



# 2022 CONTINUUM OF CARE SUPPLEMENTAL TO ADDRESS UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS

Technical Assistance Package

Part III

The Comprehensive Community Plan

This is Part III of the package provided by Urban Initiatives to assist in the preparation of the 2022 Special NOFO for persons experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

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# **COMPREHENSIVE COC PLAN TO SERVE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS WITH SEVERE SERVICE NEEDS**

## **Overview of Plan Requirements**

CoCs must develop and submit a plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs. The Plan is limited to 15 single-spaced pages, using Times New Roman 12 point font.

The plan must describe:

The CoC's current strategies for conducting coordinated and comprehensive outreach

How the CoC provides access to low- barrier shelter and other temporary accommodations

How the CoC provides immediate access to low- barrier permanent housing.

How the CoC leverages both mainstream housing and healthcare resources

Actions to stabilize unsheltered individuals and their families in housing

How the CoC increases access to employment opportunities for those experiencing homelessness.

How the CoC will support underserved communities

How the CoC identifies barriers that led to any disparities in communities being served

How the CoC supports equitable community development by taking steps to address such barriers when using these funds

How the CoC will involve individuals with lived experience in the decision-making process of the CoC.

How the CoC will ensure Special NOFO resources will reducing unsheltered homelessness in their CoC, especially in areas historically marginalized.

## **Detailed Outline of HUD Scoring of the Plan**

An outline of the details to be included in the Plan is provided in the Scoring Chart in Part I of the Technical Assistance Package. The Technical Assistance Package provides detailed descriptions of the Plan requirements and HUD's scoring of the Plan.

## **NOFO Description**

Section VII.B. Part 4 of the NOFO follows:

**4. CoC Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs.** This entire section is required for the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside. However, only those questions labeled “(Required for Rural Set Aside)” will be used to select projects for the Rural Set Aside funding opportunity. CoCs applying for funds for both funding opportunities need only answer the question once.

For the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside, HUD will award up to a total of 70 points based on the CoC Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs. For the Rural Set Aside, HUD will award up to 59 points based on the CoC Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs.

The maximum page limit for describing the following elements is 15 pages as described in Section VI.F.1.d. HUD will not consider any responses after 15 pages for scoring for this competition. Note: Attachments required in this section will not count toward the 15-page maximum.

**a. Leveraging Housing Resources.** Up to 18 points to CoCs that demonstrate efforts to increase the number of permanent housing units available to individuals and families experiencing homelessness, including the extent to which the amount of assistance provided will be supplemented with other, non-CoC Program and non-ESG funded, housing resources that are not already dedicated to individuals and families experiencing homelessness and how landlords are incentivized to house individuals experiencing homelessness.

<p><b><i>(1) Development of new units and creation of housing opportunities. (Required for Rural Set Aside).</i></b> CoCs must demonstrate the number of new permanent housing units that includes the date the units will be available for program participants and how many new permanent housing units will be available for individuals and families experiencing homelessness that include the preferences or set aside created.</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>CoCs must demonstrate that they have applied for permanent housing project(s), including permanent supportive housing or rapid re-housing, that utilizes housing subsidies or subsidized housing units not funded through the CoC or ESG Programs (e.g., Housing Choice Vouchers, HOME-ARP, HOPWA). The CoC must demonstrate that these housing units, which are not funded through the CoC or ESG programs, will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the case of a permanent supportive housing project(s), provide at least 50 percent of the units included in the project; or</li> <li>• In the case of a rapid re-housing project(s), serve at least 50 percent of the program participants anticipated to be served by the project.</li> </ul>
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		<p>CoCs must attach letters of commitment, contracts, or other formal written documents that clearly demonstrate the number of subsidies or units being provided to support the project.</p> <p>To receive full points, the CoC must attach a letter from a PHA committing to work with the CoC to pair vouchers with CoC-funded supportive services; to work with the CoC and other stakeholders to develop a prioritization plan for a potential allocation of Stability Voucher (see Section VI.F.1.h of this NOFO for additional information) or a preference 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.</p> <p>CoCs can receive less than full points for demonstrating commitments less than the threshold described above.</p>
<p><b>(2) Landlord Recruitment. (Required for Rural Set Aside)</b> CoCs must demonstrate their current strategy for recruiting landlords, and their units, in which to utilize tenant-based assistance.</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>CoCs must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the current strategy they use to recruit landlords and show how well it works at identifying units across their entire geographic area, including areas where the CoC has historically not been able to identify units;</li> <li>• Identify any new practices it has implemented to recruit landlords in the past three years and the lessons learned from implementing those practices; and</li> <li>• Describe how they will use data to update their landlord recruitment strategy.</li> </ul>

**b. Leveraging Healthcare Resources.** Up to 10 points for CoCs that develop permanent housing projects that utilize healthcare resources to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

<p><b>Leveraging Healthcare Resources.</b>          These points are available for CoCs that propose to develop permanent housing projects, including permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing projects, that utilize health care resources to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Sources of healthcare resources include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct contributions from a public or private health insurance provider to the project; and</li> <li>• Provision of health care services, including mental health services, by a private or public organization (including FQHCs and state or local health departments) tailored to the program participants of the project.</li> <li>• Direct partnerships with organizations that provide healthcare services, including mental health services to individuals and families (including FQHCs and state or local public health departments) experiencing homelessness who have HIV/AIDS.</li> <li>• Eligibility for the project must comply with HUD program and fair housing requirements. Eligibility criteria cannot be restricted by the eligibility requirements of the health care service provider.</li> </ul>	<p>10</p>	<p>CoCs must demonstrate through a written commitment from a health care organization, including organizations that serve people with HIV/AIDS, that the value of assistance being provided by the healthcare organization is at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the case of a substance abuse treatment or recovery provider, it will provide access to treatment or recovery services for all program participants who qualify and choose those services; or</li> <li>• An amount that is equivalent to 50% of the funding being requested for the project(s) will be covered by the healthcare organization.</li> </ul> <p>Acceptable forms of commitment are formal written agreements and must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• value of the commitment, and</li> <li>• dates the healthcare resources will be provided.</li> </ul> <p>In-kind resources must be valued at the local rates consistent with the amount paid for services not supported by grant funds. CoCs can receive less than full points for demonstrating commitments less than the threshold described above.</p>
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**c. CoCs Current Strategy to Identify, Shelter, and House Individuals and Families Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness.** Up to 9 points to CoCs applying for the Unsheltered Funding Set-Aside that describe their current strategies to regularly engage individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the locations where they reside and connect them to low barrier shelter, temporary housing, or permanent housing as available and appropriate. Up to 6 points are available for CoCs only applying for the Rural Set

<p><b>(1) Current Street Outreach Strategy.</b> The extent to which they have a street outreach strategy that regularly engages individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the locations where they reside, including a specific strategy for engaging those with the highest vulnerabilities.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>CoCs must demonstrate their current strategies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ensure that outreach teams are coordinated;</li> <li>● ensure that outreach is frequent, by describing the days and times outreach is conducted each week;</li> <li>● help people exit homelessness and unsheltered homelessness;</li> <li>● ensure specific engagement strategies will engage individuals and families experiencing homelessness with the highest vulnerabilities and will use culturally appropriate strategies;</li> <li>● use the outreach teams to connect individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness to permanent housing; and</li> <li>● hire people with lived expertise of unsheltered homelessness to conduct outreach.</li> <li>● CoCs must identify evidence-based practices used to conduct street outreach and local strategies used that are based on data and performance.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>(2) Current Strategy to Provide Immediate Access to Low- Barrier Shelter and Temporary Housing for Individuals and Families Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness.</b> The current strategy used by the CoC to provide low-barrier emergency shelter (especially non- congregate shelter), transitional housing, or other temporary accommodations to individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness who want to reside in shelter or temporary housing before identifying a permanent housing option.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>CoCs must describe the current strategy and show how well it performs at providing low- barrier culturally appropriate access to temporary accommodations (e.g., emergency shelter, especially non-congregate shelter, transitional housing) to all individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness.</p> <p>The CoC must identify any new practices it has implemented in the geographic area over the past three years and the lessons learned from implementing those practices.</p>
<p><b>(3) Current Strategy to Provide Immediate Access to Low Barrier Permanent Housing for Individuals and Families Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness.</b> The current strategy to rapidly house individuals and families experiencing homelessness in low-barrier permanent housing.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>CoCs must describe the current strategy, including their use of a Housing First Approach, and demonstrate how well it performs at providing low-barrier and culturally appropriate access to permanent housing to individuals and families who have histories of unsheltered homelessness and the evidence that supports that strategy. The CoC must identify any new practices it has implemented in the geographic area over the past three years and the lessons learned from implementing those practices. To receive full points in this section, applicants should connect response to resources identified in 4.A.1.</p>

**d. Updating the CoCs Strategy to Identify, Shelter, and House Individuals Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness using Data and Performance.** Up to 8 points to CoCs applying for the Unsheltered Set-Aside that demonstrate they will continuously review data and best practices and use that information to update their strategies to reduce unsheltered homelessness.

<p><b><i>Updating the Strategy Using Data and Performance.</i></b> CoCs will provide information on how the current strategies to provide shelter and housing to individuals experiencing homelessness and to conduct street outreach will be updated and enhanced using data and performance.</p>	8	<p>CoCs must demonstrate how they will use data, that includes specific data points, performance, and best practices to expand and improve the performance of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Street outreach within the CoC’s geographic area. To receive full points the CoC must demonstrate street outreach is connected to coordinated entry or HMIS and how it will incorporate new partners (e.g., business owners, law enforcement, healthcare providers) into its street outreach strategies;</li> <li>• Providing access to low-barrier shelter and temporary accommodations, including any new practices and activities that would be funded through an award under this NOFO; and</li> <li>• Rapidly housing individuals and families who have histories of unsheltered homelessness in permanent housing.</li> </ul>
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**e. Identify and Prioritize Households Experiencing or with Histories of Unsheltered Homelessness.** Up to 12 points to CoCs that demonstrate a comprehensive method to identify and provide street outreach services to individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness, and with histories of unsheltered homelessness and prioritize them for permanent housing.

<p><b><i>Prioritize Households Experiencing or with Histories of Unsheltered Homelessness.</i></b> How the CoC will ensure that resources funded under this Special NOFO serve individuals and families who are currently unsheltered or have histories of unsheltered homelessness and how the CoC’s prioritization strategies will contribute to reducing unsheltered homelessness within the CoC’s geographic area.</p>	12	<p>CoCs must describe how they will ensure the resources awarded under this Special NOFO will contribute to reducing unsheltered homelessness in their geographic area and how they will prioritize assistance for individuals and families who are currently unsheltered or have histories of unsheltered homelessness. CoCs must describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CoC’s strategy for ensuring that resources provided under this NOFO will reduce unsheltered homelessness;</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How the CoC will adopt program eligibility and coordinated entry processes that reduce unsheltered homelessness;</li> <li>• How the CoC will use street outreach to connect unsheltered people with housing resources; and</li> <li>• Additional steps the CoC is taking to ensure that people who are unsheltered or have histories of unsheltered homelessness are able to access housing and other resources in the community, including steps to increase access to identification, providing housing navigation services, and providing access to health care and other supportive services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>f. Involving Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Decision Making.</b> Up to 5 points for the extent to which CoCs meaningfully include persons with lived experience of homelessness in the decision-making process of the CoC.</p>		
<p><i>Involving Individuals with Lived Experiencing of Homelessness in Service Delivery and Decision Making.</i></p>	<p>5</p>	<p>CoCs must demonstrate individuals and families experiencing homelessness, particularly those who have experienced unsheltered homelessness, are meaningfully and intentionally integrated into the CoC decision-making structure. Additionally, CoCs must demonstrate how they encourage projects to involve individuals and families with lived experience of unsheltered homelessness in the delivery of services (e.g., by hiring people with lived experience of unsheltered homelessness).</p> <p>Full points are available to CoCs that clearly describe the meaningful outreach efforts (e.g., street outreach, social media announcements) to engage those with lived homelessness experience to develop a working group (e.g., advisory committee, subcommittee) and who attach a letter of support for this Special NOFO from a working group comprised of individuals with lived experience of homelessness.</p> <p>The narrative must also discuss how the working group is intentionally used in the CoC decision making process (i.e., what type of voting authority do the members have on policy, the ability to influence local policy, and priorities that impact those experiencing homelessness). The CoC must also attach a letter signed by a working group comprised of persons with lived experience of homelessness that meets the requirements of Section VI.F.1.g of this NOFO supporting the CoC priorities outlined in the CoC Application and the project application(s) submitted as part of the application process</p>

**g. Supporting Underserved Communities and Supporting Equitable Community Development.** Up to 8 points for the extent to which CoCs support and serve underserved communities in their geographic area and offer equitable housing interventions to address their needs.

<p><b><i>Supporting Underserved Communities and Supporting Equitable Community Development.</i></b></p>	8	<p>To receive full points, CoC must describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their current strategy to identify populations in the CoC’s geography that have not been served by the homeless system at the same rate they are experiencing homelessness.</li> <li>• How underserved communities in their geographic area interact with the homeless system, including a description of those populations.</li> <li>• The current strategy to provide outreach, engagement, and housing interventions to serve populations experiencing homelessness that have not previously been served by the homeless system at the same rate they are experiencing homelessness.</li> </ul>
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**Unsheltered Homelessness Bonus.** HUD will award bonus points to CoCs applying for the Unsheltered Set Aside based on the number of unsheltered people reported in the 2019 Point in Time Count. The points will be as follows

10,000 or more people	30
5,000 to 9,999 people	20
1,000 to 4,999 people	10
999 or fewer people	0