

# 2019 CoC Program Competitive Overview

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Kentucky Balance of State Continuum of Care  
Advisory Board Meeting  
July 18, 2019

# 2019 CoC Competition Types of Applications (same as 2018)

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- Renewal Projects
- Projects created/expanded through Reallocation or CoC Bonus.
- New projects created through the Domestic Violence Bonus (DV Bonus)

# 2019 Amount Available to KY BoS CoC

Category	Amount
Total Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)	<b>\$10,054,171</b>
<b>Tier 1</b>	
<b>Tier 1</b>	<b>\$9,568,092</b>
<b>Tier 2</b>	
Difference between Total ARD and Tier 1	\$486,079
CoC Bonus Funds Available to Create New Projects (non-DV Bonus)	<b>\$502,709*</b>
<b>Total Tier 2 (excluding DV Bonus)</b>	<b>\$988,788</b>
<b>DV Bonus Funds Available</b>	
DV Bonus (10% of PPRN)	<b>\$845,115*</b>

\*New funds available to CoC in 2019 beyond renewal amount to create new projects.

**Total Possible between all renewals, CoC Bonus, and DV Bonus = \$11,401,995**

# Consolidated Grants

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Agencies can consolidate up to 4 renewal projects of the same component type.

Must submit :

- 1) individual renewal project applications
- 2) one combined application

Agencies interested in consolidating should talk with KHC **asap** to discuss eligibility and potential value of doing so.

## New Projects Created/Renewal Projects Expanded through Reallocation or Bonus

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- Permanent supportive housing projects that meet the requirements of **DedicatedPLUS** or where all beds are for **persons experiencing chronic homelessness at the time they initially enroll in the project.**
- Rapid Rehousing projects
- Joint Transitional Housing (TH) and Rapid Rehousing (RRH) component projects
- Supportive Services Only (SSO) for Coordinated Entry

# DV Bonus Projects

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A CoC may apply for following three types of projects through the DV Bonus “set-aside” to serve survivors of DV, dating violence and stalking:

- RRH projects
- Joint Transitional Housing (TH) and Rapid Rehousing (RRH) projects
- Supportive Services Only (SSO-CE) projects for Coordinated Entry to better meet the needs of survivors.

# New this year for DV Bonus

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- CoCs may submit as many DV Bonus RRH or Joint TH/RRH projects as they want (within the amount available) so long as each project is for at least \$25,000. In 2018, CoCs could only submit 1 of each type.
- CoCs can still only submit one DV Bonus SSO-CE project. Last year the KY BoS CoC elected not to accept any DV Bonus SSO-CE projects because DV projects were already incorporated in our CES.

# New this year for DV Bonus

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National Scoring for DV Bonus RRH and Joint TH/RRH has changed in that more emphasis is placed on the quality of the project applicant:

- **CoC Score** – Up to 25 pts based on CoC score
- **Need for Project** – Up to 25 pts based on extent the CoC is able to quantify need and how the project will fill the gap.
- **Quality of the Project Applicant** – Up to 50 pts based on previous performance of applicant serving survivors.



# DV Bonus (same as 2018)

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- CoCs are required to score and rank DV Bonus projects along with all other projects.
- If a DV Bonus project is selected to be funded by the DV Bonus set-aside by HUD, the project will be removed from the CoCs project listing and the project ranked under it will move up a spot.
- If a DV Bonus project is not selected to be funded out of the DV Bonus pool, it will remain on the CoC's listing and compete for regular CoC Bonus or Reallocated funding

# 2019 CoC Application

## Scoring at a glance

This year CoCs will be scored heavily on:

- System performance data
  - System Performance Measures
  - PIT: Decrease in CH, Sheltered, Unsheltered
  - HMIS shelter coverage
    - KY BoS Data Made Easy Campaign
- Connections to employment income
- Low barrier and evidence-based approaches

# 2019 CoC Application

## Tier 2 Scoring

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- Up to 50 points: Overall CoC score
- Up to 40 points: Where project is ranked in Tier 2 by the CoC
- Up to 10 points: For having low-barriers to entry and prioritizing rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing.

# NOFA Language on Priorities

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## **Read Section II.A. of NOFA!**

Language that remains the basically the same:

- Ending homelessness for all persons
- Creating a systemic response to homelessness

# NOFA New Language on Priorities

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Added to “Strategically allocating and using resources”

persons experiencing homelessness. CoCs should also work to develop partnerships to help CoC Program participants sustainably exit permanent supportive housing, such as through partnerships with Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and other government, faith-based, and nonprofit resources specializing in areas such as treating mental illness, treating substance abuse, job training, life skills, or similar activities, including those that help CoC Program participants, whenever possible, reach recovery, self-sufficiency, and independence. Finally, CoCs should review all projects eligible for renewal in FY 2019 to determine their effectiveness in serving people experiencing homelessness, including cost effectiveness.

# NOFA New Language on Priorities

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## Added Section “Using an Evidence-Based Approach”

*4. Using an Evidence-Based Approach.* CoCs should prioritize projects that employ strong use of data and evidence, including the cost-effectiveness and impact of homelessness programs on positive housing outcomes, recovery, self-sufficiency, and reducing homelessness. Examples of measures that CoCs may use to evaluate projects include, but are not limited to: rates of positive housing outcomes, such as reduced length of time homeless and reduced rates of return to homelessness; improvements in employment and income; and improvements in overall well-being, such as improvements in mental health, physical health, connections to family, and safety.

# NOFA New Language on Priorities

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## Added Section “Increasing Employment”

*5. Increasing employment.* Employment provides people experiencing homelessness with income to afford housing. Employment also improves recovery outcomes for individuals with mental illness or addiction. CoCs and CoC-funded projects should work with local employment agencies and employers to prioritize training and employment opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. CoC’s should also promote partnerships with public and private organizations that promote employment.

# NOFA New Language on Priorities

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Altered Housing First language to read  
“Providing Flexibility for Housing First  
with Service Participation Requirements”

Next slide has new language...



# NOFA New Language on Priorities

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6. *Providing Flexibility for Housing First with Service Participation Requirements.* The traditional Housing First approach has two basic parts: First, individuals are rapidly placed and stabilized in permanent housing without any preconditions regarding income, work effort, sobriety or any other factor. Second, once in housing, individuals never face requirements to participate in services as a condition of retaining their housing. The first part, placement into permanent housing without preconditions, is an important priority to ensure that federal funds are allocated to providers that serve the most vulnerable homeless individuals. This NOFA maintains the commitment to unconditional acceptance of individuals into housing, especially for people with a high degree of vulnerability. At the same time, allowing service participation requirements once a person has been stably housed may promote important outcomes (e.g., employment, increased income, reduced substance use, and strengthened social connection), so this NOFA also provides communities and programs with flexibility, without penalty, to use service participation requirements after people have been stabilized in housing (consistent with 24 CFR 578.75(h)).

# Some thoughts from NAEH...

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Some aspects of the NOFA have people wondering about the importance of Housing First. **Housing First is still the primary approach recommended for the interventions that provide homeless assistance.**

Most importantly, **HUD continues to give better scores to Continuums of Care (CoCs) and recipients that use Housing First principles.** In particular, **HUD incentivizes reducing barriers to entry throughout the NOFA**, which allows people to access housing and other services without preconditions. This remains a major opportunity for applicants to be more competitive. Under the Alliance's view, that's one of the most important aspect of Housing First and [communities can \(and should\) continue to operate projects under a Housing First approach.](#)

It's also worth noting that **HUD has established a new priority on using evidence-based approaches in the new NOFA.** Of course, [Housing First is among the very most thoroughly established examples of an evidence-based approach to ending homelessness.](#)

# Some thoughts from NAEH...

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## **What About Service Participation Requirements?**

It is true that HUD has granted some flexibility to CoCs and providers that wish to add service participation requirements for people who are stably housed in Housing First programs.

### ***There are three important points on this:***

- Requiring service participation that results in people exiting the program to homelessness will harm your system performance. When people fail in housing, they become homeless again. And that means that your system is failing. Systemwide performance measures, including returns to homelessness, will be more and more important in future years so programs that evict people will not be helpful to your community's score or efforts in ending homelessness overall.
- There are no direct points to be earned by doing this.
- In light of HUD's priority on evidence-based practices, we remind everyone that there is no evidence to support the use of compulsory service requirements. In fact, the evidence shows that people are more likely to succeed when they can choose the services that they want, and that they are more likely to fail when they are forced to participate in services they don't want.

# Housing First Principle

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- The NOFA is providing CoCs the flexibility to allow service requirements once participants are stably housed. It is not requiring CoCs to allow service requirements. There is no benefit to a CoCs score to do so.
- CoCs can adopt their own policies or scoring criteria to require projects to fully adhere to both parts of Housing First—low barriers to entry and no service participation requirements. 100% of our CoC renewal projects are currently full Housing First.
- Because we are in the business of **keeping people housed**, not finding reasons to kick people out of housing, KHC strongly supports and recommends we stick with full fidelity to Housing First.
- Because HUD has also prioritized using evidence-based approaches and evaluating projects on them, any variance from full fidelity would have to be routed in significant evidence demonstrating service requirements actually improve outcomes.

# Important Dates

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- 7/31: Intent to Apply for Renewals due
- 8/7: Intent to Apply for New/Expanded projects due
- TBD: Board Approval of Scoring Criteria
- 8/28: All project applications due in e-snaps
- TBD: Board Approval of Project Scoring/Ranking
- 9/13: Projects notified of acceptance/rejection by KY BoS CoC (at least by this date)
- 9/30: HUD Submission Deadline (KHC responsibility)

# Next Steps

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- Pick a date for CoC ranking process and scoring criteria to be approved by Board.
- Recommend members of Scoring and Ranking Committee
- Pick a date for Board to approve ranking of accepted projects.