

## 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 2024 CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The FY 2024 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 2024 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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

**1A-1. CoC Name and Number:** MN-506 - Northwest Minnesota CoC

**1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name:** Northwest Minnesota Foundation

**1A-3. CoC Designation:** CA

**1A-4. HMIS Lead:** Institute for Community Alliances

## 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:

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<b>1B-1.</b>	<b>Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry.</b>	
	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, 2023 to April 30, 2024:	
	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	No
6.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.	Hospital(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Yes	Yes	Yes
9.	Law Enforcement	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	No
12.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	Yes
13.	Local Jail(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
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	Yes
22.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	No
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	Yes	Yes
29.	State Domestic Violence Coalition	Yes	No	No
30.	State Sexual Assault Coalition	Yes	No	No
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.				
35.				

**By selecting "other" you must identify what "other" is.**

<b>1B-1a.</b>	<b>Experience Promoting Racial Equity.</b>	
	NOFO Section III.B.3.c.	

Describe in the field below your CoC's experience in effectively addressing the needs of underserved communities, particularly Black and Brown communities, who are substantially overrepresented in the homeless population.

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

The Northwest Minnesota Continuum of Care (NWCoC or CoC) region is centered within three Tribal Nations; Red Lake Nation, White Earth Nation and the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. The Indigenous population makes up a large percentage of the individuals served within the CoC. Understanding and respecting Indigenous traditions, languages, and values ensures that services are relevant and sensitive to the community’s unique context. This cultural competence enhances the overall effectiveness of programs. The NWCoC believes that involving Indigenous communities in the design and delivery of services empowers them to take ownership of their community wellbeing. To this end, the NWCoC’s Board of Directors currently seats members of the indigenous communities. Over 30% of the NWCoC General Membership is made up of organizations that are led by or serve Black and Brown communities.

In 2024, seeing the need for systems development to reach underserved Indigenous youth experiencing housing instability, the NWCoC and Northwest Minnesota Foundation (NMF) partnered with the Minnesota Tribal Collaborative (MTC) in securing 2 million dollars of Youth Homelessness System Improvement funding. Through this collaboration, the funding will:

Establish stronger partnership<sup>2</sup> with local tribal nations working on ending youth homelessness

Complete needs assessment/system analysis to determine community needs

Analyze NWCoC policies and CES policies to identify racial inequities specific to indigenous communities

Collaborate and integrate tribal & NWCoC Data systems for youth

Develop evaluation plan specific to indigenous youth in Minnesota  
 To ensure program design and implementation are equitably serving the Black and Brown communities, the CoC engages with the Racial Equity Accountability Project (REAP) team. The REAP team, created in 2021, made up of members who represent the Black and Brown community or identify as LBGTQ+, many of which have had within their experience homelessness. REAP is tasked with dismantling systems of oppression within the homeless response system. REAP guides the work of policy design and program implementation for the CoC. The CoC also supports the Youth Action Board (YAB) to continue to influence the written standards that guide the CoC’s work in providing equitable service delivery within youth centered programs. The YAB has their own page on the MyPath virtual drop-in center for youth in the NWCoC.  
<https://mypaths.org>

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 your CoC's geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, and persons with disabilities).
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**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. The NW CoC strives to create a transparent and accessible process for the recruitment of new members. This is done using a variety of tools and forms of communication to assure equitable accessibility. A recruitment letter is distributed to all current members to share within their networks annually. This letter is also distributed via email newsletters and social media resources across the region by the collaborative applicant. The CoC Coordinator and CoC staff invest in relationships with new and established organizations to encourage and recruit broad participation in the CoC. The CoC website has clearly defined CoC information and a link to the membership form for practical access for prospective members. The REAP team continues to add members annually. REAP ensures the power dynamics are shifted in their favor amongst their peers.

2. All communication with the CoC is sent electronically and may be made available for individuals with disabilities. CoC meetings are held in accessible spaces when in person with virtual options available. Virtual meetings have options for real-time closed captioning. Meetings often include PowerPoints with visual summaries of information shared verbally. Utilizing AI technology, meetings are recorded, and transcripts are made available for the visually impaired. The CoC has made available translation services for all ethnicities and race dialects, including American Sign Language translation.

3. The CoC believes that representation from all communities is the only way the region may be equitably served. A continuous evaluation of who is not seated at the table is required to assure that all voices are included in decision-making processes. This evaluation helps identify underrepresented groups and allows for intentional outreach and engagement strategies. The CoC Coordinator prepares for the addition of new members all year as new organizations start, or staffing changes happen, connecting with organizations personally. The CoC does extensive outreach to recruit individuals with lived experience and individuals representing marginalized communities. To this end, over 50% of the CoC Executive Board identify as individuals who have experienced homelessness and 44% represent persons of color or indigenous decent.

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.The CoC actively seeks knowledge and input from an array of diverse organizations and individuals to help inform the work around ending homelessness in our region.The CoC membership includes representation from school liaisons, county social services, landlords, reentry programs, legal services, workforce development, PHA's, health providers, PWLE, and supportive housing programs. We create space for interaction and communication at all committee and board meetings, allowing for free exchange of ideas and solutions to remove barriers in our work. By direct collaboration with City governments, we can leverage the power needed to change laws impacting housing resources.

2.The NW CoC uses the following formats to communicate information or to solicit information significant to the work being done to eradicate homelessness:

- Emails, social media posts, flyer distribution to solicit membership, publicize meetings and events.
- CoC website to provide CoC related content, promote local, state and federal funding opportunities
- Representation on regional housing/homeless committees with CoC requested input on key planning items
- Monthly engagement with regional shelter entities
- Partner presentations at meetings
- The CoC canvasses service providers, community partners, and PWLE of homelessness for its needs assessments.

3.All communication within the CoC is sent electronically and may be made available for differently abled individuals in any format requested. Meetings are held in accessible spaces when in person with virtual options available. Virtual meetings have options for real-time closed captioning and often include PowerPoints with visual summaries of information shared verbally. The utilization of AI technology further allows for effective communication for all individuals. Translation services are available for all information.

4.Having established a goal to prevent and youth homelessness in the region, the CoC has embarked on an intentional effort to better understand the youth journey through homelessness by capturing the perspectives of those who have lived experience. Information gathered will help inform future planning on the homelessness response system in our region and embodies the “nothing for us without us” approach to the work that the CoC and the MTC are doing in developing a service map of the homeless response system to allow for targeted strategic planning process in the systems development for the YHSI project.

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.
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(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC invites interest from organizations not previously funded through the “Call for new projects” process. The information about this process is made public on the CoC website, radio, tv, press releases, social media and email blasts. Personal communication with homeless coalitions & at meetings of similar groups is provided. The application process is publicly posted and addressed to the entire CoC membership distribution list. Targeted outreach is made to the MTC and new organizations to better understand the interest in making applications and where assistance may be needed.
2. The CoC P&E Committee engages in an ongoing process to streamline the NOFO application scoring to better address the priorities of the communities being served, ensuring that the process encompassed the Strategic Planning Goals and Homeless Policy Priorities endorsed by HUD. The new scoring criteria is available for the applicants at the FY24-25 NOFO project launch and included the CoC NOFO instruction documents, Anti-discrimination, Housing First and Reallocation policies, CoC appeal process guidelines, and the detailed instructions and timeline. Applicants are encouraged to contact the CoC Coordinator for t.a. support. Application process for the local competition:  
4.15.24: NOFO Local Competition publicly posted  
7.22; 8.5; 8.20.24: Listening sessions for local competition  
8.29.24: New and renewal applications due into Collaborative Applicant
3. Applications are scored and ranked by the Rank & Review committee made up of individuals with adherence to the stipulations detailed in CoC policy. The R&R committee is comprised of members of the YAB (Youth Action Board), the REAP (Racial Equity Accountability Project) team, PWLE, Tribal and individuals knowledgeable in program implementation. The process:  
9.2-9.7.24: R&R committee reviews project applications  
9.9.24: R&R recommend project rankings and applicants are informed.  
9.12.24: Final rankings publicly posted for a 15-day open comment period and are then presented to the CoC Board of Directors for approval.
4. The CoC follows guidance from the MN Disability Council to ensure documents are readable & meetings accessible. This includes lists, hyperlinks, simple tables, alternative text for images, and accessible PDFs. Virtual meetings include options for closed captioning. Application materials are available electronically & include information to request assistance and alternative submission options.



## 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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<b>1C-1.</b>	<b>Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations.</b>	
	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)	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.		

<b>1C-2.</b>	<b>CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients.</b>	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.b.	

In the chart below select yes or no to indicate whether your CoC:

1.	Consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG Program funds?	Yes
2.	Provided Point-in-Time (PIT) count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area?	Yes
3.	Ensured local homelessness information is communicated and addressed in the Consolidated Plan updates?	Yes
4.	Coordinated with ESG recipients in evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients?	Yes

<b>1C-3.</b>	<b>Ensuring Families are not Separated.</b>	
	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?	Yes
2.	Conducted optional training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure family members are not separated?	Yes
3.	Worked with CoC and 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?	No

<b>1C-4.</b>	<b>CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth—SEAs, LEAs, School Districts.</b>	
	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

<b>1C-4a.</b>	<b>Formal Partnerships with Youth Education Providers, SEAs, LEAs, School Districts.</b>	
	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)**

All the MN CoCs, entered into an ongoing Collaborative Agreement with the MN Dept. of Education (MDE) in 2022. This agreement outlines the roles of CoCs and MDE and our collaborative efforts in ensuring that families and youth experiencing homelessness are informed of their rights under McKinney Vento and have access to resources they need to be stably housed. In the agreement, MDE commits to a) Provide training to CoC's on how to use MDE aggregate public data on youth experiencing homelessness in Districts and Schools. b) Provide a list of training offered to District and School Homeless Liaisons, to CoC's. c) Provide to District and School Homeless Liaisons, a list of CoC's with contact information sortable by county; and encourage Liaisons to communicate and collaborate with their CoC. The CoC commits to MDE to a) By Oct 1 each year, provide MDE a current list of CoC contacts. b) By Oct 1 of each year, provide information on how to become members of a CoC with District and School Liaisons. c) Invite MDE and educational entities within the CoC to become members of the CoC. d) As needed, provide clear information about date, time, and agenda of agreed upon collaboration meetings. Together, MDE and the CoC commit to collaborate to distribute a bimonthly MN Homeless Education Newsletter to all school liaisons with important training dates, resources, and connections to assist LEAs with serving the needs of youth experiencing homelessness. Additional activities:

Meet with 24 school districts, to provide clear information, guidance and resources to the education systems working with families and youth experiencing homelessness.

Collaboration with LEAs includes targeted outreach to area school districts, youth education providers, and Head Start programs and have built strong relationships with the schools to identify youth and families experiencing homelessness to connect them to resources. CoC youth programs have agreements in place with school districts and youth education providers to supply services to youth experiencing homelessness under McKinney Vento. CoC policy clarifies priority on school connectedness for homeless children and the role of homeless assistance agencies in promoting this. CoC programs are evaluated every year, as part of the CoC competition, in collaboration with LEAs. The CoC collaborates with school liaisons regionwide to identify youth/families for unsheltered PIT counts and for connection to Coordinated Entry.

1C-4b.	Informing Individuals and Families Who Have Recently Begun Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services.  NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	
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Describe in the field below written policies and procedures your CoC uses to inform individuals and families who have recently begun experiencing homelessness of their eligibility for educational services.

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

In 2012, the NW CoC adopted a policy Requiring School Enrollment and Connection to Appropriate Services for all children. This policy was updated in September of 2018 to insert "link" households to assure access to State McKinney Vento Services versus just working collaboratively. All CoC-funded agencies follow this policy and must certify this on the required NOFA Threshold Form. The

policy reads:

Educational and supportive service needs of families with minor children will be fully assessed upon entry to the program. School-aged youth will be enrolled in school immediately, working collaboratively with the designated school homeless liaison in the Local Educational Agency (LEA) to ensure that all educational assessments are completed. To the extent feasible, students in homeless situations should be kept in their school of origin (defined as the school the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled), unless it is against the parent’s or guardian’s wishes. Students in homeless situations must have access to the educational and other services they need to ensure that they have an opportunity to meet the same challenging state student academic achievement standards to which all students are held. Appropriate referrals will be made in the community to address supportive service needs of all family members.

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

1C-5.	Addressing Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking—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.	Anti-trafficking Service Providers	Yes
	Other Organizations that Help this Population (limit 500 characters)	
4.		

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

Describe in the field below how your CoC regularly collaborates with organizations that you selected yes to 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 includes all organizations serving victims of intimate partner violence in policy updates. In 2023, the CoC updated all its administrative policies to align with system needs. Victim Service Providers have been a part of all planning meetings to ensure the policy decisions will meet their needs and those of DV survivors. The new policy has language to ensure compliance with VAWA and clarification around project transfers for DV survivors. The State CoC Coordinators have engaged with the state organization Violence Free Minnesota to better partner resources.

2. In 2023-24, the NW CoC engaged Indigenous Visioning to provide multi-faceted training for the CoC region partners and stakeholders to provide guidance in best trauma-informed practices. The training, while not mandatory, was attended by staff from all agencies delivering services to DV survivors. The training engaged in trauma responsive practices delivered in a culturally responsive manner with a focus on exploring trauma and resiliency through Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) and their impact on the origins of physical, social, mental, and societal health and well-being. Further trauma-informed training offerings were made available through Metro-wide Engagement for Shelter & Housing (MESH), National Youth Network and local/regional resources. These offerings were made available both in-person and virtual, mostly at no cost to the participant, for ease and accessibility.

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

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

CoC policy is that all clients are served with respect and assistance cannot be withheld due to the person being or having been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking or being affiliated with a victim. At access, safety is assessed & referrals are immediately made to crisis centers and/or law enforcement when safety is a concern. CES prioritizes fleeing domestic violence or sexual exploitation with other criteria being equal.

1) The CoC's CES prioritizes "fleeing domestic violence and sexual exploitation." CoC protocols state that no programs shall deny or terminate housing or services due to the person being or having been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or for being affiliated with a victim. The CoC affirmatively supports the rights of victims to request a transfer from a specific unit due to concerns for safety. Shelters in MN utilize Day One network to coordinate shelter transfers, and the Day One system follows evidence-informed safety protocols. At access, safety is assessed & referrals are immediately made to crisis centers and/or law enforcement when safety is a concern.

2) The CoC maintains a second CE priority list outside of HMIS for Victim Service providers and people who wish to remain anonymous. Coordinated Entry also incorporates client choice questions (location, housing type, model) to support survivor's safety and ability to make their own significant life choices. The region's DV and housing agencies provide trauma-informed, and victim centered services and training are regularly available on these topics. Providers who strictly serve victims do not use HMIS or the statewide coordinated entry system. Agencies use an alternative database to enter clients onto the coordinated entry priority list. During case conferencing no names are or discussed given to protect confidentiality of the victim.

Privacy Protections as indicated in CE policy:  
 CE participating agencies are required to notify and obtain participant consent for the collection, use, and disclosure of participants' personally identifiable information (PII).  
 All participant information collected, stored, or shared in the operation of CE functions, regardless of whether or not those data are stored in HMIS, shall be considered personal and sensitive information worthy of the full force of protection and security associated with data collected, stored and shared in HMIS.

1C-5c.	Coordinated Annual Training on Best Practices to Address the Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	

In the chart below, indicate how your CoC facilitates training for project staff and coordinated entry staff that addresses best practices on safety planning and confidentiality protocols:

		Project Staff	Coordinated Entry Staff
1.	Training Occurs at least annually?	Yes	Yes
2.	Incorporates Trauma Informed best practices?	Yes	Yes
3.	Incorporates Survivor-Centered best practices?	Yes	Yes
4.	Identifies and assesses survivors' individual safety needs?	Yes	Yes
5.	Enhances and supports collaboration with DV organizations?	Yes	Yes
6.	Ensures survivors' rights, voices, and perspectives are incorporated?	Yes	Yes
	Other? (limit 500 characters)		
7.			

&nbsp;

1C-5d.	Implemented VAWA-Required Written Emergency Transfer Plan Policies and Procedures for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	

Describe in the field below:

1.	whether your CoC's written policies and procedures include an emergency transfer plan;
2.	how your CoC informs all households seeking or receiving CoC Program assistance about their rights to an emergency transfer;
3.	what your CoC requires households to do to request emergency transfers; and
4.	what your CoC does in response to households requesting emergency transfers.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. In July of 2022 the NWCoC approved an updated Coordinated Entry Policy to include transfers for VAWA. The policy reads as follows:

**Violence Against Women Act Transfers**

“A tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, as provided in HUD’s regulations at 24 CFR part 5, subpart L is eligible for an emergency transfer, if: the tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same unit. If the tenant is a victim of sexual assault, the tenant may also be eligible to transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises within the 90-calendar-day period preceding a request for an emergency transfer. A tenant requesting an emergency transfer must expressly request the transfer in accordance with the procedures described in this plan. Tenants who are not in good standing may still request an emergency transfer if they meet the eligibility requirements in this section.”

2. All program participants are provided with information on the Emergency Transfer plan upon program assessment, intake and admission through verbal and written communication.

3. In 2023, the NWCoC revised and adopted the training and procedure manual for Coordinated Entry to include a section of transfer plan process for VAWA that reads as follows:

A client who when entering a program was fleeing Domestic Violence may transfer to another project to ensure their safety. If a client wishes to request a transfer to another project the Housing Provider will contact the Priority List Manager.

4. The Priority List Manger will provide the Housing Provider a list of current open referral requests for the Housing Provider to review with the client. If there are no current open referral requests the Priority List Manager will send the next available opening to the Housing Provider. Case Conferencing is not required for making a transfer to protect the safety of a victim of domestic violence. Anyone fleeing domestic violence in the NWCoC is prioritized for DV specific housing services without a referral through coordinated entry. At access if a person indicates fleeing from DV safety is assessed and referrals are immediately made to crisis shelters or if necessary, law enforcement. This ensures no part of the system inadvertently puts someone fleeing back into danger by not providing immediate access to services.

1C-5e.	Facilitating Safe Access to Housing and Services 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 ensures households experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking have safe access to all of the housing and services available within your CoC’s geographic area.	



**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. The NW CoC includes membership from three providers whose mission is to serve populations fleeing intimate partner violence. These providers are also included in representation on the CoC Board of Directors and the CE committee. The CoC has three projects that are dedicated to serving individuals fleeing intimate partner violence. Members of the CoC are trained in trauma informed practices to best serve individuals and connect with emergency services. This training is offered annually and is, by many of our providers, mandated annual attendance. All CoC members are well connected with the regional and statewide service provider network. The CoC also ensures that survivors have access to all the housing services available through the following processes:

A) Anyone fleeing domestic violence in the NWCoC is prioritized for DV specific housing services through a separate secure and safe database outside of HMIS.

B) In the Coordinated Entry process, Victim Service Providers attend Case Conferencing meetings and advocate for their clients to be served in housing programs with openings and utilizing Rapid Resolution to efficiently serve victims. The priority list manager ensures that clients who are on the alternative priority list are not missed at Case Conferencing meetings and are considered for all openings in which they may be eligible.

C)The CoC allows for self-certification for victims of intimate partner violence. CoC case managers have direct partnerships with organizations serving victims.

2. The NW CoC connects with DV providers as active participants in the PIT count and engage with DV providers in a safe and confidential manner. The data collected in the PIT count and our region’s HMIS data helps the CoC identify gaps in service and systemic barriers within our homeless response system. Once identified, the CoC uses this information to inform system-wide changes in program and service delivery models.

1C-5f.	Identifying and Removing Barriers 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 ensures survivors receive safe housing and services by:	
1.	identifying barriers specific to survivors; and	
2.	working to remove those barriers.	

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1 The NW CoC includes membership from three providers whose mission is to serve populations fleeing intimate partner violence. These providers are also included in representation on the NW CoC Board of Directors and the Coordinated Entry committee. The CoC has three projects that are dedicated to serving individuals fleeing intimate partner violence. Members of the NW CoC are trained in trauma informed practices to best serve individuals and connect with emergency services. This training is offered annually and is, by many of our providers, mandated annual attendance. All CoC members are well connected with the regional and statewide service provider network. The CoC also ensures that survivors have access to all the housing services available through the following processes:

A) Anyone fleeing domestic violence in the NWCoC is prioritized for DV specific housing services through a separate secure and safe database outside of HMIS.

B) In the Coordinated Entry process Victim Service Providers attend Case Conferencing meetings and advocate for their clients to be served in housing programs with openings as well as utilizing Rapid Resolution to efficiently serve victims. The priority list manager ensures that clients who are on the alternative priority list are not missed at Case Conferencing meetings and are considered for all openings in which they may be eligible.

C)The CoC allows for self-certification for victims of intimate partner violence. CoC case managers have direct partnerships with organizations serving victims.

2 The NW CoC connects with DV providers as active participants in the PIT count and engages with DV providers in a safe and confidential manner. The data collected in the PIT count as well as our region’s HMIS data assists the CoC in identifying gaps in service as well as systemic barriers within our homeless response system. Once identified, the CoC uses this information to inform system-wide changes in program and service delivery models.

1C-6.	Addressing the Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer+—Anti-Discrimination Policy and Equal Access Trainings.	
	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;
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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)**

In 2024, the CoC reviewed the CoC Anti-Discrimination Policy. This process and adopted language, informed by the Racial Equity Accountability (REAP) committee, which comprised in part, of individuals with lived experience of homelessness and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

2. The CoC, its member agencies, its recipients of CoC, ESG or HOPWA funds operate under the Low Barrier Policy. This policy states that CoC providers will make enrollment determinations based on limiting barriers to enrollment in services and housing. No client, otherwise eligible, may be turned away from crisis response services or homeless-designated housing due to too little or no income, active or a history of substance use, domestic violence history, resistance to receiving services, the type or extent of disability-related services or supports that are needed, history of evictions or poor credit, lease violations or history of not being a leaseholder, or criminal record—with exceptions for state or local restrictions that prevent projects from serving people with certain convictions. The CoC requires all members and projects to abide by Fair Housing and Anti-Discrimination policies as adopted by the CoC. The CoC evaluates compliance annually during the CoC program competition.

3. The CoC Board reviews all issues of agency non-compliance with CoC administrative policy. The CoC supports providers to prevent non-compliance through training and the sharing of resources to create a culture of peer-to-peer accountability in serving individuals. This ensures agencies are not allowed to give undo preference to individuals over others and must be culpable to peers to receive referrals or explain and document a reason for not accepting a referral. The CoC evaluates compliance annually during the CoC program competition. All renewal and new CoC projects are required to identify that they meet HUD's requirements at the time of application, including the antidiscrimination policy, the Equal Access Final Rule and Gender Identify Final Rule. A violation of Fair Housing or Anti-Discrimination Policy is not tolerated by the CoC or its stakeholders.

4. All CoC projects are currently in compliance with the CoC's antidiscrimination policy. The CoC allows for an appeal process for clients who are denied housing. CoC policy includes that persons applying for and receiving housing or services are given contact information for HUD, MN Dept. of Human Rights and the CoC staff.

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 or Housing Choice Voucher Program During FY 2023 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?
Northwest Minnesota Multi-County Housing & Redevelopment Authority	75%	No	No
Housing & Redevelopment Authority of Bemidji	75%	No	No

<b>1C-7a.</b>	<b>Written Policies on Homeless Admission Preferences with PHAs.</b>	
	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. The CoC outreaches PHAs on its housing stakeholder listserv and has PHA members serving on the CoC Board of Directors. The CoC regularly communicates with its largest PHAs and has asked PHAs to consider a Homeless Admission Preference. The CoC has contacted the largest PHA's and conducted follow-up. Message points included the benefits of establishing a preference, sample policies, links to HUD guidance and USICH articles, and offers of support. The CoC continues to advocate PHAs adopt a homeless admission preference and encourage its members to do the same. This work has been made even more possible with the addition of HUD Emergency Housing Vouchers. The NWCoC worked with the two largest HRAs to develop prioritization strategies for these new vouchers, and to ensure vouchers were filled using the coordinated entry system. The NWCoC worked extensively with the two largest PHA's to develop a process to include the Emergency Housing Voucher units into coordinated entry. To develop an effective process, the CoC hosted 4 meetings with the PHAs to develop the process. The CoC is prioritizing a moving on approach a process was created and Moving On strategy was added to CE Policy and Procedures to approve individuals and families to move on from supportive housing programs. To most efficiently use resources available to the client a form was developed to outline which supporting agency would provide what resource to the client as part of the referral from coordinated entry. In order to solidify this process, the CoC coordinator, coordinated entry priority list manager and the HRA's held a training session for the CoC to outline the process. This collaboration was documented through a formal MOU between the NWCoC and the HRA of Bemidji and Northwest Multi-County HRA. The CoC/HRAs developed an MOU to prioritize based on the following criteria:

1. Recently Homeless – Moving On
2. Fleeing DV
3. Homeless
4. At-Risk of homeless

Most recently, the Coc has advocated the regions PHA's adoption of PIH Notice 23-13: Guidance on Housing Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness Through the Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Programs and acceptance of the Stability Vouchers which demand a prioritization of individuals experiencing homelessness.

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.		

<b>1C-7c.</b>	<b>Include Units from PHA Administered Programs in Your CoC's Coordinated Entry.</b>	
	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)	Yes
3.	Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)	No
4.	HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)	No
5.	Mainstream Vouchers	No
6.	Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) Vouchers	No
7.	Public Housing	No
8.	Other Units from PHAs:	

<b>1C-7d.</b>	<b>Submitting CoC and PHA Joint Applications for Funding for People Experiencing Homelessness.</b>	
	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)?	No
		<b>Program Funding Source</b>
2.	Enter the type of competitive project your CoC coordinated with a PHA(s) to submit a joint application for or jointly implement.	

<b>1C-7e.</b>	<b>Coordinating with PHA(s) to Apply for or Implement HCV Dedicated to Homelessness Including Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV).</b>	
	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?	No
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## 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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1D-1.	Preventing People Transitioning from Public Systems from Experiencing Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.h.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC actively coordinates with the public systems 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.	Prisons/Jails?	Yes
2.	Health Care Facilities?	Yes
3.	Residential Care Facilities?	Yes
4.	Foster Care?	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 2024 CoC Program Competition.	12
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 2024 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach.	12
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 2024 CoC Program Competition that reported that they are lowering barriers to entry and prioritizing rapid placement and stabilization to permanent housing.	100%

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;
3.	how your CoC regularly evaluates projects outside of your local CoC competition to ensure the projects are using a Housing First approach; and
4.	what your CoC has done to improve fidelity to Housing First.

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. The CoC requires all CoC projects to submit a Housing First (HF) compliance with their NOFO applications. Projects are required to submit a narrative that explains their HF plans to improve. Projects are scored based on the number of HF practices that they are currently implementing.

2 The performance indicators that are used during CoC evaluation are as follows:

- Does Not: require clients to pass a background screening prior to project entry (excluding sexual offender/predator check)
- prohibit persons with specified criminal convictions on a blanket basis to be excluded from admission
  - require participants to be sober for a specified period prior to project entry as a condition for admission
  - terminate participants for failure to participate in treatment or support services including case management
  - terminate participants solely for engaging in substance use
  - require participants to obtain income as a condition of remaining in the project
  - hold project participants to standards/behaviors not found in mainstream leases

Does: serve individuals and families regardless of sexual orientation, family composition, or marital status

- serve and houses transgender individuals according to the gender they identify
- expedite the admission process including help with housing search and help assembling necessary documents to support the application for admission
- make efforts to avoid discharging participants into homelessness including referral back to coordinated entry for those who cannot remain in the project
- provide participant choice in accessing services and are efforts made to connect participants to community-based services
- provide regular opportunities for program participants to provide input on project policies and operations
- project staff are trained to support participant engagement through best practices including harm reduction, motivational interviewing, and trauma informed approaches

3 As part of CoC Coordinated entry policy and practice, housing providers are expected to accept CES referrals, to follow HF, and to not deny referrals. All violations to HF practices are reported to the CoC Board. HF is also evaluated at monthly case consultation meetings with providers to create accountability for providing lower barrier access to housing programs.

4. In 2024, the CoC offered a region-wide HF training through Pathways for Housing First. Trainers continue to monitor HF implementation through community calls with service provider



1D-3.	<b>Street Outreach—Data—Reaching People Least Likely to Request Assistance.</b>	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.j.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC tailored its street outreach to people experiencing homelessness who are least likely to request assistance.

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

Outreach focused on those least likely to access services is done by targeting hours, locations and approaches that reach those at the highest risk of unsheltered homelessness. Evergreen focuses on serving homeless youth. Toward that end, we try to access areas we know youth congregate, such as the library or the Skate Park. SO is also performed in all of the area schools. Our predominant method of reaching hard-to-reach youth in need of services is our Drop-In Center. Open Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-6:00 pm, our location serves as a destination for homeless youth to get a hot meal, obtain food and hygiene supplies, shower, do laundry, and obtain a host of services via internal referrals, as well as referrals to community partner organizations. In 2022 The Nameless Coalition opened doors to a new Day Center tasked with procuring safe, warm shelter for chronic/inebriate homeless individuals who presently do not have adequate sleeping arrangements providing access to personal hygiene facilities, community resources and access to mail service. The Day Center functions as a walk-in, low barrier facility. The People's Church offers shelter, food and service referral 24/7. Deep collaborations between outreach facilities and service providers exist to meet people where they are physically at in order to promote easy access to resources. MyPath is a virtual drop-in center open to youth experiencing housing instability, offering supports and resources in a safe, virtual environment.

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

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate your CoC's strategies to prevent the criminalization of homelessness in your CoC's geographic area:

	Your CoC's Strategies	Engaged/Educated Legislators and Policymakers	Implemented Laws/Policies/Practices that Prevent Criminalization of Homelessness
1.	Increase utilization of co-responder responses or social services-led responses over law enforcement responses to people experiencing homelessness?	Yes	No
2.	Minimize use of law enforcement to enforce bans on public sleeping, public camping, or carrying out basic life functions in public places?	Yes	No
3.	Avoid imposing criminal sanctions, including fines, fees, and incarceration for public sleeping, public camping, and carrying out basic life functions in public places?	Yes	Yes
4.	Other:(limit 500 characters)		

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	2023	2024
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	124	125

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	Yes
2.	SSI–Supplemental Security Income	Yes
3.	SSDI–Social Security Disability Insurance	Yes
4.	TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Yes
5.	Substance Use Disorder Programs	Yes
6.	Employment Assistance Programs	Yes
7.	Other (limit 150 characters)	

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. | works with projects to collaborate with healthcare organizations, including those that provide substance use disorder treatment and mental health treatment, to assist program participants with receiving healthcare services, including Medicaid; and |
| 2. | promotes SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) certification of program staff.   |

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. The CoC maximizes connection to mainstream resources by integrating it in all aspects of the homeless response system starting at access. The CoC sends up-to-date information regularly through emails and quarterly resource newsletters. CoC programs use mail, text, social media, and all communication platforms to ensure their participants are aware of program changes. Utilizing the MyPath web application in the region to serve as a virtual drop-in center, youth can connect with healthservice providers and look for updates on programs. The CoC works to keep information shared in real time as much as possible. Any program changes or available mainstream benefits are communicated to program participants within a few days. All agencies have robust intake systems to ensure clients are aware of benefits they can utilize. The CoC uses an Active Listening Guide as the first part of the CES assessment to gain knowledge of what programs a client may need. To keep project staff up to date, the CoC invites representatives from mainstream health programs to provide updates at CoC meetings. The CoC project staff participate in weekly provider meetings hosted by State housing, service and health departments. Many of the agencies in the CoC are a one stop shop, meaning they can access housing resources and get access to healthcare and treatment programs. In the Bemidji area of the region Sanford Behavioral Health with the support of the CoC and ESG has expanded its work into housing. There is now a dedicated housing navigator working in the community with people who are homeless and suffering from mental health or chemical health issues. Alluma is another agency that the COC supports to receive ESG funds to expand housing services. This agency serves 7 counites in the region including the Red Lake and White Earth Reservation. Alluma combines mental health, chemical health, and housing into its care model.

2. The CoC receives updates on the SOAR and SSI programs to share with clients as Anishinaabe Legal Services are a board member. This ensures program staff are constantly up to date with any changes to the program. Northwest Minnesota Legal Services, Red Lake Reservation Housing Authority, and Community Resource Connection are all active CoC collaborative partners that have available resources for SOAR and SSI programs. CoC projects are also connected to service providers who can offer benefits.

ID-7.	Partnerships with Public Health Agencies–Collaborating to Respond to and Prevent the Spread of Infectious Diseases.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.n.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC effectively collaborates with state and local public health agencies to develop CoC-wide policies and procedures that:	
1.	respond to infectious disease outbreaks; and	
2.	prevent infectious disease outbreaks among people experiencing homelessness.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) began working more closely with CoCs as part of the COVID-19 response, and in 2021 was recognized by the CDC foundation as one of three National Centers on Excellence on Public Health & Homelessness. Partnerships are now being extended to address other infectious diseases. CoCs can access a large supply of free COVID-19 tests, personal protective equipment, and supplies for on-sight isolation and quarantine through MDH. MDH and local public health agencies have also supported free on-site COVID-19 testing and vaccination clinics at homeless settings and provided vaccine incentives to people experiencing homelessness. 2. MDH now has a permanent team in the emerging infectious disease unit who provides guidance & resources for homeless programs as well as correctional and higher education settings. MDH has contracts in place for COVID vaccine clinics, which homeless setting can request via an on-line COVID 19 Vaccination Event Request Form for Congregate settings. MHD has an Infectious Disease Trusted Messenger Program for people experiencing homelessness, where grantees receive education and technical assistance from MDH on how vaccines work, how they were tested, etc.MDH also provides grants to support HIV prevention, training, and early intervention services for people experiencing homelessness. It is implementing a new statewide Syringe Services Program (SSP) for People Experiencing Homelessness, and homeless overdose prevention hubs to provide holistic care to people experiencing homelessness who use drugs or are in recovery. MDH has programs that involve working with more individual grantees. MDH has HIV testing and prevention grants – some are specifically to serve people experiencing homelessness. The MDH Hepatitis Unit is working on education around Hepatitis C and homelessness. MDH has a harm reduction specialist who has some grantees specifically working with people experiencing homelessness who are focused on homeless encampments and other settings where unhoused populations can be found. MDH Has a Safe Harbor program for people who are unhoused and are victims of sex trafficking. They also have programs focused on drug overdose risks for people experiencing homelessness. Members of the CoC are leading the opiod steering committee, serving to prioritize use of settlement funds to address prevention, criminal justice, treatment, recovery and harm reduction.

ID-7a.	Collaboration With Public Health Agencies on Infectious Diseases.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.n.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	effectively 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. MDH has started a quarterly webinar series on public health and homelessness. There was a webinar in March related to harm reduction and homelessness, and one focused on syphilis and homelessness in June. When things emerge (such as MPOX), MDH works with MICH and CoCs around communication MDH also maintains a GovDelivery listserv to share infectious disease information with homeless service providers, other congregate settings & attends meetings with homeless providers to share infectious disease updates (e.g., surveillance data, guidance, etc.) & learn of local public health concerns. MDH held meetings with subgroups (e.g., outreach workers, youth shelters) to offer guidance & address specific concerns. The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has several current and upcoming grants to promote the health of people experiencing homelessness. MDH now has a permanent team in the emerging infectious disease unit who provides guidance & resources for homeless programs as well as correctional and higher education settings.

2. MDH has contracts with two healthcare partners, Odom Medical Group and M Health Fairview, to provide vaccine clinics for homeless service providers and other congregate settings, like supportive housing, across the state through an online request form. MDH also has an Infectious Disease Trusted Messenger Program for People Experiencing Homelessness. This program provides training and stipends to people experiencing homelessness to provide peer education and support for COVID-19 and other routine vaccinations. County Health Service providers are included in the CoC membership and frequently advise on best practices on street outreach as it pertains to infectious disease outbreaks.

1D-8.	Coordinated Entry Standard Processes.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry system:	
1.	can serve everybody regardless of where they are located within your CoC's geographic area;	
2.	uses a standardized assessment process to achieve fair, equitable, and equal access to housing and services within your CoC;	
3.	collects personal information in a trauma-informed way; and	
4.	is updated at least annually using feedback received from participating projects and households that participated in coordinated entry.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. To better support those facing housing insecurity or homelessness, our assessment process has been improved to address community disparities through increased accessibility, inclusive language, and progressive engagement. With 12 access points, CoC providers actively conduct outreach, meeting households in their environments. We build rapport using a strength-based approach, allowing clients to identify their barriers and match them with suitable services. The CES features standardized policies, a shared priority list, and forms that cover our 12-county region. Over 19 agencies, including shelters, mental health providers, and domestic violence services, connect individuals in housing crises to CES. We utilize a HMIS priority list for general cases and a separate list for domestic violence survivors and those who opt out of HMIS consent. All HUD-funded programs and many philanthropic agencies participate in CES, and members providing supportive housing must be involved. Individuals can choose to be added to the CES list in preferred locations, with no restrictions based on residency.
2. CES utilizes progressive engagement and triage to identify and prioritize those who are most vulnerable and lack access. CES uses multiple access and assessment sites, including outreach and phone access. Adequate staffing for access points are an ongoing challenge for rural programs. The CoC's YHDP prioritizes navigation services and RRH to ensure access to CES. The CoC has been adding navigation services including partnerships with Heading Home Corps and Sanford Behavioral Health.
3. To be sensitive to the potential impact of past trauma, CoC providers endeavor to collect personal information by providing a safe environment to promote trust. They empower clients by allowing them to control what information is shared and are transparent in explaining how the collected information will be used. Through extensive training, providers are instructed on sensitive language choices and practice active listening. These steps allow for a minimal risk of re-traumatization.
4. Annual updates incorporating feedback from all participating projects and individuals with lived experience, particularly from the YAB, whose input was essential for Board approval. Regular meetings allow providers to share client experiences and suggest improvements, which are reviewed by the CES committee for continuous quality enhancements.

1D-8a.	Coordinated Entry–Program Participant-Centered Approach.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	
	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 needs and preferences; and	
4.	takes steps to reduce burdens on people seeking assistance.	

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. Our CoC’s employs targeted outreach strategies to reach individuals who are least likely to seek homeless assistance on their own. We partner with local organizations, including schools & healthcare providers, to identify and connect with vulnerable populations. Staff engage directly with individuals, providing information about available services and assisting with the application process. By utilizing culturally sensitive materials we ensure inclusivity, addressing barriers such as language and stigma. Collaboration with community leaders & local organizations helps us build trust, encouraging those in need to access support. Prioritizing relationship-building and accessibility, we aim to create pathways for individuals who might otherwise remain disengaged from available resources.

2. CE policy prioritizes those in greatest need using the following criteria: a) chronic homelessness, b) duration of homelessness, c) disability status, d) length of time on the waiting list. We employ a strength-based approach to gather information about the barriers clients face, ensuring we provide the most effective assistance. Clients who encounter significant housing barriers that others may not face, such as discrimination, are prioritized for available programs. This includes clients who:

- Report being affected by discrimination that impacts their housing options
- Have had prior interactions with institutional settings that create housing challenges.
- Indicate that their physical and mental health needs are unmet.
- Seek stability in school or family reconnection.

3. Assessments gather information about client preferences, needs, and barriers to housing to facilitate appropriate referrals. Data is promptly entered into the HMIS for swift placement on the priority list. CE staff adhere to established timeframes for referrals and follow-ups as specified in CoC policies to ensure timely support. Assessors maintain regular communication with CE clients, & housing needs for all clients are evaluated during case conferencing sessions.

4. Staff offer hands-on support to clients in finding housing, accessing resources, and obtaining necessary documentation to facilitate quick entry into available programs. Assessments can be conducted over the phone or at a location of the client’s choice, all through a trauma-informed approach. Staff maintain regular follow-up with clients to stay informed about their housing needs, keep them updated and provide referrals.

1D-8b.	Coordinated Entry–Informing Program Participants about Their Rights and Remedies–Reporting Violations.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC through its 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. The NW CoC promotes housing and supportive services to ensure access for all individuals experiencing homelessness, regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, familial status, or disability, in accordance with 24 CFR 578.93(c). This information is available on the NW CoC website and the websites of participating programs across our service region as well as all printed and verbal communications.
2. During the Coordinated Entry (CE) process, program participants are informed of their rights and appeal procedures through various means:
  - Verbal Communication: Direct discussions with staff.
  - Written Communication: Information is included in the CES Participation Notice, Consent for Release of Information, HMIS Release of Information, Coordinated Entry System flyer, and related policies and documents.
  - Public Notices: Posted at all access sites, participating agencies, and NW CoC offices.
  - Program Admissions: Participants receive information about their rights under federal, state, and local fair housing and civil rights laws, as well as the appeal process.
3. In line with the Consolidated Plan, the NW CoC reports any conditions or actions that may hinder fair housing. This includes timely annual reporting of PIT & HIC data, program monitoring and compliance, and analysis of homelessness trends and barriers. Through its coordinated entry system, systematically reports any conditions or actions that may impede fair housing choice for current or prospective program participants to the relevant jurisdictions responsible for certifying compliance with the Consolidated Plan. This includes:
  1. Regular Monitoring: We continuously monitor local housing trends, barriers, and any discriminatory practices affecting access to housing.
  2. Data Collection: We collect and analyze data from the Coordinated Entry System, including feedback from clients and service providers, to identify systemic issues impacting fair housing.
  3. Annual Reporting: We submit timely annual reports, including Point-in-Time (PIT) counts and Housing Inventory Counts (HIC), highlighting any barriers to fair housing access and recommendations for improvement.
  4. Collaboration: We collaborate with local agencies and stakeholders to address identified issues, ensuring that any barriers are documented and communicated effectively.
  5. Stakeholder Engagement: We engage with stakeholders to gather input on fair housing concerns

1D-9.	Advancing Racial Equity in Homelessness—Conducting Assessment.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

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.	07/31/2023



1D-9a.	Using Data to Determine if Racial Disparities Exist in Your CoC’s Provision or Outcomes of CoC Program-Funded Homeless Assistance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. the data your CoC used to analyze whether any racial disparities are present in your CoC’s provision or outcomes of CoC Program-funded homeless assistance; and	
	2. how your CoC analyzed the data to determine whether any racial disparities are present in your CoC’s provision or outcomes of CoC Program-funded homeless assistance.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC’s Racial Equity Accountability Project (REAP) is a three-year initiative aimed at advancing racial equity and reducing disparities in Minnesota’s homeless response system. Led by the Minnesota Engagement on Shelter and Housing, the REAP team examines various metrics, including the length of homelessness, exit destinations, returns to homelessness, and Coordinated Entry referrals, while also gathering personal stories to capture lived experiences. To inform strategies for addressing these disparities, the REAP team conducted Community Talking Circles, gathering insights from over 40 participants with varying experiences of homelessness.

2. Since July 2022, the Racial Equity Accountability Team has analyzed this data and identified significant disparities, particularly affecting Indigenous individuals. In 2021, Indigenous people spent 150% longer on the priority list than their white counterparts, with only 11% becoming permanent renters or owners compared to over 21% of white individuals. Additionally, 29% of non-white individuals exited temporarily to family, while 18% of Black individuals exited to friends' homes. Notably, 48% of those returning to homelessness were Indigenous, with 77% of these returns occurring over 12 months after leaving supportive housing.

1D-9b.	Implemented Strategies to Prevent or Eliminate Racial Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p	
	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the strategies your CoC is using to prevent or eliminate racial disparities.	

1.	Are your CoC’s board and decisionmaking bodies representative of the population served in the CoC?	Yes
2.	Did your CoC identify steps it will take to help the CoC board and decisionmaking bodies better reflect the population served in the CoC?	Yes
3.	Is your CoC expanding outreach in your CoC’s geographic areas with higher concentrations of underrepresented groups?	Yes
4.	Does your CoC have communication, such as flyers, websites, or other materials, inclusive of underrepresented groups?	Yes
5.	Is your CoC training staff working in the homeless services sector to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness?	Yes
6.	Is your CoC establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of different races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector?	Yes

7.	Does your CoC have staff, committees, or other resources charged with analyzing and addressing racial disparities related to homelessness?	Yes
8.	Is your CoC 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.	Did your CoC review its coordinated entry processes to understand their impact on people of different races and ethnicities experiencing homelessness?	Yes
10.	Is your CoC collecting data to better understand the pattern of program use for people of different races and ethnicities in its homeless services system?	Yes
11.	Is your CoC conducting additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness?	Yes
	Other:(limit 500 characters)	
12.		

1D-9c.	Plan for Ongoing Evaluation of System-level Processes, Policies, and Procedures for Racial Equity.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

Describe in the field below your CoC's plan for ongoing evaluation of system-level processes, policies, and procedures for racial equity.

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

In 2023 the REAP Team held its final statewide cohort meeting, focusing on developing individual action plans for each region. The team has played a crucial role in analyzing system-level data for the Northwest Continuum of Care (CoC). Through this analysis, both quantitative and qualitative, the REAP Team has identified specific goals and action items aimed at improving the Coordinated Entry system and reducing racial disparities. Key goals in the REAP Coordinated Entry System (CES) Action Plan include:

- Sharing Decision-Making Power: Involving individuals experiencing homelessness in decisions regarding NW CoC administered funding.
- Annual Data Analysis: Established a process for annual analysis of CES data. We continuously collect both quantitative and qualitative data on service outcomes, including demographic breakdowns, lengths of stay, exit destinations, and returns to homelessness. This data is analyzed regularly to identify disparities and track progress over time.
- Cultural Competency Training: Developed a training model to enhance cultural competency skills among direct service providers in the CoC. We provide ongoing training for staff and service providers on racial equity and cultural competency. This helps to ensure that our systems are responsive to the needs of all community members.
- Regular Reporting: We have established a schedule for reporting findings to the CoC Board and stakeholders. This includes annual reviews of data and insights, highlighting areas of improvement and ongoing challenges related to racial equity.
- Action Plan: Based on the evaluation findings, we develop and implement targeted action plans to address identified disparities. These plans will include specific goals, timelines, and responsible parties to ensure accountability.

1D-9d.	Plan for Using Data to Track Progress on Preventing or Eliminating Racial Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

Describe in the field below:

1.	the measures your CoC plans to use to continuously track progress on preventing or eliminating racial disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance; and
2.	the tools your CoC plans to use to continuously track progress on preventing or eliminating racial disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. The CoC includes the REAP team to participate in the annual review of the Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO).  
 - A minimum of four members (60%) from the REAP team was involved in the NOFO ranking and review process.

- Developed a model for recruiting, training, and increasing accessibility for individuals who have experienced homelessness, enabling their participation in the ranking and review process.

Establish Annual Data Analysis of the CES

- The REAP team collected quantitative data on CES to identify barriers and set annual improvement targets

- Qualitative data is gathered annually through a Community Talking Circle model, aiming to reach at least 12 individuals each year.

- Develop a comprehensive annual data analysis related to the CoC's CES.

Develop Cultural Competency Training for Direct Service Providers:

- The CoC implemented a training model supported by REAP to enhance the cultural competency skills of staff working with individuals identifying as Black, Indigenous, or people of color.

- Initiative aims to foster stronger, positive relationships between service providers and individuals seeking assistance in the region.

- Plans include individuals experiencing homelessness providing feedback on the training needs of CoC staff, ensuring that the perspectives of all affected by the homeless response system are represented.

By executing these strategies, our CoC aims to ensure that decision-making processes and service delivery are equitable and responsive to the needs of marginalized communities.

2. The Racial Equity Accountability Team (REAP) will analyze data collected from various sources, including:

- American Community Survey (Census Bureau)
- Point-in-Time (PIT) count
- Coordinated Entry Data
- HUD CoC Racial Equity Analysis Tool
- Stella-P

In addition, the REAP Team gathers qualitative insights through Community Talking Circles, which capture the experiences of individuals who have lived through homelessness. Throughout 2023, the CoC has made significant strides in outreach to those with lived experiences, conducting Talking Circles that reached over 100 individuals and doubling participation in both REAP and the Youth Advisory Board (YAB).

To further empower youth with lived experiences, the NMF has implemented a Youth Outreach Consultant program, enabling them to influence the systems that serve them.

1D-10.	Involving Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Service Delivery and Decisionmaking—CoC's Outreach Efforts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

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 decisionmaking processes.

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

The NWCoC hosts several decision-making bodies primarily composed of individuals with lived experience, including the CoC Board of Directors, the Youth Action Board (YAB), and the Racial Equity Accountability Project (REAP). These groups actively engage those with firsthand experiences of homelessness and those working directly within the homeless response system. Building these relationships is essential for developing a just and equitable homeless response system.

Specific goals for incorporating individuals with lived experiences include:

- Ensuring that YAB and REAP members attend a minimum of four NWCoC General Membership and Youth Committee meetings each year.
- Encouraging YAB and REAP members to attend at least two NWCoC Board of Directors meetings annually.
- Enabling YAB and REAP members to contribute to and take ownership of up to three policy-based decisions for the NWCoC Board by participating in the aforementioned meetings.

To support this engagement, the Northwest Continuum of Care and the Northwest Minnesota Foundation collaborate to provide stipends for community members with lived experience who serve on the REAP Team. Members are compensated at \$25 per hour and can receive stipend payments through various methods to eliminate barriers to accessing funding.

1D-10a.	Active CoC Participation of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

You must upload the Lived Experience Support Letter 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.	Routinely included in the decisionmaking processes related to addressing homelessness.	30	30
2.	Participate on CoC committees, subcommittees, or workgroups.	30	30
3.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's local competition rating factors.	30	30
4.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's coordinated entry process.	30	30

1D-10b.	Professional Development and Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

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 NWCoC and its member organizations prioritize providing professional development and employment opportunities to individuals with lived experience of homelessness through several key initiatives:

- Training Programs: Various training sessions focused on essential skills for working in the homelessness sector. Topics include the history of homelessness, Homelessness 101, peer recovery training, and best practices for service delivery.
- Internship Opportunities: Create internship positions within the CoC and partner organizations, allowing individuals with lived experience to gain hands-on experience in a supportive environment. These internships may lead to future employment opportunities.
- Mentorship: Facilitate mentorship programs that connect individuals with experienced professionals in the field.
- Compensation: Individuals with lived experience who engage in advisory boards or training sessions are compensated for their time. This not only recognizes their contributions but also encourages continued involvement.
- Professional Development: PWLE may participate in workshops focused on resume building, interview skills, and job search strategies to enhance participants' employability.
- Collaboration with Employers: Partnerships with local businesses to create job placement opportunities specifically for individuals with lived experience, fostering a supportive hiring environment.

By implementing these strategies, the NWCoC aims to empower individuals with lived experience, helping them achieve personal and professional goals while contributing to a more effective homeless response system.

1D-10c.	Routinely Gathering Feedback and Addressing Challenges of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	
	Describe in the field below:	
1.	how your CoC gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness;	
2.	how often your CoC gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness;	
3.	how your CoC gathers feedback from people who received assistance through the CoC Program or ESG Program;	
4.	how often your CoC gathers feedback from people who have received assistance through the CoC Program or ESG Program; and	
5.	steps your CoC has taken to address challenges raised by people with lived experience of homelessness.	

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. The NWCoC employs several strategies to gather feedback from PWLE, ensuring their voices are integral to shaping policies and programs:

- Community Talking Circles: Host regular Community Talking Circles that provide a safe space for individuals to share their experiences and insights
- Surveys: These tools help us gather quantitative data on participants' experiences and satisfaction levels.
- Advisory Boards: YAB and the REAP are actively involved in decision-making processes.

The CoC and the Northwest Minnesota Foundation leverage existing funding to gather and analyze data essential for achieving the goals of keeping homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring. This analysis relies on the latest data cycles from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) in collaboration with the CoC's homeless response system

By employing these methods, the NWCoC aims to create a responsive and inclusive system that reflects the needs and perspectives of those experiencing homelessness.

2. Data and feedback collected on a monthly basis.

3. The NWCoC gathers feedback from individuals who have received assistance through the CoC and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs through several effective methods:

- Focus Groups: Partners organize focus groups specifically for program participants to discuss their experiences, allowing for in-depth conversations about what worked well and what could be improved.
- Case Manager Check-Ins: Staff maintain regular communication with participants, enabling them to collect informal feedback throughout the assistance period. This ongoing dialogue helps identify issues early on.
- Advisory Committees: PWLE of homelessness serve on advisory committees that provide insights and recommendations on program policies and practices.

4. Data and feedback collected on a monthly basis

5. In response to challenges raised by individuals with lived experience of homelessness, the CoC has implemented several key steps to enhance the intake assessment process, ensuring it aligns with a trauma-informed and strength-based approach.

- Assessment Revision: The CoC undertook a comprehensive review of the intake assessment.
- Strength-Based Language: The intake assessment has been restructured to utilize strength-based language that highlights individuals' skills & capacity for growth. This shift not only promotes a more positive interaction but also encourages clients to view themselves as active participants in the process

1D-11.	Increasing Affordable Housing Supply.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.s.	
	Describe in the field below at least two 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. To effectively address the affordable housing crisis, reforming zoning and land use policies is crucial. Local key strategies include:

- Advocate for changes to zoning regulations that allow for mixed-use developments, and the inclusion of affordable housing in all neighborhoods.
- Collaboration with local officials to strengthening lease agreements to provide clearer terms and protections for tenants.

-North Star Neighbors, a community land trust initiated by the Northwest Minnesota Foundation (NMF), is a crucial response to the pressing need for affordable housing in Northwest Minnesota. The organization has focused on leading regional efforts to develop community based housing solutions.

2. State engagement: The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) has made significant strides in expanding the supply of affordable housing, demonstrating a strong commitment to addressing housing needs in the state. In federal fiscal year 2023, the agency allocated nearly \$1.9 billion, impacting almost 70,000 households or housing units. Key accomplishments included:

- 993 new rental units developed and 1,542 units rehabilitated.
  - 242 single-family homes developed or rehabilitated for ownership.
  - 4,485 home mortgages provided for low- and moderate-income buyers, along with 1,340 home improvement loans.
  - Redevelopment of manufactured home communities with 1,311 lots.
  - Tenant-based rental assistance vouchers supporting 2,439 households.
- With the mantra “Go Big So That Everyone Can Go Home,” the agency is poised for even greater impact in fiscal years 2024 and 2025, with plans to deploy \$4.5 billion. This includes a historic investment of \$1.3 billion from the Legislature, far surpassing the previous biennium's typical budget of \$115 million.

Planned Funding Breakdown:

- Home Mortgage Lending:\$215 million (focused on downpayment assistance).
- Homebuyer Education:\$2 million.
- Manufactured Housing & Communities:\$35 million (for community ownership and infrastructure).
- Housing Development and Rehabilitation:\$640 million (for new development and preservation of existing affordable housing).
- Rental Assistance and Homelessness Supports:\$225 million (state-funded assistance and prevention resources).
- Other:\$58 million (support for nonprofit developers).

These initiatives aim to assist up to 85,000 households each year.

## 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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1E-1.	Web Posting of Advance Public Notice of Your CoC’s Local Competition Deadline, Scoring and Rating Criteria.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.a. and 2.g.	

1.	Enter the date your CoC published its submission deadline and scoring and rating criteria for New Project applicants to submit their project applications for your CoC’s local competition.	08/01/2024
2.	Enter the date your CoC published its submission deadline and scoring and rating criteria for Renewal Project applicants to submit their project applications for your CoC’s local competition.	08/01/2024

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:

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
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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.	
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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)?	124
2.	How many renewal projects did your CoC submit?	13
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.	
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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.	the severe barriers your CoC considered.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC utilized the Scoring Tool, System Performance Measures (SPMs), and project applications for data analysis. They conducted a comprehensive review of how agencies addressed the needs of the hardest-to-house populations. Applicants needed to demonstrate the demand for services in their geographic area and ensure alignment with community needs. Victims fleeing domestic violence were given priority, as outlined in the project ranking process. The Rank & Review committee assessed applicants based on specific scoring metrics. The CoC evaluated performance metrics alongside goals aimed at reducing homelessness duration, increasing income, minimizing returns to homelessness, and supporting individuals who are literally homeless. Projects were assessed against SPM benchmarks established by the CoC.
2. CoC scoring incentivizes projects that focus on chronic homelessness (CH), work to reduce barriers and inequities in accessing housing and services, and meet or exceed performance benchmarks. The NWCoC uses data from the coordinated entry system to evaluate how long individuals spend seeking housing. Projects were evaluated and awarded points for their participation in Coordinated Entry, which prioritizes individuals based on the severity of their needs and vulnerabilities.
3. The CoC employs a prioritization system that ensures individuals with the greatest needs are referred to project openings first. They utilize a case conferencing model to select individuals and households based on their level of need. Scoring criteria vary according to project type, and ranking is determined by total scores while allowing for adjustments based on geographic demand, service type, and target population.
4. The CoC offered additional points to applicants who serve high-barrier populations. Those submitting a Housing First Assessment earned points for implementing a Housing First or low-barrier approach for vulnerable groups, including individuals with criminal backgrounds, the LGBTQ+ community, and those facing substance use challenges. Applicants focused on families and youth also received points for surpassing HUD expectations in service connections and educational support. Additionally, projects that addressed housing inequities and provided culturally specific or responsive services were awarded extra points. The application included a section for projects to explain any areas of low performance, which were taken into account during the review process.

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 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 that proposed 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 steps the projects took or will take to eliminate the identified barriers.	

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. Indigenous people experience the highest rates of homelessness in the NW CoC. To address this issue, representatives from tribal programs are actively involved in the CoC board and various committees. Tribal program staff participate in the Planning and Evaluation (P&E) Committee, which develops the annual scoring and ranking criteria, as well as the Ranking and Review Committee, responsible for evaluating and ranking projects. They also contribute to the CoC Board, which approves all final documents.
2. Tribal members and individuals that are over-represented in the homeless population receive communications regarding the proposed scoring criteria, Ranking and Reallocation Policy, and draft project ranking lists, with opportunities to provide input. They engage in discussions during the draft project ranking process, contributing to final recommendations for CoC Board approval. All feedback from tribal representatives is carefully reviewed and considered by both the CoC and the Ranking and Review Committee before the approval of criteria and project rankings.
3. Projects were scored based on responses in the project application and the specific action steps taken to eliminate barriers and address inequities. Indigenous people in the CoC are significantly over-represented among both the homeless population and those living in poverty. Our projects are currently serving more Indigenous individuals in their housing programs than any other demographic, contributing to a reduction in homelessness within this community. Maximum points were awarded to applicants who identified clear action steps and actively worked to address inequities and eliminate barriers. Scoring also considered the documentation of culturally specific and responsive programming, with partial points available for applicants who had developed plans but not fully implemented them. Projects that employed innovative strategies to engage landlords in support of their initiatives received maximum points as well.

<b>1E-4.</b>	<b>Reallocation—Reviewing Performance of Existing Projects.</b>	
	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. The CoC has established a comprehensive reallocation process, which is clearly defined and publicly communicated through the Reallocation Policy approved by the CoC Board in 2024. Under regulations, a reallocation project can be funded if it aligns with eligible components listed in the current fiscal year NOFO and meets all HUD threshold requirements. The reallocation process allows for project reductions, rejections, and reallocations during the project review and ranking phase. Projects may initiate voluntary reallocation in writing for any reason. Competitive reallocations are initiated by the CoC based on criteria developed and approved by the CoC Board in 2024. Reallocation criteria are applied equally to similar projects, and full or partial reallocations depend on the level of noncompliance and the efforts made to address the issues. All rationales for reallocations are documented in the Project List and communicated in writing to applicants along with their score reports and ranking notices. Funds made available through reallocation are detailed in the approved rankings, published on the CoC website, and announced via email. Reallocated funds are then assigned to new projects based on local priorities and geographic needs. It is essential for both the project and the CoC to plan for maintaining housing for current participants during this process.
2. No
3. No
4. During the reallocation process, one (high-performing) project voluntarily returned their funding due to operational capacity issues. The CoC accepted this voluntary reallocation and made the funds available for a new expansion project.

<b>1E-4a.</b>	<b>Reallocation Between FY 2019 and FY 2024.</b>	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.f.	

	<b>Did your CoC cumulatively reallocate at least 20 percent of its ARD between FY 2019 and FY 2024?</b>	No
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<b>1E-5.</b>	<b>Projects Rejected/Reduced—Notification Outside of e-snaps.</b>	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

<b>1.</b>	<b>Did your CoC reject any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?</b>	No
<b>2.</b>	<b>Did your CoC reduce funding for any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?</b>	No
<b>3.</b>	<b>Did your CoC inform applicants why your CoC rejected or reduced their project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?</b>	No
<b>4.</b>	<b>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 06/26/2024, 06/27/2024, and 06/28/2024, then you must enter 06/28/2024.</b>	

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 06/26/2024, 06/27/2024, and 06/28/2024, then you must enter 06/28/2024.	09/12/2024
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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 Status–Accepted, Rejected, Reduced Reallocated, Fully Reallocated; 4. Project Rank; 5. Amount Requested from HUD; 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.	09/30/2024
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1E-5d.	Notification to Community Members and Key Stakeholders by Email 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.	10/23/2024
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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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

<b>2A-1.</b>	<b>HMIS Vendor.</b>	
	Not Scored—For Information Only	

	Enter the name of the HMIS Vendor your CoC is currently using.	Eccovia
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<b>2A-2.</b>	<b>HMIS Implementation Coverage Area.</b>	
	Not Scored—For Information Only	

	Select from dropdown menu your CoC's HMIS coverage area.	Statewide
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<b>2A-3.</b>	<b>HIC Data Submission in HDX.</b>	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.a.	

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2024 HIC data into HDX.	05/09/2024
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<b>2A-4.</b>	<b>Comparable Databases for DV Providers—CoC and HMIS Lead Supporting Data Collection and Data Submission by Victim Service Providers.</b>	
	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; and	
	2. state whether DV housing and service providers in your CoC are using a HUD-compliant comparable database—compliant with the FY 2024 HMIS Data Standards.	

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

The HMIS Lead Agency continues to engage with Violence Free Minnesota, working with a position funded through a grant from the Office of Justice Programs (MN Department of Public Safety). This role aims to identify data collection, technology, and privacy barriers for VSPs and evaluate how these barriers may have prevented VSPs from obtaining sufficient funding. With this partnership between the statewide coalition and HMIS Lead, ICA provides technical guidance for VSPs via Helpdesk as they work to ensure compliance (while maintaining clear separation of client data; VSP data is not in HMIS nor shared with the HMIS lead directly). This will benefit the CoC by continuing to develop partnerships between the HMIS Lead and VSPs. A cohort of Joint TH/RRH grantees met in partnership between the local HUD Field Office, the HMIS Lead, and the CoC. While not limited to projects serving victims of domestic violence, the Joint TH/RRH Component project model, there were several VSPs grantees in this cohort, which provided a unique opportunity for collaboration, learning, and support. The NWCoC is compliant with the FY 2024 HMIS Data Standards.

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

Using the 2024 HDX Competition Report we issued your CoC, enter data in the chart below by project type:

Project Type	Adjusted Total Year-Round, Current Non-VSP Beds [Column F of HDX Report]	Adjusted Total Year-Round, Current VSP Beds [Column K of HDX Report]	Total Year-Round, Current, HMIS Beds and VSP Beds in an HMIS Comparable Database [Column M of HDX Report]	HMIS and Comparable Database Coverage Rate [Column O of HDX Report]
1. Emergency Shelter (ES) beds	139	21	136	85.00%
2. Safe Haven (SH) beds	0	0	0	0.00%
3. Transitional Housing (TH) beds	119	12	127	96.95%
4. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	113	9	117	95.90%
5. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	91	0	91	100.00%
6. Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds	460	0	460	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)**

All project types scored higher than 84.99%.

2A-6.	Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Submission in HDX 2.0.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.d.	
	You must upload your CoC's FY 2024 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 January 24, 2024, 11:59 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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 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 2024 PIT count.	01/24/2024
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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 2024 PIT count data in HDX.	05/16/2024
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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. The NW CoC actively engaged unaccompanied youth, youth service providers, and other stakeholders in the planning process for the 2024 PIT Count in several key ways:

- CoC Board Involvement: Two YAB occupy CoC Board seats and multiple committee seats, ensuring youth perspectives were represented in discussions.
- Youth Perspectives: YAB members brought the insights and feedback of youth experiencing homelessness to Board and committee meetings, helping to shape policies & priorities around the PIT Count as part of the CoC's commitment to ending youth homelessness.
- PIT Committee Participation: Youth from homeless youth programs were directly involved in the PIT Committee's activities.

2. During the planning process for the most recent PIT Count, the CoC collaborated closely with unaccompanied youth and youth-serving organizations to identify the locations where homeless youth were most likely to be found. This collaboration involved several key steps:

- Engagement of Youth Service Providers: The CoC involved local youth service providers in discussions about potential locations for outreach. These providers, who have established relationships with homeless youth, offered valuable insights into areas where youth tend to gather or seek services.
- Input from Current and Former Clients: CoC PIT leads consulted with former homeless youth to gather firsthand information about their experiences and the locations they frequent. This input was crucial for understanding where to focus outreach efforts effectively.
- Data Analysis: The CoC reviewed existing data from previous PIT Counts, outreach efforts, and service utilization trends to identify hotspots where youth homelessness has been prevalent.
- Site Visits: Staff conducted site visits to potential locations, such as parks, shelters, and community centers, to assess the environment and determine the feasibility of outreach efforts.
- Collaboration with School Liaisons: CoC staff worked with homeless school liaisons to identify and count homeless youth and families within regional school districts.

3. Efforts to include unsheltered youth as counters in the 2024 PIT Count involved several strategic initiatives including peer outreach and collaboration with youth organizations and schools.

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 2023 and 2024, if applicable;	
2.	describe any changes your CoC made to your unsheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2023 and 2024, if applicable;	
3.	describe whether your CoC's PIT count was affected by people displaced either from a natural disaster or seeking short-term shelter or housing assistance who recently arrived in your CoCs' geographic; and	
4.	describe how the changes affected your CoC's PIT count results; or	
5.	state "Not Applicable" if there were no changes or if you did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2024.	

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. Aside from alignment with HUD Data Standards, no changes were made to sheltered PIT count implementation, methodology or data quality changes between 2023-2024.
2. Aside from alignment with HUD Data Standards, no changes were made to the unsheltered PIT count implementation, methodology or data quality changes between 2023-2024.
3. The NWCoC was not affected by people displaced either from a natural disaster or seeking short-term shelter or housing assistance who recently arrived in your CoCs' geographic location.
4. There were no discernable changes to the CoC's PIT count results.
5. The 2024 PIT Count did not see any changes of consequence.

## 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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

<b>2C-1.</b>	<b>Reducing the Number of First Time Homeless—Risk Factors Your CoC Uses.</b>	
	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. The CoC developed its existing tool by analyzing data from the region’s prevention programs and collaborating closely with the State’s Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program, which serves the entire 12-county area. The CoC determined the risk factors for identifying individuals experiencing homelessness for the first time through a structured and collaborative approach:

- Data Collection and Analysis: The CoC analyzed data from past Point-in-Time (PIT) Counts, service utilization records, and local homelessness trends. This quantitative analysis helped identify common characteristics and circumstances among those who had experienced homelessness for the first time.
- Stakeholder Engagement: The CoC actively involved stakeholders, including service providers, community organizations, and individuals with lived experiences. Focus groups and interviews were conducted to gather qualitative insights on the factors contributing to first-time homelessness.
- Review of Research and Best Practices\*\*: The CoC reviewed existing research and best practices from other regions and organizations focused on homelessness prevention. This helped in identifying widely recognized risk factors and effective interventions.
- Community Input\*\*: Public forums and community meetings were held to gather input from local residents, advocates, and service providers. This inclusive approach ensured that the identified risk factors were relevant to the specific needs and context of the community.
- Cross-Agency Collaboration\*\*: The CoC collaborated with local agencies, such as health services, schools, and social services, to gather diverse perspectives on risk factors. This multi-agency input enriched the understanding of homelessness dynamics in the community.

2. The CoC employs several strategies to address individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless:

- Prevention Programs: The CoC supports various prevention programs aimed at helping individuals and families maintain their housing. This includes financial assistance for rent and utilities, as well as mediation services to resolve conflicts that could lead to eviction.
- Coordinated Entry System: The CoC utilizes a Coordinated Entry System to streamline access to resources

3. ) Barbara Johnson, CoC Coordinator with the Northwest Minnesota Foundation serving the Northwest Continuum of Care (NWCOC) and the NWCOC Housing Access/Coordinated Entry Committee

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 CoC’s geographic area?	No

2C-2.	Reducing Length of Time Homeless—CoC’s Strategy.	
	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.

**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. The CoC uses coordinated entry to reduce the length of time individuals remain homeless, a challenge exacerbated by the limited availability of shelters in the region—only four shelters serve the entire 12-county area—and a lack of affordable housing in rural and frontier counties, which often lack the population density to attract market development. Although COVID-19 resources temporarily increased shelter availability, the need remains significant. In the past two years, the CES established a Priority List (PL) manager position, hired in March 2018, which has enabled consistent monitoring of the system and referrals. In October 2021, the NWCoC transitioned from using the VI-SPDAT to a new assessment tool and process for evaluating individuals. Within the first six months of implementing this new approach, the CoC experienced an 84% decrease in unsuccessful referrals, significantly speeding up the movement through the priority list.

The new system emphasizes that it is the agency's responsibility to maintain contact with clients and provide services, rather than placing that burden on clients in crisis. For those not immediately housed, mainstream services are offered, and agencies actively explore all available housing opportunities. The NWCoC recognizes that the duration of homelessness is increasing, primarily due to the lack of affordable housing and rising demand. To address this, the NWCoC Collaborative Applicant is pursuing strategies through grants and lending to develop 1,500 new housing units in the northwest region by 2024. The CoC has committed to prioritizing the reduction of homelessness duration as part of its system improvement efforts.

2. The CoC employs a Long-term Homeless and Chronic Homeless (CH) Assessment available in HMIS, which serves as a preference criterion for Coordinated Entry (CE). Agencies are encouraged to prioritize housing opportunities for individuals who face barriers to accessing housing and have experienced homelessness for the longest duration. Long-term homelessness and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) resources are generally allocated to serve populations with the most severe service needs when these resources are available.

3) Barbara Johnson, CoC Coordinator with the Northwest Minnesota Foundation serving the Northwest Continuum of Care (NWCOC) and the NWCoC Housing Access/Coordinated Entry Committee..

2C-3.	Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention –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.
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**(limit 2,500 characters)**

1. Staff in Emergency Shelter (ES), Transitional Housing (TH), and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) programs work with participants to set goals aimed at achieving stability and successfully transitioning to Permanent Housing (PH). They actively engage with landlords to broaden private market options for clients. ES, TH, and RRH providers assist tenants in applying for Family Choice Vouchers and maintain partnerships with Public Housing Authorities (PHAs). One PHA prioritizes homeless households for voucher access, while another receives Coordinated Entry referrals for Bridges vouchers aimed at housing individuals with serious mental illness experiencing homelessness. Additionally, two PHAs offer Emergency Housing Vouchers to support those in need.
2. From FY23 to FY24, the NWCoC maintained an 86% success rate for individuals in Permanent Housing (PH) projects, either retaining their housing or exiting to positive destinations. As the NWCoC continues to prioritize serving populations with severe service needs through coordinated entry, it is expected that this success rate will remain stable. Given the challenges of working with the hardest-to-serve populations, some unsuccessful exits are anticipated; however, the CoC aims to keep this rate between 90% and 95%. Additionally, the NWCoC is developing a training plan for case managers that includes topics such as Housing First, trauma-informed care, cultural humility, and conflict de-escalation, ensuring that clients receive the best possible support.
3. Barbara Johnson, CoC Coordinator with the Northwest Minnesota Foundation serving the Northwest Continuum of Care (NWCoC) and the NWCoC Housing Access/Coordinated Entry Committee.

2C-4.	Reducing Returns to Homelessness—CoC's Strategy.	
	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 that individuals and families return 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. Each agency assesses individuals and families returning to homelessness both during Coordinated Entry assessments and again during the intake process. CoC members utilize the HMIS Returns to Homelessness Report, which enables agencies to analyze service effectiveness and make necessary adjustments to prevent future returns to homelessness.
2. Over the past five years, the CoC's primary strategy has focused on extensive staff training in Housing First, Trauma-Informed Care, and Client-Centered Services. This training significantly enhances the support provided to individuals and households experiencing homelessness. The low rates of return to homelessness—less than 5% across all service components for 13-24 months—demonstrate the effectiveness of this approach. While some individuals may still experience a return to homelessness as the NWCoC continues to assist populations with severe service needs, the CoC collaborates with funded projects to leverage HMIS data for course corrections. This analysis helps identify necessary changes to improve client outcomes and further prevent returns to homelessness.
3. Barbara Johnson, CoC Coordinator with the Northwest Minnesota Foundation serving the Northwest Continuum of Care (NWCOC) and the NWCoC Housing Access/Coordinated Entry Committee..

<b>2C-5.</b>	<b>Increasing Employment Cash Income—CoC's Strategy.</b>	
	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. The primary strategy for increasing employment income is to boost employment opportunities. CoC agencies work diligently to support program participants in building their employment readiness by facilitating access to education, developing job skills, and planning for childcare and transportation needs. The CoC has also made significant efforts to expand partnerships with workforce development centers. Additionally, the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) emphasizes connecting youth to income-generating resources.

2. The CoC has been actively working to ensure representation from workforce development agencies on its committees, achieving full coverage of the region with partners from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The Rural Minnesota Concentrated Employment Program (RMCEP) is a key member of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) planning committee, while one community action agency within the CoC provides WIOA services across seven counties.

Additionally, CoC VA providers have employment specialists on staff, and youth providers in the region benefit from funding through the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) for youth employment specialists. One community action agency also operates a YouthBuild Program, which allows youth ages 16-24 who have not graduated high school to split their time between learning job skills and attending school, earning pay for a full eight-hour day. Recognizing that housing stability is crucial for consistent participation in YouthBuild, YouthBuild and Evergreen Youth and Family Services (YFS) have recently partnered to provide housing for participants. The NW Indian Community Development Center (NWICDC) also offers employment and training services with a culturally specific focus.

The CoC emphasizes collaboration with Workforce Investment Employment and Economic Development-funded providers. Employment staff have participated in CoC focus groups and training webinars, facilitating coordination of services, active client referrals, and participation in job fairs. Increasing income is a top priority for the NWCoC as it focuses on system improvement planning. These strategies have proven effective; in 2022, 25% of adult leavers reported an increase in employment cash benefits, indicating progress in boosting income for individuals and families.

The CoC has been actively working to ensure representation from workforce development agencies on its commi

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. The CoC employs various strategies to enhance non-employment cash income for participants. All members are encouraged to utilize the combined benefits application to facilitate access to mainstream benefits, emphasizing that connecting clients to these benefits is a key responsibility of housing case managers. CoC stakeholders, including social services directors from increased county participation, play a crucial role in this effort by attending meetings regularly. To further outreach, the CoC has engaged with Public Health to promote the use of Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) services in the region. However, a challenge remains as many clients have maxed out the benefits available to them once they enter Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). While these benefits can increase over time, the CoC encourages providers to conduct more frequent income assessments to ensure that any increases, even if small, are captured. Increasing income is a top priority for the NWCoC as it plans for system improvements. The focus on capturing relevant data has demonstrated progress, with 41% of adult leavers in 2022 reporting an increase in non-employment cash income.
2. Barbara Johnson, CoC Coordinator with the Northwest Minnesota Foundation serving the Northwest Continuum of Care (NWCOC) and the NWCoC Housing Access/Coordinated Entry Committee.

### 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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 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
Beltrami Expansion	PH-PSH	10	Both
FY24 DV RRH TH Ne...	Joint TH-RRH	4	Housing

### 3A-3. List of Projects.

1. What is the name of the new project? Beltrami Expansion
2. Enter the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): TJGDJARBE72B3
3. Select the new project type: PH-PSH
4. Enter the rank number of the project on your CoC's Priority Listing: 10
5. Select the type of leverage: Both

### 3A-3. List of Projects.

1. What is the name of the new project? FY24 DV RRH TH New TVOC
2. Enter the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): FJ19RYB7Q3D6
3. Select the new project type: Joint TH-RRH
4. Enter the rank number of the project on your CoC's Priority Listing: 4
5. Select the type of leverage: Housing

### 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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 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.r.	

Is your CoC requesting funding for any new project application requesting \$200,000 or more in funding for housing rehabilitation or new construction?	No
--	----

3B-2.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 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 Serve 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
--	--	----

3C-2.	Cost Effectiveness of 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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

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

	Did your CoC submit one or more new project applications for DV Bonus Funding?	No
<b>Applicant Name</b>		
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		
1C-7. PHA Moving On Preference	No		
1D-10a. Lived Experience Support Letter	Yes	YAB Letter	10/24/2024
1D-2a. Housing First Evaluation	Yes	Housing First Ass...	10/22/2024
1E-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	Local Competition...	10/22/2024
1E-2a. Scored Forms for One Project	Yes	1E2a Project scored	10/22/2024
1E-5. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	1E-5	10/26/2024
1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	1E-5a. Notificati...	10/22/2024
1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results	Yes	1E-5b. Local Comp...	10/22/2024
1E-5c. Web Posting—CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	Web Posting-CoC A...	10/22/2024
1E-5d. Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	1E-5d	10/26/2024



2A-6. HUD's Homeless Data Exchange (HDX) Competition Report	Yes	FY24 HDX Competit...	10/26/2024
3A-1a. Housing Leveraging Commitments	No	Housing Leveragin...	10/23/2024
3A-2a. Healthcare Formal Agreements	No	Healthcare Formal...	10/23/2024
3C-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No		
Other	No	CoC approved rank...	10/26/2024

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:**

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:**

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** YAB Letter

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** Housing First Assessment

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** Local Competition Scoring Tool Renewal

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** 1E2a Project scored

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** 1E-5

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** 1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** 1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** Web Posting-CoC Approved

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** 1E-5d

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** FY24 HDX Competition Report

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** Housing Leveraging Commitment

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** Healthcare Formal Agreements

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:**

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** CoC approved ranking letter

## Submission Summary

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

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	10/14/2024
1B. Inclusive Structure	10/26/2024
1C. Coordination and Engagement	10/26/2024
1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd	10/23/2024
1E. Project Review/Ranking	10/26/2024
2A. HMIS Implementation	10/26/2024
2B. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count	10/23/2024
2C. System Performance	10/23/2024
3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare	10/23/2024
3B. Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs	10/23/2024
3C. Serving Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes	10/23/2024

<b>4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants</b>	10/23/2024
<b>4B. Attachments Screen</b>	10/26/2024
<b>Submission Summary</b>	No Input Required



Attn: Barbara Johnson, CoC Coordinator

Northwest Continuum of Care

201 3<sup>rd</sup> St NW

Bemidji, MN 56601

The NW-MN Youth Action Board (YAB) has reviewed the NWCoC's project rankings, and approves these project rankings for Tier 1 & Tier 2. The Youth Action Board provides this letter of support as confirmation that the YAB members have participated in the ranking and review process and authentically engaged in the decision-making process. The YAB members that participated in the ranking and review process are: Etelvina Arevalo (YAB Chair), and Kari Christensen (YAB Member). The Youth Action Board would like the CoC to adopt policy/procedures that require NWCoC NOFO recipients to support current surveying and feedback methods of individual clients receiving services in existing programs. The Youth Action Board has also approved the proposed renewals for the Northwest Indian Community Development Center & Inter-County Community Council's YHDP projects, and agrees these projects will continue to serve the NWCoC in a positive way.

- Continued allocation of YHDP resources
- Improved outreach with Youth Action Board members, and incorporation of Youth with Lived experiences of homelessness in YHDP policy
- Sustained capacity to better serve young adults

These approvals were discussed and agreed upon at the 10/14/2024 Youth Action Board Meeting.

YAB Members present for approval: Destiny, Elizabeth, Angel, Kari, Elizabeth, Destiny, Trista, Thomas, Shane, Keante

Sincerely,

Margret Treuer

Youth Action Board Coordinator

Northwest Minnesota Foundation

# 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.**

<b>Organization</b>	
<b>Project Name</b>	
<b>Date Completed</b>	

## LOW BARRIER ACCESS:

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



5) Does the project serve and house transgender individuals according to the gender they identify?	<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/> [ <b>Yes = 1 point</b> ]
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?	<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/> [ <b>Yes = 1 point</b> ]

### HOUSING RETENTION:

7) Does the project terminate participants for failure to participate in treatment or support services including case management?	<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/> [ <b>No = 1 point</b> ]
8) Does the project terminate participants solely for engaging in substance use?	<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/> [ <b>No = 1 point</b> ]
9) Does the project require participants to obtain income as a condition of remaining in the project?	<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/> [ <b>No = 1 point</b> ]
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?	<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/> [ <b>Yes = 1 point</b> ]
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)?	<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/> [ <b>No = 1 point</b> ]

### PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT:

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

**TOTAL SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Northwest Minnesota Continuum of Care (NWCoC)  
2024 Project Applicant Scorecard

**Renewal Projects**

Prepared by Planning & Evaluation and Youth Committees

**NORTHWEST MINNESOTA**  
*Continuum of Care*

Annually, CoC program applicants will be scored and ranked per CoC policy and HUD guidance. The purpose is to ensure that HUD funded programs are providing the highest quality housing and services and that the programs are focused on achieving outcomes to end homelessness.

## HUD COC Threshold Eligibility Criteria (All Applicants)

Criteria	ELIGIBLE	NOT ELIGIBLE	INFORMATION SOURCE	Eligible
<b>GENERAL APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY</b>				
<b>Eligible Entity</b>	Nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments, Indian Tribes and TDHE	Any entity that does not meet criteria identified in earlier column.	Project Application	
<b>SAM Registration</b>	Applicants is registered with <a href="https://www.sam.gov/SAM">https://www.sam.gov/SAM</a> before submitting their application	Applicants is not registered with <a href="https://www.sam.gov/SAM">https://www.sam.gov/SAM</a> before submitting their application	SAMS Esnaps submission	
<b>Outstanding Delinquent Federal Debts</b>	Applicant does not have outstanding delinquent federal debt	Applicant has outstanding delinquent federal debt	Applicant disclosure	
<b>Debarments and/or Suspensions</b>	Applicant is not debarred; suspended; proposed for debarment; or voluntarily excluded from doing business with the Federal government.	Applicant is debarred; suspended; proposed for debarment; or voluntarily excluded from doing business with the Federal government.	Applicant disclosure	
<b>Match</b>	25% match for everything but leasing	No required match	Project Application Budget	

<b>Eligibility</b>	<b>ELIGIBLE</b>	<b>NOT ELIGIBLE</b>	<b>INFORMATION SOURCE</b>	<b>Eligible: Yes or No</b>
<b>HMIS Participation</b>	Project participates (or plans to participate) in HMIS (or other comparable database for DV providers)	Project does not participate or plan to participate in HMIS (or other comparable database for DV providers)	Project Application ICA/CoC verification	
<b>Eligible Population</b>	Meets HUD requirements	Does NOT meet HUD requirements	Project Application	
<b>Geographic Location</b>	The applicant project is in NW CoC geographic area.	The applicant project is not in NW CoC geographic area.	Project Application	

<b>Fair Housing/Equal Access</b>	Applicant assures that CoC program staff will complete Fair Housing training annually.	The applicant does not assure that CoC program staff will complete Fair Housing training annually.		
<b>Housing First Policies</b>	Applicant agrees to follow CoC Housing First policies	Applicant does not agree to follow CoC Housing First policies. Applicant does not agree to follow NW CoC Guidelines and Written Standards	Project Application	
<b>CoC Policies</b>	Applicant agrees to follow NW CoC Guidelines and Written Standards	Applicant does not follow NW CoC Guidelines and Written Standards	Project Application Application	

<b>Eligibility</b>	<b>ELIGIBLE</b>	<b>NOT ELIGIBLE</b>	<b>INFORMATION SOURCE</b>	<b>Eligible: Yes or No</b>
<b>Financial/Administrative Management Project Type</b>	Applicant has no outstanding HUD monitoring findings.	Applicant has no outstanding HUD monitoring findings that are not in the process of being resolved.	Project Application Esnaps Application	

## Applicant Performance (Renewal Projects Only)

<b>ELIGIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>SCORING SECTIONS</b>	<b>LOW CRITERIA</b>	<b>MEDIUM CRITERIA</b>	<b>HIGH CRITERIA</b>	<b>INFORMATION SOURCE</b>	<b>REVIEWER SCORE</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Geographic priority areas.</b>	Project is not in a NW CoC priority area.  (0 points)		Project is in a NW CoC priority area.  (2 points)	Project Application  NW CoC geographic priorities	
<b>8</b>	<b>Budget Expenditure</b>	Spent 89% or less of grant award (0 points)	Spent 90-94% of grant award (4 points)	Spent 95% or more of grant award. (8 points)	ELOCCS Reports	

ELIGIBLE POINTS	SCORING SECTIONS	LOW CRITERIA	MEDIUM CRITERIA	HIGH CRITERIA	INFORMATION SOURCE	REVIEWER SCORE
8	<p><b>YHDP Voluntary Reallocation Policy &amp; Procedures (Bonus)</b></p> <p><b>YHDP Projects Only</b></p>	Spent 89% or less of grant award, and/or failed to follow voluntary reallocation policy and procedures for program.	<p>Spent less than 94% of grant award, and/or applicant displayed significant challenges in following voluntary reallocation policy and procedures for program.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Missed multiple deadlines for monthly budget reports</li> <li>• Grantee is not meeting monthly budget benchmarks, and has not made significant efforts to correct issues</li> <li>• Lack of participation with NOFO scoring process</li> </ul>	<p>Spent 95% or more of grant award, and/or grantee successfully adhered to voluntary reallocation policy and procedures for program. Successful examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grantee stayed on track with monthly budget deadlines</li> <li>• Grantee is meeting monthly budget targets, or working with NWCoC Staff to correct deficiencies</li> <li>• Grantee is participating regularly with NOFO Scoring Process</li> </ul>	ELOCS Reports, Monthly Budget Reports	

ELIGIBLE POINTS	SCORING SECTIONS	LOW CRITERIA	MEDIUM CRITERIA	HIGH CRITERIA	INFORMATION SOURCE	REVIEWER SCORE
4	Quarterly Drawdowns	Drawdowns not made quarterly (0 points)		Drawdowns made quarterly (4 points)	ELOCCS Reports	
8	Data Quality	Most recent total QDQ score below 80%. (0 points)	Most recent total QDQ score between 81 -90% (4 points)	Most recent total QDQ score above 90%. (8 points)	HMIS QDQ Reports	
8	Bed Utilization (Renewal Housing Projects Only)	An average of less than 85% of project beds. (0 points)	Average of 85-90% of project beds. (4 points)	Average of more than 90% of project beds (8 points)	Project APR	
<b>Additional notes on Applicant Performance (Renewal Projects) Section:</b>						

## HUD Needs & Priorities (All Applicants)

ELIGIBLE POINTS	SCORING SECTIONS	LOW CRITERIA	MEDIUM CRITERIA	HIGH CRITERIA	INFO SOURCE	REVIEWER SCORE
4	Removing Barriers to Housing/Housing First	Applicant scores less than 7 points on Housing First Assessment (0 points)	Applicant scores between 7 and 10 points on Housing First Assessment (2 points)	Applicant scores 11 or more points on Housing First Assessment (4 points)	Housing First Assessment	

6	<b>Protocols for Serving LGBTQ+</b>	Applicant does not follow protocols for serving LGBTQ+ populations, as outlined in NW CoC Anti-Discrimination Policy. (0 points)	Applicant follows protocols for serving LGBTQ+ populations, as outlined in NW CoC Anti-Discrimination Policy.  (3 points)	Applicant follows policy and procedures for NWCoc Anti-discrimination policy and develops successful strategies for implementing program goals. Applicant needs to provide copy or narrative of what agency policy is for serving LGBTQ+.  (6 points) Examples: -Staff attending/hosting trainings, continuing education and growth for serving LGBTQ+ -Provide success stories that have occurred in this area of service.	Project Application	
<b>ELIGIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>SCORING SECTIONS</b>	<b>LOW CRITERIA</b>	<b>MEDIUM CRITERIA</b>	<b>HIGH CRITERIA</b>	<b>INFO SOURCE</b>	<b>REVIEWER SCORE</b>
2	<b>Healthcare Partnerships -</b> These partnerships may be defined as collaborative relationships with hospitals, clinics, behavior health, dental, public health, substance abuse treatment	The applicant does not partner with healthcare agencies.  (0 points)	Applicant has healthcare partnership.  (1 point)	The applicant has a formal agreement with a healthcare partner and has developed strategies to implement program goals. <b>Examples of healthcare partnerships:</b> -Partnership with healthcare agencies, offering services to client/agency staff onsite in	Project Application	



	facilities, etc. They may even be health services offered by agencies in-house.			<p>areas education, resources, etc.</p> <p>-External referral process for agencies to better access resources for clients to better support direct engagement.</p> <p>-Agency staff is engaged serving on healthcare boards, in panel discussions, or providing updates at meetings, etc. (2 points)</p>		
<b>ELIGIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>SCORING SECTIONS</b>	<b>LOW CRITERIA</b>	<b>MEDIUM CRITERIA</b>	<b>HIGH CRITERIA</b>	<b>INFO SOURCE</b>	<b>REVIEWER SCORE</b>
2	<b>Public Housing Authorities (PHA)/Housing &amp; Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Partnerships</b>	<p>Agency does not coordinate with PHA.</p> <p>(0 points)</p>	<p>Agency coordinates with PHA but it is unclear how clients access vouchers.</p> <p>(1 point)</p>	<p>Agency has a clear and executable plan to ensure clients have access to Housing Choice Vouchers and other subsidized housing options.</p> <p>(2 points)</p>	Project Application	
2	<b>Addressing inequities in access to housing</b>	<p>Agency does not have a plan/existing plan is not sufficient to address inequities in access.</p> <p>(0 points)</p>	<p>Agency has plan to address inequities to accessing housing, but action steps have not been implemented</p> <p>(1 point)</p>	<p>Agency has action steps identified and is currently working to address inequities to accessing housing.</p> <p>(2 points)</p>	Project Application	

2	<b>Serving Special Populations</b>	No beds/slots are reserved for Unaccompanied youth ages 24 & Under; Families ages 25+ with school-age children; Veterans; Chronic Homeless; DV Survivors; or Singles ages 25+  (0 points)	Less than 25% of beds/slots are reserved for Unaccompanied youth ages 24 & Under; Families ages 25+ with school-age children; Veterans; Chronic Homeless; DV Survivors; or Singles ages 25+  (1 point)	25% or more of beds/slots are reserved for Unaccompanied youth ages 24 & Under; Families ages 25+ with school-age children; Veterans; Chronic Homeless; DV Survivors; or Singles ages 25+  (2 points)	Esnaps Application	
<b>ELIGIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>SCORING SECTIONS</b>	<b>LOW CRITERIA</b>	<b>MEDIUM CRITERIA</b>	<b>HIGH CRITERIA</b>	<b>INFO SOURCE</b>	<b>REVIEWER SCORE</b>
4	<b>Adapting Programs to Meet Emerging Needs/ Innovation</b>	Project does not have evidence of meeting emerging needs.  (0 points)		Project is actively innovating to meet emerging needs. <b>Examples of meeting emerging needs:</b> Explain what the emerging need is and what innovative solutions the project is implementing to meet that specific need. The need may be determined by engagement in community surveys, talking circles, data, consultation with committees or boards, etc.  (4 points)	Project Application	

ELIGIBLE POINTS	SCORING SECTIONS	LOW CRITERIA	MEDIUM CRITERIA	HIGH CRITERIA	INFO SOURCE	REVIEWER SCORE
6	<b>Culturally Specific/ Responsive Programming</b>	Project does not provide culturally specific/responsive programming.  (0 points)	Applicant demonstrates basic understanding of cultural differences and needs.  (3 point)	Based on applicant's understanding of cultural needs, the agency is working to provide culturally responsive programming. <b>Examples may include:</b> - Staff attending/hosting trainings, continuing education and growth for culturally responsive programming -Formal partnerships with agencies who address all forms of cultural diversity. -Provide success stories that have occurred in this area of service -Examples may include programming in service	Project Application	

				areas addressing cultural diversity beyond race and ethnicity. (6 points)		
Additional Notes on HUD Needs/Priorities (All Applicants) Section:						

## Service Quality Plan (All Applicants)

ELIGIBLE POINTS	SCORING SECTIONS	LOW CRITERIA	MEDIUM CRITERIA	HIGH CRITERIA	INFO SOURCE	REVIEWER SCORE
6	Case Management Training	No training attended by staff.  (0 points)	Staff participated in at least one training course.  Training topics may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trauma informed care</li> <li>• Harm reduction</li> <li>• Housing first</li> <li>• Understanding of mainstream resources</li> <li>• De-escalation</li> </ul>	Staff participated in NWCoC trainings, and Agency is implementing strategies from training.  Training topics may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trauma informed care</li> <li>• Harm reduction</li> <li>• Housing first</li> <li>• Understanding of mainstream resources</li> <li>• De-escalation</li> <li>• Additional required trainings</li> </ul> Please list all training courses attended by any staff.	Project Application	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional required trainings</li> </ul> <p>(3 point)</p>	<p>-Provide examples of training concepts being implemented in programs.</p> <p>(6 points)</p>		
<b>ELIGIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>SCORING SECTIONS</b>	<b>LOW CRITERIA</b>	<b>MEDIUM CRITERIA</b>	<b>HIGH CRITERIA</b>	<b>INFO SOURCE</b>	<b>REVIEWER SCORE</b>
4	<b>Collaboration with mainstream and key support services</b>	<p>Does not collaborate with mainstream and key support services</p> <p>(0 points)</p>	<p>Uses best practices for connecting participants to mainstream resources</p> <p>(2 points)</p> <p>Mainstream resources may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SNAP</li> <li>Social Services</li> <li>MFIP</li> <li>Mental Health</li> <li>Substance Use</li> <li>Faith-based services</li> <li>Medical/dental Insurance</li> </ul>	<p>Applicant demonstrates a clear plan for collaboration with the mainstream resources, including MOUs, Letter of Support, or formal partnership agreement. Please provide documentation of actions taken.</p> <p>(4 points)</p>	Project Application	

<b>ELIGIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>SCORING SECTIONS</b>	<b>LOW CRITERIA</b>	<b>MEDIUM CRITERIA</b>	<b>HIGH CRITERIA</b>	<b>INFO SOURCE</b>	<b>REVIEWER SCORE</b>
4	<b>Educational Assurances (Family programs only)</b>	Does not comply with NW CoC policy.  (0 points)	Applicant complies with NWCoC policy and demonstrates efforts to improve relations and communications with local schools.  Policy states: Applicant will work with McKinney Vento programs to maximize services and transportation needs to keep students within their school district. (2 point)	Applicant demonstrates a clear plan for collaboration with the school district or McKinney Vento Liaison. This includes MOUs, Letter of Support, or formal partnership agreement (4 points)	Project Application	
2	<b>Separation Policy (Family programs only)</b>	Does not comply with policy.  (0 points)		Agency complies with NWCoC policy.  (2 points)	Project Application	

ELIGIBLE POINTS	SCORING SECTIONS	LOW CRITERIA	MEDIUM CRITERIA	HIGH CRITERIA	INFO SOURCE	REVIEWER SCORE
2	Safety and support for victims is a part of the service plan.	<p>The applicant doesnot have a safety plan.</p> <p>(0 points)</p>	<p>Applicant has a safety plan.</p> <p>(1 point)</p>	<p>The applicant has a safety plan and is ready to implement the plan strategies and has resources available to serve individuals experiencing domestic violence.</p> <p>Strategies may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documented collaboration, MOUs, letter of support or partnership with agency providing advocacy services</li> <li>• Centering client choice of meeting time/place</li> <li>• Providing individuals with emergency support resources</li> <li>• Informing individuals about best practices for developing exiting plans</li> <li>• Completing referrals to agencies providing domestic violence services</li> </ul> <p>(2 points)</p>	Project Application	

ELIGIBLE POINTS	SCORING SECTIONS	LOW CRITERIA	MEDIUM CRITERIA	HIGH CRITERIA	INFO SOURCE	REVIEWER SCORE
4	Plan to increase earned or unearned Income, and or education/employment opportunities	<p>Applicant does not have a plan for increasing income.</p> <p>(0 points)</p>	<p>Applicant identifies some best practices to connect clients to educational and income opportunities.</p> <p>Best practices may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrated plan to center client choice</li> <li>• Developing strength-based goals and plans with clients</li> </ul> <p>(2 points)</p>	<p>Applicant demonstrates implementation of strength-based plan to address the challenge of meeting educational, employment or income needs.</p> <p><b>Examples may include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Job training</li> <li>-Applying for income-based services, such as SNAP or GA</li> <li>-Providing training opportunities, such as employment certificates, CPR training, etc.</li> <li>-Acquiring diploma, GED or educational certificates</li> <li>-Agency employment or internship opportunities</li> <li>-MN Rural CEP</li> <li>-Resume building or job search support</li> <li>-Vital document acquisition</li> <li>-Transportation services</li> </ul> <p>(4 points)</p>	Project Application	
ELIGIBLE POINTS	SCORING SECTIONS	LOW CRITERIA	MEDIUM CRITERIA	HIGH CRITERIA	INFO SOURCE	REVIEWER SCORE



<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>YHDP Special Activities (Bonus)</b></p>	<p>Applicant does not plan to incorporate YHDP Special Activities</p> <p>Points: 0</p>	<p>Applicant plans to implement YHDP Special Activities, but plan for implementation of new activities is unclear.</p> <p><b>Examples may include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Costs of moving expenses</li> <li>-Host home arrangements</li> <li>-Costs of utilities, late fees, household supplies, internet</li> <li>-Costs of gas and mileage, legal fees or fines, driving fees or fines, extended case management, emergency hotel stays</li> <li>-Costs associated with youth engagement, reimbursement for Youth Action Board Participation</li> </ul> <p>Points:4</p>	<p>Applicant plans to <b>implement 3</b> or more YHDP Special Activities and demonstrates clear plan for implementation.</p> <p><b>Examples may include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Costs of moving expenses</li> <li>-Host home arrangements</li> <li>-Costs of utilities, late fees, household supplies, internet</li> <li>-Costs of gas and mileage, legal fees or fines, driving fees or fines, extended case management, emergency hotel stays</li> <li>-Costs associated with youth engagement, reimbursement for Youth Action Board Participation</li> </ul> <p>Points: 8</p>	<p>Project Application</p>	
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**Additional Notes on Service Quality Plan (All Applicants) Section:**

## CoC Participation (All Applicants)

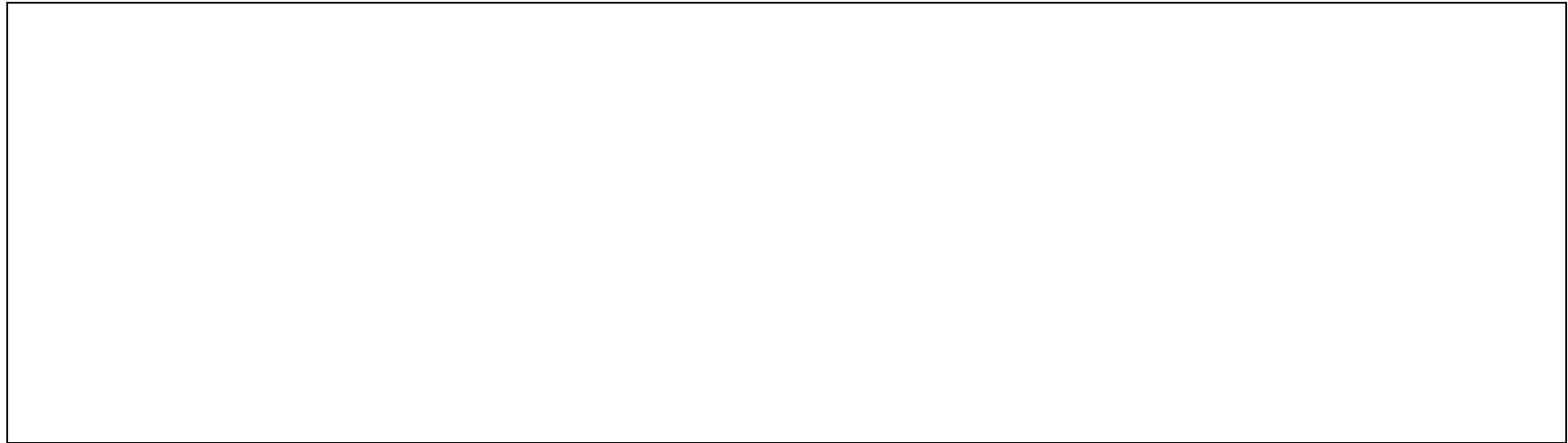
ELIGIBLE POINTS	SCORING SECTIONS	LOW CRITERIA	MEDIUM CRITERIA	HIGH CRITERIA	INFO SOURCE	REVIEWER SCORE
4	<b>General Membership Meeting Attendance</b>	Applicant agency attended one meeting or less.  (0 points)	Agency attended two or three meetings. (1 point)	Agency attended all four meetings. (2 points)	General Membership Meeting Minutes	
2	<b>Agency staff participation in CoC Committees</b>	No staff participated on CoC Committees last year.  (0 points)	Agency staff participated in at least one committee.  (1 point)	Agency staff participated in more than one COC Committee.  (2 points)	Committee Meeting Minutes	
6	<b>Participate in Case Conferencing</b>  <b>If your project is required to participate in CE, you must participate in Case Conferencing.</b>	Does not participate. 0-25% participating attendance  (0 points)	Participates in Case Conferencing, but concerns around attendance or CES policy/procedure alignment 26-75% attendance	Participates, collaborates and communicates with PLM at Case Conferencing 76-100% attendance  (6 points) <b>Examples of collaboration and communication include:</b>		

			(3 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Updated case conferencing notes</li> <li>-Communicating program openings/referrals</li> <li>-Utilization of referral request form</li> <li>-Agency alignment with CES procedures and referral acceptance/denial policies</li> <li>-Advocating for creative solutions to serve individuals that are on the Priority List</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Additional Notes on CoC Participation (All Applicants) Section:</b></p>						

### System Performance (Renewal Housing Applicants)

ELIGIBLE POINTS	SCORING SECTIONS	LOW CRITERIA	MEDIUM CRITERIA	HIGH CRITERIA	INFO SOURCE	REVIEWER SCORE
8	Returns to Homelessness	15% or more of participants returned to	10-15% of participants returned to homelessness	Less than 10% of participants returned to homelessness within 12	HMIS Returns to	

		homelessness within 12 months of exit to PH (0 points)	within 12 months of exit to PH (4 points)	months of exit to PH. (8 points)	Homelessness Report	
2	<b>Earned Income-- Maintain/Increase (Leavers and Stayers)</b>	Less than 10% for PSH, less than 40% for TH/RRH (0 points)	10-19% for PSH, 40-49% for TH, RRH (1 point)	20% or more for PSH, 50% or more for TH, RRH (2 points)	APR	
2	<b>Non-Employment Income--Maintain/ Increase (Leavers and Stayers)</b>	Less than 50% for PSH, less than 40% for RRH, less than 5% for TH (0 points)	50-74% for PSH, 40-49% for RRH, 5-9% for TH (1 point)	75% or more for PSH, 50% or more for RRH, 10% or more for TH (2 points)	APR	
<b>ELIGIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>SCORING SECTIONS</b>	<b>LOW CRITERIA</b>	<b>MEDIUM CRITERIA</b>	<b>HIGH CRITERIA</b>	<b>INFO SOURCE</b>	<b>REVIEWER SCORE</b>
4	<b>Increase Overall Income</b>	Less than 20% (0 points)	20-29% (2 points)	30% or more (4 points)	APR	
8	<b>Retention/Successful exits (PSH only)</b>	Under 85% (0 points)	85-90% (4 points)	Over 90% (8 points)	APR	
8	<b>Exits to permanent housing (TH/RRH only)</b>	70% or less of participants exited to permanent destinations. (0 points)	71-80% of participants exited the program to permanent destinations. (4 points)	More than 80% of participants exited the program to permanent destinations. (8 points)	APR	
<b>Additional Notes on System Performance (Renewal Applicant) Section:</b>						



## SCORING

- HUD Threshold Eligibility Criteria (all projects) no score
- Renewal Applicant Performance: 30 POINTS
- Renewal YHDP Applicant Performance: 38 POINTS
- HUD Priorities: 28 POINTS
- Service Quality Plan: 22 POINTS
- Service Quality Plan for YHDP: 30 POINTS
- CoC Participation: 12 POINTS
- System Performance: 32 POINTS

**Renewal (Non-YHDP) Total Points: 124 points**

**Renewal YHDP Total Points: 140 points**

- To fairly assess, all point totals will be calculated by the percentage of total points available per category.
- HMIS and CES renewal projects will be protected in Tier 1 and scored on project applicable questions only.
- The remaining renewal project applications will be scored and ranked in order, according to score, utilizing the Reallocation

Policy as needed.

Scoring Criteria

Applicant Performance (Renewal Housing Projets Only)

Eligible Points	Scoring Sections	Low Criteria	Medium Criteria	High Criteria	Information Source	Reviewer Score	Reviewer Comments	Guidance
2	Geographic Priority Areas	Project is not in a NWCoC Priority Area <b>0 points</b>		Project is in a NWCoC Priority Area <b>2 points</b>	Project application- NWCoC geographic priorities	2	This section reviewed by NWCoC Staff	
8	Budget Expenditure	Spent 89% or less of grant award <b>0 points</b>	Spent 90-94% of grant award <b>4 points</b>	Spent 95% or more of grant award <b>8 points</b>	ELOCCS Reports	4	94%-last two funding periods	
8	YHDP Voluntary Reallocation Policy & Procedures (YHDP Bonus for YHDP Projects only)	Spent 89% or less of grant award, and/or failed to follow voluntary reallocation policy and procedures for program. <b>0 Points</b>	Spent less than 94% of grant award, and/or applicant displayed significant challenges in following voluntary reallocation policy and procedures for program. <b>4 Points</b>	Spent 95% or more of grant award, and/or grantee successfully adhered to voluntary reallocation policy and procedures for program. <b>8 Points</b>	ELOCCS Reports, Monthly Budget Reports	N/A	This section reviewed by NWCoC Staff	
4	Quarterly Drawdowns	Drawdowns not made quarterly <b>0 points</b>		Drawdowns made quarterly <b>4 points</b>	ELOCCS Reports	4	This section reviewed by NWCoC Staff	
8	Data Quality	Most recent total QDQ score below 80% <b>0 points</b>	Most recent total QDQ score between 81-90% <b>4 points</b>	Most recent total QDQ score above 90% <b>8 points</b>	HMIS QDQ Reports	8	100%	
8	Bed Utilization (Renewal Housing Projects only)	Average of less than 85% of project beds <b>0 points</b>	Average of 85-90% of project beds <b>4 points</b>	Average of more than 90% of project beds <b>8 points</b>	Project APR	8	100%	

HUD Needs & Priorities (All Applicants)

4	Removing Barriers to Housing/Housing First	Applicant scores less than 7 points on Housing First Assessment <b>0 points</b>	Applicant scores between 7-10 points on Housing First Assessment <b>2 points</b>	Applicant scores 11 points or higher on Housing First Assessment <b>4 points</b>	Housing First Assessment	4	This section reviewed by NWCoC Staff	Information found on Housing First Assessment
6	Protocols for serving LGBTQ+	Applicant does not follow protocols for serving LGBTQ+ populations, as outlined in the NWCoC Anti-Discrimination Policy <b>0 points</b>	Applicant follows protocols for serving LGBTQ+ populations, as outlined in NW CoC Anti-Discrimination Policy. <b>3 Points</b>	Applicant follows policy and procedures for NWCoC Anti-discrimination policy and develops successful strategies for implementing program goals. Applicant needs to provide copy or narrative of what agency policy is for	Project Application	6	TVOC sent in their policy and procedures around anti-discrimination. Their policy around serving LGBTQ+ is broad and would like to see something more detailed. It is a great start.	Information found on page 8 of application. <b>Examples to gain full points:</b>  -Staff attending/hosting trainings, continuing education and growth for serving LGBTQ+ -Provide success stories that have occurred in this area of service.

2	Healthcare Partnerships	Applicant does not partner with healthcare agencies <b>0 points</b>	Applicant has healthcare partnership <b>1 point</b>	The applicant has a formal agreement with a healthcare partner and has developed strategies to implement program goals. <b>2 points</b>	Project Application	2	<b>All letters of support reviewed and appropriate. TVOC has a letter of support from Alluma and works closely with Alluma to make referrals for clients who would like behavioral health or SUD services</b>	Information found on <b>page 9</b> of application. <b>Healthcare partnerships defined:</b> These partnerships may be defined as collaborative relationships with hospitals, clinics, behavior health, dental, public health, substance abuse treatment facilities, etc. They may even be health services offered by agencies in-house. <b>Examples to gain full points:</b> Examples of healthcare partnerships: -Partnership with healthcare agencies, offering services to client/agency staff onsite in areas education, resources, etc. -External referral process for agencies to better access resources for clients to better support direct engagement. -Agency staff is engaged serving on healthcare boards, in panel discussions, or providing updates at meetings, etc.
2	Public Housing Authorities (PHA)/Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Partnerships	Agency does not coordinate with PHA <b>0 points</b>	Agency coordinates with PHA but it is unclear how clients access vouchers <b>1 point</b>	Agency has a clear and executable plan to ensure clients have access to Housing Choice Vouchers and other subsidized housing options <b>2 points</b>	Project Application	2	TVOC works very closely with local and outside HRA's to ensure clients receive a HCV or income based housing. Thir local HRA also attends case conferencing.	Applicant information may be found on <b>page 9</b> of the project application.
2	Addressing inequities in access to housing	Agency does not have a plan/existing plan is not sufficient to address inequities in access. <b>0 Points</b>	Agency has plan to address inequities to accessing housing, but action steps have not been implemented <b>1 Point</b>	Agency has action steps identified and is currently working to address inequities to accessing housing. <b>2 Points</b>	Project Application	2	I wish I could award more points. TVOC EXCELLENT job on the initiative ideas you are using to address the inequities in access housing. Having conversations with landlords to keep rents within the FMR, staff encouraging owners to purchase other units or to build, letting owners know of grants to help with the up keep of their units and etc. KEEP IT UP!	
2	Serving Special Populations	No beds/slots are reserved for Unaccompanied youth ages 24 & under; Families ages 25+ with school-age children; Veterans; Chronic Homeless; DV survivors; or Singles ages 25+ <b>0 points</b>	Less than 25% of beds/slots are reserved for Unaccompanied youth ages 24 & under; Families ages 25+ with school-age children; Veterans; Chronic Homeless; DV survivors; or Singles ages 25+ <b>1 point</b>	25% or more of beds/slots are reserved for Unaccompanied youth ages 24 & under; Families ages 25+ with school-age children; Veterans; Chronic Homeless; DV survivors; or Singles ages 25+ <b>2 points</b>	ESNAPS/Project Application	1	<b>This section reviewed by NWCoc Staff</b>	



4	Adapting programs to meet emerging needs/innovation	Project does not have evidence of meeting emerging needs <b>0 points</b>		Project is actively innovating to meet emerging needs <b>4 points</b>	Project Application	4	Narrative indicates all expectations. Again, excellent job in knowing the emerging needs of the community and doing what needs to be done. The LEAD group, the DV questionnaire, central location, HSS services-hopefully your application doesn't take as long as ours. :)	Applicant information may be found on <b>page 10</b> of the project application. Best practices may include:
6	Culturally Specific/Responsive Programming	Project does not provide culturally specific/responsive programming. <b>0 Points</b>	Applicant demonstrates basic understanding of cultural differences and needs. <b>3 Points</b>	Based on applicant's understanding of cultural needs, the agency is working to provide culturally responsive programming. <b>6 Points</b>	Project application	6	Narrative indicates all expectations. "TVOC is working with Global Friends, and New Hope for Immigrants. TVOC partnered with Polk County Social Services to implement 2 Family Resource centers to provide services to all populations including Immigrants and undocumented individuals"	Applicant information may be found on <b>page 11</b> of the project application.
6	Case management training	No training attended by staff <b>0 points</b>	Staff participated in training <b>3 point</b>	Staff participated in NWCOC trainings, and Agency is implementing strategies from training. <b>6 points</b>	Project Application	6	Great training that TVOC invested into their employees which shows through the case management they provide.	Applicant information may be found on <b>page 11</b> of the project application.
4	Collaboration with mainstream and key support services	Does not collaborate with mainstream and key support services <b>0 points</b>	Uses best practices for connecting participants to mainstream resources <b>2 points</b>	Applicant demonstrates a clear plan for collaboration with the mainstream resources, including MOUs, Letter of Support, or formal partnership agreement.  Please provide documentation of actions taken. <b>4 points</b>	Project Application	4	All requirements are met. TVOC has MOU's with Polk County Family Resource centers, with multiple school districts, and CHSI. There is also a letter of support from Alluma.	Applicant information may be found on <b>page 12</b> of the project application.

4	<b>Educational assurances (family programs only)</b>	Does not comply with NWCoC policy <b>0 points</b>	Applicant complies with NWCoC policy and demonstrates efforts to improve relations and communications with local schools.  Policy states: Applicant will work with McKinney Vento programs to maximize services and transportation needs to keep students within their school district. <b>2 points</b>	Applicant demonstrates a clear plan for collaboration with the school district or McKinney Vento Liaison. This includes MOUs, Letter of Support, or formal partnership agreement <b>4 points</b>	Project Application	4	Action steps are very clear with varied and intensive partnerships in the school districts. TVOC has a MOU with multiple school districts, public library, Public health, Alluma, Polk County Social Services. TVOC also works closely with the school liaisons.	Applicant information may be found on <b>page 12</b> of the project application.
2	<b>Separation policy (family programs only)</b>	Does not comply with NWCoC policy 0 points		Agency complies with NWCoC policy <b>2 points</b>	Project Application	2	Application box is checked. TVOC as a MOU with CHSI	Applicant information may be found on <b>page 13</b> of the project application.
2	<b>Safety and support for victims is a part of services plan</b>	Applicant does not have a safety plan <b>0 points</b>	Applicant has a safety plan <b>1 points</b>	The applicant has a safety plan and is ready to implement the plan strategies and has resources available to serve individuals experiencing domestic violence. <b>2 points</b>	Project Application	2	Narrative indicates all expectations. TVOC sent in their policy and procedures around anti-discrimination. Their policy around serving LGBTQ+ is broad and would like to see something more detailed. It is a great	Applicant information may be found on <b>page 13</b> of the project application. Strategies may include: Documented collaboration, MOUs, letter of support or partnership with agency providing advocacy services Centering client choice of meeting time/place Providing individuals with emergency support resources Informing individuals about best practices for developing exiting plans Completing referrals to agencies providing domestic violence services
4	<b>Plan to increase earned or unearned income, and/or education, employment opportunities</b>	Applicant does not have a plan for increasing income <b>0 points</b>	Applicant identifies some best practices to connect clients to educational and income opportunities. <b>2 points</b>	Applicant demonstrates implementation of strength-based plan to address the challenge of meeting educational, employment or income needs. <b>4 points</b>	Project Application	4	TVOC connects clients to FAIM-amazing program. Thank you for having it. Helps with resumes, employments opportunities, referrals and follow up to voc rehab and etc.	Applicant information may be found on <b>page 13</b> of the project application. Best practices may include: Demonstrated plan to center client choice Developing strength-based goals and plans with clients Examples may include: -Job training -Applying for income-based services, such as SNAP or GA -Providing training opportunities, such as employment certificates, CPR training, etc. -Acquiring diploma, GED or educational certificates -Agency employment or internship opportunities -MN Rural CEP -Resume building or job search support -Vital document acquisition -Transportation services
			Applicant plans to implement VHDP	Applicant plans to implement 2 or				Applicant information may be found on <b>page 14</b> of the project application. Examples may include: -Costs of moving expenses

8	YHDP Special Activities (YHDP applicants only)	Applicant does not plan to incorporate YHDP Special Activities <b>0 Points</b>	Applicant plans to implement YHDP Special Activities, but plan for implementation of new activities is unclear. <b>4 Points</b>	Applicant plans to implement 3 or more YHDP Special Activities and demonstrates clear plan for implementation. <b>8 Points</b>	Project Application	N/A		-Host home arrangements -Costs of utilities, late fees, household supplies, internet -Costs of gas and mileage, legal fees or fines, driving fees or fines, extended case management, emergency hotel stays -Costs associated with youth engagement, reimbursement for Youth Action Board Participation
<b>CoC Participation (All applicants)</b>								
4	General membership meeting attendance	Applicant agency attended one meeting or less <b>0 points</b>	Applicant agency attended two or three meetings <b>2 points</b>	Applicant agency attended four or more meetings <b>4 points</b>	General Membership Meeting Minutes	4	This section reviewed by NWCoC Staff	
2	Agency staff participation in CoC Committees	No staff participating on CoC Committees in past year <b>0 points</b>	Agency staff participated in at least one CoC committee <b>1 point</b>	Agency staff participated in more than one CoC committee <b>2 points</b>	Committee Meeting Minutes	2	This section reviewed by NWCoC Staff	
6	Participate in Case Conferencing	Does not participate. 0-25% participating attendance <b>0 points</b>	Participates in Case Conferencing, but concerns around attendance or CES policy/procedure alignment. 26-75% attendance. <b>3 Points</b>	Participates, collaborates and communicates with PLM at Case Conferencing. 76-100% attendance <b>6 points</b>	Case Conferencing Meeting Notes	6	This section reviewed by NWCoC Staff	
<b>System Performance (Renewal Applications)</b>								
8	Returns to Homelessness	15% or more of participants returned to homelessness within 12 months of exit to PH <b>0 points</b>	10-15% or more of participants returned to homelessness within 12 months of exit to PH <b>4 points</b>	Less than 10% of participants returned to homelessness within 12 months of exit to PH <b>8 points</b>	HMIS Returns to Homelessness Report	8	No returns	
2	Earned Income-Maintain/Increase (Leavers and Stayers)	Less than 10% for PSH, Less than 40% for TH/RRH <b>0 points</b>	10-19% for PSH, Less than 40-49% for TH/RRH <b>1 points</b>	20% or more for PSH, 50% or more for TH/RRH <b>2 points</b>	APR	0	8%	
2	Non-employment income-Maintain/Increase (Leavers and Stayers)	Less than 50% for PSH, Less than 40% for TH/RRH, Less than 5% for TH <b>0 points</b>	50-74% for PSH, 40-49% for TH/RRH, 5-9% for TH <b>1 points</b>	75% or more for PSH, 50% or more for TH/RRH, 10% or more for TH <b>2 points</b>	APR	1	61%	
4	Increase overall income	Less than 20% <b>0 points</b>	20-29% <b>2 points</b>	30% or more <b>4 points</b>	APR	4	61%	
8	Retention/successful exits (PSH only)	Under 85% <b>0 points</b>	85-90% <b>4 points</b>	Over 90% <b>8 points</b>	APR	8	95%	
8	Exits to permanent housing (TH/RRH only)	70% or less of participants exited to permanent destinations <b>0 points</b>	71-80% of participants exited to permanent destinations <b>4 points</b>	More than 80% of participants exited to permanent destinations <b>8 points</b>	APR	N/A	This section reviewed by NWCoC Staff	



NOFO ranking

Final Ranking.pdf NW CoC \_Final.pdf

Barbara Johnson

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Final Ranking.pdf 156 KB NW CoC NOFO Appeal Process... 60 KB

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Good morning,  
Attached is the HUD CoC NOFO 2024-25 ranking that the Rank & Review Committee will recommend for NWCoC Board approval. Also attached is the Local Appeal process. The ranking will be posted on the NWCoC webpage this week. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your application submissions and your dedicated work to end homelessness in our communities.

**Barbara Johnson**  
Program Officer  
She/Her/Hers  
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**Northwest Minnesota Continuum of Care Coordinator**  
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Reply Reply all Forward

NOFO ranking



Barbara Johnson

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**Reallocation/Rejections**

Acceptance	Applicant Name	Project Name	Grant Number	Expiration Year	Project Component	Restriction (DV or YHDP)	Amount
yes	Violence Intervention Project	TH RRH Final 2 VIP FY 2023	MN0504D5K062302	2025	Joint TH & PH-RRH	DV	\$127,728

**New and Renewal Project Ranking**

Ranking Order	Applicant Name	Project Name	Grant Number	Expiration Year	Project Component	Restriction (DV or YHDP)	Amount
1	Institute for Community Alliances	MN HMIS Northwest Renewal FY24	MN0096L5K062316	2025	HMIS		\$25,658.00
2	Center City Housing Corp.	Park Place	MN0580L5K062300	2025	PH		\$55,500.00
3	Northwest Minnesota Foundation	NWCoC CES NMF	MN0410L5K062306	2025	SSO		\$63,897.00
4	Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc	TVOC DV TH RRH Expansion	New		Joint TH/RRH	DV	\$127,000.00
5	Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc	TVOC PSH FY2024	MN0255L5K062312	2025	PH		\$217,031.00
6	Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc	TVOC DV TH RRH FY2024	MN0434L5K062305	2025	Joint TH & PH-RRH	DV	\$109,255.00
7	Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc.	FY2024 Beltrami Permanent Supportive Housing	MN0095L5K062315	2025	PH		\$138,786.00

Tier 1

8	Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc.	FY2024 Conifer Estates PSH	MN0539T5K062301	2025	PH		\$48,706.00	
9	Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc.	FY2024 AI Permanent Supportive Housing	MN0178L5K062311	2025	PH		\$77,597.00	Straddled \$22,279 Tier 1 \$55,318 Tier 2
10	Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc.	Beltrami Permanent Supportive Housing Expansion	New		PH		\$26,258.00	Tier 2
11	Inter- County Community Council	ICCC PSH Renewal 2024	MN0176L5K062312	2025	PH		\$33,744.00	

**Non-Ranked/Non-Competitive Project Acceptance**

Acceptance	Applicant Name	Project Name	Grant Number	Expiration Year	Project Component	Restriction (DV or YHDP)	Amount
yes	Inter- County Community Council	ICCC YHDP renewal 2024	MN0442Y5K062304	2025	PH	YHDP	\$408,859.00



yes	Northwest Indian Community Development Center	NWICDC YHDP 2024	MN0444Y5K062302	2025	PH	YHDP	\$322,015.00
yes	Institute for Community Alliances	MN HMIS Northwest YHDP Renewal FY24	MN0441Y5K062304	2025	HMIS	YHDP	\$12,679.00
yes	Northwest Minnesota Foundation	CoC Planning Renewal		2025			\$82,073.00

FY24 Estimate Annual Renewal Demand	PPRN	Estimated ARD	Tier 1	CoC Bonus	DV Bonus	CoC Planning
MN506	\$660,735	\$1,641,455	\$808,112	\$196,975	\$99,110	\$82,073



Donors & Giving

Grants & Scholarships

Business Support & Loans

Determine Project Ranking and to Reallocate Project Funds if Needed.	9.9.2024	
NWCoC Board Approves Recommended Ranking and Posts Draft to Website	9.9.2024	Public posting to <a href="http://www.nwmf.org">www.nwmf.org</a> and emailed to project applicants
Rank & Review Committee Meets to Review Appeals to Ranking	9.12.2024	
Final Ranking Posted to Website	9.12.2024	<a href="http://www.nwmf.org">www.nwmf.org</a>
<b>Submission</b>		
Project Applicants Submit Application in Esnaps	9.30.2024	
Collaborative Applicant Submits Collaborative Application to HUD	10.23.2024	

• **Final Ranking**

## 2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity

ABOUT +

2023 ANNUAL NCOFO COC COMPETITION +





**Main Office:**

205 Garfield Ave.  
P.O. Box 128  
Mentor, MN 56736

**Phone:** 218-637-2431

**Fax:** 218-637-2433

**Satellite Office:**

1708 River Road NW - Office  
East Grand Forks, MN 56721

**Phone:** 218-773-2371

**Fax:** 218-773-9331

September 6, 2024

Sherry Mullane  
Assistant Director of Community Services  
Tri-Valley Opportunity Council

Dear Ms. Mullane:

The NW MN Multi-County HRA has a very good working partnership with Tri-Valley Opportunity Council to serve needs of low-income households with rent assistance and supportive services to enable families to secure housing in our northwest region of Minnesota.

We would be happy to offer support for your grant application for victims of domestic violence. The HRA is willing to provide rent assistance vouchers to eligible families who apply to our housing choice voucher program within our service area and intends to make at least 3 vouchers available for this project to meet the twenty-five percent leverage requirement.

The HRA intends to work with the CoC and other stakeholders across the CoC for general admission to Housing Choice Voucher program through the coordinated entry process for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, or fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Sincerely,

Karen Lunak  
Housing Director



# Tri-Valley

Opportunity Council, Inc.

PO Box 607 ~ 102 North Broadway, Crookston, MN 56716  
Local ~ 218-281-5832 / Toll-Free ~ 800-584-7020 / Fax ~ 218-281-6681  
Telecommunication Relay Services ~ 711

Jason Carlson  
Chief Executive Officer

[www.tvoc.org](http://www.tvoc.org)

Stephanie Vonesh  
Chair of the Board

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9-30-24

CPD Representative  
Office of Community Planning & Development  
US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development  
212 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave South, Suite 150  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

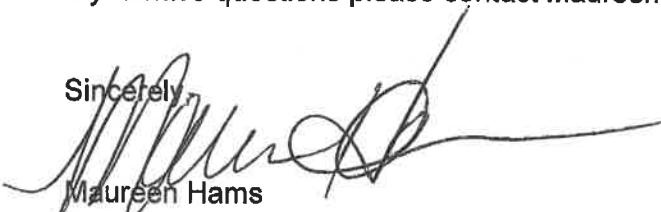
To Whom it May Concern,

Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. has secured match for the DV TH RRH NEW FYSY project in the amount of \$6,190 from the Family Resource Center funded through the Sauer Foundation.

The funds will be available for the period of performance of the project. Cash match will be provided as supervisory staff, staff salary, office space, internet, supplies, training, copy machine, phone providing services to those fleeing DV as allowable under 24 CFR 578, Subpart D.

If you have questions please contact Maureen Hams at [mhams@tvoc.org](mailto:mhams@tvoc.org).

Sincerely,



Maureen Hams  
Community Services Director  
Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.

Community Action . . . People Helping People

The mission of Tri-Valley is to provide opportunities to improve the quality of life for people and communities.  
Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer



DATE: September 9, 2024

HUD Minneapolis Field Office

Re: Continuum of Care grant Expansion for #MN0095L5K062315

Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc. commits up to \$6,565 in cash match for the Beltrami Expanded Permanent Supportive Housing Program Continuum of Care grant for the grant term Oct 1 2025 through Sept 30 2026. Funding sources used for match will be a combination of cash from rents, DHS Long Term Homeless Services Grant, Minnesota Community Action Grant (MNCAG), and/or Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). Match will fund admin and rental assistance and other allowable activities.

The authority by which I make this commitment is Executive Director of BI-CAP.

Date:

Barb Moran, Executive Director

Helping People. Changing Lives. Building Community.  
Serving Beltrami and Cass Counties

Beltrami County: 6603 Bemidji Ave. N. Bemidji, MN 56601/P.O. Box 579, Bemidji, MN 56619 Phone: 1-800-332-7161  
Cass County: 8245 Industrial Pk. Rd. NW/P.O. Box 995, Walker, MN 56484 Phone: 1-800-332-7135





# Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.

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Stephanie Vonesh  
Chair of the Board

---

9-30-24

CPD Representative  
Office of Community Planning & Development  
US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development  
212 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave South, Suite 150  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

To Whom it May Concern,

Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. has secured match for the DV TH RRH FY24 grant in the amount of \$27,314.00

In-kind match will come from Community Health Services Inc. Community Health serves persons fleeing domestic violence in Norman and Polk Counties by providing services including but not limited to safety plans, intakes, supportive listening and orders of protection. In-kind match will be \$16,000.00 and is available and allowable to support the work of the Domestic Violence Rapid Rehousing Transitional Housing project allowable under 24 CFR 578, Subpart D.

Cash match provided by Tri-Valley Opportunity Council will total \$11,314.00. The funds will be available for the period of performance of the project. Cash match will be provided as supervisory staff, staff salary, office space, internet, supplies, training, copy machine, phone and direct services to clients such as transportation, food and moving supplies needed to support the work of the Domestic Violence Rapid Rehousing Transitional Housing project allowable under 24 CFR 578, Subpart D.

If you have questions please contact Maureen Hams at [mhams@tvoc.org](mailto:mhams@tvoc.org).

Sincerely,

  
Maureen Hams  
Community Services Director  
Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.



## Inter-County Community Council

P.O. Box 189, Oklee, MN 56742-0189  
218-796-5144 • Toll Free 888-778-4008 • FAX 218-796-5175

October 18, 2024

This letter is to confirm that the NWCOC Board accepts and approves the priority listing and rankings for the HUD CoC FY24-25 NOFO competition. The Executive Board met on October 17, 2024 with unanimous approval.

Sincerely,

Lori Wollman  
NWCOC Board Chariman