

Before Starting the CoC Application

You must submit all three of the following parts in order for us to consider your Consolidated Application complete:

1. the CoC Application,
2. the CoC Priority Listing, and
3. all the CoC's project applications that were either approved and ranked, or rejected.

As the Collaborative Applicant, you are responsible for reviewing the following:

1. The FY 2023 CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The FY 2023 CoC Application Detailed Instructions which provide additional information and guidance for completing the application.
3. All information provided to ensure it is correct and current.
4. Responses provided by project applicants in their Project Applications.
5. The application to ensure all documentation, including attachment are provided.

Your CoC Must Approve the Consolidated Application before You Submit It
- 24 CFR 578.9 requires you to compile and submit the CoC Consolidated Application for the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition on behalf of your CoC.

- 24 CFR 578.9(b) requires you to obtain approval from your CoC before you submit the Consolidated Application into e-snaps.

Answering Multi-Part Narrative Questions

Many questions require you to address multiple elements in a single text box. Number your responses to correspond with multi-element questions using the same numbers in the question. This will help you organize your responses to ensure they are complete and help us to review and score your responses.

Attachments

Questions requiring attachments to receive points state, "You Must Upload an Attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen." Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed—including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process. Include a cover page with the attachment name.

- Attachments must match the questions they are associated with—if we do not award points for evidence you upload and associate with the wrong question, this is not a valid reason for you to appeal HUD's funding determination.

- We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).

1A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Identification

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1A-1. CoC Name and Number: OH-500 - Cincinnati/Hamilton County CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: Strategies to End Homelessness, Inc.

1A-3. CoC Designation: UFA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: Strategies to End Homelessness, Inc.

1B. Coordination and Engagement–Inclusive Structure and Participation

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
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1B-1.	Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry.	
	NOFO Sections V.B.1.a.(1), V.B.1.e., V.B.1f., and V.B.1.p.	
	In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023:	
	1. select yes or no in the chart below if the entity listed participates in CoC meetings, voted—including selecting CoC Board members, and participated in your CoC’s coordinated entry system; or	
	2. select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist in your CoC’s geographic area:	

	Organization/Person	Participated in CoC Meetings	Voted, Including Electing CoC Board Members	Participated in CoC’s Coordinated Entry System
1.	Affordable Housing Developer(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
2.	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.	Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	Disability Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
5.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
6.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	No
7.	Hospital(s)	Yes	Yes	No
8.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent	No	No
9.	Law Enforcement	Yes	Yes	No
10.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
12.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	No
13.	Local Jail(s)	Yes	No	No
14.	Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
15.	Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes

16.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes	Yes	Yes
17.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
18.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
20.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	Yes
21.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes	No
22.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
23.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
24.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
25.	Agencies Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking	Yes	Yes	Yes
26.	Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	Other Victim Service Organizations	Yes	No	No
29.	State Domestic Violence Coalition	Yes	Yes	Yes
30.	State Sexual Assault Coalition	Yes	Yes	Yes
31.	Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
33.	Youth Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
Other: (limit 50 characters)				
34.	HealthCare for the Homeless, Legal Aid, Employment, All MCOs	Yes	No	No
35.	HIV Advocates/Service Providers, Veterans Administration	Yes	Yes	Yes

1B-2.	Open Invitation for New Members.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(2)	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	communicated a transparent invitation process annually (e.g., communicated to the public on the CoC's website) to solicit new members to join the CoC;
2.	ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats; and
3.	invited organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in the geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, and persons with disabilities).

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) STEH solicits new applicants in initial community CoC competition public notice and throughout local competition process via STEH’s website, social media, local newspaper etc. Stakeholders are asked to share invitations with uninvolved entities. STEH provides an annual CoC Orientation for potential and current partners to learn about the local process prior to the CoC competition. STEH holds CoC-wide meetings & one-on-one meetings offering information and technical assistance to entities new to the process.

2) All CoC-wide monthly workgroup & CoC Board meetings are held via virtual or hybrid platforms, open to the public, and accessible to all. Recordings of CoC meetings on STEH website are closed captioned & text files are text-to-speech compatible. STEH conducts outreach to County Disability Services, Community Action Agency, The Public Library, hospitals, schools, & Cincinnati Association for the Blind.

3) In 2021, STEH engaged Racial Equity Partners to assist in developing an operational roadmap to center racial equity throughout the community. All recommendations to advance racial equity in the Racial Equity Strategic Plan were adopted by the CoC Board, including empowering a Racial Equity Core Team to advance the objectives in the plan. It has evolved over time as the CoC achieves success and meets challenges. Several BIPOC persons with lived expertise of homelessness were hired to help develop the objectives and assist in carrying out the plan. One of the five strategic priorities in advancing racial equity in our community is to learn more about the unique circumstances around Latine homelessness. Despite our outreach, data indicates that this population may be underserved. Engagement & recruitment of service providers with focus on the Latine community is in progress.

Organizations serving culturally specific communities are intentionally included in communication regarding the CoC competition, collaboration, programming available in the CoC. Several CoC-funded agencies serve and are led by BIPOC, LGBTQ+ and/or persons with disabilities in upper management and on boards. Data informed the CoC that a disproportionate number of BIPOC people were entering the homeless system from a neighborhood with little involvement in the CoC. STEH conducted outreach to social service providers in the area and began a workgroup increase collaboration.

1B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(3)	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	solicited and considered opinions from a broad array of organizations and individuals that have knowledge of homelessness, or an interest in preventing and ending homelessness;
2.	communicated information during public meetings or other forums your CoC uses to solicit public information;
3.	ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats; and
4.	took into consideration information gathered in public meetings or forums to address improvements or new approaches to preventing and ending homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) Our CoC Board maintains dedicated seats for a broad array of expertise including lived experience, racial equity, PHA, housing programs (PSH, RRH, TH/RRH, Prevention), DV, local government, advocacy, healthcare, education liaisons, street outreach, etc. We engage cross-sector with child welfare, criminal justice, workforce development, faith-based organizations, private funders, corporations, etc. All work to sync priorities & coordinate services for preventing and ending homelessness. Our CoC receives input through ten CoC workgroups with specific expertise that meet monthly. We conduct CoC-wide publicly announced meetings & focus groups throughout the year. New this year, a PWLX Workgroup was implemented to inform CoC processes, adding another PWLX seat on our CoC Board & Steering Team of the CoC Board.

2) CoC has at least four community-wide public meetings per year, including our CoC Prioritization Event, via virtual platforms accessible to all. We maintain a robust social media presence across multiple platforms & STEH’s website. STEH posts meetings on our local newspaper’s online calendar, & send community-wide newsletters, available to both existing & potential new agencies. Individuals & participants are also welcomed at ten monthly workgroups &/or board meetings, all of which are open to the public & held via virtual platforms, scheduled & announced in advance. We conduct focus groups & feedback surveys throughout the year. Over 20 PWLX work as paid consultants to participate in planning and policy development.

3) All annual and monthly meetings (i.e., workgroups, CoC Board) are held via virtual or hybrid platforms, open to the public, and accessible to all. Recordings of CoC meetings on STEH website are closed captioned & text files are text-to-speech compatible. STEH conducts outreach to County Disability Services, Community Action Agency, The Public Library, hospitals, schools, & Cincinnati Association for the Blind

4) Our CoC is built on collaboration. Ten workgroups and sub-committees of the CoC Board develop all CoC policies, including all Coordinated Entry policies, CoC project prioritization, and operational policies. Local processes allow for innovations to address homelessness, homelessness prevention, and barriers to success. Programming constantly evolves based on community feedback, participant feedback, identified best-practices, data analysis, outcome measures, and changing needs of the community.

1B-4.	Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Awarded CoC Program Funding.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(4)	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC notified the public:	
1.	that your CoC will consider project applications from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding;	
2.	about how project applicants must submit their project applications—the process;	
3.	about how your CoC would determine which project applications it would submit to HUD for funding; and	
4.	ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. STEH meets with organizations interested in first-time CoC funding year-round, solicits new applicants through CoC competition public notice, and at the start of the local competition process via STEH's website, social media, City & County meetings, radio, local newspaper, etc. Stakeholders are asked to share invitations widely. STEH conducts outreach to agencies not yet receiving CoC Funding. STEH also regularly presents at local public government meetings and has presence in local media, explaining how to apply for CoC funding.
2. On May 5, 2023, STEH held the annual "CoC Orientation," which is a live web-conference that is open to the public. STEH explains the purpose of the program, responsibilities of the CoC, local funding process with timeline, CoC Board, CoC Structure, eligibility requirements, etc. and allows time for questions. STEH posted the local timeline with all deadlines, instructions, and forms on the website and constantly updated social media on the process. The local priority ranked list was decided by the community process and announced in August 2023. Upon release of the NOFO, STEH updated deadlines to include that all required documentation would be due 30 days prior to the Final CoC Application deadline and added deadlines for public posting, etc.
3. On May 19, 2023, STEH held a live, public, web-conference called the "2023 Scoring Criteria Explainer Event" and released the CoC Board-approved 2023 CoC Scoring Criteria Document with all metrics. STEH reviewed all scored metrics, highlighting changes from the previous year and how ranking occurs. In that meeting, STEH again reviewed the timeline, eligibility requirements, and allowed time for questions.
4. Competition forms and deadlines were emailed and posted digitally on multiple platforms that are accessible to the public. Digital text forms are compatible with text-to-speech for visually impaired persons.

1C. Coordination and Engagement

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

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1C-1.	Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.b.	
	In the chart below:	
	1. select yes or no for entities listed that are included in your CoC's coordination, planning, and operations of projects that serve individuals, families, unaccompanied youth, persons who are fleeing domestic violence who are experiencing homelessness, or those at risk of homelessness; or	
	2. select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist within your CoC's geographic area.	

	Entities or Organizations Your CoC Coordinates with for Planning or Operations of Projects	Coordinates with the Planning or Operations of Projects?
1.	Funding Collaboratives	Yes
2.	Head Start Program	Yes
3.	Housing and services programs funded through Local Government	Yes
4.	Housing and services programs funded through other Federal Resources (non-CoC)	Yes
5.	Housing and services programs funded through private entities, including Foundations	Yes
6.	Housing and services programs funded through State Government	Yes
7.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Yes
8.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)	Yes
9.	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Yes
10.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent
11.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes
12.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes
13.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes
14.	Private Foundations	Yes
15.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes
16.	Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Yes
17.	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)	

18. VA, State Advocacy Organization, Public Schools, All State of Ohio MCOs	Yes
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1C-2.	CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients.	
NOFO Section V.B.1.b.		

Describe in the field below how your CoC:

1.	consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG Program funds;
2.	participated in evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients;
3.	provided Point-in-Time (PIT) count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area; and
4.	provided information to Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions to address homelessness within your CoC's geographic area so it could be addressed in the Consolidated Plan update.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The City of Cincinnati and Hamilton Co. are both ESG recipients. STEH, CoC Lead Agency, administers ESG on their behalf. Both the City and the County have seats on the CoC Board and participate in the development of the CoC's Strategic Plan to address homelessness. STEH employs two data analysts who inform the City and County on gaps analyses to determine which types of ESG projects are needed most. STEH facilitates the annual ESG funding application and prioritization process, attended by City, County, ESG-funded agencies, and community stakeholders. Allocation recommendations are determined using a locally developed evaluation process, as approved by the City and County. STEH submits the recommendation to City and County for final approval.
2. STEH administers the ESG program on behalf of the City & County. ESG project compliance and performance is monitored by STEH and reported to City and County. City and County have seats on the Monitoring Subcommittee of the CoC Board. STEH monitors for performance and compliance and City and County attend portions of the annual monitoring visit. ESG Performance is evaluated using community-determined measures. STEH reports performance through annual ESG CAPERs, quarterly ESG-CV CAPERs, Con Plan updates, and City/County CAPERs.
3. STEH, ensures 100% HMIS coverage. STEH completes and shares system performance data, HIC/PIT data, and annual data with both jurisdictions and the CoC board. STEH and CoC Board provides data and consultation to the City & County to complete the five-year Consolidated Plan, annual Action Plan updates, and City & County CAPERs.
4. STEH, CoC Lead Agency, completes reporting for the homelessness sections of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan updates for both jurisdictions. Additionally, STEH has a seat on the City's Community Development Advisory Board, ensuring that CDBG and HOME are coordinated with CoC and ESG, and that the interests of the homeless population and those at risk of homelessness are represented. The local City and County jurisdictions consulted with STEH on HOME-ARP and ERA planning funding and data analysis. Additionally, STEH provided consultation to Northern Kentucky to assist them in determining the best use of stimulus funding.

1C-3.	Ensuring Families are not Separated.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.c.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ensures emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing (PSH and RRH) do not deny admission or separate family members regardless of each family member's self-reported sexual orientation and gender identity:

1.	Conducted mandatory training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated.	No
2.	Conducted optional training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated.	Yes
3.	Worked with ESG recipient(s) to adopt uniform anti-discrimination policies for all subrecipients.	Yes
4.	Worked with ESG recipient(s) to identify both CoC- and ESG-funded facilities within your CoC's geographic area that might be out of compliance and took steps to work directly with those facilities to bring them into compliance.	Yes
5.	Sought assistance from HUD by submitting questions or requesting technical assistance to resolve noncompliance by service providers.	Yes

1C-4.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth—SEAs, LEAs, School Districts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the entities your CoC collaborates with:

1.	Youth Education Provider	Yes
2.	State Education Agency (SEA)	Yes
3.	Local Education Agency (LEA)	Yes
4.	School Districts	Yes

1C-4a.	Formal Partnerships with Youth Education Providers, SEAs, LEAs, School Districts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Describe in the field below the formal partnerships your CoC has with at least one of the entities where you responded yes in question 1C-4.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Project Connect (PC), is the McKinney/Vento liaison of Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS), by far the most populous Local Education Agency in our CoC. PC is identified as a formal partner of and has a dedicated voting seat on CoC Board per CoC Governance Charter, attends CoC workgroups, and participates in system planning. On the Project Connect page of the Cincinnati Public School website is the contact information to the CoC Coordinated Entry System. PC enters into MOUs with emergency shelters and CoC housing agencies serving families to ensure services to families experiencing homelessness. While parents of families experiencing homelessness work to make sure their basic needs are met, Project Connect assists in focusing on the education services for the children. Project Connect assists students when experiencing homelessness by arranging transportation to school, distributing backpacks and school supplies, providing uniforms and clothing, arranging immediate access for the free lunch program, offering summer programming, providing tutoring, and streamlining referrals to homelessness services providers in our CoC. CoC agencies working with families experiencing homelessness meet monthly with PC to review attendance, assist with information for IEP/504 meetings, and case conference with parents and students. The Solutions for Family Homeless Children & Youth Taskforce, a collaborative of CoC funded agencies, meets monthly and includes PC, 4C for Children, Learning Grove, Preschool Promise, University of Cincinnati, UpSpring, Lighthouse Youth and Family Services and others. PC coordinates with SEAs on behalf of the CoC. CoC works closely with McKinney/Vento liaisons in all school districts in County as well.

Lighthouse Youth and Family Services contracts with multiple area school districts for mental health services. UpSpring is a non-profit with formal MOU to meet educational needs of children and youth facing homelessness. Subrecipients serving families have formal partnerships with Public Pre-K, 4C for Children, Learning Grove, and University of Cincinnati's early childhood education for birth to 3 years.

1C-4b.	Informing Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Describe in the field below written policies and procedures your CoC uses to inform individuals and families who become homeless of their eligibility for educational services.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC requires that all projects inform families and youth of educational resources when entering a shelter or housing project. All CoC and ESG funded projects are required to have a designated staff person who works to make educational resources known to participants and to connect interested participants to those services. Strategies to End Homelessness (STEH) confirms knowledge of this requirement from all CoC partners as a part of completing annual project applications. Additionally, as the UFA, STEH enters into funding agreements with all family-serving agencies requiring that they designate a staff person to be responsible for ensuring that children being served in the program are enrolled in school and connected to appropriate services in the community, including early childhood programs such as: Head Start, part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and programs authorized under subtitle B of title VII of the Act. All projects must establish policies and practices that are consistent with and do not restrict the exercise of rights provided by subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Act as amended and other laws related to the provision of education and related services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Every subrecipient receives at least one annual monitoring that includes review of all policies for consistency with the subaward and all federal, state, and local requirements. The monitoring then tests the implementation of the policies and procedure. The UFA provides technical assistance as needed and works on corrective actions plans with the agency if appropriate. The CoC collaborates with the Local Education Agency (LEA) and the Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) funded agency to inform and disseminate resources and best practice to all partners. Both the LEA and RHY agency are voting members of the CoC Board. LEA and CoC agencies meet monthly to case conference and ensure all school-aged children are enrolled in and attending school and that their basic education needs are met, such as transportation and school supplies.

1C-4c.	Written/Formal Agreements or Partnerships with Early Childhood Services Providers.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC has written formal agreements or partnerships with the listed providers of early childhood services:

		MOU/MOA	Other Formal Agreement
1.	Birth to 3 years	No	Yes
2.	Child Care and Development Fund	No	No
3.	Early Childhood Providers	No	Yes
4.	Early Head Start	No	No
5.	Federal Home Visiting Program–(including Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home and Visiting or MIECHV)	No	No
6.	Head Start	No	No
7.	Healthy Start	No	No
8.	Public Pre-K	No	Yes
9.	Tribal Home Visiting Program	No	No
	Other (limit 150 characters)		
10.	4C for Children, Upspring, Project Connect	Yes	Yes

1C-5.	Addressing Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors—Collaboration with Federally Funded Programs and Victim Service Providers.
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.

In the chart below select yes or no for the organizations your CoC collaborates with:

	Organizations	
1.	state domestic violence coalitions	Yes
2.	state sexual assault coalitions	Yes
3.	other organizations that help this population	Yes

1C-5a.	Collaboration with Federally Funded Programs and Victim Service Providers to Address Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC regularly collaborates with organizations indicated in Question 1C-5 to:

1.	update CoC-wide policies; and
2.	ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC's geographic area are trauma-informed and can meet the needs of survivors.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC’s Victim Service Provider (VSP) is a member of the Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN), sits on the CoC Board, attends CoC workgroups, and is a subrecipient of CoC and ESG funding. New and updated community policies are drafted by persons with expertise in the subject matter and then circulated to relevant workgroups for feedback and approval, they are then thoroughly reviewed by the Steering Team of the CoC Board, and then submitted to the CoC Board for final review and approval. The VSP is responsible for participating in the development of policies directly related to their expertise and for reviewing all CoC policies to ensure polices do not unintentionally adversely affect survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. For example, when the CoC’s Emergency Transfer Plan was developed, STEH and VSP met several times to collaborate in the development of the policy before it was introduced to the workgroups. As a member of the ODVN, VSP has access to technical assistance on trauma informed care and other evidence-based practices, has free access to all training events, and participates in task forces and caucuses. ODVN has an ELearning Network that is available to the public, which many CoC agencies access. Resources and technical support inform the development of CoC-wide policies.

2. The CoC provides a training series throughout the year, with CEUs available, for Coordinated Entry (CE) staff and housing and services providers that includes topics of DV, Trauma Informed Care (TIC) and Motivational Interviewing. These trainings enable housing and service providers to better understand and serve clients experiencing domestic violence. The CoC’s Victim Service Provider (VSP) hosts safety planning training for CoC partners and staff. CoC family and victim service provider staff attend “Risking Connection,” a trauma-informed care training. The “Basic” course, of three hours, is offered approximately every other month to ensure new staff are trained in a timely manner. A full 18-hour training is also offered at least annually. These trainings address safety, choice, collaboration, trustworthiness, and empowerment. Trauma-Informed Care ensures that the physical and emotional safety of an individual is addressed initially and throughout the delivery of services. ODVN has 10 separate training courses that are free and available to all that specifically address Trauma-Informed approaches.

1C-5b.	Coordinated Annual Training on Best Practices to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC coordinates to provide training for:	
1.	project staff that addresses best practices (e.g., trauma-informed, victim-centered) on safety and planning protocols in serving survivors of domestic violence and indicate the frequency of the training in your response (e.g., monthly, semi-annually); and	
2.	Coordinated Entry staff that addresses best practices (e.g., trauma informed care) on safety and planning protocols in serving survivors of domestic violence and indicate the frequency of the training in your response (e.g., monthly, semi-annually).	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Trauma-Informed Care training is ongoing. In the past year, 54 staff members at CoC partner agencies were trained on how to implement trauma-informed care at their agencies.

The CoC has been coordinating with the local Victim Service Provider, the YWCA of Greater Cincinnati, since 2018 to provide a training at least twice a year that addresses best practices on safety and planning protocols in serving survivors of domestic violence. This two-hour training is entitled, "Safety Planning with Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence." In this training, attendees learn about the dynamics of intimate partner violence and how to respond to survivors from a supportive, survivor-centered, trauma informed framework. Attendees increase their understanding of risks faced by survivors and learn how to work with survivors of intimate partner violence to develop collaborative, comprehensive safety plans. The training is marketed to CoC project staff, CoC partners, and on CEU Broker. The training offers attendees Social Work CEU's and has historically been held both in person and virtually; the virtual training has accessibility options of live captions and translation services. Free ongoing trainings are available on the eLearning Network the Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) website. STEH updates the community of the availability of those trainings. In addition to the eLearning on-demand trainings, ODVN releases a monthly calendar with live trainings that are available to the CoC throughout each month. All of these free trainings are available to all project staff.

2. All of the trainings addressed in element 1 of this response are available and free to all project staff, including Coordinated Entry staff and they are encouraged to attend. The CoC has a DV hotline that serves as a separate Coordinated Entry (CE) Access Point for survivors. All DV CE hotline staff must complete a series of trainings coordinated with ODVN as part of their initial training upon hire, including trauma-informed care, lethality screening, safety planning and survivor-centered care. Survivors presenting at other CE Access Points are referred to the DV CE hotline, but they are not required to use it. All STEH CE staff are trained in safety planning and confidentially measures if a survivor chooses to access the system through access points that are not specific to survivors.

1C-5c.	Implemented Safety Planning, Confidentiality Protocols in Your CoC's Coordinated Entry to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry includes:	
	1. safety planning protocols; and	
	2. confidentiality protocols.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Safety Planning Protocols include lethality screening and assessments to identify safety risks and allow for immediate interventions including connection to emergency shelter and legal protection for survivors. Staff are trained that ensuring protection from harm is the priority. Safety planning acknowledges that a survivor cannot control their abuser’s behavior, but they can put measures in place to help reduce the risk of harm to them, their children, and their pets. Safety planning can occur at various Coordinated Entry (CE) access points. However, the DV Hotline serves as a separate CE Access Point for survivors that survivors may choose to use. DV Hotline staff are required to complete a variety of DV trainings offered by Ohio Domestic Violence Network to develop expertise. CE staff are trained at least annually on safety planning protocols. Safety planning is trauma-informed, collaborative, and takes into account the preferences and unique circumstances of the survivor.

2. Confidentiality Protocols balance the need to provide support and connect to services with the crucial need of protecting the privacy of survivors. Data is stored in a separate instance of HMIS with strict measures in place for storing and sharing data, including using encryption service, password protection, two factor authentication, and passwords must never be shared. Databases track user activity to monitor for misuse and all sensitive data is password protected; even printers are password protected to ensure confidentiality. Access to information on survivors is limited to a need-to-know basis, even within the service provider agency. Confidentiality protocols are in compliance with VAWA and HMIS requirements. Service providers must seek permission for sharing data to coordinate services and clearly explain who can access their information, specifically what will be shared, and with who and why data might be shared. Robust data security protocols and training prevent unauthorized access and unintentional disclosure. All HMIS users and comparable database users are trained in confidentiality and security protocols annually.

1C-5d.	Used De-identified Aggregate Data to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below:	
1.	the de-identified aggregate data source(s) your CoC used for data on survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and	
2.	how your CoC uses the de-identified aggregate data described in element 1 of this question to evaluate how to best meet the specialized needs related to domestic violence and homelessness.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC uses 3 main sources of de-identified disaggregated data:
 a.The CoC’s VSP, YWCA of Greater Cincinnati uses a comparable HMIS instance of Clarity by BitFocus for CoC, ESG, and other housing and services programs. The YWCA provides de-identified aggregate data to the CoC to analyze alongside the CoC’s HMIS data for gaps and trends.
 b.The YWCA operates a DV Hotline, which also serves as a Coordinated Entry (CE) Access Point. De-identified aggregate data from the DV hotline and data from the CoC’s other CE Access Points (including a separate call-in help line) are evaluated for gaps and trends.
 c.The Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) conducts studies and surveys and provides data reports on statewide counts, fatality, needs assessments, and data on experiences of BIPOC, LGBTQ+, deaf and hard of hearing, non-black survivors, etc. ODVN also provides data on survivors’ experience with social services, law enforcement, the court system, etc.

2.STEH employs two data analysts, who evaluate data from the hotlines, the CoC’s HMIS and YWCA’s comparable database to identify gaps and adjust capacity in programming. YWCA offers case management, emergency shelter, housing access, work supports, group support, safety planning, children’s programming, aftercare services, education, and advocacy. Data is used to identify trends in outcomes and adjust programming, as appropriate. When data showed an increase in hotline calls from certain zip codes, YWCA increased prevention efforts in those areas. When data demonstrated a consistent increase in the number of young children residing in the emergency shelter, YWCA increased partnerships with Children’s Behavioral Health Services, Children’s Hospital, and Cincinnati Public Schools. YWCA provides training to CoC partners, Cincinnati Public Schools, Cincinnati police department, and Hamilton County Job and Family services on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. State-wide data provided in reports from ODVN help us understand the experiences of survivors better and shape trainings. For example, reports demonstrated that regardless of race, fear of further abuse from their abuser was the most significant barrier to calling the police; however, BIPOC and LGBTQ+ survivors are less likely to call police. 38% of survivors state the police shifted blame to the survivor. Understanding these issues improve the provision of trauma-informed services in the CoC and throughout the community.

** **

1C-5e.	Implemented Emergency Transfer Plan Policies and Procedures for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC communicates to all individuals and families seeking or receiving CoC Program assistance:	
	1. whether your CoC has policies and procedures that include an emergency transfer plan;	
	2. the process for individuals and families to request an emergency transfer; and	
	3. the process your CoC uses to respond to individuals’ and families’ emergency transfer requests.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Yes, our CoC has policies and procedures in place that include an emergency transfer plan.

2. Per the CoC Policy, to request an emergency transfer, the tenant shall notify Housing Provider (HP) & submit a request for a transfer. HP will provide reasonable accommodation if warranted. HUD-5383 may be used to complete the request but is not required. Requests must include either:

- A statement expressing that the tenant is a victim of DV, is requesting a transfer, & reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant were to remain in the same unit; OR
- A statement that the tenant was sexually assaulted on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period preceding the tenant’s request for an emergency transfer.

If a participant seeks the protections granted under VAWA (e.g., emergency transfer) HP may request in writing that the applicant/tenant submit documentation of the occurrence of DV. If requested, the tenant/applicant may choose to submit any one of the following:

- HUD-5382) that was provided along with the Notice of Occupancy Rights Under VAWA
- A document:
 - o Signed by an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, or medical professional, or a mental health professional (collectively, “professional”) from whom the victim has sought assistance relating to, or the effects of abuse;
 - o Signed by the applicant or tenant; &
 - o That specifies, under penalty of perjury, that the professional believes in the occurrence of the incident of domestic violence that is the ground for protection & remedies under this subpart, & that the incident meets the applicable definition of domestic violence under §5.2003; or
- A record of a Federal, State, tribal, territorial, or local law enforcement agency, court, or administrative agency; or
- At the discretion of a HP, a statement or other evidence provided by the applicant or tenant.

3. Per the CoC policy, transfers must be allowed when an emergency transfer is requested in accordance with the CoC Policy. Because of the safety of the tenant is at risk when requesting a transfer, housing providers must provide a response to the emergency transfer request within one business day in the same format the request was made (email or written letter) unless the tenant believes that method of communication to be a risk to their safety, then the response will be provided as preferred by the tenant.

1C-5f.	Access to Housing for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:

1.	ensures that survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking have safe access to all of the housing and services available within the CoC’s geographic area; and
2.	proactively identifies systemic barriers within your homeless response system that create barriers to safely house and provide services to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Survivors can enter the system through any Coordinated Entry (CE) Access Point they choose. However, when survivors present at CE Access Points, they are immediately referred to the DV Hotline, which also serves as a CE Access Point. DV hotline staff and DV emergency shelter staff can complete the CoC’s CE standardized assessment tool with survivors and provide specialized services such as lethality assessments and safety planning. Limited and deidentified data is provided to the CoC CE system & survivors are considered for all housing and services connected to the CE system. Persons eligible under Category 4 may not be denied admission to, denied assistance under, terminated from participation in, or evicted from the housing on the basis or as a direct result of the fact that the person is or has been a victim of domestic violence if the person otherwise qualifies for admission, assistance, participation, or occupancy. The CoC’s VSP, YWCA, provides TH, RRH, Emergency Shelter, and other specialized housing programs to meet the needs of survivors. Survivors with the highest lethality are prioritized first for housing openings. Client choice is always respected for a survivor who chooses to accept or reject housing and/or services available with the VSP or non-VSP provider. The VSP shares aggregate data with the CoC to identify gaps and trends and capacity is adjusted accordingly.

2. To proactively address systemic issues, the CoC’s VSP:

- Provides racial equity and DV response training to the Cincinnati Police department.
- Trains staff at Cincinnati public schools to identify and address children experiencing DV and address behavioral issues to stop the “schools to prison pipeline”.
- Speak to students in high schools and colleges about healthy relationships and conflict resolution.
- Trains staff at Hamilton County Jobs and Family Services on how to work with survivors respectfully and responsibly.
- Partners with hotlines in the community to inform survivors how to safely access resources; and
- Places posters and flyers in stadiums, schools, social services agencies, etc. about how survivors can safely access services.

The CoC Lead and VSP provide training at least twice a year on restorative practices, trauma informed care, safety planning, and best practices in serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

1C-5g.	Ensuring Survivors With a Range of Lived Expertise Participate in Developing CoC-Wide Policy and Programs.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
	1. ensured survivors with a range of lived expertise are involved in the development of your CoC-wide policy and programs; and	
	2. accounted for the unique and complex needs of survivors.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.Per our CoC’s governance, CoC- wide polices and drafted by persons and/or organizations with expertise relevant to the subject matter. Draft versions of policies are circulated throughout the CoC’s workgroups for review and approval. The CoC has a Persons with Lived Expertise (PWLX) Workgroup that consists of only persons with lived experience of homelessness. Membership of the PWLX workgroup was designed intentionally to ensure diversity with a wide range of experience and perspective. Several members of the PWLX workgroup are survivors. Once a CoC-wide policy has circulated through the workgroups for approval, it is submitted to the CoC Board for final approval. Persons with lived experience and survivors also sit on the CoC Lead Agency’s Board, the CoC Board, the CoC victim services agency (VSP) board and participate in various CoC workgroups.

2.The CoC has a separate Coordinated Entry (CE) Access Point that survivors may choose to use. CE staff are trained in safety planning and the CoC prioritizes survivors who are in immediate danger. Each survivor’s journey is unique so approaches must be flexible and adapt to meet the needs and preferences of the survivors. Housing and service providers in the CoC provide trauma-informed care to survivors, as many survivors suffer from PTSD, anxiety, or depression. Ensuring immediate safety is a priority. Once safety is ensured, service providers provide non-judgmental space to listen and validate the experiences of the survivor. Service providers work collaboratively to develop personalized safety plans and case plans, considering the unique risks and needs of survivors such as children or pets. Survivors are informed of legal rights and connected to supports in the community such as legal aid, peer support groups, healthcare, child-care services, food assistance, workforce development, mental health services, and other social service providers to ensure a holistic approach. The CoC and VSP provide at least two trainings a year on how to provide trauma-informed care to survivors.

The CoC’s VSP has a diverse housing and service program portfolio including emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, etc. New this year, the CoC committed foundation funds to fill gaps in services available to survivors to ensure survivors are able exit shelter quickly and provide aftercare services to survivors who exit other programming.

1C-6.	Addressing the Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer+–Anti-Discrimination Policy and Training.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.f.	

	1. Did your CoC implement a written CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy ensuring that LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive supportive services, shelter, and housing free from discrimination?	Yes
	2. Did your CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement the Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity (Equal Access Final Rule)?	Yes
	3. Did your CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement Equal Access in Accordance With an Individual's Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs (Gender Identity Final Rule)?	Yes

1C-6a.	Anti-Discrimination Policy–Updating Policies–Assisting Providers–Evaluating Compliance–Addressing Noncompliance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.f.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC regularly collaborates with LGBTQ+ and other organizations to update its CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy, as necessary to ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC are trauma-informed and able to meet the needs of LGBTQ+ individuals and families;
2.	how your CoC assisted housing and services providers in developing project-level anti-discrimination policies that are consistent with the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy;
3.	your CoC's process for evaluating compliance with your CoC's anti-discrimination policies; and
4.	your CoC's process for addressing noncompliance with your CoC's anti-discrimination policies.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. All policies, including anti-discrimination policies are reviewed at CoC workgroups prior to final approval by the CoC Board, per our CoC governance. LGBTQ+ persons and LGBTQ+ focused organizations participate in workgroups and CoC Board. Our CoC participated in a "train-the-trainer" Trauma-informed Care (TIC) training and CoC and CoC partners provide (TIC) trainings at least twice a year. Policies are reviewed and revised using a TIC lens. TIC trainers and trainees participate in workgroups and sit on CoC Board.
2. When updating community policies, including non-discrimination policies, updates are first reviewed at the CoC workgroups and then submitted to the CoC Board for approval. Once approved, the updated policy is included in the CoC Manual and posted on STEH's website. The Compliance department communicates new/changing information, such as City Ordinances regarding locally protected classes, via emails to the CoC, and directs agencies to update their policies accordingly. Compliance staff share City Ordinances with CoC. Some local protections include ensuring people are not discriminated upon based on natural hair types and natural hair styles commonly associated with race, Appalachian region origin, breastfeeding status, gender expression, etc. During a monthly Compliance and Finance Roundtable (CFR), CoC and partner agencies discuss changes in CoC policies to ensure project-level policies are updated.
3. Every CoC and ESG funded project is monitored annually, including a review of all written policies and procedures. STEH Compliance staff ensure all protected classifications are included in nondiscrimination policies of each agency/project. Projects may not reject a referral from Coordinated Entry (CE), unless the household is ineligible for the project. When rejecting a referral, they must provide CE an acceptable reason. CE ensures the rejection is appropriate and not based on discrimination. Rejected referrals are tracked in HMIS and monitored for issues. Compliance staff reviews client files and project tools to ensure there is no evidence of discrimination at project level.
4. STEH monitors anti-discrimination policies of all subrecipients every year. Any policies that require updating to ensure consistency with the community policies are addressed during the monitoring visit and in the monitoring letter to the agency. Corrective action and counseling are provided to the projects to ensure appropriate compliance.

1C-7.	Public Housing Agencies within Your CoC's Geographic Area—New Admissions—General/Limited Preference—Moving On Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

You must upload the PHA Homeless Preference\PHA Moving On Preference attachment(s) to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

Enter information in the chart below for the two largest PHAs highlighted in gray on the current CoC-PHA Crosswalk Report or the two PHAs your CoC has a working relationship with—if there is only one PHA in your CoC’s geographic area, provide information on the one:

Public Housing Agency Name	Enter the Percent of New Admissions into Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program During FY 2022 who were experiencing homelessness at entry	Does the PHA have a General or Limited Homeless Preference?	Does the PHA have a Preference for current PSH program participants no longer needing intensive supportive services, e.g., Moving On?
Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority	38%	Yes-Both	Yes

1C-7a. Written Policies on Homeless Admission Preferences with PHAs.	
NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

Describe in the field below:

1.	steps your CoC has taken, with the two largest PHAs within your CoC’s geographic area or the two PHAs your CoC has working relationships with, to adopt a homeless admission preference—if your CoC only has one PHA within its geographic area, you may respond for the one; or
2.	state that your CoC has not worked with the PHAs in its geographic area to adopt a homeless admission preference.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Our CoC has an established homelessness preference and “Move-On/Coordinated Exit” strategy through our partnership with the only PHA in our area, Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA). Our CoC began the partnership 7 years ago with 25 housing choice voucher (HCV) referrals per. STEH now manages 1,150 homeless HCV referrals per year. Last year, 38% of households who moved into HCV housing were homeless at entry. Using a portion of the 1,150 HCV referrals for a Coordinated Exit strategy enables participants to move on from a CoC supportive housing subsidy when they are stable & connected to mainstream services in the community, but a rental subsidy is still needed. PSH exits are prioritized but referrals from RRH, TH, Shelter Diversion, and homeless Veterans programs are also eligible for HCV referral. This national best practice has increased turnover in CoC projects and reduced recidivism. The project has been a success both for people exiting homelessness and for CMHA.

STEH had an MOU with CMHA for EHV and had one of the highest EHV lease up rates in the nation. Based on the success of the EHV program, STEH is submitting two new CoC project applications this year to support people directly out of homelessness with HCVs, while providing case management and housing search with CoC Program funds.

In addition, STEH provides referrals and verifies homelessness for the established homeless preference for households moving into CMHA-owned buildings through the Asset Management program. HMIS data can verify homeless status and eligibility including people in shelter or sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation. Lighthouse Youth and Family Services also partners with CMHA for preferences for those exiting foster care.

CMHA also partners with the CoC on several site-based PSH projects that participate in Coordinated Entry to move persons out of literal homeless. Too, multiple CoC-funded partners develop affordable housing alongside their CoC projects. These agencies can transfer CoC participants into their non-CoC funded housing to ensure ongoing stability at no cost to the CoC.

2N/A. We do have a homeless preference partnership with PHA.

1C-7b.	Moving On Strategy with Affordable Housing Providers.	
	Not Scored—For Information Only	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate affordable housing providers in your CoC's jurisdiction that your recipients use to move program participants to other subsidized housing:

1.	Multifamily assisted housing owners	Yes
2.	PHA	Yes
3.	Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments	Yes
4.	Local low-income housing programs	Yes
	Other (limit 150 characters)	
5.		

1C-7c.	Include Units from PHA Administered Programs in Your CoC's Coordinated Entry.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

In the chart below, indicate if your CoC includes units from the following PHA programs in your CoC's coordinated entry process:

1.	Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV)	Yes
2.	Family Unification Program (FUP)	No
3.	Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)	Yes
4.	HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)	Yes
5.	Mainstream Vouchers	No
6.	Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) Vouchers	No
7.	Public Housing	No
8.	Other Units from PHAs:	
	HAP	Yes

1C-7d.	Submitting CoC and PHA Joint Applications for Funding for People Experiencing Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

1.	Did your CoC coordinate with a PHA(s) to submit a competitive joint application(s) for funding or jointly implement a competitive project serving individuals or families experiencing homelessness (e.g., applications for mainstream vouchers, Family Unification Program (FUP), other programs)?	Yes
		Program Funding Source
2.	Enter the type of competitive project your CoC coordinated with a PHA(s) to submit a joint application for or jointly implement.	Continuum of Care FY2023 NOFO

1C-7e.	Coordinating with PHA(s) to Apply for or Implement HCV Dedicated to Homelessness Including Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV).	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

	Did your CoC coordinate with any PHA to apply for or implement funding provided for Housing Choice Vouchers dedicated to homelessness, including vouchers provided through the American Rescue Plan?	Yes
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1C-7e.1.	List of PHAs with Active MOUs to Administer the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program.	
	Not Scored-For Information Only	

	Does your CoC have an active Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with any PHA to administer the EHV Program?	Yes
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If you select yes to question 1C-7e.1., you must use the list feature below to enter the name of every PHA your CoC has an active MOU with to administer the Emergency Housing Voucher Program.

PHA
This list contains no items

1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1D-1.	Discharge Planning Coordination.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.h.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC actively coordinates with the systems of care listed to ensure persons who have resided in them longer than 90 days are not discharged directly to the streets, emergency shelters, or other homeless assistance programs.

1. Foster Care	Yes
2. Health Care	Yes
3. Mental Health Care	Yes
4. Correctional Facilities	Yes

1D-2.	Housing First—Lowering Barriers to Entry.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.i.	

1.	Enter the total number of new and renewal CoC Program-funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects your CoC is applying for in FY 2023 CoC Program Competition.	58
2.	Enter the total number of new and renewal CoC Program-funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects your CoC is applying for in FY 2023 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach.	57
3.	This number is a calculation of the percentage of new and renewal PSH, RRH, SSO non-Coordinated Entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC has ranked in its CoC Priority Listing in the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition that reported that they are lowering barriers to entry and prioritizing rapid placement and stabilization to permanent housing.	98%

1D-2a.	Project Evaluation for Housing First Compliance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.i.	

You must upload the Housing First Evaluation attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC evaluates every project—where the applicant checks Housing First on their project application—to determine if they are using a Housing First approach;
2.	the list of factors and performance indicators your CoC uses during its evaluation; and
3.	how your CoC regularly evaluates projects outside of your local CoC competition to ensure the projects are using a Housing First approach.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Our CoC has been a Housing First community since 2015, prioritizing rapid placement into and maintenance of stable housing following literal homelessness. Housing is the first priority and services, if desired by the participant, follow that in order of importance. 58 of 57 projects in our CoC are Housing First with one sober living project. All projects, including sober living, are designed for low or no barriers to entry or continuation, and enroll clients regardless of income, history of victimization, or criminal record. Participants in the sober living project are given counseling and offered chances to remain stably housed in the project if the participant relapses with substance use. Each active project is scored measuring Housing First fidelity, which is incorporated into the overall scoring matrix used in our CoC competition. Once scoring is complete, our CoC also holds an annual, public prioritization event to set the competition priority list. In 2023, the ranking community members are trained that fidelity to Housing First principles are one of the factors by which newly applying projects should be prioritized.

2. The community has a prioritization tool in the scoring matrix which assigns points to Housing First fidelity on 24 separate questions, such as whether the project requires a background check, or sobriety, prior to project entry; if the project has a lights-out time or requires chores; whether the project would refuse a participant based on gender identity or sexual orientation; whether the project requires participation in services; whether clients have to travel to obtain majority of services; whether the project excludes households based on family composition type, etc. The scores from these 24 answers are among the scored metrics for project placement on the CoC competition priority list.

3. The CoC has monthly workgroups which discuss best practices including Housing First and all agencies are offered peer and UFA counseling if there are questions or performance issues. STEH conducts annual monitoring and provides corrective counseling to ensure that all projects show fidelity to Housing First and that subrecipients do not require participation in services or place barriers to project entry or continued participation. Monitoring reviews all polices and a sample of client files of every project annually. STEH also provides a peer-led annual Housing First Training to the community.

1D-3.	Street Outreach—Scope.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.j.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	your CoC's street outreach efforts, including the methods it uses to ensure all persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness are identified and engaged;
2.	whether your CoC's Street Outreach covers 100 percent of the CoC's geographic area;
3.	how often your CoC conducts street outreach; and
4.	how your CoC tailored its street outreach to persons experiencing homelessness who are least likely to request assistance.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) OH-500 has 4 full-time Street Outreach (SO) teams, each tailored to specific needs: Youth, Mental Health (PATH), unsheltered in the Central Business District, and Veterans. Each contributes to HMIS and Coordinated Entry and have SO staff lived expertise. SO teams meet monthly, collaborating to move people from the street into housing. SO teams keep a list of active encampments and an unsheltered by-name list. SO teams present during regular office hours at shelters, partner with our public library, law enforcement, soup kitchens, etc., and collaborate in planning meetings with shelters, housing, health, food, and other services regularly to connect individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness quickly and safely to services, shelter, and housing. Planning meetings include persons with lived expertise. The Coordinated Entry (CE) Hotline connects people in a housing crisis with resources such as: outreach, prevention, diversion, shelter, or housing. Our CoC has a mobile app, "Street Reach," which enables the public to notify CAP of the location of a person sleeping unsheltered so outreach teams can quickly engage.

2) SO covers 100% of the CoC's geographic area. The community is exploring ways to increase outreach staffing to include more hours of coverage and to engage with people more often outside of the urban core. The CoC Board voted on 9/15/2023 to engage Community Solutions Built For Zero project to end chronic homelessness and reduce unsheltered in Cincinnati/Hamilton County.

3) SO is conducted 7 days a week.

4) Homeless Outreach Workgroup meets monthly, coordinating efforts and discussing the by-name list to brainstorm best ways to reach individual clients and/or particular encampments which are least likely to seek out services. CAP works with outreach staff to connect people who aren't likely to ask for assistance on their own. The Street Reach app means that the public can notify outreach of persons who may avoid camps or "known" locations, so that people least likely to request help can still access services. CoC works with Community Solutions & Built for Zero initiative to end chronic and unsheltered homelessness. The CoC has an HMIS project, "Street Pop" that all SO workers use to record information if they encounter a person living unsheltered that does not meet their target population (e.g. Vet project encountering non-vet). Then, the appropriate SO team is notified to engage using a trauma-informed approach.

1D-4.	Strategies to Prevent Criminalization of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.k.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate strategies your CoC implemented to ensure homelessness is not criminalized and to reverse existing criminalization policies in your CoC's geographic area:

	Your CoC's Strategies	Ensure Homelessness is not Criminalized	Reverse Existing Criminalization Policies
1.	Engaged/educated local policymakers	Yes	Yes
2.	Engaged/educated law enforcement	Yes	No
3.	Engaged/educated local business leaders	Yes	Yes

4. Implemented community wide plans	Yes	Yes
5. Other:(limit 500 characters)		
CoC Advocacy Coalition filed decriminalization suit with City	Yes	Yes

1D-5.	Rapid Rehousing–RRH Beds as Reported in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) or Longitudinal Data from HMIS.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.I.	

		HIC Longitudinal HMIS Data	2022	2023
	Enter the total number of RRH beds available to serve all populations as reported in the HIC or the number of households served per longitudinal HMIS data, e.g., APR.	HIC	1,412	1,309

1D-6.	Mainstream Benefits–CoC Annual Training of Project Staff.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.m.	

Indicate in the chart below whether your CoC trains program staff annually on the following mainstream benefits available for program participants within your CoC's geographic area:

	Mainstream Benefits	CoC Provides Annual Training?
1.	Food Stamps	No
2.	SSI–Supplemental Security Income	Yes
3.	SSDI–Social Security Disability Insurance	Yes
4.	TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	No
5.	Substance Use Disorder Programs	Yes
6.	Employment Assistance Programs	Yes
7.	Other (limit 150 characters)	
	Medicaid and MCO Housing Stability Services	Yes

1D-6a.	Information and Training on Mainstream Benefits and Other Assistance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.m	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:

1.	systemically provides up-to-date information on mainstream resources available for program participants (e.g., Food Stamps, SSI, SSDI, TANF, substance abuse programs) within your CoC's geographic area;
2.	works with project staff to collaborate with healthcare organizations, including substance abuse treatment and mental health treatment, to assist program participants with receiving healthcare services; and
3.	works with projects to promote SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) certification of program staff.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.UFA provides regular updates to all partners on mainstream resources via email, in workgroups, & by posting resources in a CoC-wide Teams channel. CoC Workgroups meet monthly to share resources & connections & host presentations from benefits & service providers. Duke Energy & Hamilton County Job & Family Services (JFS) have presented recently in workgroups on services available from their agencies. Various Mental Health & Substance Abuse programs regularly attend workgroups to share information on programming & are members of the CoC.

2.CoC partners with Cincinnati Health Network which operates Cincinnati Healthcare for the Homeless (CHCH). CHCH provides medical, behavioral, & case management services (including benefits navigators) & has stand-alone locations & offices located within emergency shelters. They assist with Medicaid applications & give CoC participants presumptive determination of eligibility for Medicaid, allowing our clients to access Medicaid quickly. CHCH sits on CoC Board & enters into MOUs with CoC projects. The CoC partners with University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Children’s Hospital, Healthcare Access Now, The Health Collaborative, & the VA; the VA is a member of CoC Board & workgroups. Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services is one of the CoC’s largest provider of in-kind match & partners with CoC housing providers to provide addiction services, child & family counseling, employments services, mental health services, recovery support, & psychiatric & medical services. The CoC partners with Freestore Foodbank (FSFB) to provide significant capacity of benefits/SOAR enrollment, payee programs, & food & transportation assistance. The CoC partners with JFS which has dedicated staff who work specifically with homeless families to quickly apply for Medicaid, TANF, food stamps, etc.

3.STEH monitors all CoC-funded programs to ensure they have SOAR-certified staff or formal partnership with FSFB’s SOAR project. In 2022, STEH collaborated with Public Affairs Specialist at the local Social Security Administration (SSA) to train CoC agencies on the SSI Vulnerable Population Application Project. SSA staff trained agencies on the project to reduce the need for follow up on applications, screen for other disability benefits, assist with the medical determination, & connect with a liaison to assist the agencies throughout the process. Connection to benefits is a scored metric in the CoC competition.

1D-7.	Increasing Capacity for Non-Congregate Sheltering.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.n.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC is increasing its capacity to provide non-congregate sheltering.

(limit 2,500 characters)

CoC and City and County governments have worked together on stimulus funding planning, taking into consideration need for non-congregate shelter. The City and County made funds available to shelters to do renovation upgrades of congregate shelters for longer-term outfitting to address privacy in bathrooms, provide quarantine spaces, and section off space for added privacy. Our largest family shelter, Bethany House Family Services, was already in the process of building a new shelter when the COVID19 pandemic began. Their construction plans were modified mid-build to allow for non-congregate sleeping spaces and private bathrooms. The new facilities opened in late 2022 and is more conducive to mental health, dignity, and physical safety because of the non-congregate spaces.

Even before COVID, family shelters have utilized some temporary emergency shelter capacity in hotels. We know that we can accomplish both sheltering and service provision in non-traditional, non-congregate settings. Some ESG-CV funding was set aside to ensure access to hotel sheltering. Funding was available for quarantining and over the winter months and when schools are on summer break, when a greater number of people are accessing shelter. The YWCA of Greater Cincinnati operates the CoC's Domestic Violence emergency shelter. A new non-congregate shelter is under construction now and will open in 2024. This will increase the non-congregate emergency shelter capacity in the CoC by 70 beds and 21 units.

ID-8.	Partnerships with Public Health Agencies—Collaborating to Respond to and Prevent Spread of Infectious Diseases.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC effectively collaborates with state and local public health agencies to:	
1.	develop CoC-wide policies and procedures to respond to infectious disease outbreaks; and	
2.	prevent infectious disease outbreaks among people experiencing homelessness.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.CoC-wide polices to respond to infectious disease outbreaks are drafted in collaboration with public health agencies and submitted for final approval by the CoC Board. The CoC Board has representation from Cincinnati Health Network (CHN). CHN operates the Cincinnati Healthcare for the Homeless (CHCH) project and The Health Collaborative, a consortium of local hospitals. At the onset of the pandemic, our CoC began holding meetings with public health agencies and homelessness service providers together. Recognizing that homelessness itself is a public health emergency and other outbreaks are a threat, these stakeholder meetings are ongoing. As a result, the City and County Health Departments now better understand the workings of emergency shelter, outreach, and housing. They better understand the needs of the homeless population, the risks our clients face, and some challenges in serving them. The As a result of COVID collaborations, we have solid lines of communication as well as plans for quick action. Monkeypox, Hepatitis and Influenza are other threats that have been addressed in these meetings. The City and County have been helpful in establishing best practice statements, data collection tools, and circulating CDC recommendations. The pandemic was also a driving force behind the addition of a monthly Emergency Shelter Workgroup to CoC operations to ensure a quick response to infectious disease outbreaks. These meeting are attended by shelter operators and community stakeholders.

2.These virtual meetings, in which the CoC has been a strong advocate for our population’s needs, have kept agencies updated on CDC recommendations for COVID, Monkeypox, Influenza, etc. Topics include the latest research on safety protocols for minimizing spread; recommendations and availability of vaccinations and/or testing; and PPE resources for providers. The CoC coordinates distribution of PPE when available. Our CoC collaborates with the City, County and local mainstream health in using mobile health units which travel to those experiencing homelessness, whether on the street or in shelter. Most importantly, the municipalities made funds available to implement physical improvements within congregate facilities to prevent future outbreak, to provide temporary shelter in hotels, and quarantine facility to reduce outbreaks.

ID-8a.	Collaboration With Public Health Agencies on Infectious Diseases.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	shared information related to public health measures and homelessness, and
2.	facilitated communication between public health agencies and homeless service providers to ensure street outreach providers and shelter and housing providers are equipped to prevent or limit infectious disease outbreaks among program participants.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Our CoC began planning during the onset of the COVID pandemic and prior to lockdowns. We arranged regular (initially daily, later weekly, then every two weeks) “All Provider” virtual planning meetings to address COVID safety. CoC Board, housing agencies, shelter and outreach, auxiliary services, the City, County and their health and emergency management departments as well as Cincinnati HealthCare for the Homeless (CHCH) all attended. These allowed the attendees to share updates on infectivity of COVID variants other organisms such as monkeypox and Influenza, monitor local case and positivity rates, share availability of tests and recommendations for vaccines and/or boosters. These meetings also discussed protocols to address the spread of any infectious disease, covering cleaning and laundering protocols, as well as evolving knowledge on COVID transmission vectors, risk factors, vaccine efficacy, quarantine time, etc. Our CoC has one partner agency whose mission includes focus on HIV/AIDS and they were very vocal in informing the community of new developments in monkeypox infections as well, given their clients’ unique susceptibility to complications. UFA also continues to attend HUD office hours and other national webinars and follows listservs to relay updates and evolving best practices on any given infectious outbreak to keep community as current as possible. The UFA quickly disseminated local and CDC updates via email and during virtual meetings to service providers of all types and funding sources.

2. “All Provider” calls were attended by the City and County, City Health Department, with service providers of all types, including Emergency Shelter, Street Outreach, and Health Collaborative staff to ensure service providers remained apprised of changing local case rates and corresponding CDC recommendations. The UFA quickly disseminated local and CDC updates via email and during virtual meetings. UFA offices served as distribution centers to agencies for PPE when bulk donations were made to the community. Our CoC promulgated a best practice statement among agencies encouraging COVID vaccination discussion and data gathering early during client engagement. In consultation with the City and County health department, a data collection tool was developed and disseminated to help track vaccination status for clients.

1D-9.	Centralized or Coordinated Entry System—Assessment Process.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC’s coordinated entry system:	
1.	covers 100 percent of your CoC’s geographic area;
2.	uses a standardized assessment process; and
3.	is updated regularly using feedback received from participating projects and households that participated in coordinated entry.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.OH-500 operates a Coordinated Entry (CE) system that covers 100% of the geographic area.
 2.The CoC has a standardized assessment tool for singles, one for families, and one for youth. Assessments are completed at Central Access Point (CAP) Helpline, at Emergency Shelters, and by Street Outreach workers. UFA/COC Lead Agency hired a racial equity consultant to explore ways to counteract the known racial bias in the VI-SPDAT and is close to finalizing the CoC’s new standardized assessments tools. A CE review panel is in place to review assessment results to ensure the assessment results adequately reflect the clients’ barriers and vulnerability and adjustments are made as appropriate.
 3.CoC has a dedicated Coordinated Entry Workgroup which meets monthly to review the current operation of CE as well as research potential improvements. CE Workgroup holds focus groups feedback meetings at least twice a year with persons with lived experience who recently accessed the CE, who are paid for their consulting time. The CoC has a Racial Equity Workgroup and a Persons with Lived Expertise Workgroup who review all local program policies and procedures as they are developed or revised, including CE policies and procedures. Input from these groups as well as the Youth Advisory Council inform updates to policies which are then vetted by the CoC’s 9 other topic-focused workgroups (PSH, RRH, Youth, Family, etc.).

1D-9a.	Program Participant-Centered Approach to Centralized or Coordinated Entry.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry system:
1.	reaches people who are least likely to apply for homeless assistance in the absence of special outreach;
2.	prioritizes people most in need of assistance;
3.	ensures people most in need of assistance receive permanent housing in a timely manner, consistent with their preferences; and
4.	takes steps to reduce burdens on people using coordinated entry.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.Coordinated Entry (CE) coordinates access to prevention, shelter, all CoC and ESG funded housing and services, Homeless Preference HCVs and more. Four Street Outreach (SO) teams (Veterans, youth, PATH, and downtown unsheltered) are CE Access Points and work 7 days a week. The CE Hotline has hours dedicated to only SO workers in the early morning. Our mobile app (Street Reach) enables the public to inform SO of camps or individuals sleeping unsheltered, ensuring people who are not already identified by SO or who are not seeking services are reached. An HMIS project called “Street Pop” allows social service providers to enter data on persons regularly seen at the shower house and/or soup kitchen and SO workers case conference in monthly meetings to review entries and unsure everyone living unsheltered is connected to SO workers.

2.In all cases, CE screens in, not out. The CE Hotline conducts phone assessments via a locally developed tool. Shelter and SO are Access Points and administer the CoC standardized assessments. Assessment results are entered in HMIS on the by-name list for housing and care coordination. CE staff select referrals from the by-name list, always matching persons with the highest needs/most vulnerable to the appropriate housing intervention. Dedicated to prioritizing the most vulnerable, the CoC Board recently engaged Community Solutions Built for Zero to end Chronic Homelessness in our CoC by 2026.

3.Shelter and SO focus on permanent housing options on day one. All Permanent Housing projects prioritize chronically homeless and all but one sober living project is Housing First. The sober living project operates as Housing First in all aspects but requiring sobriety and persons are not exited for relapse. The CoC’s Property Owner Engagement program assists in ensuring clients can find housing quickly. Client choice is critical and declining a housing match does not negatively affect consideration for housing in the future.

4.CE has translation services available as needed. CE accepts information via text, phone, and in person. The CE hotline recently upgraded technology to identify areas of improvement in call wait time, abandoned calls, call back time, peak hours, after hours calls. Trainings are provided to CE staff to ensure services are provided using Trauma Informed Care. Staff collaborate across agencies to ensure assessments and documentation collection need to occur only once.

1D-9b.	Informing Program Participant about Rights and Remedies through Centralized or Coordinated Entry–Reporting Violations.	
NOFO Section V.B.1.p.		
Describe in the field below how your CoC through its centralized or coordinated entry:		
1.	affirmatively markets housing and services provided within the CoC’s geographic area and ensures it reaches all persons experiencing homelessness;	
2.	informs program participants of their rights and remedies available under federal, state, and local fair housing and civil rights laws; and	
3.	reports any conditions or actions that impede fair housing choice for current or prospective program participants to the jurisdiction(s) responsible for certifying consistency with the Consolidated Plan.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Coordinated Entry (CE) is marketed in areas where people experiencing a housing crisis are likely to present for services. Marketing and outreach occur on an annual schedule defined in the Annual Outreach Plan. Each quarter, the plan focuses on a specific audience to increase CE visibility in the CoC. Letters and flyers are sent to:

- Spring: all community partner agencies
- Summer: schools, after-school programs, and other educational facilities to prepare for back-to-school,
- Fall: heavy traffic areas, such as bus stations, libraries, recreation centers, etc.in advance of dangerously cold weather
- Winter: To online audiences through social media marketing the StreetReach app and CE.

CE is also marketed on the CoC Lead Agency website and the 513Relief.org website, two sites where people seek information about resources in the CoC.

2. Participants are informed of their rights at the time of assessment and enrollment into Coordinated Entry. We provide a script for service partners to use during this process to ensure that clients are fully aware of their rights under all applicable laws. This script guarantees that all clients receive this vital information in a clear and consistent way. We also include a statement on the hold line of the CE hotline. Additionally, this information is included in the ROI that participants sign when entering them in HMIS; if clients refuse to sign the ROI, the information still applies.

3. As a part of the standard monitoring process, all subrecipients receive an annual monitoring, including a review of all policies and procedures and a sample of client files. Compliance staff thoroughly monitors for compliance with all laws and requirements, including compliance with Fair Housing. Housing referrals are monitored for consistency with fair housing laws, ensuring that the only referrals from CE that are rejected by housing providers are if a client is found to be ineligible. Both the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County sign the certification of consistency with the Con Plan, and sit on the CoC Board, and the monitoring subcommittee of the CoC Board. Significant issues of noncompliance with subrecipients are first addressed in the subcommittee and then escalated to the CoC Board, if necessary. If an issue was identified with a housing provider that was not a part of the CoC, that issue would be taken directly to the CoC Board, and other staff members at the City and County.

1D-10.	Advancing Racial Equity in Homelessness—Conducting Assessment.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

1.	Has your CoC conducted a racial disparities assessment in the last 3 years?	Yes
2.	Enter the date your CoC conducted its latest assessment for racial disparities.	07/18/2023

1D-10a.	Process for Analyzing Racial Disparities—Identified Racial Disparities in Provision or Outcomes of Homeless Assistance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	
	Describe in the field below:	
1.	your CoC’s process for analyzing whether any racial disparities are present in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance; and	
2.	what racial disparities your CoC identified in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. All data sets are disaggregated by race at least annually to identify any trends that might point to a disproportional effect on certain populations. As a system, we look at who is entering disaggregated by race compared to the larger population, looking for disproportionality as an indicator of disparities to be addressed system wide. Systemic racism exists in institutions. While not directly controlled by the homeless system, our system is significantly affected by it, and we must continue to find solutions to address racial inequities that negatively affect BIPOC.

2. Within our system, we look at program data to ensure BIPOC are having similar outcomes to non-BIPOC in areas like obtaining income and employment, permanent housing outcomes, and recidivism. Our philosophy toward addressing Racial Equity is one of Targeted Universalism: we set universal goals that are accomplished through targeted approaches based on the needs of BIPOC individuals. In this way, targeted universal policies offer a deeper understanding of equity by calling attention to how people are situated differently. In our CoC, we have analyzed the percentage of BIPOC being matched to RRH vs PSH and how those rates compare to our general homeless population, as well as how individual questions on the VI-SPDAT may be biased. We have identified 2 key areas for further action where disparities were identified. Strategies to address disparities are already in motion:

a. VI-SPDAT is not an equitable tool. OH-500 is at the forefront of developing a new CE tool that is racially equitable and trauma informed. The tool was drafted with PWLX, members of the Racial Equity Workgroup, and housing and services providers. Current phase of development is gathering additional stakeholder input. We plan to implement in early 2024.

b. In program outcomes, exits to Permanent housing showed either the same or better outcomes for BIPOC individuals, however slightly worse recidivism rates for BIPOC. So, we know BIPOC individuals, once housed and on their own, are likely facing more systemic barriers to maintaining their housing and are returning to us more frequently than their white counterparts. In March of 2023, we implemented a new Property Owner Engagement Program that is tasked to address this issue. We will address it through cross-system collaborations with intersecting institutions as action steps in the CoC Strategic Plan.

1D-10b.	Implemented Strategies that Address Racial Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	
	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the strategies your CoC is using to address any racial disparities.	

1.	The CoC's board and decisionmaking bodies are representative of the population served in the CoC.	Yes
2.	The CoC has identified steps it will take to help the CoC board and decisionmaking bodies better reflect the population served in the CoC.	Yes
3.	The CoC is expanding outreach in geographic areas with higher concentrations of underrepresented groups.	Yes
4.	The CoC has communication, such as flyers, websites, or other materials, inclusive of underrepresented groups.	Yes
5.	The CoC is training staff working in the homeless services sector to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness.	Yes
6.	The CoC is establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of different races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector.	Yes
7.	The CoC has staff, committees, or other resources charged with analyzing and addressing racial disparities related to homelessness.	Yes
8.	The CoC is educating organizations, stakeholders, boards of directors for local and national nonprofit organizations working on homelessness on the topic of creating greater racial and ethnic diversity.	Yes
9.	The CoC reviewed coordinated entry processes to understand their impact on people of different races and ethnicities experiencing homelessness.	Yes
10.	The CoC is collecting data to better understand the pattern of program use for people of different races and ethnicities in its homeless services system.	Yes
11.	The CoC is conducting additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness.	Yes
	Other:(limit 500 characters)	
12.	The CoC worked with Racial Equity Partners 2020-2021 and continues to implement the resulting Strategic Plan; The Racial Equity Assessment used for scoring also serves as a starting point for improvement meetings with partners	Yes

1D-10c.	Implemented Strategies that Address Known Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

Describe in the field below the steps your CoC is taking to address the disparities identified in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.

(limit 2,500 characters)

In 2020-21, UFA hired nationally renowned Racial Equity Partners, LLC to consult with our CoC on how to more equitably serve our population. Throughout a 6-month intensive process, REP met frequently with the CoC, analyzing our data, policies, board, and subrecipient representation. The results from that analysis were, although we have been conducting in-depth racial analyses for years, showing that rates of exit to permanent housing for POC was the same or better than that of whites, we still see that we have work to do in hiring and in representation by persons with lived experience. REP helped us establish a standing Racial Equity Workgroup who has throughout the last year begun collaborating across our CoC to enact the recommendations from the REP consulting report, including:

- Addressing known bias in the VI-SPDAT.
- Outreach to the Latine community.
- Increased inclusion of BIPOC and persons with a wide range of lived experience throughout the CoC structure.

The Racial Equity Workgroup now has a permanent seat on the CoC Board and Steering Team of the CoC Board and these action steps are incorporated into the CoC Governance Charter. The Workgroup continues to actively recruit people with lived experience to serve as paid CoC consultants. The CoC has incorporated a racial equity component in our scoring/prioritization competition for CoC funding. The CoC also implemented a new Persons with Lived Expertise Workgroup that has a seat on the CoC Board and Steering Team of the CoC Board, also incorporated into the CoC Governance Charter. All members have current or recent lived expertise and are compensated for their time. For years, our CoC's YHDP has been leading in how it meaningfully amplifies the voices of people of color with lived experience. Numerous youths of color with current or recent lived expertise regularly participate in the Youth Advisory Council. CoC Lead/UFA Board of Directors has also increased representation with almost 20% of members having lived expertise. While we still see very few Latine persons in our outreach or shelter projects, we suspect they are underrepresented based on the general population. Reasons may include fear of reprisals, willingness to double or triple up and simple lack of knowledge of services. We have increased efforts to engage partners in the region who hold the Latine population's trust in order to develop more culturally attuned services

1D-10d.	Tracked Progress on Preventing or Eliminating Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. the measures your CoC has in place to track progress on preventing or eliminating disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance; and	
	2. the tools your CoC uses.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC tracks measures in three main ways: Compliance monitoring; Scoring/prioritization; and Workgroup Peer assistance.

•STEH conducts compliance monitoring to ensure that all CoC-funded projects maintain at least the required representation of persons with lived experience. Representation helps ensure that priorities for policies and service provision are equitable at project level. Agencies are encouraged to exceed required level of representation to increase representation as well as to ensure that the absence or exit of one or two people with lived experience does not lead to noncompliance or lack of representation.

In 2022, our CoC implemented racial equity as a measure in our CoC competition prioritization process. CoC-funded agency is required to conduct the Hunger Free Communities Racial Equity (RE) Self-Assessment Tool Kit. To gather feedback from a wide range of perspectives, each agency is required to invite all staff to complete the assessment anonymously. This method offered insight into the challenges agencies face in ensuring equitable service delivery. These responses have been shared with the CoC’s RE Workgroup, so that they can provide further peer counseling assistance to any agency facing challenges in establishing RE in their organizations. For several years now, as part of the local CoC Competition, the CoC has conducted a RE outcome disparity analysis. More recently, with the implementation of the CoC’s RE Workgroup, results of the analysis are reviewed with an eye toward which action steps can reduce any obstacles in the CoC.

•Workgroup peer assistance and community policy development is the third main way that progress is tracked in our CoC. While housing outcomes are generally good from an equity standpoint, our CoC does recognize that our assessment tool, the VI-SDPAT is known to introduce inequities. The Racial Equity Workgroup and others are actively working on an alternative tool and are on track to roll it out to the community in early 2024.

2. In addition to the RE Self-Assessment and updated CE assessment, other tools OH-500 uses are STELLA P to assess demographics and flow through the system disaggregated by race, and of course HMIS custom reports that help us track Coordinated Entry inflow and outflow, housing placements by zip code, etc. R statistical language is used to quickly analyze data. Tableau is used to visualize data for the CoC stakeholders.

1D-11.	Involving Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Service Delivery and Decisionmaking–CoC’s Outreach Efforts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

Describe in the field below your CoC’s outreach efforts (e.g., social media announcements, targeted outreach) to engage those with lived experience of homelessness in leadership roles and decision making processes.

(limit 2,500 characters)

We have made significant changes in the way we recruit PWLX, as previous strategies mostly consisted of partners referring PWLX. The dynamic this inadvertently created was a holding of power with the people who already had a seat at the table, only inviting people to the table that they thought “stable” or “dependable” enough. Upon realizing this, we shifted recruitment efforts. STEH made flyers describing the opportunities and shared them with current and past clients, placed them throughout the community where people experiencing homelessness or receiving services may present, marketed on social media platforms, and STEH’s website.

We also persuaded some CoC members to refer people currently experiencing homelessness to participate, as they have the most recent experience with the system. Our CoC is already benefiting from their input in workgroups and focus groups.

Involving PLWX to work in the CoC meaningful ways, including having decision making power in policy development and process improvement is a priority in the CoC. In June of 2023, the CoC instituted a PWLX Workgroup; this group reviews systemic barriers, gaps, and policies and members have decision-making/voting responsibilities. Respectful engagement with PWLX must include compensation for their expertise. Beginning with the FY2021 CoC annual budget, STEH set aside an increased amount of funding to compensate PWLX for their work in CoC. STEH pays a rate of \$25 an hour based on comparable pay of other meeting attendees and the local cost of living. STEH offers flexible payment processes so people can easily access the income they earn. Additionally, STEH was recently awarded a grant for \$100,000 to hire a full-time PWLX Coordinator to assist with moving this essential work even further along in the CoC.

In leadership roles, the CoC has increased representation of PWLX on the STEH Board of Directors, CoC Board, and a designated a seat on the Steering Team of the CoC Board for PWLX and RE Workgroup. Every CoC and ESG funded agency is required to have one PWLX seat on their board and encouraged to have more than one. There are now three designated PWLX seats of the CoC Board.

These are not simply one-off interactions, but sustained engagements providing consistency in consultation, collaboration, and the provision of services.

1D-11a.	Active CoC Participation of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

You must upload the Letter Signed by Working Group attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.
 Enter in the chart below the number of people with lived experience who currently participate in your CoC under the four categories listed:

	Level of Active Participation	Number of People with Lived Experience Within the Last 7 Years or Current Program Participant	Number of People with Lived Experience Coming from Unsheltered Situations
1.	Included in the decisionmaking processes related to addressing homelessness.	23	3
2.	Participate on CoC committees, subcommittees, or workgroups.	23	3

3.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's local competition rating factors.	3	1
4.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's coordinated entry process.	13	1

1D-11b.	Professional Development and Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC or CoC membership organizations provide professional development and employment opportunities to individuals with lived experience of homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC Lead Agency employs several staff members with lived expertise and includes the following statement on all job postings: "STEH is committed to diversity in hiring and to ensuring that our agency will reflect the demographics of the population we serve. We encourage qualified applicants who have lived experience of homelessness, hunger, and poverty to submit resumes." STEH monitors all CoC and ESG subrecipients to ensure employment and/or resume building opportunities are available to participants in all projects. The PWLX Workgroup has a STEH liaison tasked in addressing professional development and notifying members of employment opportunities within the CoC.

Beginning with the FY2021 CoC annual budget, STEH set aside an increased amount of funding to compensate people for their work in CoC. STEH pays a rate of \$25 an hour based on comparable pay of other agency staff and the local cost of living. STEH offers flexible payment processes so people can easily access the income they earn. Additionally, STEH was recently awarded a grant for \$100,000 to hire a full-time PWLX Coordinator to assist with moving this essential work even further along in the CoC.

The Employment Subcommittee of the CoC Board helps clients participate in virtual job fairs, connecting clients and Veterans to public and private employers, some of which prioritize CoC clients for hire. CoC subrecipient, the Center for Independent Living Options (CILO), holds job readiness trainings partnering with OMJ and Southwest Ohio Workforce Investment Board. The Urban League, Easter Seals, and CincyWorks all participate in the monthly Employment Subcommittee. Cincinnati State Technical College Workforce Development Center presents training opportunities. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) staff assist with job training and transportation. CityLink provides job training and on-going employment support to RRH and shelter diversion clients. Some of these programs pay the participants while they are undergoing their training. JFS offers the Comprehensive Case Management Employment Program to youth. YHDP also partners with Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health for the "YES" Program – Youth Employment Services. The public library partners with our CoC as well, providing computer access for resume building, "job help office hours" and searchable online job boards.

1D-11c.	Routinely Gathering Feedback and Addressing Challenges of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC routinely gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness;
2.	how your CoC routinely gathers feedback from people who have received assistance through the CoC or ESG Programs; and
3.	the steps your CoC has taken to address challenges raised by people with lived experience of homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC regularly collects feedback from people experiencing homelessness. Twice-yearly focus groups are held in person around the community to gather feedback on the Coordinated Entry (CE) process, street outreach, and emergency shelters and understand peoples' experience in utilizing each level of the system. CE staff sends a survey out to people who have called the CE Hotline to collect feedback. The YHDP Program has a quarterly Continuous Quality Improvement process that collects feedback from clients still experiencing homelessness and clients recently housed about their experience.

2. The most frequent and consistent way the CoC routinely gathers feedback from people who have received assistance through the CoC and/or ESG is through the Persons with Lived Expertise (PWLX) Workgroup that was implemented in June of 2023. The CoC Lead Agency hosts the meeting and only PWLX are members of the group.

3. From the above examples of feedback collection, the CoC has made changes to processes, policies and services to address the concerns heard. Based on feedback from PWLX, the CE process has changed how the assessment tool is explained to clients to be more transparent, made changes to the tool to be more trauma-informed, and incorporated more information into the CoC housing prioritization process than just a raw assessment score. The CE Hotline received feedback regarding the need to be able to receive texts, and long wait times. The new phone system, along with hiring additional CE Hotline staff has drastically improved the caller experience and reduced wait times. Most recently, we heard from PWLX that sharing more data in HMIS among service providers would contribute to a more trauma-informed approach. The CoC is working toward sharing the data and developing a training on the ethical use of data, per their request. The PWLX Workgroup has decision making power in policy development and process improvement and strengthens the CoC.

1D-12.	Increasing Affordable Housing Supply.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.t.	

	Describe in the field below at least 2 steps your CoC has taken in the past 12 months to engage city, county, or state governments that represent your CoC's geographic area regarding the following:
1.	reforming zoning and land use policies to permit more housing development; and
2.	reducing regulatory barriers to housing development.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. & 2. Step 1: Implementation of the CoC Board-endorsed “Housing Our Future (HOF) Plan” continues, to alleviate the current housing crisis and remedy housing inequities. The HOF Plan identifies 34 actions, including reducing regulatory barriers to the production of affordable housing, preservation of existing affordable housing, equitable zoning and policy reform, etc. to protect the most vulnerable from housing insecurity and change the systems that impact housing affordability. The plan identifies resources and financing mechanisms, as well as supporting research that shows the current state of housing within the CoC. These actions are proving effective, as evidenced by City Council passing an ordinance in June 2023 allowing accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to be occupied as additional housing capacity alongside single family homes. Additionally, a Charter Amendment, supported by the CoC Board, is on the ballot for November 2023 which would increase funding for affordable housing in the City of Cincinnati.

1. & 2 Step 2: With advocacy from CoC members, Cincinnati Mayor Aftab Pureval administration and Cincinnati City Council are moving forward housing incentives and zoning review by the city, reforming residential tax abatement process and holding nuisance landlords accountable. In November 2022, Cincinnati Mayor confirmed his commitment to land use and zoning changes to increase housing production in the City. The City of Cincinnati is in the middle of a significant review of its zoning code. As that process unfolds, changes that allow more housing to be built while removing parking requirements, particularly in areas with access to transit and job centers, will make developing affordable housing easier. Currently, about 53% of the city’s residential area doesn’t allow multi-family housing structures. Experts agree widespread single-family zoning has increased racial and economic segregation. Due to CoC advocacy, Cincinnati’s elected leadership is now working to address the lack of affordable housing, reduce barriers, increase funding, educate voters on the need.

1E. Project Capacity, Review, and Ranking–Local Competition

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1E-1.	Web Posting of Your CoC’s Local Competition Deadline–Advance Public Notice. NOFO Section V.B.2.a. and 2.g. You must upload the Web Posting of Local Competition Deadline attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	
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1.	Enter your CoC’s local competition submission deadline date for New Project applicants to submit their project applications to your CoC—meaning the date your CoC published the deadline.	04/19/2023
2.	Enter the date your CoC published the deadline for Renewal Project applicants to submit their project applications to your CoC’s local competition—meaning the date your CoC published the deadline.	04/19/2023

1E-2.	Project Review and Ranking Process Your CoC Used in Its Local Competition. We use the response to this question and the response in Question 1E-2a along with the required attachments from both questions as a factor when determining your CoC’s eligibility for bonus funds and for other NOFO criteria below. NOFO Section V.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., 2.d., and 2.e. You must upload the Local Competition Scoring Tool attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen. Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ranked and selected project applications during your local competition:	
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1.	Established total points available for each project application type.	Yes
2.	At least 33 percent of the total points were based on objective criteria for the project application (e.g., cost effectiveness, timely draws, utilization rate, match, leverage), performance data, type of population served (e.g., DV, youth, Veterans, chronic homelessness), or type of housing proposed (e.g., PSH, RRH).	Yes
3.	At least 20 percent of the total points were based on system performance criteria for the project application (e.g., exits to permanent housing destinations, retention of permanent housing, length of time homeless, returns to homelessness).	Yes
4.	Provided points for projects that addressed specific severe barriers to housing and services.	Yes

5.	Used data from comparable databases to score projects submitted by victim service providers.	Yes
6.	Provided points for projects based on the degree the projects identified any barriers to participation (e.g., lack of outreach) faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and has taken or will take steps to eliminate the identified barriers.	Yes

1E-2a.	Scored Project Forms for One Project from Your CoC's Local Competition. We use the response to this question and Question 1E-2. along with the required attachments from both questions as a factor when determining your CoC's eligibility for bonus funds and for other NOFO criteria below.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., and 2.d.	

You must upload the Scored Forms for One Project attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.
 Complete the chart below to provide details of your CoC's local competition:

1.	What were the maximum number of points available for the renewal project form(s)?	105
2.	How many renewal projects did your CoC submit?	44
3.	What renewal project type did most applicants use?	PH-PSH

1E-2b.	Addressing Severe Barriers in the Local Project Review and Ranking Process.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.d.	

Describe in the field below:

1.	how your CoC analyzed data regarding each project that has successfully housed program participants in permanent housing;
2.	how your CoC analyzed data regarding how long it takes to house people in permanent housing;
3.	how your CoC considered the specific severity of needs and vulnerabilities experienced by program participants preventing rapid placement in permanent housing or the ability to maintain permanent housing when your CoC ranked and selected projects; and
4.	considerations your CoC gave to projects that provide housing and services to the hardest to serve populations that could result in lower performance levels but are projects your CoC needs in its geographic area.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC collected and analyzed data from a variety of sources including HMIS data, agency audit reports, System Performance Measures, STEH grant management tracking database, PIT/HIC report, annual unduplicated data, agency self-report surveys, STEH Coordinated Entry data, and STEH monitoring reports. STEH employs 2 full-time data analysts and has a 5-year partnership with data analytics company 84.51, to be able to draw insights from data and present them to CoC partners in ways not possible in past years. The CoC utilizes this data to analyze each project that has successfully housed program participants in permanent housing and is included in the scoring process. PSH is evaluated on the percentage of persons who remained in the project as of the end of the operating year; PSH, RRH, and SSO projects are evaluated on the percentage exited to a permanent housing destination. Two years of data is reviewed because some smaller permanent housing projects don't have a high rate of turnover and we don't want an anomaly to skew the results of the analysis.

2. STEH analyzes both "matched-to-housed" time and "successful housing matches" by tracking referrals through the Coordinated Entry System in HMIS. Matched-to-Housed measures the date of the housing referral to the participants Move-in date. Successful housing matches measures the percentage of households matched that were subsequently housed in the program. Two years of data is reviewed because some smaller permanent housing projects don't have a high rate of turnover and we don't want an anomaly to skew the results of the analysis.

3. & 4. The CoC recognizes that projects serving the most vulnerable and high-barrier population might achieve lower percentages of some measures of success, including rapid placement in housing and maintaining permanent housing. Regardless, projects serving the most vulnerable are a high priority in the community and our ranking process reflects that. To (at least) offset some of the lower performance in measures of success in some areas, projects are awarded points for serving chronically homeless persons, parenting youth between 18-24, participants with no income at entry, participants with two or more health conditions at entry, persons entering from unsheltered locations, and other barriers that might contribute to lower performance.

1E-3.	Advancing Racial Equity through Participation of Over-Represented Populations in the Local Competition Review and Ranking Process.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.e.	

Describe in the field below:

1.	how your CoC used the input from persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, to determine the rating factors used to review project applications;
2.	how your CoC included persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population in the review, selection, and ranking process; and
3.	how your CoC rated and ranked projects based on the degree to which their project has identified any barriers to participation (e.g., lack of outreach) faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and has taken or will take steps to eliminate the identified barriers.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) Our CoC has participated in the State of Ohio collaborative group focused on Racial Equity (REACH) since its inception in 2019. REACH implemented the Organizational Self-Assessment project, and all homeless services organizations across the state were encouraged to complete a Racial Equity Self-Assessment and share where they were as an organization. As a strategy to ensure focus on internal practices, organizational standards, and outcomes are reviewed with a Racial Equity lens within our CoC, our Racial Equity Workgroup (RE WG) advocated that this tool be included in the CoC's local project ranking process. Our RE WG racial makeup is comparable to the makeup of our CoC's homeless population. Additionally, REACH is made up of people from different races and geographic areas (rural, urban, suburban). Both groups have representation from BIPOC with lived expertise of homelessness.

2. The RE WG successfully advocated for the assessment to be a scored element for all competing CoC projects, understanding the importance of organizations becoming self-aware & reflecting honestly on their progress in this work. They also successfully advocated for 3 other measures to be included in the scoring process: staff and leadership demographic makeup at all levels in organizations, agency participation in the CoC RE WG, and project outcomes disaggregated by race; the latter being analyzed but not scored to determine thresholds for next year. Low scoring projects must present to community members to be ranked by the full CoC. Ranking members in the community consisted of all different races and roles of the organizations, ensuring members from the RE WG and People with Lived Expertise were able to attend. This process ensures everyone has an equal vote.

3. The Racial Equity Tool included in the project ranking process delved into 4 areas: Organizational Equity; Need/Capacity, Buy-In, Analysis/Evaluation & Planning/Intervention. Agencies that had staff complete the required number of assessments received full points. The RE WG uses the assessment results to take action toward improving equity based on barriers identified in the assessments, whether the barriers are systemic or at the project/agency level. The RE WG developed a RE Scoring Subcommittee tasked to review assessment results and develop an action plan to address any barriers as well as how to improve the racial equity element of the scoring process moving forward.

1E-4.	Reallocation—Reviewing Performance of Existing Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.f.	

Describe in the field below:	
1.	your CoC's reallocation process, including how your CoC determined which projects are candidates for reallocation because they are low performing or less needed;
2.	whether your CoC identified any low performing or less needed projects through the process described in element 1 of this question during your CoC's local competition this year;
3.	whether your CoC reallocated any low performing or less needed projects during its local competition this year; and
4.	why your CoC did not reallocate low performing or less needed projects during its local competition this year, if applicable.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. On a quarterly basis, STEH compares each renewal project’s actual expenditures to community-established spending thresholds per the Continuum of Care Expenditure Threshold Policy & Procedure for Renewal Grant. If any projects’ expenditures are below the threshold, STEH recaptures the difference between the actual amount expended and the threshold. Recaptured funding is reallocated within the CoC through a process coordinated by STEH and approved by the CoC Board. Projects that have had funds recaptured are limited to applying for no more than 110% of what was actually spent in the previous operating year. Outside of this standard process, funding may be reallocated during the annual Community Prioritization Process if the total amount of funding requested by all applicants exceeds the amount the CoC may apply for. As recommended by the Scoring Subcommittee and approved by the CoC Board, projects are evaluated on 30+ metrics during the CoC Competition, each assigned a point value. Projects are ranked from highest to lowest points and included in the CoC Application in that order until funding is no longer available. In the most serious cases of poor performance or noncompliance, STEH identifies an alternate subrecipient to operate a project, consistent with how the project was prioritized previously (e.g. program type, target population) and the funding would be reallocated to that subrecipient.

2. The CoC did identify one project during the local competition that was a candidate for reallocation.

3. During this year’s competition, one project was reduced due to underperforming.

1E-4a.	Reallocation Between FY 2018 and FY 2023.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.f.	

	Did your CoC cumulatively reallocate at least 20 percent of its ARD between FY 2018 and FY 2023?	Yes
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1E-5.	Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

1.	Did your CoC reject any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	No
2.	Did your CoC reduce funding for any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	Yes
3.	Did your CoC inform applicants why your CoC rejected or reduced their project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	Yes
4.	If you selected Yes for element 1 or element 2 of this question, enter the date your CoC notified applicants that their project applications were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, enter the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 06/26/2023, 06/27/2023, and 06/28/2023, then you must enter 06/28/2023.	09/07/2023

1E-5a.	Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Accepted attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Enter the date your CoC notified project applicants that their project applications were accepted and ranked on the New and Renewal Priority Listings in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, enter the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 06/26/2023, 06/27/2023, and 06/28/2023, then you must enter 06/28/2023.	09/07/2023
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1E-5b.	Local Competition Selection Results for All Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Selection Results attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Does your attachment include: 1. Project Names; 2. Project Scores; 3. Project accepted or rejected status; 4. Project Rank–if accepted; 5. Requested Funding Amounts; and 6. Reallocated funds.	Yes
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1E-5c.	Web Posting of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application 2 Days Before CoC Program Competition Application Submission Deadline.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g. and 24 CFR 578.95.	
	You must upload the Web Posting–CoC-Approved Consolidated Application attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Enter the date your CoC posted the CoC-approved Consolidated Application on the CoC’s website or partner’s website–which included: 1. the CoC Application; and 2. Priority Listings for Reallocation forms and all New, Renewal, and Replacement Project Listings.	09/25/2023
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1E-5d.	Notification to Community Members and Key Stakeholders that the CoC-Approved Consolidated Application is Posted on Website.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Enter the date your CoC notified community members and key stakeholders that the CoC-approved Consolidated Application was posted on your CoC’s website or partner’s website.	09/25/2023
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2A. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Implementation

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2A-1.	HMIS Vendor.	
	Not Scored–For Information Only	

	Enter the name of the HMIS Vendor your CoC is currently using.	Clarity
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2A-2.	HMIS Implementation Coverage Area.	
	Not Scored–For Information Only	

	Select from dropdown menu your CoC’s HMIS coverage area.	Single CoC
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2A-3.	HIC Data Submission in HDX.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.a.	

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2023 HIC data into HDX.	04/28/2023
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2A-4.	Comparable Database for DV Providers–CoC and HMIS Lead Supporting Data Collection and Data Submission by Victim Service Providers.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.b.	

	In the field below:	
1.	describe actions your CoC and HMIS Lead have taken to ensure DV housing and service providers in your CoC collect data in HMIS comparable databases;	
2.	state whether DV housing and service providers in your CoC are using a HUD-compliant comparable database–compliant with the FY 2022 HMIS Data Standards; and	

3. state whether your CoC's HMIS is compliant with the FY 2022 HMIS Data Standards.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The YWCA of Greater Cincinnati (YWCA) is the only Victim Service Provider that operates projects dedicated to serving persons experiencing homelessness and needs to meet comparable database requirements. YWCA operates supportive services only, emergency shelter, and housing projects. The YWCA uses Clarity by Bitfocus as their comparable database. The comparable database is funded both privately and with CoC funding awarded to STEH as HMIS Lead Agency and Unified Funding Agency. The CoC also uses Clarity by Bitfocus, but an instance separate from the YWCA as the community HMIS. Data collection across both implementations is consistent. STEH provides year-round technical support to YWCA staff to ensure the data is entered accurately and in a timely manner, HUD Data Standards are updated accordingly, and the system is designed to best meet the needs of YWCA. Aggregate data is provided to STEH by YWCA for system analysis and HUD required reporting such as the CAPER, APR, LSA, System Performance and the HIC/PIT. As the HMIS Lead Agency, STEH's Compliance team monitors the YWCA for data quality and timeliness (in aggregate), security measures, and Comparable Database policies for consistency with HUD and community standards.
2. Cincinnati Hamilton County CoC is compliant with current HMIS Data Standards in both the VSP Comparable Database and in the CoC's dedicated HMIS, both using separate instances of Clarity by Bitfocus.
3. The CoC is using Clarity by BitFocus as their HMIS, one of the most-used HMIS across the County, which maintains compliance with current data standards, as required by HUD.

2A-5. Bed Coverage Rate—Using HIC, HMIS Data—CoC Merger Bonus Points.
 NOFO Section V.B.3.c. and V.B.7.

Enter 2023 HIC and HMIS data in the chart below by project type:

Project Type	Total Year-Round Beds in 2023 HIC	Total Year-Round Beds in HIC Operated by Victim Service Providers	Total Year-Round Beds in HMIS	HMIS Year-Round Bed Coverage Rate
1. Emergency Shelter (ES) beds	646	30	616	100.00%
2. Safe Haven (SH) beds	20	0	20	100.00%
3. Transitional Housing (TH) beds	325	99	226	100.00%
4. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	1,309	102	1,207	100.00%
5. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	1,920	0	1,920	100.00%
6. Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds	12	0	12	100.00%

2A-5a. Partial Credit for Bed Coverage Rates at or Below 84.99 for Any Project Type in Question 2A-5.
 NOFO Section V.B.3.c.

	For each project type with a bed coverage rate that is at or below 84.99 percent in question 2A-5, describe:
1.	steps your CoC will take over the next 12 months to increase the bed coverage rate to at least 85 percent for that project type; and
2.	how your CoC will implement the steps described to increase bed coverage to at least 85 percent.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The 12 OPH beds represent EHV beds that were filled by Coordinated Entry referrals. Beds were not strictly limited to homelessness but they were not specifically set aside for at-risk. Our CoC followed the the CoC Coordinated Entry procedures, which prioritized homelessness for EHV referrals. All clients served in EHV were entered in HMIS in the CE project but the PHA/CoC did not enter EHV program information in HMIS at the time of the HIC submission because it was not required, as the PHA use a separate reporting system for HUD to report participation. We created an EHV project in HMIS and entered the client information after the submission of the HIC to maintain 100% participation in HMIS.

2A-6.	Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Submission in HDX 2.0.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.d.	
	You must upload your CoC's FY 2023 HDX Competition Report to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

Did your CoC submit at least two usable LSA data files to HUD in HDX 2.0 by February 28, 2023, 8 p.m. EST?	Yes
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2B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2B-1.	PIT Count Date.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.a	

	Enter the date your CoC conducted its 2023 PIT count.	01/25/2023
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2B-2.	PIT Count Data–HDX Submission Date.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.a	

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2023 PIT count data in HDX.	04/28/2023
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2B-3.	PIT Count–Effectively Counting Youth in Your CoC’s Most Recent Unsheltered PIT Count.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.b.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
	1. engaged unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations in your CoC’s most recent PIT count planning process;	
	2. worked with unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations to select locations where homeless youth are most likely to be identified during your CoC’s most recent PIT count planning process; and	
	3. included youth experiencing homelessness as counters during your CoC’s most recent unsheltered PIT count.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Stakeholders that serve homeless youth are fully engaged in and take leadership roles in both the CoC and PIT. Lighthouse Youth and Family Services (LYFS) is a subrecipient of CoC and ESG funding and the YHDP Lead Agency in the CoC. LYFS programming includes Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, Shelter Diversion, Transitional Housing, LGTBQ+ resources, Foster Care and Adoption Services, Crisis Intervention, Professional Development, and more. LYFS has two staff members serving on the CoC Board and one on the CoC Board Steering Team. LYFS staff also chair the CoC Youth Workgroup and actively participates and provides leadership on the CoC Homeless Outreach Group's PIT Count Planning Committee. In collaboration with STEH, the PIT Count Planning Committee develops Unsheltered PIT Count Policies, plans the Unsheltered PIT Count, trains volunteers, assists in counting during the Unsheltered PIT Count, and reviews and analyzes.

2.

Our CoC has four full-time Street Outreach programs, including a youth-dedicated Street Outreach Program operated by LYFS, that participate on the PIT Count Planning Committee. In planning for the PIT count, locations where unsheltered youth are typically located are identified by the LYFS Street Outreach team. However, other Outreach providers also track data as where youth have been located. The Youth Workgroup and the Homeless Outreach Group, which meet monthly, engage numerous community providers, including local municipalities, other homeless service providers, and our CoC's education liaison, Project Connect, whose information regarding their interactions with homeless youth assists in selecting locations to ensure all unsheltered youth are represented in our PIT count. LYFS Street Outreach staff participate in the Unsheltered PIT Count and review data to ensure these locations are visited and all youth are counted.

3. The PIT Count Planning Committee develops a volunteer recruitment, training, and deployment plan to address the needs of the count. The subcommittee recruits Street Outreach staff as well as agencies/groups that have an outreach component as well as identify group leads. Each group of volunteers is assigned a lead; in 2023, LYFS Street Outreach team led groups during the count. Several people with lived expertise participated as counters but recruitment efforts did not result in any youth that were currently experiencing homelessness as counters.

2B-4.	PIT Count—Methodology Change—CoC Merger Bonus Points.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.a and V.B.7.c.	

	In the field below:
1.	describe any changes your CoC made to your sheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2022 and 2023, if applicable;
2.	describe any changes your CoC made to your unsheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2022 and 2023, if applicable; and
3.	describe how the changes affected your CoC's PIT count results; or
4.	state "Not Applicable" if there were no changes or if you did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2023.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. N/A - The CoC did not make any changes to the sheltered PIT count implementation. The methodology used in previous years is effective. As HMIS and CoC Lead, STEH notifies agencies in advance of the count date, provides data reports to agencies for confirmation, identifies any duplicative participation, and works with agencies to correct any issues.
2. In 2023 we formalized a PIT Count Planning Committee of the Homeless Outreach Leadership Team, tasked with developing and planning the Unsheltered PIT Count. Planning begins months in advance and a formalized training and policy manual was developed and provided for persons conducting the Unsheltered PIT Count. All participants must complete the training that includes the following: purpose of the count, logistics of the night, how to complete the counting forms, review of confidentiality/safety, etiquette/expectations, etc. Emphasis on accurate data collection is a priority. We also adjusted times to facilitate the Unsheltered PIT Count for our higher concentrated areas. This change was adjusted throughout the night to improve an accurate picture of who's sleeping throughout the county in the different neighborhoods.
3. Providing a mandatory training has improved accurate data collection. Adjusting the times of the count throughout the night has improved an accurate picture of who's sleeping unsheltered throughout the county. Formalizing an Unsheltered PIT Count Policy has improved the planning process to ensure consistency and accountability.

2C. System Performance

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2C-1.	Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless–Risk Factors Your CoC Uses.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.b.	
	In the field below:	
	1. describe how your CoC determined the risk factors to identify persons experiencing homelessness for the first time;	
	2. describe your CoC’s strategies to address individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless; and	
	3. provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC’s strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) Our CoC determines risk factors to identify first-time homelessness through data analytics. STEH employs two full time data analysts and partners with 84.51, the Kroger company’s data analytics firm, which provides pro bono consultation and analytics services. STEH and 84.51 analyze eviction data scraped from the County’s website, data from food pantries, HMIS data (including several prevention/diversion projects), Coordinated Entry data, City and County ERA payments, utility payment information, etc. STEH, 84.51, and City of Cincinnati data analytics teams meet bi-weekly to discuss results and strategize to reduce homelessness. Local risk factors include zero income, large family size, staying doubled-up, previous evictions, limited education, 2+ moves within the last 30 days/frequent moves, and criminal convictions.

2) Our community has run Prevention/Shelter Diversion since 2012. The CoC participates in Community Solutions pilot prevention project, Housing Stability Learning Cohort to evaluate current strategies while learning from other communities. Strategies include constantly analyzing data and updating assessments tools as appropriate, providing the lightest touch to serve the largest number of households and empower people in their stabilization, connect people to their MCO’s and other service providers to assist in housing stabilization, and remain agile in proactively reduce homelessness. STEH recently issued a notice of funding for Innovative Homelessness Prevention Projects funded by County ARPA SLFRF. Five new Prevention projects will begin later this year with this funding and STEH will facilitate a local workgroup to evaluate successes and challenges. Recently, data analytics identified high percentage of first-time homeless households entering the system from a zip code with little representation in the CoC. STEH contacted social service agencies in the area and is beginning a workgroup to enhance prevention efforts where people present for services prior to experiencing homelessness. Also, our CoC works collaboratively on cross sector partnerships to decrease inflow from systems that traditionally drive homelessness including justice, child welfare, education, and healthcare.

3) The CoC’s Lead Agency (STEH), in consultation with the CoC Board is responsible.

2C-1a.	Impact of Displaced Persons on Number of First Time Homeless.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.b	

Was your CoC’s Number of First Time Homeless [metric 5.2] affected by the number of persons seeking short-term shelter or housing assistance displaced due to:

1.	natural disasters?	No
2.	having recently arrived in your CoCs’ geographic area?	No

2C-2.	Length of Time Homeless—CoC’s Strategy to Reduce.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.c.	

In the field below:

1.	describe your CoC’s strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless;
2.	describe how your CoC identifies and houses individuals and persons in families with the longest lengths of time homeless; and

3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.
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(limit 2,500 characters)

1.Strategies to reduce the length of time homeless (LOTH) include a Property Owner Engagement Program that was implemented in early in 2023 to address the competitive housing market and ensure persons entering CoC, ESG, SSVF, etc. housing projects can identify housing quickly. Reducing the CoC's LOTH must include ending homelessness for persons with the longest history of homelessness. The CoC recently engaged Community Solutions to enhance efforts to end chronic homelessness in Cincinnati. Through that work, we are also analyzing data on non-chronically homeless person with long histories of homelessness. STEH was recently awarded a grant by the Day 1 Family Fund, which we will use, in part, to quickly end episodes of homelessness for people who need "1x Assistance" meaning a quick intervention to exit homelessness, such as a security deposit or a bus ticket to an out-of-town family member. LOTH is a prioritization factor for all CoC, ESG, SSVF, etc. housing projects and client-centered exit planning begins on day1 in emergency shelter and street outreach projects.

2.We saw a decrease in LOTH in the CoC. People who are unhoused and hesitant to engage in services are entered into an HMIS project "Street Pop", and the Housing Outreach Workgroup case conferences on strategies to connect them to services to end their homelessness. The CoC has 100% HMIS participation and identifies households with the longest history of homelessness by using HMIS data. Coordinated Entry (CE) prioritizes longest LOTH and uses a by-name-list data in real time to make referrals. CE matches clients to the most appropriate intervention based on assessment results and client choice. Housing Navigators assist with quickly locating and leasing units. The CE team reviews system match-to-housed data with workgroups to improve practices to shorten duration. Annual CoC prioritization process scores projects on match-to-housed times. CoC has added chronically homeless to our prioritization for RRH along with PSH. The "Move-on" project with our PHA creates movement in the system to refer 1,150 households annually to the PHA who no longer need supportive housing but need a subsidy, creating space for the most vulnerable in PSH. New this year, the CoC is applying for two joint projects with the PHA to refer people to HCV directly out of homelessness and provide supportive services with CoC funds.

3.The CoC Lead Agency (STEH) in consultation with the CoC Board is responsible.

2C-3.	Exits to Permanent Housing Destinations/Retention of Permanent Housing—CoC's Strategy	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.d.	

In the field below:

1.	describe your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations;
2.	describe your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations; and
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and families exit to or retain permanent housing.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.Strategies to increase rate of exits from homelessness to permanent housing (PH) begins with planning at intake. New this year, the CoC is applying for two CoC Projects in partnership with the PHA, using HCV housing subsidies coupled with CoC program services. This will exit over 200 households from homelessness to PH in the FY23 operating year. The CoC is working with Built for Zero to enhance our efforts to engage Chronically Homeless persons hesitant to work with the system and end Chronic Homelessness with PH. The CoC is also applying for a new low barrier site-based project for Chronically Homeless. STEH was awarded Day 1 Family Funds which are being used, in part, to exit people to PH who need quick interventions, like a security deposit and first month’s rent. Coordinated Entry prioritizes Category 1 homelessness in every project, except Homelessness Prevention. The CoC will continue to refer 1,150 households per year to the “Move On” program from CoC projects such as RRH, which creates movement in the system and positive exits for households.

2.Strategies to increase the rate that PH participants remain in or exit to PH include:

- a.Move-on strategy enables 1,150 households exiting supportive housing programs to access ongoing housing subsidy for long-term stability and create movement in the system.
- b.The CoC recently formalized a partnership with all MCOs in the state to refer people who contact Coordinated Entry with their MCO for Housing Stabilization Services flex funding, including rental assistance moving cost, security deposits, etc.
- c.CoC has a formal partnership with furniture bank to further establish individuals in their home and create a greater sense of investment and stability.
- d.CoC and VA partner on an Employment subcommittee to connect CoC participants and homeless Vets to job readiness and job training, second chance employers. The joint subcommittee hosts targeted job fairs for persons experiencing homelessness to help increase income and stability.
- e.As part of the work with Built for Zero, the CoC will case conference when households in PH experience instability and are at risk of losing their housing to ensure participants are able to remain housed.

3.The CoC Lead Agency (STEH) in consultation with the CoC Board.

2C-4.	Returns to Homelessness—CoC’s Strategy to Reduce Rate.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.e.	

In the field below:

1.	describe your CoC’s strategy to identify individuals and families who return to homelessness;
2.	describe your CoC’s strategy to reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness; and
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC’s strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families return to homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Our overall SPM recidivism rate is down 2% and our CoC is proud to have shown a drop in recidivism since 2020. With 100% HMIS coverage, we can easily identify returning households. Data analytics informed us that the highest percentage of returns occurred in the first year after exiting homelessness, Elevated rated remained in year 2 and 3 and then declined. Additionally, households with more than one episode of homelessness and/or exiting with less than \$1,000/month income have higher rates of returns.
2. Strategies to prevent recidivism include:
 - a. Increasing resources for services to extend after exit. STEH was awarded Day 1 Family Funds that are used, in part, for Aftercare programming, offering prevention services to households who have exited homelessness programs. SSVF provides Aftercare to Veterans. YHDP provides Aftercare to youth who have exited the system to reduce returns.
 - b. Move-on strategy enables 1,150 households exiting supportive housing programs to access ongoing housing subsidy for long-term stability and create movement in the system.
 - c. The CoC recently formalized a partnership with all MCOs in the state to refer people who contact Coordinated Entry with their MCO for Housing Stabilization Services flex funding, including rental assistance moving cost, security deposits, etc.
 - d. CoC has a formal partnership with furniture bank to further establish individuals in their home and create a greater sense of investment and stability.
 - e. CoC and VA partner on an Employment subcommittee to connect CoC participants and homeless Vets to job readiness and job training, second chance employers. The joint subcommittee hosts targeted job fairs for persons experiencing homelessness to help increase income and reduce likelihood of return.
 - f. PH projects are scored on housing retention and successful housing outcomes to ensure projects maintain focus on PH.
3. The CoC Lead Agency (STEH) in consultation with CoC Board.

2C-5.	Increasing Employment Cash Income—CoC's Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.f.	
	In the field below:	
1.	describe your CoC's strategy to access employment cash sources;	
2.	describe how your CoC works with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness increase their employment cash income; and	
3.	provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase income from employment.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. In our CoC, employment is a high priority with a 4% increase in earned income based on SPM. We collaborate in cross sector partnerships at the system level, and we evaluate projects on this metric in the CoC competition process, thus incentivizing projects to connect clients with employment. To assist projects in making those connections, the CoC and VA run a joint monthly Employment Subcommittee. Multiple CoC agency staff, Ohio Means Jobs (OMJ), the local workforce development agency, and Hamilton County Job and Families Services (JFS) attend. The committee hosts a recurring targeted job fair for CoC-specific and VA clients, with multiple employers specifically willing to hire persons with experience of homelessness.

2. The Employment Subcommittee helps clients participate in virtual job fairs, connecting clients and Veterans to public and private employers, some of which prioritize CoC clients for hire. CoC subrecipient, the Center for Independent Living Options (CILO), holds job readiness trainings partnering with Ohio Means Jobs and Southwest Ohio Workforce Investment Board. The Urban League, Easter Seals, and CincyWorks all participate in the monthly Employment Committee. Cincinnati State Technical College Workforce Development Center presents training opportunities. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) staff assist with job training and transportation. CityLink provides job training and on-going employment support to RRH and shelter diversion clients. Some of these programs pay the participants while they are undergoing their training. JFS offers the Comprehensive Case Management Employment Program to youth. YHDP also partners with Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health for the "YES" Program – Youth Employment Services. The public library partners with our CoC as well, providing computer access for resume building, "job help office hours" and searchable online job boards.

Connection with local universities including CTAP program that provides free classes to community members looking to increase their employability such as ESL, GED, tech skills, Google analytics, IT and cyber security. Participants also have full access to university career center which offers resume help, interview training and headshots.

3. CoC Lead Agency (STEH) in consultation with CoC Board.

2C-5a.	Increasing Non-employment Cash Income—CoC's Strategy	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.f.	

In the field below:	
1.	describe your CoC's strategy to access non-employment cash income; and
2.	provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Current strategies to increase access to non-employment cash income include screening all participants, at intake, for current non-employment cash income eligibility and quickly connecting anyone not receiving full benefits to a dedicated staff person at the county public benefits office (JFS). CoC partners with dedicated liaison staff at Social Security office to obtain needed client documentation and quickly apply for available benefits. UFA staff is researching local and national best practices to establish community-wide protocols for how agencies can most efficiently connect participants to all available local and national mainstream benefits, including cash sources. Our CoC incentivizes programs to increase non-employment income by tracking receipt of non-cash income as a scored outcome in the annual CoC competition process. Projects that increase participants' non-employment income are rewarded points in the objective scoring matrix, translating to higher placement in the community priority list.

The CoC has strong partnerships across the community to increase access to non-employment cash sources. Including:

- JFS works with CoC participants to improve access to non-cash benefits, particularly for families and youth. JFS has dedicated staff to assist persons in homelessness. They process participant applications with presumptive eligibility for CoC participants, which expedites enrollment. JFS also offers case conferencing to regularly evaluate progress in benefits acquisition.
- Local Social Security Office provides dedicated liaison staff to our CoC agencies to obtain documentation and benefits quickly and efficiently for clients.
- All CoC-funded projects must have an in-house SOAR-trained staff person or a formal relationship with the local SOAR Program provider to assist individuals in quickly acquiring SSI/SSDI.
- In YHDP, legal services are provided in-house to youth, including assistance in obtaining and/or increasing child support payments and other cash benefits.
- The CoC has an excellent relationship with the local VA and connects veterans to VA cash sources quickly.
- CoC and public library collaborate to promote free tax preparation to obtain refunds when available.

2.CoC Lead Agency (STEH) in consultation with CoC Board.

3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

3A-1.	New PH-PSH/PH-RRH Project–Leveraging Housing Resources.	
	NOFO Section V.B.6.a.	
	You must upload the Housing Leveraging Commitment attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Is your CoC applying for a new PH-PSH or PH-RRH project that uses housing subsidies or subsidized housing units which are not funded through the CoC or ESG Programs to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness?	Yes
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3A-2.	New PH-PSH/PH-RRH Project–Leveraging Healthcare Resources.	
	NOFO Section V.B.6.b.	
	You must upload the Healthcare Formal Agreements attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Is your CoC applying for a new PH-PSH or PH-RRH project that uses healthcare resources to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness?	Yes
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3A-3.	Leveraging Housing/Healthcare Resources–List of Projects.	
	NOFO Sections V.B.6.a. and V.B.6.b.	
	If you selected yes to questions 3A-1. or 3A-2., use the list feature icon to enter information about each project application you intend for HUD to evaluate to determine if they meet the criteria.	

Project Name	Project Type	Rank Number	Leverage Type
This list contains no items			

3B. New Projects With Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

3B-1.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.s.	

Is your CoC requesting funding for any new project application requesting \$200,000 or more in funding for housing rehabilitation or new construction?	No
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3B-2.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.s.	

If you answered yes to question 3B-1, describe in the field below actions CoC Program-funded project applicants will take to comply with:

1.	Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u); and
2.	HUD’s implementing rules at 24 CFR part 75 to provide employment and training opportunities for low- and very-low-income persons, as well as contracting and other economic opportunities for businesses that provide economic opportunities to low- and very-low-income persons.

(limit 2,500 characters)

3C. Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

3C-1.	Designating SSO/TH/Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Projects to Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes.	
	NOFO Section V.F.	

	Is your CoC requesting to designate one or more of its SSO, TH, or Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects to serve families with children or youth experiencing homelessness as defined by other Federal statutes?	No
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3C-2.	Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes.	
	NOFO Section V.F.	

You must upload the Project List for Other Federal Statutes attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

If you answered yes to question 3C-1, describe in the field below:

1.	how serving this population is of equal or greater priority, which means that it is equally or more cost effective in meeting the overall goals and objectives of the plan submitted under Section 427(b)(1)(B) of the Act, especially with respect to children and unaccompanied youth than serving the homeless as defined in paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of the definition of homeless in 24 CFR 578.3; and
2.	how your CoC will meet requirements described in Section 427(b)(1)(F) of the Act.

(limit 2,500 characters)

4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants for New DV Bonus Funding

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

4A-1.	New DV Bonus Project Applications.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.I.	

	Did your CoC submit one or more new project applications for DV Bonus Funding?	No
Applicant Name		
This list contains no items		

4B. Attachments Screen For All Application Questions

We have provided the following guidance to help you successfully upload attachments and get maximum points:

1. You must include a Document Description for each attachment you upload; if you do not, the Submission Summary screen will display a red X indicating the submission is incomplete.
2. You must upload an attachment for each document listed where 'Required?' is 'Yes'.
3. We prefer that you use PDF files, though other file types are supported—please only use zip files if necessary. Converting electronic files to PDF, rather than printing documents and scanning them, often produces higher quality images. Many systems allow you to create PDF files as a Print option. If you are unfamiliar with this process, you should consult your IT Support or search for information on Google or YouTube.
4. Attachments must match the questions they are associated with.
5. Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed—including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process.
6. If you cannot read the attachment, it is likely we cannot read it either.
 - . We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).
 - . We must be able to read everything you want us to consider in any attachment.
7. After you upload each attachment, use the Download feature to access and check the attachment to ensure it matches the required Document Type and to ensure it contains all pages you intend to include.
8. Only use the "Other" attachment option to meet an attachment requirement that is not otherwise listed in these detailed instructions.

Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1C-7. PHA Homeless Preference	No	PHA Homeless Pref...	09/25/2023
1C-7. PHA Moving On Preference	No	PHA Moving On Pre...	09/25/2023
1D-11a. Letter Signed by Working Group	Yes	Letter Signed by ...	09/25/2023
1D-2a. Housing First Evaluation	Yes	Housing First Eva...	09/25/2023
1E-1. Web Posting of Local Competition Deadline	Yes	Web Posting of Lo...	09/25/2023
1E-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	Local Competition...	09/25/2023
1E-2a. Scored Forms for One Project	Yes	Scored Form for O...	09/25/2023
1E-5. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	Notification of P...	09/25/2023
1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	Notification of P...	09/25/2023
1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results	Yes	Local Competition...	09/25/2023
1E-5c. Web Posting—CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes		

1E-5d. Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes		
2A-6. HUD's Homeless Data Exchange (HDX) Competition Report	Yes	FY 2023 HDX Compe...	09/25/2023
3A-1a. Housing Leveraging Commitments	No	Housing Leverage ...	09/25/2023
3A-2a. Healthcare Formal Agreements	No	Healthcare Formal...	09/25/2023
3C-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No		
Other	No	Other financial a...	02/26/2023

Attachment Details

Document Description: PHA Homeless Preference

Attachment Details

Document Description: PHA Moving On Preference

Attachment Details

Document Description: Letter Signed by Working Group

Attachment Details

Document Description: Housing First Evaluation

Attachment Details

Document Description: Web Posting of Local Competition Deadline

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local Competition Scoring Tool

Attachment Details

Document Description: Scored Form for One Project

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Projects Accepted

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local Competition Selection Results

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: FY 2023 HDX Competition Report

Attachment Details

Document Description: Housing Leverage Commitment

Attachment Details

Document Description: Healthcare Formal Agreement

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: Other financial and administrative documents
OH-500

Submission Summary

Ensure that the Project Priority List is complete prior to submitting.

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	08/01/2023
1B. Inclusive Structure	09/22/2023
1C. Coordination and Engagement	09/22/2023
1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd	09/25/2023
1E. Project Review/Ranking	09/25/2023
2A. HMIS Implementation	09/25/2023
2B. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count	09/24/2023
2C. System Performance	09/25/2023
3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare	09/24/2023
3B. Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs	09/17/2023
3C. Serving Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes	09/22/2023

4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants	08/02/2023
4B. Attachments Screen	Please Complete
Submission Summary	No Input Required