I.   General Information

On August 1, 2022, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published the *Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the FY 2022 Continuum of Care Competition.*

The NOFO can be accessed at https://www.grants.gov. It establishes this year's funding criteria for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance Programs (sometimes also referred to as the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act programs).

All CoCs and project applicants are required to apply for the 2022 CoC competition electronically through HUD's e-snaps system at https://esnaps.hud.gov/. The deadline for San Mateo County to submit our CoC application to HUD is September 30, 2022.

II.   Available Funding

As in past funding rounds, communities can create new projects through bonus funding and re-allocated funding:

- San Mateo County is eligible to request bonus funding for permanent housing projects, which may include: (1) permanent supportive housing (PSH) serving people experiencing chronic homelessness; (2) rapid re-housing (RRH) projects serving homeless single adults or families with children and (3) joint transitional housing/rapid re-housing (TH/RRH) projects serving homeless single adults or families with children. The exact amount available has not yet been announced. Once it has been announced, the information will be distributed by San Mateo County.

- San Mateo County may request funding to create one or more new DV bonus projects serving households who are survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking. The maximum available to San Mateo County has not yet been announced. Once HUD has released the amounts, the information will be distributed by San Mateo County.

- San Mateo County may also create new projects through the re-allocation of funds from lower performing existing grants. The availability of re-allocated funds will depend on the performance of currently funded projects and whether there are underperforming projects identified by the CoC Review Panel for reallocation. Re-allocated funds may be used for the same types of projects as the permanent housing bonus (described above) and may also be used by the CoC Lead Agency, San Mateo County Human Services Agency (HSA), for dedicated HMIS projects or Coordinated Entry projects.

Please refer to the document *"Availability of Funding for New Projects"* for additional information.

III. Local Process CoC Process Overview

A.   Center on Homelessness Website

All essential information relating to the local CoC competition will be available on the Center on Homelessness website at: https://www.smcgov.org/hsa/continuum-care-nofanofo

B.   Tiering of Projects

As in prior years, CoCs will be required to place projects into Tier 1 and Tier 2. Tier 1 projects are assured of funding, while Tier 2 projects must compete nationally for awards and may not receive funding. This year Tier 1 is equal to 95% of all projects eligible for renewal (Annual Renewal Demand or ARD). Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the maximum amount of renewal, reallocation and bonus funds the CoC can apply for.

Once the funding amount details for the CoC's ARD and Bonus Funding is available, San Mateo County will share the funding breakdown for Tier 1 and Tier 2.

C.   Project Ranking:

As in previous years, CoCs are required to conduct a local application process and implement internal competition deadlines and notification processes that ensure transparency and fairness. CoCs must rate and rank projects based on objective assessment of performance and are encouraged to re-allocate projects to create new projects that improve the overall performance of the homelessness response system.

A written policy and process for rating and ranking in the 2022 CoC competition will be considered and approved by the CoC Steering Committee on or about August 10, 2022. The policy is expected to be substantially similar to the 2021 Project Review and Ranking Process (the last time the competition was held). The approved version of the 2022 Review and Ranking Process will be made available on the Center on Homelessness CoC website (https://www.smcgov.org/hsa/continuum-care-nofanofo) following the CoC meeting and will also be shared at an informational meeting for CoC applicants on August 15, 2022 at 9am on Zoom..

To register for the applicant informational meeting, visit https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwudOioqzwrGdaCm8JHrvll6-cB6Ar6m_4J

D.   Project Application

Renewal Applicants must complete a HUD Project Application in the e-snaps online grant system to renew their existing grants. The Renewal Project Application is substantially similar to the 2021 version. Please refer to the document entitled: E-snaps Tips for 2021 Renewal Applicants for helpful information on how to complete the renewal application.

E.   Options for Renewal Projects

Again, this year, HUD is offering renewal applicants the opportunity to create Transition Grants to change the program component of an existing project. Grantees may also consolidate multiple grants into a single grant through the renewal process. Please refer to the NOFO Highlights document and the HUD NOFO for more information.

IV. Threshold Requirements for Renewal Projects

The 2022 HUD NOFO requires that all projects (new and renewal) must meet Threshold Requirements as listed in Section V.C.3 (page 44-50). Applicants are strongly encouraged to review Section V.C.3. of the NOFO to ensure that threshold requirements are met.

V.   Application Process for Renewal Applicants

A.   Renewal Application Components

There are 2 components to the renewal applications that applicants must submit to the CoC. Both items will be used by the CoC Review panel to determine the project prioritization list.

1. *Project Application* in e-snaps. Please complete your **Project Applications in e-snaps by August 30, 2022**. **Please do not click "submit"** but instead export the application to a pdf document and email to HSA_Homeless_Programs@smcgov.org **and** Hana Gossett hana@focusstrategies.net , by 5:00 pm. On August 30, 2022.

2. *Project Performance Report.* The CoC will provide each applicant with a report summarizing each project's performance in meeting the CoC's performance measures by August 15, 2022. HSA staff will extract performance data directly from HMIS/Clarity. Applicants will be requested to review their performance data and supply requested explanations, clarifications, etc. **by August 30, 2022, by 5:00 pm.** There will also be some additional narrative and attachments requested. This process will also provide applicants with an opportunity to provide clarification for any measures where they did not meet the standard.

B. Application Timeline

Following is the application timeline for 2022. Note that dates are subject to change. Any changes to the timeline will be emailed to renewal applicants and posted on the HSA website for the 2022 CoC NOFO at https://www.smcgov.org/hsa/continuum-care-nofanofo

Date	Activity
August 1, 2022	2022 Annual CoC NOFO released
August 10, 2022	CoC Steering Committee meeting to approve review, ranking and tiering criteria/strategy (the Project Review and Ranking Process)
August 15, 2022 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.	Informational Meeting for Applicants (new and renewal). To register for the meeting on Zoom, visit: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwudOioqzwrGdaCm8JHrvll6-cB6Ar6m_4J
August 15, 2022	Applicants receive copy of their Project Performance Report
August 30, 2022, by 5:00 pm	**Project Applications due to HSA by email to HSA_Homeless_Programs@smcgov.org and Hana Gossett hana@focusstrategies.net no later than August 30, 2022 by 5:00 pm. Applicants must submit the following documents by email.** • A PDF of the completed project applications from e-snaps • The completed Project Performance Report and all required attachments
September 7, 2022	Applicants receive a Score Card for each project submitted
Around September 12, 2022	Review panel meeting; rating and ranking of applications
By September 15, 2022	Applicants notified whether their application is included on the Project Priority List

Date	Activity
By September 20, 2022	Applicants receive technical corrections to e-snaps submission
September 20, 2022, by 5:00 pm	Appeals due to HSA via email to HSA_Homeless_Programs@smcgov.org and Hana Gossett hana@focusstrategies.net
September 23, 2022	**Corrected applications due in e-snaps**
September 27, 2022	Applicants receive response to appeals
Around September 27, 2022	CoC Steering Committee Meeting to approve final project ranking
September 27, 2022	Final corrections due in e-snaps
September 29, 2022	HSA staff submit final application to HUD
September 30, 2022	Application due date

C. Rating and Ranking Process and Criteria

On August 10, 2022, the CoC Steering Committee will approve a written project review and ranking criteria and process, including an adopted strategy relating to putting projects into Tier 2 (the Project Review and Ranking Process). The objective of the tiering strategy will be to position the CoC to retain as much funding as possible, while taking a broad, system-wide approach to identifying which elements of the system to put at-risk.

A copy of the *San Mateo County CoC 2022 CoC Competition Project Review and Ranking Process* will be distributed to all renewal applicants as soon as it is approved by the CoC Steering Committee.

VI. Information Sources Available

HUD will make available several information sources regarding this year's Continuum of Care process at the following webpage: CoC Program Competition | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This page links to many different resources, including:
  ➢ The 2022 CoC NOFO
  ➢ e-snaps Navigational Guides and Detailed Project Instructions
  ➢ FAQs about the 2022 CoC Competition

HUD is no longer using the AAQ help desk for CoC competition questions. Applicants may email questions directly to HUD as follows:
  • For questions relating to the competition: CoCNOFO@hud.gov
  • For questions relating to e-snaps functionality: e-snaps@hud.gov

If you have questions, the Center on Homelessness recommends first directing any questions to our local team, before reaching out to HUD.

VII. Technical Assistance for Applicants

Applicants may contact the CoC with any questions about the application process or how to complete the application. Questions should be directed to HSA Center on Homelessness (HSA_Homeless_Programs@smcgov.org) , Hana Gossett, Focus Strategies (hana@focusstrategies.net), Vanessa Fenley, Focus Strategies (vanessa@focusstrategies.net) . Please include all 3 email addresses on all emails.