bonus Funding

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

| | | |
|-------|------------------------------------|--|
| 4A-1. | New DV Bonus Project Applications. | |
| | NOFO Section I.B.3.I. | |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|----|
| | Did your CoC submit one or more new project applications for DV Bonus Funding? | No |
| Applicant Name | | |
| This list contains no items | | |

4B. Attachments Screen For All Application Questions

We have provided 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. 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. After you upload each attachment, use the Download feature to access and check the attachment to ensure it matches the required Document Type and to ensure it contains all pages you intend to include.
8. Only use the "Other" attachment option to meet an attachment requirement that is not otherwise listed in these detailed instructions.

| Document Type | Required? | Document Description | Date Attached |
|--|-----------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1C-7. PHA Homeless Preference | No | | |
| 1C-7. PHA Moving On Preference | No | | |
| 1D-11a. Letter Signed by Working Group | Yes | Letter Signed by ... | 09/22/2023 |
| 1D-2a. Housing First Evaluation | Yes | Housing First Eva... | 09/21/2023 |
| 1E-1. Web Posting of Local Competition Deadline | Yes | Web Posting of Lo... | 09/21/2023 |
| 1E-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool | Yes | Local Competition... | 09/21/2023 |
| 1E-2a. Scored Forms for One Project | Yes | Scored Forms for ... | 09/21/2023 |
| 1E-5. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced | Yes | Notification of P... | 09/21/2023 |
| 1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted | Yes | Notification of P... | 09/21/2023 |
| 1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results | Yes | Local Competition... | 09/21/2023 |
| 1E-5c. Web Posting—CoC-Approved Consolidated Application | Yes | | |

| | | | |
|--|-----|----------------------|------------|
| 1E-5d. Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application | Yes | | |
| 2A-6. HUD's Homeless Data Exchange (HDX) Competition Report | Yes | HUD's Homeless Da... | 09/21/2023 |
| 3A-1a. Housing Leveraging Commitments | No | | |
| 3A-2a. Healthcare Formal Agreements | No | | |
| 3C-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes | No | | |
| Other | No | | |

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: Letter Signed by Working Group

Attachment Details

Document Description: Housing First Evaluation

Attachment Details

Document Description: Web Posting of Local Competition Deadline

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local Competition Scoring Tool

Attachment Details

Document Description: Scored Forms for One Project

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Projects Accepted

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local Competition Selection Results

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: HUD's Homeless Data Exchange (HDX)
Competition Report

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Submission Summary

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

| Page | Last Updated |
|---|--------------|
| 1A. CoC Identification | 08/17/2023 |
| 1B. Inclusive Structure | 09/21/2023 |
| 1C. Coordination and Engagement | 09/26/2023 |
| 1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd | 09/26/2023 |
| 1E. Project Review/Ranking | 09/22/2023 |
| 2A. HMIS Implementation | 09/22/2023 |
| 2B. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count | 09/22/2023 |
| 2C. System Performance | 09/22/2023 |
| 3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare | 09/21/2023 |
| 3B. Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs | 09/21/2023 |
| 3C. Serving Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes | 09/21/2023 |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| 4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants | 09/21/2023 |
| 4B. Attachments Screen | Please Complete |
| Submission Summary | No Input Required |



The Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness
in the City of Alexandria

Christine Miller, Executive Director of the Alexandria Community Shelter, and Chair of the Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness (PPEH) in the City of Alexandria, has served as the leader of Alexandria's Continuum of Care's (CoC) Governing Board for the past several years. In that role, she has authorized focus groups, established a working committee, and approved Governing Board members who represent households with lived experience in local homeless assistance systems. The PPEH is committed to advancing equity and centering the voices of those who live through housing instability, as exemplified by the CoC's recently updated Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness FY2023-2028 and the Governance Charter which includes a description of the CoC's Racial Equity Action Committee (REAC) that spearheads the lived-experience compensation initiative for the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CM', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Christine Miller, Chair

Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness in the City of Alexandria

FY 2023 HUD-CoC Competition Commencement - Message (HTML)

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The Smartsheet for Outlook Add-in Viva Insights Phish Alert Report

FY 2023 HUD-CoC Competition Commencement

Stefan Caine

To: aclomax@aol.com; Ali Coleman; alivehousedir@gmail.com; Alyssa Morin; Ann Marie Hay; Barbara Cooley; Bennie Evans; Bill Rooney; C Kenady; Carla Hampstead; Catherine Hassinger; Cathy Bartholomew; Charlyne Braxton; Cheryl Malloy; Cindy Metcalf; Clara Roberson; Fri 7/14/2023 9:29 AM

Collins Asony; Connie Juntunen; Courtney Ballantine; Darl Leedom; Debra Evans; Devon Earle; Emily Carpenter; Eric Keeler; Genevieve Fields; Gwen McQueeney; J Diaz; Jacquelyn Washington; James Cahill; Jan Sacharko; Jane Knops; Jennifer McDaniels; +34 others

This message was sent with High importance.

FY23 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).pdf
1 MB

Open PDFs in Adobe Acrobat

Good afternoon,

This message is to provide notice that the FY23 HUD-CoC Competition is now open, marking the start of our local process to apply for homeless assistance funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). For a more detailed introduction, please read HUD's message below, and for all organizations interested in applying, I encourage you to read the attached 2023 HUD-CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

In the FY23 Application there is a chance to apply for new project through bonus funding. All organizations, both within and outside of the Continuum, that have a hand in the region's homeless service delivery are permitted to apply. More information about how to apply for Alexandria's bonus CoC funding will be sent via email, and posted to the Partnership's webpage (<https://www.alexandriava.gov/dchs/info/default.aspx?id=76061>) in the coming days.

Please pass this message and the accompanying attachment to contacts in and outside of the City that may be interested in applying for a HUD-CoC grant.

More communication will follow this message. As always, let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Stefan

Stefan Caine
Continuum of Care Lead Administrator
City of Alexandria, Virginia
Department of Community and Human Services
703.746.5825
www.alexandriava.gov/DCHS
<https://www.alexandriava.gov/dchs/info/default.aspx?id=76061>

From: HUD Exchange Mailing List <news@hudexchange.info>
Sent: Monday, July 10, 2023 4:48 PM
To: Stefan Caine <Stefan.Caine@alexandriava.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]FY 2023 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Availability Due September 28, 2023 at 8:00 PM EDT

Is this email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

City of Alexandria 2023 HUD-CoC Competition Announcement - Message (HTML)

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City of Alexandria 2023 HUD-CoC Competition Announcement



Stefan Caine

To: 'aclomax@aol.com'; Ali Coleman; alivehousedir@gmail.com; Alyssa Morin; Ann Marie Hay; Barbara Cooley; Bennie Evans; Bill Rooney; C Kenady; Carla Hampstead; Catherine Hassinger; Cathy Bartholomew; Charlyne Braxton; Cheryl Malloy; Cindy Metcalf; Clara Roberson; Collins Asonye; +46 others
Cc: Dana Murray; Megan Hansen; Jamie Ergas; lawrencesmith@carpentersshelter.org; Justin Severt; Mario Rodriguez; Alison C Coleman; Lesa Gilbert

Reply Reply All Forward

Thu 7/27/2023 3:19 PM

This is the most recent version, but you made changes to another copy. Click here to see the other versions.

2023 New Funding Instructions.docx 344 KB | 2023 NOI - PSH.docx 44 KB | 2023 NOI - RRH & Joint-TH.docx 47 KB | 2023 CoC Competition Calendar.docx 35 KB

Good Afternoon

The Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness (PPEH) is commencing annual the competition to apply federal homeless assistance funding through Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Grant. There is opportunity to apply for new funding in the FY23 CoC Competition, including HUD-CoC Bonus Project Funding and Domestic Violence Specific Bonus Project Funding. Organizations within and outside the CoC are equally encouraged to apply, and renewing grantees in the City are permitted to expand current HUD programs with either of the FY23 bonus opportunities.







Organizations interested in participating in the FY23 CoC Competition should review all competition materials attached to this message, and linked on the [Partnership's webpage](#), as well as read the [FY23 Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#). You are also encouraged to monitor the [HUD-CoC Competition webpage](#) and subscribe to their mailing list for additional NOFO publication information.

Thank you,

Stefan Caine
Continuum of Care Lead Administrator
City of Alexandria, Virginia
Department of Community and Human Services
703.746.5825
www.alexandriava.gov/DCHS
<https://www.alexandriava.gov/dchs/info/default.aspx?id=76061>

HUD-CoC Competition

2023 COMPETITION MATERIALS

- [2023 Notice of Intent – Rapid Rehousing or Joint Transitional-Rapid Rehousing \(RRH or JT-RRH\)](#) 
- [2023 Notice of Intent -- Permanent Supportive Housing \(PSH\)](#) 
- [2023 CoC Competition Announcement](#) 
- [2023 CoC Competition Calendar](#) 
- [2023 New Funding Instructions](#) 
- [2023 CoC Performance Monitoring Scorecard](#) 

[HOMELESS GRANT OPPORTUNITY ARCHIVES](#)

The Annual Point-In-Time Count of Homeless Persons



HUD-CoC Competition

2023 COMPETITION MATERIALS








- [2023 Notice of Intent – Rapid Rehousing or Joint Transitional-Rapid Rehousing \(RRH or JT-RRH\)](#)
- [2023 Notice of Intent -- Permanent Supportive Housing \(PSH\)](#)
- [2023 CoC Competition Announcement](#)
- [2023 CoC Competition Calendar](#)
- [2023 New Funding Instructions](#)
- [2023 CoC Performance Monitoring Scorecard](#)
- [2023 Rankings and Recommendations](#)
- [2023 Ranking Criteria Chart](#)






[HOMELESS GRANT OPPORTUNITY ARCHIVES](#)

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Notification of Project Application Inclusion in FY23 HUD-CoC Consolidated Application

 Stefan Caine
To  Dana Murray;  Mario Rodriguez;  Bill Rooney;  Alison C Coleman;  Jamie Ergas
Cc  Justin Severt

  Reply  Reply All  Forward  

Fri 9/8/2023 3:45 PM

 2023 HUD-CoC Rankings and Recommendations.docx
348 KB

Good afternoon,

This message is sent to inform you that all project application submitted in Alexandria's FY23 HUD-CoC Competition have been accepted for inclusion in the City's Consolidated Application. No project applications were amended or rejected. Attached you will find the summary of the Priorities Committee's conversations surrounding the FY23 HUD-CoC Project Rankings and Bonus Proposals, as well as the final HUD-CoC Project Rankings. The 2023 HUD-CoC Rankings and Recommendations were approved by the CoC Governing Board on 9/7/23.









Thank you, please let me know if you have any questions,

Stefan

Stefan Caine
Continuum of Care Lead Administrator
City of Alexandria, Virginia
Department of Community and Human Services
703.746.5825
www.alexandriava.gov/DCHS
<https://www.alexandriava.gov/dchs/info/default.aspx?id=76061>

HUD-CoC Competition

2023 COMPETITION MATERIALS

- [2023 Notice of Intent – Rapid Rehousing or Joint Transitional-Rapid Rehousing \(RRH or JT-RRH\)](#) 
- [2023 Notice of Intent -- Permanent Supportive Housing \(PSH\)](#) 
- [2023 CoC Competition Announcement](#) 
- [2023 CoC Competition Calendar](#) 
- [2023 New Funding Instructions](#) 
- [2023 CoC Performance Monitoring Scorecard](#) 
- [2023 Rankings and Recommendations](#) 
- [2023 Ranking Criteria Chart](#) 

[HOMELESS GRANT OPPORTUNITY ARCHIVES](#)





2023 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition

Ranking Summary

8/22/2023

The Priorities Committee is tasked with prioritizing the most effective and efficient HUD-CoC programs, both new and renewal, for funding in the FY23 HUD CoC Competition. To do so, the Priorities Committee created a two-tier Project Priority Listing of all HUD-CoC programs participating in this cycle.

Bonus Project Review & Selection:

The Committee's first task was to determine which new project proposals, worth **\$61,356** and **\$50,000** individually, to include in the application and prioritization process. Using the submitted Notices of Intent (NOI), community need recommendations from the Gaps & Needs Committee, and annual System Performance data, the Priorities Committee chose from the following proposals:

- HUD-CoC Bonus (\$61,356) – New Hope Housing – Alexandria Housing First Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Service Expansion
- HUD-Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus (\$50,000) – N/A

Recommendations & Approval:

The CoC received only one Notice of Intent (NOI) to apply for the HUD-CoC Bonus opportunity in the FY23 Competition, and none for the HUD-DV Bonus opportunity. The Priorities Committee elected to include the PSH service expansion proposal submitted by New Hope Housing in Alexandria's 2023 HUD-CoC Competition, contingent on Governing Board review and approval. The contingency was issued because the submitted NOI did not fill one of the community needs outlined in the FY23 Needs Assessment and did not display a clear benefit to program participants. There was also discussion about the risk of memorializing a program service via a grant funded position, as the NOI proposes to do with an added staff nutritionist.

The Committee recommends New Hope Housing sufficiently answer questions below in their project application and submit for final approval from the PPEH Governing Board. All questions are related to the proposed expanded service of a full-time staff nutritionist at the PSH program, as outlined in the NOI:

1. What system performance measure will be improved by the proposed service?
2. How many current program participants will utilize, or benefit from, the proposed service?
3. Has the organization explored existing programs or services within the community that could provide similar benefits to program participants?
4. What is the value of adding the proposed service vs. something more directly related to housing (ie. additional units)?

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New & Renewal Project Ranking:

The Priorities Committee's last responsibility was to rank the bonus proposals along with all renewal projects in HUD's two-tiered Project Priority Listing. Programs in the first tier represent a community's high priority programs leaving those in the latter at risk of losing funding. Tiers are divided by the community's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD), which is **\$876,519** for the Alexandria CoC. Details on how tiers must be divided are listed below:

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To inform the project rankings on HUD-CoC Programs, the Priorities Committee utilized 2023 Performance & Compliance Scorecards, 2023 Notice of Intent, and the Gaps & Needs Committee's community needs recommendations. Specific ranking metrics for new and renewal programs are listed in the 2023 HUD-CoC Ranking Criteria Chart.

Recommendations & Approval:

As in typical years, the Tier 1 threshold is set below the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand, meaning some renewal dollars had to be put at risk. Starting with that premise, the Priorities Committee focused on the best performing housing programs in HUD-CoC program monitoring, Alexandria Housing First. The PSH program recorded the highest score of any program within System Performance outcomes in FY23, and while their overall Performance Monitoring score declined from last year, points lost were due to staffing constraints that have since been resolved. Following Alexandria Housing First in ranking was HUD-Rapid Rehousing (RRH), which was the only program to not post a lower overall Performance Monitoring score this year than in FY22. Alexandria Housing First, and HUD-RRH were ranked 1st and 2nd, respectively, in alignment with their monitoring results.

Next, the Committee focused on the end of the ranking list and discussed where to place the undeveloped project, and which existing project to put partially at risk. Considering the conditions that were placed on the only new project proposal submitted, the Priorities Committee decided to rank that project last, placing it entirely in Tier 2. Approximately \$58k remained to be put at risk in Tier 2, and the Committee elected to rank Notabene PSH in this position as the lowest performing program in each of the last 5 years. It was also recommended that if the \$58k in HUD-CoC funding is de-obligated from the program as a result of the FY23 Competition, that the remaining budget continue to support the single-units in the Notabene program, which have historically performed better than the family condos. Notabene was ranked 5th, with approximately \$58k of its budget in Tier 2, and New Hope's Bonus PSH Expansion was ranked 6th, subject to Governing Board approval of the new project application.








Filling in the middle positions, the Priorities Committee aligned with FY23 Monitoring Scores, placing the HMIS Analyst in 3rd, and Shelter Homes of Alexandria in 4th. A table of the final FY23 HUD-CoC Rankings is listed below:






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Notification of Project Application Inclusion in FY23 HUD-CoC Consolidated Application

 Stefan Caine
To  Dana Murray;  Mario Rodriguez;  Bill Rooney;  Alison C Coleman;  Jamie Ergas
Cc  Justin Sevalt

  Reply  Reply All  Forward   Fri 9/8/2023 3:45 PM

 2023 HUD-CoC Rankings and Recommendations.docx
348 KB

Good afternoon,

This message is sent to inform you that all project application submitted in Alexandria's FY23 HUD-CoC Competition have been accepted for inclusion in the City's Consolidated Application. No project applications were amended or rejected. Attached you will find the summary of the Priorities Committee's conversations surrounding the FY23 HUD-CoC Project Rankings and Bonus Proposals, as well as the final HUD-CoC Project Rankings. The 2023 HUD-CoC Rankings and Recommendations were approved by the CoC Governing Board on 9/7/23.









Thank you, please let me know if you have any questions,

Stefan

Stefan Caine
Continuum of Care Lead Administrator
City of Alexandria, Virginia
Department of Community and Human Services
703.746.5825
www.alexandriava.gov/DCHS
<https://www.alexandriava.gov/dchs/info/default.aspx?id=76061>

HUD-CoC Competition

2023 COMPETITION MATERIALS

- [2023 Notice of Intent – Rapid Rehousing or Joint Transitional-Rapid Rehousing \(RRH or JT-RRH\)](#) 
- [2023 Notice of Intent -- Permanent Supportive Housing \(PSH\)](#) 
- [2023 CoC Competition Announcement](#) 
- [2023 CoC Competition Calendar](#) 
- [2023 New Funding Instructions](#) 
- [2023 CoC Performance Monitoring Scorecard](#) 
- [2023 Rankings and Recommendations](#) 
- [2023 Ranking Criteria Chart](#) 

[HOMELESS GRANT OPPORTUNITY ARCHIVES](#)





2023 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition

Ranking Summary

8/22/2023

The Priorities Committee is tasked with prioritizing the most effective and efficient HUD-CoC programs, both new and renewal, for funding in the FY23 HUD CoC Competition. To do so, the Priorities Committee created a two-tier Project Priority Listing of all HUD-CoC programs participating in this cycle.

Bonus Project Review & Selection:

The Committee's first task was to determine which new project proposals, worth **\$61,356** and **\$50,000** individually, to include in the application and prioritization process. Using the submitted Notices of Intent (NOI), community need recommendations from the Gaps & Needs Committee, and annual System Performance data, the Priorities Committee chose from the following proposals:

- HUD-CoC Bonus (\$61,356) – New Hope Housing – Alexandria Housing First Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Service Expansion
- HUD-Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus (\$50,000) – N/A

Recommendations & Approval:

The CoC received only one Notice of Intent (NOI) to apply for the HUD-CoC Bonus opportunity in the FY23 Competition, and none for the HUD-DV Bonus opportunity. The Priorities Committee elected to include the PSH service expansion proposal submitted by New Hope Housing in Alexandria's 2023 HUD-CoC Competition, contingent on Governing Board review and approval. The contingency was issued because the submitted NOI did not fill one of the community needs outlined in the FY23 Needs Assessment and did not display a clear benefit to program participants. There was also discussion about the risk of memorializing a program service via a grant funded position, as the NOI proposes to do with an added staff nutritionist.

The Committee recommends New Hope Housing sufficiently answer questions below in their project application and submit for final approval from the PPEH Governing Board. All questions are related to the proposed expanded service of a full-time staff nutritionist at the PSH program, as outlined in the NOI:

1. What system performance measure will be improved by the proposed service?
2. How many current program participants will utilize, or benefit from, the proposed service?
3. Has the organization explored existing programs or services within the community that could provide similar benefits to program participants?
4. What is the value of adding the proposed service vs. something more directly related to housing (ie. additional units)?

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