



**Meeting Agenda
Continuum of Care (CoC) Board
July 14, 2021
3:30pm-5pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89692310939?pwd=Rm9CZk1QYlZNaERBNDZwZHhud3JVUT09>

Meeting ID: 896 9231 0939

Passcode: 793916

1. Call to Order
2. Board Comments
3. CoC Staff Comments
4. Public Comments: Public Comment is an opportunity for the public to participate in public meetings by addressing the Ventura County Continuum of Care Board in connection with one or more agenda or non-agenda items. This meeting is subject to the Public comments may be submitted by using one of the following options.

Email in advance of the meeting:

If you wish to make public comment on an agenda item via email, please submit your comment via email by 4:30pm on the day prior to the Board meeting. Send emails to: venturacoc@ventura.org
Please indicate the agenda item you would like to speak on if relevant and whether you would like your message read by staff or you will be participating and would like to provide your comments during the live meeting.

During the meeting: Participants may use the chat function in zoom to indicate they would like to make a comment. Staff will call on participants during the public comment section of the meeting or during specific item following staff presentation of the item.

Continuum of Care Governance Board Business

5. Approval of Board Minutes from June 9, 2021
6. Receive an Update on COVID19 Response from the County's Homeless Taskforce and Project Roomkey.
7. Approve Recommendations for California Homeless Housing & Assistance Program (HHAP) Round 2 Funding as Developed by the Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee and Forward Recommendations to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors to Fulfill the Collaboration

Requirements Associated with the CoC and County Combined Funding Allocation.

8. Authorization for Staff to Execute Memorandums of Understanding for the Emergency Housing Voucher Program with the Oxnard Housing Authority, Area Housing Authority of the County of Ventura and the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura.
9. Approval of the Preliminary 2021 Rank and Review Policy for the 2021 Continuum of Care Funding Competition and Authorization for Staff to Work with the Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee to Release Letters of Intent to Initiate the Annual Rank and Review Process for Continuum of Care Funded Projects.



**Meeting Minutes
Continuum of Care (CoC) Board
June 9, 2021
3:30pm-5pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82933938890?pwd=bUdldDNVMi8vbEoweUhwFRrWGIEQT09>

Meeting ID: 829 3393 8890

Passcode: 650928

1. **Call to Order:** CoC Board Chair, Dawn Dyer, called the meeting to order at **3:31 pm**

Board Members: Dawn Dyer, Mara Malch, Pam Marshall, Michael Powers, Carmen Ramirez, Susan England, Nancy Wharfield, Kevin Clerici, Carolyn Briggs, Andrew Powers

Absent: *Emilio Ramirez*

Staff: Felipe Flores, Jennifer Harkey, Tara Carruth, Christy Madden

HMIS Staff: Marcy Snider, Chris Russell

Public Attendees: Susan White Wood, Jaydon Gaines, Robert O’Riley, Rafael Stoneman, Erik Sternad, Jennifer del Toro

2. **Board Comments:** Dawn Dyer, CoC Board Chair, invited the CoC Board to the Housing Trust Fund Ventura County “Everyone Deserves a Home” Compassion Campaign to be held June 10, 2021, from 5:30 – 7 pm. Michael Powers, County Executive Officer, mentioned that the County’s Community Development Team met with the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to advocate for greater flexibility with regards to projects, rental assistance and ongoing funding. Tara Carruth, Ventura County CoC Staff, confirmed that fair and equitable distribution of resources was being advocated, including flexibility in accessing local resources. Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County Supervisor, asked about the Housing is Key Program and if anyone was applying for it. Tara replied that she would send data from the Human Services Agency (HSA), since they are the liaison between the state and local applicants. She also explained that in addition to a difficult program rollout and application process, many landlords, more on a statewide level rather than local, have been declining participation. Tara further indicated that the second round of Federal emergency rental assistance will allow direct assistance to tenants if landlords refuse to participate. She also offered to obtain additional information such as, number of applications, number approved, number of assisted and more importantly, how many requests have been paid. Dawn asked how the public can be made aware of this resource and Tara responded that through usual means such as media, radio, 211, and direct outreach to landlords.
3. **CoC Staff Comments:** No comments by Staff.
4. **Public Comments:** No in-person or email comments submitted.

Continuum of Care Governance Board Business

5. **Approval of Board Minutes from May 12, 2021** – Carolyn Briggs, Community Advocate moved, Kevin Clerici, Executive Director, Ventura Downtown Partners was second, all in favor.

6. **Receive an Update on COVID19 Response from the County’s Homeless Taskforce and Project Roomkey.**

Tara shared that FEMA funding for Project RoomKey may be terminated before the September 30, 2021, end date. She indicated that there was no certain timeline from FEMA at this time. Tara further indicated that the state government may continue to fund/support the program and that CoC/County aims to support as many successful transitions to housing as possible. She also mentioned that there have been talks with the County team and additional resources to support an extension might be available. Further updates and more information to follow as these are made available.

Tara shared that Emergency Housing Vouchers that are part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) cannot be project-based. These must go into the regular rental market due to the nature of how they are funded. Work with City of Oxnard, City of San Buenaventura Housing Authorities and the Area Housing Authority of Ventura County is underway, to develop program MOU’s to meet the HUD deadline of July 2021. Further details will be discussed at next CoC meeting.

Regarding COVID-19 response, Tara expressed gratitude for healthcare partners and the great effort with their mobile outreach in the community, connecting the vaccine with those who need it.

Pam Marshall, Community Advocate, asked why the City of Santa Paula hasn’t worked with the ARP. Tara replied that the vouchers are for a specific family size therefore, the Cities of Port Hueneme and Santa Paula were not invited to participate, at least for this specific program. However, other types of vouchers can be ported to Santa Paula. Supervisor Ramirez asked if ARP vouchers were for the same amount. Tara replied that they have greater flexibility to increase payment standards if the Housing Authority chooses to do so.

In closing, Dawn asked about Michael Power’s suggestion on videotaping Supervisor Ramirez giving legal assistance. Tara, Michael and Supervisor Ramirez indicated that this would be revisited in a future meeting.

7. **Establish a Nomination Committee of Three CoC Board Members**

Tara formally requested the CoC to establish a 3-member Nomination Committee to help search, recruit and fill CoC Board vacancies. Dawn asked for volunteers and also self-nominated to join the Committee. Tara also suggested emailing Board members for nominations and Dawn reminded them to please keep in mind volunteerism for one or more committees as CoC Board member duty.

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8. Authorize and Approve Submission of Letters of Support for County of Ventura to Apply for State Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus Relief (CDBG-CV) Funds to Support Development of Supportive Housing Developments in Oxnard and Ventura.

Tara shared that the state had made CDBG-CV funds available. She highlighted that funds cannot be used for new construction, but they can be used for rehabilitation. In this case, funding for the rehabilitation of 2 Project HomeKey properties – one in Oxnard with 69 Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units and the other in Ventura (*El Portal*) with 12 PSH, is being sought. The County will be applying for \$3.5M for the Oxnard site and \$650,000 for Ventura, for a total of \$4,150,000. Tara further indicated that to submit the grant application, the state encouraged partnering with the local CoC. In addition, all completed rehab units will be filled through the CoC’s Coordinated Entry System (CES). To close this agenda item, Tara asked the CoC Board to approve Letters of Support in conjunction with the grant application. On a side note, Dawn asked to please add the word “group” to the name of her company (to read Dyer Sheehan *Group*) on the CoC Board letterhead. Andrew Powers, City Manager, City of Thousand Oaks moved, Kevin was second, all in favor.

9. Receive a Presentation on Recommendations for Best Practices in Implementing Safe Parking for Recreational Vehicles and Authorize Staff to Share Final Recommendations with the County of Ventura Board of Supervisors and Ventura County City Leadership.

Supervisor Ramirez commented that RVs are parked all over the County. She shared that understands the growing condition but has concerns about having the County converted as a gathering point and that efforts to resolve this issue must be the same among all cities and parties involved. Pam Marshall, Community Advocate, reaffirmed this thought and wondered if some County Parks could offer some space. Dawn asked if the program would be completely funded by the County and Tara replied that there would be an effort to leverage other resources, including any the state may have. Tara also cited the example in Simi Valley and the challenges that program had. Mara Malch, Deputy Community Services Director, City of Simi Valley, confirmed that the Simi Valley program did have its challenges, but also noted that as a Best Practice, rotating sites in public spaces should be added, including setting long term goals because otherwise, there may be community pushback. She further mentioned that there are ongoing court cases and lawsuits in a few cities in Northern California since long(er) term goals were not in place. Dawn has asked if state-owned, as well as other local properties could be used for the program and Tara replied that specific properties were not sought out. Some state-owned properties could be used such as a Caltrans site and the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Dawn also asked about Staffing and security at all locations and said that at this moment, Best Practices was the objective. Program details would come as its development continues. Rafael Stoneman, Case Manager, Gold Coast Veteran’s Foundation, suggested using police department parking lots. In closing, Dawn expressed that it might be a good idea to have regional RV waste dumping areas, one East County and another in the West. Tara closed the discussion by mentioning that a mobile service was being used in North Ventura Ave., but this had its challenges. Motion to receive Best Practices was made by Supervisor Ramirez, Pam was second, all in favor.

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10. Receive a Presentation from Interface Children & Family Services (ICFS) on the Community Information Exchange Project.

Erik Sternad, Executive Director, Interface Child and Family Services presented on a new project called the Community Information Exchange. This program is being developed out of the Ventura County Community Health Improvement Collaborative (VCCHIC) out of a cross-sector initiative. Its purpose is to improve the health and well-being of all County residents and it is made up of by Public Health and County healthcare systems since there is a widening gap in coverage and services. Goals or highlights of the program include sharing data so users can have better and quicker access to available services. As the program grows, data gathered from the users will be used for continual program improvement and process streamlining. Another highlight is being able to reduce user barriers to service. This venture is in development and positions within the governance structure for CBO's will be made available in the coming weeks/months. Supervisor Ramirez invited Erik and the rest of the CoC Board to review and use as a resource **CalEnviroScreen 4.0** at the following link:

<https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/draft-calenviroscreen-40>. This is a state system that maps out highly burdened, hazardous areas that may affect residents. Supervisor Ramirez further indicated that health is directly related to address/zip code and that her and Supervisor Kelly Long both have burdened areas in their jurisdictions. Nancy Wharfield, Chief Medical Officer, Gold Coast Health Plan, mentioned that Gold Coast Health is also promoting in a parallel manner, the use of information through Health Information Exchange. More information to follow.

Closing Comments – Supervisor Ramirez shared that she was excited for the City of Oxnard's recent approval of an 80-unit housing project to be developed in an area next to the Oxnard Transit Center and a former bus yard.

Dawn adjourned the meeting at **4:49 pm**.

July 14, 2021

CoC Governance Board

SUBJECT: Receive an update on COVID19 Response from the County's Homeless Taskforce and Project Roomkey

BACKGROUND: As the County of Ventura responds to the local emergency of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) a Homeless Taskforce has been established to respond to the needs of the homeless community and keep stakeholders informed of local actions.

DISCUSSION: County of Ventura and Ventura County Continuum of Care are leading the regional Homeless Taskforce in response to COVID-19. The following actions have been taken to address the needs of the population and keep people experiencing homelessness safe as well as preventing a surge of homeless patients in the hospital system.

- 293 persons currently sheltered in Project Roomkey including Mercy House Non-Congregate Shelter and Project Roomkey Motel Voucher program. This includes 67 rooms with 75 persons in Thousand Oaks, 121 rooms with 149 persons in Ventura and 69 persons at the Oxnard Homekey site operated in partnership with Mercy House and National Health Foundation.
- 140 persons have been permanently housed through Mainstream Vouchers, new supportive housing resources including the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura's Willett Ranch and a variety of other programs and resources.
- FEMA funding is eligible to support non-congregate shelter through September 2021. Additional state funding that is currently secured by the County will extend existing placements through October 2021. New funding through the State budget is unknown at this time. Motel partners are willing to continue offering their facilities to support this effort through that timeframe.
- New referrals are being accepted on a very limited basis due to the availability of rooms secured and ensuring successful transitions to permanent housing.

CDC Guidance for Congregate Shelters:

Guidance for reduced capacity in shelters to achieve at least six feet distance between sleeping quarters in congregate shelters remain in place. This has reduced shelter capacity by at least 50 beds total in the largest shelter programs. There is no indication that this approach to congregate shelter will change in the near future. Shelter programs are recommended to continue with mask wearing, frequent COVID testing and monitoring of symptoms and encouraging staff, volunteers and guests to accept a vaccine.

Shelters are currently at full capacity limiting the ability to make new referrals to emergency shelter programs.

CDC Guidance for Unsheltered Homelessness Including Persons in Encampments:

CDC Guidance remains unchanged for approaches to serving people in encampments. The CDC recommends assisting persons in encampments with non-congregate shelter or housing resources and not dispersing or breaking up encampments to reduce chance of COVID-19 spread among the homeless population and greater community. With this guidance, service providers are limited in the resources they can offer persons in encampments. Backpack Medicine and other street outreach programs continue to conduct outreach, provide services available and make linkages to shelter and housing resources as they become available.

Homelessness Prevention:

State Eviction Moratorium extended through September 30, 2021. Commitment from the State to pay 100% of rental arrears for eligible households.

The County and City of Oxnard have opted into the State Administered Rental Assistance Program. This resource will be made available for households with incomes at or below 80 percent of Area Median Income, with a priority on helping households at or below 50 percent of Area Median Income as well as households unemployed for the preceding 90 days at the time of application. Applications are available at www.housingiskey.com. Local partner agencies are being contracted by the State to conduct outreach and support in assisting tenants and landlords with applying for this assistance. Partners include MICOP, United Way of Ventura County, California Rural Legal Assistance and others. The County and City of Oxnard have secured additional partners to assist with applications.

COVID-19 Vaccine: The County Health Care Agency continues to deliver vaccines to emergency shelter, transitional housing, non-congregate shelters as well as through One Stops, Backpack Medicine and other mobile events. Additional outreach is occurring at supportive and affordable housing properties through mobile and pop up clinics at housing sites.

HOME Funding through the America Rescue Plan: Ventura County jurisdictions will receive a combined allocation of nearly 9 million dollars to invest in supportive housing creation including motel conversion and supportive housing development. Program rules and details will be shared with stakeholders once they are released by HUD. The first webinar was held by HUD in early July. Staff anticipate final rules and guidelines for these funds will be made available in the fall of 2021.

July 14, 2021

CoC Governance Board

SUBJECT: Approve recommendations for California Homeless Housing & Assistance Program (HHAP) Round 2 Funding as Developed by the Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee and Forward Recommendations with Ventura County Board of Supervisors to Fulfill the Collaboration Requirements Associated with the CoC and County Combined Funding Allocation.

BACKGROUND: On December 10, 2020, the CoC Board approved priorities for HHAP Round 2 funding. The County Board of Supervisors concurred with the funding priorities at their January 12, 2021 meeting. CoC staff applied to the State Business Consumer and Housing Services Agency for the combined CoC and County allocation of **\$1,639,536.06**. The State approved the Ventura County application and a local Request for Proposals was released on April 21, 2021. All applications were due on June 4, 2021. Staff conducted a thorough review and scoring of applications and presented information to the CoC Data, Performance and Evaluation Committee on June 21, 2021. The Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee was comprised of non-conflicted membership as detailed in Exhibit A. Applicants were invited to attend the virtual meeting to be available to the committee for questions. Applicants were not permitted to vote on the final committee funding recommendations.

DISCUSSION: Applications for HHAP Round 2 funds were received in all approved funding categories except for Homelessness Prevention/Diversion. The committee reviewed applications, staff analysis and community needs. The committee recommended placing funding prioritized for homelessness prevention into the emergency shelter operations and youth services categories. The State of California has made rental arrears available to eligible households now covering 100% of rental arrears. Other homeless prevention funding is available and currently underutilized. While it is unclear what the community needs will be when the eviction moratorium is lifted at the end of September 2021, the needs to serve people currently unsheltered is also at the forefront of our service providers, staff and committee members.

Funding considerations were also made for the Youth-set aside funding of no less than 8% of the HHAP allocation (\$141,035.36). Two youth focused applications were received that align with multiple funding categories including homeless prevention, rental assistance, emergency shelter and street outreach. The committee recommended funding both youth-focused applications for a total of \$390,000 invested in youth specific services.

The chart below breaks down the applications received in each funding category, applications recommended for funding and applications that were not recommended for funding. Applications were not considered for funding for the following reasons:

- 1) Incomplete application that was not signed by organizational leadership and did not include required attachments.
- 2) Applications where staffing capacity did not align with request.
- 3) Applications with scope of work duplicative of existing services without plan to collaborate or enhance existing service system.

The State approved the original funding priorities across categories. Upon receiving approval from the CoC Board and Ventura County Board of Supervisors, staff will request an official grant modification to align funding allocations across eligible activities.

HHAP Round 2 Funding Recommendations

Eligible Activity	Funding Amount Up to \$1,639,536.06	Applications Received	
Rapid Re-Housing including flexible rental assistance & landlord incentives	Available funding \$639,536.06		
	Recommended funding: \$300,000	Recommended For Funding	
		<i>Salvation Army</i> Rapid Re-Housing--	\$200,000
		<i>United Way of Ventura County</i> - Bridges to Home	\$100,000
		Not Recommend for Funding	
		<i>LSS</i> -Rapid Rehousing— performance and capacity concerns to expand efforts without increased staffing.	\$250,463
	<i>LSS</i> -Landlord Engagement Program—duplicative effort without coordination with existing LLEP.	\$350,000	

Operating Subsidies/Services for Supportive Housing/PSH Development	Available funding: \$500,000	Recommended for Funding	
	Recommended Funding: \$500,000	<i>Ventura County Human Services Agency—Homeless Services Supportive Housing for PSH/Vouchers/Housing Authority developments</i>	\$500,000
Operations funding for Emergency Shelter	Available funding: \$200,000	Recommended for Funding	
		<i>Mercy House Oxnard Navigation Center</i>	\$168,000 of \$200k request
	Recommended funding: \$349,536	<i>Turning Point Our Place Safe Haven</i>	\$146,036 of \$187,613 request
		<i>Spirit of Santa Paula Harvard Shelter</i>	\$35,500 of \$50,000 request
Street Outreach	Available funding: \$100,000	Recommended for Funding	
		<i>Salvation Army</i>	\$75,000 of \$100,000 request
		<i>Spirit of Santa Paula</i>	\$25,000
	Recommended funding: \$100,000	Not Recommended for Funding	
		<i>Gold Coast Veterans Foundation</i> (incomplete application submitted without attachments, signature, authorized signature)	\$144,791
Youth Specific Services	*HHAP requires at least 8% of funding be spent on Youth (\$141,035.36)	Recommended for Funding	
		<i>Ventura County Behavioral Health TAY</i> bridge housing and services including homeless prevention	\$140,000
	Recommended funding: \$390,000	<i>ICFS Project Sanctuary—TAY Shelter and Housing Navigation</i>	\$250,000
Homelessness Prevention/Diversion	\$200,000 (deeply targeted to the	No specific applications received for this project type. Committee and staff recommend prioritizing youth services and emergency shelter response with anticipation of eviction moratorium extension and	

	most at-risk households)	additional state and federal funds focused on rental arrears and homelessness prevention.
Total	\$1,639,536.06	Total recommendations: 1,639,536

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve Recommendations for California Homeless Housing & Assistance Program (HHAP) Round 2.
2. Share Recommendations with Ventura County Board of Supervisors for input and approval.
3. Authorize staff to submit change request to state to align HHAP 2 budget with final recommendations.

July 14, 2021

CoC Governance Board

SUBJECT: Authorization for Staff to Execute A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Area Housing Authority of Ventura County, the Oxnard Housing Authority and the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura for the Implementation of the Emergency Housing Voucher Program.

BACKGROUND: On May 5, 2021, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued a notice (PIH 2021-15) for the operating requirements of the Emergency Housing Vouchers that were authorized under the 2021 America Rescue Plan (ARP). The three largest housing authorities in Ventura County were invited by HUD to participate in this program and accepted the invitation in consultation with CoC staff. The EHV program is intended to serve individuals and households who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness and very low income (below 30% AMI). Vouchers must be allocated through the CoC's Coordinated Entry System (CES). Vouchers must be utilized through tenant-based assistance. The method in which these vouchers are funded does not currently allow for them to be project-based within an affordable housing development due to the one-time funding structure of the ARP.

CoC staff have held a series of meetings with the Public Housing Authority partners and service provider stakeholders to evaluate the best method of allocation of these resources given the limited housing stock available in Ventura County. In evaluating system data and receiving feedback from stakeholders, it has been recommended that 60% of the vouchers be allocated to individuals and families who are at-risk of homelessness and 40% be allocated to individuals and families who are currently experiencing homelessness. While system data indicates a greater need for resources for households who are currently homeless, serving the at-risk population will aim to prevent more households from falling into homelessness and will aim to free up Rapid Re-Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing resources by facilitating access to households who are eligible to transition out or "Move On" from these programs. The service system is strained to meet the housing needs of persons currently experiencing homelessness and stakeholders concur that preventing new episodes of homelessness will be valuable as eviction moratoriums are lifted and more households struggle to remain in their homes. Lastly, in consultation with the United Way Landlord Engagement Program and other stakeholders working to secure housing units, it is hoped that more vouchers will be utilized by allocating a portion to households who may be able to stay in their existing unit with the voucher providing a rental subsidy.

The table below details the proposed allocation of vouchers.

Jurisdiction	At-risk	Literal Homeless
Oxnard	34	22
Ventura	26	17
Area Housing Authority	37	25
Totals	97	64

DISCUSSION: A MOU must be executed between each PHA and the CoC to detail the partnership for issuance and implementation of the EHV program. The MOU is required to be executed before the end of July 2021. The draft MOUs with each PHA are attached to this report and detail out the eligible populations and roles and responsibilities of the CoC and PHA partner agency. The CoC and referring partner agencies will work within CES to identify eligible households, prioritize resources for the households most in need and coordinate to provide housing navigation, housing location and ongoing support services for households who receive the vouchers. The United Way Landlord Engagement Program will help support identifying rental units, provide application and holding fees and landlord incentives when appropriate. The CoC and CES staff will work with referring partners to match households with vouchers and supportive services necessary to achieve housing stability with households receiving vouchers. Additional capacity for ongoing supportive services may be needed to sufficiently support households. Rapid Re-Housing providers may be able to pair their financial assistance and supportive services for eligible households. The California Homeless Housing and Assistance Program (HHAP) awarded to the County Human Services Agency for Supportive Services for Permanent Supportive Housing may be matched with EHV recipients to provide supportive services. The Second Chance Act Grant is another source that may be leveraged with a grant modification to provide additional support services to eligible EHV recipients. Lastly, the CalAIM In Lieu of Services funding may align with providing supportive services to eligible EHV recipients. As these resources become available staff will work to connect these resources to provider agencies and partners who can support households through the process from housing search to housing stability.

This effort remains under development but the PHA and CoC partner agencies are committed to working together for a successful implementation of this program. The first step is memorializing this partnership through this initial MOU which may be updated through addendums to include additional processes and resources to support the EHV households.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Authorize staff to execute Memorandums of Understanding with the Area Housing Authority of Ventura County, Oxnard Housing Authority and Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura for the Emergency Housing Voucher program.

**Memorandum of Understanding
Among
Oxnard Housing Authority
and Ventura County Continuum of Care
for Emergency Housing Voucher Program**

I. BACKGROUND AND INTENT

This Memorandum of Understanding entered into on the date that the final signature is executed, is among the Oxnard Housing Authority (OHA) and Ventura County Continuum of Care (COC).

WHEREAS, the CoC and OHA have agreed to partner to implement the Emergency Housing Voucher program in accordance with all program requirements.

WHEREAS, the COC and its participating partner agencies have collaborated to prioritize and make referrals of extremely low-income households that are at-risk and literally homeless and meet the Emergency Housing Voucher Program eligibility criteria; and

WHEREAS the purpose of this MOU is to delineate the separate and distinct roles and responsibilities of each party for implementation of the EHV program.

Therefore, OHA and COC agree that it is in the best interests of all concerned to enter into this MOU.

II. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

All parties under this MOU jointly recognize that the target population being served are experiencing homelessness, fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking or who were recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance and supportive service will prevent and help the family transition from homelessness or from having high risk of housing instability.

III. Roles and Responsibilities:

It is understood that the OHA staff and the COC must maintain compliance with relevant US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidance, regulations, and notices and must work together as a team to effectively meet the needs of the Emergency Housing voucher (EHV) individuals and families. This level of collaboration will require exceptional, thorough, and timely communication between all parties.

The parties to this MOU, however, understand their separate and distinct responsibilities. All parties agree that EHV individuals and families' rights are to be respected and complied with not only as a matter of principle, but as a matter of practice.

As described in greater detail below, it is understood that the OHA will serve as the EHV program administrator and the COC will be the referring agency for the EHV program.

All parties agree to advise one another of highly pertinent matters in the referral and placement process

and understand that each is bound by confidentiality standards regarding the exchange of client information. Appropriate releases will be secured when confidential information concerning participating individuals and family's needs to be shared.

OHA Roles and Responsibilities

- Designate staff to serve as the EHV lead.
- Coordinate and consult with the CoC in developing the services and assistance to be offered under the EHV Program.
- Designate a staff to serve as the lead EHV liaison.
- Accept direct referrals for eligible individuals and families through the CoC Coordinated Entry System, Pathways to Home.
- Designate staff and necessary resources to ensure that the application, certification, and voucher issuance processes are completed in a timely manner.
- Designates staff to ensure that inspections of units are completed in a timely manner.
- Works with CoC partners including landlord engagement efforts to strategically use financial resources to determine best mechanism for paying security deposit, utility deposits, unit holding fees and landlord incentives to facilitate successful lease up.
- Comply with the provisions of this MOU

CoC Roles and Responsibilities

- Designate and maintain a lead EHV liaison to communicate with the OHA staff
- Identify and/or connect individuals and families receiving the necessary supportive services prior to referring to the OHA. (While EHV individuals and families are not required to participate in services, the CoC should assure that services are available and accessible.)
- Refer EHV eligible individuals and families to OHA using the coordinated entry system.
- The CoC will be responsible to notify the referring agency that the following supportive services are to be offered and provided to the EHV individuals and households
- The Supportive service Agency will deploy staff capable of providing supportive services to EHV individuals and families
- Support eligible individuals and families in completing and applying for required documentation to accompany admissions application to the OHA (i.e., self-certifications, birth certificate, social security card, etc.).
- Attend as needed, OHA EHV briefings and/or scheduled appointments.
- Partnering service providers will support individuals and families in completing EHV program eligibility (application) required documents and obtaining required supporting documentation to complete the OHA eligibility process, while aiding households in addressing barriers.
- Supportive service provider will assist, as needed, individuals and families with transportation to meetings with the OHA.
- Partnering service providers will collaborate with housing location partners to provide housing search assistance for eligible individuals and families.
- Partnering service providers will provide counseling on compliance with rental lease requirements.
- Partnering service providers will assess individuals and families who may require referrals for assistance on security deposits, utility hook-up fees, and utility deposits.
- Partnering service providers will assess and refer individuals and families to benefits and

supportive services, where applicable.

- COC will provide the OHA a point of contact to address reported issues or concerns related to the referring Agencies not providing the necessary support to referred individuals and families
- Comply with the provisions of this MOU.

Referrals to the OHA will require a completed referral form and applicable certification forms from the referring agency. Referral form attached as **Exhibit A** and required HUD Homeless and Human trafficking certification forms attached as **Exhibit C**

Define the populations eligible for EHV assistance to be referred by CoC:

34 vouchers or 60% of OHA voucher allocation will be prioritized for households who are at-risk of homelessness including:

- Households who are enrolled in Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) programs and are at-risk of homelessness should their rental assistance with the RRH program end (Certification provided by CoC partner agency through CES);
- Households who are enrolled in Permanent Supportive Housing programs and are eligible to “Move-On” based on history of stable tenancy, good standing with payment of rent and no longer need intensive supports or have long term service connections established (Certification provided by CoC partner agency through CES);
- Households who are at-risk of homelessness and are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking as documented by a victim services provider (Certification provided by CoC partner agency/victim service providers through CES);
- Households who are at-risk of homelessness under the HUD CoC/ESG definition (Certification provided by CoC partner agency through CES)

22 vouchers or 40% of OHA voucher allocation will be prioritized for households who are literally homeless and currently in an emergency shelter program or unsheltered situation. Referrals will be prioritized through the CoC Coordinated Entry System and will ensure linkages to housing navigation, housing location and supportive services. Eligible households include:

- Households who meet the Category 1 HUD definition of homelessness including:
 - Persons living in places not meant for human habitation or unsheltered;
 - Persons living in emergency shelter, transitional housing or motel placements paid for by a program;
 - Persons exiting from an institution where they have resided for 90 days or less and entered from a homeless status;
 - Persons who are literally homeless and also meet the HUD definition of chronic homelessness.
 - Persons who meet the Category 4 definition of homelessness due to circumstances of fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence and lack a permanent housing residence.

(Homeless Certification to be provided by CoC partner agency/CES)

The above percentages identify the target number of vouchers to be issued for homelessness prevention and for households who are literally homeless. It is acceptable to adjust those targets over time if the

partners identify an ability to issue a greater number of vouchers to households who are literally homeless HUD EHV qualifying criteria specifics detailed on **Exhibit B**

IV. Program Evaluation

The OHA, and CoC or designated CoC recipient agree to cooperate with HUD, provide requested data to HUD or HUD-approved contractor delegated the responsibility of program evaluation protocols established by HUD or HUD-approved contractor, including possible random assignment procedures.

Termination: Any party may terminate this MOU without cause by giving the other party ninety (90) days prior written notice. No notice will be necessary where operation of Federal laws requires termination, such as change in HUD regulation or notice that renders operation of this agreement null, void, or illegal in practice. **OHA** will undertake efforts to notify **COC** of planned policy revisions that may impact participants referred in accordance with this agreement.

Confidentiality: All parties agree to ensure that proper participant consent is obtained to allow the parties to share legally protected information with each other for effective operation of the program. Participant information will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed outside of the parties unless required or permitted by law, by court order or by consent from the participant. Unauthorized disclosure of confidential information will be considered a material breach of this MOU. Confidential participant information will be handled with the utmost discretion and judgment.

Severability: In the event any provision of this Agreement shall be found to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect the validity, legality and enforceability of the remainder of the Agreement.

Amendments: This Agreement may be amended only in writing and authorized by the designated representative of each party.

Signed by:

Emilio Ramirez, Director OHA Date

Tara Carruth, Program Director, COC Date

Enclosures:

- 1. Exhibit A-Referral Form
- 2. Exhibit B-Certification Form
- 3. Exhibit C-Human Trafficking Form

**Memorandum of Understanding
Among
Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura
and Ventura County Continuum of Care
for Emergency Housing Voucher Program**

I. BACKGROUND AND INTENT

This Memorandum of Understanding entered into on the date that the final signature is executed, is among the Housing Authority of the City of San Buenaventura (HACSB) and Ventura County Continuum of Care (COC).

WHEREAS, the CoC and HACSB have agreed to partner to implement the Emergency Housing Voucher program in accordance with all program requirements.

WHEREAS, the COC and its participating partner agencies have collaborated to prioritize and make referrals of extremely low-income households that are at-risk and literally homeless and meet the Emergency Housing Voucher Program eligibility criteria; and

WHEREAS the purpose of this MOU is to delineate the separate and distinct roles and responsibilities of each party for implementation of the EHV program.

Therefore, HACSB and COC agree that it is in the best interests of all concerned to enter into this MOU.

II. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

All parties under this MOU jointly recognize that the target population being served are experiencing homelessness, fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking or who were recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance and supportive service will prevent and help the family transition from homelessness or from having high risk of housing instability.

III. Roles and Responsibilities:

It is understood that the HACSB staff and the COC must maintain compliance with relevant US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidance, regulations, and notices and must work together as a team to effectively meet the needs of the Emergency Housing voucher (EHV) individuals and families. This level of collaboration will require exceptional, thorough, and timely communication between all parties.

The parties to this MOU, however, understand their separate and distinct responsibilities. All parties agree that EHV individuals and families' rights are to be respected and complied with not only as a matter of principle, but as a matter of practice.

As described in greater detail below, it is understood that the HACSB will serve as the EHV program administrator and the COC will be the referring agency for the EHV program.

All parties agree to advise one another of highly pertinent matters in the referral and placement process and understand that each is bound by confidentiality standards regarding the exchange of client information. Appropriate releases will be secured when confidential information concerning participating individuals and family's needs to be shared.

HACSB Roles and Responsibilities

- Designate staff to serve as the EHV lead.
- Coordinate and consult with the CoC in developing the services and assistance to be offered under the EHV Program.
- Designate a staff to serve as the lead EHV liaison.
- Accept direct referrals for eligible individuals and families through the CoC Coordinated Entry System, Pathways to Home.
- Designate staff and necessary resources to ensure that the application, certification, and voucher issuance processes are completed in a timely manner.
- Designates staff to ensure that inspections of units are completed in a timely manner.
- Works with CoC partners including landlord engagement efforts to strategically use financial resources to determine best mechanism for paying security deposit, utility deposits, unit holding fees and landlord incentives to facilitate successful lease up.
- Comply with the provisions of this MOU

CoC Roles and Responsibilities

- Designate and maintain a lead EHV liaison to communicate with the HACSB staff
- Identify and/or connect individuals and families receiving the necessary supportive services prior to referring to the HACSB. (While EHV individuals and families are not required to participate in services, the CoC should assure that services are available and accessible.)
- Refer EHV eligible individuals and families to HACSB using the coordinated entry system.
- The CoC will be responsible to notify the referring agency that the following supportive services are to be offered and provided to the EHV individuals and households
- The Supportive service Agency will deploy staff capable of providing supportive services to EHV individuals and families
- Support eligible individuals and families in completing and applying for required documentation to accompany admissions application to the HACSB (i.e., self-certifications, birth certificate, social security card, etc.).
- Attend as needed, HACSB EHV briefings and/or scheduled appointments.
- Partnering service providers will support individuals and families in completing EHV program eligibility (application) required documents and obtaining required supporting documentation to complete the HACSB eligibility process, while aiding households in addressing barriers.
- Supportive service provider will assist, as needed, individuals and families with transportation to meetings with the HACSB.
- Partnering service providers will collaborate with housing location partners to provide housing search assistance for eligible individuals and families.
- Partnering service providers will provide counseling on compliance with rental lease requirements.
- Partnering service providers will assess individuals and families who may require referrals for assistance on security deposits, utility hook-up fees, and utility deposits.

- Partnering service providers will assess and refer individuals and families to benefits and supportive services, where applicable.
- COC will provide the HACSB a point of contact to address reported issues or concerns related to the referring Agencies not providing the necessary support to referred individuals and families
- Comply with the provisions of this MOU.

Referrals to the HACSB will require a completed referral form and applicable certification forms from the referring agency. Referral form attached as **Exhibit A** and required HUD Homeless and Human trafficking certification forms attached as **Exhibit C**

Define the populations eligible for EHV assistance to be referred by CoC:

26 vouchers or 60% of HACSB voucher allocation will be prioritized for households who are at-risk of homelessness including with a preference for households with minor children:

- Households who are enrolled in Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) programs and are at-risk of homelessness should their rental assistance with the RRH program end (Certification provided by CoC partner agency through CES);
- Households who are enrolled in Permanent Supportive Housing programs and are eligible to “Move-On” based on history of stable tenancy, good standing with payment of rent and no longer need intensive supports or have long term service connections established (Certification provided by CoC partner agency through CES);
- Households who are at-risk of homelessness and are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking as documented by a victim services provider (Certification provided by CoC partner agency/victim service providers through CES);
- Households who are at-risk of homelessness under the HUD CoC/ESG definition (Certification provided by CoC partner agency through CES)

17 vouchers or 40% of HACSB voucher allocation will be prioritized for households who are literally homeless and currently in an emergency shelter program or unsheltered situation with a preference for households with minor children. Referrals will be prioritized through the CoC Coordinated Entry System and will ensure linkages to housing navigation, housing location and supportive services. Eligible households include:

- Households who meet the Category 1 HUD definition of homelessness including:
 - Persons living in places not meant for human habitation or unsheltered;
 - Persons living in emergency shelter, transitional housing or motel placements paid for by a program;
 - Persons exiting from an institution where they have resided for 90 days or less and entered from a homeless status (Institutions include hospital, skilled nursing, treatment facility, or jail);
 - Persons who are literally homeless and also meet the HUD definition of chronic homelessness.
 - Persons who meet the Category 4 definition of homelessness due to circumstances of fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence and lack a permanent housing residence.

(Homeless Certification to be provided by CoC partner agency/CES)

HUD EHV qualifying criteria specifics detailed on Exhibit B

IV. Program Evaluation

The HACSB, and CoC or designated CoC recipient agree to cooperate with HUD, provide requested data to HUD or HUD-approved contractor delegated the responsibility of program evaluation protocols established by HUD or HUD-approved contractor, including possible random assignment procedures.

Termination: Any party may terminate this MOU without cause by giving the other party ninety (90) days prior written notice. No notice will be necessary where operation of Federal laws requires termination, such as change in HUD regulation or notice that renders operation of this agreement null, void, or illegal in practice. **HACSB** will undertake efforts to notify **COC** of planned policy revisions that may impact participants referred in accordance with this agreement.

Confidentiality: All parties agree to ensure that proper participant consent is obtained to allow the parties to share legally protected information with each other for effective operation of the program. Participant information will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed outside of the parties unless required or permitted by law, by court order or by consent from the participant. Unauthorized disclosure of confidential information will be considered a material breach of this MOU. Confidential participant information will be handled with the utmost discretion and judgment.

Severability: In the event any provision of this Agreement shall be found to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect the validity, legality and enforceability of the remainder of the Agreement.

Amendments: This Agreement may be amended only in writing and authorized by the designated representative of each party.

Signed by:

Denise Wise, Chief Executive Officer , HACSB

Date

Tara Carruth, Program Director, COC

Date

Enclosures:

1. Exhibit A-Referral Form
2. Exhibit B-Certification Form
3. Exhibit C-Human Trafficking Form

**Memorandum of Understanding
Among
Area Housing Authority of the County of Ventura
and Ventura County Continuum of Care
for Emergency Housing Voucher Program**

I. BACKGROUND AND INTENT

This Memorandum of Understanding entered into on the date that the final signature is executed, is among the Area Housing Authority of the County of Ventura (AHA) and Ventura County Continuum of Care (COC).

WHEREAS, the CoC and AHA have agreed to partner to implement the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program in accordance with all program requirements;

WHEREAS, the COC and its participating partner agencies have collaborated to prioritize and make referrals of very low-income households that are at-risk and literally homeless and meet the EHV Program eligibility criteria; and

WHEREAS the purpose of this MOU is to delineate the separate and distinct roles and responsibilities of each party for implementation of the EHV program.

Therefore, AHA and COC agree that it is in the best interests of all concerned to enter into this MOU.

II. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

All parties under this MOU jointly recognize that the target population being served are experiencing homelessness; at-risk of homelessness; fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking; or who were recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance and supportive service will prevent and help the family transition from homelessness or from having high risk of housing instability.

III. Roles and Responsibilities:

It is understood that the AHA staff and the COC must maintain compliance with relevant US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidance, regulations, and notices and must work together as a team to effectively meet the needs of the EHV individuals and families. This level of collaboration will require exceptional, thorough, and timely communication between all parties.

The parties to this MOU, however, understand their separate and distinct responsibilities. All parties agree that EHV individuals and families' rights are to be respected and complied with not only as a matter of principle, but as a matter of practice.

As described in greater detail below, it is understood that the AHA will serve as the EHV program administrator and the COC will be the referring agency for the EHV program.

All parties agree to advise one another of highly pertinent matters in the referral and placement process

and understand that each is bound by confidentiality standards regarding the exchange of client information. Appropriate releases will be secured when confidential information concerning participating individuals and family's needs to be shared.

AHA Roles and Responsibilities

- Designate and maintain a lead EHV liaison .
- Coordinate and consult with the CoC in developing the services and assistance to be offered under the EHV Program.
- Accept direct referrals for eligible individuals and families through the CoC Coordinated Entry System, Pathways to Home.
- Designate staff and necessary resources to ensure that the application, certification, and voucher issuance processes are completed in a timely manner.
- Designates staff to ensure that inspections of units are completed in a timely manner.
- Works with CoC partners including landlord engagement efforts to strategically use financial resources to determine best mechanism for paying security deposit, utility deposits, unit holding fees and landlord incentives to facilitate successful lease up.
- Comply with the provisions of this MOU

CoC Roles and Responsibilities

- Designate and maintain a lead EHV liaison to communicate with the AHA staff
- Identify and/or connect individuals and families receiving the necessary supportive services prior to referring to the AHA. (While EHV individuals and families are not required to participate in services, the CoC should assure that services are available and accessible.)
- Refer EHV eligible individuals and families to AHA using the coordinated entry system.
- The CoC will be responsible to notify the referring agency of the supportive services to be offered and provided to the EHV individuals and households
- The supportive service agency will deploy staff capable of providing supportive services to EHV individuals and families
- Support eligible individuals and families in completing and applying for required documentation to accompany admissions application to the AHA (i.e., self-certifications, birth certificate, social security card, etc.).
- Attend as needed, AHA EHV briefings and/or scheduled appointments.
- Partnering service providers will support individuals and families in completing EHV program eligibility (application) required documents and obtaining required supporting documentation to complete the AHA eligibility process, while aiding households in addressing barriers.
- Supportive service provider will assist, as needed, individuals and families with transportation to meetings with the AHA.
- Partnering service providers will collaborate with housing location partners to provide housing search assistance for eligible individuals and families.
- Partnering service providers will provide counseling on compliance with rental lease requirements.
- Partnering service providers will assess individuals and families who may require referrals for assistance on security deposits, utility hook-up fees, and utility deposits.
- Partnering service providers will assess and refer individuals and families to benefits and supportive services, where applicable.

- COC will provide the AHA a point of contact to address reported issues or concerns related to the referring Agencies not providing the necessary support to referred individuals and families
- Comply with the provisions of this MOU.

Referrals to the AHA will require a completed referral form and applicable certification forms from the referring agency. Referral form attached as Exhibit A and required HUD Homeless and Human trafficking certification forms attached as Exhibit C

IV. Define the populations eligible for EHV assistance to be referred by CoC:

37 vouchers or 60% of AHA voucher allocation will be prioritized for households who are at-risk of homelessness including:

- Households who are enrolled in Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) programs and are at-risk of homelessness should their rental assistance with the RRH program end (Certification provided by CoC partner agency through CES);
- Households who are enrolled in Permanent Supportive Housing programs and are eligible to “Move-On” based on history of stable tenancy, good standing with payment of rent and no longer need intensive supports or have long term service connections established. (Certification provided by CoC partner agency through CES);
- Households who are at-risk of homelessness and are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking as documented by a victim services provider (Certification provided by CoC partner agency/victim service providers through CES);
- Households who are at-risk of homelessness under the HUD CoC/ESG definition (Certification provided by CoC partner agency through CES)

25 vouchers or 40% of AHA voucher allocation will be prioritized for households who are literally homeless and currently in an emergency shelter program or unsheltered situation. Referrals will be prioritized through the CoC Coordinated Entry System and will ensure linkages to housing navigation, housing location and supportive services. Eligible households include:

- Households who meet the Category 1 HUD definition of homelessness including:
 - Persons living in places not meant for human habitation or unsheltered;
 - Persons living in emergency shelter, transitional housing or motel placements paid for by a program;
 - Persons exiting from an institution where they have resided for 90 days or less and entered from a homeless status;
 - Persons who are literally homeless and also meet the HUD definition of chronic homelessness.
- Persons who meet the Category 4 definition of homelessness due to circumstances of fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence and lack a permanent housing residence.

(Homeless Certification to be provided by CoC partner agency/CES)

HUD EHV qualifying criteria specifics detailed on Exhibit B

V. Program Evaluation

The AHA, and CoC or designated CoC recipient agree to cooperate with HUD, provide requested data to HUD or HUD-approved contractor delegated the responsibility of program evaluation protocols established by HUD or HUD-approved contractor, including possible random assignment procedures.

VI. Termination:

Any party may terminate this MOU without cause by giving the other party ninety (90) days prior written notice. No notice will be necessary where operation of Federal laws requires termination, such as change in HUD regulation or notice that renders operation of this agreement null, void, or illegal in practice. **AHA** will undertake efforts to notify **COC** of planned policy revisions that may impact participants referred in accordance with this agreement.

VII. Confidentiality:

All parties agree to ensure that proper participant consent is obtained to allow the parties to share legally protected information with each other for effective operation of the program. Participant information will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed outside of the parties unless required or permitted by law, by court order or by consent from the participant. Unauthorized disclosure of confidential information will be considered a material breach of this MOU. Confidential participant information will be handled with the utmost discretion and judgment.

VIII. Severability:

In the event any provision of this Agreement shall be found to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect the validity, legality and enforceability of the remainder of the Agreement.

IX. Amendments:

This Agreement may be amended only in writing and authorized by the designated representative of each party.

Signed by:

Michael Nigh, Executive Director AHA

Date

Tara Carruth, Program Director, COC

Date

Enclosures:

1. Exhibit A-Referral Form
2. Exhibit B-Certification Form
3. Exhibit C-Human Trafficking Form

July 14, 2021

CoC Governance Board

SUBJECT: Approval of the Preliminary 2021 Rank and Review Policy for the 2021 Continuum of Care Funding Competition and Authorization for Staff to Work with the Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee to Release Letters of Intent to Initiate the Annual Rank and Review Process for Continuum of Care Funded Projects.

Background: Annually the County Executive Office, serving as the Continuum of Care (CoC) Collaborative Applicant facilitates the annual CoC funding competition. The FY20 Continuum of Care Program Competition was cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic and all CoC funded programs received renewal funding. The FY21 Continuum of Care Program Competition is expected to proceed as usual. Program registration opened on May 10, 2021 and was due on May 14, 2021 requesting that CoCs indicate their intent to participate in the competition. Information in the program registration indicates the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) is expected to be released as early as Summer 2021. HUD's policy and program priorities continue to include the following but may be updated to reflect new priorities once the NOFA is released.

- ❖ Create a systemic response to homelessness
 - Measure System Performance
 - Create an Effective Coordinated Entry Process
 - Promote participant choice
 - Plan as a system
 - Make the delivery of homeless assistance more open, inclusive and transparent.
- ❖ Strategically Allocate Resources
 - Comprehensively review project quality, performance and cost effectiveness.
 - Maximize use of mainstream and other community-based resources.
 - Review transitional housing projects for alignment with priority populations.
- ❖ End Chronic Homelessness
 - Target persons with the highest needs and longest histories of homelessness for existing and new permanent supportive housing.
 - Increase Units
 - Improve Outreach
- ❖ End Family Homelessness
- ❖ End Youth Homelessness
- ❖ End Veteran Homelessness
- ❖ Using a Housing First Approach

- Use data to more quickly and stably house homeless persons
- Engage landlords and property owners
- Remove barriers to entry
- Adopt client-centered service methods

The Appropriations Act requires HUD to verify that all CoCs project applications are evaluated and ranked based on how they improve system performance.

- ❖ CoCs cannot receive grants for new projects, other than reallocation unless the CoC competitively ranks projects based on how they improve system performance;
- ❖ HUD must base an increasing share of the CoC score on performance criteria;
- ❖ HUD must prioritize funding for Coc's that have demonstrated willingness to reallocate resources to higher performing projects.
- ❖ HUD will continue the reallocation process. Eligible projects will be detailed in the forthcoming CoC NOFA including details on possible bonus or new funding and tiering of projects.

Discussion: Staff has updated a draft of the Ventura County Continuum of Care Rank and Review Policy in consultation with Dr. Joe Colletti and Urban Initiatives utilizing the HUD designed rank and review tools. This draft (Exhibit A) includes local policy for ensuring the Ventura County CoC consolidated application and project level applications are aligned and consistent with best practices in delivering housing and services and strive to help the CoC achieve systemwide goals of preventing and ending homelessness. The policy includes scoring templates for currently funded projects that will be seeking renewal funding including Safe Haven, Rapid Re-Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing projects. The policy details out the scoring of individual projects as well as the process for ranking these projects in the HUD required tiering system. The policy also details scoring of new projects that may be eligible under the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). The policy will be in draft form until the NOFA is released. Staff will update the policy once the NOFA is available and include relevant dates and specific requirements of the FY21 NOFA.

Staff will release the Letter of Intent (LOI) for renewal projects in July 2021 to determine which programs elect to renew in the competition. The LOI will be due in August 2021. Once the NOFA is released by HUD and it is determined the type of new projects and funds available a Request for Proposals (RFP) will be released to solicit applications for new funding. The CoC Data Performance & Evaluation committee will work with staff to review, score and rank the LOIs for new and renewal projects based on the scoring criteria contained within the Rank and Review Policy. Data Committee will bring recommended ranking of projects to CoC Board with recommendations of the preliminary ranking of projects and any proposed reallocation of funds that may be awarded to new projects.

Recommendations:

1. Approval of the FY21 Ventura County Continuum of Care Rank and Review Policy

2. Authorization for staff to release the FY21 Letter of Intent for CoC Renewal Projects
3. Authorization for staff to release a Request for Proposals for New Projects Following Release of the HUD CoC NOFA.

**Ventura County Continuum of Care (VC CoC)
Ranking and Selection Criteria for the Fiscal Year 2021
Continuum of Care Program Competition**

The Ventura County Continuum of Care (VCCoC) will use the following process to rank all projects/applications in the 2021 HUD Continuum of Care Program Competition.

Section I: HUD CoC Requirements and Policies

Section II: 2021 CoC NOFA Detail

Section III: Ventura County CoC's policies related to Re-Allocation, Project Ranking, and Project Tiers

Section IV: Process and Criteria for Ranking Renewal Projects

Section V: Process and Criteria for Ranking New Projects

Section VI: Policy and Process for Developing the Final Project Priority Listing

Section VII: Public Communication Policy

Section I: HUD General Requirements and Policies

Annually the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) publishes the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance Program. The NOFA establishes the available level of funds, identifies HUD national priorities, and describes the criteria and data needed in the competitive application.

HUD requires CoCs to conduct a local review process and to designate a Collaborative Applicant to submit requests for funds in the CoC Competition. HUD provisionally awards funds to CoCs based on the scoring of a CoC system-level application up to a maximum allocation established by an area pro-rata need. The CoC conducts a local process to determine needs within the system and to evaluate and select and prioritize project level applications to include in the annual application for funds.

Section II: 2021 CoC Notice of Funding Availability and Priorities

On **Month/ Date**, 2021, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance Program. Applications are due to HUD by **[Enter Date]**.

For the 2021 CoC Program Competition, approximately **\$\$\$ billion** is available for FY 2021 including **\$\$ million** available for Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus projects. The VC CoC is eligible for **\$\$\$** in annual renewal funding (ARD) plus and estimated **\$\$\$** in planning grant funds with the potential to apply for **\$\$\$** in new project or bonus project funding.

Although the available amount of funding is expected to be sufficient to fund all eligible renewal projects in the FY 2021 funding process, HUD continues to require Collaborative Applicants to rank all projects in two tiers. Tier 1 comprises 94% of the renewal funding available. Tier 2 is **6%** of the CoC's ARD plus any amount available for bonus projects. Additionally, there is an ongoing emphasis on project performance. 24 CFR Part 578.7 (6) requires CoCs to 'monitor recipient and subrecipient performance, evaluate outcomes, and take action against poor performers'. HUD encourages CoCs to reallocate under-performing projects to higher performing projects or to respond to community needs. The VC CoC responds to these factors by establishing policies, procedures, and criteria for reviewing and ranking each application for funding; for reallocation, and for selection of projects for inclusion in the CoC national competition. HUD also requires the CoC to meet requirements and guidelines specific to the annual NOFA.

- A. **Threshold/ Eligibility Review:** The CoC is required to review all applications to verify eligibility for federal CoC funding. Applicants must meet HUD thresholds regarding eligibility to do business with the federal government; legal status; commitment to participation in HMIS and the Coordinated Entry System (CES); and fiscal capacity. Projects from applicants not meeting these requirements are ineligible to apply for HUD CoC funding.

B. Ranking Requirements: The CoC must assign a unique rank to each project that it intends to submit to HUD for FY 2021 funding except for the CoC planning grant. Ranking of renewal projects must incorporate scoring on project performance, system performance and effectiveness. Each CoC must comprehensively review both new and renewal projects within its geographic area, using CoC-approved scoring criteria and selection priorities, to determine the extent to which each project is still necessary and addresses the listed policy priorities. Funds for projects that are determined to be underperforming, obsolete, or ineffective should be reallocated to new projects that are based on proven or promising models.

Re-Allocation & Bonus: CoCs may use funds from part or whole existing grants to create new projects through re-allocation. A CoC is eligible to apply for up to 6% of its Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN) and may apply for more than one bonus project provided it has demonstrated the ability to reallocate lower performing projects to create new higher performing projects. CoCs may submit new project applications under the bonus and reallocation process. **In the FY21 competition, HUD will allow projects and CoCs to combine bonus and reallocation available funding into a single project as both new bonus and new projects have the same eligible new components: (note: update as needed upon release of NOFA)**

1. **Permanent supportive housing (PSH) projects** where all beds are dedicated for chronically homeless individuals or families as defined in 24 CFR 578.3.
2. **Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) projects** for homeless individuals or families that come directly from the streets or emergency shelters, including unaccompanied youth.
3. **Joint Transitional Housing (TH) and Permanent Housing (PH)-Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) TH-RRH:** projects that will serve homeless individuals or families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who meet the HUD definition of homelessness or are residing in a TH program being eliminated.
4. **New Supportive Services Only (SSO)** for coordinated entry system.
5. **New dedicated HMIS projects** for costs at 24 CFR 578.37(a)(2) to be carried out by the HMIS Lead.

C. New Projects for Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus:

CoC's may create new DV projects. CoC's may apply for up to 10% of its Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN) or a minimum of \$50,000 or a maximum of \$5 million. A CoC may apply for one of each of the following types of projects. Projects are limited to a 1 year funding request and must follow the Housing First approach:

1. Rapid Re-Housing (PH-RRH) projects
2. Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-Housing (TH-RRH) projects.
3. SSO projects for coordinated entry (SSO-CE) to implement policies, procedures and practices that equip the CoC's coordinated entry to better meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking (e.g. to implement policies and procedures that are trauma-informed, client-centered or to better coordinate referrals between the CoCs coordinated entry and the victim service provider system where they are different).

D. Tiers & Priority Order

HUD will continue the Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding process. In the FY21 CoC Program Competition, Tier 1 will equal 94% of the CoC's ARD. Tier 2 is 6% of the ARD plus the amount available for the identified bonus or special needs project funding.

Any new or renewal project may be placed in Tier 1. CoCs should carefully consider the priority and ranking for all projects in Tier 1 and Tier 2. Projects in Tier 1 will be conditionally selected if applications pass both HUD's eligibility and threshold review.

Projects placed in Tier 2 will be assessed for eligibility threshold and threshold requirements and funding will be determined using the CoC Applications score as well as factors listed in the NOFA. Projects in Tier 2 are evaluated on a project by project level across the CoCs nationally. As a result, selection for funding of projects in Tier 2 is more rigorous than in Tier 1.

- E. **CoCs should consider the policy priorities established in the NOFA in conjunction with local priorities** to determine the ranking of new projects created through reallocation, CoC planning, UFA costs, and renewal project requests.

HUD'S FY21 POLICY AND PROGRAM PRIORITIES (update as needed upon release of NOFA)

- (1) **Ending homelessness for all persons** – use local data to determine the characteristics of those with the highest needs and long experiences of unsheltered homelessness to develop housing and supportive services tailored to their needs.
- (2) **Create a systemic response to homelessness**—measure system performance; create effective coordinated entry system; promote participant choice; plan as a system; make the delivery of homeless assistance more open, inclusive and transparent.
- (3) **Strategically allocating and using resources**—review project quality, performance and cost effectiveness; maximize mainstream and community resources when serving persons who are homeless; develop partnerships to help those who exit to permanent supportive housing.
- (4) **Use an evidence-based approach** – emphasize data to show cost-effectiveness, positive housing outcomes, recovery, self-sufficiency and reducing homelessness; improvements in employment and income; improvements in overall well-being.
- (5) **Increasing employment** – work with local employment agencies and employers to prioritize training and employment opportunities for people experiencing homelessness.
- (6) **Providing flexibility for Housing First with service participation requirements** – placement into permanent housing without preconditions is an important priority to ensure providers are serving the most vulnerable homeless individuals; once a person is stably housed, promote important outcomes (e.g. employment, increased income, reduced substance use, and strengthened social connection).

Ventura County Policy on Project Ranking and Tiering

(adopted and finalized on July 14, 2021 by VC CoC Board)

Section III: Ventura County Policy on Re-Allocation of Funds, Ranking and Tiering

A. Policy Objectives:

In developing our local policy governing project ranking, re-allocation and tiering, Ventura County CoC's objectives are to align with the VC CoC mission, values and guiding principles:

- *Mission Statement:* The Ventura County Continuum of Care Alliance is a collaborative group dedicated to promoting a safe, desirable and thriving community by ending homelessness in Ventura County.
- *Vision:* Homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring
- *Values:* We value the dignity of every human life, the well-being of the community and the power of the community to working together to solve community problems.
- *Guiding Principles:*
 - Collective Impact
 - Housing First
 - Strengths-Based and Trauma-Informed Care
 - Harm reduction
 - Centering Racial Equity in System Design

- Comply with HUD requirements.
- Preserve funding for high performing and effective projects.
- Fund programs that contribute positively to overall system performance.
- Shift investments from lower performing projects and ones which are at risk of losing HUD funding to new projects that help advance our community's goal of reducing homelessness and demonstrate effective approaches and best practices.

Rationale for Preliminary Rankings

- Closely followed HUD's priorities and guidelines for ranking projects.
- Positive contribution to System Level Performance (exits to housing/maintain housing) will be heavily weighted when ranking projects.
- Examine under-performing projects and under-utilized projects and consider reallocation.

- Projects/agencies engagement in Continuum of Care efforts and participation in Coordinated Entry will be weighted when ranking projects.
- Projects that serve chronically homeless—those programs with dedicated CH beds were ranked higher on the list than programs without dedicated beds. Programs that described they would target chronically homeless for non-dedicated beds as they became available were ranked higher on the list.
- Projects implementing a Housing First model with policies and procedures to emphasize their practices ranked higher.
- Projects serving vulnerable populations (chronically homeless, mentally ill, youth and persons fleeing domestic violence) will receive additional points when ranking projects.
- Cost efficiency and utilization will be considered when ranking projects within the project component (PH, PSH, TH).

B. Project Review and Ranking Policy:

The Ventura County CoC will invite submissions for new and renewal projects and will conduct a review and ranking following the procedures stated in Sections IV and V.

The general approach to rating and ranking will be to organize projects into three groups:

- 1) renewal PH and RRH
- 2) renewal Safe Haven
- 3) new PH and RRH
- 4) new TH-RRH
- 5) new SSO CES
- 6) HMIS projects

Within each type, projects will be scored using a score system specific to that program type and placed within their ranked order, with renewal PSH and RRH in the first group (ordered by score) and the new PSH and RRH in the second group (ordered by score). Renewal projects scoring less than 70 points will be considered for reallocation. If CoC decides to rank and submit project scoring below 70 points, it may be ranked in Tier 2. The CoC goal is to preserve funding for the entire community and will make ranking decisions to submit a competitive application and not put community-wide funding at risk.

C. Tiering Policy:

Once the rank order of projects has been determined the projects at the bottom of the list will fall into Tier 2 (6% of ARD).

As HMIS and Coordinated Entry are HUD mandated requirements in order to receive Continuum of Care funding, it is strongly recommended that these funded projects remain top priorities in Tier 1 in order to secure and maintain funding for this required activity.

The CoC Planning Grant is not ranked per HUD's guidance.

Section III: Process for Rating and Ranking of Renewal Projects

A: Rating and Ranking Process

A Letter of Intent (LOI) was issued by the CoC on [Enter Date] to gather relevant performance and threshold documentation from each project identified as eligible for renewal. LOIs are due to CoC staff by (Enter Date)

All renewal projects will be ranked using an objective scoring system as approved as recommended by the CoC Data and Performance Committee and approved by the Board. CoC Staff will use data provided through the LOI process (for both SH and PH renewals) to calculate a score for each renewal and use the results to develop the Project Priority Listing for review and approval by the CoC Board as recommended through the CoC Data and Performance Committee.

The LOI process is intended to assess agency's capacity to administer CoC homeless projects while complying with HUD requirements. Additionally, the LOI helps staff and the CoC Committees review the following:

1. System Performance Data (project contribution)
2. Annual Performance Report (APR) timeliness and Data Quality
3. Vulnerabilities of populations served by projects including filling vacancies through coordinated entry
4. Financial Commitment (Match)
5. Alignment with Best Practices: Housing First/Low Barrier/Harm Reduction
6. CoC Participation/VC CoC Partner Agency MOU

CoC Staff and CoC Data and Performance Committee use data provided through the LOI process, HMIS reports (Annual Performance Reports and System Wide Performance Data) analysis to develop the Project Priority Listing for review and approval by the CoC Board as recommended by the Data and Performance Committee. This process is conducted in open meetings and all meetings and materials are posted on the VC CoC website: www.venturacoc.org

B. Scoring Criteria for Renewal Permanent Housing (PSH and RRH)

The scoring system will have a maximum of 100 points with points for project and system performance and threshold factors. Data to assess both performance and threshold criteria will be obtained from the information

submitted by the applicants in their LOI response. System Performance Data will be pulled from HMIS; however, victim service providers must submit data generated from a comparable database for review.

The performance measures will be based on those established by HUD, VC CoC local performance targets and tracked through HMIS data:

- at least 85 percent of project participants either remained in permanent housing, or exited to another permanent housing location.
- at least 55 percent of project participant increased their income from sources other than employment in an operating year.
- at least 90 percent of project participants obtained mainstream benefits

Some renewing PH projects will not have a full year of performance data to be considered in the review and rank process because they have not yet been operational for a full year. These projects will be reviewed on the data they have available but will not be penalized for not serving the full number of participants. If a new project does not have enough performance data to review, they will be reviewed for administrative and program compliance and be ranked at the bottom of Tier 1. Their overall score will place them in the bottom of the group of PSH and RRH renewals but they will be placed in Tier 1 because PH renewals as a group will be the first on the Project Priority List. If a project is poorly performing and lacks capacity, the committee may recommend the project for re-allocation.

C. Scoring Criteria for Renewal Safe Haven

The scoring system will have a maximum of 100 points with points for project and system performance and threshold factors. Data to assess both performance and threshold criteria will be obtained from the information submitted by the applicants in their LOI response. System Performance Data will be pulled from HMIS.

The performance measures will be based on those established by HUD, VC CoC local performance targets and tracked through HMIS data:

- at least 80 percent of project participants either exit to permanent housing, or a temporary placement progressing towards permanent housing.
- at least 55 percent of project participant increased their total income in an operating year.
- at least 90 percent of project participants obtained mainstream benefits, as eligible

D. HMIS Renewal

Consistent with previous CoC applications, HMIS renewals will be exempt from the full Letter of Intent (LOI) but will be assessed for performance and spending in alignment with HUD requirements. As noted in Section II, the HMIS renewal will be placed in Tier 1.

Section IV: New Projects

The CoC Board will examine recommendations from the CoC Data and Performance Committee and CoC staff to determine the amount of funding available for reallocation.

Reallocated funds and new bonus funds will be awarded through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process for open competition for projects that provide permanent supportive housing to chronically homeless individuals or RRH projects that serve single adults, families or youth.

An additional RFP process will be held for CoC Domestic Violence Bonus funding. This funding is eligible for the following project types that serve persons fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking: 1) PH-RRH; 2) TH-RRH; 3)CE-SSO. Applications will be scored the same as other new projects with additional points for projects that have a plan for promoting safety for the population served. Victim Service Provider applicants will provide data from a comparable database through this application process to demonstrate need, capacity and performance.

The RFP will be structured to award funds to projects that 1) meet Ventura County's CoC priorities; and 2) are most competitive in evaluating project capacity and past performance. In addition, projects must meet HUD's threshold and quality requirements. The RFP will require applicants to submit project narrative, applicant capacity and financial information sufficient to assess all of these factors.

To evaluate whether projects meet the HUD threshold, quality standards, and performance standards, the projects will be reviewed by the CoC Data and Performance Committee.

To evaluate project quality and fit with Ventura County objectives and develop a ranked order, the CoC will convene an unbiased project review panel to review each new project. Projects will be scored based on a 100 point system (Attachment A and B). The panel will then hold one meeting to review and score applications and arrive at a proposed final ranking for new projects, including a recommendation of which project should be submitted as the permanent supportive housing bonus. The panel may also recommend that projects should either increase or decrease their funding request to maximize the use of available reallocated or bonus funds.

The final ranking of new projects as determined by the Panel will be discussed and approved by the CoC Board on September 11, 2019 to determine the order on the Project Priority Listing.

Section IV: Final Project Priority List and Notification to Applicants

Once the rating and ranking processes for new and renewal applicants are complete, CoC staff will integrate the results of the scoring/ranking processes and create the final proposed Project Priority Listing for review by the CoC Board. This proposed list can include recommendations to adjust the placement of projects in Tier 2 in

order to maximize the total funding award for Ventura County. The proposed final list will be approved, and notice sent to the applicants of the final results no later than [Enter Date].

Section V: Appeal Process

Applicants may appeal any of the following decisions of the VC CoC:

- 1) Placement of project into Tier 2
- 2) Reduction in funding
- 3) Project not included in final FY19 CoC consolidated application.

Appeals must be submitted to the Ventura County Collaborative Applicant no later than [Enter Date]. Appeals will be heard by the chairs of the Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee. The decision of the appeal panel will be submitted to the CoC Board to make a final determination.

Attachment A

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)/Rapid Re-Housing Performance Measures - Max. 100 Points with 40 points towards System Performance detailed below.

- at least 85 percent of project participants either remained in permanent housing or exited to another PH (up to 10 points)
- at least 55 percent of project participants increased their total income in a given operating year (Up to 10 points).
- Demonstrate quickly moving persons into permanent housing from program entry to housing moving in date with goal of fewer than 30 days from program entry to move in (Up to 10 points).
- fewer than 5% returns to homelessness within a year of exiting from PH/RRH program (up to 10 points).

Projects can receive an additional 10 points for maximizing utilization of their program vacancies with an average of no less than 95% utilization in the previous 4 quarters. HMIS Data Quality should reflect no more than 10% of any missing data element.

Underperforming projects will be discussed in detail with CoC Data and Performance Committee and recommendations will be made for reallocation to the CoC Board when appropriate.

Permanent Housing (PSH/RRH) Projects: Applicant: _____ Project: _____

Threshold Renewal Points	Source Document	Max Points	Total Scored
Compliance with Grants and Financial Management	Annual Performance Report submitted timely, HUD monitoring, eLOCCS, close-out certificates; new projects will provide relevant information on managing federal grants. 5 points for APR submittal timely; 5 points for 95% or greater expenditure of grant funds.	10	
Housing First/Low Barrier/Harm Reduction	Intake policy consistent with Housing First / Low Barrier / Harm Reduction (including the acceptance of criminal history, domestic violence history, and/or substance use disorders) = 10pts Commitment to Housing First with some exceptions, based on project type = 5pts No Housing First = 0 pts	10	
Best Practices/Supportive Services	LOI + supportive documentation (intake packets, lease agreements, service documents, staffing plan) consistent with Housing First, Low Barrier and local prioritization standards (<i>servicing the most vulnerable</i>), filling vacancies through coordinated entry = 10pts Missing document (-2pts) Inconsistency with documents, services and staff plan = 5pts Not aligned with best practices = 0 pts	10	
CoC participation, HEARTH compliance	Attendance records or commitment for new partners to participate in CoC meetings (up to 5); compliance with CoC Partner MOU (up to 5)	10	
Project Performance	Bed Utilization (95%+) (up to 5 points), HMIS Data Quality (up to 5 points)	10	
System Level Performance	>5%Returns to Homelessness (up to 10 points), Length of time Homeless, 55% of participants Increase Total Income (up to 10 points), 85% of participants with successful exits to Permanent Housing (up to 10 points)	40	
Cost Effectiveness - Successful housing outcomes	Cost per successful housing outcome – within project type (up to 10 points)	10	
TOTAL		100	

Attachment B

The following will be applied for the performance measures scored for Safe Haven (SH) Projects renewals.
SH Performance Measures - Max. 100 Points with 40 points towards System Performance

- at least 80 percent of project participants exit to a permanent housing or other positive destination (up to 10 points).
- at least 55 percent of project participants increased their total income in a given operating year (up to 5 points).
- at least 90 percent of project participants obtained or maintained mainstream benefits (up to 5 points).
- fewer than 5% returns to homelessness within a year of exiting from SH program (up to 10 points).
- Average length of stay <180 days (up to 10 points)

Projects can receive an additional 10 points for maximizing utilization of their program vacancies with an average of no less than 95% utilization in the previous 4 quarters. HMIS Data Quality should reflect no more than 10% of any missing data element.

Underperforming projects will be discussed in detail with CoC Data and Performance Committee and recommendations will be made for reallocation to the CoC Board when appropriate.

Safe Haven (SH) Projects: Applicant: _____ **Project:** _____

Threshold Renewal Points	Source Document	Max Points	Total Scored
Compliance with Grants and Financial Management	Annual Performance Report submitted timely, HUD monitoring, eLOCCS, close-out certificates; new projects will provide relevant information on managing federal grants. 5 points for APR submittal timely; 5 points for 95% or greater expenditure of grant funds.	10	
Housing First/Low Barrier/Harm Reduction	Proposal and program design consistent with Housing First / Low Barrier / Harm Reduction (including the acceptance of criminal history, domestic violence history, and/or substance use disorders) = Up to 10pts Commitment to Housing First with some exceptions, based on project type = 5pts No Housing First = 0 pts	10	
Best Practices/Supportive Services	Project design and staffing plan consistent with Housing First, Low Barrier and local prioritization standards (<i>servicing the most vulnerable</i>), filling vacancies through coordinated entry, using HMIS and housing participants as quickly as possible = Up to 10pts Inconsistency with documents, services and staff plan = 5pts Not aligned with best practices = 0 pts	10	
CoC participation, HEARTH compliance	Attendance records or commitment for new partners to participate in CoC meetings (up to 5); compliance with CoC Partner MOU (up to 5)	10	
Project Performance	Bed Utilization (95%+) (up to 5 points), HMIS Data Quality (up to 5 points)	10	
System Level Performance	>5%Returns to Homelessness (up to 10 points), Length of time Homeless, 55% of participants Increase Total Income (up to 10 points), 85% of participants with successful exits to Permanent Housing (up to 10 points)	40	
Cost Effectiveness - Successful housing outcomes	Cost per successful housing outcome – within project type (up to 10 points)	10	
TOTAL		100	

New Projects: Applicant: _____ **Project:** _____

Threshold Points	Source Document	Max Points	Total Scored
Compliance/Experience with Grants and Financial Management	Provide relevant information on managing federal grants and demonstrate capacity for success. Financial capacity, staffing capacity, past performance in implementing grant funded programs. Demonstrates ability to meet match requirements. (Up to 10 points)	10	
Housing First/Low Barrier/Harm Reduction	Program design (housing and support services) and staffing plan consistent with Housing First / Low Barrier / Harm Reduction (including the acceptance of criminal history, domestic violence history, and/or substance use disorders) Services sufficient to support housing participants as quickly as possible and providing adequate support services to support housing stability. Project commits to utilizing HMIS, fill vacancies through CES and participate in systemwide coordination. (Up to 20pts)	20	
Timeliness for New Project Start Up	Proposed project timeline demonstrates ability to staff up, launch program and spend funds timely. Establish benchmarks at 60, 120, & 180 days post grant award. (Up to 10 points)	10	
Serving vulnerable populations	Proposal commits to serving highly vulnerable populations. Proposal details how program will provide services to meet unique needs of participants. (Up to 10 points)	10	
CoC participation, HEARTH compliance and collaboration	Commitment for new partners to participate in CoC meetings (up to 5); compliance with CoC Partner MOU (up to 5); Collaboration with other organizations and programs to address the needs of the target population, including mainstream benefits, social services, employment programs and other mainstream programs (up to 10)	20	
Project/System Performance	Proposed program aligns and demonstrates plans to achieve HUD and CoC project and system performance benchmarks (Up to 20)	20	
Cost Efficiency	The average cost per exit to permanent housing based on the total program costs.	10	
TOTAL		100	

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