

Northwest Minnesota Continuum of Care CoC Program Competition (“NOFO”) Housing First Assessment

Housing First projects are effective in assisting all subpopulations of people experiencing homelessness to access and sustain stable housing.

As part of the local CoC Program Competition for new and renewal projects, applicants are required to answer the following questions related to the proposed project's eligibility criteria and project rules. Each question will be scored as indicated. After completing the assessment, the applicant will calculate their total score. This form must be submitted as part of your NW CoC project application. This assessment is required for CoC-funded housing projects only.

A goal of this assessment is to identify training and system needs to ensure our homeless response system includes opportunities for everyone. **Because of program requirements and property management requirements, we acknowledge that not all applicants will be able to answer yes to all of the following questions.**

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Organization | |
| Project Name | |
| Date Completed | |

LOW BARRIER ACCESS:

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|--|---|
| 1) Does the project require clients to pass a background screening prior to project entry (excluding sexual offender/predator check)? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [No = 1 point] |
| 2) Does the project prohibit all persons with specified criminal convictions on a blanket basis to be excluded from admission (excluding registered sexual offenders)? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [No = 1 point] |
| 3) Does the project require participants to be sober for a specified period prior to project entry as a condition for admission? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [No = 1 point] |
| 4) Does the project serve individuals and families regardless of sexual orientation, family composition, or marital status? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [Yes = 1 point] |

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| 5) Does the project serve and house transgender individuals according to the gender they identify? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [Yes = 1 point] |
| 6) Does the project expedite the admission process including help with housing search (scattered site only) and help assembling necessary documents to support the application for admission? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [Yes = 1 point] |

HOUSING RETENTION:

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|---|---|
| 7) Does the project terminate participants for failure to participate in treatment or support services including case management? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [No = 1 point] |
| 8) Does the project terminate participants solely for engaging in substance use? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [No = 1 point] |
| 9) Does the project require participants to obtain income as a condition of remaining in the project? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [No = 1 point] |
| 10) Does the project make all efforts to avoid discharging participants into homelessness including referral back to coordinated entry for those who cannot remain in the project? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [Yes = 1 point] |
| 11) Are project participants held to standards/behaviors not found in mainstream leases (such as not being allowed visitors, curfews, required to do chores, or not being allowed to have alcoholic beverages in their unit)? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [No = 1 point] |

PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT:

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|---|---|
| 12) Does the project provide participant choice in accessing services and are efforts made to connect participants to community-based services? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [Yes = 1 point] |
| 13) Does the project provide regular opportunities for program participants to provide input on project policies and operations? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [Yes = 1 point] |
| 14) Are project staff trained to support participant engagement through best practices including harm reduction, motivational interviewing, and trauma informed approaches? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> [Yes = 1 point] |

TOTAL SCORE: _____