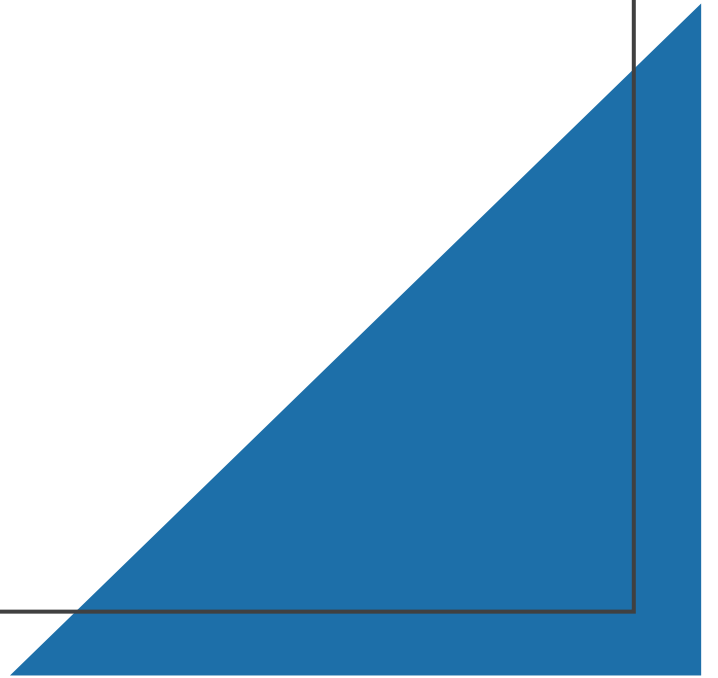


# HUD Continuum of Care Supplemental to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness

An Overview of the “Special Notice of Funding  
Opportunity (NOFO)” for the Vermont Coalition to End  
Homelessness



# Resources

- **US Department of Housing & Urban Development**

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/specialCoCNOFO)

- **National Alliance to End Homelessness**

<https://endhomelessness.org/event/understanding-the-special-nofo-to-address-unsheltered-and-rural-homelessness/>

- **Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness**

<https://helpingtohousevt.org/special-nofo-to-address-unsheltered-and-rural-homelessness/>

# Rural Set Aside

- \$2,901,822 available to serve one or more counties in Vermont:  
All Counties except Chittenden and Franklin
- Application submitted by the Balance of State CoC Collaborative Applicant:  
Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness
- Application includes one or more project applications and a priority listing of projects. Projects are reviewed and ranked by the Ranking Committee
- Grant term: 3 years
- Deadline: October 20, 2022 (See timeline for important dates!)

# Program Priorities

## **1) Preventing and Addressing Unsheltered Homelessness**

- Nationally on the rise
- People experiencing unsheltered homelessness report significantly greater health challenges and experiences of trauma/violence than sheltered peers – these challenges often begin before loss of housing
- ID people living in unsheltered situations and connect them with health and housing resources
- Enhance HMIS to collect more comprehensive data on people experiencing unsheltered homelessness

# Program Priorities

## **2) Severe Service Needs in Rural Areas**

- Rural areas can lack resources and infrastructure to provide homeless services and permanent housing
- Rural areas require unique strategies to solve challenges
- Additional eligible activities to address unique needs

# Program Priorities

## **3) Assistance on Tribal Lands**

## **4) Involving a Broad Array of Stakeholders in the CoC's efforts**

- More than just homeless service organizations
- Affordable housing developers
- Mainstream service providers
- Business community
- Victim service providers
- Political leaders
- Healthcare providers

# Program Priorities

## **5) Advancing Equity**

- BIPOC population, LGBTQ+ population and people with disabilities are overrepresented in the homeless population
- CoCs should review strategies to support and serve underserved communities
- ID disparities and barriers to addressing disparities. Work to eliminate disparities
- With consumers, review policies, procedures and processes to identify where disparities exist and how to address

# Program Priorities

## **6) Use a Housing First Approach**

- Rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing
- No service participation requirements or preconditions
- CoC should measure and help projects reduce the length of time people experience homelessness
- Engage landlords and property owners to inventory available housing
- Remove barriers to permanent housing entry and adopt service delivery based on the preferences and needs of the household



# Project Selection

HUD will select projects for funding based on a formula that includes:

- Overall score of the CoC Consolidated Application
- CoC ranking of the project
- Serving structurally disadvantaged areas

*Commitment to serve individuals and families in geographic areas that have high levels of homelessness, housing distress or poverty, and are located where CoC services have until now been entirely unavailable.*

# CoC Consolidated Application (89 pts)

- Project Capacity, Review and Ranking
- System Performance
- CoC Coordination and Engagement
- **CoC Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs (59 points)**
  - 15 pages plus attachments

# Eligible Project Types

## Permanent Housing

- Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
- Rapid Re-housing (RRH)

## Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-housing (TH-RRH)

## Supportive Services Only (SSO)

- Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE)
- Street Outreach (SSO-SO)
- Standalone Services

## HMIS

# Eligible Costs

In general, same eligible activities as the regular CoC program, for example:

- Leasing a structure or units, and operating costs for transitional housing
- Tenant based rental assistance (short, medium or long-term)
- Supportive Services
- HMIS
- Project Administration
- Indirect costs, based on an approved rate or the de minimis 10%

# PLUS – New Eligible Costs for Rural Set Aside

- Up to 6 months of rent or utility arrears after 2 months of nonpayment
  - Rent and utility arrear payments of up to 6 months for participants in permanent housing.
- Short-term emergency lodging in motels or new emergency shelter capacity
  - \*\*Cannot use for existing shelter beds\*\*
- Repairs, up to \$10,000 per structure to make housing habitable for transitional or permanent housing (repairs)
- Emergency food and clothing assistance (e.g., meals, groceries, clothing)
- Capacity building for project staff: staff retention, job training, cross training, licensing/certification, other professional development

# Unique Opportunities

- Apply for Services Only Projects that are not coordinated entry to address known gaps in rural service areas
- Option to submit one large application
- High priority for leveraging housing and health care resources
- High priority for services that are flexible and all-encompassing (from unsheltered to temporary housing to permanent housing)
- May ask for permission to serve persons who are “category 3” homeless

**Plan to Serve  
Individuals and Families  
with Severe Service Needs**

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# Severe Service Needs

- facing significant challenges or functional impairments, including any physical, mental, developmental or behavioral health disabilities, which require a significant level of support in order to maintain permanent housing;
- high utilization of crisis or emergency services, including but not limited to emergency rooms, jails, and psychiatric facilities;
- currently unsheltered or having a history of living in an unsheltered situation;
- experiencing a vulnerability to illness or death;
- having a risk of continued or repeated homelessness;
- and having a vulnerability to victimization, including physical assault, trafficking or sex work.



# Plan for Serving People Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs

## Leveraging Housing

- Development of new units and creation of housing opportunities
- Landlord Recruitment

## Leveraging Healthcare Resources

## Current Strategy to Identify, Shelter, and House Individuals and Families Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness

- Current street outreach strategy
- Current strategy to provide immediate access to low-barrier permanent housing

Plan for  
Serving  
People  
Experiencing  
Homelessness  
with Severe  
Service Needs

**Identify and Prioritize Households  
Experiencing or with Histories of  
Unsheltered Homelessness**

**Involving Individuals with Lived  
Experience of Homelessness in  
Decision-Making**

**Supporting Underserved  
Communities and Supporting  
Equitable Community Development**

What are we  
doing now  
that is  
working  
well?

Partnering with housing developers?

To recruit landlords?

Partnering with health care resources?

Unsheltered outreach strategies?

To address disparities in homelessness  
experienced by different populations?

To help people access permanent housing  
quickly?

To serve people with “severe service  
needs”?

# Important Dates



Letters of Interest (not required): Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>



Special Meeting for potential project applicants (not required): Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>



Special NOFO Public Meeting: Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup>



Draft Plan to Serve Individuals and Families with Severe Service Needs: Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>



Request for Proposals & Project Application Form: Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>



Project Applications due to VCEH: September 20, 2022