



GUILFORD COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE

Working to End Homelessness in Guilford County

FISCAL YEAR 2023 LOCAL HUD NOFO COMPETITION

(U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY)

This document is Guilford County CoC's notice of public solicitation for new project applications and renewal project applications.

Date of Notice

July 14, 2023

Purpose

The purpose of this notice is to solicit applications for the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) from non-profits and local units of government who are interested in providing housing-related programs and services to individuals and/or families who are experiencing homelessness in Guilford County, North Carolina. Approved applications will be part of a Consolidated Application for Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Funding, which will be submitted by the Guilford County Continuum of Care's Collaborative Applicant (NC-504) pursuant to the requirements of the 2023 NOFO.

Description

The CoC Program (24 CFR part 578) is designed to promote community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, and youth, while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

Each year HUD releases a NOFO for the Continuum of Care Program, signifying the beginning of a funding competition among the Continuums of Care (CoC), which are coalitions of community stakeholder groups that guide local responses to homelessness.

The FY2023 NOFO was released on July 5, 2023. The NOFO sets forth the competition rules and processes. This notice summarizes the highlights of the NOFO and includes the local funding processes, deadlines, policies, and procedures. Additional guidance will be shared as HUD issues updates and the local committee meets to update and finalize details.

HUD's Policy Priorities

HUD has provided the following policy priorities to help communities better understand how the selection criteria support the goal of ending homelessness (NOFO for FY2023 Continuum of Care Competition, Part I, Section A):

1. Ending homelessness for all persons;
2. Using a Housing First approach;
3. Reducing unsheltered homelessness;
4. Improving system performance;
5. Partnering with housing, health, and service agencies;
6. Racial equity;
7. Improving assistance to LGBTQ+ individuals; and
8. Inclusion of People with Lived Experience of Homelessness in planning and decision-making;
9. Increasing affordable housing supply

Funding Amount and Availability

The NC-504 *estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)* is: **\$2,446,117**. Additional funding will be available for a **DV Bonus** of up to 10% of the CoC's Preliminary Pro-Rata Need (PPRN), for **CoC Bonus** up to 7% of the Final Pro-Rata Need (FPRN), and for the annual CoC Planning grant at 5% of the FPRN or \$50,000, whichever is greater. HUD has not certified the exact funding available for the FY 2023 Competition at this time. For further information and updates, please see the HUD Exchange website at:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2023-coc-program-nofa-coc-program-competition/>

Eligibility

The CoC will accept applications from any member organizations who meet both HUD's eligibility criteria as described in Part 3 of the HUD NOFO and who complete all the CoC's application requirements, including the submission of required documentation and a complete application.

Project Applicants (McKinney-Vento Act, 24 CFR 578.15, 24 CFR 5.100)

Eligible project applicants for the CoC Program Competition are found at 24 CFR 578.15 and in the Act and include nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments, Indian Tribes and TDHE (as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)). Public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100, are eligible without limitation or exclusion. For-profit entities are ineligible to apply for grants or to be subrecipients of grant funds. All applicants **must** have an active registration with SAM.gov (<https://www.sam.gov/SAM>) **before** submitting their applications. Part III of the NOFO covers all Eligibility Information in detail.

Project Types

All projects are considered either "renewal" or "new" projects, and each category has several sub-types with additional criteria and/or considerations. Both victim and non-victim agencies are eligible to apply for the DV Bonus funds, if the project will serve victims of domestic violence. Organizations, including victim service providers, may request funds in their project application budgets to enter data into HMIS or a comparable database, as applicable. The following is a list of the eligible types and sub-types highlighted by the Collaborative Applicant for this local competition. Section III.B of the NOFO covers the rules for project eligibility in detail:

Renewal Projects

Awards made under the CoC Program are eligible for renewal with FY 2023 CoC Program funds if they are currently in operation and expire in CY 2024 (the period from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024). Projects renewed under the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition NOFO are renewable as set forth in 24 CFR 578.33 to continue ongoing leasing, operating, supportive services, rental assistance, HMIS, and project administrative costs. See IV.B.3.c of the HUD CoC NOFO for more information.

Special types of renewal project applications include:

- *Consolidation Projects* – Two or more projects eligible for renewal in the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition may apply for funding and be combined into a single renewal project upon award. See Sections III.B.3, and III.B.4.b.(8) of the HUD CoC NOFO for additional information.

- *Expansion Project* – For projects that are expanding their current CoC Program-funded project, applicants will be required to submit:
 - 1) the renewal project application that will be expanded; and
 - 2) a new project application with the expansion information.See Section III.B.4 (7) of the HUD CoC NOFO for more information.

- *DV Bonus Funds* – Both victim and non-victim agencies are eligible to apply for these bonus funds, as long as they serve this population. These funds are considered to be an expansion project. DV Bonus Funds can only be used to expand an existing renewal project if the expansion project is dedicated to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who qualify under paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless at 24 CFR 578.3; however, as explained in I.B.3.1, only the new project application for the expansion will be considered for DV Bonus Funds. For projects that are expanding their current CoC Program-funded project, project applicants will be required to submit:
 - 3) the renewal project application that will be expanded; and
 - 4) a new project application with the expansion information.See Section I.B.3.I of the HUD CoC NOFO for more information.

New Projects

Agencies applying for CoC funds for the first time or for a new activity must submit a Letter of Interest. CoCs may submit new projects created through reallocation, CoC Bonus, or a combination of reallocation and CoC Bonus, new DV Bonus projects. Per the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, to receive funding for a new project, except those created through reallocation, the CoC must demonstrate that projects are evaluated and ranked based on the degree to which they improve the CoC's system performance. See Sections I.A.4.b.(4) and V.B.2.b of the HUD CoC NOFO for more information.

Special types of and funding options for new projects include:

- *CoC Bonus Projects* – New projects created through the CoC Bonus must meet the project eligibility and project quality threshold requirements established by HUD in Sections III.C.5.b. and c. of the HUD NOFO.

- *Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Bonus (DV Bonus)* – A new project that is dedicated to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Note amendment to the criteria for qualifying as 'homeless' on page 5 in the NOFO and Sections I.B.3.I and I.B.2.b.(8) of the HUD NOFO for project application requirements and how DV Bonus projects will be reviewed and selected.

- *Transition Grant* – a grant to fund a new project to transition an eligible renewal project being eliminated through a local reallocation process from one program component to

another eligible new component over a one-year period. The new transition project must meet the following requirements:

- 1) transition grants in this competition are eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for eligible activities of the new component;
- 2) to be eligible to receive a transition grant, the current recipient must have the consent of its Continuum of Care; and
- 3) the new project application must meet project eligibility and project quality thresholds established by HUD in Sections III.C.5.b. and c. of this NOFO.

See Section I.B.2.b.(30) of the HUD CoC NOFO for more information.

Reallocation

Reallocation is a process that CoCs use to shift funds in whole or part from existing eligible renewal projects to create one or more new projects without decreasing the CoC's ARD. New projects created through reallocation must meet the requirements set forth in Section I.B.3.a of the HUD CoC NOFO and the project eligibility and project quality thresholds established by HUD in Sections III.C.5.b. and c. of the HUD CoC NOFO. CoCs may only reallocate eligible renewal projects that have previously been renewed under the CoC Program. To create a Transition Grant, the CoC must wholly eliminate one or more projects and use those funds to create the single, new transition grant. See Section I.B.2.b of the HUD CoC NOFO for more information.

Project Ranking Process

HUD requires that all projects be ranked and prioritized in a two-tiered list. Tier 1 will be the top local priority projects. Tier 2 will be lower priority projects. Either new or renewal projects may be ranked in Tier 1 or Tier 2. The placement of each project on the priority list will be determined through a multi-stage process including review by the Guilford County CoC System Performance and Evaluation Committee and the Guilford County CoC Board of Directors, prior to review by the Guilford County CoC voting membership. Based on the highly competitive nature of the grant program, ranking of each project will be critical in determining the likelihood of funding. Projects ranked in Tier 2 have a low probability of funding. New projects created through reallocation or bonus funding may be included in either Tier 1 or Tier 2.

Renewal projects will be reviewed and ranked through the CoC process based on performance. New project proposals will be reviewed in reference to organizational capacity, strategic priority, project approach and design, and cost effectiveness and ranked through the CoC process.

How to Apply

Organizations intending to submit an application for the FY2023 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) opportunity must submit a complete project application. The complete application must be submitted via HUD's *e-snaps* online portal no later than 11:59pm on Sunday, August 20, 2023. All complete applications received by these deadlines will be reviewed. Late applications will not be reviewed absent extreme mitigating circumstances, as specified in the policies and procedures of the Guilford County CoC. All agencies applying for CoC funds are required to submit a copy of their most recent APR for renewal projects, if applicable.

Agencies applying for CoC funds for the first time or for a new activity must also submit a Letter of Interest to the Collaborative Applicant by [July 31, 2023](#) via email using the form included in this notice.

As prescribed by HUD, a single, consolidated submission of all selected and ranked projects in Guilford County will be submitted to HUD by Guilford County Department of Health and Human Services, upon approval by the SPE Committee and CoC membership. Funding will be derived from federal funds and is subject to funding availability under the NOFO. The Collaborative Applicant and the Administrative Agent, acting on behalf of the Guilford County CoC and the SPE Committee, reserve the right to request that applicant organizations submit adjusted project budgets based on the amount of funding made available by HUD. The Consolidated Application deadline is September 28, 2023 by 8:00 p.m. EST.

Deadline for Submission: Note: As of July 14, 2023 – e-snaps is not yet open.

Project Application – submit no later than 11:59 PM on Sunday, August 20, 2023, via HUD’s *e-snaps* online portal (<https://esnaps.hud.gov/>).

How to Obtain Further Information

Please direct all inquiries concerning this local NOFO Competition to:

Cheri Neal
CoC Program Manager
Guilford County Department of Health & Human Services
Phone: (336) 641-7196
Email: infoCoC@guilfordcountync.gov

All parts of the 2023 CoC Consolidated Application will be publicly posted and available to the community for inspection by verbal or written request via email request to: infoCoC@guilfordcountync.gov or (336) 641-7196.

Arrangements will be made to provide technical assistance or review of any or all parts of this announcement, the NC-504 CoC applications process, details, and obligations in a manner that is effective for persons with disabilities or any person with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). (Se harán arreglos para brindar asistencia técnica o revisar alguna o todas las partes de este anuncio, el proceso de solicitud del CoC NC-504, los detalles y las obligaciones de una manera que sea efectiva para las personas con discapacitado cualquier persona con dominio limitado del inglés).

The local Guilford County CoC competition, timeline, and application details are available as part of the local NOFO Competition packet and on the Guilford County CoC website at <https://www.guilfordcountync.gov/our-county/human-services/continuum-of-care/grants>.

The Collaborative Applicant, acting on behalf of the Guilford County CoC and the SPE Committee, reserves the right to publish additional information in response to HUD updates and publications.

HUD NOFO information and training opportunities can be found on the HUD Exchange website at <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2023-coc-program-nofa-coc-program-competition/>

2023 Timeline for NC-504 Guilford County HUD NOFO Grant Process

Item	Date	Day
Application & Funding Released by HUD	7/5/23	Wednesday
CoC Members Notified & Local competition Released	7/14/23	Friday
Scoring Categories & Info Released	7/20/23*	Thursday
Letter of Interest for New Agencies/Activities	7/31/23	Monday
CoC Office Hours for Assistance and Information	8/9/23	Wednesday
CoC Technical Assistance Cut-Off	8/18/23	Friday
CoC Member Applications Due	8/20/23	Sunday
CoC Staff Provides Applications to SPEC	8/22/23*	Tuesday
SPEC Begins Review of Applications	8/23/23*	Wednesday
SPEC Provides Written Notice to Funded Agencies	9/1/23*	Friday
Appeals on Funding Due to SPEC	9/6/23	Wednesday
Appeals Reviewed by SPEC	9/8/23*	Friday
Funding Recommendations Announced	9/11/23*	Monday
Funding Recommendations Voted on by CoC Board	9/12/23	Tuesday
Funding Recommendations Voted on by CoC Membership	9/14/23	Thursday
Approved Funding Amounts Distributed to Agencies	9/15/23*	Friday
Consolidated Application Posted for Review	9/21/23*	Thursday
Consolidated Application Submitted to HUD	9/26/23	Tuesday
HUD Application Deadline	9/28/23	Thursday

* All dates for information releases, review activities, and votes are the latest the described activity will be completed. Application and appeals due dates are deadlines.

Dates for scoring category and information releases may be subject to change based on when necessary information is released by HUD.



GUILFORD COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE

Working to End Homelessness in Guilford County

2023 Letter of Interest Form

Due: July 31, 2023

Agency: Guilford County Continuum of Care

Contact Person:

Cheri Neal

CoC Program Manager

Guilford County Department of Health & Human Services

Phone: (336) 641-7196

Email: infoCoC@guilfordcountync.gov

Project Type:

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

Rapid Rehousing (RRH)

New "Joint Project"

Supportive Services including HMIS and Coordinated Entry

Project Name:

Target Population:

Project Description:

Will this project utilize the Housing First* approach? Yes No

*Housing First is an approach to quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry, such as sobriety, treatment or service participation requirements. Supportive services are offered to maximize housing stability and prevent returns to homelessness as opposed to addressing predetermined treatment goals prior to permanent housing entry.

_____ (Agency Name) and _____ (Date), We agree to abide by the Guilford County Continuum of Care Governance Charter and Written Standards, to adhere by attending at least 75% of the CoC membership meetings and actively participating in CoC committees, participating in Coordinated Entry (CE) and the established CE Policies and Procedures, and participating in the Homeless Management Information System(HMIS) if awarded funding.