

# 2024 CoC Competition Information Session

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

2 PM- 4 PM

Virtual Meeting




# Overview

- HUD will be awarding more than \$3 billion as part of the 2024 CoC Competition for new and renewal projects.
- Montgomery County is eligible to apply for a CoC Bonus Project, a Domestic Violence Bonus Project, and a CoC Planning Project.
- HUD revised the Tier system and CoCs are required to prioritize projects using a two-tiered system. Tier 1 consists of 90% of the combined Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) for all projects eligible for renewal. **HUD has not published the FY2024 ARD report.**
- Renewal and New Projects are ranked together. The Planning Grant is not part of the Ranking and Review Process.

What's the  
Focus?

## Consolidated Application

- Strategic use of federal resources
  - Coordination with Health Care and Public Housing Authorities
  - Meaningful Participation of People with Lived Experience
  - Emphasis on Housing First
  - Emphasis on Racial Equity
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# HUD Policy Priorities

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- **Ending homelessness for all persons**

- CoCs should identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness.
- CoCs should measure their performance based on local data that consider the challenges faced by all subpopulations.
- CoCs should partner with housing, health care, and supportive services providers to expand housing options, such as permanent supportive housing, housing subsidies, and rapid rehousing.
- CoCs should use local data to determine the characteristics of individuals and families with the highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness to develop housing and supportive services tailored to their needs.

# HUD Policy Priorities

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- **Using a Housing First Approach**

- Prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing.
- Housing is not dependent on service participation or other preconditions.

- **Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness**

- **Improving System Performance**

- Renewal and New Projects should be evaluated based on how they work to either support or hinder overall system performance measures (exits to Permanent Housing, returns to homelessness, reducing length of time homeless, increasing income for program participants).
- Effective use of Coordinated Entry.
- All projects will be reviewed to determine effectiveness in serving those experiencing homelessness, including cost-effectiveness.

# HUD Policy Priorities

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- **Partnering with Housing, Health, and Service Agencies**

- CoCs are expected to leverage other available resources and funding outside of CoC or ESG to pay for both housing and services.

- **Racial Equity**

- In nearly every community, Black, Indigenous, and other people of color are substantially overrepresented in the homeless population. HUD is emphasizing system and program changes to address racial equity within CoCs.

- **Persons with Lived Experience**

- Persons with lived experience should be involved in all aspects of planning, program design and policy development.

- **Improving Assistance to LGBTQ+ Individuals**

- CoC's should address the needs of LGBTQ+, transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary individuals and families in their planning processes.
- Ensure privacy, respect, safety and access regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation in projects.

# HUD Policy Priorities

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- **Building an Effective Workforce – NEW**

- Homeless assistance providers need effective, well-supported staff to provide high-quality assistance. Unfortunately, recruiting and retaining qualified staff for programs to assist persons experiencing homelessness has proven difficult due to low pay and the challenging nature of the work. To address this issue, HUD is applying cost of living adjustments to supportive service activities and other staffing-focused budget lines to allow CoC budgets to better keep up with rising costs. HUD also encourages CoCs to work with their funders and other community stakeholders to improve pay and support for people who work in the homelessness sector.

- **Increasing Affordable Housing Supply**

- The lack of affordable housing is the main driver of homelessness. CoCs play a critical role in educating local leaders and stakeholders about the importance of increasing the supply of affordable housing and the specific consequences of the continued lack of affordable housing. This NOFO awards points to CoCs that take steps to engage local leaders about increasing the affordable and accessible housing supply.



# Consolidation

## Eligible Projects

- Project applicants can consolidate up to ten eligible renewal projects into one project application.
- Must be the same recipient and same project type.
- Multiple project applications are required – renewal for each project to be submitted – each must be ranked. If all are selected by HUD, grants will be combined.
- If interested, send notice of intent by August 22, 2024, to [NOFO@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:NOFO@montgomerycountymd.gov).





# Transition Grants

## Transition Grants

- A grant to fund a new project to transition an eligible renewal project being eliminated through reallocation from one program component to another eligible new component over a 1-year period.
- Must have consent from the CoC.
- Eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for eligible activities of the new program component.
- The new project application must meet project quality thresholds established by HUD.



# Expansion

## Expansion

- The process by which a renewal project applicant submits a new project to expand its current operations by adding units, beds, persons served.
- For projects that are expanding their current CoC program-funded project, applicants will be required to submit **2 applications**:
  - Renewal project that will be expanded
  - A new project application with just the expansion information
- A non-CoC funded project can submit a new project application for CoC funds to expand operations, but funds cannot be used to replace existing funding.

# Reallocation Process

## Reallocation Options

- Project applicants can voluntarily reallocate all or part of their project funding. If interested, e-mail [NOFO@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:NOFO@montgomerycountymd.gov) by 5 p.m. Thursday, August 22, 2024.
- **The allocation Committee can reallocate based on CoC need and/or project performance during the ranking process.**

Funds will be awarded on a competitive basis.

Notification of funds available from voluntary reallocation will be announced no later than August 23, 2024.

# CoC Ranking and Review Process

All new and renewal projects will be reviewed & ranked by the CoC Allocation Committee per the established CoC process.

Projects will be assessed using a standard scoring tool.

- Housing First Addendum will be used to assess fidelity to philosophy.
  - Policies and Procedures, Client Handbooks, Rights & Expectations will be reviewed.
- **Scoring Tools and Housing First Addendum will be posted on the CoC Competition website by Monday, August 19, 2024.**

The Allocation Committee will prioritize projects based on CoC needs and project scores to maximize the opportunity for funding.



# Partnership and Funding Committee



## Partnership and Funding Committee Members:

- Tara Clemons Johnson - County Council Staff
- Jeff Goldman - ICH Chair
- Ebony Johnson - ICH Vice Chair
- Two vacancies – pending commitment from candidates

# Tier Scoring Criteria

- Tier 1 is equal to 90% of the combined Annual Renewal Amount (not posted as of 8/14/24).
- Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) plus any amount available for CoC bonus projects.
  - HUD will award a point value to each new and renewal project application that is in Tier 2 using a 100-point scale:
  - CoC Score: **Up to 50 pts.** In direct proportion to the score received on the CoC Collaborative Application
  - CoC Project Ranking: **Up to 40 pts.** For the CoC's ranking of the project and the amount of funding for the project.
  - Commitment to Housing First: **Up to 10 pts.** The project demonstrates that it is a low barrier & prioritizes rapid placement.

# Renewal Applications

- Project applications are eligible for renewal if the current grant term expires during calendar year 2024.
- Two-year NOFO for fiscal years 2024 and 2025. CoCs are only required to submit one CoC application that will be applicable to the FY 2024 and FY 2025 funds.
- HUD reserves the right to award available FY 2025 funds based on this NOFO competition. Projects awarded FY 2024 funds may also be eligible for FY 2025 funds without needing to submit a renewal application.
- All applicants should carefully review the detailed instructions, instructional guides, and funding announcements for the renewal project to ensure that applications are completed correctly.
- Applications should reference HUD Policy Priorities.
- Renewal Project Requests will be evaluated both on the Applicant's past CoC grant performance and the renewal project application.

# Renewal Applications

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- CoC renewal grants may:
  - Include requests to add eligible activities
  - Shift up to 10% of funds from one approved activity to another
- DV Bonus renewals may:
  - Include requests to add eligible activities
  - Shift up to 10% of funds from one approved activity to another
- All renewal budget totals must equal the ARA shown on the Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW)



# Renewal Project Scoring

## Program Effectiveness

- Cost Effectiveness
- Bed Utilization

## Past Performance

- Audit and Monitoring Reports
- HUD and DHHS Expenditures – timely drawdowns

## Severity of Needs

- Acuity of Program Participants

# Renewal Project Scoring (continued)

## Contribution to CoC System Performance Measures

- Exits to Permanent Housing/ Housing Retention
- Returns to Homelessness
- Increase or Maintain Income
- Rapid Placement

## Scope of Work

- Fidelity to Housing First
- Meaningful participation of people with lived experience
- Participation in CES

## Promoting Racial Equity

- Extent to which programs identify and address disparities in program outcomes

# CoC Bonus Project

- Total Funds Available: Coming Soon
- Accepting Applications for Rapid Re-Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing
- Must meet the Eligibility Threshold outlined in HUD NOFO
- Leveraging Housing and Healthcare Resources
  - Leveraging Housing: Non-CoC or ESG funding for at least 25% of units for PSH or 25% of participants for RRH.
  - Leveraging Health Care Resources: An amount that is equivalent to 25% of the funding being requested for the project will be covered by the healthcare organization or who have a commitment to provide substance use treatment to all project participants who choose and who are eligible to participate.

# New Projects – Bonus

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- Any eligible organization can apply, whether or not they have previously received HUD funding.
- All agencies must have a UEI number. This can be obtained by registering on the SAM.gov portal.
- All applicants should closely review the detailed instructions, instructional guides, and funding announcements for the new project to ensure that their applications are complete.
- New Project applicants will be assessed on their organizational capacity, program design, and project eligibility threshold.

# New Projects – Bonus (Continued)

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## **Organization Capacity**

- Experience performing proposed activities.
- For DV bonus: experience working with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and involvement of survivors in policy and program development and inclusion of victim-centered practices.
- Must demonstrate the financial and management capacity and experience to carry out the project application and the capacity to administer federal funds.
- Have no unresolved HUD findings on other HUD grants.
- Experience leveraging other federal, state, local, and private sector funds.

# DV Bonus Project



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Total Funds Available: Coming Soon

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Accepting Applications for Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing, or Rapid Rehousing

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Must meet Eligibility Threshold outlined in HUD NOFO

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All new projects must commit to Housing First principles, Trauma Informed Care, and Victim-Centered practices

# DV Bonus Project

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## Eligible Participants must meet Category IV Homeless Definition:

- Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking who are fleeing violence.
- No residence.
- No resources to obtain housing.

## For Rapid Rehousing or Joint TH- RRH

- Program participants may only receive up to 24-months of total assistance.
- Budget must be weighted for RRH (1/3 – 2/3) ratio to allow for sufficient rental assistance.

DV Bonus may be used to expand an existing renewal project that is not dedicated to serving survivors of DV, dating violence, or stalking.

Priority will be given to organizations who have demonstrated experience working with this population

- Up to 50 points in direct proportion to CoC Application Score.
- For RRH, Joint TH, and PH-RRH – need to show experience in serving the population, engagement of survivors in program development, collaboration of the CoC with victim services organizations, and need for the project.

## CoC Priority

- Support new projects that exclusively serve households with minor children in Rapid Rehousing and or youth in Rapid Rehousing or Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing.
- Support new Rapid Rehousing projects for single adults and households with minor children.
- Support new scattered site PSH projects for adult-only households.
- Can be done via an expansion.





# Matching Requirements

- **Match** - All projects must meet match requirements to be eligible.
  - HUD requires a minimum of 25% match on all grant funds except for leasing costs.
  - Match can be **in-kind** or **cash**.
  - DHHS will continue to provide current match funding for renewal projects.
  - Any cash or in-kind funds used towards the match must be used to support eligible activities under the grant.
- Rents and occupancy charges collected from participants are considered program income and can be used as a match. Program income should be expended in the program year it is earned.

# Important Deadlines

## August 29, 2024, at 5pm - Renewal Project supporting documentation

- HUD Monitoring Reports from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2024. If the project was not reviewed by HUD during this period, provide a statement indicating the last date reviewed and any findings.
- Local monitoring report from fiscal year 2024 (if available).
- Summary of drawdown expenditures for grants expiring in Calendar Year 2024. Please indicate if all funds were expended and if not, what amount will be returned with an explanation as to why.
- CoC Addendum.
- Copies of the Project's Policy and Procedures and Client/Participant Handbook that document the project's Anti-Discrimination Policy, ADA compliance, Fair Housing Compliance, Person-Centered Approach, and Low-barrier eligibility.
- Email documents to [NOFO@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:NOFO@montgomerycountymd.gov)

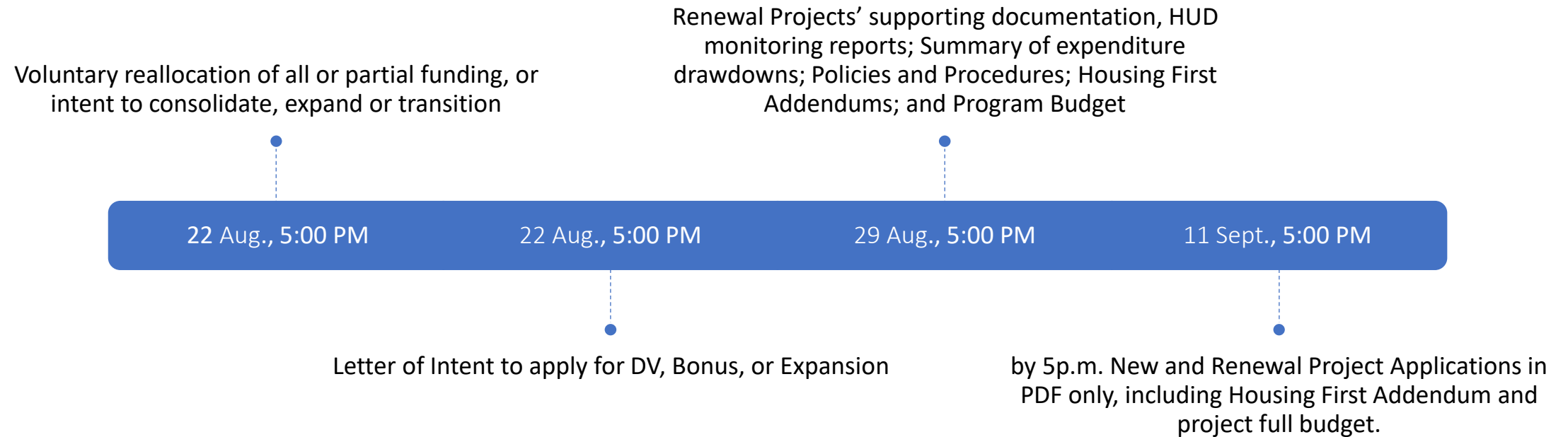
# Important Deadlines

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- **Wednesday, September 11, 5:00 pm. All New and Renewal Project Applications**
  - Completed applications include
    1. CoC Project application;
    2. CoC Addendum;
    3. Projects full budget (**total cost** to operate project).
  - Submit in PDF and Excel format via email to [NOFO@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:NOFO@montgomerycountymd.gov).
  - Do **NOT** submit the CoC Project Application via e-SNAPS until you are notified.
- Notification of Project Selection and Priority Ranking will be provided to the agency and posted to the SEPH CoC [website](#) on **Friday, October 11, at 5:00 pm.**

# Projects Deadlines Summary

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Questions?



If you have questions, please contact:

[nofo@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:nofo@montgomerycountymd.gov)

CoC NOFO Information Page

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/homelessness/Continuumofcare.html>