

**Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC)**  
**Members Meeting (Zoom)**  
**September 3, 2021**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

At 2:05pm Marcie Bragg, Chair of the HCCSC Board and Executive Director of the Stark Housing Network, Inc. (SHNI), called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the HCCSC Members meeting. Marcie thanked Members for joining a meeting not regularly scheduled to discuss the FY2021 CoC Program Competition.

**II. Review of the FY2021 CoC Program Competition Documents**

Marcie provided Members with a brief overview of the FY2021 CoC Program Competition. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the FY2021 CoC Program competition was released Wednesday, August 18, 2021. The NOFO is posted to the HUD Exchange website. The HCCSC has an FY2021 CoC Estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) for OH-508 (Canton, Massillon, Alliance /Stark County) in the amount of \$3,015,382; CoC Bonus funding is available in the amount of \$156,859 and Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus funding is available in the amount of \$470,576. The consolidated application is due November 16, 2021. The NOFO outlines that Tier I will consist of 100% of the ARD which is different from past competitions. Also new this year for the DV Bonus funding, applicants do not have to be a DV service provider. Any agency can apply for the DV Bonus funding if the project intends to only serve DV participants. Last year in anticipation for the FY2020 CoC Program Competition, the Recipient Approval and Evaluation Committee (RAEC) approved a different process that would allow applicants to only submit the application into HUD eSNAPS rather than having to submit a local (paper based) application and an eSNAPS application. To ensure that all the information needed for the scoring process is obtained, the RAEC also approved a Scoring Criteria and Score Sheet Appendix that requests additional information not requested in the eSNAPS application. This year's Scoring Criteria and Score Sheet looks different than past years due to adjustments made to reflect information and language outlined in the NOFO. Marcie also pointed out that the ARD does not include the CoC Planning grant; ARD funding includes renewal projects only. The Local Application process typically starts in spring, but Marcie feels that waiting until the NOFO was released to alter documents to reflect priorities outlined in NOFO is beneficial.

**a. Scoring Criteria and Score Sheet Appendix**

The Scoring Criteria and Score Sheet Appendix was displayed for the Member's review. The following key points were discussed:

- i. Threshold Criteria specific to the eSNAPS application was included.
- ii. Lowering Barriers to Entry and Housing First threshold criteria were included.
- iii. Renewal project information for Good Standing with funding sources and capacity to administer a CoC Grant and Participation with the HCCSC were included.
- iv. Promoting Equity and Equity Factors were included.
- v. New and expansion projects will identify the population the project intends to serve that fall within the local targeted populations (Chronically Homeless, Veterans, Youth, Families with Children).
- vi. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare questions were added based on the NOFO and to be able to provide a score on the scoring sheet.
- vii. A DV section was added based on the NOFO and to provide a score on the scoring sheet.

**b. Scoring Criteria and Score Sheet**

The Scoring Criteria and Score Sheet was displayed for the Member's review. The following key points were discussed:

- i. Severity of Need/Vulnerability of Those to be Served criteria had language added for the F-SPDAT which is utilized for families versus the SPDAT that is utilized for individuals. Examples of assessment criteria were included in the Relevant Factors/Source of Evidence column that utilizes

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language from the NOFO.

- ii. Serving Populations Targeted in Opening Doors was changed to Ending homelessness for all persons experiencing homelessness and included language for households served that fall within the local targeted subpopulations; this change was made for both renewal projects and new or expansion project applications.
- iii. Up to date Policies and Procedures was updated to reflect compliance with 24 CFR 578 and HCCSC policies. Typically, projects would receive up to 5 points for submitting up to date policies and a 1-point deduction for a significant deviation from HCCSC policies. The committee discussed a recommendation to revise this criterion to award projects 2 points for submitting up to date policies and 2 additional points for polices that are submitted and comply, or polices that do not comply but are revised to comply.
- iv. For all projects, the Housing First Implementation and Adoption of Low Barriers were changed to be Threshold Criteria.
- v. For all projects, the Linking to mainstream benefits has been changed to Supportive Services for Program Participants and 1 point will be provided for each activity included in the Supportive Services for Program Participants section (transportation, annual follow up, access to SSI/SSDI technical assistance, and completed SOAR training). For new expansion projects, supportive service responses will be awarded up to 5 points for a plan to supplement CoC Program funds with financial resources from other public and private sources that support supportive service activities.
- vi. There were no changes to the Performance Outcomes section for renewal and expansion project requests.
- vii. For new projects in the Application Narrative section, there were edits made to include Experience in effectively utilizing federal funds including experience with leveraging Federal, State, local, and private sector funds; Project Description and Milestones (new as of NOFO guidance); and Coordinate and integrate with other mainstream health, social services, and employment programs.
- viii. A new section specific to Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus Funding applicants was added to the criteria that addresses the statement of need, coordinated entry inadequacies (SSO-CE projects only), DV survivor safety, trauma informed care, and rate of housing placement.
- ix. There were minimal changes to the Budget section; updates included dates and sources of information.
- x. A new section for Promoting Equity was added.

Discussion: Marcie requested feedback from the HCCSC Members and the Members did not have any recommendations, suggestions or feedback regarding the FY2021 CoC Competition documents.

### **III. Adjournment**

With no further business to be discussed, at 2:45pm the meeting adjourned.