

Request for Proposals (RFP) - Domestic Violence Bonus Funding Dos Rios Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC)

INTRODUCTION

The Dos Rios Homeless Continuum of Care is accepting proposals for new Domestic Violence (DV) projects with Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance bonus funding made available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Dos Rios Homeless Continuum of Care is soliciting proposals from public entities and private non-profits that wish to address housing and service priorities established through the Dos Rios Homeless Continuum of Care, with priority for Domestic Violence projects that follow a housing first approach and participate in the coordinated entry process.

Funding available is up to \$50,000 through the Domestic Violence bonus funding.

The projects being solicited are innovative and highly effective housing projects that will create additional housing inventory through rental assistance or leasing, as well as supportive services to better coordinate Domestic Violence referrals through coordinated entry. Projects are encouraged to show collaboration among providers and leverage mainstream resources to support highly vulnerable populations. Priority will be given to projects that have a plan for securing permanent housing for the project.

Funding will come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) 2018 McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care (CoC) for the Homeless Program, as amended under the HEARTH Act and the CoC Program Interim Rule. The availability and priorities for any funding for new projects is articulated in HUD's CoC Notice of Funding Available (NOFA):

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/FY-2018-CoC-Program-Competition-NOFA.pdf>

Information on serving persons who are experiencing homelessness as a result of fleeing domestic violence is available on HUD's website: <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/domestic-violence/>

More information on the HEARTH Act, the Interim Rule and the NOFA is available on the HUD CoC page:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/coc>

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS

Proposals must be entered via e-snaps and emailed to the **CoC Coordinator** by **3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 29, 2018**. Submission procedures are described below.

BACKGROUND

HUD publishes a CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for each funding year. This RFP is being released in support of the 2018 CoC NOFA released on June 20, 2018. A single, consolidated submission of all selected projects in the Dos Rios CoC will be submitted to HUD by the Collaborative Applicant. The Dos Rios CoC goal is to submit the application no later than September 17, 2018. Funding will be derived from Federal Fiscal Year 2018 allocations of HUD funds and is subject to funding approval by HUD.

NEW PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

The Dos Rios Homeless Continuum of Care seeks one or more qualified applicants to administer one or more of the following project types, consistent with the guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) including, but not limited to, using a Housing First approach:

- 1) New DV* Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) project
- 2) New DV* Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid-Re-Housing (TH-RRH) project
- 3) New DV* Supportive Services Only for Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) project

* DV projects must be dedicated to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that meet the definition of homeless, as defined in 24 CFR 578.3. Persons who are fleeing or attempting to flee human trafficking may also qualify under this homeless definition.

Competitive Proposed Projects Will:

- Clearly meet the CoC Program funding opportunities of HUD and the Dos Rios Homeless CoC; and
- Have a clear plan for acquiring permanent housing for the project (RRH & TH-RRH); and
- Include procedures and practices that better coordinate referrals between coordinated entry and the victim service providers (SSO-CE); and
- Describe a housing first and trauma-informed service delivery approach, including low-barrier access to the housing and services that works with Coordinated Entry Process, (SSO-CE); and
- Be based upon best practices and the most effective, evidence-based, culturally competent, and individualized client models possible (all project types); and
- Include plans to successfully meet HUD and local performance measures (RRH & TH-RRH); and
- Be administered by organizations that have demonstrated experience providing similar services and serving the proposed population (all project types).

Selection Process: Projects responding to this RFP will be reviewed and ranked by the Dos Rios Homeless CoC Review and Ranking Evaluation Committee. Projects will be reviewed with respect to organizational capacity, project approach, past performance, design and cost effectiveness. The Dos Rios CoC can only submit one project application for each project type to HUD; therefore, the review process will include the selection of up to one DV RRH, one DV TH-RRH and one SSO-CE project, depending on funding availability and applicant capacity. Funds are limited so the CoC may only submit one project application from the aforementioned choices.

Prior to the full HUD application process, proposals will be reviewed for basic eligibility and other criteria by the Dos Rios CoC Review and Ranking Evaluation Committee. The committee is comprised of formerly homeless persons, community professionals, service providers and stakeholders of the Dos Rios Homeless CoC. The Review and Ranking Evaluation Committee will review applications and make recommendations to the CoC Board for final decisions.

Eligible Applicants: Applications will only be accepted from eligible nonprofit agencies, private nonprofit agencies, units of government and public housing agencies.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. The project must be dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence who are defined as homeless by HUD. The definition for persons experiencing domestic violence can be found here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/domestic-violence/>
2. Funds cannot be used to close a funding gap or replace lost funding in an existing housing project or service program. Project applicants must demonstrate that they are not replacing other funding sources.
3. Projects must be able to meet timeliness standards. The applicant is expected to initiate approved projects promptly in accordance with the requirements that are specified in the 2018 NOFA. Grant terms and associated grant operations may not extend beyond the availability of funds. Applicants must plan accordingly and only submit applications that can achieve project goals and outcomes within the specified grant term.
4. Applicants must meet HUD recipient and/or sub-recipient eligibility requirements.
5. Participation in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is required of all HUD grant recipients; however, victim service providers are required to use a comparable database to avoid disclosure of personally identifying data, per the requirements of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Victim service providers must collect all of the data elements required by HUD and provide only aggregate data about victims to the Dos Rios CoC.
6. Participation in a Coordinated Entry Process and prioritizing resources for the most vulnerable persons and households. More information on victim service providers participating in coordinated entry can be found here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Coordinated-Entry-and-Victim-Service-Providers-FAQs.pdf>
7. Rapid Re-Housing and Transitional Housing projects must provide on-site supportive services or have an agreement in place for a partner agency to do so.

ALLOWABLE PROJECT TYPES

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

Provide permanent housing for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who meet the definition of homeless. Program participants are assisted to obtain and remain in permanent housing in a manner that fits their needs. Eligible activities include: Leasing, Rental Assistance, Supportive Services, Operations and HMIS.

Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-Housing (TH-RRH)

Combines two existing program components in a single project to serve homeless individuals and families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence. The project must demonstrate that program participants will move from transitional housing to permanent housing by one of the following: 1) a budget with twice as many resources for the RRH portion than the TH, 2) twice as many RRH units at a point in time as TH units, or 3) the budget and units are appropriate for the population being served by the project. Program participants may only receive up to 24-months of total assistance. The project plan should include supportive services and assistance to obtain mainstream benefits. Eligible activities include: Leasing, Rental Assistance, Supportive Services, Operations, HMIS and Project Administrative Costs. Those interested in applying for this type of project should review the following: <https://www.hudexchange.info/news/snaps-in-focus-the-new-joint-transitional-housing-and-rapid-re-housing-component/>

Supportive Services Only for Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE)

Implement policies, procedures and practices that the coordinated entry to better meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence and coordinate referrals between coordinated entry and the victim service providers. The system must be easily available/reachable for all persons within the CoC's geographic area and be accessible for persons with disabilities. There must be a strategy for advertising to reach homeless persons with the highest barriers. Eligible activities include: Supportive Services, HMIS and Project Administrative Costs.

Information on eligible activities and expenses can be found in the Interim Rule

(<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2033/hearth-coc-program-interim-rule/>)

and at this link: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/toolkit/program-components-and-eligible-costs/>

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

To be considered as meeting project quality threshold, new project applications must meet the following criteria:

1. Whether the type, scale, and location of the housing fits the needs of the program participants; and
2. Whether the type and scale of the supportive services fit the needs of the program participants—this includes all supportive services, regardless of funding source; and
3. Whether the specific plan for ensuring program participants will be individually assisted to obtain the benefits of the mainstream health, social, and employment programs for which they are eligible to apply meets the needs of the program participants; and
4. Whether program participants are assisted to obtain and remain in permanent housing in a manner that fits their needs; and
5. Whether all of the proposed program participants are fleeing domestic violence and come from the street or other locations not meant for human habitation, emergency shelters or safe havens.

EVALUATION & PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

The CoC Review and Ranking Evaluation committee will review submissions and make final determinations. Committee members will be unbiased and cannot have a personal or financial interest in final recommendations. The successful project(s) will be recommended for selection based on the following criteria:

1. Meets minimum requirements of HUD
2. Experience and Capacity of the Applicant, including prior performance (HMIS or comparable data)
3. Project/Program Functions
4. Vulnerabilities of the target population
5. Past or current system performance and plans to achieve satisfactory performance
6. Applicant Readiness to Submit Full Application
7. Dos Rios Continuum of Care Priorities which support the CoC Strategic Plan

Proposals will be reviewed in reference to organizational capacity, project approach and design and cost effectiveness.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Providers will be required to provide the following attachments to the CoC grant writer upon notification of recommended award

1. SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance;
2. SF-424 Supplement, Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunities for Application required for nonprofit applicants only where completion and submission of this survey is voluntary;
3. Form HUD-2880, Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report;
4. SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable);
5. Form HUD-50070, Certification for Drug-Free Workplace;
6. Applicant Code of Conduct that complies with 2 CFR part 200.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The regulations for the Continuum of Care program may be found at:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/coc/coc-program-law-regulations-and-notices/>

All parties intending to apply for funding are strongly encouraged to review the program regulations, including those organizations that are currently or were previously funded. Proposals which do not conform to the regulations will not be considered for funding. Please contact Danielle Huguenard at 530-934-1451 or dhuguenard@countyofglenn.net with questions about HUD programs.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Please use the attached Request for Funding to provide the CoC with information about your proposed DV program that will be sufficient enough for the Rating and Ranking Committee to evaluate.

AWARD OF FUNDS

The project(s) selected by the Continuum of Care Council will be notified on August 31, 2018. Please be aware that applications need to be finalized in e-SNAPS by the grant writer by noon September 18, 2018. If the funding is awarded by HUD, grant funds are estimated to be made available by HUD by **the first half of calendar year 2019**. The timing of awards and grant-making by HUD is outside of the control of the CoC. Therefore, agencies seeking and receiving new funding must be aware of the operating year start and end dates and must make arrangements to cover any period of which a HUD funding award is pending, delayed, or not awarded.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS APPLICATION FY 2019-2021
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BONUS APPLICATION**

I. Summary Project Information

A. Agency Information

Agency Legal Name:

Agency Address:

Primary Contact Person:

Title:

Telephone Number:

E-Mail Address:

Tax Identification #:

DUNS Number:

Preparer Name:

Title:

B. Project Component

Check the CoC eligible component that this project will address

Rapid Rehousing Joint TH & RRH Street Outreach for Coordinated Entry

C. Project Summary

Provide a summary of the project, being sure to cover the following areas: the community need that these services will address (using 2018 HIC/PIT data), the target population and core services delivered, the average number of core services a participant will receive, average length of time the participant will receive services and length of time the project has been in operation (*limit to 500 words*).

D. Project History

Has this project been funded by HCD before? Yes No

E. Project Services Provided

Check additionally related services this project directly provides. Please select any that apply:

Short- to Medium-Term Rental Assistance Case Management
 Financial Literacy/Assistance Tenancy Education
 Meals, Transportation, or Personal Items Housing Location Services
 Other Services Not Listed:

F. Encouraging Partnership

How will the proposed activity encourage new partnerships, or use existing partnerships, to complete the activity? If partnering, please indicate the organization(s) you are partnering with (*limit 250 words*).

II. PROJECT DETAIL

A. Project Design

Describe the project design (*limit to 250 words*):

- 1) Length of average project enrollment.
- 2) What is a successful project exit? What will the participant be expected to achieve by receiving the services you propose?
- 3) Follow up (if any) of project exited participants.

B. Project Outreach

Describe the target population for this project (*limit to 250 words*):

- 1) What outreach strategies are used to reach the target population?
- 2) How are participants referred into the program?

C. Project History and Readiness

Briefly describe the project history and any material changes (*limit to 250 words*).

- 1) If this project has been operating one year or less, please discuss its stage of project growth or readiness.
- 2) If this project has been operating longer than one year, describe any material changes that have affected the project along with associated impact(s) that have taken place over the past two years.
- 3) If the project is anticipated to materially expand or contract in size during FY 2019-20 please describe changes to service levels and number of unduplicated participants to be served.

D. Mainstream Resources

Describe how your agency would ensure that program participants are assisted in obtaining mainstream services and financial assistance, including housing, social services, employment, education, and youth programs for which participants may be eligible (*limit to 250 words*).

E. Project Level Performance

Please state the number of HOUSEHOLDS served and the number of households that will achieve the outcome rather than unique persons.

Housing Indicator	Project Goal Briefly describe how your project will work towards achievement the specified Housing Indicator	Quantitative Measure Percentage of HH that achieve indicator
Average length of project participation for individual leavers		_____%
Leavers exiting to permanent		_____%

- 1) Describe the history your agency has in achieving the outcomes identified above (*limit to 250 words*).
- 2) Describe how your agency will evaluate this project’s performance and make needed adjustments to service delivery. Be sure to note any participant involvement that is included in evaluating the services (*limit to 250 words*).

III. PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

A. Households Served

Number of Unduplicated Households projected to be served by the project during the grant period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021 (approximate dates). Also indicate the number historically served by this project for the period of January 1- December 31, 2017. Please attach an HMIS report for this period as documentation.

Projected Number of Households to Be Served 7/1/19 – 6/30/21	Historical Time Period (Enter month/year below)	Historical Number of Households Served
_____ Households	From _____ to _____	_____ Households

IV. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Limit each response below to 250 words.

A. Coordinated Entry

Does your agency participate in Coordinated Entry (including making referrals to and accepting referrals from Coordinated Entry)? Please describe how.

B. HMIS

Does your agency contribute data to the HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) or a comparable system?

C. Housing First

Does the agency or project utilize a Housing First Approach? Please describe how.

D. Dos Rios CoC Participation

Describe the agency’s participation in the Dos Rios Continuum of Care membership meetings or other CoC related committees.