

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 2024 CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The FY 2024 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 2024 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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1A-1. CoC Name and Number: GA-508 - DeKalb County CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: DeKalb County, Georgia

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

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 V.B.1.a.(1), V.B.1.e., V.B.1.f., and V.B.1.p.	
	In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024:	
	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.	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.	Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	Disability Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
5.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
6.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.	Hospital(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent	No	No
9.	Law Enforcement	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
12.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	Yes
13.	Local Jail(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
14.	Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
15.	Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
16.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes	Yes	Yes

17.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
18.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
20.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	Yes
21.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes	Yes
22.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
23.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
24.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
25.	Agencies Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking	Yes	Yes	Yes
26.	Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	Other Victim Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
29.	State Domestic Violence Coalition	Yes	Yes	Yes
30.	State Sexual Assault Coalition	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.				
35.				

By selecting "other" you must identify what "other" is.

1B-1a.	Experience Promoting Racial Equity.	
	NOFO Section III.B.3.c.	

Describe in the field below your CoC's experience in effectively addressing the needs of underserved communities, particularly Black and Brown communities, who are substantially overrepresented in the homeless population.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Over the past 10 years, the CoC has worked to reduce homelessness in the overrepresented population, African American Black. The CoC has taken the steps shown below.

1. Worked with the community and people with lived experience to determine actual and perceived gaps and establish goals around filling gaps.
2. Worked with local governments to discuss problems and potential solutions.
3. Ensure equity in decision making processes.
4. Increased outreach to serve the overrepresented population.
5. Worked with employers, employment services, WorkSource Development to increase employment opportunities and increase incomes.
6. Worked with location technical colleges and vocational schools to provide training opportunities that lead to increased income.
7. Reviewed coordinated entry policies and procedures to ensure equity.
8. Recruited landlords to ensure housing in all sections of DeKalb, especially near work centers.
9. Worked with shelters to ensure that case management leading to housing was provided.
10. Coordinated Federal, State, and local resources to provide housing.
11. Worked with local jurisdictions to remove barriers to affordable housing.
12. Worked with local organizations to leverage support services.

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

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The GA-508 (CoC) actively recruits members through an open invitation process. Notices about CoC meetings are distributed via a listserv, the website, and county-wide e-boards. The DeKalb County Collaborative Applicant (DCCA) oversees the Homeless page on the DeKalb County website, which provides information about the 2024 CoC NOFA Application to HUD. The DCCA invites any interested individuals or community members to participate. Potential members can engage with the CoC through community meetings, direct communications, and training sessions. The DCCA employs a variety of methods for recruitment, including an email listserv, website, social media, and personal outreach. The Outreach and Membership Committee follows an affirmative outreach and marketing strategy to identify qualified candidates for the FY 2024 CoC local application competition. To broaden the Board, detailed descriptions of all positions, including roles on the Steering Committee and officer positions, are readily available. The DCCA conducts public outreach to enhance participation and increase input from community members with lived experiences, especially those from the LGBTQ+ community. Meetings are held both remotely and in person, using plain language and an acronym key for clarity and accessibility.
2. The CoC materials are provided in alternative formats for individuals with disabilities. The CoC Board includes Claratel Behavioral Health, a disability organization that facilitates effective communication with people living with disabilities. Information from the DCCA is accessible via email and phone, and the organization offers virtual meeting access, translation services, and ensures community meetings take place in accessible venues.
3. The CoC invites organizations serving culturally specific communities facing homelessness to promote equity through outreach and engagement. The CoC's charter emphasizes the importance of ensuring membership reflects the community, particularly by including BIPOC representation to enhance participation, leadership, and decision-making in CoC activities. Membership includes organizations led by or serving LGBTQ+ individuals, survivors of domestic and sexual violence, peer organizations, BIPOC individuals, as well as refugee and immigrant communities and Atlanta Legal Aid.

1B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.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;
3.	ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats; and
4.	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) In order to develop effective strategies for mitigating homelessness, the CoC actively sought input from a diverse range of organizations/individuals knowledgeable about homelessness or dedicated to preventing and ending it. Feedback was gathered during meetings, including CoC General Body and Governance Board Meetings, Planning and Service Coordination sessions, case manager meetings, and CE, and HMIS user group meetings. Collaborative meetings with the Code Compliance Dept. on encampments, Public Safety for cold weather planning, and Hospitals on discharge planning for the homeless were integral to this process. The CoC collaborated with the County to organize a series of HOME-ARP focus groups, engaging representatives from the justice system, mental health services, childcare, the DeKalb School district, GA Piedmont Technical College, Emory University, PSH providers, aging services, and domestic violence organizations. These discussions enhanced CoC capacity and addressed service gaps effectively. The CoC also solicited information from local elected officials. At events to serve homeless individuals, the CoC obtained input from homeless individuals. 2) The CoC shared information through Public Notices, the DeKalb County website, DCTV, and email distribution lists to encourage public comment and participation in planning efforts. It provided insights on homelessness at DeKalb Board of Commissioners' general body and committee meetings, Town Hall meetings across jurisdictions, public meetings at local colleges and universities, during DeKalb County public hearings for its Consolidated Plan, and at gatherings hosted by various local organizations and churches. 3) On-site meetings were held in ADA-accessible locations, and virtual access was also provided. To enhance accessibility, individuals with visual or hearing impairments, as well as those needing translation services, were encouraged to contact the Collaborative applicant in advance so that necessary arrangements could be made. A TTY number was provided for those with hearing impairment to enable them to contact the collaborative applicant. The measures facilitated the provision of input on preventing and ending homelessness. 4) The CoC kept a log of comments and recommendations gathered during all meetings. Input was presented at committee meetings, where it was discussed and evaluated for feasibility, effectiveness, and compliance with regulations. The CoC implemented vetted input.

1B-4.	Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Awarded CoC Program Funding.	
	NOFO Section V.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.	ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Public notification about the project application and competition was disseminated through (1) the Champion Newspaper, (2) the DeKalb County Website, (3) the DeKalb CoC Email Distribution List, and announced at local public meetings. Public notices included details about the local competition opening date, submission deadlines for new and renewal project applications, and the date for a virtual information session for interested applicants. The notices specifically invited New Project Applications, stating: "New project applicants and those with experience serving homeless individuals, families, youth, and persons fleeing domestic violence or human trafficking are encouraged to apply. Prior CoC funding is not a requirement for consideration." Seven new nonprofits, previously unfunded, attended the virtual information session.
2. The CoC informed the public about the process for application submission through postings about the date and link to access the Local Competition Application Guidelines and Applications at [DeKalb County Public notices](<https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/community-development/public-notices>). The notice also provided a link to join the virtual NOFO Information Meeting via computer or toll-free phone and included the County email address for submitting project applications, along with details on submission dates and formats.
3. The CoC publicly communicated the criteria for selecting applications to be submitted to HUD for funding consideration through postings of the Local Application Guidelines, applications for new and renewal projects, and the Objective Review Criteria used for evaluation. This information was also shared verbally during the virtual NOFO Information Meeting. The Guidelines included a comprehensive overview of the Local Application Objective Review, Rating, Ranking, Reallocation, and Appeals processes. The competition timeline, including notification methods for project applicants regarding inclusion, rejection, or reallocation, was covered during the virtual information session.
4. In addition to written public notifications, a virtual NOFO information meeting was held. Meeting transcripts, recordings, and presentation materials were posted on the county website and shared via the CoC email distribution to ensure accessibility for individuals with disabilities.

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:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
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1C-1.	Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations.	
	NOFO Section V.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)	Yes
9.	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Yes
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)	Yes
17.	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)	
18.		

1C-2.	CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients. NOFO Section V.B.1.b.	
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In the chart below select yes or no to indicate whether your CoC:

1.	Consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG Program funds?	Yes
2.	Provided Point-In-Time (PIT) count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area?	Yes
3.	Ensured local homelessness information is communicated and addressed in the Consolidated Plan updates?	Yes
4.	Coordinated with ESG recipients in evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients?	Yes

1C-3.	Ensuring Families are not Separated. NOFO Section V.B.1.c.	
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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?	Yes
2.	Conducted optional training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure family members are not separated?	Yes
3.	Worked with CoC and 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 questions or requesting technical assistance to resolve noncompliance by service providers?	Yes

1C-4.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth—SEAs, LEAs, School Districts. NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	
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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 V.B.1.d.	
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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 CoC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the DeKalb School District to formalize their partnership and commitment to addressing the impact of homelessness on school-aged children and youth. This collaboration includes distributing program eligibility information to families with children in the district. The CoC and LEA meet regularly to ensure that the educational, transportation, and housing needs of homeless families—whether doubled up, living in cars, or staying in hotels—as well as youth in foster care and those experiencing homelessness, are effectively addressed through shared data and collaborative planning. The CoC's Governance Charter specifies a seat on the governance board is reserved for a representative from the DeKalb School District.

The CoC has established formal partnerships with several K-12 and youth education providers. The CoC Governance Board Chair advocates for the interests of homeless families and children across three state and local education agencies: the GA Early Education Alliance, the Infant Toddler Affordability Planning Agency, and the GA Association for the Education of Young Children. Additionally, another member of the DeKalb CoC Governance Board represents the local education agency (LEA), specifically the DeKalb County School District (K-12).

1C-4b.	Informing Individuals and Families Who Have Recently Begun Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services. NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	
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Describe in the field below written policies and procedures your CoC uses to inform individuals and families who have recently begun experiencing homelessness of their eligibility for educational services.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The DeKalb CoC collaborates with K-12 School Districts, the Department of Family and Children Services, and early childhood providers to ensure that information about resources and opportunities is mutually shared between homelessness and education sectors. CoC policy mandates that each housing provider appoint a liaison responsible for ensuring that homeless children and youth in CoC programs are enrolled in school, informed about educational opportunities, and supported in accessing those opportunities for positive educational outcomes.

The written standards and procedures adopted by the CoC include the following requirements:

1. The intake process for housing programs serving families must include questions about the educational status of all children in the household.
2. Each housing program designates a lead staff member to ensure that children are enrolled in school and connected to appropriate educational services within the community.
3. Parents, legal guardians, or unaccompanied youth are given the option to sign a release of information, allowing housing providers to communicate with educational institutions to coordinate services.
4. Housing programs must establish policies and practices that align with, and do not restrict, the rights provided by the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act and other relevant laws concerning educational services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
5. Housing programs are required to provide families with information about educational rights and protections for their school-aged children and youth at intake, ensuring this information is posted, read, or otherwise communicated to clients upon admission.

1C-4c.	Written/Formal Agreements or Partnerships with Early Childhood Services Providers.	
	NOFO Section V.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	Yes	Yes
2. Child Care and Development Fund		
3. Early Childhood Providers	Yes	Yes
4. Early Head Start	Yes	
5. Federal Home Visiting Program—(including Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home and Visiting or MIECHV)		
6. Head Start	Yes	
7. Healthy Start	Yes	Yes
8. Public Pre-K	Yes	No

9.	Tribal Home Visiting Program	No	No
	Other (limit 150 characters)		
10.			

You must select a response for elements 1 through 9 in question 1C-4c.

1C-5.	Addressing Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking—Collaboration with Federally Funded Programs and Victim Service Providers.
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.

In the chart below select yes or no for the organizations your CoC collaborates with:

	Organizations	
1.	State Domestic Violence Coalitions	Yes
2.	State Sexual Assault Coalitions	Yes
3.	Anti-trafficking Service Providers	Yes
	Other Organizations that Help this Population (limit 500 characters)	
4.		

1C-5a.	Collaborating with Federally Funded Programs and Victim Service Providers to Address Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.

Describe in the field below how your CoC regularly collaborates with organizations that you selected yes to in Question 1C-5 to:

1.	update CoC-wide policies; and
2.	ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC's geographic area are trauma-informed and can meet the needs of survivors.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC collaborates with Women Moving On, the lead Victim Service Provider (VSP) in DeKalb County, other VSPs, CoC DV Committee, DeKalb District Attorney's Office, DeKalb Solicitor's Office, DeKalb Police, and Emory University Community Nursing to develop and update (as needed) written standards and policies regarding the provision of housing/services. Information regarding DV policies and written standards was presented, and input was requested at CoC general body meetings, as well as CoC committee meetings. Representatives from the aforementioned organizations provide training at CoC meetings, case manager's meetings, committee meetings, and case conferencing meetings to ensure that all CoC housing/services providers were trauma informed and can satisfy the needs of survivors

1C-5b.	Implemented Safety Planning, Confidentiality Protocols in Your CoC's Coordinated Entry to Address the Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.

Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry addresses the needs of DV survivors by including:

1.	safety planning protocols; and
2.	confidentiality protocols.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. SAFETY PROTOCOLS: 1a. When developing CE, CoC met w/ Victim Service Providers (VSP) - Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence (WRC), Safe Haven TH, International Women's House, Solicitor Office, Sheriff Office - to get input on CE protocols regarding safety, confidentiality, calls/intake, referrals & emergency shelter(ES)/permanent housing(PH) placement

1b. Coordinated Entry (CE) Access: 1st opening script question asks about Domestic Violence/Sex Assault/Stalking (DV/SA/S); If household(HH)/client(CL) experiencing DV/SA/S, client choice to receive immediate referral to WRC for shelter & other services incl. perm housing, counseling, legal assist. HH/CL info is placed in VSP specific database only accessed by single VSP (HMIS comparable). DV shelter has confidential address. HH/CL has access to receive full range of housing (i.e. PH/RRH) via CE. VSP staff contacts CE staff for assessment & to get HH/CL on PH list (HH/CL listed as # & not by name); Or at CE entry, HH may choose to continue w/ CE enrollment & not seek DV services. CE finds ESG funded shelter (discuss safety with CL on this option & notify ES of cl's safety needs). CE completes assessment w/ HH to get on PH list. Still connect client w/ counseling & other services via VSP

1c. CE staff communicates w/ DV clients via phone (ask if safe to speak) or via email after determining if safe option. (Concern is that internet usage can be monitored & is impossible to erase completely.) If unsafe, have CL call CES or VSP only when safe. Discuss safety plan with caller i.e. know safe exit from home, keep packed bag ready, know where to go to be safe if you leave, take identification/legal paper/financial

1d. DV knowledgeable CE specialist (CES) is assigned to work w/ VSP & DV clients. CES is fully trained & current on safety protocols. CE project manager is certified Trauma Informed Care coach

1e. All CES & CE (access point) phone agents, CoC & community partners receive trauma-informed, victim-centered, safety training annually incl. best practices in serving survivors of DV/SA/S

1f. CE/CoC staff met w/ new CoC DV RRH project & VSP agency staff to develop assessment & referral protocols that incl. safety & confidentiality for clients to the new CoC DV RRH. Data recorded into VSP database

2. CONFIDENTIALITY: 2a. CE communicates w/ VSP via phone or if via email, then always use # to identify HH & never name; 2b. CE working on email encryption; 2c. HH info in VSP HMIS comparable database

1C-5c.	Coordinated Annual Training on Best Practices to Address the Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors. NOFO Section V.B.1.e.
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In the chart below, indicate how your CoC facilitates training for project staff and coordinated entry staff that addresses best practices on safety planning and confidentiality protocols:

		Project Staff	Coordinated Entry Staff
1.	Training Occurs at least annually?	Yes	Yes
2.	Incorporates Trauma Informed best practices?	Yes	Yes
3.	Incorporates Survivor-Centered best practices?	Yes	Yes
4.	Identifies and assesses survivors' individual safety needs?	Yes	
5.	Enhances and supports collaboration with DV organizations?	Yes	Yes
6.	Ensures survivors' rights, voices, and perspectives are incorporated?	Yes	Yes
Other? (limit 500 characters)			
7.			

You must select a response for elements 1 through 6 in question 1C-5c.

1C-5d.	Implemented VAWA-Required Written Emergency Transfer Plan Policies and Procedures for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking. NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
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Describe in the field below:

1.	whether your CoC's written policies and procedures include an emergency transfer plan;
2.	how your CoC informs all households seeking or receiving CoC Program assistance about their rights to an emergency transfer;
3.	what your CoC requires households to do to request emergency transfers; and
4.	what your CoC does in response to households requesting emergency transfers.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC's policies and procedures (P&P) cover an emergency transfer plan. The CoC's P&P for Emergency Transfers (ET) state: a)Service providers review and provide the Notice of Occupancy Rights under the VAWA to all tenants. When applicable, landlords must review and sign the lease addendum at the time of lease signing. b)Participants are informed that transfer applications are available regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. c)Participants must complete Form 5383 and include supporting documents, if safe to do so, prioritizing safety and confidentiality. d)Service providers offer housing advocacy, alternative options, and safety planning as needed. e)Transfers may not be immediately available, service providers must maintain transparency throughout the process to support safety and planning. f)Staff from CoC-funded projects must attend training on VAWA, covering how to: Notify tenants of their right to an emergency transfer; Identify eligible tenants; Understand the transfer request process; Implement best practices for confidentiality; Navigate the emergency transfer process; and Provide guidance on safety and security.
2. Service providers provide a copy of the Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act to each head of household (HH). During intake, CoC/ESG organizations and funded project staff inform individuals and families seeking/receiving CoC Program assistance about their right to request an emergency transfer and the process involved. The tenant and the landlord/property management are advised that a tenant in a CoC-assisted unit has the right to request a transfer if they believe they are at imminent risk of harm by staying in their current unit. If a tenant receiving CoC program assistance is a victim of sexual assault that occurred on the premises, they have the right to request an emergency transfer within 90 days of the incident.
3. HH requesting a transfer should complete HUD Forms 5382 and 5383, as appropriate and safe. Form 5383 must be completed. HH submit supporting documents, if it is safe to do so. If documents are unavailable, tenants may provide alternative documentation (i.e., police/medical reports, counselor/faith leader statements, or self-certification statement).
4. HH are informed of the transfer process timeline and required additional documentation. Service providers obtain alternative safe contact information and connect HH with safety planning resources and other supports.

1C-5e.	Facilitating Safe Access to Housing and Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC ensures households experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking have safe access to all of the housing and services available within your CoC's geographic area.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence (WRC) is the domestic violence (DV) lead agency for Coordinated Entry (CE) system in DeKalb County. CoC worked with WRC to develop a CE process for people experiencing Domestic Violence/Sex Assault/Stalking (DV/SA/S) to ensure that survivors have access to all housing & services available in CoC. WRC has 24/7 hotline & CE uses a hotline service & mobile outreach. Victims of DV/SA/S can access any point for assistance with housing whether choosing DV specific services or non-DV services. Regardless of which access point is contacted, the opening script question immediately asks about DV/SA/S. Other questions are asked to offer the client options/information on how to proceed. If the client is interested in DV specific services, the client is referred to WRC. WRC has services geared towards DV clients, e.g. DV shelter, perm housing, trauma informed care therapy, legal services. WRC also has access to other DV agencies in DeKalb County (Safe Haven TH, International Women's House), Atlanta (Partnership Against DV) & GA. WRC enrolls Household in ClientTrack HMIS comparable DV specific database. If the household does not want DV specific services, CE can refer to ESG, CDBG, CoC & other funded housing & services for shelter, prevention, PSH, RRH, TH, HCV, etc. CE enrolls Household in ClientTack (CT) HMIS (data restricted to CE) & given a CT number. CE refers for housing assist using CT number and not name for confidentiality. CE asks client if okay to let housing agencies know of their DV situation so that safety measures can be implemented. For access to CE programs, WRC staff contact designated CE specialist to coordinate with DV Household to complete CE enrollment, pre-screen & VI-SPDAT. CE staff contact WRC if any CE clients need DV housing or services. The CoC has a DV RRH program that can take referrals from either WRC or CE. The CoC collaborated with DeKalb Housing Authority to ensure that both were able to refer for EHV or HCV.

	<p>1C-5f. Identifying and Removing Barriers for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.</p>	
	<p>NOFO Section V.B.1.e.</p>	
	<p>Describe in the field below how your CoC ensures survivors receive safe housing and services by:</p>	
<p>1.</p>	<p>Identifying barriers specific to survivors; and</p>	
<p>2.</p>	<p>working to remove those barriers.</p>	

(limit 2,500 characters)

CoC identifies barriers for Households experiencing Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking for safe housing and services within the homeless response system by reviewing and analyzing feedback from clients, service providers and DV data. Information and data from the local District Attorney's and Solicitor's Offices also provide resources for identifying barriers. For example, lack of safe shelter space for DV survivors is one barrier. Clients need safe Emergency Shelter upon exit from abusive relationship. The CoC partners with Women's Resource Center to find other DV shelter if local DV shelters are full. The CoC also works a local agency to obtain hotel vouchers for households to prevent them from returning to the abuser. The lack of permanent housing for DV survivors is another barrier. The CoC previously applied for and received a DV bonus Rapid Re-housing bonus project for DV victims. The CoC has collaborated with the County to ensure that Domestic Violence Service Providers receive additional funding through ESG, ESG-CV, HOME-ARP and local funds to increase housing assistance to victims of domestic violence. To assist in removing the housing barrier, the CoC is applying for a DV bonus project in this NOFO

1C-6.	Addressing the Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer+—Anti-Discrimination Policy and Equal Access Trainings.	
NOFO Section V.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 V.B.1.f.		

Describe in the field below:	
1.	how your CoC regularly collaborates with LGBTQ+ and other organizations to update its CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy, as necessary to ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC are trauma-informed and able to meet the needs of LGBTQ+ individuals and families;
2.	how your CoC assisted housing and services providers in developing project-level anti-discrimination policies that are consistent with the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy;
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. To ensure that housing and services within the CoC are trauma-informed and meet the needs of the LGBTQ+ population, the CoC collaborates with organizations like Metro Fair Housing and Chris180. Together, they develop and update anti-discrimination policies and provide training to agencies, stakeholders, and the community on the unique challenges faced by LGBTQ+ individuals. These policies are reviewed and updated at least annually or as needed.
2. To guarantee that all individuals, including LGBTQ+ families, have unrestricted access to HUD-funded housing, shelter, and services, the CoC offers annual training on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing and the Equal Access Rule (EA). During this training, agencies receive guidance on reviewing their anti-discrimination and harassment policies to ensure compliance with the EA. Key focus areas include: (1) ensuring staff, volunteers, and contractors are aware of and adhere to policies on equal gender access; (2) prohibiting unnecessary questions beyond what is required to provide services; (3) using inclusive language in all agency communications and documents; (4) making EA policies publicly accessible; and (5) including gender identity and expression in anti-discrimination policies.
3. The CoC's monitoring process includes a review of each agency's Equal Access, Emergency Transfer, and Housing First policies to ensure alignment with CoC-wide anti-discrimination standards.
4. To date, no violations of the CoC's anti-discrimination policies have been reported. In the event of noncompliance, agencies are required to promptly address the issue and create a plan to prevent recurrence.

1C-7.	Public Housing Agencies within Your CoC's Geographic Area—New Admissions—General/Limited Preference—Moving On Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.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 current 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 or Housing Choice Voucher Program During FY 2023 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?
Housing Authority of DeKalb County	45%	Yes-HCV	No
Decatur Housing Authority	10%	No	No

1C-7a.	Written Policies on Homeless Admission Preferences with PHAs.	
	NOFO Section V.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)

The two largest public housing authorities (PHAs) in DeKalb County are the Housing Authority of DeKalb County (HADC) and the Housing Authority of the City of Decatur (DHA). The Continuum of Care (CoC) has engaged with all three housing authorities in the county, advocating for the adoption of homeless preferences. The Collaborative applicant provided Housing Authority executives with information highlighting the need for these preferences and encouraged their active participation in CoC activities to gain a better understanding of community needs.

Both DeKalb and Decatur Housing Authorities collaborate with the DeKalb CoC on homelessness mitigation efforts. Representatives from these housing authorities sit on the CoC Governance Board and various committees, including the Planning and Veterans' Committees.

Notable examples of collaboration include the CoC working with PHAs to allocate 39 project-based vouchers for homeless and disabled households, 15 Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) for chronically homeless or service-resistant individuals, 393 VASH vouchers for homeless veterans (totaling 489 individuals), and 113 Emergency Housing Vouchers available through the American Rescue Plan Act. Additionally, 15 senior housing units are currently in development.

As a result of ongoing presentations and the involvement of housing authorities in planning and collaborative efforts, the Housing Authority of DeKalb County has adopted a preference for homeless admissions, and the Decatur Housing Authority is planning to do the same.

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 V.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)	Yes
4.	HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)	Yes
5.	Mainstream Vouchers	Yes
6.	Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) Vouchers	No
7.	Public Housing	No
8.	Other Units from PHAs:	
	Project Based Voucher Units in Multi-family Housing Property	Yes

1C-7d.	Submitting CoC and PHA Joint Applications for Funding for People Experiencing Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.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)?	Yes
		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.	HUD Stability Vouchers

1C-7e.	Coordinating with PHA(s) to Apply for or Implement HCV Dedicated to Homelessness Including Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV).	
	NOFO Section V.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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1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd

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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1D-1.	Preventing People Transitioning from Public Systems from Experiencing Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.h.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC actively coordinates with the public systems 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.	Prisons/Jails?	Yes
2.	Health Care Facilities?	Yes
3.	Residential Care Facilities?	Yes
4.	Foster Care?	Yes

1D-2.	Housing First--Lowering Barriers to Entry.	
	NOFO Section V.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 2024 CoC Program Competition.	18
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 2024 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach.	18
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 2024 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 V.B.1.i.	

You must upload the Housing First Evaluation attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.
 Describe in the field below:

1.	how your CoC evaluates every project—where the applicant checks Housing First on their project application—to determine if they are using a Housing First approach;
2.	the list of factors and performance indicators your CoC uses during its evaluation;
3.	how your CoC regularly evaluates projects outside of your local CoC competition to ensure the projects are using a Housing First approach; and
4.	what your CoC has done to improve fidelity to Housing First.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. To evaluate compliance with the Housing First (HF) model, applications are reviewed to ensure projects are low barrier, without preconditions related to income, victimization history, substance use, or service participation. For renewal projects, scores also consider HF monitoring results and training participation.

2. HF compliance indicators include reduced participant homelessness (percentage of participants stably housed), time to housing placement, length of housing stability, decreased returns to homelessness, engagement with supportive services, and improved mental health and substance use outcomes, as measured in the APR. For Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects, the percentage of referrals accepted from the Coordinated Entry System (CES) and the retention rate of participants (percentage remaining housed) are also included, with higher percentages indicating better performance.

3. Outside the NOFO process, the CoC Team monitors project performance by reviewing policies and procedures (P&P) for alignment with HF principles. This includes staff interviews to assess their understanding of HF and their capacity to implement best practices through harm reduction strategies. The Team also reviews information on households not accepted into the program. If rejection reasons contradict HF principles, project staff must develop a corrective action plan. The Team shares findings with project staff and assists in modifying P&P to meet required standards, continuously monitoring progress toward compliance with HF requirements.

4. The CoC has developed HF policies and practices that adhere closely to HF principles, achieving a 98% housing retention rate for PSH participants over two years. The CoC requires all homeless individuals to be entered into the CES and prioritized based on need. They engage and educate local governments and landlords, creating client-centered project spaces that reduce barriers to access and retention. Annual training covers the seven key principles of HF. The CE facilitates case conferencing meetings with emergency shelter and permanent housing agencies to ensure appropriate referrals. The CoC conducts agency monitoring to ensure compliance with HF principles, with agencies completing self-assessments, participating in feedback forums, engaging in peer shadowing, and undergoing audits of case management records. Analyzing this data allows the CoC to work with partners to evaluate HF alignment.

1D-3.	Street Outreach—Data—Reaching People Least Likely to Request Assistance. NOFO Section V.B.1.j.	
Describe in the field below how your CoC tailored its street outreach to people experiencing homelessness who are least likely to request assistance.		

(limit 2,500 characters)

OUTREACH TAILORED TO THE LEAST LIKELY TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE: The local outreach experience shows persons in encampment sites are less likely to request or accept services. The CoC SOT works with the DeKalb County Policing Unit and DeKalb County Code Enforcement to conduct joint outreach efforts to identify other encampment areas and to build rapport and trust. The CoC SOT conducts sweeps with the Veterans Administration Team each month to cover larger areas of the county quicker in locating the home population. Immigrants not fluent in English often do not request help. Translators and mediators from immigrant service organizations help outreach to these populations. The CoC SOT canvasses other areas to screen individuals and offer services and housing. Data is recorded in HMIS on each person located. Persons may be geo-located and documented with the County's GIS application, facilitating finding specific homeless persons later for follow-up engage, services and housing. Daily the Street Outreach Team (SOT) addresses homeless and chronically homeless unsheltered persons on the streets and in encampments reported thru the Coordinated Entry System, reports by residents, other organizations, Dekalb County Police Dept. other county wide staff to offer services and housing. On an ongoing basis SOT, maintains a By Name List (BNL) of the homeless individuals and their unsheltered locations. Homeless Outreach Teams provide clothing and basic needed items. On a monthly basis, the Medical SOT coordinates medical assistance to clients living on the street & provides referrals to services and emergency housing. Then the weekly street engagement focuses on outreach to streets/encampments, assessing and referring to services/housing. The SOT also focuses on the unsheltered homeless who frequent libraries, parks, nature areas, convenience stores, motels, recreation centers, shopping malls, and mass transit stops. The DeKalb County CoC outreach coverage plan encompasses 100% of the DeKalb County geographic CoC area. Frequency: Street Outreach is conducted daily by full-time SOT that identify/locate unsheltered people and complete needs assessments to determine individual needs and to offer emergency housing and services. The SOT begins the case management process on the streets to help clients address their barriers to housing. Assist with obtaining identification documentation, medical care, vaccinations, mental health, and rehabilitation services

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

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate your CoC's strategies to prevent the criminalization of homelessness in your CoC's geographic area:

	Your CoC's Strategies	Engaged/Educated Legislators and Policymakers	Implemented Laws/Policies/Practices that Prevent Criminalization of Homelessness
1.	Increase utilization of co-responder responses or social services-led responses over law enforcement responses to people experiencing homelessness?	Yes	Yes
2.	Minimize use of law enforcement to enforce bans on public sleeping, public camping, or carrying out basic life functions in public places?	Yes	Yes
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3.	Avoid imposing criminal sanctions, including fines, fees, and incarceration for public sleeping, public camping, and carrying out basic life functions in public places?	Yes	Yes
4.	Other:(limit 500 characters)		

1D-5.	Rapid Rehousing-RRH Beds as Reported in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) or Longitudinal Data from HMIS.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.i.	

		HIC Longitudinal HMIS Data	2023	2024
	Enter the total number of RRH beds available to serve all populations as reported in the HIC or the number of households served per longitudinal HMIS data, e.g., APR.	HIC	127	261

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

	Mainstream Benefits	CoC Provides Annual Training?
1.	Food Stamps	Yes
2.	SSI-Supplemental Security Income	Yes
3.	SSDI-Social Security Disability Insurance	Yes
4.	TANF-Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Yes
5.	Substance Use Disorder Programs	Yes
6.	Employment Assistance Programs	Yes
7.	Other (limit 150 characters)	

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

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	works with projects to collaborate with healthcare organizations, including those that provide substance use disorder treatment and mental health treatment, to assist program participants with receiving healthcare services, including Medicaid; and
2.	promotes SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) certification of program staff.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. works with Projects- The CoC also collaborates with the DeKalb department of Public Health, Mental Health providers (DeKalb Community Service Board) and Substance Abuse Treatment Providers (STAND) to assist program participants with receiving healthcare, therapeutic and substance abuse treatment services. For example, the CoC continues to collaborate with the DeKalb Health Department to provide updated information on COVID and variant trends as well as on-site distribution of COVID testing kits, vaccinations and flu shots to persons in non-congregant shelter settings. In 2023, the CoC has initiated a new collaboration with Emory University Hospital emergency room and community engagement staff to ensure that homeless persons that access emergency room services are connected with ongoing health and preventive health services and appropriate community and housing support. 2. Promotes SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) certification of program staff. SSI/SSDI ACCESS: CoC membership and Agency staff are SOAR trained and play a critical role in assisting clients with the SSI/SSDI Application by gathering the necessary medical evidence for the disability determination and by serving as a link between SSA and Claimants in COC projects. Collaboration with the local and regional SSA liaison have improved CoC ability to secure necessary documents expediently through remote and in-person appointments.

ID-7.	Partnerships with Public Health Agencies—Collaborating to Respond to and Prevent the Spread of Infectious Diseases.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.n.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC effectively collaborates with state and local public health agencies to develop CoC-wide policies and procedures that:	
1.	respond to infectious disease outbreaks; and	
2.	prevent infectious disease outbreaks among people experiencing homelessness.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC has established comprehensive policies and procedures to address infectious disease outbreaks in collaboration with the DeKalb Board of Health. The Health Department is represented on the CoC Governance Board and plays a crucial role in shaping CoC policy. The Office of Emergency Preparedness from the Health Department actively participates in CoC meetings, sharing valuable insights related to public health and homelessness. The Collaborative Applicant (CA) is involved in the Health Department's Medical Countermeasures Stakeholders (MCMS) Committee, contributing information on the needs of the homeless population. This committee formulates plans for delivering medical services and medications to DeKalb's vulnerable groups. Additionally, the CA serves on the Vulnerable Population Stakeholders (VPS) Committee, helping develop strategies to assist those in DeKalb who are least likely to seek help. The VPS committee focuses on supporting "hard-to-reach" individuals during emergencies or outbreaks.

2. To prevent infectious disease outbreaks, the DeKalb CoC implemented several measures: a) They organized meetings with the Health Department, healthcare providers, and service organizations to prepare for preventing and managing infectious disease outbreaks among the homeless population. b) Vaccination pop-up sites were set up near encampments and other locations frequented by homeless individuals. Outreach Specialists distributed information about these sites prior to their launch, provided infectious disease training, and encouraged vaccinations. c) PPE, testing, and vaccinations were made available at regular and temporary emergency shelters, with DeKalb County offering incentives for vaccination. d) The CoC collaborated with the Health Department to implement countermeasures for infectious diseases like hepatitis, tuberculosis, and COVID-19. e) They worked together to distribute PPE to homeless individuals and families during the COVID-19 pandemic. f) Collaboration with DeKalb County included providing temporary emergency shelter, supportive services, mental health assessments, and permanent housing during the pandemic. g) They coordinated with the state to ensure that homeless individuals and families who tested positive received the necessary support.

ID-7a.	Collaboration With Public Health Agencies on Infectious Diseases.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.n.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	effectively shared information related to public health measures and homelessness; and	
2.	facilitated 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. The CoC Collaborative Applicant received public health notices, including updates on drug abuse trends, from the DeKalb Board of Health and the State Health Department, which were then distributed throughout the CoC geographic area. The CoC maintained a website to share health-related and infectious disease information, along with an email distribution list for quick dissemination of updates, including public health measures related to homelessness. Public health information regarding infectious disease outbreaks and precautionary measures was shared with local organizations frequented by homeless individuals.

2. To enhance communication, the CoC featured public health segments at all meetings. During outbreaks, representatives from the DeKalb Board of Health provided updates on infectious diseases, prevention strategies, and safety precautions. The CoC also shared specific contact information for Health Department representatives to facilitate direct assistance. Additionally, the CoC coordinated with the DeKalb Board of Health to provide direct guidance to shelter and outreach providers on how to prevent and limit the spread of infectious diseases.

1D-8.	Coordinated Entry Standard Processes.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry system:	
	1. can serve everybody regardless of where they are located within your CoC's geographic area;	
	2. uses a standardized assessment process to achieve fair, equitable, and equal access to housing and services within your CoC;	
	3. collects personal information in a trauma-informed way; and	
	4. is updated at least annually using feedback received from participating projects and households that participated in coordinated entry.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. CE ensures comprehensive coverage of the Continuum of Care (CoC) area through an intake and assessment hotline. Street outreach teams facilitate mobile access for those least likely to contact CE. Individuals can connect with CE via phone or through outreach efforts. Service providers, landlords, media, hospitals, and government staff help disseminate flyers that contain CE information and intake phone numbers. Information is available on CoC and state websites, social media, and at local churches and organizations.
2. CE uses a structured, phased method for assessing households (HH): Step 1- The initial script identifies if the household is fleeing domestic violence (DV). If so, they are connected to appropriate DV services such as shelters, legal assistance, or trauma counseling. Step 2- Eligible clients are enrolled in the CE project and complete a prescreen in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). This process triages individuals who are literally homeless or at risk, allowing placement on by-name lists (BNL) for shelter or prevention assistance (such as rental arrears). Step 3- After the prescreen, for those literally homeless, a standardized comprehensive assessment (VI-SPDAT) is conducted via HMIS. This assessment prioritizes individuals based on need & vulnerability for housing placement. Once completed, they are ranked on the prioritized permanent housing list. All CE specialists (CES) receive extensive training in the assessment process and best practices.
3. The CE process employs person-centered language, acknowledging the sensitivity required when discussing trauma. CES are trained to employ patience, compassion, and active listening to gather info, since many clients are survivors of gender-based violence and other traumas. Questions regarding victimization are approached intentionally and non-judgmentally. CES are instructed to minimize potentially retraumatizing assessments, only conducting them when necessary for emergency service connections. The CoC collaborates with service/housing providers, and community members with lived experiences to create trauma-informed, survivor-inclusive assessment processes.
4. The CE Committee, along with service and housing providers and participating households, provide ongoing feedback about the CE process. This input is used to make recommendations and implement best practices, ensuring the CE process remains effective and responsive to community needs.

1D-8a.	Coordinated Entry—Program Participant-Centered Approach.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	
	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 needs and preferences; and	
4.	takes steps to reduce burdens on people seeking assistance.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) **LEAST LIKELY:** Partner w/ agencies to blast flyer w/ CE info/process & phone line # i.e. service providers, homeless advocates, medical centers incl. behavioral/mental health, police, schools, Dept. Health, Latin American Assoc, Center Pan Asian Services, VA Community Resource & Referral Center, 2nd chance apt management & other landlords, Dep. Family & Child Services, staff at DeKalb County gov't and its cities, Red Cross, Housing Authorities, churches, libraries, etc.; Post on CoC & state websites; Clients spread CE access points by word of mouth; Outreach teams inc. mental health & substance abuse specialists (PATH & ACT)

2) **PRIORITIZE:** CoC uses phased approach at CE access; Step 1- prescreen to triage ppl who are literally homeless, at risk homeless, stably housed, fleeing DV, etc. & need assist; Step 2- comprehensive assessment (VI-SPDAT) for ppl who literally homeless or DV & in need of perm housing. VI-SPDAT prioritizes ppl most vulnerable for housing via score inc. factors: A. Major physical, mental or behavioral health challenges, substance probs or functional impairments; B. Hi utilization of crisis services i.e. ERs, jails & psych facilities; C. Frequency of unsheltered esp. youth; D. Vulnerability to victimization; E. Hi # prior homeless episodes; F. Length time homeless; G. Criminal history; Upon completion of CA, auto ranked on prioritized perm housing list.

3) **TIMELY MANNER:** 3a. After CE entry/prescreen, ppl who need ES are placed on list & monitored daily by CE specialists (CES) to place ppl in ES as soon as beds available. 3b. After prescreen, VI-SPDAT completed immediately to place ppl directly on PH list. Highest scored / most vulnerable households are contacted by CES w/n 72 hours on PH list to discuss housing options. Connected w/ outreach or housing case managers to get document ready. Once matched w/ eligible housing, referred & assisted quickly (w/n 14 days for PSH/TH & 90 days for RRH)

4) **REDUCE BURDENS:** Coord Entry (CE) covers CoC's entire geographic area via intake/assessment phone line. Street outreach teams serve as mobile access points. Feedback received- easier for clients to contact CE via phone then find & go to a physical location as CoC is 271 sq miles & difficult for ppl without cars, physical problem, health problem to get around. Open Script describes CE intake/assessment process & close script explains referrals process. Central phone line allows ppl to easily call back for status update & any questions.

1D-8b.	Coordinated Entry—Informing Program Participants about Their Rights and Remedies—Reporting Violations.	
NOFO Section V.B.1.o.		
Describe in the field below how your CoC through its coordinated entry:		
	1. affirmatively markets housing and services provided within the CoC's geographic area and ensures it reaches all persons experiencing homelessness;	
	2. informs program participants of their rights and remedies available under federal, state, and local fair housing and civil rights laws; and	
	3. reports any conditions or actions that impede fair housing choice for current or prospective program participants to the jurisdiction(s) responsible for certifying consistency with the Consolidated Plan.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. **AFFIRMATIVE MARKETING:** CoC partners w/ organizations across DeKalb Cty to blast flyer w/ CoC housing/svcs info & coordinated entry (CE) process/hotline #, incl A) Race: DeKalb Cty majority black/African American (54%)– neighborhoods, HOA, apartment complexes/landlords, DeKalb Cty gov't staff, police, homeless advocates B) National Origin: Latin American Assoc, Center Pan Asian Svcs, New American Pathways (Refugees), International Women's Shelter C) Religious i.e. Churches, Synagogues D) Disability: Substance abuse treatment programs, DeKalb Community Service Board (Mental/Behavioral Health), Psych & Medical Hospitals, Positive Impact (HIV/AIDS) E) Familial/Marital Status: Schools, GA Division of Family & Children Svcs, DeKalb Cty court system F) Age: Senior Centers/Senior Housing, Colleges G) Sex: CHRIS 180 (youth ages 18-24, families & sex orientation/gender identity)

2. **PARTICIPANTS' RIGHTS:** During Coord. Entry closing script, CE staff (CES) tell callers that if they feel discriminated against re: housing to let us know & that their rights are protected: Title VI, Fair Housing Act, Section 504, ADA, Age Discrimination Act, HUD's Equal Access Rule & VAWA. In 2023, DeKalb Cty commissioners passed a non-discrimination ordinance protecting all marginalized groups. Clients are told that there is a form to complete but they can also just report via phone call or email. Phone or email option is to reduce barriers. CES completes form for client & records note in HMIS of complaint. CoC staff, CES & housing agency staff attend fair housing training annually presented by Metro Fair Housing Svcs and training by Legal Aid covering legally protected characteristics & Civil Rights Laws. CoC is replacing VISPDAT assessment tool w/ new tool that will take into account key drivers of inequities. CE has Spanish speaking staff & uses phone translator service as needed

3. **REPORTING:** CES typically A) hears of discrimination complaint by client or case mgr or B) by observing housing discrimination. CES report to CE project mgr, CoC/ESG/CDBG project coordinator for housing project & DeKalb Cty Community Dev. housing mgr (CoC lead) via email. Case conference is held amongst staff to determine next steps. Lead staff contacts housing program/apt complex via phone/email for case conference to try & resolve housing concern. Legal Aid/DeKalb Cty lawyers get involved if can't get resolve by staff. Process is documented in CE Policies & Procedures Manual & reviewed/updated yearly

1D-9.	Advancing Racial Equity in Homelessness—Conducting Assessment.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

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.	06/20/2024

1D-9a.	Using Data to Determine if Racial Disparities Exist in Your CoC's Provision or Outcomes of CoC Program-Funded Homeless Assistance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	the data your CoC used to analyze whether any racial disparities are present in your CoC's provision or outcomes of CoC Program-funded homeless assistance; and
2.	how your CoC analyzed the data to determine whether any racial disparities are present in your CoC's provision or outcomes of CoC Program-funded homeless assistance.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. DATA: CoC reviews annually PIT count night enumeration & survey data (Unsheltered data via Esri ArcGIS Survey 123 application & Sheltered data via Eccovia ClientTrack HMIS), coordinated entry HMIS data, service provider HMIS data and U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey and Quick Facts, DeKalb County, GA (Population Estimates, July 1, 2023) for racial disparities. Additionally, majority of CoC staff are Black/African American (82%) and can bring personal experiences to racial disparity discussion. Racial disparity data is presented annually at CoC meeting.

2. ANALYSIS: Data collection and analysis is completed by Ph.D. researcher (PIT & CE project manager), HMIS system administrator, & DeKalb County GIS specialist. DeKalb County's general population is majority Black/African American (54%) [2023 U.S. Census Bureau]. DeKalb County, GA, is 1 of 22 majority Black/African American counties in GA and 1 of 104 majority Black/African American counties in the U.S. [2023 U.S. Census Bureau]. Therefore, the expectation would be that the majority of homeless people in the DeKalb County CoC would be Black/African American which it is. The issue is that the proportion of homeless people who are Black/African American is skewed much higher than the general DeKalb County Black/African American population. The 2024 DeKalb County CoC homeless point-in-time count indicated that the majority of the homeless population were Black/African American (87%). [Unsheltered persons were 84% Black/African American while the sheltered population was at a higher rate of 93%.] Additionally, the majority of people that the outreach team finds and engages on the streets are majority Black/African American (87%). Similarly, the majority of the population requesting services and housing via coordinated entry in HMIS are Black/African American (95%). The majority of homeless people that DeKalb County permanently houses via Rapid Re-Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing are Black/African American (94%). The rate of Black/African American people staying in shelters is slightly higher (97%) [Eccovia ClientTrack HMIS]. Based on the data that the CoC has available, there does not appear to be evidence of racial disparity between the homeless assistance need, provision and outcome. Thus, the majority of people who are homeless are Black/African American and the majority of people who receive housing assistance are Black/African American

1D-9b.	Implemented Strategies to Prevent or Eliminate Racial Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p	

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

1.	Are your CoC's board and decisionmaking bodies representative of the population served in the CoC?	Yes
2.	Did your CoC identify steps it will take to help the CoC board and decisionmaking bodies better reflect the population served in the CoC?	Yes
3.	Is your CoC expanding outreach in your CoC's geographic areas with higher concentrations of underrepresented groups?	Yes
4.	Does your CoC have communication, such as flyers, websites, or other materials, inclusive of underrepresented groups?	Yes
5.	Is your CoC training staff working in the homeless services sector to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness?	Yes
6.	Is your CoC establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of different races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector?	Yes
7.	Does your CoC have staff, committees, or other resources charged with analyzing and addressing racial disparities related to homelessness?	Yes
8.	Is your CoC 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.	Did your CoC review its coordinated entry processes to understand their impact on people of different races and ethnicities experiencing homelessness?	Yes
10.	Is your CoC collecting data to better understand the pattern of program use for people of different races and ethnicities in its homeless services system?	Yes
11.	Is your CoC conducting additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness?	Yes
	Other:(limit 500 characters)	
12.		

1D-9c.	Plan for Ongoing Evaluation of System-Level Processes, Policies, and Procedures for Racial Equity.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

Describe in the field below your CoC's plan for ongoing evaluation of system-level processes, policies, and procedures for racial equity.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC will evaluate its processes, policies, and procedures using data from various sources, system reviews, stakeholder feedback, and input from individuals with lived experience. To facilitate data-informed decision-making, the CoC Data Analyst will conduct ongoing analyses of local data in conjunction with analyzing information from HUD's systems. This includes reviewing coordinated entry HMIS data, service provider HMIS data, and the CoC's annual PIT Count enumeration and survey data to identify trends in racial equity. The analyst will also analyze LSA and Stella P data for additional insights related to racial equity, employing the CoC Analysis Tool: Race and Ethnicity v4.0 for data input.

To address inequities and disparities, the CoC will assess its system-level processes, policies, and procedures. Using a root-cause analysis framework, the CoC will determine the steps necessary to promote equity. In partnership with stakeholders, individuals with lived experience, the community, and County departments, the CoC will develop and document changes to policies and processes aimed at addressing these inequities. At least twice a year, the CoC will review its coordinated entry, emergency shelter, permanent housing, and supportive services policies and processes to ensure that they advance racial equity.

1D-9d.	Plan for Using Data to Track Progress on Preventing or Eliminating Racial Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. the measures your CoC plans to use to continuously track progress on preventing or eliminating racial disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance; and	
	2. the tools your CoC plans to use to continuously track progress on preventing or eliminating racial disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

. The CoC will monitor and track its progress in preventing or eliminating racial disparities by analyzing and documenting data from various sources, gathering relevant stakeholder feedback, and incorporating insights from individuals with lived experience. To support data-informed decision-making, the CoC Data Analyst will conduct ongoing analyses of local data alongside information from HUD's systems. This will include quarterly reviews of coordinated entry and service provider HMIS data, as well as the CoC's annual PIT Count enumeration and survey data to identify trends in racial equity.

Each quarter, the analyst will produce reports on racial disparities, highlighting current trends within the CoC. An annual summary report will be provided to the CoC Planning Committee and Governance Board, detailing changes in racial disparities and the impact of implemented recommendations. The Planning Committee and Governance Board may suggest further actions to mitigate these disparities.

2. In addition to analyzing local HMIS and CoC data, the analyst will review and document LSA and Stella P data to identify racial disparities in outcomes, such as length of time homeless, exits to permanent housing, and returns to homelessness. For deeper insights related to racial equity, the analyst will utilize the CoC Analysis Tool: Race and Ethnicity v4.0 for data input. To gather additional data, the CoC will conduct point-in-time counts and surveys in January and July 2025.

1D-10.	Involving Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Service Delivery and Decisionmaking—CoC's Outreach Efforts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	
	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 decisionmaking processes.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC employs a variety of outreach efforts to engage persons with the lived experience of homelessness in leadership roles and key decision making processes. The CoC Governance Charter specifies that the composition of the CoC Governance Board include a representative with lived experience. The Board Member was elected by unanimous vote of the CoC General Body in large measure because of her personal experience with unsheltered family homelessness, professional experience on the staff of two CoC member organizations and her current commitment to expand and increase access to community based healthcare for un and underinsured individuals in the continuum. The Board member also serves on the CoC Planning and Service Coordination Committee and has been actively engaged in the development, review and rating of new and renewal CoC projects applications. Another member of the CoC Planning Committee was actively recruited, not only as a representative of the CoCs lead youth serving agency but also because of her lived experience as a former foster care youth. The CoC actively recruited three new members to serve on the Youth Advisory Board. All three members have lived experience with the local foster care system and have experienced housing insecurity and homelessness post discharge. The YAB members have assumed key leadership roles in the CoC, sharing their voices and perspectives on the following issues: Gaps in the current homeless youth service system, key methods to engage and incentivize youth participation and in the planning for housing and service models that are uniquely suited to assist youth transitioning to self sufficiency and housing stability - including joint transitional housing/RRH models and shared housing models for LBGTQ+ youth. At every CoC General Body meeting (conducted bi-monthly) the membership is encouraged to invite new members, colleagues, partners and stakeholders to join the CoC and to extend a personal invitation to current or former program participants. Finally, the DeKalb CoC employs an individual with lived experience on the Collaborative Applicant staff. This employee serves as a Coordinated Entry Specialist providing direct engagement and service delivery (assessment and referral) to persons seeking housing and emergency homelessness assistance in the continuum.

1D-10a.	Active CoC Participation of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness. NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	
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You must upload the Lived Experience Support Letter attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.
 Enter in the chart below the number of people with lived experience who currently participate in your CoC under the four 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.	Routinely included in the decisionmaking processes related to addressing homelessness.	4	4
2.	Participate on CoC committees, subcommittees, or workgroups.	4	4
3.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's local competition rating factors.	3	3
4.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's coordinated entry process.	2	2

1D-10b.	Professional Development and Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

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)

The CoC provides professional development opportunities for persons with lived experience through membership on key decision-making committees such as the CoC Governance Board and the CoC Planning and Service Coordination committees. Youth with lived experience are provided professional development opportunities through their participation on the Youth Advisory Board, attendance at CoC meetings, trainings and participation in workgroups. Youth with lived experience also participate in the biennial point in time count and are compensated. Likewise, formerly and currently homeless veterans are employed (compensated) for their participation during the point in time count. The CoC also has also employed persons on the Collaborative Applicant/Coordinated Entry staff with lived experience. Several CoC membership organizations provide both professional development and employment opportunities. For example, Partnership for Community Connections, Inc. a new DeKalb CoC agency has had been intentional about expanding opportunities for inclusive leadership participation. PCCI has had four individuals with lived experience serve on the agency Board of Directors including one youth. The youth board member was provided additional professional development through training paid for by the agency to attend the Georgia Center for Nonprofit training on Non-Profit Board membership. Additionally, the agency employs two persons with lived experience on their staff, an Assistant Program Manager and the Office Coordinator.

1D-10c.	Routinely Gathering Feedback and Addressing Challenges of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

Describe in the field below:

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | how your CoC gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness; |
| 2. | how often your CoC gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness; |
| 3. | how your CoC gathers feedback from people who received assistance through the CoC Program or ESG Program; |
| 4. | how often your CoC gathers feedback from people who have received assistance through the CoC Program or ESG Program; and |
| 5. | steps your CoC has taken to address challenges raised by people with lived experience of homelessness. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The DeKalb CoC routinely gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness during the biennial/annual Homeless Point in Time Counts. A survey is conducted with unsheltered persons to determine primary causes and events precipitating homelessness (deaths, family disfunction, chronic mental or physical illness, active addiction, low or no income etc.) and barriers to accessing emergency shelter or permanent housing.
2. how often your CoC gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness;
3. The CoC also gathers feedback from people who have received assistance through CoC or ESG programs who share their feedback, successes and challenges directly with coordinated entry, agency case management and outreach staff. This feedback is shared during monthly case managers meetings, case staffings and outreach report outs and includes the following types of feedback: Income from work is barely enough to cover basic needs, much less rent; People cannot meet the credit and income requirements for rising rents; Many unsheltered would rather stay on the street or in encampments because they have had negative experiences in shelter (assaults, robbery, etc) or they fear contracting infectious diseases like COVID19, TB, Monkeypox, etc.; Properties that people can "afford" are not safe.
4. how often your CoC gathers feedback from people who have received assistance through the CoC Program or ESG Program; and
5. The CoC has taken several steps to address challenges raised by people with lived experience including working with County Code Enforcement to eliminate blight and address unsanitary/unsafe properties; leveraging other federal resources administered by the Collaborative Applicant to develop and increase the inventory of affordable housing; and ongoing training with CoC and ESG staff on RRH housing search responsibilities, strategies and best practices and Housing Stability Case Management.

1D-11.	Increasing Affordable Housing Supply.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.s.	
	Describe in the field below at least two steps your CoC has taken in the past 12 months to 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. The CoC Collaborative Applicant (CA) participated in meetings with elected officials, County Planning & Sustainability Department (PSD) staff, and representatives from the County Development Authority to discuss the effects of land use requirements on affordable housing. Meetings resulted in recommendations for changes aimed at reducing or eliminating barriers to affordable housing development. The CA reviewed and provided feedback on a proposed Affordable Housing Ordinance intended to boost the affordable housing supply by removing restrictions on lot and unit sizes and offering tax abatements to developers. The passage of this ordinance streamlined the development process and spurred the development of affordable housing for low-income household by eliminating unnecessary hearings and certain geographic restrictions.
2. The CA engaged in discussions with local consultants, DeKalb Code Compliance staff, and PSD representatives to identify ways to remove barriers to affordable housing development. To support this effort, the CA collaborated with PSD to apply for grant funds that would allow the hiring of consultants to analyze local ordinances and suggest modifications that could enhance affordable housing development, particularly near County work centers. Additionally, the CA worked with a developer and PSD to secure a variance for a project that included 84 units of senior housing, with 25 units situated in an area predominantly comprised of high-income housing.

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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1E-1.	Web Posting of Advance Public Notice of Your CoC's Local Competition Deadline, Scoring and Rating Criteria.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.a. and 2.g.	

1.	Enter the date your CoC published its submission deadline and scoring and rating criteria for New Project applicants to submit their project applications for your CoC's local competition.	08/15/2024
2.	Enter the date your CoC published its submission deadline and scoring and rating criteria for Renewal Project applicants to submit their project applications for your CoC's local competition.	08/15/2024

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 V.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., 2.d., and 2.e.	

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

	6. Provided points for projects based on the degree the projects 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.	Yes
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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 V.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)?	150
2.	How many renewal projects did your CoC submit?	18
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 V.B.2.d.	
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Describe in the field below:	
1.	how your CoC 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.	the severe barriers your CoC considered.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC collected and analyzed system performance data for each project applicant to evaluate successful exits to permanent housing and the length of time individuals experienced homelessness. This analysis used performance data from the two most recent APRs, Comparable Databases for DV projects, and Internal Data for new applicants. Applicants showing an 80-100% success rate in exits to permanent housing earned up to 10 points. Project-specific APR scorecards were also employed to validate applicant responses.

2.The CoC assessed the time to house individuals in permanent housing by analyzing HMIS data and using a custom report to track referrals made from Coordinated Entry (CE) to permanent housing projects. Compliance with CE protocols was evaluated, including the timeliness of referral acceptance (within 2 weeks) and the percentage of rejected referrals (60% or higher). Each renewal project applicant could earn up to 25 points.

3.The CoC considered the severity of needs and vulnerabilities of distinct subpops during project reviews, ratings, and rankings. For instance, individuals experiencing chronic homelessness with severe physical, mental, or behavioral challenges, families with a history of housing instability and evictions, and survivors of domestic violence or youth at risk of re-abuse were considered.

Renewal projects were awarded points for each homeless subpop served. 2 points for serving subpops with high severity of need, such as chronic homelessness, domestic violence survivors, or families with children. 1 point for serving subpopulations with substance abuse or mental illness, or those with HIV/AIDS. 2 points for renewal projects that were 100% dedicated, Dedicated Plus, or that prioritized chronic homelessness for rollover beds. 3 points for new projects prioritizing chronic homelessness. Additionally, new projects that align with CoC priorities and provide housing and services to the hardest-to-serve pops, including new PSH for chronic homelessness or service-resistant individuals and youth with higher service needs, could earn up to 4 bonus points (2 points for the first criterion and 1 point for new Joint Transitional Housing Rapid Rehousing projects serving unsheltered individuals from the street and domestic violence). The CoC considered low-performing projects for reallocation.

4.Domestic Violence, sexual assault, trafficking victims; no income; substance abuse; mental illness; chronic homelessness; HIV/AIDS.

1E-3.	Advancing Racial Equity through Participation of Over-Represented Populations in the Local Competition Review and Ranking Process.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.e.	
	Describe in the field below:	
1.	how your CoC used input from persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, to determine the rating factors used to review project applications;	
2.	how your CoC included persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population in the review, selection, and ranking process; and	
3.	how your CoC rated and ranked projects based on the degree that proposed projects 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 steps the projects took or will take to eliminate the identified barriers.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The DeKalb CoC Planning Committee members also serve on a dedicated Applications Subcommittee. This subcommittee collaborates with the Collaborative Applicant to develop application guidelines, create applications for new and renewal projects, and establish objective rating factors. Members who have CoC grants cannot serve. The Planning Committee is diverse, with at least 80% of its members representing racial groups that are overrepresented in the CoC homeless population, including individuals with lived experience. Black Americans are notably overrepresented in this population.

2. The Local Application Review Team is similarly composed of individuals from diverse racial backgrounds, including those overrepresented in the local homeless population, and includes five reviewers with lived experience within the last seven years. This team is responsible for the objective review and ranking of both new and renewal project applications.

3. Project applicants, both new and renewal, are rated and ranked based on how well they identify barriers to participation (such as lack of outreach). Applicants must provide a project description that outlines the community need, target population(s), the number of individuals to be served, and expected outcomes. They must specifically address barriers faced by individuals from different racial and ethnic backgrounds, especially those overrepresented in the local homeless population, as well as detail the steps taken or planned to address these barriers. A total of 5 points can be awarded for this aspect of the application.

1E-4.	Reallocation—Reviewing Performance of Existing Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.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 low performing or less needed projects through the process described in element 1 of this question during your CoC's 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)

. The CoC considers reallocating funds from existing renewal projects to support new or expand higher-performing projects. Factors taken into account when determining candidates for reallocation include: (1) Projects that do not align with HUD and CoC policies and priorities; (2) Projects that are underperforming, as indicated by APR scores; (3) Projects that indicate they will not or cannot implement the scope of work proposed in the previous NOFO application; and (4) Projects showing a 2-3 year trend of underspending or that indicate they have funding exceeding their spending capacity. Recommendations for reallocation, along with their rationale, are reviewed by the Collaborative Applicant and Application Review teams before being presented to the CoC Governance Board for consideration and approval of the priority listing and ranking of projects, including any rejections, reductions, or reallocations.

2. Three projects with a history of low performance indicated they could not implement the scope of work submitted in the previous NOFO and requested to be removed from the competition. Additionally, a project focused on Domestic Violence Survivors requested to be removed after scoring was completed.

3. The CoC reallocated funds from three projects that had consistently performed poorly in previous years and requested reallocation.

4. The CoC proceeded with reallocating three low-performing projects that expressed a desire for reallocation. However, the CoC decided not to reallocate funds from two other low-performing projects. The DCM Interim Housing Project is crucial for the CoC, as it is the sole provider of Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing, which is much needed. Furthermore, DCM faced issues with illegal lease terminations. Welcome Home, which provides Permanent Supportive Housing, is also essential for the CoC. An improvement plan has been submitted, and the Collaborative Applicant is committed to collaborating with the agency to provide technical assistance to enhance its capacity.

1E-4a.	Reallocation Between FY 2019 and FY 2024.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.f.	

	Did your CoC cumulatively reallocate at least 20 percent of its ARD between FY 2019 and FY 2024?	No
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1E-5.	Projects Rejected/Reduced—Notification Outside of e-snaps.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

1.	Did your CoC reject any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	Yes
2.	Did your CoC reduce funding for any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	Yes
3.	Did your CoC inform applicants why your CoC rejected or reduced their project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	Yes

	<p>4. If you selected Yes for element 1 or element 2 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 06/26/2024, 06/27/2024, and 06/28/2024, then you must enter 06/28/2024.</p>	10/03/2024
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1E-5a.	<p>Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps.</p> <p>NOFO Section V.B.2.g.</p> <p>You must upload the Notification of Projects Accepted attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.</p>	
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	<p>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 06/26/2024, 06/27/2024, and 06/28/2024, then you must enter 06/28/2024.</p>	10/03/2024
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1E-5b.	<p>Local Competition Selection Results for All Projects.</p> <p>NOFO Section V.B.2.g.</p> <p>You must upload the Local Competition Selection Results attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.</p>	
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	<p>Does your attachment include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project Names; 2. Project Scores; 3. Project Status–Accepted, Rejected, Reduced Reallocated, Fully Reallocated; 4. Project Rank; 5. Amount Requested from HUD; and 6. Reallocated Funds +/-. 	Yes
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1E-5c.	<p>Web Posting of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application 2 Days Before CoC Program Competition Application Submission Deadline.</p> <p>NOFO Section V.B.2.g. and 24 CFR 578.95.</p> <p>You must upload the Web Posting–CoC-Approved Consolidated Application attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.</p>	
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	<p>Enter the date your CoC posted the CoC-approved Consolidated Application on the CoC’s website or partner’s website—which included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the CoC Application; and 2. Priority Listings for Reallocation forms and all New, Renewal, and Replacement Project Listings. 	10/28/2024
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1E-5d.	<p>Notification to Community Members and Key Stakeholders by Email that the CoC-Approved Consolidated Application is Posted on Website.</p> <p>NOFO Section V.B.2.g.</p> <p>You must upload the Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.</p>	
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	Enter the date your CoC notified community members and key stakeholders that the CoC-approved Consolidated Application was posted on your CoC's website or partner's website.	10/28/2024
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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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 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.	Eccovia Solutions
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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 V.B.3.a.	

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2024 HIC data into HDX.	05/02/2024
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2A-4.	Comparable Databases for DV Providers—CoC and HMIS Lead Supporting Data Collection and Data Submission by Victim Service Providers.	
	NOFO Section V.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 HMIS comparable databases; and	
	2. state whether DV housing and service providers in your CoC are using a HUD-compliant comparable database—compliant with the FY 2024 HMIS Data Standards.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC and HMIS Lead have implemented a stand-alone instance of the Eccovia HMIS software ClientTrack for DV providers. This software is HMIS compliant with the 2024 Data Standards.

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

Using the 2024 HDX Competition Report we issued your CoC, enter data in the chart below by project type:

Project Type	Adjusted Total Year-Round, Current Non-VSP Beds [Column F of HDX Report]	Adjusted Total Year-Round, Current VSP Beds [Column K of HDX Report]	Total Year-Round, Current, HMIS Beds and VSP Beds in an HMIS Comparable Database [Column M of HDX Report]	HMIS and Comparable Database Coverage Rate [Column O of HDX Report]
1. Emergency Shelter (ES) beds	135	50	93	50.27%
2. Safe Haven (SH) beds	0	0	0	100.00%
3. Transitional Housing (TH) beds	10	0	10	26.32%
4. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	261	0	225	86.21%
5. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	1,091	0	933	85.52%
6. Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds	73	0	73	100.00%

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

1A) After receiving the Summary report, the CoC quickly identified DV projects (both in ES and TH category) that were not updated with the new Data Element for HMIS participating. They still reflected the old Non-Participating. This caused the coverage rate to reflect extremely low at 50.27% for ES and 25.32% for TH. Because the LSA/HIC could not be updated in HDX, the CoC can confirm through once HMIS was updated, recalculating the coverage rate improved the coverage rate for ES to 77% and TH to 100%. We are also working with current ES shelters to monitor fluctuations in current bed capacity. We find that Unit to bed ratios do not always reflect full capacity when calculating Family occupancy. Along with the project data field updated, the CoC has made steps to improve this calculation for future reports.

1B) The additional 42 beds were for a new warming shelter program. The HMIS administrator is working with New Life on entering warming shelter beds into ClientTrack HMIS

2) IMPLEMENT STEPS

2A) The HMIS administrator has already updated the project descriptors to reflect the proper designations for Comparable databases. During this year's LSA submission process, the HMIS administrator will be checking with bed programs for actual bed capacity for each quarter of the year to insure capacity is reflected accurately with any fluctuations in availability. Coordination between the Coordinated Entry referrals and Shelters will examine placements and no shows to open beds.

2B) HMIS admin has set up New Life Warming Shelter program in HMIS. Nights are getting colder so the warming shelter will open up again soon. Prior to opening night, HMIS admin will train staff on entering clients into warming shelter program. Admin staff will then review data to monitor for any issues over the winter season.

2A-6.	Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Submission in HDX 2.0.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.d.	
	You must upload your CoC's FY 2024 HDX Competition Report to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

Did your CoC submit at least two usable LSA data files to HUD in HDX 2.0 by January 24, 2024, 11:59 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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2B-1.	PIT Count Date.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.a	

	Enter the date your CoC conducted its 2024 PIT count.	01/30/2024
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2B-2.	PIT Count Data—HDX Submission Date.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.a	

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2024 PIT count data in HDX.	05/10/2024
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2B-3.	PIT Count—Effectively Counting Youth in Your CoC's Most Recent Unsheltered PIT Count.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.b.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
	1. engaged unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations in your CoC's most recent PIT count planning process;	
	2. worked with unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations to select locations where homeless youth are most likely to be identified during your CoC's most recent PIT count planning process; and	
	3. included youth experiencing homelessness as counters during your CoC's most recent unsheltered PIT count.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

CHRIS 180 (DeKalb County CoC funded homeless youth focused agency) helped plan homeless count, identified youth specific hotspot locations, & conducted count with 2 special coverage / enumeration teams.

1) ENGAGEMENT: CoC reached out to youth provider in December to request participation in homeless PIT count. Provider served on planning committee, helped create youth counting/surveying process & youth survey questions, & led / staffed homeless youth focused count teams. Planning committee met monthly.

2) YOUTH INVOLVED IN COUNT: 2 special coverage teams comprised of staff & residents from CHRIS 180 participated in count. Teams went to known homeless youth hot spots (locations informed by homeless youth/provider, police officers and outreach staff). Youth on count teams approached other youth who appeared homeless because youth are more willing to engage with peers & homeless youth are more easily able to identify other homeless youth. The homeless survey included the HUD PIT Count Youth Survey – Addendum. The survey questions (i.e. about foster care, stays in juvenile detention center, educational status) were asked of any identified youth

3) STAKEHOLDERS SELECTING LOCATIONS: 3A) Youth focused agency has outreach workers who conduct street outreach weekly and identified locations where homeless youth most likely to be found. 3B) CHRIS 180 program director asked homeless youth residents and staff where to find unsheltered homeless youth. 3C) Known homeless youth hotspot locations included South DeKalb Mall, downtown Decatur, certain parks, colleges (Georgia Piedmont Technical College & GA State University Perimeter College); 3D) CHRIS 180 provided list of identified youth focused hotspot locations by 1st week in January

2B-4.	PIT Count–Methodology Change–CoC Merger Bonus Points.	
NOFO Section V.B.5.a and V.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 2023 and 2024, if applicable;	
2.	describe any changes your CoC made to your unsheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2023 and 2024, if applicable;	
3.	describe whether your CoC's PIT count was affected by people displaced either from a natural disaster or seeking short-term shelter or housing assistance who recently arrived in your CoCs' geographic; and	
4.	describe how the changes affected your CoC's PIT count results; or	
5.	state "Not Applicable" if there were no changes or if you did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2024.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

5. Non applicable because no changes to PIT count methodology between 2023 and 2024

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) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2C-1.	Reducing the Number of First Time Homeless—Risk Factors Your CoC Uses.	
	NOFO Section V.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)

For FY 2023 Reporting Year System Performance Measures #5.2, majority of people entering housing system are first time homeless (88%)

1) DETERMINE RISK FACTORS: A) Annually for homeless count a survey is conducted with a question asking about causes of homelessness. For 2024, top reasons incl economic (low to no income), family issues (domestic violence, divorce) & housing (can't pay rent); B) Coordinated Entry (CE) staff complete housing crisis needs assessment in HMIS for each first time caller gathering info on individual risk factors including mental & physical health, drug/alcohol addiction, facing eviction, housings costs compared to income, reasons for being behind on rent, etc.; C) Each month there is a CE/case managers meeting which identifies & discusses structural risks such as lack of affordable housing, transportation issues, lack of daycare for families; D) PIT/CE project manager is PhD researcher who extensively researches both local and national factors to present annually at CoC and other community meetings. Based on current research, increases in first-time homelessness may be due to the expiration of pandemic-era protections and resources, lack of affordable housing, & lack of tenant protection; E) As street outreach staff work with unhoused persons, they gather info as to people's pathways into homelessness

2) ADDRESS AT RISK BECOMING HOMELESS: Households at risk of homelessness access CE via phone line & complete pre-screen which incl housing crisis needs assessment to request prevention services. Referral made by CE staff to the ESG & other funded agencies based on who has available funds. Client meets with prevention agency for eligibility screening, and if meets criteria, agency works with landlord to pay outstanding arrears, late fees & current month rent to prevent homelessness. Individuals & families at risk of becoming homeless are eligible to receive Prevention Services (financial/utility/rental/arrear). The CoC also coordinates with Faith Based entities & United Way to provide prevention services to at-risk families moving from hotels to permanent housing. Collaborative partnership exists with Georgia Power to identify persons at-risk of homelessness due to utility shut offs. Also, DeKalb County is launching two new programs to provide prevention assistance: \$13M for Integrated Community Care Initiative and \$8M for HOME ARP

3) RESPONSIBLE: ESG coordinator, HOME APR coordinator, CE project manager, CE prevention specialist

2C-1a.	Impact of Displaced Persons on Number of First Time Homeless.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.b	

Was your CoC's Number of First Time Homeless [metric 5.2] affected by the number of persons seeking short-term shelter or housing assistance displaced due to:

1.	natural disasters?	No
2.	having recently arrived in your CoC's geographic area?	No

2C-2.	Reducing Length of Time Homeless—CoC's Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.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)

SysPM 1.2 (ES & TH) shows avg 82 days while (ES, TH & PH) shows avg 506.2 days. CoC reduced Length Time Homeless (LOTH) from previous year. CoC's goal is to refer household to a housing program within 90 days of enrolling in CE. On avg it is 67 days from calling CE to referral to PH program. Also, CoC & clients still feel impact from Covid/inflation/poor economy on housing supply and competition for available housing.

- 1) STRATEGIES: 1a) CoC partners with Open Doors (agency connects non-profit organizations with real estate operators); 1b) CoC partnering with Goodwill Industries, Worksource Dev., etc. for jobs, higher income and inc work skills; First Step Staffing can place in job immediately; 1c) CE/outreach/agency staff work with clients to be document ready for housing (homeless verification, medical docs, SSI payee, TB test) & complete housing applications; 1d) For documents, partner with Crossroads Community Min., First Presb. Church & Sal Army to help clients obtain free documents that are required for housing/jobs/schooling e.g. birth certificates, identification, SS card; 1e) Added DeKalb Cty Housing Auth. 15 housing choice vouchers (DV/lit hmlss/CH) & 10 housing choice vouchers (HH size 5 or larger); 1f) Chronic homeless with mental/behavioral health issues have been resistant to PH so connecting w/ street outreach, homeless advocates and MH/BH providers - DeKalb Community Srvc Board, GA Regional Hospital, etc.; 1g) Coordinated Entry (CE) specialists (CES) address problems that arise w/ high barrier clients via case conferences (w/ agency/outreach staff) & client discussion
- 2) IDENTIFIIES & HOUSES: 2a) Clients call into CE hotline for CE enrollment, prescreen & comprehensive assessment (VI-SPDAT) in HMIS. Longest LOTH is factor in VI-SPDAT for higher score & automatically ranked higher on permanent housing by name list (PH BNL); CE staff review PH BNL daily; immediate match & refer when receive notice of PH openings; 2b) Street outreach staff complete weekly outreach efforts throughout DeKalb County to identify new homeless persons and to connect with already known homeless. Street homeless people are enrolled in outreach program in HMIS. Outreach team has an outreach BNL to keep track of LOTH; 2c) Open Doors & agency staff identifies housing properties willing to work w/ bad credit, recent evictions, criminal records & income ration disparity
- 3) RESPONSIBLE: ESG, CoC & CE project coordinators

2C-3.	Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention –CoC's Strategy.
	NOFO Section V.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) INC TO PH: SysPM 7b.1 shows 46.3%; According to research, DeKalb County experienced reduction in affordable housing. Rents went up 20% higher for end of 2021. New rental housing favors high end market. Increased barriers to housing include past evictions, criminal records, etc. Increasing unemployment rate. Racial & economic segregation; CoC is meeting w/ each agency yearly & trains at bi-monthly CoC

1a) Emergency Shelter (ES): Connect clients jobs (Goodwill, First Step Staffing, Worksource); Assist clients to get documentation for perm housing (License/identification, birth cert, Soc Security cards, income verification, etc.); Help w/ completing housing apps; Connect clients w/ Open Doors (see RRH for description); ES staff attend monthly CE meetings to review clients referred, need to be referred & struggling to find housing

1b) No safe haven programs in CoC

1c) For TH, case managers work w/ clients to develop individual stability plan to sets goals (i.e. jobs, GED, sobriety, budget) to accomplish for exiting to PH. TH case mangers work w/ CE specialist to find PH options.

1d) RRH agencies partner w/ Open Doors (OD) to connect clients to apartments where they have relationships w. landlords to place high barrier households (i.e. poor credit, evictions, income ratio disparity, criminal records). OD has list over 100+ apt complexes that are affordable & work w/ high barrier households; CoC funded projects have access to medium or long term rental assistance; RRH case managers connect clients for job training & placement at Workforce Development, 1st Step Staffing, Next Step Staffing, & Goodwill training programs; Clients can meet w/ case managers once a month to review their Individual Service Plan (i.e. budgeting); Follow up w/ households even after housed for housing retention.

2) RETAIN/EXIT TO PERMANENT HOUSE: SySPM 7b.2 shows 96.3%; CoC focuses on providing agencies w/ resource for clients to increase cash & noncash income while in PH; Work w/ DeKalb Cty Housing Authority for 113 Emergency Housing Vouchers allowing PSH clients ready to move on into EHV units; When PSH clients are struggling, staff reach out to CoC coordinator for case conference to discuss possible solutions around client issues to prevent client from becoming homeless again (i.e. transfer to different PSH complex); Connect clients w/ Assertive Community MH Treatment teams as needed

3) RESPONSIBLE: ESG, CoC & CE Coordinators

2C-4.	Reducing Returns to Homelessness—CoC's Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.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 that individuals and families return 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.

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.
8.	Only use the "Other" attachment option to meet an attachment requirement that is not otherwise listed in these detailed instructions.

Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1C-7. PHA Homeless Preference	No	1C-7 PHA Homeless...	10/25/2024
1C-7. PHA Moving On Preference	No	1C-7 PHA Moving O...	10/27/2024
1D-10a. Lived Experience Support Letter	Yes	1D-10a. Lived Exp...	10/25/2024
1D-2a. Housing First Evaluation	Yes	1D-2a Housing Fir...	10/27/2024
1E-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	1E-2 Local Compet...	10/27/2024
1E-2a. Scored Forms for One Project	Yes	1E-2a Scored Form...	10/27/2024
1E-5. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	1ENotification of...	10/25/2024
1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	1E-5a Notificatio...	10/27/2024
1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results	Yes	1E-5b. Local Comp...	10/25/2024
1E-5c. Web Posting—CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes		
1E-5d. Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes		

2A-6. HUD's Homeless Data Exchange (HDX) Competition Report	Yes	2A-6 HUD's Homele...	10/28/2024
3A-1a. Housing Leveraging Commitments	No	3A-1a Housing Lev...	10/27/2024
3A-2a. Healthcare Formal Agreements	No	3A-2a. Healthcare...	10/27/2024
3C-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No	3C-2 Project List...	10/27/2024
Other	No		

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1C-7 PHA Homeless Preference

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1C-7 PHA Moving On Preference

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1D-10a. Lived Experience Support Letter

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1D-2a Housing First Evaluation

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-2 Local Competition Scoring Tool

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-2a Scored Forms for One Project

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1ENotification of Projects Rejected-Reduced

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5a Notification of Projects Accepted

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: 2A-6 HUD's Homeless Data Exchange (HDX) Competition

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 Federal Statutes

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Submission Summary

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

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	10/06/2024
1B. Inclusive Structure	10/28/2024
1C. Coordination and Engagement	Please Complete
1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd	10/28/2024
1E. Project Review/Ranking	10/28/2024
2A. HMIS Implementation	10/28/2024
2B. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count	10/28/2024
2C. System Performance	Please Complete
3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare	10/28/2024
3B. Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs	10/28/2024
3C. Serving Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes	10/28/2024

FY2024 CoC Application	Page 72	10/28/2024
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4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants	Please Complete
4B. Attachments Screen	Please Complete
Submission Summary	No Input Required
Notes: 4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants list contains 1 incomplete item.	

2024 HUD Continuum of Care Program Competition

1C-7 PHA Homeless Preference

4-III.C. SELECTION METHOD

PHAs must describe the method for selecting applicant families from the waiting list, including the system of admission preferences that the PHA will use [24 CFR 982.202(d)].

Local Preferences [24 CFR 982.207; HCV p. 4-16]

PHAs are permitted to establish local preferences, and to give priority to serving families that meet those criteria. HUD specifically authorizes and places restrictions on certain types of local preferences. HUD also permits the PHA to establish other local preferences, at its discretion. Any local preferences established must be consistent with the PHA plan and the consolidated plan, and must be based on local housing needs and priorities that can be documented by generally accepted data sources.

HADC Policy

The HADC will offer a preference to the following:

- DeKalb County residents;
 - Project-based voucher transfer waiting list;
 - Families participating in the HADC Foster Youth Aging Out Program;
 - Families participating in an HADC Homeless Demonstration Program;
 - State of Georgia Settlement Agreement Housing Program – Persons meeting the criteria under the Americans with Disabilities Act Settlement Agreement between the Department of Justice and the State of Georgia in order to assist the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities (DBHDD) and Department of Community Health (DCH) in carrying out the remedy required by the Settlement Agreement. To qualify for this preference an applicant must be receiving continuous voluntary highly targeted community based supportive services through DBHDD and the DCH. The preference will cover persons specified in the Settlement Agreement. In particular, the preference extends to persons with developmental disabilities and persons with severe and persistent mental illness or at risk of institutionalization. For people with mental illness, factors that indicate risk of institutionalization include people who are frequently readmitted to State hospitals, who are frequently seen in emergency rooms, who are chronically homeless, an/or who are being released from jails or prisons. The preference will also cover persons specified in the Settlement Agreement who are currently receiving temporary housing assistance through Georgia's DBHDD and the DCH.
 - Families terminated due to insufficient funding;
-

4-III.C. SELECTION METHOD

PHAs must describe the method for selecting applicant families from the waiting list, including the system of admission preferences that the PHA will use [24 CFR 982.202(d)].

Local Preferences [24 CFR 982.207; HCV p. 4-16]

PHAs are permitted to establish local preferences, and to give priority to serving families that meet those criteria. HUD specifically authorizes and places restrictions on certain types of local preferences. HUD also permits the PHA to establish other local preferences, at its discretion. Any local preferences established must be consistent with the PHA plan and the consolidated plan, and must be based on local housing needs and priorities that can be documented by generally accepted data sources.

HADC Policy

The HADC will offer a preference to the following:

- DeKalb County residents;
- Project-based voucher transfer waiting list;
- Families participating in the HADC Foster Youth Aging Out Program
- Families participating in an HADC Homeless Demonstration Program;
- State of Georgia Settlement Agreement Housing Program – Persons meeting the criteria under the Americans with Disabilities Act Settlement Agreement between the Department of Justice and the State of Georgia in order to assist the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities (DBHDD) and Department of Community Health (DCH) in carrying out the remedy required by the Settlement Agreement. To qualify for this preference an applicant must be receiving continuous voluntary highly targeted community based supportive services through DBHDD and the DCH. The preference will cover persons specified in the Settlement Agreement. In particular, the preference extends to persons with developmental disabilities and persons with severe and persistent mental illness or at risk of institutionalization. For people with mental illness, factors that indicate risk of institutionalization include people who are frequently readmitted to State hospitals, who are frequently seen in emergency rooms, who are chronically homeless, an/or who are being released from jails or prisons. The preference will also cover persons specified in the Settlement Agreement who are currently receiving temporary housing assistance thorough Georgia's DBHDD and the DCH.
- Families terminated due to insufficient funding;

4-III.C. SELECTION METHOD

PHAs must describe the method for selecting applicant families from the waiting list, including the system of admission preferences that the PHA will use [24 CFR 982.202(d)].

Local Preferences [24 CFR 982.207; HCV p. 4-16]

PHAs are permitted to establish local preferences, and to give priority to serving families that meet those criteria. HUD specifically authorizes and places restrictions on certain types of local preferences. HUD also permits the PHA to establish other local preferences, at its discretion. Any local preferences established must be consistent with the PHA plan and the consolidated plan, and must be based on local housing needs and priorities that can be documented by generally accepted data sources.

HADC Policy

The HADC will offer a preference to the following:

- DeKalb County residents;
- Project-based voucher transfer waiting list;
- Families participating in the HADC Foster Youth Aging Out Program;
- Families participating in an HADC Homeless Demonstration Program;
- State of Georgia Settlement Agreement Housing Program – Persons meeting the criteria under the Americans with Disabilities Act Settlement Agreement between the Department of Justice and the State of Georgia in order to assist the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities (DBHDD) and Department of Community Health (DCH) in carrying out the remedy required by the Settlement Agreement. To qualify for this preference an applicant must be receiving continuous voluntary highly targeted community based supportive services through DBHDD and the DCH. The preference will cover persons specified in the Settlement Agreement. In particular, the preference extends to persons with developmental disabilities and persons with severe and persistent mental illness or at risk of institutionalization. For people with mental illness, factors that indicate risk of institutionalization include people who are frequently readmitted to State hospitals, who are frequently seen in emergency rooms, who are chronically homeless, an/or who are being released from jails or prisons. The preference will also cover persons specified in the Settlement Agreement who are currently receiving temporary housing assistance through Georgia's DBHDD and the DCH.
- Families terminated due to insufficient funding;

2024 HUD Continuum of Care Program Competition

1C-7 PHA Moving On Preference

N/A

2024 HUD Continuum of Care Program Competition

1D-10a Lived Experience Support Letter

Alma G. Cooper

From: Selima Morrow <selimamorrow@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2024 3:31 PM
To: Alma G. Cooper
Subject: Re: Letter of support + Additional Docs
Attachments: Morrow- LOS .pdf; LOS-3.pdf

•• WARNING: The sender of this email could not be validated and may not match the person in the "From" field ••

Please see attached.

In Community,
Selima Morrow, LMSW
Pronouns: She/Her

On Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 03:07:44 PM EDT, Alma G. Cooper <agcooper@dekalbcountyga.gov> wrote:

I'm sorry here is his contact information

Norm Suchar

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office of Special Needs Assistance Program

451 7th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20410

From: Selima Morrow <selimamorrow@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2024 2:27 PM
To: Alma G. Cooper <agcooper@dekalbcountyga.gov>
Subject: Re: Letter of support + Additional Docs

Hi Ms, Alma,

10/1/24

Norm Suchar
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Special Needs Assistance Program
451 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410

To Suchar,

My name is Selima Morrow, and I have personally experienced homelessness from the ages of 20 to 22. During that time, my daughter and I couch-surfed, slept in our car, and even stayed in places not meant for human habitation. Those experiences were life-changing, shaping both my worldview and my desire to help others facing the same hardships.

This personal journey ignited my passion to advocate for and support those who lack stable housing. My professional path has led me to work in program planning and policy advocacy, specifically at the intersections of youth homelessness, health, mental health, and the unique challenges faced by LGBTQ youth.

Having lived through homelessness myself, I deeply understand the fears, isolation, and vulnerabilities that young people in these situations endure. This connection fuels my commitment to providing the support, resources, and opportunities they need to not only survive but thrive. I know how essential it is to create a sense of belonging, stability, and hope, and I've dedicated my career to ensuring no young person feels invisible or forgotten.

I am especially proud of the work we're developing in DeKalb County, where we're uplifting the voices of youth and creating opportunities for them to lead safe, stable, and fulfilling lives. Through my lived experience and professional work, I aim to continue advocating for solutions that empower young people, helping them build brighter futures.

In Community,
Selima Morrow
DYAB Member

Alma G. Cooper

From: Ebony Harris <eharris@yess4youth.org>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 10:06 AM
To: Alma G. Cooper; Richards, Melvia
Subject: YESS Letter of Support
Attachments: Deklab_LOS.pdf

See attached.

Ebony Harris



CEO, Youth Empowerment Success Services
770.217.7845 x7 -O 470.236.9377- C eharris@yess4youth.org

Address: 1635 Phoenix Blvd., Suite 7
College Park, GA 30349

Website: www.YESS4Youth.org

Agency Mission: Our mission is to provide youth with affordable and stable housing, practical life skills and an identifiable support system to propel them towards their future goals.



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October 17, 2024

Norm Suchar,
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs
451 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410

Re: Letter of Support from Workgroup with Lived Experience

Dear Mr. Suchar,

On behalf of the DeKalb CoC Governance Board and the DeKalb Youth Committee, I am pleased to offer this letter of support for the application being submitted by the DeKalb County Continuum of Care (CoC) in response to the Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (Special NOFO) to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness.

As a member of the CoC Governance Board and Chair of the DeKalb Youth Advisory Board I am a duly authorized workgroup representative. The DeKalb Youth Committee, a dedicated working group of the DeKalb CoC, is comprised of three individuals 18-24 with lived experience of homelessness, housing instability, and foster care. The CoC actively recruited their participation and engagement as an active board whose members have full CoC voting rights and opportunities for meaningful input and participation in decision-making. A copy of the recruitment and outreach flyer and the DYAB letter of commitment, which documents their lived status, commitment and expectations as active board members is attached for your reference.

The application meets the priorities set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, including use of a low barrier/housing first approach, commitment to reducing unsheltered homelessness, addressing the needs of unsheltered homeless with severe service needs, partnerships with Housing, Health and Service Agencies, promoting racial equity and inclusion and ending homelessness for all persons, including youth.

Sincerely,

Ebony Harris
Chief Empowerment Officer

Alma G. Cooper

From: Johnnie Gardner <jgardner545@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 10:11 AM
To: Richards, Melvia
Cc: Alma G. Cooper
Subject: Johnnie Gardner
Attachments: J.G Letter of Support.docx

Attached is a copy of the letter of Support.

Thank you for your time help. make it a great day.

J.Gr

October 18, 2024

Melvia Richards
Housing Manager
DeKalb County
178 Sams Street Suite A-3500
Decatur, GA 30030

Dear Ms. Richards,

Subject: Lived Experience Support Letter

I am writing to express my strong support for the DeKalb County CoC's priorities in assisting individuals and families facing homelessness, particularly those with severe service needs. As a veteran with disabilities and two years of lived experience with homelessness, I have been a quiet member of the CoC. When I had the opportunity to serve as a Peer Reviewer for the CoC application reviews, I gladly accepted. This experience deepened my understanding of the review process and highlighted the importance of active participation.

I wholeheartedly pledge my support to the mission of ending homelessness.

Best regards,

J. Gr

Alma G. Cooper

From: Janeane Schmidt <Janeane.Schmidt@uss.salvationarmy.org>
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 10:07 AM
To: Alma G. Cooper
Subject: FW: support letter
Attachments: DeKalb County Support Letter.docx.pdf

SERGEANT JANEANE SCHMIDT

Director of Social Services, Metro Atlanta



Georgia Division
Metropolitan Atlanta Area Command

P: +1 (404)486-2953 M: +1 (404)550-4980
1000 Center Pl, Norcross, GA 30093

[Message me on Teams](#)

From: Janeane Schmidt
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2024 10:05 AM
To: Tommy Phillips (tphillips@DeKalbCountyGa.gov) <tphillips@DeKalbCountyGa.gov>
Subject: support letter

SERGEANT JANEANE SCHMIDT

Director of Social Services, Metro Atlanta



Georgia Division
Metropolitan Atlanta Area Command

P: +1 (404)486-2953 M: +1 (404)550-4980
1000 Center Pl, Norcross, GA 30093

[Message me on Teams](#)



William Booth, *Founder*
 Lyndon Buckingham, *General*
 Commissioner Kelly Igleheart, *Territorial Commander*
 Major John Murphy, *Divisional Commander*
 Major Thomas McWilliams, *Metro Atlanta Area Commander*
 Major Stacie McWilliams, *Metro Atlanta Area Commander*

10/25/2024

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 Thad D. King
 Jeff Lakusta
 Rep. Dewey McClain
 Tate McKee
 Dawn G. McNear
 Joseph Nixon
 Heather Prill
 Thomas Prior
 Joel (Austin) Pugmire
 Jeff Sheehan
 J,nette Eaddy Smith

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 Neely Young

EMERITUS MEMBERS

Hugh Peterson, Jr.
 Lex Piper
 Neal Purcell
 Sandy Purdie

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Scott Chatham
 Pam Hendlex
 Timothy O'Kelley
 Mark Willis

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the DeKalb County Continuum of Care's FY 2024 NOFO application. Having personally navigated the complexities of being unhoused, I believe my unique perspective is crucial to the success of the Fulton County Continuum of Care and can significantly improve the lives of others facing similar challenges.

My Lived Experience:

- I was homeless on two occasions, once in 1989 in Boise, Idaho and the second time was in 1991 in New Orleans, Louisiana. On both occasions I initially was unsheltered for about a week before I found a homeless shelter. On the first occasion I only stayed a week before I left and decided to couch surf. That lasted about nine months. I finally found a job and was able to, after several months, find a place to live. Life was very difficult, as I was an addict and did not know of any resources to assist. In 1991, I arrived in New Orleans and quickly found myself homeless and on the streets. I ended up calling The Salvation Army, and they placed me in their shelter. I also, spent time in a detox unit, then returned to the shelter. On that occasion, I was homeless for about 5months. I was a part of a federal study on addicts receiving treatment and therefore was able to receive some referrals for resources. They were limited though, and I quickly found a job again.
- In 1992, I began working with The Salvation Army at their shelter in New Orleans until 1994. In 1996 until 2022 I worked for The Salvation Army shelter in Atlanta, Red Shield Services I have worked with many clients who are homeless, have experienced unsheltered homelessness and those who have overcome their situation. Challenges for this population are background issues, affordable housing, motivation for recovery, time required for applying for services, meeting the qualifications for services, and knowledge of services.

My lived experience provides me with an understanding of the barriers faced by individuals and families experiencing homelessness, such as stigma, lack of awareness about available resources, and the complexities of navigating bureaucratic systems. One of the best improvements I have seen since I was homeless is the Coordinated Entry program. This assessment of clients needs and opportunities for resources is a huge step towards helping the homeless navigate the system.

The Dekalb County Continuum of Care's work aligns with the needs I encountered while experiencing homelessness, specifically, the need for additional funding resources and permanent supportive housing that serves individuals and families experiencing homelessness with severe service needs.

I serve on the DeKalb County Continuum of Care's Point In Time Count Planning and Rank and Review Committees. My experience has given me a unique lens of expertise through which to support the CoC and its partners with the challenges and uniqueness of homelessness.

The CoC's work funded through the FY 2024 NOFO is impactful because it helps to support permanent supportive housing and funds a coordinated entry system that covers 14 municipalities. These programs are irreplaceable as they provided much needed and required services to our Continuum of Care region.

As a person with lived experience, I firmly believe that the Continuum of Care has the potential to make a real difference in the lives of those experiencing homelessness. I am committed to contributing my expertise and insights to ensure the Continuum of Care effectively addresses the needs of our community.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Janeane Schmidt

Sgt. Janeane Schmidt
Director of Social Services
The Salvation Army
Atlanta, Georgia
404-550-4980

2024 HUD Continuum of Care Program Competition

1D-2a Housing First Evaluation



Status Home Housing Frist Evaluation

- 1. Housing First Standards Assessment Tool**
- 2. Fiscal Year 2024 Monitoring**





Housing First Standards Assessment Tool

GA0021
GA0235

STUNNO WORMS - SHF
The Family Problem

Overview: The tool aims to assure that documents have clearly a housing and service provider adheres to the recommended best practice standards of the Housing First model in the context of the broader report to implement a housing first orientation at the system level. This tool is designed to be used in conjunction with the Housing First model's directivity impact a system's ability to housing first. In addition to the service provider's performance, the tool is designed to be used in conjunction with the Housing First model's local community context and local written standards (including to housing first when assessing projects). A continuum of care can use this tool to prompt discussion and to

Provider info tab: The Provider Information tab should be completed prior to beginning the assessment. Specifically, the Project Name, Project Type, Project Sub-Organization, and Date of Assessment fields need to be completed in order to populate the assessment standards and report summary with questions that are specific to the project type and population. Please complete this section prior to printing any standards for assessment.

Standards: The standards have been arranged into the following categories: Access, Evaluation, Service, Housing, Lease, and Project Specific. The "TAG" chart at the bottom of the page describes each of the categories in more detail. Some of the categories are not applicable for all project types, and those standards do not need to be completed.

Project Type	Applicable Standards
Coordinated Entry	Access & Evaluation; Project Specific
Street Outreach	Access & Evaluation; Project Specific
Emergency Shelter	Access & Evaluation; Service & Housing; Project Specific
Transitional Housing	Access & Evaluation; Service & Housing; Lease; Project Specific
Rapid Rehousing	Access & Evaluation; Service & Housing; Lease; Project Specific
Persistent Supportive Housing	Access & Evaluation; Service & Housing; Lease; Project Specific

Scoring/grading: Please bring on mind safeguarding concerns when assessing projects. In particular, we advise Components of Care to work with projects with victims of domestic violence to make sure that adequate safety and confidentiality policies and practices are in place before beginning assessments.

Scoring: For each standard, there are three scoring criteria: "SAR," "Document It," and "Do It" (as explained further below). To show that a project is in full compliance with each standard, the assessor should mark "Always" for each scoring criteria. Use the drop-down in the three columns to the right to select "Always" or "Somewhat" or "Not at

- "SAR" means that project and agency staff can describe verbally what they do concerning each standard. The assessor should be able to identify that the organizational culture supports the standard by how staff talk about what is done.

- "Document It" means that there is written documentation that supports the project's compliance with each standard. Written documentation could include Policies and Procedures, Personnel Handbook, Professional Development Plan, Project Charts, etc.

- "Do It" means that the assessor was able to find evidence that supports the project's compliance with each standard. Evidence could include information obtained in chat or other administrative files, client acknowledgment that something is being done, staff can point to documentation that supports implementation of the standard, etc.

Assessor Notes: A text box for each standard allows the assessor to add optional notes about the information collected for that particular standard. The notes can include where information was found, what questions were asked, and answered the question, any additional information needed to be able to mark that standard as

Tab	Description	Page(s)
Instructions	Tool overview and aim	Offers instructions to users on the assessment tool
Provider Info	Input provider, project and general assessment information	Determines project specific standards for consideration
Standards - Access & Evaluation	Input compliance with standards concerning individual access to the project and input, project evaluation and performance management	Assesses whether access and evaluation are compliant with Housing First principles
Standards - Lease	Input compliance with standards concerning the lease and occupancy agreements, where applicable	Assesses whether lease and occupancy agreements are compliant with Housing First principles
Standards - Services & Housing	Input compliance with standards concerning the services and housing models and programs, where applicable	Assesses whether services and housing are compliant with Housing First principles
Standards - Project Specific	Program, assessment standards based on project type and targeted sub-population served by the project, where applicable	Assesses whether specific project standards are compliant with Housing First principles
Report Summary	Output assessment scores and conclusions, and highlights non-compliant standards	Printable summary of the assessment



Provider Information

Please complete the information below on the organization being assessed.

Provider Information	
Provider's Legal Name	Status: home, Inc.
Acronym (if Applicable)	
Year Incorporated	1988
EIN	58-1289807
Street Address	2700 Cumberland Pkwy SE
Zip Code	Atlanta, Ga 30339

Project Information	
Project Name	PSH Shelter + Care DeKalb
Project Budget	\$233,169.00
Grant Number	GA0021L4B082215
Name of Project Director	Kenny Porter
Project Director Email Address	remanager@statushome.org
Project Director Phone Number	404-782-0512
Which best describes the project * <i>If project is a Safe Haven, please choose project type that it most operates like, e.g. shelter, transitional housing, or permanent housing</i>	Permanent Supportive Housing
Are your services targeted to any of the following populations specifically? Please select one if so, as this impacts your assessment questions.	None of the above

*Please note that when you select a project type, particular standards may not be relevant.

Management Information	
Name of CEO	Maryum Phillips
CEO Email Address	Maryum@statushome.org
CEO Phone Number	404-376-5927
Name of Staff Member Guiding Assessment	Tara A. Williams
Staff Email Address	tara@statushome.org
Staff Phone Number	770-882-8182

Assessment Information	
Name of Assessor	Janice Harris Corry
Organizational Affiliation of Assessor	STATUS:Home
Assessor Email Address	janice@statushome.org
Assessor Phone Number	(404)275-9994
Date of Assessment	Oct 16 2024





For each standard, please use the drop down boxes in the three columns to the right to select "Not at all", "Sometimes" or "Always". Marking "Always" signifies full compliance for the standard.

No.	Standard	Access Definition / Evidence	See It	Document It	Do It
Access 1	Projects are low barrier	Admission to projects is not contingent on pre-requisites such as absence of substance, minimum income requirements, health or mental health history, medication adherence, age, criminal justice history, financial history, completion of treatment, participation in services, "housing readiness," history or occurrence of eviction, survival of sexual assault or an affiliated person of such a survivor or other unnecessary conditions unless required by law or funding source. Optional notes here	Always	Sometimes	Always
Access 2	Projects do not deny assistance for unnecessary reasons	Procedures and oversight demonstrate that staff do everything possible to avoid denying assistance or rejecting an individual or family for the reasons listed in Access Standard #1. Optional notes here	Always	Always	Always
Access 3	Access regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status	Equal access is provided in accordance with the 2012 and 2016 Equal Access Rules, meaning that any project funded by HUD must ensure equal access for persons regardless of one's sexual orientation or marital status, and in accordance with one's gender identity. Adult only households, regardless of marital status, should have equal access to projects if these project types are not available within a CoC, the CoC should conduct an assessment to determine if these project types are needed and work with providers to accommodate the need. Please see Equal Access Rules here https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/1991/equal-access-to-housing-final-rule/ Optional notes here	Always	Always	Always
Access 4	Admission process is expedited with speed and efficiency	Projects have expedited admission processes, to the greatest extent possible, including helping participants obtain documentation required by funding sources, as well as processes to admit participants regardless of the status of their eligibility documentation whenever applicable. Optional notes here	Sometimes	Always	Always
Access 5	Intake processes are person-centered and flexible	Intake and assessment procedures are focused on the individual's or family's strengths, needs, and preferences. Projects do not require specific appointment times, but have flexible intake schedules that ensure access to all households. Assessments are focused on identifying household strengths, resources, as well as identifying barriers to housing that can inform the basis of a housing plan as soon as a person is enrolled in the project. Optional notes here	Always	Always	Always
Access 6	The provider/project accepts and makes referrals directly through Coordinated Entry	Projects actively participate in the CoC-designated Coordinated Entry processes as part of streamlined community-wide system access and intake. If these processes are not yet implemented, projects follow communities' existing referral processes. Referrals from Coordinated Entry are rarely rejected, and only if there is a history of violence, the participant does not want to be in the project, there are legally valid grounds (such as restrictions regarding sex offenders) or some other exceptional circumstance that is well documented. Optional notes here	Always	Always	Always
Access 7	Falls to homelessness are avoided	Projects that can no longer serve particular households join the coordinated entry process, or the communities' existing referral processes if coordinated entry processes are not yet implemented, to ensure that those individuals and families have access to other housing and services as desired, and do not become disconnected from services and housing. Households encounter these exits under certain circumstances, such as if they demonstrate violent or harassing behaviors, which are described within agencies' regulation-adherent policies. Optional notes here	Always	Always	Always
Reason		Participant Input Definition / Evidence	See It	Document It	Do It
Participant Input 1	Participant education is ongoing	Project participants receive ongoing education on Housing First principles as well as other service models employed in the project at the beginning of and throughout tenancy; participants are informed about their full rights and responsibilities as lease holders, including the potential causes for eviction. Optional notes here	Sometimes	Sometimes	Always
Participant Input 2	Projects create regular, formal opportunities for participants to offer input	Input is welcomed regarding the project's policies, processes, procedures, and practices. Opportunities include involvement in quality assurance and evaluation processes, a participant leadership/advisory board, processes to formally communicate with landlords, the design of and participation in surveys and focus groups, planning social gatherings, integrating peer specialists and peer-facilitated support groups to complement professional services. Optional notes here	Always	Sometimes	Always





For each standard, please use the drop down boxes in the three columns to the right to select "Not at all", "Sometimes" or "Always". Marking "Always" signifies full compliance for the standard.

Standard	Lease and Occupancy Definition / Evidence	Easy R	Displacement R	Op R
<p>Leases 1</p> <p>Housing is considered permanent (not applicable for Transitional Housing)</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	<p>Housing is not time-limited (though rent assistance may be) and leases are automatically renewable upon expiration, except with prior notice by either party.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p> <p>A participant has, or minimum, choices in deciding the location and type of housing based on preferences from a range of housing types and among multiple units, as available and as practical. In project-based settings, participants should be offered choice of units within a particular building, or within the portfolio of single site properties. In projects that use shared housing, i.e. housing with unrelated roommates, participants should be offered choice of roommates, as available and as practical. Additionally, as applicable, participants are able to choose their roommates when sharing a room or unit.</p>	Always	Always	Always
<p>Leases 2</p> <p>Participant choice is fundamental</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	<p>Leases do not have any provisions that would not be found in leases held by any other tenant on the property or building and is renewable per the participant's and owner's choice. People experiencing homelessness who receive help moving into permanent housing should have leases that confer the full rights, responsibilities, and legal protections under Federal, state, and local housing laws. For transitional housing, there may be limitations on length of stay, but a lease/occupancy agreement should look like a lease that a person would have in the normal rental market.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
<p>Leases 3</p> <p>Leases are the same for participants as for other tenants</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	<p>Participants are also given access to legal assistance and encouraged to exercise their full legal rights and responsibilities. Landlords and providers abide by their legally defined roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
<p>Leases 4</p> <p>Participants receive education about their lease or occupancy agreement terms</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	<p>Property or building management, with services support, incorporates a culture of eviction avoidance, reinforced through practices and policies that prevent lease violations and evictions among participants, and evict participants only when they are a threat to self or others. Clear eviction appeal processes and due process is provided for all participants. Lease bifurcation is allowed so that a tenant or lawful occupant who is a victim of a criminal act of physical violence committed against them by another tenant or lawful occupant is not evicted, removed or penalized if the other is evicted.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
<p>Leases 5</p> <p>Measures are used to prevent eviction</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	<p>Providers engage in a coordinated effort to hold housing for participants, even if they leave their housing for short periods due to treatment, illness, or any other temporary stay outside of the unit.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
<p>Leases 6</p> <p>Providing stable housing is a priority</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	<p>While tenants are accountable to the rental agreement, adjustments may be needed on a case by case basis. As necessary, participants are given special payment arrangements for rent arrears and/or assistance with financial management, including representative payee arrangements.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
<p>Leases 7</p> <p>Rent payment policies respond to tenants' needs (if applicable)</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>		Always	Always	Always





For each standard, please use the three options in the three columns to the right to select "Not at all", "Sometimes" or "Always". Marking "Always" signifies full compliance with the standard.

Standard	Services Definition / Evidence	Yes	Sometimes	No
Services 1	<p>Project provides participants choice in services</p> <p>Participants are able to choose from an array of services. Services offered are housing focused and include the following areas of support: employment and income, childcare and education, community connections, and education to maintain housing. These should be provided by linking to community based services.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 2	<p>Person-Centered Planning is a guiding principle of the service planning process</p> <p>Person-centered Planning is a guiding principle of the service planning process.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 3	<p>Service support is in place prior to the housing</p> <p>Service connections are permanently in place and accessible for participants in Permanent Supportive Housing. If not, housing projects should, at a minimum, be prepared to offer services for up to 6 months after the rental assistance ends. In emergency shelter and transitional housing, services are available in line with the participant needs in the unit or bed - and up to 6 months following exit from transitional housing.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 4	<p>Services are continued despite change in housing status or placement</p> <p>When new service, additional connection is offered services even if they lose their housing unit or bed that supports project. If they are able to in a short-term placement, ideally, the service relationship should continue. If not, a service plan should be developed during some individual time.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 5	<p>Participant engagement is a core component of service delivery</p> <p>Staff provide flexible services by developing relationships with participants that provide immediate needs and safety, develop trust and program goals, meeting them head on to solve immediate service providers, and create explicit staff roles. Engagement is regular and relationships are developed over time.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 6	<p>Services are culturally appropriate with a language services available, as needed</p> <p>Project staff are trained to and support the cultural aspects of diverse households. Informed consent, QIP, emergency shelter, the participant population, the service in order to provide appropriate, culturally sensitive services. Translation services are provided when needed to ensure full comprehension of the project. In cases that service providers with children should have family-friendly rules that allow for differences in schedules based on work and school hours and family time that allow our staff to participate in activities without having to stand with their children. (Remarks) e.g. use the bathroom or take a shower without their children being in the bathroom with them.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 7	<p>Staff are trained in clinical and medication strategies (including harm reduction, medication management, trauma-informed approaches, strength-based)</p> <p>Services support a person's ability to obtain and retain housing regardless of history of behavior. Services are tailored to a person's unique philosophy, such as recognizing that substance use and addiction are a part of some participants' lives. Participants are engaged in non-judgmental conversations regarding their behavior and are offered education regarding how to avoid risky behaviors and engage in safer practices.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
Standard	Housing Definition / Evidence	Yes	Sometimes	No
Housing 1	<p>Housing is not dependent on participation in services</p> <p>Participants in permanent and temporary housing contracts, as well as other settings such as emergency shelter, do not contingent on participating in supportive services or demonstrate progress made on a service plan. Services must be offered by staff but are voluntary for participants.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
Housing 2	<p>Substance use is not a barrier to tenancy</p> <p>Participants are only terminated from the project for violations in the lease or occupancy agreements, as applicable. Occupancy agreements or an addendum to the lease do not include conditions around substance use or participation in services. If the project is a recovery housing model focused on people who are in early recovery from drug or alcohol (as outlined in HUD's Recovery Housing Model), different standards related to use and substance after of the project may apply. See HUD's Recovery Housing Model: https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/recovery-housing-policy.html</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
Housing 3	<p>The rules and regulations of the program are centered on participants' rights</p> <p>Project staff have realistic expectations and policies. Rules and regulations are designed to support life and stable communities and should never be punitive with a life in the community. Participants have access to the project (in all hours) to voice their rights and put them into action and accommodations made for them.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always
Housing 4	<p>Participants have the option to transfer to another project</p> <p>Transfers should be accommodated for tenants who reasonably believe that they are threatened with eviction from their current residence if the tenancy remains at the same unit. Whenever possible, transfers should be for a participant closer to their home/neighborhood.</p> <p>Optional notes here</p>	Always	Always	Always





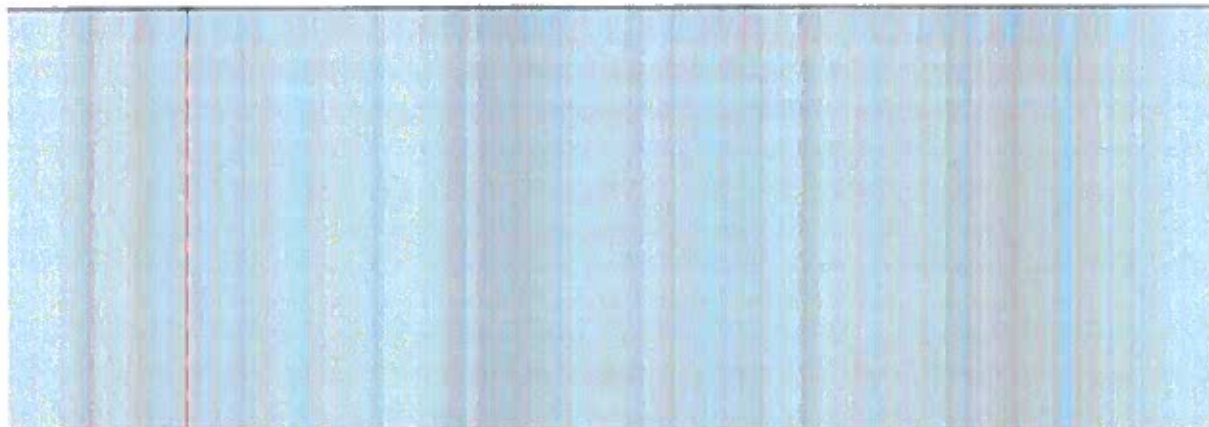
For each criterion, please use the drop down boxes in the three columns to the right to select "Met or At", "Somewhat", or "Always" Meeting "Always" signifies full compliance for the standard.

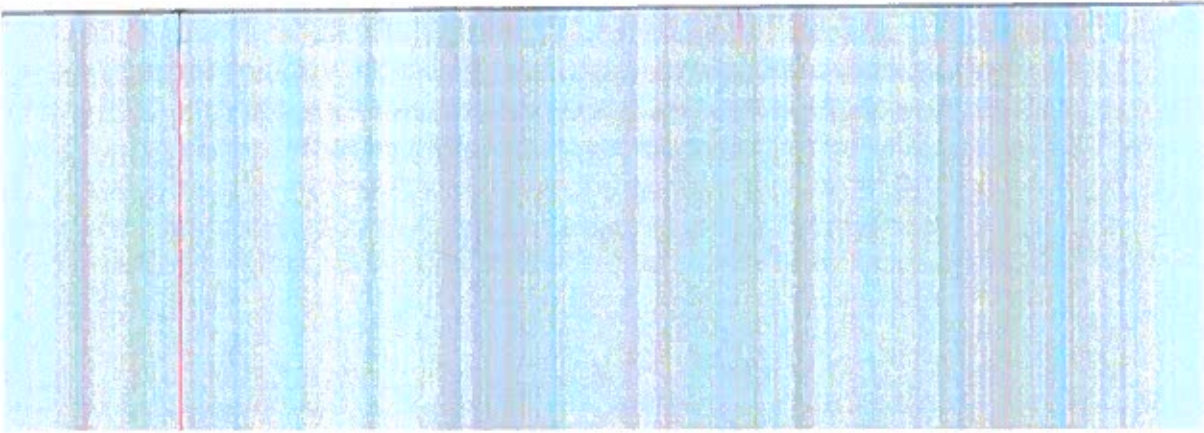
Criterion	Standard Description	Met or At	Somewhat	Always
Project 1	Quick access to 24hr assistance A government supported housing project ensures quick and easy access to 24hr support services, based on participants' needs, preferences, and resource availability.	Always	Always	Always
Project 2	Staff is beyond an existing level of training for those with the most diverse barriers to rehousing housing Participants and staff acknowledge that a primary goal of government supported housing is to end homelessness for people with the most severe barriers to rehousing, regardless of other professional barriers. Optional notes here	Always	Always	Always
Project 3	Property Management Director or representative from service area management In order to provide the best of care for participants in both of these and other programs as well as tenant education, property management and other a dedicated staff should be assigned roles, responsibilities, they should work together on a regular basis through regular communication and meetings regarding all requests to address tenant's needs in order to preserve resources. Optional notes here No additional comments Optional notes here No additional comments Optional notes here No additional comments Optional notes here No additional comments Optional notes here No additional comments Optional notes here	Always	Always	Always

Please click on the dropdown menu to select your response.

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