Southwest Minnesota Continuum of Care (SW MN CoC) 2021 Local CoC Program Competition

Call for Projects* / Anuncio de fondos disponibles**

*If you need assistance with this announcement or with applying due to disability, contact Justin Vorbach, SW MN CoC Coordinator at justinv@swmhp.org or (507) 530-2942. All questions about this announcement can also be directed to Justin Vorbach
**Si desea ver este mensaje en español, comuníquese con Justin Vorbach al justinv@swmhp.org o 507-530-2942

The Southwest Minnesota Continuum of Care (MN-511) is seeking project applicants for FY 2021 funding via the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care Program competition. HUD released its Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for FY2021 Continuum of Care Program Competition (FR-6500-N-25) on August 18, 2021.

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

This Call for Projects advises all potential applicants of the general requirements that must be met in any project application for consideration of submission to HUD through the Southwest Minnesota Continuum of Care (CoC) Local Competition.

New projects applications are welcome from any eligible and qualified applicant, including organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding. Notify CoC Coordinator Justin Vorbach (justinv@swmhp.org or 507.530.2942) of intent to apply for a new project by Wednesday September 8, 5 p.m. All Draft Application submissions for both new and renewal projects are due by Friday, September 24, 5 p.m. for the CoC Local Competition project reviews. They are to be emailed to justinv@swmhp.org in PDF form. E-snaps is the required online application system for the HUD CoC Program national competition.

For renewal projects: PDF file first draft applications are due by Friday, September 24, 5 p.m. to justinv@swmhp.org.

For more detail, please review the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for FY2021 Continuum of Care Program Competition (FR-6300-N-25) and the CoC Program Rule found in 24 CFR 578.

A. Funding Available

The SW MN CoC is eligible to apply for $1,095,212 for existing renewal projects and new projects created through reallocation. This amount is called the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). The CoC is also eligible to apply for approximately $32,856 for CoC planning, $54,761 in CoC bonus funds for new projects to serve any eligible population, and $136,575 in bonus funding specifically to serve survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless under HUD Homeless Definition Category 4.

All renewal funding is for grant terms of one year, with the exception of new projects and those that include acquisition, rehabilitation, or construction.

B. New this year

Changes from previous NOFO are listed on pages 7 – 9 of the NOFO.

C. Eligible Applicants Project Component Types for the Local Competition

Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments, Indian Tribes and TDHE (as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)). Public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100, are eligible without limitation or exclusion. Grants must only provide service in the "Southwest" region of Minnesota shown on the map HERE.

Projects seeking Renewal Funds
Renewal funds are limited to the projects listed on the SW MN CoC 2021 Grant Inventory Worksheet. Eligible project component types are those defined for each renewal project through the Grant Inventory Worksheet process. Projects seeking renewal funding may not change project component type or exceed the allowed funding levels by line item. Projects may reduce budget line items, which would be considered voluntary reallocation. The CoC can also eliminate or reduce funding for these projects (involuntary reallocation) in accordance with the CoC's reallocation policy. Such changes create a reallocation fund which can be used to fund certain types of new projects described below.

All other information regarding applicant eligibility, criteria, rating can be found in Section V of the NOFO on pages 28 - 50.

D. Scoring

Local Applications will be scored and ranked using the SW MN CoC's 2021 Ranking Form.

E. Matching Funds

24 CFR 578.73 provides the information regarding grant budget match requirements. Project applicants that intend to use program income as match must provide an estimate of how much program income will be used for match. Note that the HUD Minneapolis Field Office is offering this online training on Thursday September 16 from 9:00 to 10:30: "Understanding Match

Increase your understanding about what is and what is not match, the difference between cash and in-kind match and proper documentation. Target audience for this training are Managers/Directors and Financial staff." Click HERE to register.

F. Project Applications

New projects applications are welcome from any eligible and qualified applicant, including organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding. First draft application submissions are due by Friday, September 24, 2021. E-snaps is the required online application system for the HUD CoC Program national competition. For renewal projects: Draft applications in pdf format can be downloaded in pdf format and emailed by Friday, September 24 at 5 p.m. to justinv@swmhp.org.

Required HUD national competition application (e-snaps) requirements for all projects:
- Complete, correct, and consistent Project Application, with complete and current Applicant Profile
- HUD required forms and attachments (in e-Snaps applicant profile and application)
- Project data as needed to complete the regional CoC Collaborative Application

G. Timeline

FY2021 SW MN HUD CoC NOFO Timeline to Completion

Date & Time	Event	Location	Notes
By Tuesday August 31, 5 p.m.	Call for Projects announcement email sent to all on CoC listserv	Email to CoC, Posted on CoC site and Facebook	See Collaborative Application 1E1.
By Wednesday September 8, 5 p.m.	Inform Justin of intent to apply for NEW projects.	Email justinv@swmhp.org	
Thursday, September 9, 10 – 11:45 a.m.	SW MN CoC Meeting	Online	
September 15, 10 a.m. - Noon	Application writing event	Marshall Lyon-County Library	Masks required
Thursday, September 16, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Optional "Understanding Match" online training by HUD Minneapolis Field Office	Online	Register HERE.
By Friday September 24, 5 p.m.	Project application first drafts due to Justin.	email PDF to justinv@swmhp.org	
By Friday, October 1, 5 p.m.	Initial feedback on project applications sent to app writers.	Via mail from Justin to applicants	

Date & Time	Event	Location	Notes
By Friday, October 8, 5 p.m.	Project Application final drafts due to Justin.	Email PDF to justinv@swmhp.org	If there are any remaining issues on final drafts, Justin will contact you.
Wednesday, October 13, 10 a.m. - Noon	Project Ranking Meeting	Online Meeting	Justin, and other Project Performance and Review Committee Members.
Wednesday, October 13, By 11:59 p.m.	Applicants notified if their projects will be accepted and ranked, rejected, or reduced.	Email communication from Justin to applicants	
Thursday October 14, 10 – Noon.	Voting on Project Ranking & Review of Application.	CoC Meeting Online	
Wednesday, October 20, by 11:59 p.m.	Final project applications submitted via eSnaps.	eSnaps	
Friday October 29, By 5 p.m.	CoC Project Applications, Project Ranking, Project Planning Application and CoC Collaborative Application **Submitted!**	eSnaps	Justin will do this part.
Tuesday, November 16, 7 p.m.	ABSOLUTE Deadline to HUD		

H. HUD Resources and Technical Assistance

- *e-snaps* Navigation and Application Resources
- **CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM COMPETITION Resource Page**
- **Southwest Minnesota Continuum of Care page** with information on local features of the FY2021 Collaborative and Project Applications to Housing and Urban Development.