Before Starting the Special CoC Application

You must submit both of the following parts in order for us to consider your Special NOFO Consolidated Application complete:
 1. the CoC Application, and
 2. the CoC Priority Listing.

   The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
 - 24 CFR part 578
 - Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
 - Section 3 Resources
 - Frequently Asked Questions

  As the Collaborative Applicant, you are responsible for reviewing the following:
 1. The Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (Special NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
 2. The Special NOFO Continuum of Care (CoC) Application Detailed Instructions for Collaborative Applicants 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.

  CoC Approval is Required before You Submit Your CoC's Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application
- 24 CFR 578.9 requires you to compile and submit the Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application 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 the [Specific Attachment Name] attachment to the 4A. 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

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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1A-1. CoC Name and Number: NY-525 - New York Balance of State CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: CARES of NY, Inc.

1A-5.	New Projects	
	Complete the chart below by indicating which funding opportunity(ies) your CoC applying for projects under. A CoC may apply for funding under both set asides; however, projects funded through the rural set aside may only be used in rural areas, as defined in the Special NOFO.	
1.	Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside	No
2.	Rural Homelessness Set Aside	Yes

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

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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1B-1.	Web Posting of Your CoC Local Competition Deadline–Advance Public Notice. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Deadline attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC published the deadline for project application submission for your CoC's local competition.	09/02/2022

1B-2.	Project Review and Ranking Process Your CoC Used in Its Local Competition. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.a.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Scoring Tool attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ranked and selected new project applications during your CoC's local competition:	
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

1B-3.	Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
1.	Did your CoC reject or reduce any project application(s)?	No
2.	Did your CoC inform the applicants why their projects were rejected or reduced?	Yes
3.	If you selected yes, for element 1 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, list the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 6/26/22, 6/27/22, and 6/28/22, then you must enter 6/28/22.	

1B-3a.	Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Accepted attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC notified project applicants that their project applications were accepted and ranked on the New Priority Listings in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, list the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 6/26/22, 6/27/22, and 6/28/22, then you must enter 6/28/22.	10/05/2022

1B-4.	Web Posting of the CoC-Approved Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Web Posting–Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC posted its Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application on the CoC's website or affiliate's website–which included: 1. the CoC Application, and 2. Priority Listings.	10/17/2022

2A. System Performance

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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2A-1.	Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless–Risk Factors.	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.b.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC determined which risk factors your CoC uses to identify persons becoming homeless for the first time;
2.	how your CoC addresses 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 or to end homelessness for individuals and families.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC discusses the current housing situation of each person, especially when someone is on the CE list for the first time, during each CE meeting. The risk factors of each person or family experiencing homelessness for the first time are examined. The CoC's vulnerability tool, housed in HMIS, also captures information related to first time homelessness. This information is tracked so the CoC can ensure resources are available to serve persons experiencing homelessness for the first time and establish policies to prevent homelessness. After reviewing this information, the CoC determined the current risk factors leading to first time homelessness are: release from institutional setting (jail or prison), persons experiencing eviction, foreclosure and doubled up households whose arrangements are no longer viable. To further drill down on reasons individuals and families may become homeless for the first time, the CoC ran the SPMS measures in Stella by county and next year the report will be run by project. The CoC is already targeting prevention services to persons who have been evicted or experienced foreclosure as well as to those who have been doubled up. Next year, after a project level assessment is conducted, the CoC will be able to further target prevention service for first-time homeless persons.

2. The CoC's strategy to address individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless is to increase efforts in the targeting of additional prevention funding through ESG-CV, regular ESG and other state and local programs. In addition, the CoC has made use of Emergency Rental Assistance Program funding for legal assistance to those facing eviction as a means of preventing them from becoming homeless for the first-time. Going forward, NYS has allocated $35 million annually for legal assistance in communities outside of NYC. This should assist in reducing first-time homelessness. The CoC also created a prevention prioritization tool to help identify the particular vulnerabilities of persons and families who are at risk.

3. In partnership with service providers and CE Committees, the CA is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce, and ultimately end, the number of persons experiencing homelessness for the first time.

2A-2.	Length of Time Homeless–Strategy to Reduce. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.c.	

	Describe in the field below:	
1.	your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless;	
2.	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.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The average length of time households remained homeless increased across the CoC in 2021. This increase is primarily due to a lack of available affordable permanent housing - a problem that was exacerbated by eviction moratorium, which in NYS did not end until January 15, 2022. There was therefore little movement in the housing market and because of unprecedented rent increases in the CoC, very few affordable apartments were available. Another factor in increased utilization of shelters was the COVID pandemic itself, which caused staff shortages and/or illness, as well as making it difficult for shelter residents, especially those being isolated or quarantined, to do housing searches. The CoC has been working to reduce length of shelter stays by reducing the number of evictions through the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) and funding a legal assistance program, thus stabilizing the housing market and decreasing the numbers of persons needing shelter. It also is reducing length of shelter stays by helping homeless persons obtain rental vouchers through EHV and a State-funded voucher program. Increasing PSH capacity in the CoC through state financing will also help reduce the length of shelter stays.

2. The CoC CE process identifies and prioritizes households with the longest history of homelessness in a number of ways. Data on the length of homeless episodes is collected in HMIS so that the CoC can track progress on reduction efforts. The CE process includes length of homelessness in its vulnerability assessment, giving priority to those who have been homeless the longest. Those who have the longest histories of homelessness are assisted in accessing PSH programs that offer both housing and supportive services. For example, a group of homeless individuals had been living on a porch for many years and formed a community that was reluctant to accepting services. Through the work of RRH staff, each client has entered permanent housing and obtained an EHV. The CoC worked with state funders to create a state-funded Rental Supplement Program (RSP) targeted to homeless households living below the poverty line. The CoC successfully strategized for referrals to come almost exclusively from CE, ensuring that the program will be used to assist those with the most need, including the longest length of stays in shelter.

3. The CA is responsible for ensuring that reducing the length of homeless stays remains a priority in the CoC's strategic plan.

	2A-3.	Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention. (All Applicants)	
		Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.d.	

		Describe in the field below how your CoC will increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in:
	1.	emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations; and
	2.	permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC strives to ensure that all individuals and families leaving emergency shelter, TH, and RRH exit to permanent housing destinations. Exits are monitored by reviewing client outcomes with the HMIS Committee. The HMIS Committee then addresses the CoC to discuss findings and consider how client outcomes can be improved. RRH funding through ESG- CV has been an important tool in exiting households to permanent housing from shelter. In addition, the CoC has been working with households to access EHV. To date, 315 households have been referred to EHV. Of those 315 referrals, 69 households have been housed with EHV vouchers, 66 have received vouchers but are still searching for housing, and the remainder are working through the eligibility process. The CoC is also applying for additional state and locally funded permanent housing projects and other housing subsidies to further housing opportunities. An efficient CE system allows the CoC members to maintain a by-name list of clients and ensure that they do not fall through the cracks but rather exit positively to permanent housing.

2. The ultimate goal of all CoC permanent housing projects is for clients to retain permanent housing. If a client exits, the goal is that they exit to another permanent housing destination, with or without a subsidy. The CoC worked with the largest Public Housing Agency (PHA) to prioritize EHV opportunities for people in RRH so they can retain their housing. The CoC ensures that all projects understand that retention of housing is the number one priority and that a Housing First approach is the way to ensure retention. Helping households secure a source of income is another housing retention strategy employed by the CoC. Households are referred to employment services and assisted with applying for SSI/SSDI using the SOAR method.

2A-4.	Returns to Homelessness–CoC's Strategy to Reduce Rate. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.e.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC identifies individuals and families who return to homelessness;
2.	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. The CoC identifies individuals and families who return to homelessness through data reviews with the HMIS Committee and data reviews through Stella. The HMIS Committee is able to identify the clients who return to homelessness by cross-walking System Performance Measures (SPMs) with the CE list.

2. The CoC strives to ensure that an episode of homelessness only occurs once. The implementation of the EHV program will reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness by providing an opportunity for rapid rehousing (RRH) clients to remain in their housing when RRH support ends. The BoS has also prioritized increasing income levels by referrals to employment services and encouraging the funding of SOAR case managers to assist with SSI/SSDI applications. As a result, some individuals and families with disabilities who previously experienced multiple episodes of homelessness will be able to attain lifetime income. The service component that accompanies RRH is vital to ensuring a person does not return to homelessness. The CoC supports applications for state and local funding that increase opportunities for additional PSH units. The CoC also continues to foster collaborations with housing and healthcare providers to ensure households have access to the care and support services they need to remain in long-term stable housing.

3. The CA and the HMIS Committee are responsible for overseeing the strategy to reduce returns to homelessness, including reviewing data on homeless recidivism and exploring strategies to reduce these outcomes.

2A-5.	Increasing Employment Cash Income–Strategy. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.f.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	the strategy your CoC has implemented to increase employment cash sources;
2.	how your CoC works with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families increase their 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. The CoC's strategy is for CoC members to assist applicants in increasing employment income through work activities including applicant job search; job readiness training; work experience; referral to community-based partnerships with the Department of Labor (DOL) Career Centers to access services to look for employment; attendance at job fairs; and direct referral to employment opportunities. Individuals are encouraged to explore educational opportunities including adult basic education, high school equivalency, English as a second language, literacy testing, vocational education and higher education to increase job prospects and increase wages. The CoC works with the NYS Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCESVR) to gain assistance with all of the above services. CoC members have relationships with mainstream employers to connect people in receipt of public
assistance to employment.

2. The CoC works with mainstream employment organizations by partnering with Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs including One-Stop, Local Workforce Development Boards, DOL programs, and Adult Career & Continuing Education Services. Referrals are also made to partners for job fairs, exploration of educational opportunities, and job searches. CoC members may be co-located with a One-Stop or Career Center and hold onsite job fairs and employer recruitment opportunities in conjunction with partners in the community. Employment assessment and employment plans are reviewed with the individual and updated as changes occur and increased work hours, career advancement, and further education are pursued. Work supports, including the Earned Income Tax Credit and Volunteer Tax Assistance, are also used to assist families to meet employment goals.

3. The Collaborative Applicant and Steering Committee oversee the CoC's strategy to increase income from employment.

| | 2A-5a. | Increasing Non-employment Cash Income–Strategy. (All Applicants) | |
| | | Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.f. | |

		Describe in the field below:
	1.	the strategy your CoC has implemented to increase non-employment cash income;
	2.	your CoC's strategy to increase access to non-employment cash sources; and
	3.	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. The CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income is to refer all who present as homeless for benefits such as Unemployment Insurance, child support, SSI/SSDI and VA benefits. All case managers are trained in mainstream cash benefits eligibility and application processes, such as TANF, SNAP, and HEAP. Clients are assisted in applying for these mainstream benefits. OTDA as the Collaborative Applicant (CA), is uniquely positioned to help the CoC with its strategy. A core component of OTDA's mission is to help vulnerable New Yorkers meet their essential needs and advance economically. OTDA also supervises social services districts to ensure the districts are fulfilling this mission. Local social service commissioners are members of the Steering Committee and update all of the CoC membership on any changes in mainstream cash benefits. The CoC monitors the income outcomes of CoC-funded programs on a quarterly basis.

2. The CoC's strategy to increase access to non-employment cash income also includes encouraging all programs within the CoC to have staff trained in SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR). For example, providers with SOAR-trained staff are awarded additional points in CoC program applications. As the CA, OTDA developed a strategy to increase dedicated SOAR staff across the CoC using ESG-CV funds. The CA also works closely with the SOAR TA Center to develop opportunities to bring the SOAR method to all areas of the CoC, including presentations to CoC members and individual meetings with agencies interested in incorporating the method in their work throughout the community.

3. The CA is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to increase nonemployment cash income.

2B. Coordination and Engagement–Inclusive Structure and Participation

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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2B-1.	Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Sections VII.B.3.a.(1)	

	In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022:
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 of CoC Board Members	Participated in CoC's Coordinated Entry System
1.	Affordable Housing Developer(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
2.	Agencies serving survivors of human trafficking	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
5.	CoC-Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Nonexistent	No	No
6.	Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.	Disability Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
9.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	Hospital(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
12.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Yes	No	Yes
13.	Law Enforcement	Yes	Yes	Yes
14.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
15.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
16.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	Yes
17.	Local Jail(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
18.	Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes

20.	Non-CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
21.	Non-CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
22.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes	Yes	Yes
23.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
24.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
25.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
26.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
29.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
30.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
31.	Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	Youth Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)			
33.	Veterans Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
34.	Faith-Based Organizations Providing Services to People Experiencing Homelessness	Yes	Yes	Yes

2B-2.	Open Invitation for New Members. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(2), V.B.3.g.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	communicated the invitation process annually to solicit new members to join the CoC;
2.	ensured effective communication with individuals with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats;
3.	conducted outreach to ensure persons experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless persons are encouraged to join your CoC; and
4.	invited organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in the geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, other People of Color, persons with disabilities).

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Recruitment for CoC membership is continuous. The CoC has an open membership process and publishes meeting schedules online. All meetings are open to the public. The CoC annually solicits new members to join the CoC by sharing a membership form online; asking current members to forward invitations/emails to partners; and targeting outreach to key partners to encourage them to become members. The CoC also solicits new membership at annual statewide meetings that are attended by over 500 housing and supportive service providers.

2. The CoC ensures effective communication with individuals with disabilities by sharing information (including the CoC webpage) in a variety of electronic formats which meet accessibility standards and are readable via screen reader software. CoC meetings are held in person with a WebEx option allowing for closed captioning and phone-in attendance options. The site location is handicap-accessible and open to the public.

3. The CoC uses targeted outreach through homeless service providers to engage those with lived experience. The Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) has taken shape due to the CoC's expanded outreach efforts which includes current and past program recipients. The LEAB attends project planning meetings, CoC committees and CE meetings. The LEAB chair solicited membership by attending all CoC meetings to discuss the importance of LEAB and undertook considerable efforts to connect and find people with lived experience to further the CoC's work.

4. The CoC invites organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness to become members by conducting personal outreach. Current members are asked to describe the mission and benefits of the CoC to these organizations and encourage participation. Both the CA and provider agencies have made a concerted effort to connect with new providers, businesses and stakeholders. These organizations serve on multiple committees including CE. As a result, the CoC has increased BIPOC and disability agency membership and leadership within the CoC. These connections have led to increased CE access points for under-served communities. The CoC has been an active member of the local Regional Racial Justice Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from CoCs across NYS and meets bi-weekly. This involvement has led to productive conversations regarding invitations to more people of color, Indigenous people, persons who are LGBTQ+, and persons with disabilities to join CoC meetings.

	2B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness. (All Applicants)	
		Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.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; and
	3.	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. The CoC solicits and considers opinions from an array of organizations/individuals including but not limited to individuals with lived experience, affordable and supportive housing providers, youth groups, mental health and substance use treatment agencies, victim services providers (VSPs), housing developers, veteran organizations, faith-based organizations, law enforcement and local, state and federal agencies. The CoC participates in and conducts outreach at local community forums such as public safety meetings, local government meetings, opioid and reentry task forces, magistrates' associations, education committees and community revitalization groups. The CoC's CA hosts annual stakeholder meetings attended by more than 500 people that provide feedback about the efficacy and direction of homeless services programs and solicits information on how they can be improved. Information obtained from these public forums is brought back to the CoC for discussion at CoC meetings and incorporated into strategic planning.

2. The CoC communicates information obtained from the forums listed above in a variety of ways, including sharing at monthly meetings, sending information to CoC committees for their consideration, distribution to CoC membership, and posting on the CoC website. The CoC also shares state and federal training and best-practice information to members by email and at monthly meetings and gathers input through direct community interaction at open meetings and regional housing forums. CoC members contribute to meetings and discussion topics and all meetings include time for open discussion and questions. The CoC facilitates individualized meetings and training on topics useful to the goal of preventing and ending homelessness, such as SOAR, crisis stabilization centers and HOME-ARP.

3. The CoC uses information gathered from public meetings to make improvements and develop new approaches to preventing and ending homelessness. It does so by dedicating time during CoC meetings for committee updates and presentations on specific topics. This has resulted in widespread information sharing across the CoC, such as dissemination of HOME-ARP strategy, consultation regarding ESGCV funds, and development of relationships with key partners. One example is how the CoC collaborated on the formation of a state-funded rental assistance program. The CoC collaborated with State representatives to ensure that the program incorporated the needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

2B-4.	Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Funded. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(4)	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC notified the public:	
1.	that your CoC's local competition was open and accepting project applications;	
2.	that your CoC will consider project applications from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding;	
3.	about how project applicants must submit their project applications;	
4.	about how your CoC would determine which project applications it would submit to HUD for funding; and	
5.	how your CoC effectively communicated with individuals with disabilities, including making information accessible in electronic formats.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC notified the public that the competition was open and accepting project applications by posting the project application and instructions on the CoC's website and via email distribution list.

2. The CoC encourages new applicants to apply for funding by posting the information publicly on the CoC's website. Multiple informational sessions are held to review the application to ensure that new applicants understand the process. The informational sessions are open to the public and attended by both existing CoC members and potential new applicants. Last year, the CoC applied for five new bonus projects, all from applicants that had not previously received CoC funding. The CoC was awarded funding for four new projects. For the Rural NOFO, the CoC received four project applications, three of which were from organizations not receiving CoC funding.

3. The public was notified about the application process on the CoC's website, via multiple emails, and an informational sessions held via WebEx.

4. The CoC determines which project applications are submitted to HUD using the CoC-approved rank and review policies and are publicly posted on the CoC website. Additionally, the rank and review tool is posted publicly on the CoC website, detailing the scoring process for new and renewal projects. Scoring criteria are also discussed at the informational sessions for project applicants. Criteria include objective questions such as data quality, program outcomes, best practices (i.e., Housing First), HUD priorities, and community need. New applicants without historical data are given full credit for objective questions so new applicants are not at a disadvantage. The Steering Committee and Lived Experience Advisory Board review and approve the project ranking.

5. The CoC ensures effective communication with individuals with disabilities by posting information and documents on the public CoC website, which meets accessibility standards and is readable via screen reader software. Informational sessions for project applicants are held via WebEx with closed captioning available.

2C. Coordination / Engagement–with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations

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2C-1.	Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.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 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)	Yes
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.	Faith-based	Yes

2C-2.	CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.b.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG 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 Consolidated Plan update.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. OTDA is the Program Recipient for ESG and ESG-CV funding in all areas of the state which are not directly funded by HUD. OTDA has required sign off from each CoC indicating agreement with each ESG and ESG-CV project that was proposed within that CoC. As the CA for the CoC, OTDA requires that all ESG and ESG-CV funded projects in the geographic regions that comprise the CoC have the support of the members of the CoC. Because of the dual role played by the CA in distributing ESG and ESG-CV funding and serving as the CA for the BoS CoC, there is constant coordination between the two programs. The CoC continually consults with the ESG-CV recipient to ensure funds are spent appropriately and meet the needs of vulnerable households within with CoC.

2. The CA, as the ESG recipient, is involved with monitoring outcomes of each ESG program that receives funding through NYS. On behalf of one of the CoCs within the state, the CA assists the CoC in monitoring program eligibility, compliance, and spending by the ESG subrecipients within its geographic region to ensure that the program is meeting local needs. ESG project performance is evaluated by the CoC's HMIS Committee on a regular basis and reported back to the ESG program. The CoC created standards for all ESG and ESG-CV RRH and Prevention projects to ensure continuity across all program subrecipients. Project status and updates are provided during monthly CoC meetings, leading to improvements in system performance.

3. NYS Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) is responsible for submitting the Consolidated Plan for NYS and the CoC is part of the Statewide Consolidated Plan jurisdiction. The CA regularly coordinates with HCR to ensure that CoC PIT and HIC data from the CoC are used in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans.

4. The entire CoC is covered by the New York State Consolidated Plan as submitted by HCR. Data is provided to HCR via emails and meetings to address homelessness within its geographic area for use in Consolidated Plan updates.

2C-3.	Discharge Planning Coordination. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.c.	

	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

2C-4.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–SEAs, LEAs, School Districts. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.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

2C-4a.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–SEAs, LEAs, School Districts–Formal Partnerships. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

	Describe in the field below:	
1.	how your CoC collaborates with the entities checked in Question 2C-4; and	
2.	the formal partnerships your CoC has with the entities checked in Question 2C-4.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC collaborates with youth education providers, SEAs, LEAs, and school districts to identify persons eligible for housing and educational services by participating in collaborative meetings, including Coordinated Entry. The CoC has adopted written policies and procedures that ensure families and individuals who become homeless are aware of their eligibility for educational services. McKinney Vento liaisons regularly attend CoC meetings to help ensure full compliance and adherence to best practices.

2. The CoC has formal partnerships with youth education providers. CAPTAIN Community Human Services, Catholic Charities Runaway and Homeless Youth Program, and Green Chimneys (all youth education providers) are members of CoC's Steering Committee. Each of these agencies have formal agreements with school districts and Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to coordinate services for youth experiencing homelessness, ensuring that homeless and at-risk children and young adults are connected to transportation and educational services to help them succeed in school. The LEA's McKinney-Vento liaisons participate in CoC meetings and Coordinated Entry to ensure continuity of service delivery and that the needs of the children and families in the educational system are being met.

Additionally, the CoC's Governance Charter reserves a seat for the State Education Department and a school district representative. Additionally, the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) which works closely with LEA's is an ex-officio attendee of Steering Committee and attends monthly meetings to provide information on available resources, and programmatic updates and hear from the CoC about the trends happening within its geography.

2C-4b.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–Informing Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC has adopted written policies and procedures that ensure families and individuals who become homeless are aware of their eligibility for educational services. The policy requires that each program serving families with children designate a person responsible for ensuring that no matter where they live, how long they have lived there, or how long they plan to stay, all children and young adults participating in the program are enrolled in school immediately. Project monitoring by the CoC includes assurance that children are connected to school. Enrollment must occur even if they lack paperwork normally required (e.g., school records, records of immunization and other required health records, proof of residency, guardianship, and other documents), are unable to pay fines or fees, or have missed application or enrollment deadlines. Students have the right to enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents. Enrollment occurs as quickly as possible. Families are encouraged and assisted to enroll children in applicable early childhood education programs as well. McKinney Vento liaisons regularly attend CoC meetings to help ensure full compliance and adherence to best practices.

2C-5.	Mainstream Resources–CoC Training of Project Staff. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.e.	

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

	Mainstream Resource	CoC Provides Annual Training?
1.	Food Stamps	Yes
2.	SSI–Supplemental Security Income	Yes
3.	TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Yes
4.	Substance Abuse Programs	Yes
5.	Employment Assistance Programs	Yes
6.	Other	

You must select a response for elements 1 through 6 in question 2C-5.

2C-5a.	Mainstream Resources–CoC Collaboration with Project Staff Regarding Healthcare Organizations. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.e.	

	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, TANF, substance abuse programs) within your CoC's geographic area;
2.	works with project staff to collaborate with healthcare organizations to assist program participants with enrolling in health insurance;
3.	provides assistance to project staff with the effective use of Medicaid and other benefits; and
4.	works with projects to promote SOAR certification of program staff.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. NYS OTDA, the Collaborative Applicant for the CoC, is the State agency responsible for oversight of local Social Services Districts (districts). These districts, which administer SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps), TANF and HEAP are voting members of the CoC Steering Committee and are active in the CoC by sharing information about program eligibility and how to access services. Local district staff also attend all CE meetings and can give up-to-date information on access to mainstream benefits generally and in respect to a particular client. Healthcare organizations, including substance use disorder and mental health treatment providers, are essential members of the CoC and provide information on access to services during general CoC meetings and CE case conferencing meetings. The CoC also provides an annual training on access to mainstream resources to members.

2. The CoC collaborates with healthcare organizations to assist program participants with enrolling in health insurance by inviting Medicaid case managers and Health Homes programs to CoC meetings to discuss eligibility criteria and referral processes with CoC project staff.

3. The CoC assists project staff with the effective use of Medicaid and other benefits by including a question in HMIS that tracks the type of insurance utilized by clients in CoC programs. An HMIS report is easily populated to identify what type of benefits clients have.

4. The CoC is focused on expanding SOAR certification across the CoC. The CoC works with all new and existing projects to increase certification and share SOAR best practices. The national SOAR TA representative regularly comes to the CoC meetings to encourage increased certification. CoC staff attend national SOAR trainings to learn new approaches to promoting SOAR certifications. The CoC prioritizes SOAR access in the rank and review process. All new and renewal project applications must include information about how program participants will be guaranteed access to SOAR services. Over the past year, CoC SOAR certification has increased by 800% and the number of applications submitted has increased by 600%.

3A. New Projects With Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

3A-1.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects. (Rural Set Aside Only).
	Special NOFO Section VII.A.

If the answer to the question below is yes, you must upload the CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
Is your CoC requesting funding for any new project(s) under the Rural Set Aside for housing rehabilitation or new construction costs?	No

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

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

3B-1.	Designating SSO/TH/Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Projects to Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. (Rural Set Aside Only)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.C.	

	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

3B-2.	Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. (Rural Set Aside Only)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.C.	
	You must upload the Project List for Other Federal Statutes attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	If you answered yes to question 3B-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)

N/A

4A. Attachments Screen For All Application Questions

		Please read 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 and reduces file size. 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.	Open attachments once uploaded to ensure they are the correct attachment for the required Document Type.	

Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1B-1. Local Competition Announcement	Yes	Local Competition...	09/27/2022
1B-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	Local Competition...	09/27/2022
1B-3. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes		
1B-3a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes		
1B-4. Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application	Yes		
3A-1. CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs	No		
3B-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No		
P-1. Leveraging Housing Commitment	No		
P-1a. PHA Commitment	No		
P-3. Healthcare Leveraging Commitment	No		
P-9c. Lived Experience Support Letter	No	Lived Experience ...	10/11/2022
Plan. CoC Plan	Yes		

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local Competition Announcement

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local Competition Scoring Tool

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

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Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

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Attachment Details

Document Description: Lived Experience Support Letter

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Submission Summary

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

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	10/07/2022
1B. Project Review, Ranking and Selection	10/14/2022
2A. System Performance	10/07/2022
2B. Coordination and Engagement	10/07/2022
2C. Coordination and Engagement–Con't.	10/07/2022
3A. New Projects With Rehab/New Construction	No Input Required
3B. Homelessness by Other Federal Statutes	09/08/2022
4A. Attachments Screen	Please Complete
Submission Summary	No Input Required

1B-1.

Local Competition Announcement

From:	Jonathan Pierce <OTDAUpdates@pdp-ualbany.atlassian.net>
Sent:	Tuesday, August 16, 2022 3:04 PM
To:	Estep, Arden (OTDA)
Subject:	OTDA-10608: BoS - Internet

—————

The status of this request is: **Published**

Jonathan Pierce commented:

The following files have been published to the live site:

https://otda.ny.gov/resources/continuum-of-care/funding-competition.asp

This is shared with Arden.Estep@otda.ny.gov, daria.albini@otda.ny.gov, and Sarah.Watson@otda.ny.gov.

Original request message:

On the CoC Funding Competition page: https://otda.ny.gov/resources/continuum-of-care/funding-competition.asp

Please add the following text/due dates after each attachment link.

CoC Funding Competition

2022 Documents

· Special Rural Project Application *(due September 2, 2022)*

· DV Bonus Project Application *(due August 26, 2022)*

· CoC Bonus Project Application *(due August 26, 2022)*

· NYS BoS CoC Renewal Project Application *(due July 6, 2022)*

Thank you!

Arden Estep *(she/her/hers)*

otda.ny.gov/resources/continuum-of-care/funding-competition.asp

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CoC Funding Competition

Overview

CoC Funding Competition
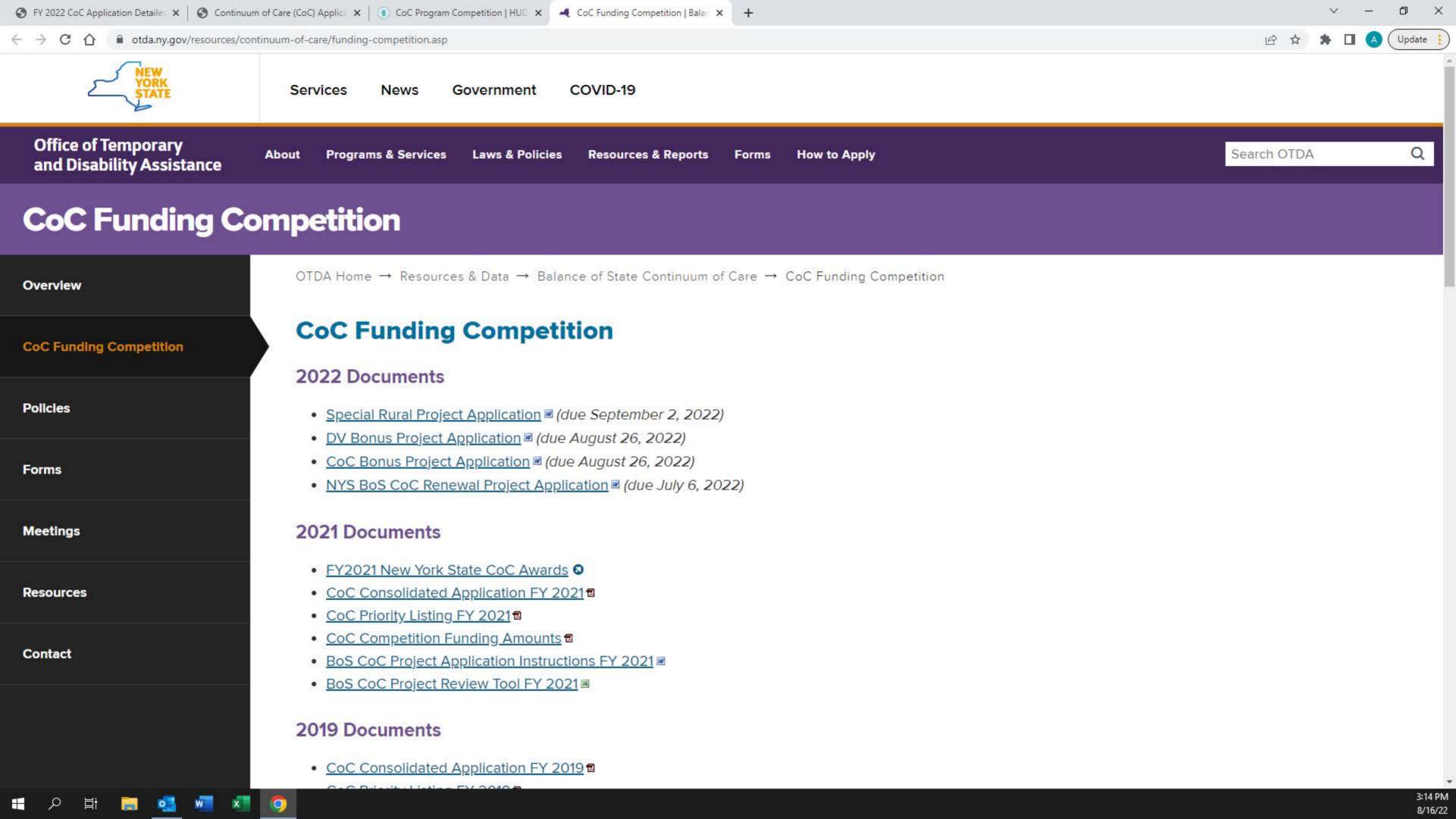
Policies

Forms

Meetings

Resources

Contact

CoC Funding Competition

2022 Documents

- Special Rural Project Application ⊞ *(due September 2, 2022)*
- DV Bonus Project Application ⊞ *(due August 26, 2022)*
- CoC Bonus Project Application ⊞ *(due August 26, 2022)*
- NYS BoS CoC Renewal Project Application ⊞ *(due July 6, 2022)*

2021 Documents

- FY2021 New York State CoC Awards ↗
- CoC Consolidated Application FY 2021 🗏
- CoC Priority Listing FY 2021 🗏
- CoC Competition Funding Amounts 🗏
- BoS CoC Project Application Instructions FY 2021 ⊞
- BoS CoC Project Review Tool FY 2021 ⊠

2019 Documents

- CoC Consolidated Application FY 2019 🗏

1B-2.

Local Competition Scoring Tool

Question Number	Question Type (see key below)	Metric	Points	Available Points	Project 1	Project 2	Project 3	Project 4
SR1	OB	**Threshold requirements -** the project must meet NOFO requirements outlined in Section VIII of the NOFO.	No points assigned. If answer "no" to any part of this question, do NOT proceed - project is not eligible for funding.	NA				
SR2	OB	**Agency reguarly attends LPB and Steering Committee meetings**	Yes = 2 pts No = 0 pts	2				
SR3	SUB	**Applicant is experienced with grant management**	Score 0 to 5 points	5				
SR4	SUB	**Applicant demonstrates experience serving the proposed population (including serving rural areas)**	Score 0 to 5 points	5				
SR5	OB	**Unresolved HUD monitoring and/or OIG audit findings**	Yes = -5 pts No = 0 pts	0				
SR6	SUB	**Agency participates in activities related to promotion of racial equity among homeless households**	Score 0 to 5 points	5				
SR7	SUB	**Agency coordinates with ESG funding recipients**	Score 0 to 2 points	2				
SR8	SB	**Agency coordinates with healthcare agencies regarding COVID and other health needs for homeless households**	Score 0 to 5 points	5				
SR9	SUB	**Agency coordinates with local PHAs**	Score 0 to 5 points	5				
SR10	SUB	**Agency incorporates persons with lived experience in the decision-making process**	Score 0 to 5 points	5				
SR11	SUB	**Agency ensures privacy, respect, safety, and access to services regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation**	Score 0 to 5 points	5				
SR12	D	**Need for project clearly documented**	Score 0 to 10 points	10				
SR13	SUB	**Program design is suitable for proposed population**	Score 0 to 5 points	5				
SR14	SUB	**Proposed program has reasonable timeline for implementation**	Yes = 2 pts No = 0 pts	2				
SR15	OB	**Applicant proposes to participate fully in HMIS (or a comparable database)**	Yes = 2 pts No = 0 pts	2				
SR16	OB	**Applicant proposes to participate fully in CE (applicants serving victims of domestic violence will participate in CE in a manner consistent with VAWA regulations)**	Yes = 2 pts No = 0 pts	2				
SR17	OB SB	**Project will use a Housing First model, including not screening participants out based on the following:** Having too little/no income; loss of income; failure to improve income / Active or history of substance abuse / Having a criminal record, with exceptions for state-mandated restrictions / History of victimization / Failure to participate in supportive services / Failure to make progress on a service plan / Any other activity not covered in a lease agreement	Housing First = 5 pts No = 0 pts	5				
SR18	D SB OB SP	**Proposed program addresses increased housing stability for participants** (obtaining safe, affordable housing quickly and ensuring that participants will exit to or remain in permanent housing)	Score 0 to 10 points	10				
SR19	D SB OB SP	**Proposed program addresses access to mainstream benefits, including income (earned or unearned)**	Score 0 to 10 points	10				
SR20	SB	**The project demonstrates how it will serve a structurally disadvantaged and rural area**	Score 0 to 10 points	10				
SR21	SB OB	**Program has a SOAR-trained staff person that assists with SSI/SSDI applications**	Yes, and staff trained within 24 months = 3 pts Yes, but not trained within 24 months = 2 No = 0 pts	3				
SR22	OB	**Proposed costs are reasonable for the program type and population served**	Yes = 2 pts No = 0 pts	2				
			Total Points	100				

Question Type	Maximum Points	Project 1	Project 2	Project 3	Project 4
Objective (OB)	36				
Severe Barrier (SB)	43				
Data (D)	30				
System Performance (SP)	20				

P-9c.

Lived Experience Support Letter

October 5, 2022

New York State Balance of State Continuum of Care
c/o Steering Committee

To Whom It May Concern:

The Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB), comprised of individuals who received services from, or work within our continuum and have lived experience with or are directly impacted by homelessness, are pleased to lend its support to the following projects put forth by the NY-525 Continuum of Care (CoC):

1. HUD CoC Rapid Rehousing Project, Cattaraugus Community Action, Inc.
2. FMS Rapid Rehousing, Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless
3. IPH Outreach, Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless
4. Sullivan County Rapid Rehousing Program, Action Toward Independence Inc.

As outlined in the NOFO, the NY-525 CoC will continue to deliver services upholding the housing first philosophy, utilizing coordinated entry in a trauma-informed manner.

The projects proposed for Special NOFO funding contain multi-faceted support activities that focus on hard-to-reach individuals with complex service needs. We intend to expand on rapid rehousing, rental assistance, landlord engagement specialist, case management and Social Security application assistance, which have yielded positive results for the clients engaged in our programs.

We believe these projects will drastically help the CoC by incorporating the perspectives of the population we are serving, ensuring access and insight to by the most vulnerable population and allows the CoC to draft responses, build policies, procedures and practices that address direct needs.

The Lived Experience Advisory Committee is an intersectional, trauma-informed body, focused on empowerment. Through prioritizing the insights and observations of individuals with lived experience, these takeaways inform our evaluation of potential projects and initiatives to combat homelessness throughout our CoC.

The development and strategic advancement of the proposed projects will bolster the support available to vulnerable members of this community. These projects will enhance the community's ongoing efforts to effectively serve those most in need.

Sincerely,

Adam Anderson
Board Chair

Kelley A. Gilligan
Member

Alexis Provorse
Member

Shannen Wood
Member

NYS BoS CoC Lived Experience Advisory Board