

In response to a vote warned on Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at the VCEH CoC meeting in Randolph, please provide a vote to MaryEllen Mendl (VCEH Co-Chair) by **Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**.

Background: To assist HUD CoCs [Vermont = VT Balance of State and Chittenden] comply with the HUD CoC Rule to develop an effective homeless system, HUD only allows the CoC Collaborative Applicant [VSHA in VT BoS CoC] to apply for CoC Program-Planning Project funds for eligible activity costs. See “HUD CoC Rule” attachment.

During last year’s CoC application, VCEH approved VSHA to include “CoC staff” costs into the CoC Planning grant; additional grant activities include compensation to formerly homeless persons to participate in the CoC, half of an AmeriCorps member, and for a contractor to provide technical assistance with the annual CoC application and other CoC planning activities. Many CoCs use Planning grant funds to pay the Collaborative Applicant.

In its role as VT Balance of State CoC-Collaborative Applicant over the past 10 years, VSHA has not received any CoC funding for these duties (*coordinate/submit the annual CoC application, ensure PIT/HIC coordination and submission, and many other planning activities & technical assistance*), but has provided this to VCEH as in-kind services. In order to increase its service capacity to VCEH, VSHA proposes that a new CoC support position be created to expand CoC planning activities, as informed/overseen by VCEH and hosted by VSHA. The creation of this new position would be in addition to the current in-kind services provided to VCEH by VSHA as Collaborative Applicant.

#### **VOTING ITEM #1-**

- 1) Should VCEH create a new CoC support position by using designated “CoC staff” funding (\$54,450) from the HUD CoC Planning grant?
  - a. If YES to the creation of a new CoC support position, which eligible HUD CoC Planning grant activities are most important to your local CoC, partner coalition, and/or stakeholder agency:
    - i. *assist integration/coordination of partner agencies and key stakeholders with the VCEH*
    - ii. *assist local CoCs with planning activities to ensure uniform standards and effective operations in all VT BoS CoC areas*
    - iii. *assist with VCEH board development*
    - iv. *assist with planning and provision of CoC trainings to all VCEH members*
    - v. *assist with annual HUD CoC NOFA application activities*
    - vi. *assist with annual PIT/HIC planning with VT BoS CoC, local CoCs and partners*
    - vii. *assist with assessment of VCEH [VT BoS CoC] compliance with HUD regulations*
    - viii. *development/implementation system to monitor all CoC and ESG projects*
    - ix. *other eligible HUD CoC planning activities?*

## VOTING ITEM #2-

- 2) Should VSHA, in its role as CoC Collaborative Applicant and HUD recipient of the CoC Planning grant, act as the host agency of a new CoC support position or should VCEH release a Letter of Intent to solicit bids for the role of host agency?

## VOTING ITEM #3-

During the August VCEH meeting the group discussed that \$54,450 was insufficient to support a full-time position that would also include benefits, mileage reimbursement and other expenses.

The CoC Planning grant includes funds to pay for the AmeriCorps\*VISTA shared position with VAHC (\$5,700) and/or to pay for up to two formerly homeless persons to participate in the CoC (\$4,800).

There is a proposal for the CoC Planning grant to not pay for the AmeriCorps\*VISTA shared position or to compensate CoC participation to formerly homeless persons and instead for the VCEH to use CoC surplus membership dues to pay for these expenses.

This would be a one-time expenditure only, as next year's CoC Planning grant will increase enough to support all of the above expenses.

- 3) Should VCEH use surplus CoC membership dues (up to \$10,500) to pay for this year's AmeriCorps shared position with VAHC and, if necessary, compensate up to two formerly homeless persons to participate in the CoC (only one identified)?

OR

Should VCEH not use surplus membership dues to pay for this year's AmeriCorps position and/or compensate up to two formerly homeless persons to participate in the CoC?