

MA-505 New Bedford Continuum of Care 2022 Continuum of Care Competition

FINAL



Consolidated Application

For the New Bedford CoC

Questions about the Consolidated Application or the CoC's submission of materials to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) on or about Monday, September 26, 2022 at 8am should be directed to Jennifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

All CoC competition materials for the MA-505 has been released and advertised through direct emails, Facebook and the www.nbhspn.com website.

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 2022 CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The FY 2022 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 2022 CoC Program Competition on behalf of your CoC.

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

Answering Multi-Part Narrative Questions

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

Attachments

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

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

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

1A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Identification

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

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2022 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1A-1. CoC Name and Number: MA-505 - New Bedford CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: City of New Bedford

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: City of New Bedford

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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1B-1.	Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry.	
	NOFO Sections VII.B.1.a.(1), VII.B.1.e., VII.B.1.p., and VII.B.1.r.	
	In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022:	
	1. select yes or no in the chart below if the entity listed participates in CoC meetings, voted—including selecting CoC Board members, and participated in your CoC’s coordinated entry system; or	
	2. select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist in your CoC’s geographic area:	

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

17.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes	Yes	Yes
18.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
20.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
21.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	No
22.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes	Yes
23.	State Domestic Violence Coalition	Yes	Yes	Yes
24.	State Sexual Assault Coalition	Yes	No	Yes
25.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
26.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
29.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
30.	Other Victim Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
31.	Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
33.	Youth Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Other: (limit 50 characters)			
34.	FAITH COMMUNITY (ICCGNB)	Yes	Yes	Yes
35.	UNITED WAY	Yes	Yes	Yes

1B-2.	Open Invitation for New Members.	
	NOFO Section VII.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 with individuals with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats;
3.	invited organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in the geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, and persons with disabilities).

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The invitation process is communicated through an annual email blast sent via different listserv groups identifying the HSPN/its work/its website/its goal of ending/preventing homelessness. Estimated reach of this effort is 1,000+ recipients. Additional invitations are made through social media including Facebook and Twitter. The CoC solicits new members annually and follows a calendar year for the membership term. CoC members are asked to bring someone new to CoC meetings to ensure inclusion of a broad, diverse and expanding membership. In its invitation outreach, it is made clear that the membership fee is always FREE, and therefore available to all.

2.The CoC relies on its relationship with local disability providers (e.g. SouthCoast Independent Living) in ensuring effective communication with individuals with disabilities. Additionally, all materials published online and as part of CoC mailings, outreach and administration is made available in electronic formats, specifically PDFs.

3.Invitations to organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in this CoC are regularly made through direct contact. Given the small size of the New Bedford CoC, it is fortunate that the primary organizations serving such populations in this geographic area including the Immigrants Assistance Center (serving all populations), the CEDC (primarily serving Guatemalan, Cape Verdean, detained persons and individuals not in legal immigration status) and the SouthCoast LGBTQ+ Network, all of whom are long term and active members of this CoC. Direct outreach is also made on an ongoing basis to agency representatives, housing advocates, homeless advocates, street outreach teams and emergency shelters requesting their assistance year-round in inviting folks they serve/know to join the HSPN to ensure those with lived experience are well-represented and fully engaged within the CoC.

1B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section VII.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; and
3.	took into consideration information gathered in public meetings or forums to address improvements or new approaches to preventing and ending homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The small size of MA-505 CoC and its geographic area lends itself to enjoying tight connections within the community. This has helped facilitate a deep familiarity between those invested in/engaged with, preventing/ending homelessness. Despite the historical strength of such connections, the CoC recognizes the value/importance of also culling wide diversity in its approaches to ending homelessness and actively solicits/engages/relies on opinions from across the city. Solicitations made via email blasts, web, social media postings and regular participation in community efforts ensures the inclusion of homelessness in broader local discussions while engaging others to share insights with the CoC. Such efforts are routinely made to ensure/strengthen those relationships/perspectives/voices. Whether it's folks currently living on our streets who come to a monthly CoC meeting, a businessperson who commits personal, financial and human capital to ending homelessness or so many others, the CoC's meetings and its org model have always been rooted in the breadth of its collective voice. All are welcomed to meetings.

2. At the core of the CoC's operation is its ability to outreach into the community and ensure a diverse and engaged public participation effort. The CoC communicates info during all public meetings to better understand public ideas and concerns. In so doing the CoC always first ensures a level playing field always taking the time at the outset to ensure an explanatory component. The CoC is always open to the public and all CoC meetings encourage participation. CoC-centric discussions, (i.e. planning/strategic efforts) and broader community initiatives (i.e. annual Action Plan process, development of the Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice process) are foundational to the New Bedford CoC. Similarly, CoC leadership and members regularly engage in local forums relevant to vulnerable populations and homelessness; such forums involve public participation with brainstorming and public speaking, all of which is aired on cable to ensure wider community reach. Similarly, CoC events like the public kick-off of the annual PIT Count and speaking engagements on local radio where callers raise concerns and questions have dramatically helped inform the CoC.

3. The CoC uses and genuinely relies on info it gathers in all forums, recognizing all ideas are potential great ideas and ensuring the process to get there is authentic.

1B-4.	Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Awarded CoC Program Funding.	
	NOFO Section VII.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.	how your CoC effectively communicated with individuals with disabilities, including making information accessible in electronic formats.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC announced the opening of the local NOFO competition, availability of its RFP and its acceptance of project proposals on 08.05.2022 through the City of New Bedford’s website (<https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/housing-community-development/>) the CoC’s own website (www.nbhspn.com), and through emailing to the CoC listserve. Postings were also made on social media in order to notify the public as to the availability of the RFPs for new funding regardless of whether an organization had previously submitted or not. These postings were made on Facebook and Twitter. All postings specifically noted and highlighted that new applicants not previously funded were encouraged to apply and included language indicating proposals from organizations that had not previously received CoC program funding would be accepted. In its public posting the RFP advertising includes the following language: “This competition is open to all eligible applicants; one need not have previously applied to participate and submit an application.” Inquiries from new potential applicants were made this year but no new projects were received in competition.
2. Information about how project applicants must submit their project applications was included throughout the RFP including specific information regarding project applications within the Application Requirements section. This information was also separately published on the www.nbhspn.com website on 08.08.2022. Once ranked, project applicants were individually provided with specific guidance and instruction as to submission of their project information via esnaps.
3. Information about how the CoC determined which project applications it would submit to HUD was provided throughout the RFP including specific information within the RFP’s Appendix B “CoC Application Selection Process, Scoring, Ranking and Reallocation Process 2021.” This information included detail as to how CoC determinations were made and included information regarding an appeal process.
4. The CoC ensured effective communication with individuals with disabilities through the RFP process by placing the RFP on the City’s website which is ADA compliant and is screen-reader compatible.

1C. Coordination and Engagement

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

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1C-1.	Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations.	
	NOFO Section VII.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)	Nonexistent
9.	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Nonexistent
10.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent
11.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes
12.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes
13.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes
14.	Private Foundations	Yes
15.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes
16.	Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Nonexistent
17.	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)	

18.	UNITED WAY, FAITH COMMUNITY (ICC GNB)	Yes
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1C-2.	CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The NB CoC connects with ESG subrecipients on an ongoing basis through the CoC's collaborative applicant, the city's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) that's also responsible for ESG/ESG-CV funding for the City (an entitlement community). All ESG program subrecipients are involved in planning and allocating ESG and ESG-CV funding by virtue of their roles sitting on the CoC. Because it's a small CoC, each agency receiving funds also sits as a member of the CoC and the majority of ESG/ESG-CV program directors serve on the CoC's Executive Board. Additionally, the OHCD is both ESG/ESG-CV recipient and CoC Collaborative Applicant/leadership. The CoC Performance Review Committee (PRC) is engaged in evaluating project performance, planning and recommending allocation of ESG funds just as it was with ESG-CV funding. Also, the CoC Strategic Plan includes strategies related to the allocation of ESG/ESG-CV funding (initiatives focused on homeless prevention/rapid rehousing/street outreach/shelter). In these ways there's a definitive connection between the CoC, the OHCD as ESG/ESG-CV recipient and ESG/ESG-CV subrecipients and the CoC's planning/allocation of funds.
2. The CoC participates quarterly in evaluating/reporting on ESG subrecipient performance through the OHCD's monitoring of all projects and its PRC (whose mbrs aren't part of orgs receiving any CoC/ESG \$). All ESG decisions are reviewed/approved/recommended by the PRC; all ESG programs are monitored by the OHCD. The efficacy of these progs, evidenced through data reports presented to the CoC during mbr meetings is valuable in ensuring a collective understanding re importance each ESG program plays as a contributor to the CoC's system-based performance.
3. OHCD staff who oversee PIT/HIC efforts from organizing to collecting/processing data/entering into HDX are the same staff who oversee/develop Action Plans and ConPlan for NB so there's no delivery gap/issue in ensuring all CoC data is wholly and expeditiously provided to the ConPlan jurisdiction.
4. OHCD staff prepares draft and final versions of all planning docs for the ConPlan jurisdiction including Consolidated Plans, (the most recent being 2020-2024). From conducting focus groups/engaging providers to conducting public mtgs/writing the ConPlan, OHCD staff are on the forefront of ensuring seamless integration of accurate/timely CoC data into the ConPlan.

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

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

1.	Conducted mandatory training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated.	No
2.	Conducted optional training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated.	Yes
3.	Worked with ESG recipient(s) to adopt uniform anti-discrimination policies for all subrecipients.	Yes
4.	Worked with ESG recipient(s) to identify both CoC- and ESG-funded facilities within your CoC's geographic area that might be out of compliance and took steps to work directly with those facilities to bring them into compliance.	Yes
5.	Sought assistance from HUD by submitting AAQs or requesting technical assistance to resolve noncompliance of service providers.	No
6.	Other. (limit 150 characters)	

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

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

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

1C-4a.	Formal Partnerships with Youth Education Providers, SEAs, LEAs, School Districts.	
	NOFO Section VII.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)

The New Bedford CoC works in partnership with a range of youth education providers including the McKinney Vento Local Education Agency and local school district. Specifically, the CoC collaborates with (a) multiple youth education providers are active CoC members and (b) the LEA/McKinney Vento Liaison who is elected by the CoC membership to the CoC’s Exec Committee and provides written and verbal reporting to the CoC each month and (c) with the New Bedford Public Schools (NBPS) District. The CoC formerly partners with the LEAs through a signed agreement on an annual basis. In addition, the CoC’s governance, through its adopted By-Laws, specifies that there is a reserved seat for a representative of the New Bedford Public Schools.

The current CoC Chair recently concluded his term as a publicly elected member of the NB School Committee. The NBPS School Registrar and LEA recently rolled off as the elected vice-chair of the CoC. The NBPS liaison now sits on the CoC Executive Committee and routinely presents statistical information and trending analysis of students being connected with supports/services.

In addition, the CoC formerly partners with (a) two local colleges to ensure access/outreach to those experiencing homelessness or on the precipice of homelessness (outreach for which is particularly robust during the months leading up to the PIT Count/MA state PIT), and (b) The NBPS’ Family Resource Ctr who provides assistance to families with school age children facing or experiencing homelessness.

The CoC also collaborates with the SEA through the LEA/NBPS School Registrar who recently completed her term as the CoC’s elected Vice-Chair. The CoC actively participates in Southeastern Regional McKinney Vento Partnership meetings conducted by the NBPS as well as broader area regional McKinney Vento meetings which bring together all McKinney Vento liaisons from surrounding schools/districts adjoining the geography of the CoC, regional meetings at which CoC leadership have regularly presented and contributed.

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

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

The New Bedford CoC, acting through its lead/Collaborative Applicant, the City’s Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD), requires that all ESG and CoC project applicants be able to clearly demonstrate that they are informing all families/youth experiencing homelessness as to their eligibility for McKinney-Vento education services. CoC applicants must demonstrate and document how they are considering the educational needs of children when families are placed in emergency shelter or any transitional housing and, to the maximum extent practicable, demonstrate they are placing families with children as close as possible to their schools of origin so as not to disrupt the children’s education.

All project applicants must be able to demonstrate that their programs are establishing policies and practices that are consistent with, and do not restrict the exercise of, rights provided by the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act, and other laws relating to the provision of educational and related services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Project applicants funded through ESG or CoC must be able to demonstrate that they have designated a staff person to ensure that children are enrolled in school and connected to the appropriate services within the community, including early childhood programs such as Head Start, Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and McKinney-Vento education services. The OHCD serves as the grantee for both ESG and CoC funding; as such, it compels agencies to abide by these policies/protocols and reinforces them through subrecipient agreements and monitoring of projects.

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

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

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

1C-5.	Addressing Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors—Collaborating with Victim Service Providers.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC regularly collaborates with organizations who help provide housing and services to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking to:	
1.	update CoC-wide policies; and	
2.	ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC are trauma-informed and can meet the needs of survivors.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC regularly collaborates with the VSP within the CoC’s geography in ensuring that appropriate procedures/protocols for working with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, trafficking, and sexual assault are incorporated into its Operational Standards. Such CoC-wide policies were initially developed with reliance on statewide resources from Jane Doe Inc. (MA Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence) and Mass Legal Help; they are published and incorporated into the “Continuum of Care Operational Standards City of New Bedford” as amended. These Standards include CoC - wide policies addressing victims of domestic violence and their families specific to non-discrimination because of any history of domestic violence, receipt of the benefits afforded under the Fair Housing Act, the protections under VAWA regulations as they relate to ESG and CoC program funded homeless assistance programs, the CoC’s participant choice and subpopulation inclusion under its person-centered model, policies that direct that no organization shall have services that isolate/segregate victims of domestic violence based upon actual or perceived gender identify, confidentiality, the use of comparable data bases rather than HMIS, prioritization for victims of domestic violence and their families, and the effect of the HUD definition of homelessness as relates to domestic violence, etc.

2. The CoC is vigilant in its efforts to ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC are trauma-informed and can meet the needs of survivors. The agency providing the CoC’s Coordinated Entry System (CES) receive mandated annual training from DV experts focusing on best practices in working with folks who may be survivors in a trauma-informed manner while ensuring they are able to access appropriate resources/safety planning. The CES has frequent contact with the local domestic violence service provider (GNBWC) to maintain open communication and ask specific questions about interaction with survivors presenting to the CES team. The GNBWC provides ongoing technical assistance and supervision addressing survivor protocols through the CES. The local certified provider of domestic violence services (Women’s Center) provides an annual training during regular CoC meetings so non-victim service providers and all CoC area project staff are updated on all relevant Fed/State/Local laws and best practices.

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The local Victims Service Provider (VSP-NB Women’s Center) provides annual trainings during CoC meetings and after regular CoC mtgs. Trainings are conducted in addition to specialized trainings throughout the year. The VSP’s Ed/Outreach Coordinator presents the big picture training during the CoC mtg focusing on an overview of the local VSP, its portfolio of supports, shelter and housing options and the means of accessing them. This broad training geared toward non-victim service providers also ensures all CoC members and project staff—are updated on relevant Fed/State/Local laws. Training includes the prevalence of domestic violence survivors among those experiencing homelessness, barriers faced by those hhlds and prevention/safety. The DVServices Counselor is the VSP’s project staff providing more detailed training, setting up an understanding of approaches used by the VSP around best practices including development of a safety plan that’s victim-centered and is delivered in a trauma-informed environment. Training topics include safety planning for survivors of domestic violence that’s clear on the importance of known risk/any lethality indicators that may be present. The VSP’s training includes safety planning/addressing crisis intervention basics and current evidence-based best practices particularly given today’s challenges around the persistence of the pandemic and diminished personal resources. Finally, best practice trainings for CoC providers are offered on an ongoing basis to community stakeholders/CoC providers.

2. Procedure/protocols for working with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, trafficking, and sexual assault are all a part of the New Bedford CoC’s Coordinated Entry System (CES) triage/intake process. Specifically, Catholic Social Services, the agency providing the CoC’s CES, ensures training is offered to the CES team focusing on best practices in working with survivors of domestic violence/sexual predation in a trauma-informed manner while ensuring they’re able to access the appropriate resources for safety planning. The CES has frequent contact with the local VPS maintaining open communication and asking questions specific to their interaction with survivors presenting to the CES team. The CoC’s CES staff are mandated to participate in annual trainings offered by the VSP and are provided ongoing technical assistance and supervision that addresses survivor protocols through the CES process.

1C-5b.	Using De-identified Aggregate Data to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
NOFO Section VII.B.1.e.		

	Describe in the field below:
1.	the de-identified aggregate data source(s) your CoC uses for data on survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and
2.	how your CoC uses the de-identified aggregate data described in element 1 of this question to evaluate how to best meet the specialized needs related to domestic violence and homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The New Bedford CoC has, since January of 2019, utilized CaseWorthy as its HMIS vendor while the CoC's only Victim Service Provider has used EmpowerDB for its comparable data base. The City's Office of Housing and Community Development—OHCD, both in its role as HMIS lead and CoC/ESG recipient, reviewed how it had been collecting data from its domestic violence/dating violence/sexual assault/stalking and trafficking provider and the challenges that had resulted. By using CaseWorthy's data platform, the OHCD can take de-identified aggregate .csv files from the local domestic violence provider (of which there is just one within the CoC) and import it directly into the HMIS system. In this way the aggregated data now more cleanly aligns with HMIS data. Doing so provides greater comprehensive and ongoing representation of the domestic violence survivor/dating violence/sexual assault and stalking cohorts and thereby ensures that strategically placed initiatives can be developed. In addition, other data is collected and used to inform and assess needs related to these cohorts from a long list of additional sources including: data collected from a CDBG funded DV advocate embedded within the NB Police Dept, anecdotal data from providers of domestic violence services, police and court, folks that work within multiple systems on behalf of their clients who identify as part of this cohort, other human service providers, those trained to work with survivors in general but not at the more intensive level typically associated with victim service providers (VSPs), those who may find themselves in a position of being confided in or turned to for advice/referrals (such has been the case with a university staff member and with McKinney Vento Liaisons), data from community gatherings, public forums, outreach through surveys, data collected by community services throughout the city/CoC, coordinated entry data, PIT/HIC Count annual data collections, LGBTQ+ Allies' data and other persons not falling into the aforementioned groups.

1C-5c.	Communicating Emergency Transfer Plan to Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.e.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC communicates to all individuals and families seeking or receiving CoC Program assistance:
1.	the emergency transfer plan policies and procedures; and
2.	the process for individuals and families to request an emergency transfer.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The New Bedford CoC regularly emphasizes the importance of clearly communicating the availability of an Emergency Transfer Plan (ETP) for all individuals and families seeking or receiving CoC program assistance doing so in membership meetings and through the work of the City’s Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) who is responsible for monitoring both ESG (which includes the local VSP’s shelter) and CoC projects. For those seeking housing/supports and working, the New Bedford Coordinated Entry System (NBCES)—typically the first step in such a process—is the vehicle through which an emergency transfer possibility is first discussed. For CoC projects, project intake is the time during which project client/s typically hear about ETP availability for the first time. Project Case Managers regularly meeting with clients (individuals and families) are typically the ongoing conduit for the communication of any such emergency transfer (ET) availability.

2. The process of an individual or family requesting ET benefits from the frequent communication between NBCES staff and the CoC’s sole DV shelter/VSP—the NB Women’s Center (NBWC). The extent to which such communication between staff teams results in a smooth/safe transition for those seeking services cannot be overstated. The NBWC partners with the NBCES providing assessment/action related to those presenting as fleeing DV, later found to be in danger post-intake or whose safety is otherwise compromised; anyone so identifying or requesting an ET is immediately referred to the NBWC for transfer and/or safety planning where a trauma-informed, victim centered model is used prioritizing safety/confidentiality/client choice to id appropriate housing/supports for DV survivors. The NBWC team follows a supportive, non-judgmental approach to ensure survivors aren’t re-traumatized and offers training to NBCES and project providers to ensure protocols for survivor safety/choice are met. The NBCES and the WC require written releases to facilitate sharing of any info with the client’s permission within strict time limits. Clients are offered choice in next steps and given the info they need to make an informed decision about what’s best for them/what will afford them the greatest safety/peace of mind. While it’s often necessary to place a hhld in an undisclosed location due to safety concerns, the CoC strives to ensure the hhld has control/choices/options when selecting a safety plan.

** **

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

Describe in the field below how your CoC ensures that survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking have access to all of the housing and services available within the CoC’s geographic area.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The New Bedford CoC ensures survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking have access to all the same housing and services available within the CoC’s geographic area and does so in a number of ways (in no particular order): First, although the New Bedford Coordinated Entry System (NBCES) carefully assesses all callers seeking housing/supports to determine whether they are fleeing domestic violence et al or are, in any way, in need of safety planning, etc., they do so to ensure appropriate safety measures can be offered to the client. Doing so does not, however, preclude any person so identified as being otherwise eligible for any kind of CoC and/or housing/services, rather, it is an inclusive rather than exclusive intake. Survivors so identified are eligible for, and offered, all of the same opportunities provided to non-survivors. Secondly, all CoC (and ESG) providers are made aware of their obligations under the Federal Fair Housing Act and under VAWA, all of which is reinforced and memorialized through the CoC’s Operational Standards (Rev. June 2019). Third, all CoC and ESG subrecipient agreements between the City of New Bedford and the organization explicitly speak to the agency’s responsibility in establishing and maintaining written policies and procedures regarding domestic violence and the availability of their housing to all survivors.

1C-5e.	Including Safety, Planning, and Confidentiality Protocols in Coordinated Entry to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.e.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC’s coordinated entry includes:	
1.	safety protocols,
2.	planning protocols, and
3.	confidentiality protocols.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC’s Coordinated Entry System (CES) written standards and protocols ensure those seeking services for Domestic Violence/Dating Violence/Sexual Assault/Human Trafficking/Stalking receive immediate assistance to ensure safety during their housing crisis. When a household first calls the Coordinated Entry System, they are asked whether or not they are fleeing domestic violence/human trafficking, and, if they are, are rapidly offered safety planning assistance. This assistance is offered through connection to the only local Victim Service Provider, the New Bedford Women’s Center (NBWC). Additional services are offered through SAFELINK, which provides safety planning services and connection to domestic violence/human trafficking resources throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
2. Given the small size of the New Bedford CoC, the local service provider, New Bedford Women’s Center (NBWC), and CE staff are very familiar and work together frequently. The referral process from being screened by CE to being able to access services provided by NBWC and/or SAFELINK is seamless. Additionally, because these entities interact so frequently, process improvements are an ongoing dialogue between staff, and when adjustments need to be made to referral processes, they can be made quickly and effectively.
3. During the referral process, the confidentiality of the household is prioritized, as the New Bedford CoC, recognizes that this is an essential part of keeping those fleeing domestic violence/human trafficking safe. No mention of the situation is made within the New Bedford’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), but instead the household is referred discreetly and confidentially to the local service provider or SAFELINK for safety planning and services. Additionally, when CE staff are engaging with households fleeing domestic violence/human trafficking, they offer a support, non-judgmental approach to ensure survivors are not re-traumatized, and that they feel safe discussing and being referred to the local service providers and that their needs are met. The CE Team and the NBWC require written releases to facilitate any sharing of client info between agencies.

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

Describe in the field below:

1.	whether your CoC updates its CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy, as necessary, based on stakeholder feedback;
2.	how your CoC assisted providers in developing project-level anti-discrimination policies that are consistent with the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy ensuring that LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive supportive services, shelter, and housing free from discrimination;
3.	your CoC's process for evaluating compliance with your CoC's anti-discrimination policies; and
4.	your CoC's process for addressing noncompliance with your CoC's anti-discrimination policies.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The New Bedford CoC has recently developed and adopted its inaugural CoC-wide Anti-Discrimination Policy based both on stakeholder feedback received anecdotally over a period of 12 months and on the CoC's interest in ensuring the dissemination of accurate, legally based information and legal citations in a user-friendly format. It is the intent of the CoC to ensure annual review of the adopted policy through stakeholder feedback and will, going forward, be amended to include grievance procedures for the CoC, agencies and staff/volunteers and contractors.
2. The NB CoC and/or the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) staff, on an annual basis, extend the availability of technical assistance to all existing CoC and ESG project provider agencies in order to ensure that these providers develop, maintain and update their own project-level anti-discrimination policies consistent with the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy. Such project level policies shall include information and language ensuring that LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive supportive services, shelter, and housing free from discrimination. OHCD staff also utilize the CoC's Operational Standards in reinforcing individual agency policy development as those standards include an entire section on Equal Access & Non-Discrimination addressing fair housing, reasonable accommodations, equal access, VAWA and gender equity.
3. As CoC and ESG funding grantee/recipient, OHCD staff is responsible for evaluating each subrecipient agency's compliance with NB CoC's anti-discrimination policies. Such review is conducted when traditional desk or onsite monitoring is undertaken and includes a checklist review of whether such a policy exists, whether there is a plan to train new staff, provide the policies during intake process, include a family separation policy and equal access policy, etc.
4. Any demonstrated noncompliance with the CoC's anti-discrimination policies is reviewed on an individual basis at this time though it is anticipated that articulated consequences will be adopted in future revisions to the policy.

1C-7.	Public Housing Agencies within Your CoC's Geographic Area--New Admissions--General/Limited Preference--Moving On Strategy.	
	NOFO Section VII.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 FY 2021 CoC-PHA Crosswalk Report or the two PHAs your CoC has a working relationship with--if there is only one PHA in your CoC's geographic area, provide information on the one:	

Public Housing Agency Name	Enter the Percent of New Admissions into Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program During FY 2021 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?
New Bedford Housing Authority	39%	Yes-Both	No
MA Department of Housing & Community Devt.	10%	No	Yes

1C-7a.	Written Policies on Homeless Admission Preferences with PHAs.	
	NOFO Section VII.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. (a) The New Bedford's CoC is fortunate in having an excellent working relationship with the New Bedford Housing Authority (NBHA), a public housing authority that understands the importance of having an established homeless admission preference and one that ensures it consistently exercises that preference by committing the highest quality services in ensuring safe, stable housing for those coming out of homelessness. To this end and with the support of the CoC, the NBHA has adopted and has for years, maintained a homeless admission preference in both its Public Housing and its HCV programs. As a result, the NBHA annually places large numbers of individuals and families experiencing homelessness into housing through its own housing authority properties and through its Section 8 voucher program (Housing Choice Vouchers-HCV). (b) According to the HUD Crosswalk, the DHCD Housing Authority is the second largest voucher holder in the New Bedford CoC. DHCD is a statewide agency in Boston with which the CoC has some contact (such as through the EHV program where DHCD allotted 34 EHV's to the New Bedford CoC). In FY21, DHCD had 10 new admissions in New Bedford, 10% of which were homeless at admission. Unfortunately, the state DHCD does not have any homeless preferences in its regular federal program though they do with one of its Mainstream programs, its VASH program, and of course its EHV program. Although the CoC has not yet taken intentional steps individually as a CoC to work with DHCD in adopting a homeless admission preference, the New Bedford CoC is part of a statewide collective of CoCs that together, work with DHCD in encouraging such homeless-forward advocacy and actions.
2. Because the CoC does work with the one PHA within its geographic area as noted under (1), this question is not applicable.

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

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

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

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

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

1.	Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV)	Yes
2.	Family Unification Program (FUP)	No
3.	Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)	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:	

1C-7d.	Submitting CoC and PHA Joint Applications for Funding for People Experiencing Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section VII.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
		Program Funding Source
2.	Enter the type of competitive project your CoC coordinated with a PHA(s) to submit a joint application for or jointly implement.	

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

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

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

1C-7e.1. List of PHAs with MOUs

Name of PHA: New Bedford Housing Authority

1C-7e.1. List of PHAs with MOUs

Name of PHA: MA Dept of Housing & Community Development

1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd

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

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

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

1D-2.	Housing First—Lowering Barriers to Entry.	
	NOFO Section VII.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 2022 CoC Program Competition.	5
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 2022 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach.	5
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 2022 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 VII.B.1.i.	

Describe in the field below:

1.	how your CoC evaluates every recipient—that checks Housing First on their Project Application—to determine if they are actually using a Housing First approach;
2.	the list of factors and performance indicators your CoC uses during its evaluation; and
3.	how your CoC regularly evaluates projects outside of the competition to ensure the projects are using a Housing First approach.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. One expectation of the New Bedford CoC is that all projects employ a Housing First approach. In ensuring this is true of all new projects, (all renewal projects employ Housing First and are monitored in so doing on an ongoing basis as described further in this response), the CoC’s Performance Review Committee (PRC) that reviews and scores all projects looks to ensure that new proposals are not contingent on sobriety, minimum income requirements or unnecessary conditions; that the projects don’t reject clients on the basis of financial status/history or behaviors interpreted as an absence of housing readiness; that program goals are authentically tenant-driven and that the program includes core aspects like participation in services is not a program requirement.

2. Factors reviewed by the City’s Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) as performance indicators of housing first include, but aren’t limited to, reviewing a project’s admissions/eligibility criteria, the extent to which case notes capture evidence of a harm reduction approach and transfers and exits out of the program and the precipitating reasons/handling of same.

3. As recipient of the CoC’s funding the OHCD is responsible for monitoring all CoC projects on an ongoing basis; in so doing, it conducts monitoring of funded projects, all of whom have committed to a Housing First approach. Evaluation is accomplished (a) via required quarterly reporting of all subrecipients that includes both statistical performance data as well as narrative documentation where the subrecipient has an opportunity to demonstrate/discuss the extent to which they work to prioritize client stabilization and rapid movement into permanent housing. Performance metrics, themselves are reviewed in these quarterly reports to ensure the projects are successfully ensuring rapid sustainability to increase the likelihood of success in quickly moving to permanent settings. (b) On an annual basis, risk monitoring is performed by the OHCD and on-site monitoring visits that include review of client files and program operational details during which OHCD staff look for evidence that projects are, in fact, appropriately reflecting the housing first approach. (c) The NB CoC also sets forth in its Written Standards the importance and primacy of the Housing First approach and sets that as a baseline expectation for all relevant projects. Failure to follow this model are reflected in monitoring concerns.

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The New Bedford CoC’s Street Outreach strategy is a public/private effort following protocols established in 2017 by a coalition of city government and CoC members including key partners from the faith community. The resulting Homeless Emergency Assistance Resource Team (HEART) protocols ensure a compassionate, consistent, and comprehensive outreach approach to effectively address encampments and instances of unsheltered individuals/families living throughout the CoC. The HEART outreach protocols include four strategies—immediate response, ongoing outreach, supportive program capacity building and best practices/innovative approaches—and outreach is conducted on an ongoing basis. In addition to the Mobile Ministries food truck and shelter staff’s outreach efforts, the City of New Bedford allocates ESG funding for a Street Outreach position that collaborates with all homeless services providers and the city-wide outreach team’s schedule.
2. The CoC’s Street Outreach covers 100% of the CoC’s entire geographic area.
3. Street outreach is conducted daily. Findings, issues, and concerns are reported and discussed every month at each CoC member meeting.
4. New Bedford’s HEART Street Outreach approach is rooted in building trust and forming relationships with encountered individuals and families. Outreach members build trust through use of effective practices, such as motivational interviewing, utilizing an empathetic approach and assisting those encountered with first meeting basic needs. CoC members, Mobile Ministries and shelter and street outreach staff from Steppingstone, Inc. constitute the HEART team. The HEART team works diligently to provide a compassionate, comprehensive response to those living in unsheltered conditions including providing food, medical attention, resources—both immediate and long-term—and rehousing alternatives. The CoC uses this approach to connect with those least likely to enter the homeless service system and request or accept assistance. In this regard the outreach strategy includes monthly triage at CoC meetings and Community Crisis Intervention Team meetings. Additionally, the Sister Rose Soup Kitchen partners with the local hospital to connect hard to reach individuals with pressing med. needs in a confidential safe setting.

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

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

		Ensure Homelessness is not Criminalized	Reverse Existing Criminalization Policies
1.	Engaged/educated local policymakers	Yes	Yes
2.	Engaged/educated law enforcement	Yes	Yes
3.	Engaged/educated local business leaders	Yes	Yes
4.	Implemented community wide plans	Yes	Yes
5.	Other:(limit 500 characters)		

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1D-5.	Rapid Rehousing–RRH Beds as Reported in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC).	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.i.	

	2021	2022
Enter the total number of RRH beds available to serve all populations as reported in the HIC—only enter bed data for projects that have an inventory type of “Current.”	41	79

1D-6.	Mainstream Benefits–CoC Annual Training of Project Staff.	
	NOFO Section VII.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:

	Resource	CoC Provides Annual Training?
1.	Food Stamps	Yes
2.	SSI–Supplemental Security Income	Yes
3.	TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Yes
4.	Substance Abuse Programs	Yes
5.	Employment Assistance Programs	Yes
6.	Other (limit 150 characters)	
	StreetSheet Distribution of Resources in multiple languages	Yes

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

Describe in the field below how your CoC:

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC regularly updates its membership on mainstream resource availability in several ways: (a) by providing trainings in CoC meetings and by sending out to its listserve (CoC membership) HUD/other resource updates including updates from MEDICAID, MA Health, SAMSHA, HHS, Benefits.gov, the VA, etc. as the information is released. (b) by including a mainstream resource discussion and/or distribution of available resources, training to access resources at each CoC meeting. (c) by conducting an annual overarching training (currently being developed for the October 2022 meeting) to help folks understand access points for food stamps, TANF, mental health, substance abuse and similar resources. These methods have proven quite successful because multiple government agencies attend/participate in the CoC's monthly meetings. The CoC lead as HUD grantee also provides regular tech assistance to all providers (CoC, ESG, etc.) ensuring they are apprised of state and federal mainstream updates, trainings, and benefit changes.

2. The local health care system is well represented within the CoC: the largest hospital/health system's rep sits on the CoC Exec Committee and the local health clinic participates in every single CoC meeting. Because of this contact, projects have great access on a regular basis to health systems. Additionally, the CoC ensures that project staff is actively connecting with the health care organizations within the area both through the work of the City's Office of Housing and Community Development who serves as HUD Grantee and provides both tech assistance and monitoring of the CoC projects, and through the CoC Executive Committee where the Executive Directors of each of the funded project agencies are elected leadership.

3. The CoC has had SOAR presentations in the past year and encouraged SOAR certification of program staff as a result. As just one example of its efficacy, one trained SOAR certified program staff has a 100% success record.

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

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

Although the CoC has for some time worked to increase its inventory of safe, decent and affordable rental units throughout its geographic area, it was not until the public health crisis of the pandemic that it recognized the absolute need in this CoC for non-congregate shelter beds for those experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The need to prevent the spread of COVID and to ensure the greatest level of safety for those going into shelter and those working in shelter highlighted the shortcomings of a traditional congregate model. While many families in shelter in this CoC are placed in independent apartment units, individuals are still left to shelter with others in congregate settings. This changed over the past two winters when the CoC devised a winter cold weather overflow shelter using a motel. Doing so allowed the CoC to ensure that highly vulnerable individuals in need of shelter could benefit from a safe setting trying to access permanent housing options. The motel model, though successful as a non-congregate sheltering solution, came with an enormous price tag both in terms of direct costs and staffing cost, mentally and physically. As a result, the CoC is currently convening meetings with a collective of stakeholders (including those with lived experience) to consider a longer term, systemic solution to non-congregate shelter development. The possible utilization of HOME ARP funding and other public and private funding sources will be critical in the successful development of a viable solution in providing this type of solution.

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The New Bedford CoC works with the City’s Health Department in addressing a variety of health issues through its regular meetings and email listserves outside of which it enjoys a robust partnership connecting government, health and community perspectives. Additionally, the local hospital and local community health center are both CoC members with representation from the local hospital sitting on the CoC’s Executive Committee. It is because of such relationships and the primacy of the role public health takes within the NB CoC that it was, and is, poised to rapidly respond to the outbreak of an infectious disease as was the case with COVID-19. State efforts to ensure rapid testing and vaccination availability was spearheaded locally by a long time member of the CoC (Seven Hills); outreach to ensure information continues to get out into the community is undertaken each week by another long time CoC member (InterChurch Council). Having such critical access locally and at the CoC level has enabled it to articulate workable and effective strategies that have improved outcomes particularly among historically marginalized communities.

2. Armed with the strength of such local and state relationships, the CoC worked tirelessly in its efforts to prevent outbreaks of infectious disease among those most vulnerable and those experiencing homelessness. Such work distribution of included hygiene kits, PPEs and shower availability for those unsheltered refusing to shift into safe housing in concert with local Health Department efforts and educational outreach. The CoC amended its PIT Count methodology over the past two years to reflect the directives of a newly adopted “public health crisis protocol.” Weekly meetings specific to housing related issues (Tuesdays) and health-focused issues (Wednesdays) continue to ensure important connectivity and solution building to this day. This work has resulted in greater vaccine and primary care access for those experiencing homelessness and those who may be on the precipice of homelessness and/or contending with other/additional vulnerabilities. Most recently, the University of MA Nursing Program spoke at a CoC meeting and as a result, new partnerships between the university and CoC providers will only deepen these relationships and increase the access to such care during the coming year.

ID-8a.	Collaboration With Public Health Agencies on Infectious Diseases. NOFO Section VII.B.1.o.	
Describe in the field below how your CoC effectively equipped providers to prevent or limit infectious disease outbreaks among program participants by:		
1.	sharing information related to public health measures and homelessness, and	
2.	facilitating 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. Information Sharing. In equipping its network of providers to prevent or limit infectious disease outbreaks among their program participants, the New Bedford CoC has (a) reinforced ongoing participation with the New Bedford Health Department’s regular meetings specifically addressing existing community-wide public health issues including COVID-19 and emerging infectious diseases such as monkey pox, and it has (b) supported member agencies like Seven Hills (under state contract with the state’s DPH providing testing and vaccinations) by conducting regular and robust outreach as to the availability of vaccines and information to ensure providers—particularly the CoC’s street outreach team and its local shelters—are receiving current information on the availability of health alerts and resources in a timely manner.

2. Facilitated Communication. A positive consequence of the New Bedford CoC’s small size is its ability to directly link providers to resources. As an example, in directly working with the City of New Bedford’s Health Department, the CoC, and by extension its street outreach and shelter providers have enjoyed direct access to the very latest information available as to prevention efforts, infection rates, prevalence by community and those most vulnerable within the city as well as best practices for ensuring a minimization of increased infection rates by affected cohorts and based on Health Department data. Similarly, through its lead organization—the City’s Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD)—the CoC has been able to ensure technical assistance gets directly to its ESG-funded subrecipient street outreach and shelter programs in a timely and comprehensive way. These examples of facilitated communication coupled with information sharing has helped the local provider network evolve into a far more connected repository of resources and resource-sharing particularly to historically marginalized populations at the neighborhood-by-neighborhood level.

1D-9.	Centralized or Coordinated Entry System—Assessment Process.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.p.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC’s coordinated entry system:	
1.	covers 100 percent of your CoC’s geographic area;	
2.	uses a standardized assessment process; and	
3.	is updated regularly using feedback received from participating projects and households that participated in coordinated entry.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The New Bedford Coordinated Entry System (NBCES or CES) covers the entire CoC geographic area, which is the City of New Bedford.

2. The NBCES utilizes a central phone line that provides both live interaction with CES case managers as well as recorded information with options and alternatives and an ability to leave a message during off hours. At present, CES uses a standardized assessment process to ensure those most vulnerable and with the longest periods of homelessness are, according to the CoC's "Order of Priorities" as articulated in the continuum's written standards. Although the CoC previously relied on the VI-SPDAT/SPDAT, it has recently come to understand of the flaws and bias inherent in the use of this tool and is taking steps to develop a new prioritization tool that does not prioritize over-represented communities over historically marginalized communities. In so doing the CoC is developing a process that will invite in the voices of a diverse community and one which includes those with lived experience (recent and current) by convening discussions at a soup kitchen, in the shelters and in the community. By revisiting and rebuilding its standardized assessment process rooted in equity and free from its historical bias, the CoC looks to a point soon where the use of its coordinated entry system can better assess need and establish priorities free from an unfair predisposition.

3. New Bedford's CES was initiated several years ago and is ripe for the updates described to ensure equity. Going forward, not only will the updated system establish a regular means for receiving community feedback throughout the year, but it will actively outreach to ensure broad representation. Outreach will be made to participating organizations and projects within the CoC as well as into the community to solicit feedback as to the system itself, improvements that can be made and what additional opportunities those who are most vulnerable and those who may be reticent in seeking out such services would like and from which they would derive a benefit. Similarly, input from past system users as well as potential/current users of the NBCES will be sought.

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

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. New Bedford's Coordinated Entry System (NBCES) relies on several resources to ensure it is reaching those least likely to apply for homeless assistance: (a) through its Street Outreach team in the course of its work with unsheltered populations to connect them with the NBCES for housing/services; (b) through MA Health Insurance where families/individuals are often triggered for MA Health's new "Flex Services" Plan which in turn, works with the NBCES in ensuring households obtain assistance through the CoC or apply as part of their braided service delivery to obtain housing security as quickly as possible; (c) through CoC members like PACE (community action organization) and Coastline (elderly services) that connect with vulnerable populations often outside of traditional resource networks and for whom the NBCES can provide rapid assistance with diversion, prevention, emergency services and ancillary support.

2. Although the NBCES had been using the VI-SPDAT as its prioritization tool, it has recently come to recognize that tool's racial bias and flaws in application for the Continuum as a whole. Given that and its commitment to ensure a system which more equitably reflects marginalized populations, the NBCES has begun undertaking a process by which it will review its methodology and existing prioritization (voted on by the CoC and a part of its Operating Standards). The CoC has committed to a process that involves a diversified group that includes those with lived experience and those who have previously utilized the NBCES to ensure an improved NBCES that truly prioritizes those most in need of assistance.

3. Because of limitations in housing inventory, the NBCES has, throughout its existence, had to maintain a waiting list for PH/PSH options. As vacancies in PSH arise, prioritized households are offered the opportunity for housing that is available. It is made clear to the household that it is their choice in determining/accepting the available housing just as it is the household's option as to what, if any services, they will subscribe. All persons going through the NBCES are afforded the opportunity for self-determination in housing and assistance for which they are eligible.

4. Access is paramount to the NBCES. It is always exploring opportunities to improve and streamline to ensure those accessing/in need of the services of coordinated entry are presented with a multi-lingual, uncomplicated, clear approach either in person or by phone.

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

1.	Has your CoC conducted a racial disparities assessment in the last 3 years?	Yes
2.	Enter the date your CoC conducted its latest assessment for racial disparities.	08/01/2022

1D-10a.	Process for Analyzing Racial Disparities—Identifying Racial Disparities in Provision or Outcomes of Homeless Assistance.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.q.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	your CoC's process for analyzing whether any racial disparities are present in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance; and
2.	what racial disparities your CoC identified in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The New Bedford CoC analyzes racial disparities that are present in the provision and/or outcomes of homeless assistance and has taken multiple steps toward improving racial equity throughout its system. The CoC's process for doing so at this point is two-fold. First, HMIS data is used to compare the percentage of persons in marginalized communities receiving housing/services with the percentage of the persons similarly served identifying as White. The CoC also looks at the rate at which persons in marginalized cohorts who are either engaged with street outreach or in shelter move into permanent housing when compared with those identifying as White. Typically, this is done on an annual basis although periodic analyses are conducted for specific purposes. Secondly, a more formal and comprehensive analysis of local data is used to produce an annual Racial Disparity Study to help the CoC align its actions toward improving equity performance. Such data includes both program specific demographics as well as broader information including the extent to which persons of differing cohorts are experiencing poverty and/or are housing burdened.

2. The 2022 Racial Disparity Study revealed that while the presence, overall, of racial disparities lessened for those experiencing homelessness in the New Bedford CoC between 2021 and 2022, disparities do still exist. Among the disparities that remain: within non-white populations experiencing homelessness, disparities exist amongst different racial groups (Black individuals constitute only 7% of the CoC's population but represent 22% of the CoC's total population. Ethnicity similarly was found to reflect disproportionate results (Hispanic individuals comprising just 22% of the CoC's total population but 31% of the population experiencing homelessness). Upon analysis of local data, the CoC also found that linguistic disparities do exist in the service provision of those experiencing homelessness. As a result, the CoC convened a focus group of Spanish and Kich'e'-speaking people personally impacted by homelessness and made a widespread outreach to the Latino community by distributing its popular CoC's "StreetSheet" translated into Spanish.

1D-10b.	Strategies to Address Racial Disparities.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.q.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the strategies your CoC is using to address any racial disparities.

1.	The CoC's board and decisionmaking bodies are representative of the population served in the CoC.	Yes
2.	The CoC has identified steps it will take to help the CoC board and decisionmaking bodies better reflect the population served in the CoC.	Yes
3.	The CoC is expanding outreach in geographic areas with higher concentrations of underrepresented groups.	Yes
4.	The CoC has communication, such as flyers, websites, or other materials, inclusive of underrepresented groups.	Yes

5.	The CoC is training staff working in the homeless services sector to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness.	Yes
6.	The CoC is establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of different races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector.	Yes
7.	The CoC has staff, committees, or other resources charged with analyzing and addressing racial disparities related to homelessness.	Yes
8.	The CoC is educating organizations, stakeholders, boards of directors for local and national nonprofit organizations working on homelessness on the topic of creating greater racial and ethnic diversity.	Yes
9.	The CoC reviewed coordinated entry processes to understand their impact on people of different races and ethnicities experiencing homelessness.	Yes
10.	The CoC is collecting data to better understand the pattern of program use for people of different races and ethnicities in its homeless services system.	Yes
11.	The CoC is conducting additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness.	Yes
	Other:(limit 500 characters)	
12.		

1D-10c.	Actions Taken to Address Known Disparities.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.q.	

Describe in the field below the steps your CoC and homeless providers have taken to address disparities identified in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Despite having not yet conducted the kind of in-depth racial analysis it envisions as being critical to a deeper understanding of existing racial disparities within its borders, the New Bedford CoC has nonetheless recognized that disparities do exist. In order to address these disparities, the CoC has/continues to focus on three distinct actions: (1) In the midst of the news of George Floyd’s death, the CoC began examining how it could enhance constructive dialogue, analysis and undertake actions to affect more positive outcomes for minorities disproportionately impacted by conditions leading to, and perpetuating, homelessness. The convening of the CoC’s first Racial Equity Committee (REC) was seen as a critical first step in addressing disparities. The REC’s key role includes developing constructive dialogue, analysis and proposed actions to affect more positive outcomes for minorities disproportionately impacted by conditions leading to homelessness. The REC’s responsibilities include assisting CoC member agencies in creating more leadership opportunities for BIPOC and marginalized communities and helping the CoC move toward greater inclusivity. (2) Over time the CoC has found that the use of a SPDAT/VI-SPDAT model for its coordinated entry system has failed to account for racial inequity and has, to an extent, perpetuated such disparity. As a result, the CoC is currently undertaking action to develop a new prioritization tool, this time built on the voices of its own lived experience community and BIPOC representation with an eye toward ensuring an absence of any practice that ultimately discriminates against any population. (3) The third action is the undertaking of a racial equity plan for the CoC. Thanks to HUD Planning dollars, the CoC has recently gone out to bid and retained the Racial Equity Partnership as consultant to uplift the CoC’s existing efforts while engaging in an in-depth assessment of ongoing needs and gaps leading to an action plan. It is hoped that this action plan will help the CoC engage in focused work to address the root causes of racial inequity looking at “internal operations, structural partnerships and the essential services being provided to people who are unhoused.” The CoC looks forward to the development of this assessment and action plan to serve as an important guide in addressing known disparities and evolving patterns.

1D-10d.	Tracking Progress on Preventing or Eliminating Disparities.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.q.	

Describe in the field below the measures your CoC has in place to track progress on preventing or eliminating disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.
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(limit 2,500 characters)

Over the past year, the New Bedford CoC as looked to a combination of its HMIS, coordinated entry system and its system performance measures as one way of tracking its progress on preventing/eliminating disparities. One such metric has been examining access to housing type by race and ethnicity (an example which has revealed significant disparities in the numbers of those who are Hispanic in shelters as compared with those moving out of shelter to more permanent solutions). Similarly, the CoC has used these sources to compare the racial and ethnic cohorts of those in emergency shelter with length of time in shelter. Another way the New Bedford CoC has tracked its progress in these efforts has been through the administration of pre/post program participant surveys funded ESG and CoC subrecipients undertake. Based on client feedback, the CoC’s Racial Equity Committee made an intentional outreach into the Hispanic Community within the CoC, demystifying mainstream resources and opportunities for housing while providing Spanish-language “StreetSheets” which the CoC has, for years, annually published and widely distributed in three languages. The Committee worked with Hispanic Churches and community organizations serving Spanish (and K’iche’) speaking populations to learn more about their needs to ensure they were aware of services, supports and, if needed, shelter/housing. CES/SPM and survey outreach practices will also be supplemented by new progress tracking methodologies arising out of consulting work which is about to begin. The CoC has just recently retained the Racial Equity Partnership as consultant to improve upon the CoC’s existing efforts to prevent and eliminate racial disparities while engaging in an in-depth assessment of ongoing needs and gaps leading to an action plan. As the result of this process the CoC anticipates having a clearer understanding as to an efficient and accurate means of tracking its progress in preventing or eliminating disparities.

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

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

The New Bedford CoC relies on its member organizations/agencies/individuals who have developed trusted relationships within the community to ensure the voices of individuals with lived experience is heard and incorporated into CoC work. From its street outreach team that, itself, includes those with lived experience, to the targeted outreach conducted into the community engaging those with lived experience, the CoC membership actively works to recruit, involve and invest in those who are experiencing homelessness, whether unsheltered, currently in shelter, or previously unhoused. Examples include: (a) In conducting its PIT Count the CoC relies heavily on its street outreach team, those operating shelter and an outreach mobile ministry, all of whom enjoy a long-held respect amongst the unsheltered population which opens the door for important conversations. (b) Regular interaction and the development of trust between parties has helped establish an authentic dialogue that allows the ideas and suggestions of those currently experiencing varying degrees of housing instability to manifest into policy changes, systemic improvements, and an overarching awareness of experience of which those working in the field may be otherwise unaware. (c) The CoC’s individual emergency shelters work with residents in identifying ways to get them involved and connect with the understanding that their views are critical for programming and system improvements. (d) Resulting from previous lived experience input its received, the CoC’s Executive Committee is currently considering the development of a Lived Experience Committee and/or the appointment of a person to the Executive Committee with current or recent (within 7 years) lived experience.

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

Enter in the chart below the number of people with lived experience who currently participate in your CoC under the five categories listed:

	Level of Active Participation	Number of People with Lived Experience Within the Last 7 Years or Current Program Participant	Number of People with Lived Experience Coming from Unsheltered Situations
1.	Included and provide input that is incorporated in the local planning process.	61	51
2.	Review and recommend revisions to local policies addressing homelessness related to coordinated entry, services, and housing.	15	36
3.	Participate on CoC committees, subcommittees, or workgroups.	10	10
4.	Included in the decisionmaking processes related to addressing homelessness.	35	14
5.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC’s local competition rating factors.	0	1

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

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

While the New Bedford CoC does not, itself, provide professional development and employment opportunities to individuals with lived experience of homelessness, its member organizations do to a significant extent. Such opportunities take several forms both through CoC funded projects, but also through other CoC member organizations. Such examples include: (a) professional development and job training through the new Project Recovery program, a Department of Labor funded grant providing training and development to those with current/past lived experiences of homelessness. (b) employment opportunities through organizations like CoC member, Works 4 U, Inc. whose mission is to end homelessness through employment; (c) professional training for positions in the Recovery Field (such as Recovery Coach, Peer Navigator, Outreach Workers, Kitchen and Maintenance Staff). (d) direct employment services offered through CoC members like PAACA and High Point who employ those with the lived experience of homelessness for office, maintenance, outreach transportation workers, cooks, housekeeping, and recovery specialist positions; (NOTE: once employed by High Point, these workers have access to classes that provide educational hours and prepare individuals for the LADC exam); (e) computer navigation training with students from UMass; (f) commercial kitchen experience including serving others experiencing homelessness (g) enrollment in a Recovery Coach Academy with scholarships to build skills for employment as a recovery coach, an effort of CoC member Steppingstone, and (h) CoC member/CoC Executive Committee member, MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Board that provides job training for specific trades, workshops like resume building, career guidance and interview assistance in addition to job listings. The GNB Workforce Board's Career Center also provides training as to its resources on a periodic basis during CoC meetings to ensure clarity about how those with lived experience can immediately connect to these important resources. In addition to these examples, several of the CoC's member organizations encourage hiring people with lived experience and recognize that while formal pathways in so doing do not necessarily exist, this gap and the importance of formalizing such a structure/process reveals an excellent opportunity for the CoC moving forward.

1D-11c.	Routinely Gathering Feedback and Addressing Challenges of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
NOFO Section VII.B.1.r.		
Describe in the field below how your CoC:		
1.	how your CoC routinely gathered feedback from people experiencing homelessness and people who have received assistance through the CoC or ESG program on their experience receiving assistance; and	
2.	the steps your CoC has taken to address challenges raised by people with lived experience of homelessness	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. In considering how the CoC gathers feedback from those experiencing homelessness and those who have received prog. assistance via CoC or ESG projects, of note is that several CoC programs include people with lived experience on their respective agency’s Board of Directors and one has representatives on its board who are elected by program clients to act on their behalf. The CoC annually gathers survey feedback from attendees at its annual “New Bedford Connect “event. The CoC also hears from those experiencing homelessness/who have received assistance through CoC or ESG programs, using surveys and/or conducting in-person meetings with clients. Some of the programs administer a pre/post survey to better understand the extent to which programs are hitting the mark or where they may be falling short. In all cases, ample opportunity is provided for feedback during such surveys and in person discussions and all are encouraged to be truthful without fear of any kind of repercussion. Many of the programs aggregate such data on an annual and semi-annual basis while others choose to develop their analysis more frequently.

2. The CoC has taken a number of steps to address challenges raised by people with the lived experience of homelessness including: (a) incorporating feedback into program modifications in order to better understand barriers folks are facing in entering programs or receiving services of which the CoC (or programs) may not already be aware—one example being connecting clients with SER jobs for training in connection with DTA and DHCD that includes incentives to work; (b) modifying program design to better accommodate needs by ensuring what is being offered is relevant and useful to the population being serviced, one example being the introduction of referrals to job training programs, re-entry programs, health and wellness programs and COVID testing and vaccination programs; (c) as a result of client feedback, the CoC annually develops and publishes a very popular “StreetSheet” in three languages providing a highly detailed compendium of resources, food pantries, phone numbers and contact names. As a result of additional feedback, the CoC now publishes the resource in three languages and does targeted outreaches to ensure a wide distribution to ensure the CoC’s most vulnerable populations are receiving this material.

1D-12.	Increasing Affordable Housing Supply.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.t.	
	Describe in the field below at least 2 steps your CoC has taken in the past 12 months that 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. In its efforts to ensure an adequate inventory of affordable housing within the CoC, the Continuum's first consideration of any reform of the City's existing zoning/land use policies to permit more housing development, has been the engagement of the broader community and additional stakeholders. To this end members of the CoC created a HOME Group (Housing Options, Momentum & Equity), bringing together not only CoC members but also city residents, government officials, landlords, developers, and community organizations outside of the CoC's membership. Included in its initial meetings has been representation from the City's Planning Department who would ultimately be responsible for developing any such zoning proposals. The HOME Group is building a comprehensive workplan establishing concrete action steps to: (a) increase outreach and education to the community for housing resources, (b) address barriers to the creation of new affordable housing through a policy group that includes including identifying specific zoning challenges and community voices necessary in facilitating new development and (c) creating new housing opportunities to meet the needs of the underserved in the CoC while strengthening neighborhoods through owner-occupied housing, first time homebuyer solutions and housing to accommodate special populations.

2. Three advantages the CoC has in its efforts to reduce regulatory barriers: (a) its ongoing involvement in conversations around regulatory barriers which fall all along a spectrum ranging from its own monthly discussions with guest speakers (such as Matthew Desmond's staff from the Eviction Lab at Princeton) and the CoC's own leadership's strategy sessions, to one-on-one conversations with City Councilors and the Mayor. (NOTE: The City constitutes the entire geography of the CoC); (b) its privilege in having the active and monthly participation from Congressman Keating's Office (U.S. House 9th) and a City Councilor who additionally co-chairs the HOME Group, both of whom provide important legislative context for discussion around realistic solutions to identified regulatory barriers, and (c) its lead agency's work with the CoC is spearheaded by an AICP professionally certified planner who previously served as the City Planner and is well-suited to exacting clarity and progress on land-use and zoning issues.

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

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

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2022 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1E-1.	Web Posting of Your CoC’s Local Competition Deadline–Advance Public Notice.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.2.a. and 2.g.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Deadline attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Enter the date your CoC published the deadline for project applicants to submit their applications to your CoC’s local competition.	08/05/2022
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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 VII.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., and 2.d.	
	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

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 VII.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)?	100
2.	How many renewal projects did your CoC submit?	7
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 VII.B.2.d.	
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- Describe in the field below:
- | | |
|----|---|
| 1. | how your CoC collected and analyzed data regarding each project that has successfully housed program participants in permanent housing; |
| 2. | how your CoC analyzed data regarding how long it takes to house people in permanent housing; |
| 3. | how your CoC considered the specific severity of needs and vulnerabilities experienced by program participants preventing rapid placement in permanent housing or the ability to maintain permanent housing when your CoC ranked and selected projects; and |
| 4. | considerations your CoC gave to projects that provide housing and services to the hardest to serve populations that could result in lower performance levels but are projects your CoC needs in its geographic area. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The New Bedford CoC’s evaluation/scoring criteria for projects includes consideration of severity of needs and vulnerabilities and relies on the use of detailed scoring sheets devised to reflect data, narrative and for renewals, past performance. The CoC analyzed data for each project application and considered ability to successfully house program participants in PSH despite vulnerabilities. It did so by (a) reviewing the proposal submitted (the NB CoC issues an RFP and requires proposals be completed outside of esnaps to allow a more robust telling in narrative and data as to the program’s operation, its strengths, and challenges. Proposals must include details as to the population being served, the existing community need, and the extent to which the population may be unique because of whom their project serves.), (b) analyzing the most recent APR (renewals, only), (c) reviewing a detailed report from the City staff responsible for project monitoring and (d) reviewing the current inventory of housing within the CoC in support of target cohort. Because this CoC is so small, all projects proposed in this round largely support a similar cohort, (dual-diagnosed serious mental illness/substance use disorders) as this is the CoC’s overwhelming and underserved need.

2. The NB CoC has begun analyzing its data to understand how long it takes to move/house people in permanent housing and has recently found that while disparities do exist for differing race and ethnicities, significant disparities have not been identified that would suggest they exist for those with particular needs/vulnerabilities.

3. The CoC prioritizes projects serving chronically homeless individs/families with the longest histories of homelessness, disabilities and most severe service needs. Of these, survivors of domestic violence/sexual assault/trafficking and/or stalking, along with veterans, families and unaccompanied youth have the highest priority. Individuals and families with higher barriers to housing and higher service needs who are waiting to obtain another permanent housing subsidy are prioritized over others in considering RRH projects for those at risk of homelessness.

4. Though willing to do so the CoC didn’t need to give particular consideration to any proposed project since all projects in this round were renewals, all follow the Housing First model and all receive program participants through coordinated entry (which itself prioritizes based on vulnerabilities

1E-3.	Promoting Racial Equity in the Local Competition Review and Ranking Process. NOFO Section VII.B.2.e.	
Describe in the field below:		
1.	how your CoC obtained input and included persons of different races, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population;	
2.	how the input from persons of different races, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, affected how your CoC determined the rating factors used to review project applications;	
3.	how your CoC included persons of different races, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, in the review, selection, and ranking process; and	
4.	how your CoC rated and ranked projects based on the degree to which their project has identified any barriers to participation (e.g., lack of outreach) faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and has taken or will take steps to eliminate the identified barriers.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Because of the highly accelerated timeframe in this year's 2022 CoC Competition, the New Bedford CoC had to rely on a local competition review and ranking approach established during last fall's 2021 competition. This methodology was approved by the leadership of the CoC which itself included persons of different races/marginalized communities and life experiences.

2. In establishing rating factors, the CoC solicited input from diverse individuals within the CoC, doing so as it established performance evaluation standards for projects against which the CoC's Performance Review Committee (PRC) measures achievement. The CoC membership, in voting to adopt these standards/corresponding rating factors, included a significant number of individuals self-identifying as Black and others as Latinx. These two cohorts account for those experiencing a disparate number of incidences of homelessness and were well-represented in both discussions preceding the establishment of rating factors as well as the vote that established them/performance standards.

3. Persons over-represented in the CoC's population experiencing or threatened with homelessness within the CoC were significant contributors in the review/selection/ranking process. In particular, the PRC of 5 who reviews applications and produces a draft slate of ranked projects included the immediate past Chair of the HSPN Racial Equity Committee. Additionally, members of the PRC included a person of color and a person self-identifying as Latina, both of whom were directly involved with the scoring, selection and ranking of projects. The complete membership of the HSPN responsible for the final vote of the selection and ranking of projects reflects the population diversity experiencing homelessness.

4. Scoring of both new and renewal applications included points specific to the degree to which racial equity was made a part of programming and the extent to which project agencies articulate efforts to obtain input and include historically marginalized populations when identifying any barriers to participation faced by such persons. Follow up questions dependent on initial responses further sought information to better understand barriers, examples and specific plans.

1E-4.	Reallocation—Reviewing Performance of Existing Projects.	
	NOFO Section VII.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 projects through this process during your 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 Reallocation process and the CoC’s Reallocation Plan.2022 is a printed document posted on the continuum’s website and discussed with the continuum membership. The CoC’s written reallocation process is to determine whether an existing project has performed well and if it should be considered for reallocation. The HSPN develops annual performance standards for all programs and the review of performance through quarterly and annual performance reports is integral to the evaluation process. The OHCD staff monitors all programs and assists the CoC’s Performance Review Committee (PRC) comprehensively assess agency capacity and ability to meet performance measure goals and objectives. Those demonstrating poor performance against these standards are considered for reallocation.

2. The CoC actually identified one project this year that, while it’s project performance, itself, was satisfactory, did not achieve financial spending expectations which has resulted in an increasingly high rate of recaptured funding over successive years.

3. Ultimately (in light of the detail under #4) the CoC did not reallocate any low performing or less needed projects during its local competition this year.

4. Unfortunately, none of the higher performing projects within this small CoC wanted or would agree to accept any additional funding if a project was to be reallocated, particularly as the two highest performers had just received substantial reallocations from the previous 2021 funding round. In addition, the CoC received no new requests for funding. Therefore, without any potential recipient/s, the intended reallocation could not be undertaken.

1E-4a.	Reallocation Between FY 2017 and FY 2022.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.2.f.	

	Did your CoC cumulatively reallocate at least 20 percent of its ARD between FY 2017 and FY 2022?	No
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1E-5.	Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

1.	Did your CoC reject or reduce any project application(s)?	No
2.	Did your CoC inform applicants why their projects were rejected or reduced?	No
3.	If you selected Yes for element 1 of this question, enter the date your CoC notified applicants that their project applications were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, enter the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 06/26/2022, 06/27/2022, and 06/28/2022, then you must enter 06/28/2022.	

1E-5a.	Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps.	
	NOFO Section VII.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 06/26/2022, 06/27/2022, and 06/28/2022, then you must enter 06/28/2022.	09/08/2022
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1E-5b.	Local Competition Selection Results–Scores for All Projects.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Final Project Scores for All Projects attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Does your attachment include: 1. Applicant Names; 2. Project Names; 3. Project Scores; 4. Project Rank–if accepted; 5. Award amounts; and 6. Projects accepted or rejected status.	Yes
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1E-5c.	1E-5c. Web Posting of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.2.g.	
	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.	09/23/2022
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1E-5d.	Notification to Community Members and Key Stakeholders that the CoC-Approved Consolidated Application is Posted on Website.	
	NOFO Section VII.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 has been posted on the CoC’s website or partner’s website.	09/23/2022
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2A. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Implementation

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

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2022 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

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

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

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

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2022 HIC data into HDX.	04/27/2022
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2A-4.	Comparable Database for DV Providers–CoC and HMIS Lead Supporting Data Collection and Data Submission by Victim Service Providers.	
	NOFO Section VII.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 databases that meet HUD’s comparable database requirements; and	
2.	state whether your CoC is compliant with the 2022 HMIS Data Standards.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The New Bedford Women’s Center is the city’s only domestic violence housing and service provider within the CoC and operates two shelters for survivors. As an Emergency Shelter Grant subrecipient and Victims Service Provider (VSP), the agency is required to report program performance using a HUD-Approved HMIS-comparable database reflecting the latest HMIS data elements or standards and able to produce a CSV file for reporting purposes. All clients served at the VSP’s two domestic violence shelters are entered into the EmpowerDB, the secure HMIS-comparable system that is used by the local VSP in order to maintain client confidentiality while complying with HUD guidelines. The agency is able to enter client data into the HMIS system on a real-time basis and provide a HUD- required CSV excel file that is used for aggregated annual reporting, system performance and other required HUD reporting purposes without extraction of any personally identifying information (PII). The SAGE CAPER report submitted by the agency meets all the required HMIS data elements. Although the VSP agency is in the process of searching for a new HMIS data vendor who will satisfy all HUD requirements, the existing HMIS vendor has agreed to continue maintaining the system according to the most recently released data element/standards until a new vendor is in place.

2. The New Bedford CoC’s HMIS (CaseWorthy) is compliant with the 2022 HMIS Data Standards; as such, the CoC is compliant with the most current standards.

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

Enter 2022 HIC and HMIS data in the chart below by project type:

Project Type	Total Beds 2022 HIC	Total Beds in HIC Dedicated for DV	Total Beds in HMIS	HMIS Bed Coverage Rate
1. Emergency Shelter (ES) beds	283	38	245	100.00%
2. Safe Haven (SH) beds	0	0	0	
3. Transitional Housing (TH) beds	124	43	81	100.00%
4. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	79	0	72	91.14%
5. Permanent Supportive Housing	329	0	246	74.77%
6. Other Permanent Housing (OPH)	0	0	0	

2A-5a.	Partial Credit for Bed Coverage Rates at or Below 84.99 for Any Project Type in Question 2A-5.	
	NOFO Section VII.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)

1. BELOW 85%: The only project type with a bed coverage rate that is less than the 85% threshold on the 2022 HIC is Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). As a small CoC, there are only 8 projects listed as PSH of which 7 of the 8 represent a 100% HMIS bed coverage. Unfortunately, there is only one PSH project not currently participating in HMIS, that being the Providence VA's HUD VASH vouchers. The 51 VASH Vouchers in the New Bedford CoC represents roughly 15% of this CoC's PSH supply. The VA has advised the New Bedford CoC that this is something the VA is continuing to work toward.

2. IMPLEMENTATION: The New Bedford CoC's understanding is that the inclusion of VASH into HMIS is a change that must occur at the federal level with the VA and is not something over which our CoC has any sway or control. The CoC is incredibly fortunate, however, to maintain a close working relationship with the VA and shares their desire to see such HMIS integration as a reality and to that end, is open to working with the VA to realize such a workable solution going forward. Once this is possible, the CoC's initial first step will be to orient and train VA staff on how the CoC's HMIS works and will benefit their operation.

2A-6.	Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Submission in HDX 2.0.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

Did your CoC submit LSA data to HUD in HDX 2.0 by February 15, 2022, 8 p.m. EST?	Yes
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2B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

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

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2022 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2B-1.	PIT Count Date.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.4.b	

	Enter the date your CoC conducted its 2022 PIT count.	02/24/2022
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2B-2.	PIT Count Data–HDX Submission Date.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.4.b	

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2022 PIT count data in HDX.	04/27/2022
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2B-3.	PIT Count–Effectively Counting Youth.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.4.b.	

Describe in the field below how during the planning process for the 2022 PIT count your CoC:

1.	engaged stakeholders that serve homeless youth;
2.	involved homeless youth in the actual count; and
3.	worked with stakeholders to select locations where homeless youth are most likely to be identified.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Because of the persistence of COVID-19, the New Bedford CoC 's Point In Time Count 2022 relied on the same methodology used during the previous year despite its intention to engage youth with lived experience into the count activity, itself. That said, stakeholders serving homeless youth—primarily the CoC's one unaccompanied youth shelter (Killian's) and the New Bedford Public Schools were consulted in planning for the count but did not physically participate in undertaking the count as the CoC's sought to minimize exposure and risk of Covid-spread.

2. Because the New Bedford CoC's 2022 Point In Time Count relied solely on the Street Outreach Team to undertake the count (a methodology utilized once again because of the persistence of the pandemic), no youth were directly involved in conducting the actual count. However, the CoC was confident that its Street Outreach Team, by virtue of its year-round work coupled with the very small geographic area of the New Bedford CoC and its ongoing relationships with Killian's unaccompanied youth shelter and the New Bedford Public Schools, presented the next best option in the face of such challenging circumstances. [Worth noting is the extensive involvement of many youth-related stakeholders in the MA statewide youth count and the broader outreach efforts—including electronically available surveys via QR codes and gift certificates for participation—that took place later in the spring. Once again Killian's, the school system, libraries, the local LGBTQ+ advocacy center and local universities were also engaged in ensuring a successful extended, statewide youth outreach effort.]

3. As a means of ensuring a robust youth count effort during the PIT, the stakeholders serving homeless youth had a voice in the planning effort. Specifically, they had the opportunity to discuss targeted locations where the Street Outreach Team should be sure to go so that areas within the CoC would be included in the PIT Count efforts thereby ensuring youth were counted. Because the CoC regularly works with stakeholders serving homeless youth, and because relevant youth-identified locations (including emergency rooms, bus shelter, food pantries, etc.) were discussed with the Street Outreach Team, coupled with the sensitivity of approach employed, the PIT Count itself was considered a successful effort insofar as youth counts were concerned.

2B-4.	PIT Count—Methodology Change—CoC Merger Bonus Points.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.5.a and VII.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 2021 and 2022, if applicable;	
	2. describe any changes your CoC made to your unsheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2021 and 2022, if applicable; and	
	3. describe how the changes affected your CoC's PIT count results; or	
	4. state "Not Applicable" if there were no changes or if you did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2022.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The annual sheltered Point In Time Count originally scheduled for January 26, 2022 was rescheduled to (and approved by HUD) February 23, 2022 in light of the persistent COVID surge and the importance of ensuring the greatest level of safety for both those conducting the count as well as those being counted. Outside of the date extension, there were no methodological or data quality changes between 2021 and 2022. All sheltered information is collected via the CoC's HMIS so as such data collection is to a degree, a perfunctory process, no special accommodations were necessary.
2. Similarly, the annual unsheltered PIT count implementation did not change from the 2021 PIT count since that year's count had also followed a methodology adopted by the CoC specifically designed for use during a public health crisis. Unlike 2020 and the years preceding, this public health crisis methodology's most significant change is the reliance of only the existing Street Outreach Team in conducting the unsheltered count rather than the additional use of volunteers and the convening of a simultaneous resource event to serve and to incentivize participation. Given the use of a mobile data collection system in both 2021 and 2022, there were no data quality changes.
3. No changes were found to exist in data as a result of the conduct of the Pit Count being undertaken as noted.
4. Not Applicable. There were no changes between 2021 and 2022 PIT Counts.

2C. System Performance

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

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2022 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2C-1.	Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless–Risk Factors Your CoC Uses.	
	NOFO Section VII.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’s process in identifying risk factors begins with the CoC’s forthcoming By-Name Committees and its existing Street Outreach team; each are charged with reviewing actual circumstances these differing cohorts are experiencing prior to and when becoming homeless for the first time. The process includes evaluating PIT risk factors that have historically revealed a prevalence of mental health and/or substance use disorders among those becoming homeless for the first time. The CoC also uses ongoing monitoring of ESG/CoC projects by the City’s Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) for important insight into trending of personal challenges (mental health, sub. abuse, etc.) and broader issues like those resulting from barriers to housing (landlords not allowing those with poor credit, etc). The CoC’s HMIS has improved the ability to gather better data including demographics and vulnerability information from the CoC’s Coordinated Entry System. This reveals greater detail as to what folks are experiencing, the nature of their crisis and what they need to avoid homelessness. Additionally, if someone has experienced homelessness elsewhere in the county, data from one of two other CoC’s sharing the HMIS database with this CoC can provide important information about how and why people are becoming homeless locally.

2. The CoC’s strategy begins with dynamic targeting of prevention efforts that more often than not falls to the Coordinated Entry System. Other strategies include a Homeless Emergency Assistance Response Team (HEART) that provides immediate response/innovation in addressing encampments, a community hospital Account Care Org (ACO) team of health workers engaging/supporting “high utilizers” of hospital ER services, most often those at risk of homelessness, active participation in the City’s Community Crisis Intervention Team and the CoC’s annual NB Connect resource event, providing housing, services, etc.

3. The City’s OHCD (grantee, HMIS lead and collaborative applicant) is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to reduce numbers of those becoming homeless for the first time.

2C-2.	Length of Time Homeless—CoC’s Strategy to Reduce.	
	NOFO Section VII.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’s strategy to reduce the length of time individuals/persons in families remain homeless continues to be rooted in the understanding that barriers presented by a stagnant shelter/housing pipeline result in longer experiences in homelessness. Given this, the current strategy includes: (a) use of EHVs that have been prioritized to those in RRH/PSH ready to move on; (b) reliance on prevention which is seen as critical so efforts to prevent homelessness (HP) are offered via several ESG, CDBG-CV and ESG-CV projects and diversion through the CoC’s Coordinated Entry System (CES); (c) use of the CoC’s Move On Strategy where CoC RRH and ESG RRH projects both exist within the CoC and can be relied upon to help move folks interested in moving and requiring less supports to get quickly into PH; (d) pursuit of existing CoC strategies like increasing the #units in private housing dedicated to persons transitioning from homelessness; (e) supporting agencies w/PSH projects who are actively working with private landlords and exploring development of a property owner engagement initiative and a possible property owner mitigation fund; (f) ongoing guidance and training to ensure program efficiencies continue.

2. The CoC relies on its CES to identify those experiencing homelessness for the longest lengths of time. Use of the CES’ prioritization assessment and a careful review of chronic homelessness are two ways the CoC ensures those with the longest periods in crisis are prioritized for housing as quickly as possible. The lack of readily available housing stock and longer tenancies for those who are in PSH programs have challenged the CoC in keeping pace with increasing demand.

3. The City’s OHCD (grantee, HMIS lead and collaborative applicant) is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to reduce the length of time homeless for all.

2C-3.	Exits to Permanent Housing Destinations/Retention of Permanent Housing–CoC’s Strategy NOFO Section VII.B.5.d.	
In the field below:		
1.	describe your CoC’s strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations;	
2.	describe your CoC’s strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations; and	
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC’s strategy to increase the rate that individuals and families exit to or retain permanent housing.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC strategy to increase the rate at which individuals/families exit to PH destinations is fivefold: (a) Effective use of the CoC’s coordinated entry system—the CoC will continue to ensure all projects have staff fully trained on undertaking its prioritization assessment/referring participants to coordinated entry to gain entry to permanent housing. (b) Leveraging mainstream supportive services for those exiting to independent permanent housing. (c) Providing technical support to review data and examine trends/patterns including quarterly reporting to detect issues as they arise. (d) Maintaining active partnership with the local PHA in ensuring move-on opportunities and use of Emergency Housing Vouchers. (e) Seeking to increase the number of PSH units to fill the needs of homeless individuals and families including the use of reallocation which added new PSH units to allow individuals and families to exit shelter more quickly.

2. The CoC has enjoyed success in the extent to which individs/persons in families residing in PSH projects are attaining and retaining permanent housing. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects are monitored by the CoC to ensure services being provided focus on stability, retention and self-sufficiency in multiple ways: (a) By seeking out additional funds to increase staff and services in their programs in order to better serve participants allowing for more focused attention on services such as job search/training and stabilization (keeping participants engaged increases likelihood of maintaining permanent housing). (b) The CoC partners with local educational/vocational resources to provide participants with long term strategies for success in permanent housing. (c) Cultivating formal and informal employment opportunities to ensure sustainable earned income. (d) Pursuing trainings like SOAR to assist participants with increasing cash benefit income. (e) Providing solutions/mediating landlord/tenant disputes to ensure participants remain in their unit and focusing on landlord relationships to enhance communication to increase retention in PH and prevent eviction, and (f) Engaging partnerships with local agencies provide community case management services & recovery coaching to support participants exiting to permanent housing.

3. The CoC’s Executive Committee is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to increase the rate that individuals and families exit to or retain permanent housing.

2C-4.	Returns to Homelessness—CoC’s Strategy to Reduce Rate.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.5.e.	
	In the field below:	
1.	describe your CoC’s strategy to identify individuals and families who return to homelessness;	
2.	describe your CoC’s strategy to reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness; and	
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC’s strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families return to homelessness.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC’s strategy to identify individuals/persons in families who return to homelessness begins first with the CoC’s historic emphasis on stability in permanent housing. Additionally, identifying who is returning and arises from its coordinated entry and homeless management information systems. Despite being a right-to-shelter state for families experiencing homelessness, families who have lived in permanent supportive housing within the CoC typically contact the CoC’s local coordinated entry for assistance thereby triggering their previous information within HMIS. For individuals experiencing homelessness, whether that person has been in permanent housing or sheltered within the CoC, their name/information similarly shows up on HMIS during that initial contact with coordinated entry. Those returning to homelessness are again assessed and placed in housing as rapidly as possible, ensuring that conditions that precipitated the return to homelessness are mitigated to the greatest extent possible to ensure long term, sustainable success in their permanent housing tenancy going forward.

2. As a proactive measure toward reducing the rate of additional returns to homelessness, the CoC employs several strategies: (a) working to increase focus on prevention; (b) enhancing training opportunities around Housing First approach for case management and housing staff so that those they serve are better equipped to stay in their housing for the long term; and, (c) undertaking outreach and engagement efforts to draw people to community education sessions, RAFT and other funding resources. In addition, the CoC has found that the limited supply of affordable rental units has the unintended effect of program participants remaining in their PH units longer for fear of losing a housing option in the CoC, altogether.

3. With the ongoing administrative support of the city’s Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), the CoC’s Executive Committee has responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the CoC’s strategy for overseeing the way in which the CoC reduces the rate of indivds/fams’ returns to homelessness.

2C-5.	Increasing Employment Cash Income–CoC’s Strategy.	
	NOFO Section VII.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 cash income; and	
3.	provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC’s strategy to increase income from employment.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC’s strategy to access employment cash sources includes: providing overarching training to the CoC about employment resources within the CoC, reinforcing direct connectivity between housing staff in PSH projects with the local Workforce Investment Board (WIB), providing guidance to CoC programs to instill the value that communicating the importance of increasing employment income in order to sustain housing and stability over the long term (to program participants), offering technical assistance to case managers to help them reinforce job skills, employment acumen and their program participant’s value as an employee, and providing clarity/connection to local educational/training resources—including disability/vocational assistance—to help improve worker skills.

2. The New Bedford CoC recognizes the value of collaboration between itself and local workforce systems and maintains a well-established relationship with the local WIB (MassHire) whose Asst Director is a member of the CoC’s Executive Committee and who actively participates in the CoC including participation in the CoC’s Performance Review Committee. Within the past 12 months the CoC convened a meeting featuring a MassHire staff presentation on employment in a post-pandemic environment. Such relationships are valued as an important aspect of the CoC’s ability to connect those experiencing homelessness with the local employment network.

3. The CoC’s Supportive Services Committee has responsibility for ensuring the CoC’s strategy for increasing jobs and income from employment.

2C-5a.	Increasing Non-employment Cash Income–CoC’s Strategy	
	NOFO Section VII.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's strategy stems from three primary barriers, consistent with HUD's "Strategies for Improving Homeless People's Access to Mainstream Benefits and Services" publication. (a) The CoC recognizes mainstream structural barriers like the absence of private transportation and limited public transit within the area and in response holds the "NB Connect" event each year. This is a large one-day resource-based event that connects sheltered/unsheltered persons directly with multiple mainstream resources all under one roof. (b) Capacity barriers arise because of inadequate local resources. To address this, the CoC actively works with local and state agencies (such as the MA Executive Office of Elder Affairs) to provide education and training about access to mainstream resources (such as MA Health). (c) Eligibility barriers in this CoC have given rise to a third strategy example, that being challenges around many experiencing homelessness who have no ID. Securing IDs, working with the MA Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV), raising funds to pay for the IDs and provide connective access to the RMV so that IDs can be secured has become an important strategy that paves the way for someone to successfully access/increase their non-employment cash income. In addition, the CoC's strategy to increase access to non-employment cash sources is part of each PSH's onboarding process and woven into its strategies to increase income. Increasing access through the establishment of successful events, education, communication, connection with outside resources, fundraising for a broader reach and direct services on a client-by-client basis each play an important role in the overall CoC strategy to access such resources.

2. The CoC's Supportive Services Committee is responsible for ensuring the CoC's strategy for increasing non-employment cash-income.

3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare

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

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2022 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 VII.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?	No
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3A-2.	New PH-PSH/PH-RRH Project–Leveraging Healthcare Resources.	
	NOFO Section VII.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?	No
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3A-3.	Leveraging Housing/Healthcare Resources–List of Projects.	
	NOFO Sections VII.B.6.a. and VII.B.6.b.	
	If you selected yes to questions 3A-1. or 3A-2., use the list feature icon to enter information about each project application you intend for HUD to evaluate to determine if they meet the criteria.	

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

3B. New Projects With Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs

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

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2022 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

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

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

3B-2.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects.	
	NOFO Section VII.B.1.s.	

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

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

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

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

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2022 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

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

	Is your CoC requesting to designate one or more of its SSO, TH, or Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects to serve families with children or youth experiencing homelessness as defined by other Federal statutes?	No
--	--	----

3C-2.	Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes.	
	NOFO Section VII.C.	

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

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

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2022 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

4A-1.	New DV Bonus Project Applications.	
	NOFO Section II.B.11.e.	

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

4B. Attachments Screen For All Application Questions

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

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

Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1C-7. PHA Homeless Preference	No	1C-7 PHA HOMELESS...	09/14/2022
1C-7. PHA Moving On Preference	No	1C-7 PHA MOVING O...	09/14/2022
1E-1. Local Competition Deadline	Yes	1E-1 LOCAL COMPET...	09/14/2022
1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	1E-5 NOTIFICATION...	09/14/2022
1E-5c. Web Posting—CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	1E-5c WEB POSTING...	09/19/2022
3A-1a. Housing Leveraging Commitments	No	3A-1a HOUSING LEV...	09/14/2022
3A-2a. Healthcare Formal Agreements	No	3A-2a HEALTHCARE ...	09/14/2022
3C-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No	3C-2 PROJECT LIST...	09/14/2022
1E-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	1E-2 PROJECT REVI...	09/14/2022
1E-2a. Scored Renewal Project Application	Yes	1E-2a SCORED RENE...	09/14/2022
1E-5b. Final Project Scores for All Projects	Yes	1E-5b FINAL PROJE...	09/14/2022

1E-5. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	1E-5 NOTIFICATION...	09/14/2022
1E-5d. Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	1E-5d NOTIFICATIO...	09/19/2022

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1C-7 PHA HOMELESS PREFERENCE

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1C-7 PHA MOVING ON PREFERENCE

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-1 LOCAL COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5 NOTIFICATION OF PROJECTS
ACCEPTED

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5c WEB POSTING COC APPROVED
CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION

Attachment Details

Document Description: 3A-1a HOUSING LEVERAGING
COMMITMENTS

Attachment Details

Document Description: 3A-2a HEALTHCARE FORMAL AGREEMENTS

Attachment Details

Document Description: 3C-2 PROJECT LIST FOR OTHER FEDERAL
STATUTES

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-2 PROJECT REVIEW AND SELECTION
PROCESS

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-2a SCORED RENEWAL PROJECT
APPLICATION

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5b FINAL PROJECT SCORES FOR ALL PROJECTS

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5 NOTIFICATION OF PROJECTS REJECTED-REDUCED

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5d NOTIFICATION OF COC APPROVED CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION

Submission Summary

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

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	09/14/2022
1B. Inclusive Structure	09/22/2022
1C. Coordination and Engagement	09/14/2022
1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd	09/19/2022
1E. Project Review/Ranking	09/14/2022
2A. HMIS Implementation	09/14/2022
2B. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count	09/14/2022
2C. System Performance	09/14/2022
3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare	09/14/2022
3B. Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs	09/14/2022
3C. Serving Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes	09/14/2022

4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants	09/14/2022
4B. Attachments Screen	09/19/2022
Submission Summary	No Input Required

Attachment 1C-7

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

PHA Homeless Preference

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

- The **PHA Homeless Preference Document** is in the form of a letter from the New Bedford Housing Authority explaining its preferences for those experiencing homelessness.

1. PHA Homeless Preference Document.

NEW BEDFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY

Post Office Box 2081
New Bedford, Massachusetts 02741

Steven A. Beauregard
Executive Director

CENTRAL OFFICE:
28 UNION STREET
SUITE 400
TEL: 508-997-4829
FAX: 508-997-4808
TDD: 508-997-4874

August 23, 2022

Jennifer Clarke AICP
Deputy Director, Community Development
City of New Bedford
133 William St.
New Bedford, MA 02740

Re: Continuum of Care

Dear Ms. Clarke,

The New Bedford Housing Authority (NBHA) is pleased to assist the City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care (COC) in the development of its annual application for COC funding and offers this letter as a means of memorializing both the preferences employed by the NBHA and its effect in ensuring housing for the homeless over the past fiscal year, as well as the ongoing relationship between our two entities.

The NBHA is committed to providing the highest quality service in order to ensure safe, stable housing for those coming out of homelessness. Annually NBHA places many individuals and families coming out of homelessness into housing through its preferences as follows:

*Family Preferences for the Section 8 Voucher Choice Program vouchers:

- Priority 1 = (a) Displacement due to disaster such as flood, fire or natural disaster.
 - (b) Court ordered no-fault eviction
- (c) Displacement by Domestic Violence
- (d) Avoidance of reprisal/witness protection
- (e) Victim of hate crime
- (f) Condemnation of Home
- (g) Inaccessibility of dwelling unit (Disabled ONLY)
- (h) Homelessness
- (i) Paying over 50% of gross income for rent and utilities

These preferences were changed to try to help those most in need. What the Housing Authority has found is that applicants that are most in need are either unwilling or unable to comply with the verification requirements to determine their eligibility or that their circumstances changed, and they no longer qualify for these priorities. In addition, many applicants are unable to pass the CORI check and screening requirements of the program, which then disqualifies them.

During the past year one hundred ninety-five (195) vouchers were issued to homeless individuals or families that were verified to be Priority 1, including twenty-five (25) Special Emergency Vouchers for those in shelter programs. Out of those one hundred ninety-five (195) vouchers, one hundred ten (110) applicants have leased up, fifty-five (55) applicants are still searching for apartments with a voucher and ten (10) applicants have allowed their voucher to expire, seven (7) gave up their voucher to move into a public housing program, and

thirteen (13) took their voucher elsewhere. It's our goal to issue five-hundred additional vouchers over the next three months with the intentions of leasing up one hundred and fifty additional families. There are currently 4,455 applicants waiting for a voucher as of this writing.

For State-aided public housing the following priorities and preferences have remained the same:

- 1) Homeless and displaced by natural forces such as fire, flood, hurricane.
- 2) Homeless and displaced by public action, such as urban renewal or eminent domain.
- 3) Homeless and displaced by enforcement of Minimum Housing Standards
- 4) Emergency Case plan which includes domestic violence, medical emergencies and those without housing due to no fault of their own.
 - a) Local Preference
 - b) Veteran Preference

Within our State portfolio, the NBHA is required to place resident using the state's CHAMP system. Due to the pandemic, the waitlist has grown from 5,551 applicants in 2019 to 26,059 applicants today from all over the area. Out of the fifty-eight (58) State housing placements the NBHA made from August 1, 2021 to August 1, 2022, 98.0% were for homeless individuals/families due to one of the above conditions, including two (2) homeless veterans. These priorities and preferences help those in greatest need first.

Finally, the NBHA celebrates the long history of collaboration between NBHA and the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) in its role as lead administrative agent for the City's COC. The NBHA continues to commit to this relationship in order to ensure a strong relationship with shared goals which actively ensure consistency, transparency and success in housing the homeless in the City of New Bedford.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

-S-

Cheryl Souza

Policy Administrator

New Bedford Housing Authority

Attachment 1C-7

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

PHA Moving On Preference

NOTE:

The New Bedford CoC has memorialized those elements of its own **Moving On Strategy** germane to its work and strategic vision. The resulting document, approved by a vote of the CoC membership in 2019, remains in effect and is provided here.

Separate from this Moving On document is the priority list developed in concert with the roll out of Emergency Housing Vouchers. The resulting **prioritization list for EHV**s further reinforces the CoC's coordinated work with the local Housing Authority in moving people on. That document is similarly included within this attachment.



Homeless Service Provider Network :: HSPN New Bedford Continuum of Care **Moving On Strategy**

The New Bedford Continuum of Care (CoC), acting through the Homeless Service Provider Network (HSPN), hereby establishes and memorializes its Moving On Strategy.

Purpose.

Affordability, availability of suitable housing and a combination thereof have been identified by the CoC as a primary issue preventing current supportive housing tenants who are no longer in need of intensive services from moving out of their permanent supportive housing units (PSH) and into either a public housing authority (PHA) unit or other affordable housing unit independent of supportive services.

This strategy exists for the purpose of providing guidance as to how CoC projects can move current CoC Program participants who no longer require intensive services, from CoC Program funded-PSH beds to other housing assistance programs (including, but not limited to, Housing Choice Vouchers and Public Housing) in order to free up CoC Program funded-PSH beds to be used for persons experiencing homelessness.

Public Housing Authorities

As described by the Corporation for Supportive Housing's CSH Moving On Toolkit, "Under PIH Notice 2013-15 (HA), PHAs may create set-asides of units and/or vouchers for either people exiting homelessness or people referred by providers as being ready to move on from supportive housing. Through this mechanism, the CoC and its supportive housing providers may partner with the New Bedford Public Housing Authority (NBHA) to make public housing units and tenant-based Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV, or Section 8) available through the use of preferences in their local administrative plans for people who have achieved stability in supportive housing and no longer require the same level of support.

Affordable Housing Owners

In addition to the NBHA, "HUD also funds a variety of deeply subsidized units through the Multi-family division, which can be owned and operated by either PHAs or private owners. These include primarily the Project Based Section 8 (general population), Section 202 (elderly—such as the Coastline project, "Carriage House at Acushnet Heights"), and Section 811 (persons with disabilities) programs and combinations of Sections 202/811 projects (as is the case with Melville Towers). Such units frequently offer some level of services and are experienced in dealing with special needs tenants. Multifamily owners can create set-asides of units for either people exiting homelessness or people referred by providers as being ready to move on from supportive housing. As vouchers and public housing units are usually a scarce resource, programs may also look to the largest current production program for new affordable units - Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) – to create Moving On units. LIHTC developments must typically meet stringent quality and location requirements to obtain competitive funding, so they may be appealing from a tenant choice perspective. Prioritization of LIHTC resources is accomplished through the state Qualified Allocation plan, which accepts public comment on a regular basis.

In order to ensure that those individuals and families who previously experienced homelessness and who have successfully lived in CoC PSH projects but no longer require intensive supportive services have viable alternatives to where they can move on from PSH into permanent housing, the HSPN seeks to actively collaborate with housing providers so noted here.

Strategic Steps

In its efforts to enact its CoC-wide Move On Strategy, the CoC will, to the best of its ability through its PSH programs:

- △ Identify households in permanent supportive housing (PSH) that no longer require intensive supportive services and demonstrate the ability to live stably and maintain housing.
- △ Ask such households if they are willing to move on (the household must retain choice and must be willing to move on; this is voluntary).
- △ Confirm that willing households meet any housing screening criteria in order to move on.
- △ Ensure that willing households in need rental subsidies move into housing with a rental subsidy available to them.
- △ Continue supporting the New Bedford Housing Authority's homeless preference for households to increase the possibility of willing households receiving a rental subsidy through housing choice vouchers;
- △ Work collaboratively with mainstream affordable housing resources including those financed with LIHTC.
- △ Provide flexible financial assistance to cover costs related to moving expenses, security deposits, first/last month's rent, etc. as may be needed to ensure tenancy.
- △ Work to develop a source of landlord mitigation funds (by individual agency and/or collaboratively as a CoC) to offset potential problems including excessive damage to units or unpaid rent.
- △ Provide case management to assist clients who have moved on with income re-certifications and/or application paperwork to support continued housing stability.
- △ Offer home-based case management for three months to help ensure a successful transition out of PSH into permanent housing.

This strategy may be amended or revised at any time by a vote of the HSPN Executive Committee. This document was reviewed and accepted by a vote of the HSPN Executive Committee on September 19, 2019.

New Bedford Emergency Housing Voucher Prioritization Plan

July 26, 2021

The New Bedford Continuum of Care (MA-505) is a U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) recognized Continuum of Care (CoC) that wholly encompasses the City of New Bedford, Massachusetts. Within this CoC exists 7 Emergency Solutions Grant projects as well as multiple CoC-funded programs that include five permanent supportive housing projects, one rapid re-housing project and coordinated entry. Combined, these programs provide critical housing and supportive services for New Bedford families and individuals experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness.

Although these programs continued operations throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for housing and support for the most vulnerable of New Bedford's population, whether for rental subsidies alone or combined with supportive services, continued to increase, not unlike the increasing demand seen across the nation. Concurrent with this has been a renewed recognition of the persistent disparities that exist across the country in providing such resources to marginalized people including black, indigenous, people of color (BIPOC) populations, those who are of Hispanic descent and those within the LGBTQ+ community. As a result of the confluence of these factors, the federal American Rescue Plan of 2021 included funding and provisions for an Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program that necessitates the collaborative efforts and operation of the local housing authorities and continuums of care.

An allocation of 25 EHV's was made to the New Bedford Housing Authority as part of this action and an additional 34 vouchers has been awarded through the MA Department of Housing & Community Development (MA DHCD) for a total of 59 EHV's in New Bedford. Having received vouchers through both a local and state housing authority, the New Bedford CoC is positioned to prioritize both sets of vouchers in order to reflect the unique needs of the New Bedford community, specifically.

Prior to developing its prioritization strategy, New Bedford first considered factors explicitly affecting the movement of persons in crisis through its continuum and beyond. Although its permanent supportive housing (PSH) units provide 231 units of housing for individuals and families, the continuum recognized that the high

“

...the need for housing and support for the most vulnerable of New Bedford's population, whether for rental subsidies alone or combined with supportive services, continued to increase, not unlike the increasing demand seen across the nation.

”

utilization rate of 104%¹--one which reveals a system exceeding its capacity--means that there is little to no opportunity to move others in crisis into permanent stable housing. Moreover the continuum acknowledged that in moving increasingly stable persons out of PSH program units and into other subsidized housing, the CoC potentially increases its supply of available PSH units for others with heightened vulnerabilities and needs.

Because PSH units are intended to serve those most vulnerable, it is considered beneficial to the CoC system to assist in creating opportunities for clients to move on to less "supportive" housing as they are willing and able. Likewise, as it was anecdotally understood that many of those in PSH programs struggle with stable income to sustain a market rate unit they effectively remain in PSH only for the benefit of the rental subsidy, the availability of a housing voucher could provide the impetus needed to "unclog" the CoC housing pipeline and free up additional units for occupancy.

Given this, the continuum acknowledged that whenever the opportunity presents itself for a PSH household to "move on" to other stable permanent housing thereby freeing up the unit for a new household coming out of crisis, this opportunity should be acted upon as appropriate and possible. In so doing, the household moving out of PSH can benefit from a rental subsidy and a more vulnerable household with higher needs can benefit from the PSH unit. EHVs have been embraced as an important tool toward this end.

Adjacent to the need for increased housing and rental assistance and arising from a national reawakening as to disparities experienced by historically marginalized populations, the New Bedford CoC examined its own data to better understand the presence of racial disparities in its homeless housing and support system.

Using the CoC Racial Equity Analysis Tool² it becomes clear that there may be an unconscious bias in serving Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) households experiencing homelessness as well and those identifying as LGBTQ+. By way of example, although just 6% of those in the general New Bedford population identify as Black, those identifying as Black experience homelessness at a rate of 27% (individuals) and 35% (families). Similarly, while just 20% of the general population in the city is represented by those who are Hispanic, 40% of families

“

...arising from a national reawakening as to disparities experienced by historically marginalized populations, the New Bedford CoC examined its own data to better understand the presence of racial disparities in its homeless housing and support system.

”

¹ The 104% utilization rate was measured during the 2021 Point In Time Count in January 2021 at which time 241 persons were counted in housing that typically provides 231 beds.

² Version 2.1 downloadable spreadsheet for MA-505 (New Bedford CoC) at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5787/coc-analysis-tool-race-and-ethnicity/>.

experiencing homelessness in the city are Hispanic. These simple statistics immediately reveal a significant and disproportionate ratio between general population and those experiencing homelessness by race and ethnicity in New Bedford.³

From this data, the CoC is concerned with the extent to which it is disproportionately housing those who identify as white over those who identify as BIPOC and/or Hispanic as well as those identifying as LGBTQ+. While this is not seen as intentional it necessitates action to ensure the disparity is diminished and eliminated.

In light of its finding as to the need for additional housing and mitigation of any systemic or institutionalized barriers in serving marginalized populations, and given the availability of new Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs), the New Bedford CoC will prioritize the following households (providing they otherwise meet qualifying eligibility) for use of the EHVs:

Priority	Cohort
1	Those New Bedford residents identifying as part of a BIPOC and/or LGBTQ+ community who are ready/willing/able to successfully move on from PSH or HomeBASE (exiting the program) but who continue to need a housing subsidy to remain stably housed.
2	Those New Bedford residents who are ready/willing/able to successfully move on from PSH or HomeBASE (by exiting the program) but who continue to need a housing subsidy to remain stably housed.
3	Those New Bedford residents identifying as part of a BIPOC and/or LGBTQ+ community and currently receiving Rapid Rehousing funds (either through ESG or CoC sources) and can show they need a voucher to maintain housing.
4	Those New Bedford residents who are receiving Rapid Rehousing funds (either through ESG or CoC sources) and can show they need a voucher to maintain housing.
5	Those New Bedford residents who identify as BIPOC and/or LGBTQ+ in the community, are currently in a housing crisis and can show they need a voucher to maintain housing.

Priority list continues on the following page.

“

...the CoC is concerned with the extent to which it is disproportionately housing those who identify as white over those who identify as BIPOC and/or Hispanic as well as those identifying as LGBTQ+...

”

³ While national statistics show that over 5% of the population identifies as LGBTQ+ and .6% of the population identifies as transgender, the CoC has not asked this question throughout any measurable intake either in outreach or placement. Both of these populations are underserved throughout the continuum and are significantly more affected by housing crisis, which, during the recent pandemic, has been magnified as these households are at greater risk and therefore at a heightened risk of COVID-19.

Priority	Cohort
6	Those either recently released from a correctional institution or who have a history of incarceration and only need a voucher to maintain housing.
7	Those New Bedford residents on the existing Coordinated Entry waiting list.
8	All other qualifying and eligible households.



Prepared by the Office of Housing & Community Development,
Patrick J. Sullivan, Director
on behalf of the
City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care,
Homeless Service Provider Network (HSPN)

Attachment 1E-1

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Local Competition Deadline

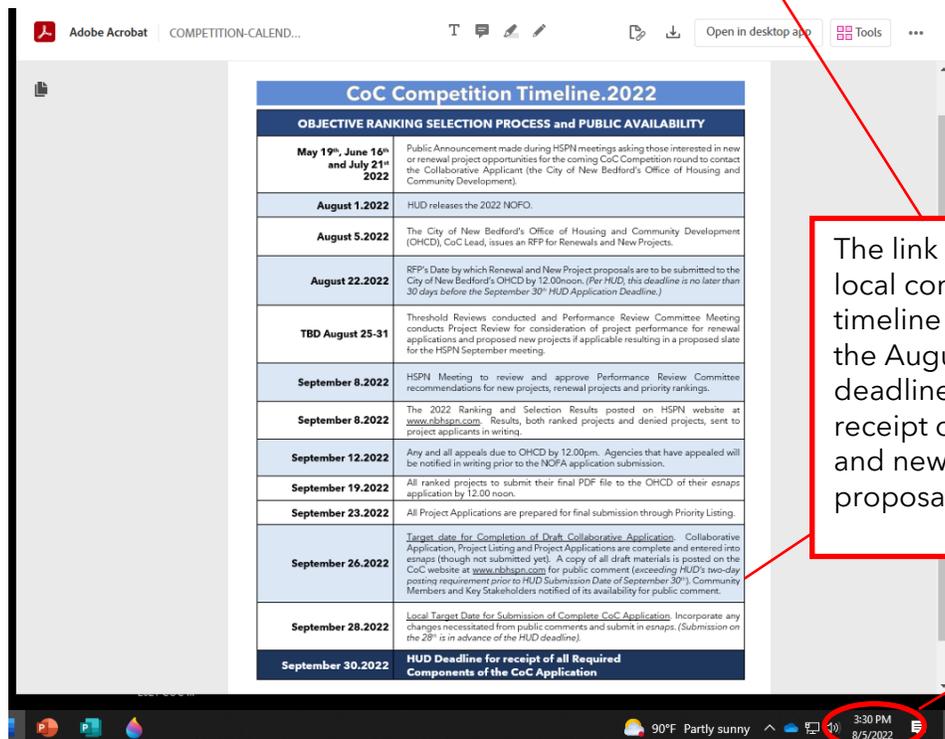
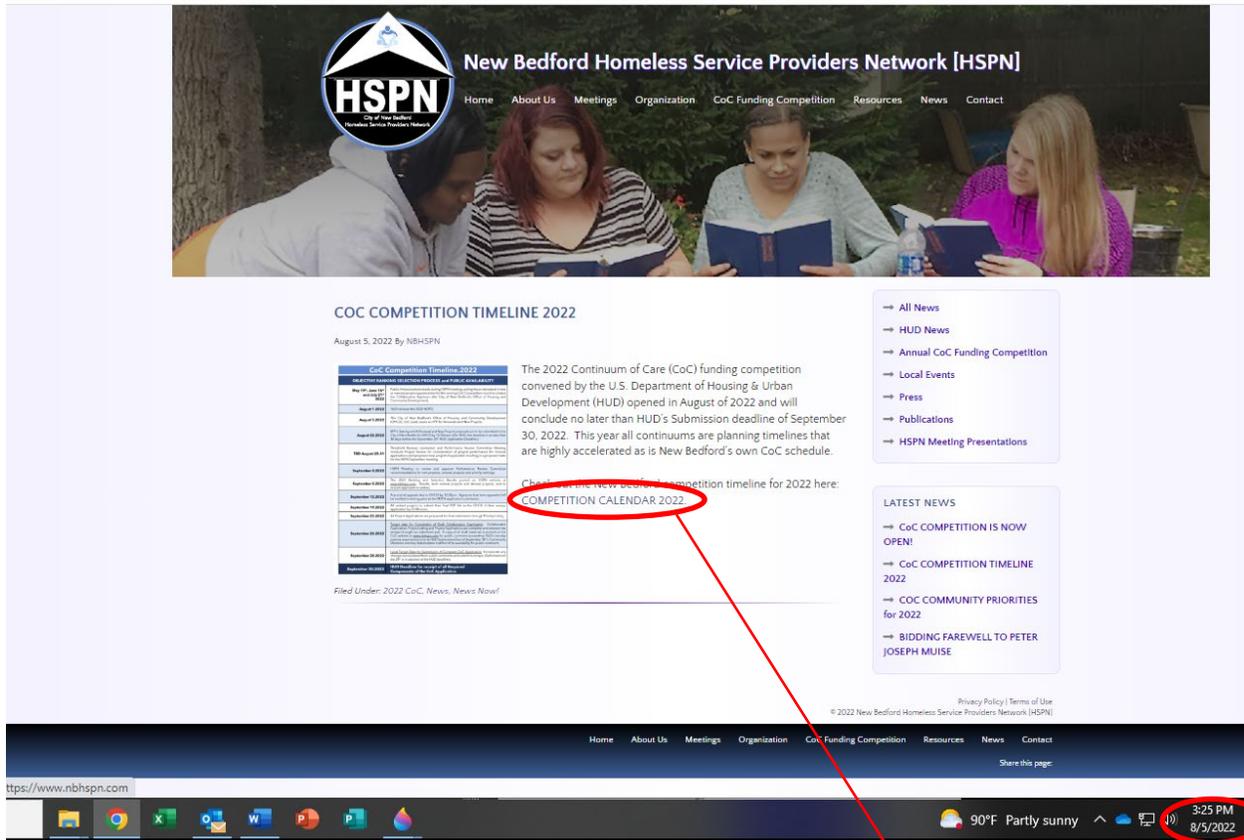
NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

- Evidence of Postings for Local Competition Deadline.** Screenshots of posting the RFP in multiple locations (CoC website, Collaborative Applicant website, Facebook, Twitter, Email listserve). In all these locations the complete RFP with due date for project applications is provided via link. All such postings were made on August 5, 2022 and noted the local competition deadline as being August 22, 2022. All deadlines were in compliance with the NOFO requirements.

1. Website posting showing local competition timeframe

Posted August 5, 2022 at <https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-timeline-2022/>



August 5, 2022

The link leads to the local competition timeline that includes the August 22, 2022 deadline for the receipt of renewal and new project proposals.

August 5, 2022

2. The CoC's Website (nbhspn.com) posting showing release of local competition material (RFP)

Posted August 5, 2022 at <https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-is-now-open-2/>

HSPN
City of New Bedford
Homeless Service Providers Network

Home About Us Meetings Organization CoC Funding Competition Resources News Contact

COC COMPETITION IS NOW OPEN!

August 5, 2022 By NBHSPN

COC COMPETITION MA-505 COC RFP NOW AVAILABLE!

On Friday, August 5, 2022, the City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care (CoC), acting through the Office of Housing & Community Development, issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) that includes both instructions and new/renewal application forms for 2022 funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The RFP is available in a printable format here: [MA-505 COC RFP 2022](#). Application deadline is Monday, August 22, 2022 at 12:00 PM as detailed in the RFP.

The linked RFP provides instructions for renewal projects as well as new projects (those available through bonus and DV bonus funding) made available by HUD in this round. This funding arises from HUD's issuance of its 2022 CoC NOFO which is available online here: [2022 HUD CoC NOFO](#).

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
For the Request for Proposals (RFP) and Renewal Application Form (RAF) for the 2022 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition.

RFP Available August 5, 2022
Application Due: August 22, 2022 by 12:00 PM
HUD Contract #: 2022-0000000000000000

This competition is open to ALL eligible applicants; one need not have previously applied to participate and submit an application.

Please contact Jennifer Clarke, Deputy Director, Office of Housing & Community Development at Jennifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov with any questions.

90°F Cloudy 2:30 PM 8/5/2022

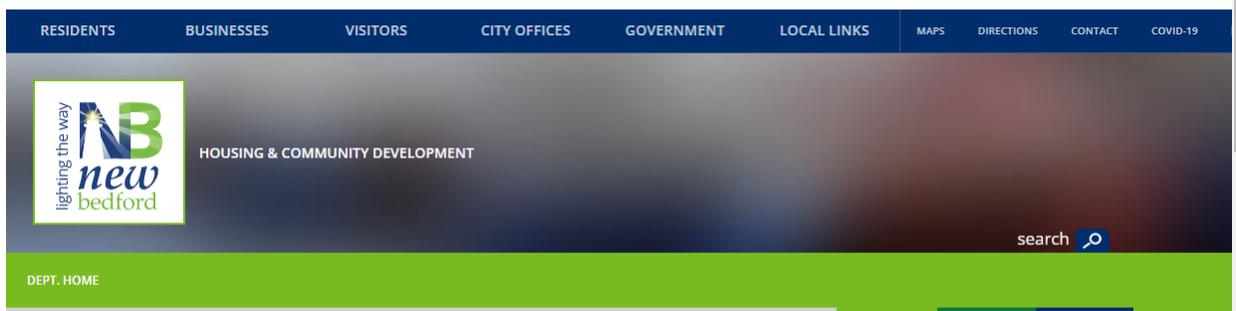
WEBSITE POST

[HSPN \(CoC\) Website Post](#)
The local competition Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on August 5, 2022.

The RFP identified in multiple locations (including on the cover of the document) that the local competition deadline was Monday, August 22, 2022 at 12:00PM as does the posting, itself.

3. City (Collaborative Applicant) Website posting showing release of local competition material (RFP)

Posted August 5, 2022 at <https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-is-now-open-2/>
City of New Bedford – Office of Housing & Community Development (Collaborative Applicant) website



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS > HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DEPT. ANNOUNCEMENTS

PERMANENT ACTION PLAN
The City of New Bedford is currently in the process of developing a permanent action plan for the city's housing needs. The plan will address the city's housing needs and provide a framework for the city's housing program. [Click for more.](#)



OFFICE OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The City of New Bedford's Office of Housing & Community Development [OHCD] is a resource for city-wide programs, plans and possibilities in New Bedford. Comprised of Housing and Community Development divisions, the OHCD's work focuses on a wide variety of federally-funded activities that strengthen the city and help develop strategies to increase the growth and prosperity of New Bedford's residents.

The **Housing** Division administers a range of programs geared towards assisting folks with homeownership, rehabilitation, accessibility, emergency repairs and lead paint. Funding for these programs comes from both the federal government and state-wide programs, all of which are intended for households in low-moderate income ranges.

The **Community Development** Division relies on federal dollars from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development [HUD] in undertaking a wide range of community-based activities ranging from street improvements and demolitions to economical development and public services. Information specific to the City of New Bedford's efforts around ending homelessness may also be found at the City of New Bedford Homeless Service Provider's Network website at www.nbhspn.com.

WEBSITE POST

HSPN Website Post
The local competition Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on August 5, 2022.

(Note: Although the posting, itself, was made 8.5.22, the screenshot was not captured until 8.8.22).

In addition to the RFP, the advert, itself, advertised that the local competition deadline was Monday, August 22, 2022 at 12.00PM.

COC COMPETITION NOW UNDERWAY!

<https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-is-now-open-2/>

OVERVIEW

The City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care (MA-505 CoC), its, "Homeless Service Provider's Network" (HSPN), acting through the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) has released its 2022 Request for Proposals (RFP) that includes both instructions and applications for new and renewal funding from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). The link to the RFP in fillable format is provided here and can be accessed below, and through the HSPN website at www.nbhspn.com. Deadline is Monday, August 22, 2022 at noon.

[RFP for New and Renewal CoC Projects.2022](#)

This is an OPEN competition; this funding is available to both new (eligible) applicants who have not previously received CoC funding and those seeking to renew a project.

FUNDING

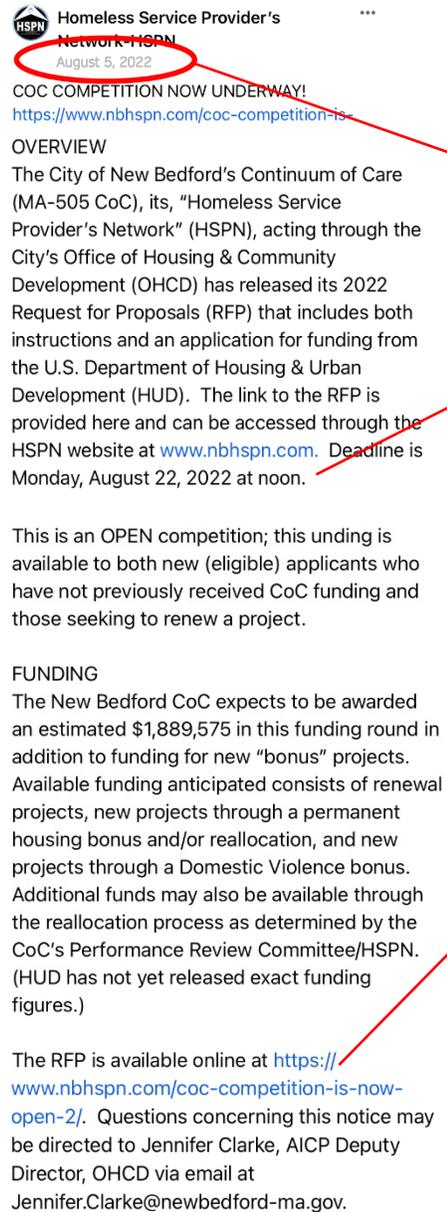
The New Bedford CoC expects to be awarded an estimated \$2,019,330 in this funding round in addition to funding for new "bonus" projects. Available funding anticipated consists of renewal projects, new projects through a permanent housing bonus and/or reallocation, and new projects through a Domestic Violence bonus. Additional funds may also be available through the reallocation process as determined by the CoC's Performance Review Committee/HSPN. The RFP is available online at <https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-is-now-open-2/>.

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to Jennifer Clarke, AICP Deputy Director, OHCD via email at Jennifer.Clarke@newbedford.ma.gov.

10:15 AM
8/8/2022

4. Facebook posting showing August 5, 2022 release of local competition material (RFP)

CoC (HSPN Homeless Service Providers Network) Facebook Page



Homeless Service Provider's Network - HSPN
August 5, 2022

CO C COMPETITION NOW UNDERWAY!
<https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-is-overview>

OVERVIEW
The City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care (MA-505 CoC), its, "Homeless Service Provider's Network" (HSPN), acting through the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) has released its 2022 Request for Proposals (RFP) that includes both instructions and an application for funding from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). The link to the RFP is provided here and can be accessed through the HSPN website at www.nbhspn.com. Deadline is Monday, August 22, 2022 at noon.

This is an OPEN competition; this unding is available to both new (eligible) applicants who have not previously received CoC funding and those seeking to renew a project.

FUNDING
The New Bedford CoC expects to be awarded an estimated \$1,889,575 in this funding round in addition to funding for new "bonus" projects. Available funding anticipated consists of renewal projects, new projects through a permanent housing bonus and/or reallocation, and new projects through a Domestic Violence bonus. Additional funds may also be available through the reallocation process as determined by the CoC's Performance Review Committee/HSPN. (HUD has not yet released exact funding figures.)

The RFP is available online at <https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-is-now-open-2/>. Questions concerning this notice may be directed to Jennifer Clarke, AICP Deputy Director, OHCD via email at Jennifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

FACEBOOK POST

[HSPN Facebook Page](#)
The local competition Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on August 5, 2022; the post included the proposal deadline date of August 22, 2022.

The August 22, 2022 deadline information was included throughout the RFP made available via link.



5. Twitter posting August 5, 2022 showing the release of local competition material (RFP)



The tweet referenced the RFP, provided a link and identified the August 22, 2022 deadline information and included a link to the RFP.

TWITTER POST
HSPN Twitter Account
The local competition Request for Proposals (RFP) was posted on the HSPN (CoC's) Twitter Account on August 5, 2022.

6. Public Posting of availability of the RFP via Direct Mailing through CoC Listserve (300+)

Friday, August 5, 2022



HSPN FYI :: 2022 COC COMPETITION NOW OPEN!

COC OPEN COMPETITION :: 2022 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

~Please share this with your contacts~

This notice is to advise you that the City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care (MA-503 CoC), the Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN), acting through the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) is now releasing its Request for Proposals (RFP) 2022 that includes applications for funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). That material is attached to this email and further described here. Proposal deadline is Monday, August 22nd at 12 noon.

Big Picture. HUD released its FY22 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) available at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=321855>, with a highly accelerated timeframe on August 4, 2022. The City of New Bedford's CoC has now prepared its own RFP in accordance with the overall NOFO process and is releasing it today. It is attached to this email and also available online at the HSPN website at: <https://www.rhbgpn.com/coc-competition-is-now-open-2/>.

Every Continuum of Care (CoC) across the country including the New Bedford CoC has the opportunity to apply for funding through the CoC NOFO. Submitters must include a "consolidated application"—a detailed application concerning the entire governance, performance and strategic profile of the local CoC—that is completed by HSPN members and the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) as the CoC's Collaborative Applicant. In addition, the full application to HUD under this NOFO includes individual project applications that may be renewals of existing CoC programs, as well as new programs altogether funded through bonus allocations in accordance with the NOFO.

This year new applications will be accepted for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for Chronically Homeless Individuals or Families using the CoC Bonus and/or reallocated funding. Additionally, applications will be accepted for New Permanent Housing-Rapid-Rehousing (PH-RRH) Joint Transitional Housing (Joint TH), PH-RRH and SSO Coordinated Entry projects providing eligible activities to assist persons fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking as further defined within the RFP and NOFO.

This is an OPEN competition; this funding is available to both new (eligible) applicants who have not previously received CoC funding and those seeking to renew a project. Details as to eligibility is available within the HUD NOFA at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=321855>.

RFP Process This Year. This year, though there is only one RFP it is comprised of two different applications, one for renewal projects and one for new projects. The City of New Bedford, acting by and through its Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) hereby issues the attached Request for Proposals (RFP) that includes instructions as well as these two different application types that may be used for proposed CoC Renewal Projects (for currently existing projects) and New Application Projects for allowed bonus projects as described within the RFP.

Application Deadline. Although the deadline for the New Bedford CoC's submission of its consolidated application and individual applications to HUD for this competition is September 30, 2022, the deadline for the attached RFP and submitting renewal applications or new project applications through New Bedford's Continuum of Care process is Monday, August 22, 2022 at 12:00 noon.

The complete timeline for the entire process through the New Bedford CoC is posted on the www.rhbgpn.com site and is, as follows:

CoC Competition Timeline.2022	
OBJECTIVE RANKING SELECTION PROCESS and PUBLIC AVAILABILITY	
May 19 th , June 16 th and July 21 st 2022	Public Announcement made during HSPN meetings asking those interested in new or renewal project opportunities for the coming CoC Competition round to contact the Collaborative Applicant (the City of New Bedford's Office of Housing and Community Development).
August 1, 2022	HUD releases the 2022 NOFO.
August 5, 2022	The City of New Bedford's Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), CoC Lead, issues an RFP for Renewals and New Projects.
August 22, 2022	RFP's Date by which Renewal and New Project proposals are to be submitted to the City of New Bedford's OHCD by 12:00pm. (For HUD this deadline is no later than 30 days before the September 30 th HUD Application Deadline.)
TBD August 25-31	Threshold Reviews conducted and Performance Review Committee Meeting conducts Project Review for consideration of project performance for renewal applications and proposed new projects if applicable resulting in a proposed date for the HSPN September meeting.
September 8, 2022	HSPN Meeting to review and approve Performance Review Committee recommendations for new projects, renewal projects and priority rankings.
September 8, 2022	The 2022 Ranking and Selection Results posted on HSPN website at www.rhbgpn.com . Results, both ranked projects and denied projects, sent to project applicants in writing.
September 12, 2022	Any and all appeals due to OHCD by 12:00pm. Agencies that have appealed will be notified in writing prior to the NOFA application submission.
September 19, 2022	All ranked projects to submit their final PDF file to the OHCD of their essays application by 12:00 noon.
September 23, 2022	All Project Applications are prepared for final submission through Priority Listing.
September 26, 2022	Target date for Completion of Draft Collaborative Application (Collaborative Applicant, Project Listing and Project Applications are complete and entered into CoC Website at www.rhbgpn.com for public comment (preceding HUD's two-day posting requirement prior to HUD Submission Date of September 30 th). Community Members and Key Stakeholders notified of its availability for public comment.
September 28, 2022	Local Target Date for Submission of Complete CoC Application. Incorporate any changes necessitated from public comments and submit in essay. (Submission on the 28 th is in advance of the HUD deadline).
September 30, 2022	HUD Deadline for receipt of all Required Components of the CoC Application

Application Process. All applications for funding will be vetted, evaluated, and ranked by the HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC), ratified by the HSPN membership and eventually submitted to HUD via the E-SNAPS system. Any new projects selected for inclusion in the city's application will be given the opportunity to develop and complete an application for funding based on guidance provided by the City's OHCD and HUD. The OHCD is the Collaborative Applicant for the New Bedford CoC and will submit the application for funding on behalf of the New Bedford CoC.

Agencies who wish to participate in the FY2022 New Bedford Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance application to HUD will need to respond to the attached RFP using the attached application in order to be eligible and prepared for this year's application submission. The complete RFP with application is also available at the HSPN website at: <https://www.rhbgpn.com/coc-competition-is-now-open-2/>

Funding. Although HUD has not yet released estimated the 2022 competition's estimated funding amounts, the New Bedford CoC estimates the following funding (in addition to any funds made available through the reallocation process):

Philanthropy Data Need	Annual Renewal Dividend	Renewal Bonus Need	Tier 1	Tier 3	CoC Bonus	UN Bonus
PPRN	ARD	FRPN				
Amount that the local non-profit organizations have requested for FY22	The amount of all the 2022 requests, after the CoC receives the new adjustments	The higher of the 2021 or 2022 renewal bonus need	50% of the PPRN	The difference between the total PPRN renewal request and the CoC Bonus (excluding the Tier 1 and 2 CoC Bonus awards)	4% of the PPRN	10% of the PPRN
\$2,086,299	\$2,019,330	\$2,086,299	\$1,043,154	\$205,281	\$104,315	\$208,630

Although the available amount of funds is expected to be sufficient to meet all eligible renewal projects in 2022, HUD is expected to require Collaborative Applicants at this time the New Bedford CoC—to rank all eligible (ranked) projects in order of priority. The purpose of the proposed approach is for CoC to identify to HUD which projects are prioritized for funding (those within Tier 1 are considered higher priority, those within Tier 2 are next in priority, etc.) of having CoC. Rankings based on multiple factors outlined within the RFP and NOFA will.

As noted in the chart, in addition to HUD funding, both CoC Bonus and UN Bonus are also being made available in this competition. Again, HUD has not yet released any definitive funding numbers as of the release of the RFP.

The OHCD reserves the right to adjust funding amounts based on funding notifications received by HUD.

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to Jennifer Clarke, Deputy Director, OHCD via email at jennifer.clarke@newbedford.ma.gov.

PUBLIC EMAIL

A detailed email was sent Friday, August 5, 2022 regarding the local competition Request for Proposals (RFP). This was distributed to the more than 300 persons and organizations on the HSPN's (CoC's) listserv. Included were additional community listserves that also sent out the RFP to their networks.

The mailing discussed the RFP's deadline, CoC Competition timeline and that this was an OPEN competition.

Attachment 1E-5a

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Notification of Projects Accepted

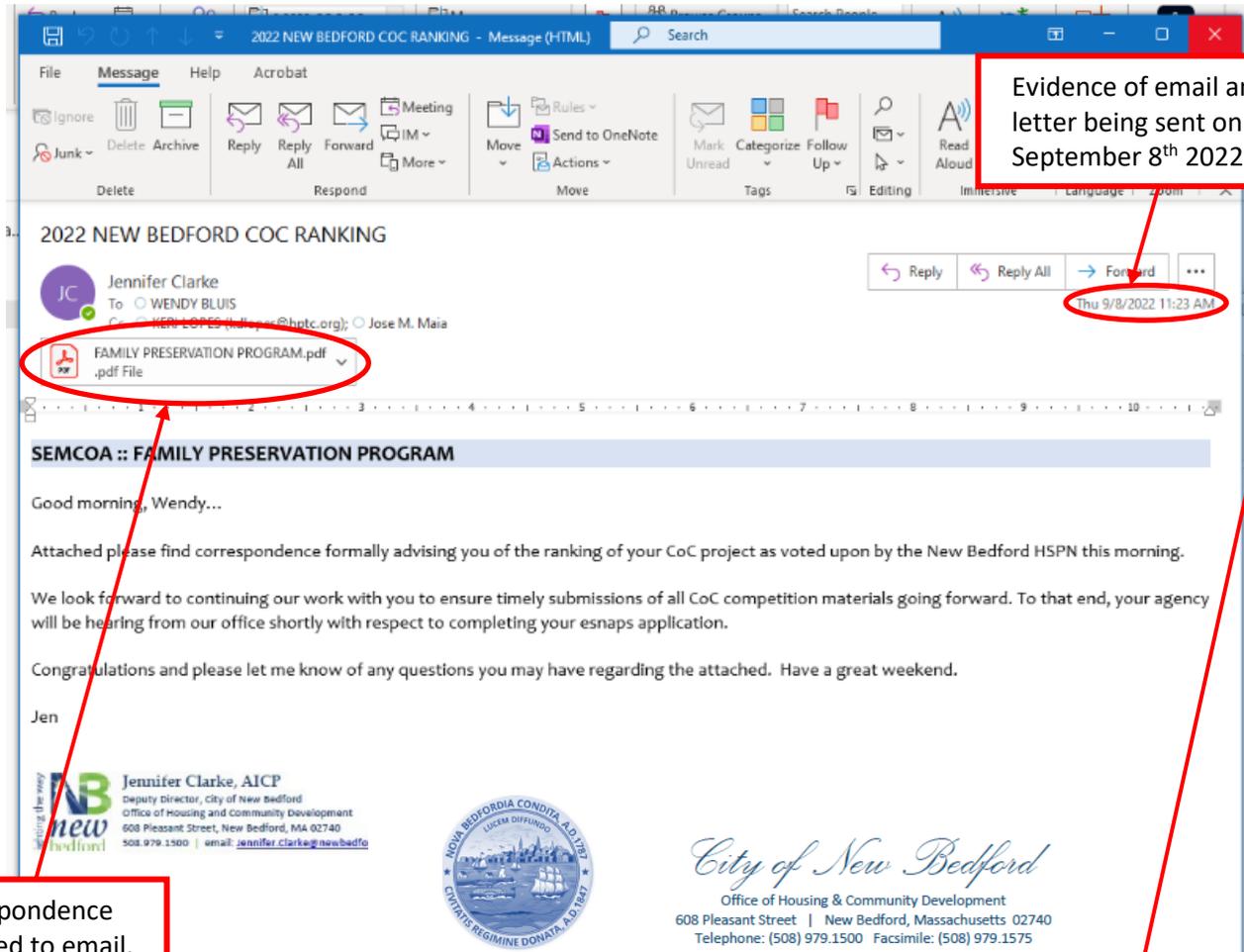
NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

- Evidence of Notifications made for Projects Accepted prior to September 15, 2022.**
Via Correspondence. The New Bedford CoC notified all accepted projects of their acceptance, ranking and scoring on September 8th. It did so by sending a letter to each project applicant attached to an email.

Via Correspondence.

Email and attached letters for each accepted project evidencing notification:



Evidence of email and letter being sent on September 8th 2022.

Thu 9/8/2022 11:23 AM

Correspondence attached to email.

September 8, 2022

Wendy Bluis, Program Director
SEMCOA, Inc.
72 Kilburn Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC NEW EXPANSION PROJECT
FAMILY PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Dear Ms. Bluis:

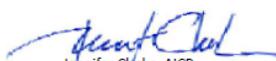
This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was ranked at the September Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting held on Thursday, September 8, 2022.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2022 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 89 was such that the Family Preservation Project ranked as third overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

As a result, SEMCOA's proposed renewal program will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project in Tier 1 at an amount of \$411,708.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at jennifer.clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,


Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director

PLEASE NOTE:
Each of the following pages provides the same pattern of documentation for all accepted projects.

2022 NEW BEDFORD COC RANKING - Message (HTML)

File Message Help Acrobat

Ignore Delete Archive Reply Reply All Forward Meeting IM More Move Send to OneNote Mark Unread Categorize Follow Up Editing Immersive Language Zoom

2022 NEW BEDFORD COC RANKING

Jennifer Clarke
 To: Kathleen Schedler-Clark
 Cc: Susan Bennett; Jackson Nix; DANIELLE BROWN; Jose M. Maia

WELCOME HOME.pdf
 .pdf File

Thu 9/8/2022 11:23 AM

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

STEPPINGSTONE :: WELCOME HOME

Good morning, Kathy...

Attached please find correspondence formally advising you of the ranking of your CoC project as voted upon by the New Bedford HSPN this morning.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure timely submissions of all CoC competition materials going forward. To that end, your agency will be hearing from our office shortly with respect to completing your e-snaps application.

Congratulations and please let me know of any questions you may have regarding the attached. Have a great weekend.

Jen

 **Jennifer Clarke, AICP**
 Deputy Director, City of New Bedford
 Office of Housing and Community Development
 608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 02780
 508.979.1500 | email: jennifer.clarke@newbedford-ma.gov



Lori Moring
 ACTING DIRECTOR

City of New Bedford
 Office of Housing & Community Development
 608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
 Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

September 8, 2022

Kathleen Schedler-Clark, Executive Director
 Steppingstone, Inc.
 522 North Main Street
 Fall River, MA 02720-3509

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC RENEWAL
 WELCOME HOME

Dear Ms. Schedler-Clark:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was ranked at the September Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting held on Thursday, September 8, 2022.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2022 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 84 was such that the Welcome Home Project ranked as fourth overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

As a result, Steppingstone's proposed renewal program will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project in Tier 1 at an amount of \$308,815.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at jennifer.clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,


 Jennifer Clarke, AICP
 Deputy Director

2022 NEW BEDFORD COC RANKING - Message (HTML) Search

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Ignore Delete Archive Reply Reply All Forward Meeting IM More Move Send to OneNote Actions Mark Unread Categorize Follow Up Tags Editing Read Aloud Immersive Reader Translate Zoom

2022 NEW BEDFORD COC RANKING

Jennifer Clarke
 To: calves@paaca.org
 Cc: ACULLEN@PAACA.ORG; Jose M. Maia

Reply Reply All Forward Thu 9/8/2022 11:23 AM

STEP-UP.pdf
 .pdf File

PAACA :: STEP-UP PROGRAM

Good morning, Carl...

Attached please find correspondence formally advising you of the ranking of your CoC project as voted upon by the New Bedford HSPN this morning.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure timely submissions of all CoC competition materials going forward. To that end, your agency will be hearing from our office shortly with respect to completing your e-snaps application.

Congratulations and please let me know of any questions you may have regarding the attached. Have a great weekend.

Jen

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
 Deputy Director, City of New Bedford
 Office of Housing and Community Development
 608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 02740
 508.979.1500 | email: jennifer.clarke@newbedford-ma.gov



City of New Bedford
 Office of Housing & Community Development
 608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
 Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

Lori Moring
 ACTING DIRECTOR

September 8, 2022

Carl J. Alves
 Executive Director
 PAACA, Inc.
 360 Coggeshall Street
 New Bedford, MA 02746

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC RENEWAL
 STEP UP

Dear Mr. Alves:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was ranked at the September Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting held on Thursday, September 8, 2022.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2022 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 81 was such that the Step-Up project ranked as fifth overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

As a result, PAACA's proposed renewal program will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project in Tier 1 at an amount of \$316,917.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at jennifer.clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Clarke
 Jennifer Clarke, AICP
 Deputy Director

2022 NEW BEDFORD COC RANKING - Message (HTML)

File Message Help Acrobat

Ignore Delete Archive Reply Reply All Forward Meeting Move Send to OneNote Mark Unread Categorize Follow Up Read Aloud Immersive Reader Translate Zoom

2022 NEW BEDFORD COC RANKING

Jennifer Clarke
 To: smazzarella@cssdioc.org
 Cc: Happiness Unaka; BEN DARBY; Jose M. Maia

Thu 9/8/2022 11:23 AM

You forwarded this message on 9/8/2022 11:28 AM.

COORDINATED ENTRY.pdf .pdf File
 PRISM.pdf .pdf File
 PORTICO.pdf .pdf File

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES :: COORDINATED ENTRY, PRISM & PORTICO

Good morning, Susan...

Attached please find correspondence formally advising you of the ranking of your three (3) CoC projects as voted upon by the New Bedford HSPN this morning.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure timely submissions of all CoC competition materials going forward. To that end, your agency will be hearing from our office shortly with respect to completing your esnaps applications.

Congratulations and please let me know of any questions you may have regarding the attached. Have a great weekend.

Jen

 Jennifer Clarke, AICP
 Deputy Director, City of New Bedford
 Office of Housing and Community Development
 608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 02740
 508.979.1500 | email: jennifer.clarke@newbedford-ma.gov

 Lori Moring
 ACTING DIRECTOR

City of New Bedford
 Office of Housing & Community Development
 608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
 Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

September 8, 2022

Susan Mazarella, M.A., L.S.W.
 Chief Executive Officer
 Catholic Social Services
 1600 Bay Street
 P.O. Box M/So. Station
 Fall River, MA 02724

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC RENEWAL
 THE CALL (Coordinated Entry)

Dear Ms. Mazarella:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was ranked at the September Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting held on Thursday, September 8, 2022.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2022 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 90 was such that the CALL project ranked as second overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

As a result, CSS' proposed renewal program will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project in Tier 1 at an amount of \$50,000.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at jennifer.clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,


 Jennifer Clarke, AICP
 Deputy Director

This particular project applicant submitted three successful accepted applications. Although each project received a separate letter (above and on the following page), all were attached to a single email.



Lori Moring
ACTING DIRECTOR

City of New Bedford

Office of Housing & Community Development
608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

September 8, 2022

Susan Mazzarella, M.A., L.S.W.
Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Social Services
1600 Bay Street
P.O. Box M/So. Station
Fall River, MA 02724

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC RENEWAL
PRISM

Dear Ms. Mazzarella:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was ranked at the September Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting held on Thursday, September 8, 2022.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2022 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 79 was such that the CALL project ranked as sixth overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

As a result, CSS' proposed renewal program will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project in Tier 1 at an amount of \$132,155

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at jennifer.clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,



Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director



Lori Moring
ACTING DIRECTOR

City of New Bedford

Office of Housing & Community Development
608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

September 8, 2022

Susan Mazzarella, M.A., L.S.W.
Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Social Services
1600 Bay Street
P.O. Box M/So. Station
Fall River, MA 02724

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC RENEWAL
PORTICO

Dear Ms. Mazzarella:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was ranked at the September Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting held on Thursday, September 8, 2022.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2022 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 66 was such that the PORTICO project ranked as seventh overall in the CoC's ranking vote. Given the Tiered system and financing limitations of Tier 1, the PORTICO project will actually straddle Tiers 1 and 2.

As a result, CSS' proposed renewal program will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project where \$624,245 will be included in Tier 1 while the project balance of \$100,966 will be in Tier 2.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at jennifer.clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,



Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director

Attachment 1 E-5c

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Web Posting CoC-Approved Consolidated Application

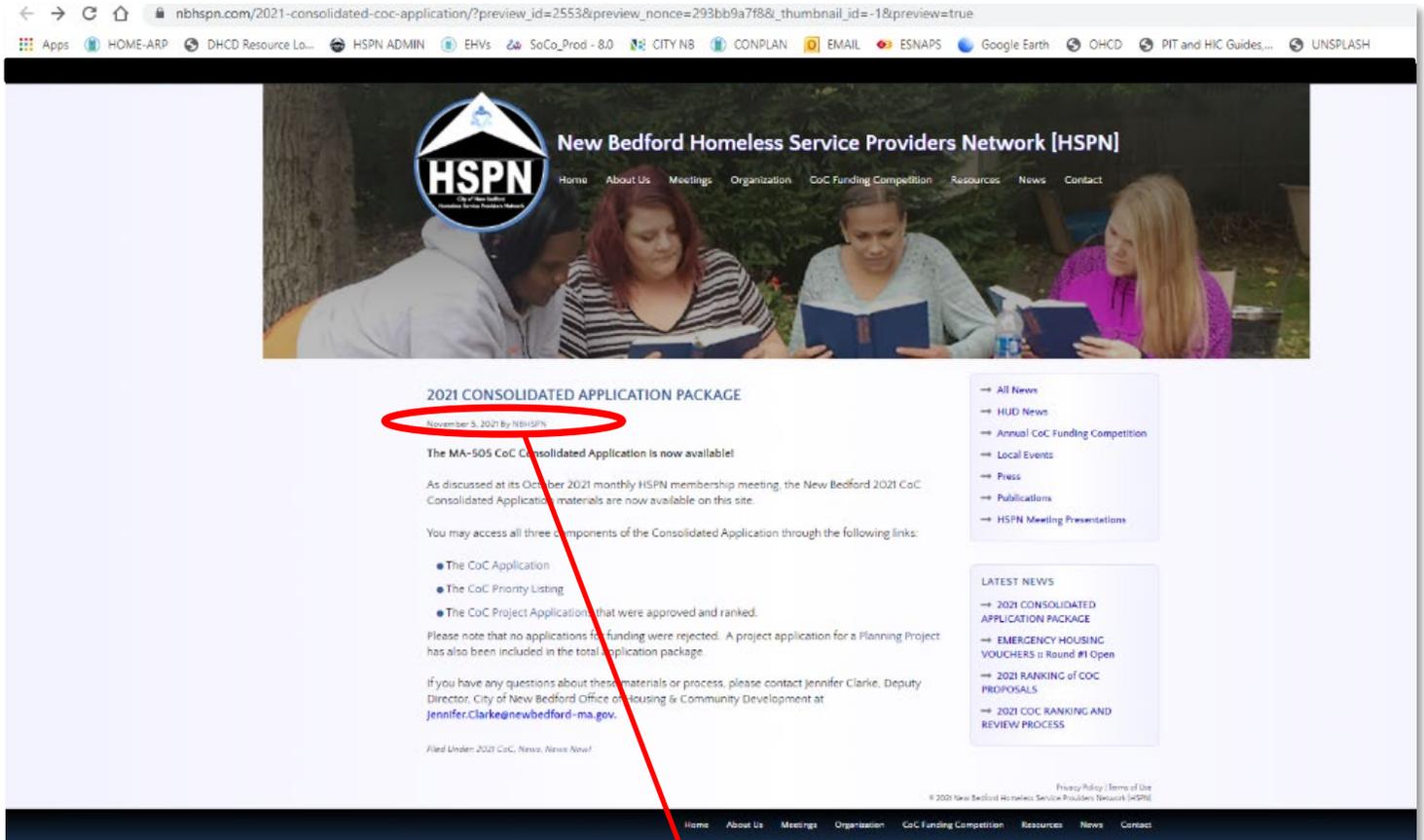
NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

- CoC's Website Posting.** The New Bedford CoC intends on posting its CoC-Approved Consolidated Application and Priority Listing on September 22, 2022 on its www.nbhspn.com website as will be evidenced by the attached.

The CoC's Website: The following is a screenshot of the website posting of the CoC Approved Consolidated Application and Priority Listing.

<https://www.nbhspn.com/2022-consolidated-coc-application/>
(Link and screenshots to be updated after CoC approval)



**CoC APPROVED MATERIALS
POSTED on the COC WEBSITE**

A copy of the final CoC approved Consolidated Application (along with the application attachments, the project priority listing and projects, themselves) were posted to the continuum's website at

<https://www.nbhspn.com/2021-consolidated-coc-application/>
on Thursday, September 22, 2022.

(To be updated after CoC approval)

Attachment 3A-1 a

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Housing Leveraging Commitments

N/A

*There were no new projects submitted for MA-505 CoC this year.
As such, this attachment is not applicable.*

Attachment 3A-2a

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Healthcare Formal Agreements

N/A

*There were no new projects submitted for MA-505 CoC this year.
As such, this attachment is not applicable.*

Attachment 3C-2

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Project List for Other Federal Statutes

N/A

This attachment was not applicable.

Attachment 1 E-2

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Local Competition Scoring Tool

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

- The Scoring Tool the New Bedford CoC used in its local competition to score new and renewal ranked projects for all project application types.** The attached includes:
 - ☒ The maximum points available for each project
 - ☒ The maximum points available for objective criteria for the project application. These included: housing first, severity of barriers, chronic homelessness and leveraging of mainstream resources for new projects, and performance relative to housing stability, returns to homelessness, earned income and non-employment cash income for renewal projects.
 - ☒ The maximum points available for system performance criteria for the project application. These included: previously cited items (housing stability, returns to homelessness, etc.)
 - ☒ The maximum points available for projects that addressed specific severe barriers to housing and services. The scoring tool included points for severity of barriers.
 - ☒ No Victim Service Providers submitted applications in this round.

The Scoring Tool the New Bedford CoC used in its local competition to score new and renewal ranked projects for all project application types.

Scoring

New Projects

Consideration for funding of new projects funded out of the CoC Bonus and/or including those created as a result of reallocation, will be based on the following performance objectives:

- ☐ Agency Experience and Capacity (20 point maximum)
- ☐ Project Quality (40 point maximum)
- ☐ Match Resources (20 point maximum)
- ☐ Fiscal Management (20 point maximum)

New projects may score up to 100 points maximum based on information provided in the application including attachments of required materials. Specific scoring criteria for new projects is as follows:

NOTE:
Information about the maximum points available v. actual points awarded for both new and renewal projects was included in Appendix B “CoC Application Selection Process, Scoring, Ranking and Reallocation Process 2022” of the publicly issued RFP.

Scoring Criteria :: New Projects	
STANDARDS AND SCORING	MAX POINTS
<p>Agency Experience and Capacity. Applicants demonstrating extensive experience in administering HUD or other federal funds and providing the proposed service and/or serving the proposed population will receive 20 points.</p>	20
<p>Project Quality. Each application will be scored on the overall quality of the project, and the extent to which the applicant can clearly demonstrate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Housing First (10 points)</u>: Applicants may receive up to 10 points based on the extent to which the new Bonus project will follow a Housing First model/low barrier approach. ▪ <u>Chronic Homeless (8 points)</u> Projects serving at least 100% of beds dedicated to chronic homeless will receive 10 points. ▪ <u>Severity of Barriers (3 points)</u>: For those projects where at least 70% of its participants are identified as having substance use disorders and/or mental health issues will receive 3 points. ▪ <u>Mainstream Services (4 points)</u>: Applicants may receive up to 4 points based on the extent to which the project is fully leveraging mainstream resources for supportive services. ▪ <u>Low Barrier (5 points)</u>: Projects demonstrating low barriers to program admission and flexible participation policies designed to retain program participants will receive 5 points. ▪ <u>Homeless Lived Experience (5 points)</u>: Applicants may receive up to 5 points based on the extent to which the agency authentically incorporates those currently experiencing homelessness or with lived experience into decision-making. ▪ <u>Racial Equity (5 points)</u>: Projects demonstrating initiatives consistent with racial equity and the equity of those historically marginalized may receive up to 5 points. 	40
<p>Match Resources. Projects demonstrating ability to match the required HUD 25% match will receive 20 points.</p>	20

NOTE:
Severity of Barriers and points available were identified in the scoring tool.

NOTE:
Information about the maximum points available for objective criteria was included in Appendix B “CoC Application Selection Process, Scoring, Ranking and Reallocation Process 2022” of the publicly issued RFP. **This is the example for new projects.**

Fiscal Management. To receive maximum points, applicants must demonstrate history of financial stability, including prompt expenditure of program funds, and no outstanding audit or HUD monitoring findings.	20
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS for NEW PROJECTS	
100	

Renewal Projects

Consideration for funding of renewal projects, including those created as a result of reallocation, will be based on the submitted application, previous APR reporting, HMIS, the HUD LOCCS system and any other monitoring conducted by the OHCD and/or HUD using the following performance objectives:

- ☐ Performance (70 point maximum)
- ☐ Data Quality (10 point maximum)
- ☐ Fiscal Management (10 point maximum)
- ☐ Narrative Responses #3-6 (10 point maximum)

In addition to these scored elements, all renewal projects will be expected to satisfy additional evaluation criteria noted within this section. Renewal projects may score up to 100 points maximum based on information provided in the application including attachments of required materials. Specific scoring criteria for renewal projects is as follows:

NOTE:
System Performance criteria was included as scoring criteria.
Example: item #2 required data as to returns to homelessness.

Scoring Criteria :: Renewal Projects		SCORING	MAX POINTS
GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD		
1. Housing Stability <i>Persons residing in permanent housing exited to another form of a permanent housing destination.</i> Goal 85%	<u>Based on APR Q1 & Q23c</u> <i>The % of persons who exited to permanent housing destinations as of the end of the operating year.</i>	≥85%=10 80%-84%= 7 65%-79%= 4 55%-64%= 2 ≤54%= 0	10
2. Returns to Homelessness <i>Persons exiting permanent housing will not return to homelessness (Including Transitional Housing)</i> Goal <10%	<u>Based on APR Q1 & Q23c</u> <i>The % of persons in the PSH program returning to homelessness shall be less than 10%.</i>	<0% - <2% =10 <3% - <5% = 7 <6% - <8% = 4 <9% =2 <10%= 0	10
3. Earned Income - Stayers <i>Adult stayers will increase earned income (employment income).</i> Goal 10%	<u>Based on APR Q19a1 - Adults with Earned Income</u> <i>The % of persons ages 18 or older staying in the program who increased their income (employment income) as of the latest annual assessment.</i>	≥10%= 5 9%-7%= 4 6%-4%= 3 3%-2%= 2 ≤1%= 0	5
4. Non-Employment Cash Income - Stayers <i>Adult stayers will increase non-employment cash income (mainstream resources).</i> Goal 40%	<u>Based on APR Q19a1 - Adults with Other Income</u> <i>The % of persons ages 18 or older staying in the program who increased their non-employment cash income (mainstream resources) as of the latest annual assessment.</i>	≥40%= 5 39%-30%= 4 29%-20%= 3 19%-10%= 2 ≤9%= 0	5
5. Earned Income - Leavers <i>Adult leavers will increase earned income (employment income).</i> Goal 20%	<u>Based on APR Q19a2 - Adults with Earned Income</u> <i>The % of persons ages 18 or older leaving the program (employment income)</i>	≥20%= 5 14%-19%= 4 7%-13%= 3	5

NOTE:
Information about the maximum points awarded for objective criteria was included in Appendix B “CoC Application Selection Process, Scoring, Ranking and Reallocation Process 2022” of the publicly issued RFP. **This is the example for renewal projects.**

6. Non-Employment Cash Income - leavers <i>Adult leavers will increase non-employment cash income (mainstream resources).</i> Goal 50%	<u>Based on APR Q19a2 - Adults with Other Income</u> <i>The % of persons ages 18 or older leaving the program who increased their non-employment cash income (mainstream resources) by program exit.</i>	$\geq 50\% = 5$ $49\%-40\% = 4$ $39\%-30\% = 3$ $30\%-20\% = 2$ $\leq 19\% = 0$	5
7. Utilization Rate - Beds <i>Program operates at full capacity, with low vacancy rate, and quickly fill vacancies.</i> Goal 90%	<u>Based on APR Q8b</u> <i>Average quarterly utilization rate during the operating year.</i>	$\geq 90\% = 15$ $70\%-89\% = 10$ $51\%-69\% = 5$ $\leq 50\% = 0$	15
8. Date Quality <i>Agency's thoroughness in ensuring all data is collected and entered into HMIS.</i> Goal = No Omissions	<u>Based on APR Q2, Q3, Q4, Q5</u>	$0 \text{ oms} = 10$ $1\%-10\% = 6$ $11\%-20\% = 4$ $21\% > = 0$	10
9. Chronic Homeless - Persons <i>Persons who are chronically homeless by household</i> Goal 100%	<u>Based on APR Q26b</u> <i>The # of chronically homeless persons divided by the total number of persons served.</i>	Prorated up to 15 points for 100% of CH Beds.	15
10. Fiscal Management <i>Complete and timely drawdown of funds.</i> Goal = 100% Drawdown	<u>Based on HUD LOCS</u>	$0\% = 10$ $1\%-5\% = 8$ $6\%-10\% = 5$ $10\% > = 0$	10
11. Narrative Responses. Applicant responses to narrative responses #3, #4, #5 and #6 will each be scored with a cumulative total of 10 points possible.		Up to 2.5 points per question possible	10
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS			100

Additional Evaluation Criteria

Renewal projects will also be evaluated based on the following baseline criteria. Subrecipients that fail that meet these required criteria will lose points.

Additional Evaluation Criteria
Agency Experience and Capacity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Administration:</u> Applicants demonstrating extensive experience in administering HUD or other federal funds and providing the proposed service and/or serving.
Fiscal Management. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Applicants must demonstrate history of financial stability, including prompt expenditure of program funds, and no outstanding audit or HUD monitoring findings.
Project Quality. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Housing First:</u> Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the Permanent Supportive Housing Bonus project will follow a Housing First model/low barrier approach. ▪ <u>Mainstream Services:</u> Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the project is fully leveraging mainstream resources for supportive services. ▪ <u>Low Barrier:</u> Projects must demonstrate low barriers to program admission and flexible participation policies designed to retain program participants. ▪ <u>Consistency of Program:</u> Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the project's performance is consistent against plans and goals established in the application.

Attachment 1E-2a

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Scored Forms for One Project

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

- Scored Forms for One Project.** Attached is a copy of the Family Preservation Program Score Sheet.

The attached, typed version (for legibility) reflects scoring for a PSH project ranked as third by the New Bedford CoC.



CoC FY22 RENEWAL PROJECT SCORE SHEET

AGENCY NAME:	SEMCOA
PROJECT NAME:	The Family Preservation Program

BED / UNIT COMPOSITION

Program Year	Program Type	Beds	Units	Families	Individuals
September 1, 2023 - August 30, 2024	PSH	62	20	X	

BUDGET SUMMARY

Total Fund Requested	Leasing	Supportive Services	Operations	Admin	Match
\$411,708	\$293,949	\$62,056	\$24,583	\$31,120	\$29,440

CLIENTS SERVED PROFILE

Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Total Households	Total Leavers	Total Stayers	Total Chronic Homeless
52	25	26	17	6	46	39

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Family Preservation Program is a scattered site Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program that serves families with children experiencing chronic homelessness with a least one member of the household having a disability and a substance use disorder. The program receives referrals through coordinated entry and all clients are scored using the SPDAT. The program does not have any barriers to entry and uses a Housing First Model. Each family receives supportive services through comprehensive case management. The case manager collaborates with the participant to develop an Individual Service Plan and sets goals and needs such as employment, education, life skills. Also, each family is connected to mainstream resource benefits and health insurance. FPP partners with outside agencies such as the Department of Children and Families to provide a smooth transition for those families who are reunifying with their children, the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission to provide job training and/or education, and multiple resources in the community that provide outpatient counseling and support. FPP participants are assisted in applying for subsidized housing such as Section 8 and many obtain vouchers that allow them to move on to more permanent housing.

DATA STANDARDS/NARRATIVES

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	% ACHIEVED	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED
1. Housing Stability Persons residing in permanent housing exited to another form of a permanent housing destination. Goal 85%	<u>Based on Q1 & Q23c</u> <i>The % of persons who exited to permanent housing destinations as of the end of the operating year.</i>	100%	Goal Achieved - 6 persons exited to permanent destinations.	10
2. Returns to Homelessness Persons exiting permanent housing will not return to homelessness (Including Transitional Housing) Goal <10%	<u>Based on Q1 & Q23c</u> <i>The % of persons in the PSH program returning to homelessness shall be less than 10%.</i>	0%	Goal Achieved - 0 persons exited to homelessness.	10
3. Earned Income- Stayers Adult stayers will increase earned income (employment income). Goal 10%	<u>Based on Q19a1</u> <i>The % of persons ages 18 or older staying in the program who increased their income (employment income) as of the latest annual assessment.</i>	32%	Goal Achieved - 6 out of 19 persons gained or increased earned income for adult stayers.	5
4. Non-Employment Cash Income- Stayers Adult stayers will increase non-employment cash income (mainstream resources). Goal 40%	<u>Based on Q19a1</u> <i>The % of persons ages 18 or older staying in the program who increased their non-employment cash income (mainstream resources) as of the latest annual assessment.</i>	53%	Goal Achieved - 10 out of 19 persons gained or increased non-employment cash income for adult stayers.	5
5. Earned Income- Leavers- Adult leavers will increase earned income (employment income). Goal: 20%	<u>Based on Q19a2</u> <i>The % of persons ages 18 or older leaving the program who increased their income (employment income) by program exit.</i>	33%	Goal Achieved - 1 out of 3 persons gained or increased earned income for adult leavers.	5
6. Non-Employment Cash Income- Leavers- Adult leavers will increase non-employment cash income (mainstream resources). Goal: 50%	<u>Based on Q19a2</u> <i>The % of persons ages 18 or older leaving the program who increased their non-employment cash income (mainstream resources) by program exit.</i>	33%	Goal Not Achieved - 1 out of 3 persons gained or increased non-employment cash income for adult leavers.	3

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	% ACHIEVED	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED
7. Utilization Rate - Beds Program operates at full capacity, with low vacancy rate, and quickly fill vacancies. Goal: 90%	<u>Based on Q8b</u> Average quarterly utilization rate during the operating year.	95%	Goal Achieved - Program operates at full capacity with low vacancy rates.	15
8. Data Quality - Agency's thoroughness in ensuring all data is collected and entered into HMIS. Goal = No Omissions	<u>Based on Data Quality Report</u> (Q2, 3, 4, 5)	12%	Goal Not Achieved - Program had DQ errors associated with Relationship to HOH (1.92%), Date of Birth (5.77%) and Income & Sources at Annual (5%).	4
9. Chronic Homeless Persons - Persons who are chronically homeless by household Goal = 100%	<u>Based on APR Q26b</u> The # of chronically homeless persons divided by the total number of persons served.	75%	Goal Not Achieved - Out of 51 persons, 39 were chronically homeless.	12
10. Fiscal Management - Complete and timely drawdown of funds. Goal = 100% Drawdown	<u>Based on HUD LOCS</u> <u>FY19 Allocation Amount</u>	100%	Goal Achieved - All funds drawdown in a timely manner.	10
11. Narrative Responses - Applicant responses to narrative responses #3, #4, #5 and #6 will each be scored with a cumulative total of 10 points possible.			Applicant provided detailed responses to each RFP question that met or exceeded the expectations by category.	10
TOTAL POINTS AWARDED				89

GENERAL COMMENTS

Annual Performance Report Analysis

- Program met anticipated outputs relative to numbers served.
- Submission: In FY19, the APR was submitted on time and within the 90-day HUD requirement.
- In FY19, all funds were drawn down. However, reimbursements are not submitted in a timely manner.
- Of the 8 performance standards for PSH projects—the subrecipient achieved 6 of 8 goals. Goals not achieved included Non-Cash Income - Leavers. Only 1 out of 3 adults increased or gained earned income for leavers. In terms of Data Quality, the program had some data quality issues related to

Relationship of Head of Household, Date of Birth and income sources at annual assessment. The data quality issues were primarily impacted by one client.

Financial Analysis

- All reimbursement requests were not submitted in a timely manner only because an amendment was required which inadvertently delayed submission of reimbursement requests. Further, there was an issue with the transfer of the Ingraham Place property that also delayed payment.
- The subrecipient recently submitted an amendment request on 7/1/21. They moved \$9,298 from leasing to supportive services. Amendment has been approved.
- Based on projections, it is anticipated that all FY20 funds will be expended.
- Program has not returned any funds to HUD in the last 4 years.

ADDITIONAL EVALUATION CRITERIA QUESTIONS	COMMENTS
<p>Agency Experience and Capacity. <u>Administration:</u> Applicants demonstrating extensive experience in administering HUD or other federal funds and providing the proposed service and/or serving.</p>	<p>Agency has extensive and excellent history administering HUD based programs.</p>
<p>Fiscal Management. Applicants must demonstrate history of financial stability, including prompt expenditure of program funds, and no outstanding audit or HUD monitoring findings.</p>	<p>Applicant has history of overall financial stability. No concerns noted in either audit or HUD monitoring.</p>
<p>Project Quality.</p>	
<p><u>Housing First:</u> Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the Permanent Supportive Housing Bonus project will follow a Housing First model/low barrier approach.</p>	<p>Applicant described how they would follow the Housing First model and how to address any barriers.</p>
<p><u>Mainstream Services:</u> Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the project is fully leveraging mainstream resources for supportive services.</p>	<p>Applicant demonstrated history and extent of obtaining mainstream resources to clients.</p>
<p><u>Low Barrier:</u> Projects must demonstrate low barriers to program admission and flexible participation policies designed to retain program participants.</p>	<p>All Applicants are required to follow HUD’s low barrier for entry requirement.</p>
<p><u>Consistency of Program:</u> Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the project’s performance is consistent against plans and goals established in the application.</p>	<p>Applicants project performance is consistent with plans and goals established in the previous renewal applications.</p>

SUMMARY REVIEW

- Overall, the Program continues to perform well and is meeting all required goals and objectives.
- Similar to other CoC Programs, they are experiencing challenges with the COVID Pandemic. For example, they continue to have difficulty finding housing for new clients that meets HQS and FMR.
- Finding new rental units will be a serious challenge for this upcoming program year. The program has received an expansion grant and will be increasing the number of units and beds for the program.
- Program does not have any staffing or programmatic related issues.
- Only issue identified was related to the change of ownership at Ingraham Place. The uncertainty of the new ownership created some confusion that has since been remedied and had no effect on service delivery.
- The subrecipient has experienced some HMIS challenges addressing data quality and merging / unmerging families but these were Continuum-wide and a function of the HMIS software system. Both issues have been addressed. The subrecipient has indicated an interest in additional HMIS training.

Attachment 1E-5b

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Final Project Scores for All Projects

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

- Evidence of Postings of Final Project Scores.** Screenshot of website posting of the final project scores voted on by the Continuum of Care on September 8, 2022.
- Screenshot of the published ranking results sheet, itself.**

2. Screenshot of the published Final Project Ranking results

RANKING RESULTS on COC WEBSITE
 Ranking results along with information about the competition were posted on the CoC's website as a link (as noted on the preceding page) on **September 8, 2022**.
 The September 12, 2022 date reflects the date this screenshot was taken.

FY2022 COC RANK AND ORDER OF PROJECTS				
RANK	ACCEPTED PROJECTS/NAME	PROJECT TYPE	SCORE	FUNDING
1	HMIS NEW BEDFORD <i>City of New Bedford</i>	HMIS	91	\$ 74,524
2	COORDINATED ENTRY <i>Catholic Social Services</i>	SSO	90	\$ 50,000
3	FAMILY PRESERVATION PROGR <i>SEMCOA</i>	PSH	89	\$ 411,708
4	WELCOME HOME <i>Steppingstone</i>	PSH	84	\$ 308,815
5	STEP-UP <i>JBACA</i>	PSH	81	\$ 316,917
6	PRISM <i>Catholic Social Services</i>	PSH	79	\$ 132,155
7	PORTICO <i>Catholic Social Services</i>	PSH	66	\$ 624,245
TOTAL TIER 1				\$1,918,364
8	PORTICO <i>Catholic Social Services</i>	PSH	66	\$ 100,966
TOTAL TIER 2				\$ 100,966
New Bedford Preliminary Pro Rate Need				\$ 2,086,299
New Bedford Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)				\$ 2,019,330
Amount Available for Tier 1				\$ 1,918,364
Total Amount Being Requested for Tier 1				\$ 1,918,364
Difference Between ARD and Tier 1				\$ 100,966
Amount Available for CoC Bonus				\$ 104,315
Amount Available for Tier 2				\$ 205,281
Amount Available for DV Bonus				\$ 208,630
Amount Available for Tier 2 plus DV Bonus				\$ 413,911
Total Amount Being Requested for Tier 2 plus DV Bonus				\$ 100,966
Unranked: Planning Grant				\$ 62,589

NOTES:

- All applications received were accepted and ranked; no projects were rejected.
- Ranked projects were scored, rated and ranked according to the New Bedford CoC's Ranking and Review process outlined in the FY2022 RFP and made available at www.nbcjpa.com.
- In accordance with the 2022 CoC NOFO, the ranking followed a two-tier system such that Tier 1 = 95% of the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) and Tier 2 = the difference between Tier 1 and the max amount of renewal, reallocation and CoC Bonus funds the CoC can apply for (excluding the Planning Grant).
- The amount of funding available for a permanent housing bonus in this 2022 round was \$104,315.
- The amount of funding available for a DV Bonus project in this 2022 round was \$208,630.
- The CoC intends to submit a planning grant in the 2022 round that will, in accordance with the 2022 CoC NOFO, remain unranked.

2:59 PM
9/12/2022

Attachment 1 E-5

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment addresses:

- Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced.** The New Bedford CoC did not reject or reduce any project(s) in the 2022 Competition.

All projects received (all renewals; no new projects or bonus projects were received), were approved with full funding according to the GIW amounts.

Attachment 1E-5d

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

- Evidence of Notification of Posting of the CoC-Approved Consolidated Application.**
Attached to the final version will be screenshots demonstrating the notification of posting via multiple sources via:
 1. Listserve mailing
 2. Facebook Posting
 3. Twitter Posting

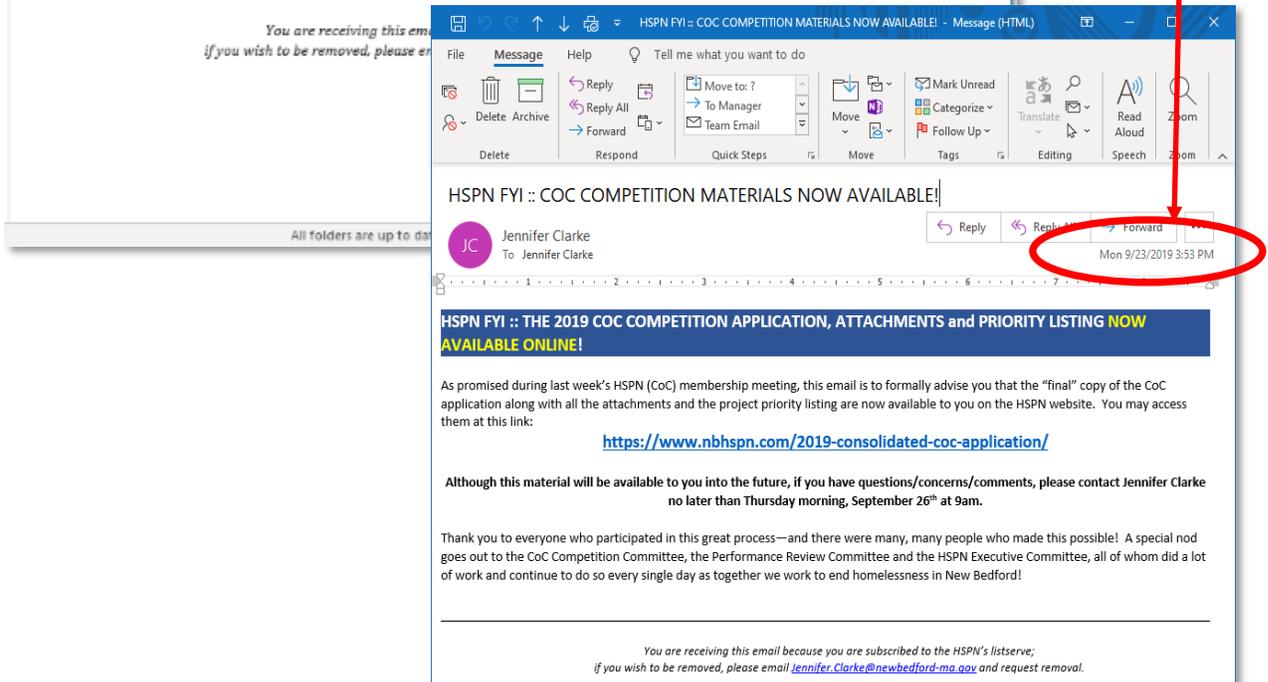
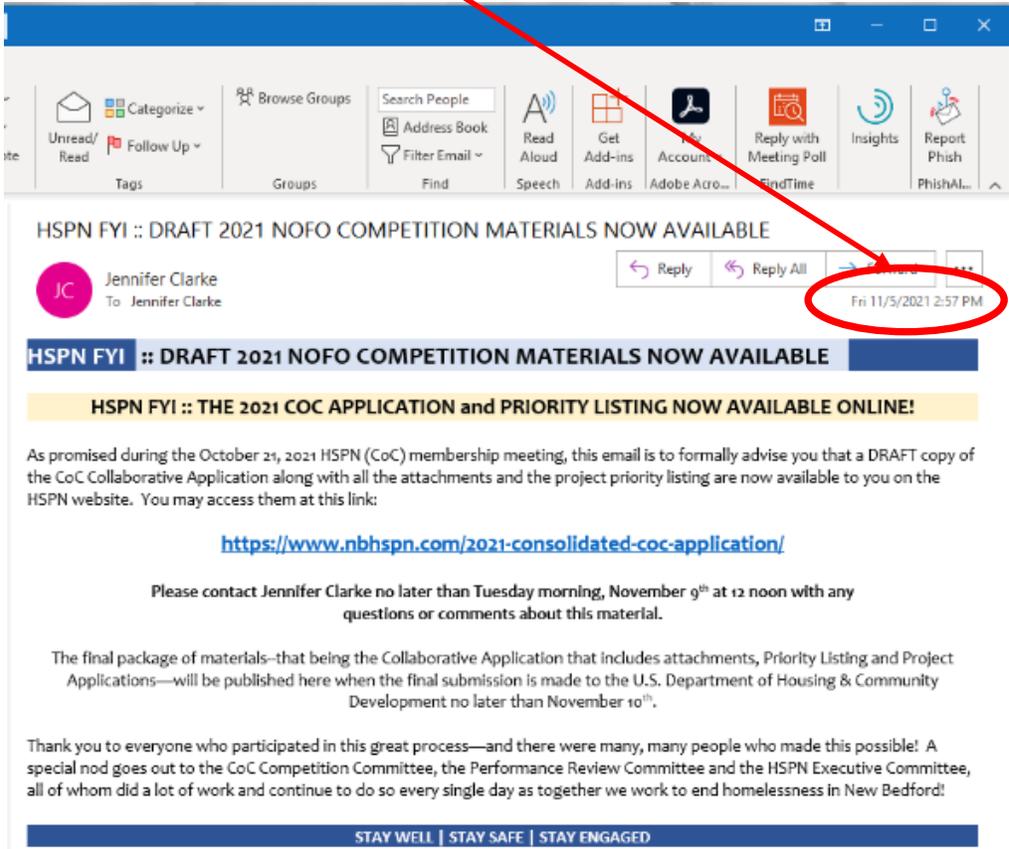
All postings will be made on September 22, 2022 and will note that the CoC had approved of the Consolidated Application. This post date will follow NOFO requirements.

The final version submitted to HUD will reflect documentation of the final mailing to the CoC regarding the final CoC approved application.

1. A Listserve mailing to the CoC Community.

These two screenshots demonstrate that stakeholders were alerted as to the availability of both the DRAFT and FINAL versions of the Consolidated Application and Priority Listing posted on the CoC's website.

The initial email (DRAFT Materials) was sent on Monday, September 19, 2022; the second (FINAL CoC-Approved Materials) email was sent on Thursday, September 22, 2022; the mailing list in both instances was blind copied for privacy but has over two hundred people, a significant number given the small CoC size, overall.



2. A Facebook Posting on the CoC's Facebook Page.

Notice as to the availability of the CoC-approved Consolidated Application was made on the CoC's Facebook page on September 22, 2022.



3. A Twitter Posting via the CoC's Twitter Account.

Notice as to the availability of the CoC-approved Consolidated Application was made through the CoC's Twitter account on September 22, 2022.

