

OHIO
Balance of State
Continuum of Care

Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness Funding Opportunity: Work Session

Ohio Balance of State CoC

August 3, 2022

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

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Zoom Information

Mute your audio when not talking.


Use the chat feature or unmute to submit questions.

Slides will be posted to COHHIO's website.

This information session is being recorded.

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HMIS

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Agenda

1. Overview of Funding Opportunity
2. New Project Opportunities and Process
3. Eligible Costs and Program Requirements

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Overview of Funding Opportunity

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), supplemental to the CoC Program NOFO
 - First time HUD has released this NOFO
 - Funding should be renewable

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Overview of Funding Opportunity

- Purpose is to address unsheltered and rural homelessness
- HUD will award funding to communities to implement coordinated approaches to reduce the prevalence of unsheltered homelessness, and improve services engagement, health outcomes, and housing stability among highly vulnerable unsheltered individuals and families

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Overview of Funding Opportunity

Funding Availability

- Unsheltered Set-Aside = \$267,500,000
- Rural Set-Aside = \$54,500,000

Max Funding Available for Ohio BoSCoC

- Unsheltered Set-Aside = \$22,002,793 (\$7.3m annual)
- Rural Set-Aside = \$13,857,602 (\$4.6m annual)

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Overview of Funding Opportunity

- Rural Areas defined by HUD in Ohio BoSCoC (in blue)



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HUD Policy Priorities

- Address and reduce unsheltered homelessness
- Address and reduce unsheltered homelessness and homelessness among those with severe service needs in rural areas, especially rural areas with no CoC Program funded projects
- Provide assistance on tribal lands
- Involve a broad array of stakeholders in the CoC effort to reduce homelessness
- Advance equity
- Use a Housing First approach

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HUD Requirements for Applicants and CoCs

- Project applications must be submitted by the CoC, as part of the larger application package
- Develop a CoC Plan that outlines strategies for addressing unsheltered homelessness and homelessness among those with most severe needs in rural communities
- Incorporate People with Lived Experience of homelessness (PLE) into decision-making processes
- Submit project applications that align with the CoC's Plan and advance HUD's policy priorities, including leveraging mainstream housing and healthcare resources

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New Project Opportunities

Eligible Applicants

- Any non-profit or governmental entity in good standing
- Must be registered with SAM.gov
- Must have basic understanding of CoC Program and experience administering homelessness programs or ability to partner with an experienced provider

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New Project Opportunities

Eligible Project Types

- Rapid Re-Housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Supportive Services Only (SSO) for Coordinated Entry or Street Outreach
- Joint Transitional Housing – Rapid Re-Housing

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New Project Opportunities

Eligible Activities/Costs

- Rental Assistance
- Leasing
- Operations
- Supportive Services
- HMIS

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New Project Opportunities

Rural Set-Aside – Additional Eligible Activities/Costs

- Rent or utility assistance after 2 months of nonpayment to prevent eviction or loss of service; up to 6 months
- Short term emergency lodging in motels or shelters (not existing shelter beds)
- Repairs to make housing habitable to be used as transitional or permanent housing for homeless. Total costs may not exceed \$10,000 per structure
- Capacity building activities
 - Employee education, job training, staff retention activities such as financial incentives, continuing ed opportunities, professional development opps
 - Up to 20% of total request can be for capacity building activities
- Emergency food and clothing assistance
- Costs associated with using Federal Inventory property programs to house homeless households

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New Project Opportunities

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

- Time-limited rental assistance paired with supportive services as necessary to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing
- Pros – very cost effective, evidence-based practice, can be tailored to individual need
- Cons – depends on private rental market for units
- Strategy ideas – negotiate agreement with local landlord to ensure ongoing access to units; use master leases; develop robust landlord engagement plan; fund/create Housing position focused exclusively on landlord recruitment and relationships

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New Project Opportunities

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

- Non-time limited Permanent housing paired with supportive services to assist homeless persons with a disability to live independently.
- Pros –evidence-based practice, good at meeting needs for those with most severe needs and homeless histories, can provide project-based or tenant-based assistance
- Cons – is more expensive b/c clients receive assistance longer; if tenant-based, relies on private rental market
- Strategy ideas – partner with housing authority to identify a building and/or project-based vouchers to ensure access to housing units; master lease

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New Project Opportunities

Supportive Services Only – Street Outreach (SSO-SO)

- Services to engage with people experiencing unsheltered homelessness focused on bringing them into shelter and housing.
- Pros – outreach is critical to engaging those who are not seeking services
- Cons – must have housing units and partner agencies lined up to ensure quick access to housing
- Strategy ideas – if sufficient housing resources locally, develop plan for how unsheltered will be quickly connected to housing following CE processes; submit a companion application for a permanent housing project with target pop of unsheltered

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New Project Opportunities

Joint Transitional Housing – Rapid Re-Housing (Joint TH-RRH)

- Time-limited housing with supportive services to address immediate need for crisis housing/shelter, paired with RRH assist to move clients into permanent housing as quickly as possible.
- Pros – Can provide crisis response resources in communities with no shelter; provides funding for both crisis response and housing
- Cons – applicants have to identify building/units for TH component; relies on private rental market for housing
- Strategy ideas – negotiate agreement with local landlord to ensure ongoing access to units; use master leases either for TH or RRH component; develop robust landlord engagement plan; fund/create Housing position focused exclusively on landlord recruitment and relationships

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New Project Opportunities: Advancing HUD's Priorities

- Address and reduce unsheltered homelessness
- Address and reduce unsheltered homelessness and homelessness among those with severe service needs in rural areas, especially rural areas with no CoC Program funded projects
- Provide assistance on tribal lands
- Involve a broad array of stakeholders in the CoC effort to reduce to reduce homelessness
- Advance equity
- Use a Housing First approach

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Is this Funding Opportunity Right for You?

- Does your organization serve a 'rural' county?
- Does your local data indicate high numbers of unsheltered homelessness and/or a high numbers of persons experiencing homelessness with severe needs?
- Does your organization have experience with the eligible project types and/or federal funding?
- Can you identify a housing or services partner who can bring units or services to the project?
- Are you committed to advancing equity?
- Do you understand how to implement Housing First practices across all aspects of a project?
- Do you have a strategy for ensuring access to housing units?

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Is this Funding Opportunity Right for You?

Leveraging mainstream housing programs example

- Local PHA commits rental assistance or project-based units for PSH project and nonprofit provider commits to provision of supportive services to participants. In this partnership, project application could include a funding request from the nonprofit provider for supportive services costs, since the housing is being provided by the PHA

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Is this Funding Opportunity Right for You?

Leveraging mainstream healthcare programs example

- Local behavioral healthcare organization commits to providing in-kind supportive services to clients in PSH or RRH project, and non-profit partner provides housing assistance. In this partnership, the project application could include a funding request from the nonprofit housing provider for rental assistance, since the supportive services are being provided by the behavioral healthcare organization
- Local managed care organization (MCO) provides cash grant to pay for supportive services to a nonprofit provider who is developing housing units. In this partnership, the project application could include a funding request from the nonprofit housing provider for rental assistance, since the supportive services costs are being paid for by the MCO

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Is this Funding Opportunity Right for You?

Competitiveness in the Unsheltered Set-Aside

- HUD's priority is CoCs with largest numbers of unsheltered homeless
- HUD will award up to 30 bonus points to CoCs based on unsheltered numbers from 2019 PIT data
 - 37 CoCs are eligible for 10 bonus points
 - 5 CoCs are eligible for 20 bonus points
 - 1 CoC is eligible for 30 bonus points
 - The Ohio BoSCoC will receive 0 bonus points
- May only be enough funding for to 15 CoCs

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Submission Process

- Submit Letter of Interest providing preliminary project information by 8/12/22
 - Use Ohio BoSCoC template
- Submit Project Proposal form by 9/2/22
 - PP collects more detailed information and will be used by CoC team to make project selections and determine rank order
- Approved projects submit formal application in e-snaps by 10/1/22

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Timeline

Date	Activity
7/27/22	Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness Funding Opportunity Info Session
8/12/22	Letters of Interest due
9/2/22	Project Proposals due
9/20/22	CoC Team communicates project selection and ranking decisions
10/1/22	Approved projects submit applications in e-snaps
10/20/22	Consolidated Application and project listings submitted to HUD in e-snaps

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Eligible Costs and Requirements

- Rental Assistance
 - Costs and Requirements
 - May pay for time-limited or long-term rent
 - Can provide tenant, sponsor, project-based assistance
 - If grantee owns or manages the units themselves, a third party must do inspections
 - Units must be rent reasonable, document this
 - Units must pass HQS, document this
 - Lead-based paint visual inspection, as appropriate
 - Rent paid is based on client income and their contribution
 - Can pay security deposits (up to 2x the rent)
 - Can pay for damages up to 1x the rent, one time per client
 - Initial lease term of one year (except for TH)

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Eligible Costs and Requirements

- Leasing
 - Costs and Requirements
 - May lease a structure or units
 - Must be rent reasonable, document this
 - Rent cannot exceed local Fair Market Rent (FMR)
 - Units must pass HQS, document this
 - Enter into occupancy agreement with landlord and a sub-lease with clients
 - May request an operations budget to pay for utilities, if those are not included in the rent

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Eligible Costs and Requirements

- Supportive Services
 - Eligible costs include:
 - Annual assessment of service needs
 - Assistance with moving costs (one time cost such as truck rental, hiring moving company)
 - Case management – counseling, service coordination, assist obtaining benefits, evaluating client progress on plans, info and referrals, risk assessment and safety planning, developing a housing plan, child care (vouchers or operating a child care program), employment assistance and job training, food, housing search and counseling, helping client understand lease, secure utilities, make moving arrangements, rental application fees, legal services, life skills training, mental health services, outpatient health services, outreach services, substance abuse treatment services, transportation (staff vehicle and related costs, public transit vouchers, one time car repairs for clients), utilities deposits
 - Salary and benefits for staff providing services

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Eligible Costs and Requirements

- Operating Costs
 - Maintenance and repair of housing of a structure or individual units (except where these should be covered based on the lease)
 - Property taxes and insurance
 - Building security for a structure
 - Electricity, gas, and water
 - Furniture
 - Equipment
 - Operating costs cannot be combined with rental assistance in same project
 - Cannot pay for costs for emergency shelter or supportive services only facility (like a drop in center)

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Eligible Costs and Requirements

- Project Admin Costs
 - General management, oversight, and coordination costs:
 - Salary, wages, related costs for staff engaged in program admin
 - Preparing budgets, schedules
 - Developing systems for assuring compliance
 - Development grant agreements
 - Monitoring program activities and progress
 - Preparing reports for HUD
 - Coordinating audits and monitoring
 - Evaluating program results
 - Travel costs
 - Other costs for goods and services required to admin the program, such as purchase of equipment, insurance, etc
 - Costs attending HUD sponsored CoC trainings
 - Environmental review costs

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Program Requirements

- Serve eligible clients
 - Literally homeless
 - For PSH, must have a documented disability
 - Prioritize unsheltered and those with severe service needs
 - For PH projects, identify clients via local CE process
- Documentation requirements
 - Document past homelessness
 - Document current homelessness and eligibility
 - Document disability, for PSH only
 - Follow HUD's Order of Priority for documentation

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Program Requirements

- Match Requirements
 - Must match 25% of requested funds with cash or in-kind services match
 - In-kind services match must include an MOU
 - Leasing funds have 0% match requirement
 - Must document match provided at end of operating year
- Emergency Transfer Plan

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Program Requirements

- Reporting Requirements
 - Submit Annual Performance Report, pulled from HMIS, at end of operating year
- Renewing Funding
 - After initial grant term, will renew funding annually via CoC Program Competition
- CoC Requirements
 - Participate in CE system
 - Enter data into HMIS
 - Participate in local/regional planning efforts

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Additional Resources

HUD

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/spm/gmorgmt/grantsinfo/funding_ops/fv21coc_url

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/>

COHHIO

<https://cohhio.org/boscoc/coc-program/>

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Contact Information



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Questions

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