Ohio Balance of State Continuum of Care
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
Updated Guidance Available

Purpose of this Listserv Message
This message informs CoC members of the availability of guidance documents related to COVID-19 preparedness.

Target Audience
All homeless assistance projects in the Ohio BoSCoC.

COVID-19 Planning and Response Guidance for Ohio BoSCoC Providers

On a recent webinar, HUD staff provided additional information about their efforts to provide more flexibility for ESG and CoC Program grantees, including the following:
1. Using electronic records and electronic signatures
    a. HUD continues to permit providers to maintain electronic client records
    b. When documents require client signature, HUD is permitting providers to use tools like DocuSign or taking photos of signed documents and uploading images to client records
2. When signatures cannot be obtained
    a. HUD encourages providers to use their best judgement and case worker observation in conjunction with client self-certification of items such as income and homeless status, when those cannot be obtained from third party sources. Providers should have a plan and protocol for following up to obtain missing documentation as soon as practicable.

HUD also communicated that they are currently working on a 'Mega Waiver' that will provide grantees with relief from certain requirements upon a finding of good cause. HUD hopes to release the waiver soon.

You can find the recording of the HUD webinar where they addressed questions related to unit inspections, obtaining client signatures, etc. here.

All Ohio BoSCoC guidance related to COVID-19 preparedness can be found at
https://cohhio.org/boscoc/covid19/

Questions can be directed to Erica Mulryan, COHHIO, at ericamulryan@cohhio.org.