

# OH-501 Toledo Lucas County Continuum of Care Request for Proposals (RFP): for

2022 Continuum of Care Funding (Annual NOFO)

and

2022 CoC Supplemental Funding to Address Unsheltered Homelessness

Issued by Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board

> Date Issued Friday, August 12, 2022

Response Submission Deadline ANNUAL NOFO- 5:00 PM on Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 SPECIAL NOFO- 5:00 pm on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Applications can be accessed at https://www.endinghomelessnesstoledo.org/funding-opportunities

**TABLE OF CONTENTS** 

| Ι.   | INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW           |  |
|------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Ι.   | TIMELINE:                           |  |
| II.  | OVERVIEW OF ELIGIBLE PROJECT TYPES  |  |
| III. | APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY               |  |
| IV.  | THRESHOLD CRITERIA FOR APPLICATIONS |  |
| V.   | APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS            |  |
| VI.  | APPEALS                             |  |
| VII. | FEDERAL DISASTER AREA NOTIFICATION  |  |
| VIL  | I. RELEVANT CONTACT INFORMATION:    |  |

#### I. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

On behalf of the OH-501 Toledo Lucas County Continuum of Care (Local CoC), the Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board (TLCHB) is soliciting proposals and issuing the following guidance for the FY2022 Continuum of Care (Annual NOFO) and the 2022 Continuum of Care Supplemental Funding to Address Unsheltered Homelessness (Special NOFO). This announcement is being provided in accordance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Notice of Funding Opportunity's (NOFO) issued for the <u>Annual NOFO</u> (Docket No. FR-6600-N-25) and the <u>Special NOFO (Docket No. FR-6500-N-25)</u>. Prospective applicants should carefully read all instructions in all sections of this document as well as the Annual NOFO and Special NOFO to avoid sending an incomplete or ineligible application.

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program (24 CFR part 578) is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families, and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

**Annual NOFO.** The CoC Program is authorized by subtitle C of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, (42 U.S.C. 11381–11389) (the Act), and the CoC Program rule found in 24 CFR part 578 (the Rule). The FY 2022 funds were authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103, approved March 15, 2022). The renewal and replacement of YHDP grants is authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022.

The FY 2022 CoC Program Competition is administered under the FY 2022 CoC Program Competition NOFO and Rule. Approximately \$2,794,000,000 is available in this FY 2022 CoC Program NOFO, including approximately \$80,000,000, available for non-competitive YHDP renewal and replacement expiring grants, and at least \$52,000,000 available for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Bonus (DV Bonus) projects, described in Section II.B.5 of this NOFO.

All requirements in the FY 2022 application process, including requirements for the entire CoC Consolidated Application and the total amount of funds available, are included in this NOFO. HUD will continue to require Collaborative Applicants to rank all projects, except YHDP renewal, YHDP replacement, CoC Planning, and Unified Funding Agency (UFA) Costs in two tiers as described in Sections II.B.11.a and b of this NOFO.

**Special NOFO.** The purpose of the Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered Homelessness (Special NOFO) is to target efforts to reduce unsheltered homelessness, particularly in communities with very high levels of unsheltered homelessness and homelessness in rural areas. Through this Special NOFO, HUD will award funding to communities to implement coordinated approaches -- grounded in Housing First and public health principles -- to reduce

the prevalence of unsheltered homelessness, and improve services engagement, health outcomes, and housing stability among highly vulnerable unsheltered individuals and families. HUD expects applicant communities to partner with health and housing agencies to leverage mainstream housing and healthcare resources.

Funding of approximately \$267,500,000 is available for projects as part of the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside. Additional funds may become available for award under this NOFO, because of HUD's efforts to recapture funds, use carryover funds, or because of the availability of additional appropriated funds. Use of these funds is subject to statutory constraints. All awards are subject to the funding restrictions contained in this NOFO.

HUD will require Collaborative Applicants to rank all projects, including projects for CoC planning and UFA Costs. Under the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside, HUD will not fund any projects requesting new construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation.

**OH-501 Toledo Lucas County Continuum of Care.** The Continuum of Care or CoC is composed of representatives from organizations, including nonprofit homeless service providers, victim service providers, faith-based organizations, governments, businesses, advocates, public housing agencies, school districts, social service providers, mental health agencies, hospitals, universities, affordable housing developers, law enforcement, organizations that serve homeless and formerly homeless veterans, and homeless and formerly homeless persons to the extent these groups are represented in the community and are available to participate.

**The Collaborative Applicant.** The Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board (TLCHB) has been designated as the Collaborative Applicant is responsible for overseeing and managing the application process for the Annual NOFO and Special NOFO funding process. HUD requires that the CoC develop a process for submitting one consolidated application for the Annual NOFO and Special NOFO. The Collaborative Applicant works with its governing Board to develop and recommend the process for approval.

TLCHB distribute any additional details of the competition and HUD resources as they become available via the TLCHB website and email correspondence. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that they check both the <u>TLCHB website</u> and the <u>HUD CoC websites</u> regularly for the latest updates. Please note that all of HUD's competition and E-SNAPS materials, notices, and training guides can be accessed on the HUD page.

**HUD Funding Process for Annual NOFO.** HUD will continue the Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding selection process. CoCs and applicants should ensure there is a thorough understanding of the information provided in this NOFO. HUD will establish each CoC's Tier 1 and Tier 2 amounts based on the total amount of funds requested by eligible renewal project applications on the Renewal Project Listing combined with the eligible renewal project amount(s) that were reallocated as listed on the reallocation forms in the CoC Priority Listing. HUD will post a

report that lists the available amounts for each CoC's PPRN, estimated ARD, Tier 1, CoC planning, CoC Bonus, and DV Bonus on HUD's website.

- a) Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN). The amount of funds a CoC could receive, based on the geographic areas included by the CoC as part of their geography and reviewed by HUD during the CoC Program Registration process.
- b) Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). The total amount of all the CoC's projects that will be eligible for renewal in the FY 2022 CoC Program Competition, before any required adjustments to funding for leasing, rental assistance, and operating Budget Line Items (BLIs) based on FMR changes.
- c) Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN). Either the PPRN or the ARD, whichever is higher.
- d) Tier 1. Tier 1 is equal to 95% of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). Project applications in Tier 1 will be conditionally selected from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC, provided the project applications pass both project eligibility and project quality threshold review, and if applicable, project renewal threshold. If a DV Bonus project ranked in Tier 1 is selected with DV Bonus funds, the project will be removed from this tier and the projects below it will move up one rank position. However, if a new DV Bonus project is not selected with DV Bonus funds, the project will retain its ranked position (see Section II.B.11.e of this NOFO). In the event insufficient funding is available to award all Tier 1 projects, Tier 1 will be reduced proportionately, which could result in some Tier 1 projects falling into Tier 2. Therefore, CoCs should carefully determine the priority and ranking for all project applications in Tier 1 as well as Tier 2, which is described below.
- e) Tier 2. Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the maximum amount of renewal, reallocation, and CoC Bonus funds that a CoC can apply for but does not include CoC planning projects or projects selected with DV Bonus funds. If a DV Bonus project ranked in Tier 2 is selected with DV Bonus funds, the project will be removed from this tier and the projects below it will move up one rank position. However, if a new DV Bonus project is not selected with DV Bonus funds, the project will retain its ranked position (see Section II.B.11.e of this NOFO). Project applications placed in Tier 2 will be assessed for project eligibility and project quality threshold requirements, and if applicable, project renewal threshold requirements and funding will be determined using the CoC Application score as well as the factors listed in Section II.B.11 of this NOFO. Tier 2 is estimated to be \$513,994.
- f) Projects Straddling Tiers. If a project application straddles the Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding line, HUD will conditionally select the project up to the amount of funding that falls within Tier 1. Using the CoC score, and other factors described in Section II.B.11 of this NOFO, HUD may fund the Tier 2 portion of the project. If HUD does not fund the Tier 2 portion of the project, HUD may award the project at the reduced amount, provided the project is still feasible with the reduced funding (e.g., is able to continue serving homeless program participants effectively).

- **g) CoC Bonus.** The CoC may only create new project(s) through the CoC Bonus up to 5% of the Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN) amount, which is estimated to be \$315,604.
- **h) DV Bonus.** The CoC may only create new project(s) under the DV bonus of up to 10% of the PPRN amount, which is estimated to be \$631,209.

**Renewal Projects for Annual NOFO.** In the Annual NOFO, eligible renewal project applications will have the ability to consolidate two or more eligible renewal projects (but no more than ten projects) into one project application during the application process as described in Section II.B.7 of the HUD NOFO. To be eligible for consolidation, projects must have the same recipient and be for the same component. Applicants that are eligible must submit separate renewal projects for each of the grants that are proposed to be consolidated (to the CoC for scoring and ranking <u>and</u> in *e-snaps*). Each project application will identify the grant number that will survive after consolidation, which must be the grant number with the earliest start date in CY 2023.

Project applications for the grants that are proposed to be consolidated will be ranked (individually), and if all those grants are selected, HUD will conditionally award the single surviving grant based on its ranked position to include the amount of funding of all grants included in the consolidation.

Applicants requesting renewal of grants for rental assistance are permitted to request a per-unit amount less than the Fair Market Rent (FMR), if the actual rent per unit under lease is less than the FMR. If a per-unit amount reduction is requested, applicants must provide copies of the leases to establish the actual rents.

All renewal project applications must pass a threshold review and will then be scored according to specific criteria. The criteria will consist of current data in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) including system performance measures, participation in the CoC's Coordinated Entry System, project performance, cost effectiveness, project commitment to serving the most vulnerable participants with severe needs and vulnerability, the most recent HUD monitoring visit, and the scoring of the review application. This will be scored by an independent review panel that will then consolidate the scores and rank the projects. The independent review panel will submit their results to the Collaborative Applicant who will publish the results with the Toledo/Lucas County CoC Board's approval.

**New Projects for Annual NOFO.** Funding for new projects is only available through the process of reallocation, the CoC bonus, or the DV Bonus. The CoC may only create new project(s) through the CoC Bonus up to 5% of the Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN) amount, which is estimated to be \$315,604. The CoC may only create new project(s) under the DV bonus of up to 10% of the PPRN amount, which is estimated to be \$631,209. Applications for new projects made available through reallocation will only be considered if an active renewal project does not apply for renewal funding or if the application review sub-committees determine the need to reallocate from eligible renewal

projects due to those projects not meeting the threshold, poor performance, and underspending due to significant capacity issues.

New project applications that score high enough will be eligible to be included in the priority listing presented to HUD. Please note, however, eligibility does not guarantee funding. The Toledo/Lucas County CoC Board will make the final determination of which projects will be ranked and presented to HUD for funding consideration within the limited funding available.

**HUD Funding Process for the Special NOFO.** HUD will select CoCs for funding based on CoC score, meaning the highest scoring CoC will have its rated and ranked projects that pass thresholds as described in Section V.C.3 and VIII.A.1 of this NOFO conditionally selected for funding. HUD will select projects in this manner until no more funds are available. The maximum award for Toledo and Lucas County under the Special NOFO is \$7,387,670 (over 3 years).

As part of this NOFO, CoCs are being required to develop a plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs (see Section VII.B.4 for more information). These plans must describe the CoC's current strategies for conducting coordinated and comprehensive outreach, providing access to low barrier shelter and other temporary accommodations, and providing immediate access to low barrier permanent housing. Additionally, CoCs must demonstrate how they will leverage both mainstream housing and healthcare resources to assist in their efforts to end unsheltered homelessness and stabilize individuals and their families in housing and increase access to employment opportunities for those experiencing homelessness. Further, CoCs must demonstrate how they will support underserved communities, identify barriers that led to any disparities in communities being served, and support equitable community development by taking steps to address such barriers when using these funds and how they will involve individuals with lived experience in the decision-making process of the CoC. Finally, CoCs must demonstrate how they will ensure resources funded under this Special NOFO will contribute to reducing unsheltered homelessness in their geographic area.

**New Projects for Special NOFO.** Projects funded through the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside must have the following eligibility criteria for program participants:

- a) Meet the criteria of paragraph (1) of the definition of homeless at 578.3, except those persons coming from transitional housing must have originally come from places not meant for human habitation, emergency shelters, safe havens, or institutions where they resided for 90 days or less and originally came from places not meant for human habitation, safe havens, or emergency shelters; or
- **b)** Meet the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless at 578.3.
- c) References to paragraphs of the definition of homelessness refer to the paragraphs listed under the definition of "homeless" in 24 CFR 578.3. All projects must participate in coordinated entry. Additionally, all projects must operate consistently with the CoC Plan for Serving Individuals and Families

Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs described in Section VII.B.4 of this NOFO.

d) All CoCs must have an HMIS that has the capacity to collect unduplicated counts of individuals and families experiencing homelessness and provide information to project subrecipients and applicants for needs analysis and funding priorities. Additionally, CoC and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program recipients must participate in the local HMIS; unless a recipient is a victim service provider or legal service provider, in which case it must use a comparable database and provide de-identified information to the CoC.

**Expansion Projects.** Project applicants that are expanding a current CoC Programfunded project as a new project and combine it with a current eligible CoC Program renewal project, applicants will be required to submit two project applications to include: the renewal project application that will be expanded and a new project application with just the expansion information. If a project applicant intends to expand a project that is currently funded with other sources, the applicant will submit only a new project application for the expansion portion. For expansion of non-CoC funded projects there is a prohibition against replacing state or local funds for that project.

**Project Application Submission.** All agencies applying, whether for a new project or a renewal project, must submit a complete application packet, as described below, in order to be considered for scoring. It is the responsibility of the agencies to ensure that all the application materials are complete and received by CoC by the published deadline. Eligible applications will be scored and ranked by the CoC Citizen Review Committee and included in the CoC's project listing submitted to HUD. An applicant's failure to meet deadlines may result in the denial of an applicant's request for funds.

**e-snaps Submission.** In addition to the application packet, all renewal and new projects must also complete the HUD application in *e-snaps*. Completing the application in *e-snaps* does not guarantee that the project will be put forth in the HUD application, nor does it guarantee that the project will be funded. Please note that within *e-snaps* previously submitted renewal applications may be able to import data into the FY 2022 renewal project application.

**Equal Access.** TLCHB is committed to providing equal access to all of its programs, services and activities regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability or age. Any individual who needs an accommodation because of a disability or documents in accessible electronic formats (e.g.PDF) should contact TLCHB. Individuals who are hearing- or speech-impaired should use the Ohio Relay services by calling 711. Further information on Ohio Relay is available at https://ohiorelay.com.

Compliance with Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Rule. Provides various protections to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking

under the CoC Program and other HUD programs. The grants awarded under this NOFO must comply with the VAWA Rule as provided in 24 CFR 578.99(j). Among other obligations to comply, each CoC must have an established emergency transfer plan (24 CFR 578.7(d)) and make related updates to the written standards for administering CoC program assistance under 24 CFR 578.7(a)(9)(ii), (iii) and (v).

# I. TIMELINE:

| 2022 Annual NOFO Timeline  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| Action   | Date                                      |  |  |
| NOFA released by HUD   | August 1, 2022                            |  |  |
| TLCHB Board meeting to approve policy,<br>materials, and process recommended by<br>committee   | August 12, 2022                           |  |  |
| 2022 Toledo Lucas CoC NOFA Competition<br>Policy, process, timeline, review applications,<br>scoring criteria, addenda, and other competition<br>materials released        | August 12, 2022                           |  |  |
| Notice of Intent for new projects due at 5:00pm  | August 16, 2022                           |  |  |
| Informational webinars for applicants (mandatory for new applicants)   | August 17 and 19, 2022                    |  |  |
| Review and Scoring Process Training for CoC<br>Citizens Review Committee   | August 24, 2022                           |  |  |
| Draft applications for all projects are due at<br>5:00 pm in Word format (MUST be at least 30<br>days before HUD NOFA deadline)  | August 26, 2022                           |  |  |
| TLCHB reviews applications and works with applicants to finalize   | August 26, 2022 through September 2, 2022 |  |  |
| All project applications and updated<br>certifications must be entered into E-SNAPS by<br>5:00 pm  | September 2, 2022                         |  |  |
| Citizen Levy Review Committee meets to review, score, and rank all applications  | Week of September 5, 2022                 |  |  |
| TLCHB will compile scores and create a final<br>ranking to be approved by the TLCHB Board  | No later than September 9, 2022           |  |  |
| Applicants notified of placement in scoring<br>and ranking for CoC application OR rejection from<br>CoC application (MUST be at least 15 days before<br>HUD NOFA deadline) | September 14, 2022                        |  |  |
| E-snaps feedback provided to applicants  | No later than September 21, 2022          |  |  |
| Final project applications due in e-snaps by 5:00pm  | September 23, 2022                        |  |  |

| Estimated public posting of CoC application<br>(MUST be at least 2 days before HUD NOFA<br>deadline) | September 28, 2022 |
|--|--------------------|
| Estimated CoC application submission to HUD  | September 30, 2022 |

| 2022 SPECIAL NOFO TIMELINE                         |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| Action   | Date                                    |  |  |
| NOFA released by HUD                               | June 22, 2022                           |  |  |
| CoC Board meeting to approve policy,               |   |  |  |
| materials, and process recommended by              | August 12, 2022                         |  |  |
| committee  |   |  |  |
| 2022 Toledo Lucas CoC Special NOFA                 |   |  |  |
| Competition Policy, process, timeline, review      | August 12, 2022                         |  |  |
| applications, scoring criteria, addenda, and other |   |  |  |
| competition materials released                     |   |  |  |
| Notice of Intent for new projects due at           | August 10, 2022                         |  |  |
| 5:00pm   | August 19, 2022                         |  |  |
| Informational webinars for applicants              | August 17 and 10, 2022                  |  |  |
| (mandatory for new applicants)                     | August 17 and 19, 2022                  |  |  |
| Review and Scoring Process Training for CoC        | No later than the week of September 15  |  |  |
| Citizens Review Committee                          | No later than the week of September 15  |  |  |
| Draft applications due to TLCHB by 5 pm in         |   |  |  |
| Word format (MUST be at least 30 days before       | September 15, 2022                      |  |  |
| HUD NOFA deadline)                                 |   |  |  |
| TLCHB reviews applications and works with          | September 16 through September 23, 2022 |  |  |
| applicants to finalize                             | September 10 through September 23, 2022 |  |  |
| All project applications and updated               |   |  |  |
| certifications must be entered into E-SNAPS by     | September 23, 2022                      |  |  |
| 5:00 PM  |   |  |  |
| Special NOFO Citizen Review Committee              | Week of September 26, 2022              |  |  |
| meets to review, score, and rank all applications  | Week of September 20, 2022              |  |  |
| TLCHB will compile scores and create a final       | No later than October 4, 2022           |  |  |
| ranking to be approved by the TLCHB Board          |   |  |  |
| Applicants notified of placement in scoring        |   |  |  |
| and ranking for CoC application OR rejection from  | October 5, 2022                         |  |  |
| CoC application (MUST be at least 15 days before   | 0000001 3, 2022                         |  |  |
| HUD NOFA deadline)                                 |   |  |  |
| Final applications due to TLCHB by 5:00 PM in      | October 14, 2022                        |  |  |
| ESNAPs   |   |  |  |
| Estimated public posting of Special NOFO           |   |  |  |
| application (MUST be at least 2 days before HUD    | October 18, 2022                        |  |  |
| NOFA deadline)                                     |   |  |  |
| Estimated CoC application submission to HUD        | October 20, 2022                        |  |  |

### II. OVERVIEW OF ELIGIBLE PROJECT TYPES

Applicants may submit proposals for multiple project types but must complete separate applications for each. The OH-501 Toledo Lucas CoC is currently seeking applications for the following project types.

#### Project Types Eligible for Annual NOFO:

- **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).** New PSH projects must dedicate 100% of units and/or provide services exclusively to chronically homeless individuals and/or families as defined by HUD or persons eligible to be serves by DedicatedPLUS projects as described in Section III.B.2.g of the Annual NOFO. New PSH projects will be creating **new units** to serve homeless households. PSH applicants must demonstrate that they will first serve people experiencing chronic homelessness (or are otherwise eligible for DedicatedPLUS) according to the order of priority established in the OH-501 Toledo Lucas CoC Written Standards.
  - **DedicatedPLUS Project.** A permanent supportive housing project where 100 percent of the beds are dedicated to serve individuals, households with children, and unaccompanied youth (including pregnant and parenting youth) that at intake meet one of the following categories:
    - experiencing chronic homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 578.3;
    - residing in a transitional housing project that will be eliminated and meets the definition of chronically homeless in effect at the time in which the individual or family entered the transitional housing project;
    - residing in a place not meant for human habitation, emergency shelter, or Safe Haven and had been admitted and enrolled in a PH project within the last year but were unable to maintain a housing placement and met the definition of chronic homeless as defined by 24 CFR 578.3 prior to entering the project;
    - residing in transitional housing funded by a Joint TH/PH-RRH component project and who were experiencing chronic homelessness as defined at 24 CFR 578.3;
    - residing and has resided in a place not meant for human habitation, Safe Haven, or emergency shelter for at least 12 months in the last three years, but has not done so on four separate occasions and the individual or head of household meet the definition of 'homeless individual with a disability; or
    - receiving assistance through a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)funded homeless assistance program and met one of the above criteria at initial intake to the VA's homeless assistance system.

- **Rapid Rehousing (RRH)** provides assistance to individuals and families, including • unaccompanied youth and survivors of domestic violence (DV). All RRH projects serve 100% homeless families and/or individuals who meet the criteria of the HUD homelessness definition under category 1 (literally homeless, including people coming from TH), or category 4 (fleeing/attempting to flee DV) of the HUD definition of homelessness. Additionally, any youth-serving provider funded under this NOFO may serve unaccompanied youth age 24 or under (or families headed by youth aged 24 and under) who have an unsafe primary nighttime residence and no safe alternative to that residence. RRH projects typically request funds for Tenant-based Rental Assistance (which follows the client(s) who receive it. The participant/organization locates qualified housing of their choice and can take the rental assistance with them to a unit should they move. Proposals may also utilize housing subsidies or subsidized housing units not funded through the CoC or ESG programs funds worth up to 25 percent of the requested CoC funding, as necessary, to help a homeless individual or families who meet the category 1 or 4 (24 CFR 578.3) definitions, with or without disabilities, to move into permanent housing
- Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-Housing Component (Joint TH-RRH) • combine TH and RRH components into a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Joint TH-RRH projects will provide low-barrier, temporary housing while individuals and families quickly move to permanent housing with a seamless program design. HUD requires that Joint TH-RRH projects adopt a Housing First approach (See Sections II.A.2 and III.B.2.0 of the Annual NOFO) across the entire project and program participants may only receive up to 24-months of total assistance. If funded, HUD will limit eligible costs as follows, in addition to other limitations found in the Rule: (1) leasing of a structure or units, and operating costs to provide transitional housing; (2) short- or medium-term tenant-based rental assistance on behalf of program participants to pay for the rapid rehousing portion of the project; (3) supportive services; (4) HMIS; and (5) project administrative costs. When a program participant is enrolled in a Joint TH/PH-RRH component project, the recipient or subrecipient must be able to provide both components, including the units supported by the transitional housing component and the tenant-based rental assistance and services provided through the PH-RRH component, to all participants. A program participant may choose to receive only the TH unit or the assistance provided through the PH-RRH component, but the recipient or subrecipient must make both types of assistance available. Additionally, if CoC Program funds are not being requested for both TH and PHRRH units, the project application must describe and include the number of TH and PH-RRH units that will be utilized by the project from another funding source, if selected for conditional award, and provide details in the project description of how TH and PH-RRH assistance will be provided.

- Supportive Services Only- Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) projects will support the development and operation of the coordinated entry system to ensure equitable access and referrals to services and housing.
- New Projects for DV Bonus projects are only eligible project types under the Annual NOFO. DV Bonus projects must be RRH or Joint TH-RRH projects dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless (24 CFR 578.3). Additionally, the CoC may apply for a SSO-CE project to implement policies, procedures, and practices to equip the CoC's coordinated entry to better meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.
- Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) projects can only be submitted by the HMIS Lead for the OH-501 Toledo Lucas County CoC.

### Project Types Eligible for Special NOFO

All PSH, RRH, Joint TH-RRH Component Projects, and Supportive Services Only projects must follow a Housing First approach as defined in Section III.C.2.e of this NOFO. Projects for the Special NOFO must have eligibility criteria for program participants that beet the criteria of paragraph (1) of the definition of homelessness at 24 CFR 578.3, except that persons coming from transitional housing must have originally come from places not meant for human habitation, emergency shelters, safe havens, or instutions where they resided for 90 days or less and originally cane from places not meant for human habitation, safe havens, or emergency shelters. Additionally, program participants that meet the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homelessness at 24 CFR 578.3.

- **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).** New PSH can include project-based and/or scattered site rental assistance/leasing projects with supportive services for individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness. New PSH projects must dedicate 100% of units and/or provide services exclusively to chronically homeless individuals and/or families as defined in Section II.A.6 of the Special NOFO. New PSH projects will be creating **new units** to serve homeless households. PSH applicants must demonstrate that they will first serve people experiencing chronic homelessness according to the order of priority established in the OH-501 Toledo Lucas CoC Written Standards.
- **Rapid Rehousing (RRH)** provides assistance to individuals and families, including unaccompanied youth and survivors of domestic violence (DV). All RRH projects serve 100% homeless families and/or individuals who meet the criteria of the HUD homelessness definition under category 1 (literally homeless, including people coming from TH), or category 4 (fleeing/attempting to flee DV) of the HUD definition of homelessness. Additionally, any youth-serving provider funded under this NOFO may serve unaccompanied youth age 24 or under (or families headed by youth aged 24 and under) who have an unsafe primary nighttime residence and no safe alternative to that

residence. RRH projects typically request funds for Tenant-based Rental Assistance (which follows the client(s) who receive it. The participant/organization locates qualified housing of their choice and can take the rental assistance with them to a unit should they move. Proposals may also utilize housing subsidies or subsidized housing units not funded through the CoC or ESG programs funds worth up to 25 percent of the requested CoC funding, as necessary, to help a homeless individual or families who meet the category 1 or 4 (24 CFR 578.3) definitions, with or without disabilities, to move into permanent housing

- Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-Housing Component (Joint TH-RRH) • combine TH and RRH components into a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Joint TH-RRH projects will provide low-barrier, temporary housing while individuals and families quickly move to permanent housing with a seamless program design. HUD requires that Joint TH-RRH projects adopt a Housing First approach (See Sections II.A.2 and III.B.2.0 of the Annual NOFO) across the entire project and program participants may only receive up to 24-months of total assistance. If funded, HUD will limit eligible costs as follows, in addition to other limitations found in the Rule: (1) leasing of a structure or units, and operating costs to provide transitional housing; (2) short- or medium-term tenant-based rental assistance on behalf of program participants to pay for the rapid rehousing portion of the project; (3) supportive services; (4) HMIS; and (5) project administrative costs. When a program participant is enrolled in a Joint TH/PH-RRH component project, the recipient or subrecipient must be able to provide both components, including the units supported by the transitional housing component and the tenant-based rental assistance and services provided through the PH-RRH component, to all participants. A program participant may choose to receive only the TH unit or the assistance provided through the PH-RRH component, but the recipient or subrecipient must make both types of assistance available. Additionally, if CoC Program funds are not being requested for both TH and PHRRH units, the project application must describe and include the number of TH and PH-RRH units that will be utilized by the project from another funding source, if selected for conditional award, and provide details in the project description of how TH and PH-RRH assistance will be provided.
- Supportive Services Only- Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) projects will support the development and operation of the coordinated entry system to ensure equitable access and referrals to services and housing.
- Supportive Services Only (SSO) projects allow recipients to provide supportive services— such as conducting outreach to sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons and families and providing referrals to other housing or other necessary services— to families and individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) projects can only be submitted by the HMIS Lead for the OH-501 Toledo Lucas County CoC.

#### III. APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- 1. SAM Registration Requirement. Applicants must be registered with <a href="https://www.sam.gov/SAM">https://www.sam.gov/SAM</a> before submitting their application. Applicants must maintain current information in SAM on immediate and highest-level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all predecessors that have been awarded a federal contract or grant within the last three years, if applicable. Information in SAM must be current for all times during which the applicant has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by HUD.
- 2. UEI Number Requirement. Applicants must provide a valid UEI number, registered and active at https://www.sam.gov/SAM. in the application. The DUNS number remains the official identifier for doing business with the U.S. Government only until April 4, 2022. As of April 4, 2022, entities doing business with the federal government must use the Unique Entity Identifier created in SAM.gov.
- 3. Faith Based Organizations.
  - a. Faith-based organizations may apply for this award on the same basis as any other organization, as set forth at 24 CFR 5.109, and subject to the protections and requirements of 42 U.S.C. 2000bb et seq., HUD will not, in the selection of recipients, discriminate against an organization on the basis of the organization's religious character, affiliation, or exercise.
  - b. A faith-based organization that participates in this program will retain its independence and may continue to carry out its mission consistent with religious freedom and conscience protections in Federal law, including the Free Speech and Free Exercise Clauses of the Constitution, 42 U.S.C. 2000bb et seq., 42 U.S.C. 238n, 42 U.S.C. 18113, 42 U.S.C. 2000e-Page 31 of 102 1(a) and 2000e-2(e), 42 U.S.C. 12113(d), and the Weldon Amendment, among others. Religious accommodations may also be sought under many of these religious freedom and conscience protection laws, particularly under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.
  - c. A faith-based organization may not use direct financial assistance from HUD to support or engage in any explicitly religious activities except where consistent with the Establishment Clause and any other applicable requirements. Such an organization also may not, in providing services funded by HUD, discriminate against a beneficiary or prospective program beneficiary on the basis of religion, religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice.

- 4. Rules and Regulations Applicable to HUD NOFOs. Applicants must comply with all rules and regulations applicable to HUD NOFOs. Detailed information on each eligibility requirement is posted on <u>HUD's Funding Opportunities Page</u>. Outstanding civil rights matters must be resolved before the application submission deadline. Project applicants, who after review are confirmed to have civil rights matters unresolved at the application submission deadline, will be deemed ineligible. Their applications will receive no review, will not be rated or ranked, and will not receive funding. See Section V for the entirety of the eligibility information relevant to the Annual NOFO and/or the Special NOFO.
- 5. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). All CoCs must have an HMIS that has the capacity to collect unduplicated counts of individuals and families experiencing homelessness and provide information to project subrecipients and applicants for needs analysis and funding priorities. Additionally, CoC and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program recipients must participate in the local HMIS; unless a recipient is a victim service provider or legal service provider, in which case it must use a comparable database and provide de-identified information to the CoC. TLCHB additionally requires participation in the Simtech Data Warehouse.
- 6. Coordinated Entry System. Applicants must participate in the Local CoC Coordinated Entry System. The Coordinated Entry System is a process designed to coordinate program participant intake assessment and provision of referrals. The Coordinated Entry System covers the geographic area of Lucas County, must be easily accessible by individuals and families seeking housing or services, is well advertised, and includes a comprehensive and standardized assessment tool.
- 7. Point-In-Time (PIT) Count. Applicants must participate in the Point-in-time count, which is an annual county of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons carried out on one night in the last 10 calendar days of January or at such other time as required by HUD.
- 8. Housing First. Housing First prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and does not have service participation requirements or preconditions. CoC Program funded projects should help individuals and families move quickly into permanent housing, and CoCs should measure and help projects reduce the length of time people experience homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should engage landlords and property owners to identify housing units available for rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing participants, remove barriers to entry, and adopt client-centered service methods. HUD encourages CoCs to assess how well Housing First approaches are being implemented in their communities.
  - a) Applicants for the Annual NOFO are required to participate in CoC trainings around the Housing First model and are strongly encouraged to use a Housing First approach, if applicable. HUD incentivizes CoCs to

ensure that no less than 75% of all projects submitted to HUD follow a Housing First approach.

- **b)** All Applicants for the Special NOFO are required to use a Housing First approach. HUD requires 100% of projects submitted for consideration under the Special NOFO to follow a Housing First approach.
- **9. Community Advisory Council.** Applicants must participate in the Local CoC's Community Advisory Council (CAC) meetings, which occur on a quarterly basis. The CAC serves as a source of expertise and policy guidance for the CoC. Responsibilities include providing input, expertise, and recommendations to the TLCHB Board of Directors and the TLCHB Executive Director.
- 10. **Code of Conduct for HUD Grant Programs.** Federal regulations (2 CFR part 200) and HUD's Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) for discretionary funds require non-Federal entities receiving Federal assistance awards, excluding States, to develop and maintain written standards/codes of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts. No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest (2 CFR 200.318(c)(1)). HUD grantees are required to submit their code of conduct to HUD.
  - a) Ensure their organization has a Code of Conduct that complies with the requirements of 2 CFR part 200 and is on file with HUD at: <u>https://www.hud.gov/program\_offices/spm/gmomgmt/grantsinfo/cond\_uctgrants.</u>
  - b) If the organization's Code of Conduct does not appear on HUD's website, the project must attach its Code of Conduct that includes all required information to its Project Applicant Profile in *e-snaps*.

**Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan.** Each project applicant must submit a certification by the jurisdiction in which the proposed project(s) will be located that the applicant's project application for funding is consistent with the jurisdiction's HUD-approved consolidated plan. The certification must be made in accordance with the provisions of the consolidated plan regulations at 24 CFR part 91, subpart F. Form HUD-2991 must be completed and dated between June 30, 2022 and September 30, 2022. TLCHB staff will work with applicants and the appropriate Consolidated Planning jurisdiction for the required form *HUD-2991 - Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan*, but it is the applicant's responsibility to follow up with respective jurisdictions to ensure those jurisdictions have the project information they need to provide the certification(s) in a timely manner.

#### Project Eligibility Threshold for the Annual NOFO and Special NOFO

TLCHB reserves the right not to review incomplete applications or projects that don't meet eligibility requirements. Applications may receive a threshold denial for any of the following reasons.

- 1. Applicant must demonstrate that the proposed project meets eligibility requirements of the CoC Program as described in the CoC Interim Rule and the Annual NOFO.
- 2. Applicant must demonstrate the financial and management capacity and experience to carry out the project as detailed in the project application and the capacity to administer federal funds. Demonstrating capacity may include a description of the applicant and potential subrecipient experience with similar projects and with successful administration of SHP, S+C, or other CoC Program funds or other federal funds.
- 3. Applicant must demonstrate that the population to be served and proposed costs meet the eligibility requirements for the CoC Program.
- 4. Applicants must demonstrate the required match or sufficient commitments for leveraging to meet CoC Program requirements.
- 5. Applicants must submit a Certification of Consistency by the jurisdiction in which the proposed project(s) will be located that the applicant's project application for funding is consistent with the jurisdiction's HUD-approved consolidated plan.
- Applicants and/or the proposed project must be located within OH-501 Toledo Lucas County Continuum of Care geographic area, which includes the entirety of Lucas County, Ohio.
- 7. Applicant must complete the entire application, which includes submitting the necessary documents listed above, or certifications/documentation as required in the HUD application.
- 8. Applicant must utilize, or commit to utilize, HMIS (or a comparable family violence HMIS alternative) to capture client-level data on all clients in the project.
- 9. Applicant must follow, or commit to follow, the CoC's Coordinated Entry System policy and process.
- Applicant must demonstrate compliance with the Fair Housing Act and 24 CFR 5.105(A)(2) – Equal Access to HUD.

**Project Quality Threshold.** HUD will review all new project applications to determine if the meet project quality threshold requirements specific to each eligible project type. See Section V.4.c of the Annual NOFO and/or Section V.C.3.c for more information about HUD's project quality threshold criteria. Project quality threshold information for can be found in Section V.C.3.c.

**Match and Leveraging.** Applications must meet HUD's match requirements and have at least 25% of the amount of the HUD funding request in total match (outside of the amount for leasing). Match may be cash or in-kind, however, the CoC encourages cash match when possible. All match must qualify as eligible program expenses under the CoC Program Interim Rule.

In addition to HUD's match requirement, applicants are also requested to report up to an additional 125% amount of the HUD funding request in total leveraging. Bonus points may be awarded to applications that adequately demonstrate leveraging. When bonus points are awarded, maximum bonus points will be awarded to applications adequately demonstrating 25% match and 125% leveraging (150% total match and leveraging). Leveraging includes all funds, resources, and/or services that the applicant can secure on behalf of the client being served by the proposed project. While leveraging includes all cash and in-kind matching resources, it is broader in scope, including any other services, supplies, equipment, space, etc. that are provided by sources other than HUD.

Review Application guidelines for New projects state that projects should only report match and leveraging where there are commitment letters on file that are dated July 1, 2021 or later, and documentation should be submitted to HUD if required. New project application packages are required to submit match and leveraging documentation to the Toledo/Lucas County CoC for the scoring and ranking process.

## V. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**General Application Instructions for All Projects.** Applicants should review and follow the steps as outlined herein and in the NOFO to ensure that applications are complete and submitted in a timely manner.

- **1.** All applicants must submit applications to TLCHB through the dual application portal provided in this RFP.
- 2. In addition to submitting via the dual application portal, all applicants must also submit their application to HUD's *e-snaps*.
- 3. Applicants may find more information about accessing <u>HUD's E-Snaps here</u>.
- 4. Note that once the competition begins, there will be a significant time delay if applicants need to register new users on the *E-Snaps* system. All applicants should ensure that they have access to the system immediately. Additional information about e-snaps can be found in the <u>e-snaps 101 Toolkit</u> and the <u>e-snaps 201 Toolkit</u>.
- **5.** It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to assure that a submission all the application materials are received by TLCHB, by the established deadline. No late submissions of the project application document will be accepted.
- 6. The deadline for application submissions to TLCHB for the Annual NOFO is August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, by 5:00 PM
- 7. The deadline for application submissions to TLCHB for the Special NOFO is September ,2022, by 5:00 PM.

- 8. Late submissions of the supplemental materials to the application package will result in a deduction of points. Applications for which supplemental materials are received more than 24 hours after the established application deadline may be deemed ineligible and excluded from the competition.
- **9.** For the Annual NOFO, all projects must complete and submit the HUD application in *e-snaps*, including any certifications, attachments, or other items required pursuant to HUD's instructions by 5:00 pm on , 2021.
- **10.** For the Special NOFO, all projects must complete and submit the HUD application in *e-snaps*, including any certifications, attachments, or other items required pursuant to HUD's instructions by 5:00 pm on , 2021.
- Information regarding scoring criteria will be posted on Continuum of Care webpage at <u>https://endinghomelessnesstoledo.org/funding-programs</u>. Applicants are strongly advised to review the criteria before submitting an application.
- **12.** For reference, the <u>Continuum of Care Program Interim Rule</u> was published in the Federal Register on July 31, 2012, and was effective on August 31, 2012.
- **13.** TLCHB reserves the right to request additional performance and/or threshold eligibility supporting documentation from any applicant to facilitate the scoring and ranking process. The applicant must provide all requested supporting documentation in the timeframe specified by the Toledo/Lucas County CoC at the time of request. Failure of an applicant to provide adequate supporting documentation may result in negative consequences in the scoring and ranking process, up to and including threshold denial of the project application from the final CoC project ranking.

#### VI. APPEALS

In accordance with 24 CFR part 578.35 and Section X of the NOFO, applicants have the right to appeal if they believe that they were improperly denied the right to participate in the CoC planning process in a reasonable manner; were improperly denied or decreased funding; or were improperly denied a Certification of Consistency from the local government with the Consolidated Plan. The appeal MUST be carried out in the timeframe and process announced by HUD within the NOFO.

#### VII. FEDERAL DISASTER AREA NOTIFICATION

Applicants administering projects in counties that have been impacted by a major disaster, as declared under Title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act that occurred in the 12 months prior to the application deadline of the HUD NOFO should submit a letter indicating this with the supplemental review packages due on August 6, 2019. This would only include a major disaster that resulted in the Collaborative Applicant, the CoC, or its project(s) inability to continue operations due to flooding, destroyed facilities, lack of power for a long duration, etc. News releases related to Ohio can be found at: <a href="https://www.fema.gov/disasters">https://www.fema.gov/disasters</a>. CoCs in impacted areas are required to notify HUD of this prior to the close of this competition.

## VIII. RELEVANT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board 1220 Madison Avenue Toledo, OH 43604 Website: <u>www.tlchb.org</u> Email: <u>communications@tlchb.org</u> Phone: (419) 244-9440