

**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 NOFO 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

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Section I: HUD General Requirements and Policies

Annually the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) publishes the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance Program. The NOFO establishes the amount of funds available, 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 local service system and to evaluate, select and prioritize project level applications to include in the annual application for funds.

Section II: 2021 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity and Priorities

On August 18, 2021, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance Program. Applications are due to HUD by November 16, 2021.

For the 2021 CoC Program Competition, approximately \$2,656,000,000 is available for FY 2021 including up to \$102,000,000 for Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus projects. The VC CoC is eligible for \$2,383,290 in annual renewal funding (ARD), an estimated \$129,088 in planning grant funds with the potential to apply for \$215,147 in new project or bonus project funding and up to an additional \$645,440 in domestic violence bonus 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 100% of the renewal funding available. Tier 2 is the difference between 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 recommend new projects to respond to community needs. The VC CoC responds to these factors by establishing policies, procedures, and criteria they use 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 NOFO.

- 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 or expanded projects that are based on proven or promising models.

Re-Allocation & Bonus: CoCs may use funds from all or part of 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 components:

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 100% of the CoC's ARD. Tier 2 is the difference between the ARD and the amount available for the identified bonus funding including the domestic violence bonus.

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 Application's score as well as factors listed in the NOFO. 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 NOFO 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

- (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) **Use a Housing First Approach**—Housing First prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and does not have service participation requirements or preconditions.
- (3) **Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness**—CoCs should identify permanent housing options for persons who are unsheltered including those living in encampments.
- (4) **Improving System Performance**—CoCs should use system performance measures (e.g. average length of homeless episodes, rates of returns to homelessness, rates of exit to housing destinations) to determine how effectively they are serving people experiencing homelessness. CoCs should review all projects eligible for renewal in FY21 to determine their effectiveness in serving people experiencing homelessness including cost effectiveness. HUD recognizes the COVID-19 pandemic may have affected system performance and has adjusted scoring. In future years, HUD plans to increase points available for system performance in FY22 and subsequent NOFOs.
- (5) **Partnering with Housing, Health and Service Agencies**—HUD encourages CoCs to maximize the use of mainstream and community-based resources and should:

- a) Work closely with public and private healthcare organizations to help participants obtain medical insurance;
 - b) Partner closely with Public Housing Authorities to utilize coordinated entry, develop housing units and provide housing subsidies to persons experiencing homelessness;
 - c) Partner with local workforce development centers to improve employment opportunities;
 - d) Partner with tribal organizations to ensure tribal members can access CoC-funded assistance when CoC borders a tribal area.
- (6) **Racial Equity**—CoCs should review local policies, procedures, and processes to determine where and how to address racial disparities affecting individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
- (7) **Persons with Lived Experience**—People with lived experience of homelessness should determine how local policies may need to be revised and updated, participate in CoC meetings and committees as stakeholders, provide input on decisions and provide input related to the local competition process. CoCs should seek opportunities to hire people with lived experience.

Ventura County Policy on Project Ranking and Tiering

(adopted and finalized on September 8, 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 follow 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 programs 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 (CH) —those programs with dedicated CH beds will be ranked higher on the list than programs without dedicated beds. Programs that describe targeting chronically homeless for non-dedicated beds as they became available will be ranked higher on the list.
- Projects implementing a Housing First model with policies and procedures to emphasize their practices rank 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, RRH).

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 the following 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.

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 July 22, 2021 to gather relevant performance and threshold documentation from each project identified as eligible for renewal. LOIs were due to CoC staff by August 13, 2021.

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

The LOI process is intended to assess each 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 persons with substance use disorders, history of domestic violence, persons with criminal history, persons with disabilities and serious health vulnerabilities and families with minor children.
4. Financial Commitment (Match)
5. Alignment with Best Practices: Housing First/Low Barrier/Harm Reduction
6. CoC Participation/VC CoC Partner Agency MOU
7. Participation in Coordinated Entry

8. Data Quality

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 total income in an operating year.
- at least 90 percent of project participants obtained mainstream benefits.

Some renewing PSH 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(s) 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 and renewal projects as determined by the Panel will be discussed and approved by the CoC Board on October 28, 2021 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 November 1, 2021.

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 FY21 CoC consolidated application.

Appeals must be submitted to the Ventura County Collaborative Applicant no later than October 13, 2021. 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 (maximum of 5 points) and HMIS Data Quality should reflect no more than 10% of any missing data element (up to 5 points).

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.



Attachment A:

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 pts); compliance with CoC Partner MOU (up to 5 pts)	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 (5 points maximum) and HMIS Data Quality should reflect no more than 10% of any missing data element (up to 5 points).

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.



Attachment B

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 pts); compliance with CoC Partner MOU (up to 5 pts)	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 C

The following will be applied for the performance measures scored for New Projects in the FY21 CoC Competition including new projects funded under the CoC Bonus, Reallocation and Domestic Violence Bonus projects.

Proposed projects should align with System Performance Benchmarks and detail efforts to achieve these goals in submitted application:

- at least 85 percent of project participants will obtain or maintain permanent housing.
- at least 55 percent of project participants increased their total income in a given operating year
- at least 90 percent of project participants will obtain or maintain mainstream benefits
- fewer than 5% of program participants will return to homelessness.

Additionally, new projects should align the program design, services provided and collaborations leveraged to meet the service needs of the proposed target population. Best practices including utilizing a Housing First approach will be required for all projects included in the Ventura County Continuum of Care's application.



Attachment C

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); 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 15)	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	