

Before Starting the CoC Application

You must submit all three of the following parts in order for us to consider your Consolidated Application complete:

1. the CoC Application,
2. the CoC Priority Listing, and
3. all the CoC's project applications that were either approved and ranked, or rejected.

As the Collaborative Applicant, you are responsible for reviewing the following:

1. The FY 2024 CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The FY 2024 CoC Application Detailed Instructions which provide additional information and guidance for completing the application.
3. All information provided to ensure it is correct and current.
4. Responses provided by project applicants in their Project Applications.
5. The application to ensure all documentation, including attachment are provided.

Your CoC Must Approve the Consolidated Application before You Submit It
- 24 CFR 578.9 requires you to compile and submit the CoC Consolidated Application for the FY 2024 CoC Program Competition on behalf of your CoC.
- 24 CFR 578.9(b) requires you to obtain approval from your CoC before you submit the Consolidated Application into e-snaps.

Answering Multi-Part Narrative Questions

Many questions require you to address multiple elements in a single text box. Number your responses to correspond with multi-element questions using the same numbers in the question. This will help you organize your responses to ensure they are complete and help us to review and score your responses.

Attachments

Questions requiring attachments to receive points state, "You Must Upload an Attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen." Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed—including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process. Include a cover page with the attachment name.

- Attachments must match the questions they are associated with—if we do not award points for evidence you upload and associate with the wrong question, this is not a valid reason for you to appeal HUD's funding determination.

- We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).

1A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Identification

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1A-1. CoC Name and Number: TN-512 - Morristown/Blount, Sevier, Campbell, Cocke Counties CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness, Inc.

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness

1B. Coordination and Engagement–Inclusive Structure and Participation

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

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1B-1.	Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry.	
	NOFO Sections V.B.1.a.(1), V.B.1.e., V.B.1f., and V.B.1.p.	
	In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024:	
1.	select yes or no in the chart below if the entity listed participates in CoC meetings, voted—including selecting CoC Board members, and participated in your CoC’s coordinated entry system; or	
2.	select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist in your CoC’s geographic area:	

	Organization/Person	Participated in CoC Meetings	Voted, Including Electing CoC Board Members	Participated in CoC’s Coordinated Entry System
1.	Affordable Housing Developer(s)	Yes	Yes	No
2.	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.	Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	Disability Service Organizations	Yes	No	No
5.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	No	No	No
6.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.	Hospital(s)	No	No	No
8.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent	No	No
9.	Law Enforcement	No	No	No
10.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	No	No	No
12.	Local Government Staff/Officials	No	No	No
13.	Local Jail(s)	No	No	No
14.	Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
15.	Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
16.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes	Yes	Yes

17.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
18.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
20.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	No	No
21.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	No	No	No
22.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
23.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
24.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
25.	Agencies Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking	Yes	No	No
26.	Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	No
27.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	Other Victim Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	No
29.	State Domestic Violence Coalition	No	No	No
30.	State Sexual Assault Coalition	No	No	No
31.	Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	Youth Homeless Organizations	Nonexistent	No	No
33.	Youth Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Other: (limit 50 characters)			
34.				
35.				

By selecting "other" you must identify what "other" is.

1B-1a.	Experience Promoting Racial Equity.	
	NOFO Section III.B.3.c.	

Describe in the field below your CoC's experience in effectively addressing the needs of underserved communities, particularly Black and Brown communities, who are substantially overrepresented in the homeless population.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 continuously works to identify communities underrepresented within the CoC, including the BIPOC community. Organizations dedicated to serving underserved and BIPOC communities have been invited to join TN-512. Though they are not current CoC members, TN 512 ensures collaboration with BIPOC organizations through direct contact for feedback regarding CoC programming, CoC-wide policies and procedures, and recruiting underrepresented communities to participate in the CoC.
2. TN 512 also collaborates with BIPOC individuals and organizations to inform CoC written standards and operations and evaluate unhoused neighbor access and equity during their interaction with CoC member agencies. TN-512 is constantly developing strategies to include more underrepresented communities in our CoC membership, leadership, and committees to ensure racial equity is at the heart of CoC program operations.

1B-2.	Open Invitation for New Members.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(2)	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	communicated a transparent invitation process annually (e.g., communicated to the public on the CoC's website) to solicit new members to join the CoC;	
2.	ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats; and	
3.	invited organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in your CoC's geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, and persons with disabilities).	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 is consistent in its community outreach to identify new organizations, individuals, government officials, and other entities who would be integral in ending homelessness in the Tennessee Valley Region. TN-512 provides CoC membership packets to those directly invited to join the CoC through email, mail, and in person. The membership packets include the benefits of joining the TN-512 and the pricing, application, and process to become a voting member. Membership applications are accepted on a rolling basis. TN-512 monthly CoC meetings are open to the public, allowing it to communicate consistently to all those attending the meetings that the membership applications are available on the website for any organization, individual, for-profit entity, or place of worship to join. As potential TN-512 members are identified, the Lead Agency will arrange a face-to-face meeting to introduce TN-512 and explain the process of becoming a member.

2. TN-512 ensures all information is accessible electronically through the Lead Agency (LA) website, which utilizes software compliant with ADA regulations. The LA ensures the website is compatible with different devices and screens. The LA is also available to discuss membership via phone, text, email, and in person, with translation services available to ensure accessibility.

3. TN-512 is constantly identifying organizations that serve culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness within the region. TN-512 works to address equity issues on a rolling basis to ensure that any issue raised is addressed swiftly and equitably. TN-512 has representation of organizations that serve, though not exclusively, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ individuals, and the BIPOC community. TN-512 membership does not limit the number of entities that can join, and the membership packet on our website includes an application accepted on a rolling basis. Any individual, agency, or for-profit entity is welcome into TN-512 if they serve people experiencing homelessness, are currently experiencing homelessness, or are interested in contributing to the goal of ending homelessness within the region. TN-512 is working to increase BIPOC and LGBTQ+ representation to ensure all voices and experiences are heard when considering policy changes. To increase this representation, the Lead Agency is extending invitations to culturally specific organizations to initiate conversations on how they are integral in ending homelessness.

1B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(3)	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	

1.	solicited and considered opinions from a broad array of organizations and individuals that have knowledge of homelessness, or an interest in preventing and ending homelessness;
2.	communicated information during public meetings or other forums your CoC uses to solicit public information;
3.	ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats; and
4.	took into consideration information gathered in public meetings or forums to address improvements or new approaches to preventing and ending homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 solicits the opinions of a broad array of organizations and individuals who have a knowledge of homelessness or an interest in preventing and ending homelessness through social media, community outreach, street outreach, CoC meetings, and individual meetings with current and potential CoC member agencies. TN-512 holds regular committee meetings, and the dates and times for these meetings are available on the Lead Agency website calendar, which stays updated. The website calendar also provides dates and times for workshops and training open to CoC members and the public, offering the space to share opinions from CoC and non-CoC members on preventing and ending homelessness within the region.

2. The Lead Agency communicates information during monthly TN-512 meetings open to CoC member agencies and the public. The Lead Agency actively invites individuals, local government officials, organizations, for-profit businesses, and places of worship to participate in the public CoC meetings to determine if CoC membership would be relevant for them. The Lead Agency also provides information during community outreach events and public meetings hosted by other organizations or entities, advocating for those in attendance to attend CoC meetings or learn more about what TN-512 does within the region.

3. TN-512 ensures all information is accessible electronically through the Lead Agency website, which utilizes software compliant with ADA regulations. The Lead Agency ensures the website is compatible with different devices and screens. The Lead Agency is also available via phone, text, email, and in person, with translation services available to ensure accessibility.

4. The chair or Lead Agency gathers information during all meetings, including TN-512 monthly meetings open to the public, one-on-one sessions, and committee meetings. This information is then utilized to initiate improvement cycles for current programs, CoC operations, and strategies to implement the identified improvements.

1B-4.	Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Awarded CoC Program Funding.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(4)	

Describe in the field below how your CoC notified the public:

1.	that your CoC will consider project applications from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding;
2.	about how project applicants must submit their project applications—the process;
3.	about how your CoC would determine which project applications it would submit to HUD for funding; and
4.	ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. After the release of the CoC Program NOFO, the TN-512 Collaborative Applicant (CA) sets the calendar for the local competition, including deadlines for project applications. TN-512 releases a local competition notice that includes the timeline, dollar amounts available through bonus funding, the application process, and the contact for the CA should agencies have questions. Information within the local competition notice is consistent with NOFO guidelines and requirements. The local competition notice, NOFO, and timeline are available to CoC members via the CA website for continued access. The local competition notice was distributed to the CoC listserv, currently over 400 emails, with links to the website where all relevant information is housed on September 4, 2024. Any organization in good standing was encouraged to apply for CoC Program funding.
2. TN-512 began announcing the upcoming CoC program opportunity in June and expanded on the process, deadlines, and threshold requirements as HUD released NOFO details. All TN-512 monthly meeting PowerPoints have links to the HUD and local competition websites. TN-512 member agencies that are potential applications are met individually to better communicate the process and opportunity. Deadlines were communicated monthly at TN-512 meetings, and agencies that expressed interest in applying received direct email and text reminders of upcoming deadlines. The Collaborative Application is available during the CoC Program and local competition to answer any agency questions or submit questions to the appropriate HUD contact.
3. The Rank and Review Committee is dedicated to reviewing project applications and providing the rank order for the priority list. This committee determines if the submitted renewal and new projects meet the threshold requirements to apply for CoC Program funding. Threshold requirements were listed on the scoring document distributed via email to over 400 individuals within the CoC email listserv and are accessible on the CA website. As long as applicants meet the thresholds dictated by HUD, they are submitted to HUD after the rank and review process.
4. TN-512 ensures all information is accessible electronically through the CA website, which utilizes software compliant with ADA regulations. The CA ensures the website is compatible with different devices and screens. The CA is also available via phone, text, email, and in person, with translation services available to ensure accessibility.

1C. Coordination and Engagement

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

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1C-1.	Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.b.	
	In the chart below:	
1.	select yes or no for entities listed that are included in your CoC’s coordination, planning, and operations of projects that serve individuals, families, unaccompanied youth, persons who are fleeing domestic violence who are experiencing homelessness, or those at risk of homelessness; or	
2.	select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist within your CoC’s geographic area.	

	Entities or Organizations Your CoC Coordinates with for Planning or Operations of Projects	Coordinates with the Planning or Operations of Projects?
1.	Funding Collaboratives	No
2.	Head Start Program	No
3.	Housing and services programs funded through Local Government	Yes
4.	Housing and services programs funded through other Federal Resources (non-CoC)	Yes
5.	Housing and services programs funded through private entities, including Foundations	Yes
6.	Housing and services programs funded through State Government	Yes
7.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Yes
8.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)	Yes
9.	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Yes
10.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent
11.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes
12.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes
13.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes
14.	Private Foundations	No
15.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes
16.	Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Nonexistent
17.	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	No
	Other:(limit 50 characters)	
18.		

1C-2.	CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.b.	

In the chart below select yes or no to indicate whether your CoC:

1.	Consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG Program funds?	Yes
2.	Provided Point-in-Time (PIT) count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area?	Yes
3.	Ensured local homelessness information is communicated and addressed in the Consolidated Plan updates?	Yes
4.	Coordinated with ESG recipients in evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients?	Yes

1C-3.	Ensuring Families are not Separated.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.c.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ensures emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing (PSH and RRH) do not deny admission or separate family members regardless of each family member's self-reported sexual orientation and gender identity:

1.	Conducted mandatory training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated?	Yes
2.	Conducted optional training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure family members are not separated?	Yes
3.	Worked with CoC and ESG recipient(s) to adopt uniform anti-discrimination policies for all subrecipients?	Yes
4.	Worked with ESG recipient(s) to identify both CoC- and ESG-funded facilities within your CoC's geographic area that might be out of compliance and took steps to work directly with those facilities to bring them into compliance?	Yes
5.	Sought assistance from HUD by submitting questions or requesting technical assistance to resolve noncompliance by service providers?	Yes

1C-4.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth—SEAs, LEAs, School Districts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the entities your CoC collaborates with:

1.	Youth Education Provider	No
2.	State Education Agency (SEA)	No
3.	Local Education Agency (LEA)	No
4.	School Districts	Yes

1C-4a.	Formal Partnerships with Youth Education Providers, SEAs, LEAs, School Districts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Describe in the field below the formal partnerships your CoC has with at least one of the entities where you responded yes in question 1C-4.

(limit 2,500 characters)

TN-512 collaborated with local school districts during the 2024 PIT Count to ensure that youth and families experiencing homelessness were identified. Youth and young adults have been an underrepresented population in TN-512, and by involving the school districts in two separate counties in the PIT Count, TN-512 was able to more accurately represent the number of folks experiencing homelessness within the region. County Liaisons, who organized the PIT for the two separate counties mentioned, developed a partnership with the school district to capture this information accurately. Though it was an official partnership, no formal agreements, such as an MOU, were created for this year. The goal is to work toward formal agreements over the next couple of years, as there are many levels of approval for such agreements.

1C-4b.	Informing Individuals and Families Who Have Recently Begun Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Describe in the field below written policies and procedures your CoC uses to inform individuals and families who have recently begun experiencing homelessness of their eligibility for educational services.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Currently, agencies are responsible for creating policies to inform providers and individuals of their educational rights, as defined in the McKinney-Vento Act. The Written Standards Committee is actively updating the TN-512 Written Standards, including policies that ensure providers inform individuals of their McKinney-Vento education rights. Federal and state funding agencies complete reviews for individual agency compliance. TN-512 is developing partnerships with local school districts and other education entities to ensure all individuals and families can access resources and information about their right to educational services. Agencies work alongside local education service providers to assess and monitor eligibility for McKinney-Vento-related education services for students and families experiencing homelessness. School counselors and resources offices work with CoC and non-CoC partner agencies to inform students and their families of the available homelessness resources in their area, allowing for another level of evaluation for McKinney-Vento-related education services.

1C-4c.	Written/Formal Agreements or Partnerships with Early Childhood Services Providers.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC has written formal agreements or partnerships with the listed providers of early childhood services:

		MOU/MOA	Other Formal Agreement
1.	Birth to 3 years	No	No
2.	Child Care and Development Fund	No	No
3.	Early Childhood Providers	No	No
4.	Early Head Start	No	No
5.	Federal Home Visiting Program–(including Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home and Visiting or MIECHV)	No	No
6.	Head Start	No	No
7.	Healthy Start	No	No
8.	Public Pre-K	No	No
9.	Tribal Home Visiting Program	No	No
	Other (limit 150 characters)		
10.			

1C-5.	Addressing Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking–Collaboration with Federally Funded Programs and Victim Service Providers.
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.

In the chart below select yes or no for the organizations your CoC collaborates with:

	Organizations	
1.	State Domestic Violence Coalitions	No
2.	State Sexual Assault Coalitions	No
3.	Anti-trafficking Service Providers	Yes
	Other Organizations that Help this Population (limit 500 characters)	
4.	Local Domestic Violence Providers	Yes

1C-5a.	Collaborating with Federally Funded Programs and Victim Service Providers to Address Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.

Describe in the field below how your CoC regularly collaborates with organizations that you selected yes to in Question 1C-5 to:

1. update CoC-wide policies; and
2. ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC's geographic area are trauma-informed and can meet the needs of survivors.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 collaborates with local DV and anti-trafficking providers to provide feedback and input on CoC-wide policies concerning services for individuals fleeing violence. TN-512 also partners with DV and anti-trafficking partners for training opportunities for CoC member agencies and the public. Not all DV providers in the region are currently CoC member agencies. However, TN-512 is actively developing partnerships with DV providers outside the continuum to ensure diverse backgrounds, experiences, and opinions when updating and creating CoC policies and procedures.
2. TN-512 elevates the trauma-informed care training opportunities available within the region to ensure agencies are meeting the needs of survivors. Over the next year, TN-512 plans to offer multiple opportunities for agencies to partake in DV-related and trauma-informed training to ensure the safety and confidentiality of those fleeing violence.

1C-5b.	Implemented Safety Planning, Confidentiality Protocols in Your CoC's Coordinated Entry to Address the Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry addresses the needs of DV survivors by including:	
	1. safety planning protocols; and	
	2. confidentiality protocols.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN 512's Coordinated Entry Committee ensures that all agency staff pass background checks to ensure that individuals who have domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking charges are not working with those who may be survivors. Project and Coordinated Entry System (CES) staff receive annual training in trauma-informed care and survivor-centered best practices to address the unique challenges faced by survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Upon contact with CES, staff immediately assess the survivor's safety and connect them with Victim Service Providers (VSPs) for shelter, safety planning, legal advocacy, and other critical support. The CoC's housing-first model ensures all survivors have access to emergency housing, rapid rehousing, confidential housing, and services like counseling and healthcare. Survivors can choose how they engage with these services and housing placements, in person or remotely, to ensure their safety.

2. The Coordinated Entry System (CES) empowers survivors to control their identity and avoid unnecessary disclosure of personal information. The CES only collects essential information and does not require survivors to share sensitive details, like their address, unless they choose to. Information is stored in an HMIS-comparable, confidential database that is compliant with VAWA. Staff always obtain informed consent before collecting or sharing survivor data, ensuring survivors maintain control over their personal information. The CoC works closely with Victim Service Providers (VSPs) that adhere to strict confidentiality standards under federal and state laws, such as VAWA and FVPSA. Secure communication methods, including encrypted emails and secure phone lines, are used to protect survivors, and staff are trained not to disclose sensitive information unintentionally. All paper forms are double-locked or shredded after use to ensure the confidentiality of those seeking assistance. The CoC regularly monitors CES protocols through audits and ongoing staff training to stay current on best practices, confidentiality, and new legal requirements for survivor privacy.

1C-5c.	Coordinated Annual Training on Best Practices to Address the Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	

In the chart below, indicate how your CoC facilitates training for project staff and coordinated entry staff that addresses best practices on safety planning and confidentiality protocols:

		Project Staff	Coordinated Entry Staff
1.	Training Occurs at least annually?	Yes	Yes
2.	Incorporates Trauma Informed best practices?	Yes	Yes
3.	Incorporates Survivor-Centered best practices?	Yes	Yes
4.	Identifies and assesses survivors' individual safety needs?	Yes	Yes
5.	Enhances and supports collaboration with DV organizations?	Yes	Yes
6.	Ensures survivors' rights, voices, and perspectives are incorporated?	Yes	Yes
	Other? (limit 500 characters)		
7.			

1C-5d.	Implemented VAWA-Required Written Emergency Transfer Plan Policies and Procedures for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	

Describe in the field below:	
1.	whether your CoC's written policies and procedures include an emergency transfer plan;
2.	how your CoC informs all households seeking or receiving CoC Program assistance about their rights to an emergency transfer;
3.	what your CoC requires households to do to request emergency transfers; and
4.	what your CoC does in response to households requesting emergency transfers.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The TN-512 Continuum of Care (CoC) maintains comprehensive written policies and procedures, including an emergency transfer plan. Upon entry into a Victim Service Provider (VSP) provider program, the provider provides participants with these policies and procedures in writing. The documentation is available in English, Spanish, and other languages upon request. Translation services are arranged to ensure complete comprehension of the transfer process.
2. TN-512 adheres to the guidelines established under the VAWA by informing all survivors at admission or assistance in the Permanent Housing programs about their rights to request an emergency transfer. The emergency transfer opportunity applies to individuals who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The right to request a transfer is communicated clearly and inclusively to ensure all individuals, regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation, know their rights. All survivor households have full access to the services provided by the Coordinated Entry System anytime during their program enrolment with a VSP or other housing entity.
3. To initiate an emergency transfer, participants must notify their housing provider's management and submit a formal written request. The housing provider must accommodate individuals with disabilities to ensure accessibility. The request should include one of the following:
 - A statement asserting that the participant reasonably believes there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if they remain in the current dwelling unit.
 - A statement indicating that a household member was a victim of sexual assault on the premises within the 90 days preceding the request.
4. TN-512 adheres to state regulations when responding to emergency transfer requests and permits each member agency to act in the participant's best interests. The ability to honor an emergency transfer depends on an initial determination that the tenant has experienced domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and the availability of a suitable and safe unit for temporary or permanent relocation. TN-512 ensures that member agencies prioritize the safety and well-being of the participant throughout the transfer process.

1C-5e.	Facilitating Safe Access to Housing and Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC ensures households experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking have safe access to all of the housing and services available within your CoC's geographic area.

(limit 2,500 characters)

TN-512 is committed to ensuring that households experiencing trauma or facing safety concerns due to fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking have safe and secure access to all housing and services within the geographic area. Survivors have the choice to deny referral to a VSP, and would still have full access to the full services and programs offered by the CoC. The Coc achieves this through a coordinated approach prioritizing trauma-informed care and survivor-centered practices. The CoC maintains a strong network of partnerships with DV service providers, shelters, legal aid organizations, and law enforcement agencies, allowing for a seamless referral process and immediate access to housing options. TN-512's housing programs, including emergency shelters, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing, are designed with the safety and confidentiality of survivors in mind.

All housing providers within the CoC must implement safety protocols, including using confidential locations, secured entry systems, safety planning, and emergency transfer plans tailored to the needs of survivors. Additionally, housing providers are trained in client-centered and trauma-informed care, ensuring that staff are equipped to support households experiencing trauma in a compassionate and non-judgmental manner.

To facilitate access, the Coordinated Entry System (CES) includes specialized assessment tools that identify survivors' needs and ensure they are prioritized for appropriate housing and services. Households fleeing violence are fast-tracked for housing placements and provided with immediate safety options. TN-512 also works with local organizations to provide access to legal advocacy, counseling, and case management services to address immediate and long-term needs.

For households with additional barriers such as language or disabilities, the CoC agencies and housing providers provide translation services, reasonable accommodations, and dedicated support to ensure no one is left behind. This comprehensive approach ensures that every household has the opportunity to regain safety, stability, and self-sufficiency within our CoC.

1C-5f.	Identifying and Removing Barriers for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC ensures survivors receive safe housing and services by:

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1. | identifying barriers specific to survivors; and |
| 2. | working to remove those barriers. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 is dedicated to proactively identifying and removing barriers specific to survivors from accessing safe housing and supportive services. Some barriers can be systemic, embedded in local social structures or institutional processes. TN-512 employs a multifaceted approach to address these challenges. TN-512's Coordinated Entry System (CES) Committee gathers input from survivors through surveys, focus groups, and direct feedback during case management and service provision to understand their challenges in accessing housing and services. Feedback allows us to continuously evaluate services and identify barriers, such as lack of affordable housing, language access, discrimination, and gaps in support services. TN-512 works closely with Victim Service Providers to help the CoC pinpoint systemic barriers, such as housing discrimination, wage gaps, or policies that unintentionally disadvantage survivors. TN-512 conducts regular equity audits to review resource allocation, access to services, and economic opportunities. Engaging with local stakeholders, including housing authorities, legal aid, and advocacy groups, helps the CoC identify broader issues, such as zoning practices, that could affect survivors' access to safe housing.

2. TN-512 has implemented targeted actions to eliminate identified barriers and ensure survivors can access safe housing and supportive services. TN-512 advocates for policies prioritizing survivors for housing placements and other resources, i.e., flexible rental assistance and fee waivers, to address economic obstacles. All providers are trauma-informed and culturally responsive, with translation services, disability accommodations, and training for housing providers to eliminate implicit biases and discriminatory practices. TN-512's CES prioritizes survivors for immediate housing placements, offers confidentiality protections, and simplifies intake processes to reduce delays to housing placement. The CoC collaborates with employment agencies to provide survivors with job readiness programs and skills training to empower them to achieve long-term stability and overcome wage gaps. By partnering with legal advocacy organizations, TN-512 helps survivors navigate legal barriers such as eviction history or economic abuse, ensuring they receive the protections necessary for safe housing. These strategies ensure survivors can access secure housing and are empowered to rebuild their lives in an equitable and supportive environment

1C-6.	Addressing the Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer+--Anti-Discrimination Policy and Equal Access Trainings.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.f.	

	1. Did your CoC implement a written CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy ensuring that LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive supportive services, shelter, and housing free from discrimination?	Yes
	2. Did your CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement the Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity (Equal Access Final Rule)?	Yes
	3. Did your CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement Equal Access in Accordance With an Individual's Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs (Gender Identity Final Rule)?	Yes

1C-6a.	Anti-Discrimination Policy--Updating Policies--Assisting Providers--Evaluating Compliance--Addressing Noncompliance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.f.	

Describe in the field below:

1.	how your CoC regularly collaborates with LGBTQ+ and other organizations to update its CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy, as necessary to ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC are trauma-informed and able to meet the needs of LGBTQ+ individuals and families;
2.	how your CoC assisted housing and services providers in developing project-level anti-discrimination policies that are consistent with the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy;
3.	your CoC's process for evaluating compliance with your CoC's anti-discrimination policies; and
4.	your CoC's process for addressing noncompliance with your CoC's anti-discrimination policies.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 does not currently have a CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy that CoC partner agencies adopt. Instead, TN-512 has Written Standards that strongly encourage all CoC agencies to adopt the HUD anti-discrimination policy to ensure all housing services provided are trauma-informed and able to meet the needs of LGBTQ+ individuals and families. TN-512 has elevated local training opportunities to learn more about how to be a safe, inclusive, and affirming organization. TN-512 has found that working with partner agencies to create anti-discrimination policies on an organizational level provides the desired results. TN-512 partners with local LGBTQ+ organizations to provide training opportunities and feedback on CoC-wide policies to ensure the needs of LGBTQ+ individuals and families are considered.
2. TN-512 evaluates project-level anti-discrimination policies to determine if they are consistent with the required HUD. The Lead Agency works alongside organizations to learn more about the different communities that might not be currently protected within their anti-discrimination policies and how to move forward with updated policies to be more inclusive and affirming. TN-512 will also provide contact information of those qualified to give feedback on how the anti-discrimination policies will impact them, such as LGBTQ+ community members.
3. TN-512 does not currently have a CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy that CoC partner agencies are bound to adhere to. The Lead Agency works alongside local organizations and CoC partner agencies to evaluate and identify areas for improvement in their active anti-discrimination policies. The Lead Agency also assists ESG and CoC Program funding recipients in ensuring their anti-discrimination policies are inclusive, safe, and affirming while meeting HUD and state requirements.
4. TN-512 does not have a CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy. As we learn about partner agencies that operate under non-affirming policies, we offer assistance to expand their policies. Unfortunately, many local funders do not require organizations to include protections from discrimination based on sex, gender expression, or sexual orientation. The Governing Council has had discussions surrounding CoC-wide anti-discrimination policies and plans to include even more guidance in the updated Written Standards to be released in 2025.

1C-7.	Public Housing Agencies within Your CoC's Geographic Area--New Admissions--General/Limited Preference--Moving On Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

You must upload the PHA Homeless Preference\PHA Moving On Preference attachment(s) to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

Enter information in the chart below for the two largest PHAs highlighted in gray on the current CoC-PHA Crosswalk Report or the two PHAs your CoC has a working relationship with--if there is only one PHA in your CoC's geographic area, provide information on the one:

Public Housing Agency Name	Enter the Percent of New Admissions into Public Housing or Housing Choice Voucher Program During FY 2023 who were experiencing homelessness at entry	Does the PHA have a General or Limited Homeless Preference?	Does the PHA have a Preference for current PSH program participants no longer needing intensive supportive services, e.g., Moving On?
Oak Ridge Housing Authority	69%	Yes-Public Housing	No
Tennessee Valley Housing Services	5%	No	No

1C-7a.	Written Policies on Homeless Admission Preferences with PHAs.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

Describe in the field below:

- steps your CoC has taken, with the two largest PHAs within your CoC's geographic area or the two PHAs your CoC has working relationships with, to adopt a homeless admission preference--if your CoC only has one PHA within its geographic area, you may respond for the one; or
- state that your CoC has not worked with the PHAs in its geographic area to adopt a homeless admission preference.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. One of the largest PHAs in the CoC's geographic area has already adopted a homeless preference and is an active CoC member. TN-512 is working to establish relationships with other PHAs within the region to better understand the barriers to not adopting homeless admission preferences. Conversations and partnerships have been initiated to mitigate barriers to adopting homeless admission preferences for the folks served within the CoC. Many PHAs within the CoC's geographical region have limited staff, and it is challenging to maintain partnerships due to their limited staff capacity. TN-512 will continue to learn from the PHA, which has established a homeless admission preference, to see how the lessons can directly apply to other PHAs within the area on their journey to adopting a homeless admission preference. TN-512 has an active relationship with at least 3 of the PHAs in the region, to develop a relationship with 75% by the end of the next fiscal year. During the development of these relationships, the focus will remain on moving our unhoused neighbors into permanent housing from housing programs or their current living situation with the assistance of the PHA as they adopt a homeless admission preference.

1C-7b.	Moving On Strategy with Affordable Housing Providers.	
	Not Scored–For Information Only	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate affordable housing providers in your CoC’s jurisdiction that your recipients use to move program participants to other subsidized housing:

1.	Multifamily assisted housing owners	No
2.	PHA	No
3.	Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments	No
4.	Local low-income housing programs	No
	Other (limit 150 characters)	
5.		

1C-7c.	Include Units from PHA Administered Programs in Your CoC’s Coordinated Entry.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

In the chart below, indicate if your CoC includes units from the following PHA programs in your CoC’s coordinated entry process:

1.	Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV)	No
2.	Family Unification Program (FUP)	No
3.	Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)	Yes
4.	HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)	Yes
5.	Mainstream Vouchers	Yes
6.	Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) Vouchers	No
7.	Public Housing	Yes
8.	Other Units from PHAs:	

1C-7d.	Submitting CoC and PHA Joint Applications for Funding for People Experiencing Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

1.	Did your CoC coordinate with a PHA(s) to submit a competitive joint application(s) for funding or jointly implement a competitive project serving individuals or families experiencing homelessness (e.g., applications for mainstream vouchers, Family Unification Program (FUP), other programs)?	No
		Program Funding Source
2.	Enter the type of competitive project your CoC coordinated with a PHA(s) to submit a joint application for or jointly implement.	

1C-7e.	Coordinating with PHA(s) to Apply for or Implement HCV Dedicated to Homelessness Including Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV).	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

	Did your CoC coordinate with any PHA to apply for or implement funding provided for Housing Choice Vouchers dedicated to homelessness, including vouchers provided through the American Rescue Plan?	No
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1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1D-1.	Preventing People Transitioning from Public Systems from Experiencing Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.h.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC actively coordinates with the public systems listed to ensure persons who have resided in them longer than 90 days are not discharged directly to the streets, emergency shelters, or other homeless assistance programs.

1.	Prisons/Jails?	Yes
2.	Health Care Facilities?	Yes
3.	Residential Care Facilities?	No
4.	Foster Care?	Yes

1D-2.	Housing First—Lowering Barriers to Entry.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.i.	

1.	Enter the total number of new and renewal CoC Program-funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects your CoC is applying for in FY 2024 CoC Program Competition.	4
2.	Enter the total number of new and renewal CoC Program-funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects your CoC is applying for in FY 2024 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach.	4
3.	This number is a calculation of the percentage of new and renewal PSH, RRH, SSO non-Coordinated Entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC has ranked in its CoC Priority Listing in the FY 2024 CoC Program Competition that reported that they are lowering barriers to entry and prioritizing rapid placement and stabilization to permanent housing.	100%

1D-2a.	Project Evaluation for Housing First Compliance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.i.	

You must upload the Housing First Evaluation attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.
Describe in the field below:

1.	how your CoC evaluates every project—where the applicant checks Housing First on their project application—to determine if they are using a Housing First approach;
2.	the list of factors and performance indicators your CoC uses during its evaluation;
3.	how your CoC regularly evaluates projects outside of your local CoC competition to ensure the projects are using a Housing First approach; and
4.	what your CoC has done to improve fidelity to Housing First.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 took a different approach to determining if projects utilized Housing First principles during the Rank and Review process this year. The Rank and Review Committee utilized the Quick Screen created by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness to determine if a project truly utilized Housing First principles. In the past, TN-512 has asked a yes or no question without specific requirements to explain how they operated their programs with a Housing First focus. For this competition, utilizing the Quick Screen from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness allowed the Rank and Review Committee and the project applicant to evaluate the project thoroughly to understand if Housing First principles were being followed within the program.
2. TN-512 utilized the following questions from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness Quick Screen to determine if a project was using Housing First principles
 - Are applicants allowed to enter the program without income?
 - Are applicants allowed to enter the program even if they aren't "clean and sober" or "treatment compliant"?
 - Are applicants allowed to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement?
 - Are service and treatment plans voluntary, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through?
3. TN-512 utilizes the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness Quick Screen outside of the competition to semi-annually evaluate whether Housing First principles are utilized to their full potential. Projects are also provided with the full Housing First Checklist from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness to further evaluate how to improve fidelity to Housing First principles.
4. TN-512 has shifted how Housing First is evaluated in our Rank and Review process and outside the competition to improve fidelity to Housing First. TN-512 works alongside all projects, CoC and non-CoC funded, to educate on Housing First principles and improve the methods being utilized by the projects. TN-512 is a large advocate of the Housing First model within the communities, often educating local organizations, governments, and other stakeholders on the importance of creating more programs that operate under the Housing First principles.

1D-3.	Street Outreach—Data—Reaching People Least Likely to Request Assistance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.j.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC tailored its street outreach to people experiencing homelessness who are least likely to request assistance.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

TN-512 engages in multi-layered street outreach across our 12-county region to reach out to individuals experiencing homelessness who are least likely to seek help. We do outreach every day, revisiting often with the same people to establish trust and monitor progress with consistent follow-up. Coordinating service provision among several CoC agencies is critical in ensuring that people receive appropriate services in their specific areas of need.

TN-512 is part of a major network that includes churches, food banks, healthcare professionals, first responders, law enforcement, and culturally informed organizations. Such partnerships ensure the CoC can reach more remote encampments and generally more hidden locations such as forests and riverbanks, ensuring that even the most isolated individuals are identified and engaged. Our multidisciplinary outreach teams—specialized case managers, community health workers, and persons with lived expertise—provide a holistic service to our neighbors. Working in concert with mobile health clinics through outreach efforts and at shower trailer events, CoC partner agencies can become available on-site to address any health concerns while building trust to further link individuals to service.

TN-512 facilitates seamless transitions from outreach to service engagement through warm hand-offs, where outreach staff personally introduces the client to case managers and service providers for ongoing support. TN-512 also partners with cultural organizations through translation assistance and distribution of translated materials to ensure our services are accessible to non-English speaking residents and culturally diverse populations. Our data-driven approach allows information coming in real-time from coordinated entry assessments, hotline referrals, and other resources in the community to drive our efforts forward by noting emerging trends—from where encampments are sprouting to how we should allocate resources.

TN-512 ensures access to critical resources and pathways to stable housing, even for the toughest-to-reach individuals, through daily street outreach, consistent follow-ups, and large-scale community partnerships.

1D-4.	Strategies to Prevent Criminalization of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.k.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate your CoC's strategies to prevent the criminalization of homelessness in your CoC's geographic area:

	Your CoC's Strategies	Engaged/Educated Legislators and Policymakers	Implemented Laws/Policies/Practices that Prevent Criminalization of Homelessness
1.	Increase utilization of co-responder responses or social services-led responses over law enforcement responses to people experiencing homelessness?	Yes	Yes
2.	Minimize use of law enforcement to enforce bans on public sleeping, public camping, or carrying out basic life functions in public places?	Yes	Yes

3.	Avoid imposing criminal sanctions, including fines, fees, and incarceration for public sleeping, public camping, and carrying out basic life functions in public places?	Yes	Yes
4.	Other:(limit 500 characters)		

1D-5.	Rapid Rehousing–RRH Beds as Reported in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) or Longitudinal Data from HMIS.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.i.	

		HIC Longitudinal HMIS Data	2023	2024
	Enter the total number of RRH beds available to serve all populations as reported in the HIC or the number of households served per longitudinal HMIS data, e.g., APR.	Longitudinal HMIS Data	11	31

1D-6.	Mainstream Benefits–CoC Annual Training of Project Staff.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.m.	

Indicate in the chart below whether your CoC trains program staff annually on the following mainstream benefits available for program participants within your CoC's geographic area:

	Mainstream Benefits	CoC Provides Annual Training?
1.	Food Stamps	Yes
2.	SSI–Supplemental Security Income	Yes
3.	SSDI–Social Security Disability Insurance	Yes
4.	TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Yes
5.	Substance Use Disorder Programs	Yes
6.	Employment Assistance Programs	Yes
7.	Other (limit 150 characters)	

1D-6a.	Information and Training on Mainstream Benefits and Other Assistance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.m	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:

1.	works with projects to collaborate with healthcare organizations, including those that provide substance use disorder treatment and mental health treatment, to assist program participants with receiving healthcare services, including Medicaid; and
2.	promotes SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) certification of program staff.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 Lead Agency and partner agencies work with projects to collaborate with healthcare organizations, including those that provide substance use disorder treatment and mental health treatment, to assist program participants with receiving healthcare services, including Medicaid, through various methods. Partner agencies work directly with recovery facilities, mental health facilities, or hospitals to assist unhoused neighbors in gaining access to healthcare services. Case managers also help unhoused neighbors navigate the insurance sector, such as Medicaid or ACA, to ensure that no neighbor will become burdened with exorbitant medical costs while receiving services.

2. TN-512 works with projects to promote SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) certification of program staff by educating CoC partner agencies about the impact SOAR-certified staff can have on unhoused neighbors working to brain benefits. Though no SOAR-certified staff serves the entire region, TN-512 welcomed a SOAR-certified partner agency staff member who will help provide access to SSI/SSDI application services for an entire county. TN-512 continues to identify potential partner agencies to undergo SOAR certification to increase the number of certified staff serving the region.

ID-7.	Partnerships with Public Health Agencies—Collaborating to Respond to and Prevent the Spread of Infectious Diseases.	
NOFO Section V.B.1.n.		
Describe in the field below how your CoC effectively collaborates with state and local public health agencies to develop CoC-wide policies and procedures that:		
1.	respond to infectious disease outbreaks; and	
2.	prevent infectious disease outbreaks among people experiencing homelessness.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 collaborates closely with state and local public health agencies to establish CoC-wide policies and procedures that effectively respond to and prevent infectious disease outbreaks among people experiencing homelessness. We prioritize a proactive approach that combines ongoing coordination, resource sharing, and targeted prevention efforts.

To respond to infectious disease outbreaks, our CoC regularly communicates with public health officials to implement emergency protocols, including rapid testing, vaccination clinics, and distributing personal protective equipment (PPE) during outbreaks such as COVID-19, Hepatitis A, and Tuberculosis. We have developed adaptable response models through experience managing COVID-19, enabling us to quickly coordinate efforts with shelters, outreach teams, and mobile health clinics. Partner agencies operate a shower trailer across the 12 counties, going out two or more times a week and mobilizing more frequently during disease outbreaks, natural disasters, and emergencies to the most needed areas. This ensures that hygiene resources are accessible to reduce transmission risks and support affected individuals.

2. TN-512 incorporates disease prevention measures into regular outreach activities to prevent future outbreaks. While local health departments provide vaccination clinics and health screenings, TN-512 plays a crucial role in relaying this information to our clients to ensure they are aware of available services. During outreach and mobile shower trailer events, agencies distribute hygiene supplies, such as masks, hand sanitizers, and soap, to help reduce the risk of transmission. TN-512 Street Outreach collaborates with mobile health clinics to provide healthcare access for our most at-risk neighbors, addressing immediate medical needs and promoting preventive care. TN-512 agencies partner with cultural organizations to produce educational materials in multiple languages, increasing awareness.

Representatives from our CoC attend health council meetings across all 12 counties to stay informed on the latest CDC guidelines and local health trends. This allows public health representatives to share information about infection rates. This enables the CoC to update our policies and continuously improve safety measures. Through this comprehensive approach, we ensure our CoC remains prepared to address current and emerging health threats, prioritizing the well-being of people experiencing homelessness.

ID-7a.	Collaboration With Public Health Agencies on Infectious Diseases.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.n.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	effectively shared information related to public health measures and homelessness; and	
2.	facilitated communication between public health agencies and homeless service providers to ensure street outreach providers and shelter and housing providers are equipped to prevent or limit infectious disease outbreaks among program participants.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 has representatives from every county who participate in local and statewide health councils and regularly receive updates and information pertaining to infectious diseases and public health measures. TN-512 regularly distributes this information via email and phone to agencies and partners in our service area. Various outreach teams across the CoC develop health education materials that are then shared in shelters, congregate sites, and with individuals met during street outreach. This learned information is also distributed during our monthly CoC meetings to keep everyone informed and prepared to address public health concerns.

2. State and local health department staff members frequently attend the monthly CoC meetings and provide information about best practices for homeless service providers to ensure street outreach, shelter, and housing providers are well-equipped to prevent or limit infectious disease outbreaks among program participants. Members of the CoC also regularly attend relevant community Health Council meetings to discuss the same information. One CoC partner agency has an Outreach program that works to provide the COC and its members access to free COVID-19 testing and disinfection supplies for facilities and personnel. These items are supplied by collaboration with local health offices and donations from the community. This program also provides hygiene supplies, health education, and testing to homeless clients in the COC services region. CoC partner agencies work alongside local health departments and hospitals, even partnering with the regional health department to provide mobile health department services during shower trailer events in the coming months.

1D-8.	Coordinated Entry Standard Processes.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry system:	
1.	can serve everybody regardless of where they are located within your CoC's geographic area;
2.	uses a standardized assessment process to achieve fair, equitable, and equal access to housing and services within your CoC;
3.	collects personal information in a trauma-informed way; and
4.	is updated at least annually using feedback received from participating projects and households that participated in coordinated entry.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The TN-512 Coordinated Entry System (CES) follows a "no wrong door" approach, making it accessible through multiple entry points, including in-person, by phone, or by outreach personnel. The CES covers 100% of the CoC's geographic area, ensuring that individuals in the most remote locations can receive assistance, with referrals made promptly to the best-suited resources. A key feature is the 24/7 Homeless Assistance Helpline, widely publicized to provide individuals and families with immediate information on available resources, including emergency shelters and supportive services across the entire area. In addition to phone calls, CES staff can receive text messages and emails. Dedicated street outreach teams equipped with tablets engage those in remote or unsheltered locations, including encampments, and connect vulnerable individuals swiftly to the CES. TN-512 collaborates with partner agencies, including newly CES-trained providers, to increase access to entry points and reduce barriers to the CES. In the past year, TN-512 has streamlined its intake and assessment process based on expert, provider, and recipient feedback to ensure questions are easy to understand and non-repeating to reduce relived trauma.

2,3,4. The TN-512 CoC uses a standardized assessment tool to ensure fair and equitable access to housing and services.

Key features include

Tailored Assessments: Considers subpopulations (families, veterans, youth, individuals with disabilities), housing history, health needs, and vulnerability to provide individualized evaluations

Data-Driven Prioritization: Information from assessments is used in case conferences and by-name list meetings to ensure the most vulnerable populations are prioritized for housing and services.

Equitable Prioritization: Individuals are prioritized based on factors like chronic homelessness, vulnerability, and special populations (e.g., unaccompanied youth, veterans)

Monitoring for Equity: Regular reviews of assessment data ensure no population is underserved, identifying and addressing disparities for marginalized groups

Standardized Process: A uniform intake assessment, including a vulnerability index, is used across all access points to provide consistent & fair service referrals

Continuous Improvement: The CoC regularly evaluates and updates its coordinated entry system at least annually to maintain effectiveness & compliance

Trauma-informed: All CES staff are trained to provide trauma-informed services

1D-8a.	Coordinated Entry–Program Participant-Centered Approach.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry system:	
1.	reaches people who are least likely to apply for homeless assistance in the absence of special outreach;	
2.	prioritizes people most in need of assistance;	
3.	ensures people most in need of assistance receive permanent housing in a timely manner, consistent with their needs and preferences; and	

	4. takes steps to reduce burdens on people seeking assistance.
--	--

(limit 2,500 characters)

1 TN-512 uses various methods to make its Coordinated Entry System (CES) accessible. These include mobile outreach using tablets for intakes in places not meant for human habitation, collaboration with community partners acting as site-based entry points, a toll-free hotline for calls and text messages, and multiple communication methods such as translation, enlarged print, text, and email. The program also partners with agencies serving marginalized groups to ensure inclusive outreach and accessibility to housing and services for high-need individuals.

2 TN-512 CES uses Process-Based Prioritization to rank individuals for housing and services based on those most in need. Standardized assessments evaluate housing needs based on housing history, health issues, and vulnerability. It prioritizes access to PSH for high-acuity individuals, particularly those experiencing chronic homelessness, while those with less severe needs are referred to RRH. This ensures that the most vulnerable populations have timely and equitable access to housing and services.

3 TN-512 CES ensures prioritization of the most vulnerable and those with the longest histories of homelessness for housing services, e.g., RRH and PSH. A standardized vulnerability assessment ranks individuals based on chronic homelessness, health conditions, and special populations. It emphasizes a person-centered approach by incorporating housing preferences and resource allocation. Case conferences review and prioritize the most vulnerable clients and address barriers to housing, ensuring timely and efficient housing placements. Data monitoring allows for adjustments to prioritization strategies, ensuring that individuals receive services aligned with their needs and preferences.

4 TN-512 CES reduces burdens on those seeking assistance by adopting a "no wrong door" approach, allowing individuals to access services from multiple points without retelling their stories at each interaction. Shared data across HMIS enables access points to streamline service provision, minimizing the need for repeated intakes. Outreach engages unsheltered individuals, ensuring those least likely to seek help are connected to services. The system also incorporates language and accessibility accommodations and emphasizes person-centered care, ensuring timely access to housing options that align with individual preferences. Regular case conferences further address barriers, facilitating efficient and equitable housing placements.

1D-8b.	Coordinated Entry–Informing Program Participants about Their Rights and Remedies–Reporting Violations.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC through its coordinated entry:	
1.	affirmatively markets housing and services provided within the CoC's geographic area and ensures it reaches all persons experiencing homelessness;
2.	informs program participants of their rights and remedies available under federal, state, and local fair housing and civil rights laws; and
3.	reports any conditions or actions that impede fair housing choice for current or prospective program participants to the jurisdiction(s) responsible for certifying consistency with the Consolidated Plan.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512's Coordinated Entry System ensures that all individuals needing assistance, regardless of background or identity, can access services easily. It utilizes a standardized assessment process to streamline support for those experiencing homelessness. The CoC conducts targeted outreach to unsheltered and sheltered individuals by employing traditional methods like flyers and digital strategies via social media and its website. Collaborations with local organizations, including nonprofits and faith-based groups, help communicate relevant information to diverse communities, including veterans and survivors of domestic violence. Additionally, the CoC organizes community events for direct engagement and education while actively seeking feedback to enhance outreach strategies. By translating materials into multiple languages and using various formats for accessibility, the CoC effectively informs all individuals experiencing homelessness about available services and housing options, promoting an inclusive and responsive care system.

2. Through various CES process measures, TN-512 ensures participants are fully informed about their rights and privacy protections. During intake, participants are informed of their legal rights under a release of information, and privacy statements are read when personally identifiable information (PII) is collected by phone. With every CES interaction, participants are also informed of rights and remedies available under federal, state, and local fair housing and civil rights laws. The CoC's Policies and Procedures manual outlines a grievance process to address rights violations, ensuring participants are protected and informed.

3. TN-512 CES complies with all federal and state civil rights and fair housing laws, ensuring that recipients and subrecipients of CoC and ESG Program-funded projects follow nondiscrimination and equal opportunity provisions. Homeless applicants have the right to file discrimination complaints, and all projects provide guidance on the complaint process, ensuring timely and fair resolutions. Additionally, the CoC actively monitors barriers to fair housing, including discriminatory practices or restrictive policies. If such issues arise, they are documented and reported to the appropriate jurisdiction, and the CoC works with local agencies to address and resolve them, ensuring equal housing access for all participants.

1D-9.	Advancing Racial Equity in Homelessness—Conducting Assessment.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

1.	Has your CoC conducted a racial disparities assessment in the last 3 years?	Yes
2.	Enter the date your CoC conducted its latest assessment for racial disparities.	06/18/2024

1D-9a.	Using Data to Determine if Racial Disparities Exist in Your CoC's Provision or Outcomes of CoC Program-Funded Homeless Assistance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

Describe in the field below:

1.	the data your CoC used to analyze whether any racial disparities are present in your CoC's provision or outcomes of CoC Program-funded homeless assistance; and
2.	how your CoC analyzed the data to determine whether any racial disparities are present in your CoC's provision or outcomes of CoC Program-funded homeless assistance.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC utilizes three main tools to determine disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance within the region: the National Alliance to End Homelessness racial disparity tool, HUD CoC Analysis Tool: Race & Ethnicity, and Stella Performance Module. The data collected in FY24 will inform the TN-512 strategic plan for the 2025 calendar year, providing action steps to mitigate racial disparities in all communities. Aside from the racial disparity tools, the CoC utilized data from HMIS, ACS Census data, ALICE Reports, Equity studies, conversations with individuals at all levels across the sector, conversations with people with lived expertise, By Name List, and PIT and HIC data to evaluate for racial disparities. TN-512 ensures that people with lived expertise are part of committees and policymaking bodies within the CoC. All committees have representation from people with lived expertise, many of whom now serve within homelessness organizations.

2. The results of our annual quantitative race equity analysis using race equity tools developed by the National Alliance to End Homelessness and HUD revealed disparities in the experience of homelessness, in service utilization, and returns to homelessness by race in our 12 counties. For example, African American individuals comprise 2% of the total population, yet 17% of individuals experiencing homelessness were African American. Of all the households exited to permanent destinations, 10% were African American, while 84% were white. Based on these results, it is evident that for individuals experiencing homelessness within TN-512's services area, there is a significant disparity between ethnicities in the sample. The Governing Council, CoC members, and other stakeholders will continue to evaluate inequities at the county and regional levels to ensure the disparity gap decreases and all ethnicities can access and utilize resources equitably.

1D-9b.	Implemented Strategies to Prevent or Eliminate Racial Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the strategies your CoC is using to prevent or eliminate racial disparities.

1.	Are your CoC's board and decisionmaking bodies representative of the population served in the CoC?	Yes
2.	Did your CoC identify steps it will take to help the CoC board and decisionmaking bodies better reflect the population served in the CoC?	Yes
3.	Is your CoC expanding outreach in your CoC's geographic areas with higher concentrations of underrepresented groups?	Yes
4.	Does your CoC have communication, such as flyers, websites, or other materials, inclusive of underrepresented groups?	Yes
5.	Is your CoC training staff working in the homeless services sector to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness?	Yes
6.	Is your CoC establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of different races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector?	Yes

7.	Does your CoC have staff, committees, or other resources charged with analyzing and addressing racial disparities related to homelessness?	Yes
8.	Is your CoC educating organizations, stakeholders, boards of directors for local and national nonprofit organizations working on homelessness on the topic of creating greater racial and ethnic diversity?	Yes
9.	Did your CoC review its coordinated entry processes to understand their impact on people of different races and ethnicities experiencing homelessness?	Yes
10.	Is your CoC collecting data to better understand the pattern of program use for people of different races and ethnicities in its homeless services system?	Yes
11.	Is your CoC conducting additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness?	Yes
	Other:(limit 500 characters)	
12.		

1D-9c.	Plan for Ongoing Evaluation of System-level Processes, Policies, and Procedures for Racial Equity.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	

Describe in the field below your CoC's plan for ongoing evaluation of system-level processes, policies, and procedures for racial equity.

(limit 2,500 characters)

TN-512's plan for ongoing evaluation of system-level processes, policies, and procedures for racial equity ensures continuous improvement, transparency, and accountability in addressing racial disparities in homeless services in the TN Valley. CoC committees will conduct periodic and annual reviews of policies and procedures to assess their impact and make updates to address potential biases. Individuals with lived experience, particularly from communities of color, will be engaged to provide critical feedback and participation in the decision-making processes. CoC Program-funded projects are required to participate in Coordinated Entry. TN-512's HMIS Lead is working diligently to increase involvement in the Coordinated Entry process among all federal and non-federal funded programs to ensure data quality and accuracy when analyzing data for racial equity. By capturing all racial equity-related data across the region, TN-512 plans to analyze this data and create an even more robust plan that includes action items for the CoC. Currently, the data quality focus is on CoC Program-funded and ESG-funded projects to provide accurate data that inform the plan to address racial equity within the CoC. The CoC Written Standards state that programs funded through ESG, or the CoC Program, are to abide by the HUD nondiscrimination policies, which include several protected classes not included in most state or local funding requirements. The Written Standards Committee is currently evaluating and rewriting the CoC Written Standards for the Provision of Homeless Assistance, focusing on addressing racial equity at the project, organizational, and CoC levels. The CoC will provide ongoing training on racial equity, implicit bias, and cultural competency to staff and service providers, encouraging the adoption of anti-racist practices throughout the system. Annual assessments will evaluate the effectiveness of the CoC's strategies against national and local data sources published in a CoC racial equity report. Additionally, transparent monthly systems performance reporting will ensure accountability to stakeholders, with regular updates provided to the CoC's membership, Governing Council, and committees. The CoC actively implements a continuous cycle of data-driven evaluation, engagement, and policy review to ensure its racial equity efforts are effective, responsive to emerging disparities, and aimed at creating a more equitable homeless response system.

1D-9d.	Plan for Using Data to Track Progress on Preventing or Eliminating Racial Disparities. NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	
	Describe in the field below:	
1.	the measures your CoC plans to use to continuously track progress on preventing or eliminating racial disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance; and	
2.	the tools your CoC plans to use to continuously track progress on preventing or eliminating racial disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 utilizes HUD’s Systems Performance Measures in a crosswalk between race & ethnicity and program type as metrics to track progress on preventing or eliminating racial disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance: length of time persons remain homeless, the extent to which persons who exit homelessness to permanent housing, the total number of homeless persons, employment and income growth for homeless persons in CoC program-funded projects, the number of persons who became homeless for the 1st time, successful placements from street outreach, and successful placement in or retention of permanent housing. The data for this crosswalk report is pulled monthly from the CoC’s HMIS in year-to-date reports. Then, the crosswalk report is analyzed with the previous year’s crosswalks to look for improvement trends. The CoC membership, Governing Council, and relevant CoC committees receive the analysis findings and crosswalk report during monthly general meetings. The report allows them to address and mitigate known or potential disparities through system-wide policies, procedures, and programming.

2. TN-512 utilizes various tools to aid in tracking and analyzing progress on preventing or eliminating racial disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance. The CoC analyzes system-level performance outcomes of HMIS data by utilizing the Stella Performance tool through HUD’s HDX 2.0. The Eva tool from HUD ensures that HMIS data is error-free and maintains accuracy and completeness. HUD’s Racial Equity Analysis Tool is used to understand the overrepresentation of people and households of color among those experiencing homelessness through annual PIT data compared to US Census data. Essential software tools used in curating the CoC’s racial equity analysis are Microsoft Excel, HMIS reports from WellSky Community Services, and custom reports created through SAP BusinessObjects BI Platform 4.3(also WellSky). Along with CoC’s HMIS, the CE Call and Email Assistance Request log, United Way’s ALICE data reports, qualitative data sets from CoC listening sessions, partner feedback, and client satisfaction surveys are also used. TN-512 continues to identify tools and methods to track progress on preventing or eliminating racial disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.

1D-10.	Involving Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Service Delivery and Decisionmaking–CoC’s Outreach Efforts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

Describe in the field below your CoC’s outreach efforts (e.g., social media announcements, targeted outreach) to engage those with lived experience of homelessness in leadership roles and decisionmaking processes.

(limit 2,500 characters)

TN-512 is committed to engaging individuals with lived experience of homelessness in leadership roles and decision-making processes through multiple channels. Over the past year, our CoC has significantly expanded outreach efforts, implementing a coordinated street outreach initiative that now includes a broader network of partner agencies and organizations. These teams not only conduct outreach but also emphasize the inclusion of individuals with lived expertise by encouraging their participation in leadership roles, policy development, and CoC planning processes.

Our Collaborative Applicant regularly engages with both current and formerly homeless individuals, establishing relationships that facilitate deeper conversations around the importance of their lived experiences. These conversations focus on how their insights can directly influence CoC policy development, operational best practices, and program planning. We have implemented structured feedback loops, ensuring their voices are heard during monthly CoC meetings and throughout the year via focus groups and outreach-specific feedback sessions.

Additionally, CoC meeting announcements consistently emphasize the value of lived experience in decision-making, actively inviting individuals to become part of the process. We have made membership materials more accessible on the CoC website, highlighting the importance of participation.

In collaboration with our partner agencies, we have developed educational materials shared with program participants and individuals encountered during street outreach to raise awareness of leadership opportunities within the CoC. Furthermore, we encourage all partner agencies to actively engage current and past program participants in conversations about taking on advisory or leadership roles, ensuring that those who have experienced homelessness can shape the future of our services.

1D-10a.	Active CoC Participation of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

You must upload the Lived Experience Support Letter attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

Enter in the chart below the number of people with lived experience who currently participate in your CoC under the four categories listed:

	Level of Active Participation	Number of People with Lived Experience Within the Last 7 Years or Current Program Participant	Number of People with Lived Experience Coming from Unsheltered Situations
1.	Routinely included in the decisionmaking processes related to addressing homelessness.	1	7
2.	Participate on CoC committees, subcommittees, or workgroups.	1	4
3.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's local competition rating factors.	1	1
4.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's coordinated entry process.	1	1

1D-10b.	Professional Development and Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC or CoC membership organizations provide professional development and employment opportunities to individuals with lived experience of homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

TN-512 provides professional development and employment opportunities to individuals with lived experience of homelessness through networking, skill development, and training opportunities. All CoC members and the public are able to attend CoC training and meetings. Training can assist individuals in adding a skill set to their resume, such as undergoing naloxone or DEI training. CoC committee members with lived experience are able to take their dedicated time and efforts and directly translate them to their resume as they work through problem-solving, leadership, and time management and become subject matter experts in certain aspects of the CoC process, such as HMIS or Coordinated Entry. One of the most significant opportunities is at CoC monthly meetings. CoC meetings are open to CoC members and the public. Part of the meeting process is discussing job openings and networking among the attendees. As people with lived experience express interest in working with CoC partner agencies, CoC committee leadership is able to provide professional and sometimes personal references to help during the application process.

1D-10c.	Routinely Gathering Feedback and Addressing Challenges of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

Describe in the field below:

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | how your CoC gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness; |
| 2. | how often your CoC gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness; |
| 3. | how your CoC gathers feedback from people who received assistance through the CoC Program or ESG Program; |
| 4. | how often your CoC gathers feedback from people who have received assistance through the CoC Program or ESG Program; and |
| 5. | steps your CoC has taken to address challenges raised by people with lived experience of homelessness. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Partner agencies within our CoC gather feedback from individuals experiencing homelessness during street and community outreach, including those who are not eligible for assistance from the CoC Program or ESG program. Methods vary by organization, but feedback is typically collected through direct conversations, informal interviews, and surveys. Our team regularly engages with individuals to discuss service delivery, accessibility, and needs, ensuring feedback informs continuous improvement efforts.
2. Street and community outreach is conducted daily to capture input from those with lived experiences. Feedback is also collected after each resource event and during interactions with service providers to help analyze for continuous service improvement for those who did not receive assistance from the CoC Program or ESG Program. Partner agencies review feedback at least monthly, and the CoC reevaluates strategic goals quarterly based on input from people experiencing homelessness.
3. Our CoC gathers feedback daily through street outreach and shower trailer operations, reaching at least 100 participants monthly. Our CoC collects feedback from participants through exit surveys upon completing services and during case management follow-ups, street outreach interviews, and coordinated entry assessments. Partner agencies also collect feedback on service accessibility and effectiveness during regular interactions. This feedback is reviewed to identify gaps and continuously improve CoC and ESG programs.
4. Partner agencies routinely gather feedback from current and past program participants through case management follow-ups and exit surveys on a monthly and annual basis. Feedback is also collected daily during case management follow-ups and outreach activities. Additionally, the Governing Council has developed a CoC-wide client satisfaction survey, conducted at least annually, to drive improvement cycles and evaluate service gaps.
5. Our CoC addresses challenges by analyzing feedback from exit surveys, case management follow-ups, and the CoC-wide client satisfaction survey. All partner agencies meet monthly to discuss improvements based on participant feedback. Partner agencies adjust outreach schedules, enhance service accessibility, & improve coordination with resources to address service gaps and improve overall delivery. There have been multiple instances where feedback from people experiencing homelessness impacted how an agency conducted program operations.

1D-11.	Increasing Affordable Housing Supply.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.s.	
	Describe in the field below at least two steps your CoC has taken in the past 12 months to engage city, county, or state governments that represent your CoC's geographic area regarding the following:	
	1. reforming zoning and land use policies to permit more housing development; and	
	2. reducing regulatory barriers to housing development.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 has met with elected officials and attended zoning meetings over the past 12 months. The Lead Agency and CoC partner agencies are active in affordable housing initiatives that bring together nonprofits, for-profits, government officials, and other stakeholders to discuss how to increase the affordable housing supply. The Lead Agency and CoC partner agencies also participate in committees to address systemic issues and community engagement surrounding affordable housing development. TN-512 has been present at zoning meetings that were identified as having a big impact on the ability to develop affordable housing and has discussed the importance with elected and non-elected officials. The Lead Agency and CoC partner agencies work alongside elected and non-elected city and county officials to discuss the barriers to developing affordable housing and the magnitude of the impact lack of affordable housing has on the neighbors CoC partner agencies are serving. The Lead Agency and CoC partner agencies participate in a Systemic Issues Committee dedicated to identifying zoning, land use, and regulatory barriers to affordable housing development, creating a strategic plan to move toward more development.

2. TN-512's Lead Agency and partner agencies meet with city and county elected and non-elected officials and attend council meetings to discuss how to best reduce regulatory barriers to housing development. The Lead Agency and CoC partner agencies work alongside local government to determine the most impactful regulatory barriers and how to best mitigate them to increase affordable housing development by both nonprofit and for-profit entities. The Lead Agency and CoC partner agencies participate in a Systemic Issues Committee dedicated to identifying zoning, land use, and regulatory barriers to affordable housing development, which has created a strategic plan to move forward toward more development.

1E. Project Capacity, Review, and Ranking–Local Competition

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1E-1.	Web Posting of Advance Public Notice of Your CoC’s Local Competition Deadline, Scoring and Rating Criteria.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.a. and 2.g.	

1.	Enter the date your CoC published its submission deadline and scoring and rating criteria for New Project applicants to submit their project applications for your CoC’s local competition.	09/04/2024
2.	Enter the date your CoC published its submission deadline and scoring and rating criteria for Renewal Project applicants to submit their project applications for your CoC’s local competition.	09/04/2024

1E-2.	Project Review and Ranking Process Your CoC Used in Its Local Competition. We use the response to this question and the response in Question 1E-2a along with the required attachments from both questions as a factor when determining your CoC’s eligibility for bonus funds and for other NOFO criteria below.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., 2.d., and 2.e.	

You must upload the Local Competition Scoring Tool attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ranked and selected project applications during your local competition:

1.	Established total points available for each project application type.	Yes
2.	At least 33 percent of the total points were based on objective criteria for the project application (e.g., cost effectiveness, timely draws, utilization rate, match, leverage), performance data, type of population served (e.g., DV, youth, Veterans, chronic homelessness), or type of housing proposed (e.g., PSH, RRH).	Yes
3.	At least 20 percent of the total points were based on system performance criteria for the project application (e.g., exits to permanent housing destinations, retention of permanent housing, length of time homeless, returns to homelessness).	Yes
4.	Provided points for projects that addressed specific severe barriers to housing and services.	Yes
5.	Used data from comparable databases to score projects submitted by victim service providers.	Yes

6.	Provided points for projects based on the degree the projects identified any barriers to participation (e.g., lack of outreach) faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and has taken or will take steps to eliminate the identified barriers.	Yes
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1E-2a.	<p>Scored Project Forms for One Project from Your CoC's Local Competition. We use the response to this question and Question 1E-2. along with the required attachments from both questions as a factor when determining your CoC's eligibility for bonus funds and for other NOFO criteria below.</p> <p>NOFO Section V.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., and 2.d.</p>	
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You must upload the Scored Forms for One Project attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.
Complete the chart below to provide details of your CoC's local competition:

1.	What were the maximum number of points available for the renewal project form(s)?	100
2.	How many renewal projects did your CoC submit?	5
3.	What renewal project type did most applicants use?	PH-PSH

1E-2b.	<p>Addressing Severe Barriers in the Local Project Review and Ranking Process.</p> <p>NOFO Section V.B.2.d.</p>	
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Describe in the field below:

1.	how your CoC analyzed data regarding each project that has successfully housed program participants in permanent housing;
2.	how your CoC analyzed data regarding how long it takes to house people in permanent housing;
3.	how your CoC considered the specific severity of needs and vulnerabilities experienced by program participants preventing rapid placement in permanent housing or the ability to maintain permanent housing when your CoC ranked and selected projects; and
4.	the severe barriers your CoC considered.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 analyzed the data provided by applications in the project application and the accompanying local competition project questionnaires. An organization's ability to provide measurable information regarding the program goals was weighed heavily when considering the points earned. Each project was asked within the local competition questionnaire to provide data on what measurable outcomes were analyzed, if a renewal project, or proposed to be analyzed if a new project. TN-512 Rank and Review Committee also considered how housing the most vulnerable and hardest to serve populations might result in lower performance levels. Fortunately, this competition cycle did not have any low-performing projects.
2. Due to the current housing crisis in the Tennessee Valley Region, the ability to house a neighbor is often impacted by the options available within the region. Data on the length of time to housing was considered, but organizations were not penalized for "time" to house people in permanent housing when identifying landlords and housing that meet HUD requirements to house neighbors is extremely difficult.
3. TN-512 considered the specific severity of needs and vulnerabilities experienced by program participants, preventing rapid placement in permanent housing or the ability to maintain housing when ranking and selecting projects significantly. TN-512 provided a local competition questionnaire to agencies applying for CoC Program funding to have the opportunity to specify marginalized groups and representation in their programs as well as discuss the severity of needs and vulnerabilities and how it impacted or will impact programming.
4. TN-512 recognized that countless severe barriers can be considered when ranking and reviewing project applications, In the FY24 CoC Program application cycle, the Rank and Review Committee considered Substance Abuse, Mental Illness, Criminal History, Chronic Homelessness, Unsheltered Homelessness, Length of Time Homeless, Limited PH Programming in the region, History of Victimization/Abuse, Service Resistance, Significant Challenges or Functional Impairments, Veteran Status, Income and Employment Status, and the Covid-19 Pandemic. Agencies were then given space to describe how the barriers they selected from the list above might impact the project's ability to achieve certain system performance measure objectives.

1E-3.	Advancing Racial Equity through Participation of Over-Represented Populations in the Local Competition Review and Ranking Process.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.e.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. how your CoC used input from persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, to determine the rating factors used to review project applications;	
	2. how your CoC included persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population in the review, selection, and ranking process; and	
	3. how your CoC rated and ranked projects based on the degree that proposed projects identified any barriers to participation (e.g., lack of outreach) faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and steps the projects took or will take to eliminate the identified barriers.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512 solicited volunteers to participate in the rank and review process since the day the CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity was released. Throughout this process, input from persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homeless population, was uplifted when determining rating factors used to review project applications. The Rank and Review Committee Chair developed the scoring tools for the FY24 CoC Program local competition and asked selected individuals from diverse backgrounds, including diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, to provide feedback on the tools and the rating factors used to review project applications. This feedback was then utilized to update the rating factors in the local competition scoring tool.
2. Throughout TN-512's CoC Program local competition process, input from persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those overrepresented in the local homelessness population, was uplifted when reviewing, selecting, and ranking projects within the local competition. The Rank and Review Committee Chair intentionally reached out to individuals of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds and professional and life experiences to be part of the FY24 Rank and Review Committee to ensure the most holistic and equitable review process for project applicants and their subsequent clients to be served by the projects applying for funding.
3. Throughout the local competition process, TN-512's Rank and Review Committee ensured the local competition questionnaire asked clear questions regarding client barriers faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homeless population. All project applicants provided extensive answers detailing the steps the organization is taking or will take to eliminate the identified barriers. Points based on these answers were given accordingly.

1E-4.	Reallocation—Reviewing Performance of Existing Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.f.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. your CoC's reallocation process, including how your CoC determined which projects are candidates for reallocation because they are low performing or less needed;	
	2. whether your CoC identified any low performing or less needed projects through the process described in element 1 of this question during your CoC's local competition this year;	
	3. whether your CoC reallocated any low performing or less needed projects during its local competition this year; and	
	4. why your CoC did not reallocate low performing or less needed projects during its local competition this year, if applicable.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512's reallocation policy specifies that reallocation may occur due to poor performance or voluntarily. Providers are able to reallocate their funding voluntarily, which will then be pooled for new projects that are applying for CoC Program funding. Projects that are identified as poor performers, not serving the intended population, or with significant unresolved findings will be subject to reallocation as decided by the Rank and Review Committee, a committee made up of objective community members and CoC partner agency staff. Applicants are able to appeal the reallocation decision, and the Rank and Review Committee must consider the appeal.

2.3.4. No projects were identified for reallocation during the rank and review process this year.

1E-4a.	Reallocation Between FY 2019 and FY 2024.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.f.	

	Did your CoC cumulatively reallocate at least 20 percent of its ARD between FY 2019 and FY 2024?	No
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1E-5.	Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

1.	Did your CoC reject any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	No
2.	Did your CoC reduce funding for any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	No
3.	Did your CoC inform applicants why your CoC rejected or reduced their project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	No
4.	If you selected Yes for element 1 or element 2 of this question, enter the date your CoC notified applicants that their project applications were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, enter the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 06/26/2024, 06/27/2024, and 06/28/2024, then you must enter 06/28/2024.	

1E-5a.	Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Accepted attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Enter the date your CoC notified project applicants that their project applications were accepted and ranked on the New and Renewal Priority Listings in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, enter the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 06/26/2024, 06/27/2024, and 06/28/2024, then you must enter 06/28/2024.	09/15/2024
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1E-5b.	Local Competition Selection Results for All Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Selection Results attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Does your attachment include: 1. Project Names; 2. Project Scores; 3. Project Status—Accepted, Rejected, Reduced Reallocated, Fully Reallocated; 4. Project Rank; 5. Amount Requested from HUD; and 6. Reallocated Funds +/-.	Yes
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1E-5c.	Web Posting of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application 2 Days Before CoC Program Competition Application Submission Deadline.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g. and 24 CFR 578.95.	
	You must upload the Web Posting—CoC-Approved Consolidated Application attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Enter the date your CoC posted the CoC-approved Consolidated Application on the CoC’s website or partner’s website—which included: 1. the CoC Application; and 2. Priority Listings for Reallocation forms and all New, Renewal, and Replacement Project Listings.	10/23/2024
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1E-5d.	Notification to Community Members and Key Stakeholders by Email that the CoC-Approved Consolidated Application is Posted on Website.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Enter the date your CoC notified community members and key stakeholders that the CoC-approved Consolidated Application was posted on your CoC’s website or partner’s website.	10/23/2024
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2A. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Implementation

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2A-1.	HMIS Vendor.	
	Not Scored—For Information Only	

	Enter the name of the HMIS Vendor your CoC is currently using.	WellSky Community Services
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2A-2.	HMIS Implementation Coverage Area.	
	Not Scored—For Information Only	

	Select from dropdown menu your CoC’s HMIS coverage area.	Single CoC
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2A-3.	HIC Data Submission in HDX.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.a.	

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2024 HIC data into HDX.	05/10/2024
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2A-4.	Comparable Databases for DV Providers—CoC and HMIS Lead Supporting Data Collection and Data Submission by Victim Service Providers.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.b.	

	In the field below:	
	1. describe actions your CoC and HMIS Lead have taken to ensure DV housing and service providers in your CoC collect data in HMIS comparable databases; and	
	2. state whether DV housing and service providers in your CoC are using a HUD-compliant comparable database—compliant with the FY 2024 HMIS Data Standards.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The TN-512 HMIS Lead continues collaborating with Victim Service Provider agencies to identify HMIS-comparable databases and encourage aggregate data reporting from all DV providers. Through one-on-one meetings with DV agency executives and data directors, the HMIS Lead demonstrates the benefits of sharing aggregate data for system-wide coordination and compliance with the 2022 HMIS Data Standards. During monthly CoC meetings, partners are encouraged to identify new potential DV partners for outreach. Although TN-512's DV service providers have not previously pursued HUD funding or additional data collection, the CoC emphasizes the advantages of adopting HMIS-comparable databases, such as increased HUD funding opportunities, improved care coordination, and more accurate representation of DV survivors' needs in system planning and public reporting. The CoC has also offered to assist with potential costs for upgrading current DV databases. In the coming year, TN-512 will focus on addressing data gaps, evaluating comparable databases, and further promoting the benefits of integrating DV data into system-level planning as we hopefully welcome our first DV CoC Program project in several years.

2. There are currently no CoC-funded DV projects in the TN-512 CoC. Five DV projects, funded through sources that do not mandate the use of HMIS or a comparable database, actively participate in CoC activities but do not yet submit aggregate data regularly to the CoC or HMIS Lead. Several factors contribute to the lack of a HUD-compliant comparable database aligned with FY 2024 HMIS Data Standards among DV service providers. Primarily, these providers have concerns about client safety and confidentiality, which are paramount when serving DV survivors. Despite the security features of HUD-compliant databases, some DV providers are cautious about adopting new systems, fearing that even de-identified data could compromise survivor privacy. Additionally, many DV providers use existing databases, such as Vela, that meet the HUD Comparable Database requirements but have not confirmed data quality policies on required data elements. Resource constraints also pose a challenge, as the financial and administrative burdens of implementing a new database can be significant, even with the TN-512 offering support for potential costs. Moreover, some providers believe that their current systems adequately serve their needs, reducing the incentive to adopt a HUD-compliant database.

2A-5.	Bed Coverage Rate—Using HIC, HMIS Data—CoC Merger Bonus Points.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.c. and V.B.7.	

Using the 2024 HDX Competition Report we issued your CoC, enter data in the chart below by project type:

Project Type	Adjusted Total Year-Round, Current Non-VSP Beds [Column F of HDX Report]	Adjusted Total Year-Round, Current VSP Beds [Column K of HDX Report]	Total Year-Round, Current, HMIS Beds and VSP Beds in an HMIS Comparable Database [Column M of HDX Report]	HMIS and Comparable Database Coverage Rate [Column O of HDX Report]
1. Emergency Shelter (ES) beds	255	86	106	80.00%
2. Safe Haven (SH) beds	0	0	0	0.00%

3. Transitional Housing (TH) beds	35	16	0	0.00%
4. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	31	0	31	100.00%
5. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	47	0	47	100.00%
6. Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds	0	0	0	0.00%

2A-5a.	Partial Credit for Bed Coverage Rates at or Below 84.99 for Any Project Type in Question 2A-5.
	NOFO Section V.B.3.c.

For each project type with a bed coverage rate that is at or below 84.99 percent in question 2A-5, describe:

1.	steps your CoC will take over the next 12 months to increase the bed coverage rate to at least 85 percent for that project type; and
2.	how your CoC will implement the steps described to increase bed coverage to at least 85 percent.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Many agencies within the Tennessee Valley Region provide services under Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing that still need to be reported to HMIS. The HMIS Lead Agency plans to develop working relationships with at least 25% of these organizations to understand the barriers to utilizing HMIS and how the HMIS Lead Agency can work to mitigate or eliminate these barriers. Unfortunately, many organizations mentioned above are not currently interested in HMIS and have appropriate reporting mechanisms for their organization and funders. Most organizations that do not report their beds to HMIS are tiny nonprofits and often religious organizations that cannot take on a large workload to enter data into the HMIS database without it being a requirement or even a recommendation from their funding sources. The HMIS Lead Agency will continue to initiate and nurture relationships with agencies that are potential HMIS users.

2. The HMIS Lead Agency within TN-512 will contact all agencies providing Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing that are not currently participating in HMIS. After initial contact, the HMIS Lead Agency will schedule meetings with each agency to discuss the benefits of utilizing HMIS while listening to the barriers for the agencies. After discussing barriers with the organizations, the HMIS Lead Agency will work alongside the Data Management Committee, Lead Agency Executive Director, and Governing Council to mitigate the obstacles mentioned by non-HMIS-using agencies. If needed, the Data Management Committee will propose policy and procedure changes to the Governing Council, sending any changes to the CoC membership for a vote. Throughout all these steps to mitigate barriers, the HMIS Lead Agency will actively communicate with organizations to ensure they convey any obstacles and concerns to the appropriate parties. After removing all barriers, the agencies offering Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing will again consider becoming HMIS users.

2A-6.	Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Submission in HDX 2.0.
	NOFO Section V.B.3.d.
	You must upload your CoC's FY 2024 HDX Competition Report to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

Did your CoC submit at least two usable LSA data files to HUD in HDX 2.0 by January 24, 2024, 11:59 p.m. EST?	Yes
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2B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2B-1.	PIT Count Date.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.a	

	Enter the date your CoC conducted its 2024 PIT count.	01/31/2024
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2B-2.	PIT Count Data–HDX Submission Date.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.a	

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2024 PIT count data in HDX.	05/10/2024
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2B-3.	PIT Count–Effectively Counting Youth in Your CoC’s Most Recent Unsheltered PIT Count.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.b.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	engaged unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations in your CoC’s most recent PIT count planning process;	
2.	worked with unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations to select locations where homeless youth are most likely to be identified during your CoC’s most recent PIT count planning process; and	
3.	included youth experiencing homelessness as counters during your CoC’s most recent unsheltered PIT count.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. During the most recent Point-in-Time (PIT) count planning process, the TN-512 engaged unaccompanied youth and youth-serving organizations to ensure an accurate count of youth experiencing homelessness. Recognizing the transient nature and reluctance of these youth to use traditional services, the TN-512 expanded outreach to areas where they congregate, such as parks and community centers. The TN-512 developed tailored survey instruments to gather relevant data and recruited trained youth volunteers to assist in the count, fostering trust and gaining valuable insights. To further encourage participation, incentives like hygiene kits and non-perishable food items were offered. These strategies collectively enhanced the accuracy of the data collected, improving the TN-512 capacity to plan and allocate resources effectively to address youth homelessness.
2. Several TN-512 CoC agencies engaged homeless youth in the planning process for the most recent Point-in-Time (PIT) count by meeting with them prior to the event to gather insights on locations where homeless youth are likely to be found and to develop effective strategies for reaching them. The CoC collaborated closely with youth-serving organizations to identify key areas that would be both relevant and sensitive to the safety and comfort of unaccompanied youth. Additionally, the CoC leveraged data from previous PIT counts and outreach efforts to refine its selection of locations, focusing on areas where homeless youth had been previously encountered. This strategic collaboration resulted in a targeted outreach plan aimed at maximizing the identification of unaccompanied youth during the PIT count, thereby improving the accuracy and effectiveness of the data collected.
3. While homeless youth were not directly recruited to participate in the actual count, youth-focused volunteers played a key role in conducting surveys on the night of the Point-in-Time (PIT) count. Homeless youth collaborated with stakeholders in advance to identify areas where homeless young people were most likely to be found and provided valuable insights on effective methods for identifying and engaging with this population.

2B-4.	PIT Count—Methodology Change—CoC Merger Bonus Points.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.a and V.B.7.c.	

In the field below:	
1.	describe any changes your CoC made to your sheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2023 and 2024, if applicable;
2.	describe any changes your CoC made to your unsheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2023 and 2024, if applicable;
3.	describe whether your CoC's PIT count was affected by people displaced either from a natural disaster or seeking short-term shelter or housing assistance who recently arrived in your CoCs' geographic; and
4.	describe how the changes affected your CoC's PIT count results; or
5.	state "Not Applicable" if there were no changes or if you did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2024.

(limit 2,500 characters)

5. Not Applicable. There were no changes in PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes, between 2022 and 2023. The PIT/HIC Committee is actively looking for areas of improvement for the 2024 PIT Count.

2C. System Performance

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2C-1.	Reducing the Number of First Time Homeless—Risk Factors Your CoC Uses.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.b.	
	In the field below:	
1.	describe how your CoC determined the risk factors to identify persons experiencing homelessness for the first time;	
2.	describe your CoC’s strategies to address individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless; and	
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC’s strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Comparisons of HMIS data, population statistics, and other secondary sources show that race, age, household type, poverty, and disabling conditions of any kind - especially substance abuse, chronic physical and behavioral health conditions, and physical disabilities- increase the risk of homelessness. Based on TN-512's analysis of the data, individuals without children, people of color, unaccompanied youth, and older adults are at higher risk of homelessness compared to other groups. The risk of first-time homelessness is also greater for individuals and families experiencing extreme poverty or fleeing domestic violence. Knowing this, TN-512's Coordinated Entry Assessment identifies risk factors and categories of homelessness, ensuring the CoC first serves applicants with the highest degree of vulnerability.

2. TN-512 receives hundreds of calls and requests for assistance from individuals and families at risk of homelessness every year. The Coordinated Entry workflow includes diversion questions and techniques for helping households self-resolve housing crises whenever possible. If self-resolution is not a possibility, the person conducting the Coordinated Entry Assessment works alongside the individual requesting assistance to identify the best possible resources, both CoC and non-CoC members, to refer the individual at risk of becoming homeless to which can include providers with homeless prevention funding through the Emergency Solutions Grant, Supportive Services for Veteran Families, and other local resources. As a CoC, TN-512 actively identifies funding opportunities for partner agencies, enabling more homeless prevention funding to flow into the Tennessee Valley Region. TN-512 is also working with local governments, legal nonprofits, nonprofits, and other entities to help identify ways to provide early intervention for folks at risk of becoming homeless, so the assistance request is not as significant for the small nonprofits in the area. TN-512 partner agencies also provide contact information for local nonprofits that can help with other necessities, such as food and child clothing, to help divert household funding to the rent and utilities to mitigate the risk of homelessness.

3. The Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness Executive Director, who serves as the Lead Agency representative, oversees the CoC's strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time.

2C-1a.	Impact of Displaced Persons on Number of First Time Homeless.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.b	

Was your CoC's Number of First Time Homeless [metric 5.2] affected by the number of persons seeking short-term shelter or housing assistance displaced due to:
--

1.	natural disasters?	No
2.	having recently arrived in your CoC's geographic area?	No

2C-2.	Reducing Length of Time Homeless—CoC's Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.c.	

In the field below:
1. describe your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless;

2.	describe how your CoC identifies and houses individuals and persons in families with the longest lengths of time homeless; and
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless is multifaceted. TN-512 participates in the Built for Zero Initiative, an international initiative dedicated to decreasing the time individuals experience homelessness by implementing best practices such as case conferencing to discuss households currently experiencing homelessness. This case conferencing allows nonprofits and state and federal entities to collaborate to mitigate barriers that households might experience. Built for Zero works with TN-512 to create systems and policies that track and decrease the length of time spent homeless, address individual barriers, and remove bottlenecks within the current system. TN-512 partner agencies continue to obtain additional local, state, and federal funding to increase resources and frontline personnel, directly impacting the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless. TN-512 collaborates with both CoC and non-CoC partners to provide linkage to essential services that help households move quickly from homelessness to housing.
2. TN-512 identifies and houses individuals and persons in families with the most extended lengths of time homeless through collaborative communication during the Coordinated Entry process and case conferencing to discuss prioritization factors. Coordinated Entry Assessments allow organizations to understand how long a household has experienced homelessness and what programs the household would be eligible for. Currently, case conferencing focuses on single veterans, per Built for Zero best practices. Any veteran identified as homeless within TN-512 is placed on the case conferencing list, called a By Names List, to ensure collaboration with agencies to decrease the length of time from homelessness to housing. Since revitalizing the Built for Zero Initiative in 2023, the case conferencing methods used by TN-512 have resulted in quicker housing for veterans.
3. The Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness Executive Director, who serves as the Lead Agency representative, oversees the CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless. Efforts to reduce the length of time homeless are coordinated between the Governing Council, Coordinated Entry Committee, the By Names List, and individual CoC and non-CoC partner agencies.

2C-3.	Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention –CoC's Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.d.	

In the field below:

1.	describe your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations;
2.	describe your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations; and
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and families exit to or retain permanent housing.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in emergency shelters, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations includes linkage to local resources for those exiting the programs as mentioned above, development of landlord relationships across the region to increase the accessibility of safe, affordable housing, and advocacy for the development of additional affordable housing across the region. The US Department of Veterans Affairs recently hosted a landlord summit, a proactive step to educate local landlords about current housing programs in the area to increase housing accessibility during and after programming. Many CoC partner agencies and the TN-512 Lead Agency participate in advocacy within communities to provide more accessible, safe, permanent housing options for individuals exiting housing programs or exiting homelessness. The Lead Agency for TN-512 leads a case conferencing call for single veterans across the region, which has proven to be a best practice for quickly moving households from homelessness to permanent housing. This case conferencing also provides a dedicated space for collaboration across local, state, and federal agencies.

2. TN-512's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing includes the development of landlord relationships across the region to increase accessibility to safe, affordable housing and substantial wrap-around services offered to those in housing program to develop life skills necessary to manage permanent housing and rental relationships in a self-sufficient manner. The rate of households exiting into or retaining permanent housing is 97.4%, showing that the abovementioned strategies are best practices for our communities. TN-512 is always looking for new methods to increase the supply of affordable housing and funding opportunities to expand permanent housing solutions across the region.

3. The Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness Executive Director, who serves as the Lead Agency representative, oversees the CoC's strategy to increase the rate at which individuals and families exit to or retain permanent housing. The Governing Council, case conferencing, and individual CoC and non-CoC partner agencies coordinate efforts dedicated to permanent housing solutions.

2C-4.	Reducing Returns to Homelessness—CoC's Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.e.	

In the field below:

1.	describe your CoC's strategy to identify individuals and families who return to homelessness;
2.	describe your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate that individuals and families return to homelessness; and
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families return to homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512's strategy to identify individuals and families who return to homelessness includes tracking returns through HMIS data collection and analysis, regular case conferencing, and collaboration of CoC and non-CoC partner agencies throughout the housing process. Individual agencies involved in case conferencing can provide essential background and barriers for those who have returned to homelessness. Collaboration during case conferencing allows agencies to identify the best housing options for individuals and families returning to homelessness.

2. TN-512's strategy to reduce the rate at which individuals and families return to homelessness is a collective effort. Homeless service providers work with homeless households and partner agencies to maximize earned income and connect households with mainstream resources that increase self-sufficiency and well-being, reducing returns to homelessness. Agencies provide access to case management after completing the housing program to ensure any barriers the household encounters are quickly resolved to reduce returns to homelessness. Case conferencing allows partner agencies to collaboratively identify any households that have requested additional assistance or have returned to homelessness, creating a better understanding of the factors that cause a household within the system to lose access to stable housing. CoC and non-CoC partner agencies provide wrap-around services to ensure households can develop the life, financial, interpersonal, and job skills to maintain self-sufficiency after completing a housing program. TN-512 has learned that a majority of returns to homelessness occur 13 to 24 months after initial exit and is partnering with agencies who have shown returns to homelessness during this timeframe to identify the factors resulting in the loss of stable housing. TN-512 will continue to work on a systems level to create policies and best practices to ensure those who exit to permanent housing can maintain access to safe, stable housing.

3. The Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness Executive Director, who serves as the Lead Agency representative, oversees the CoC's strategy to reduce the rate of individuals and persons in families returning to homelessness. The Governing Council, case conferencing team, Coordinated Entry Committee, Data Management Committee, Built for Zero Committee, and various CoC and non-CoC partner agencies coordinate their efforts to develop permanent housing solutions.

2C-5.	Increasing Employment Cash Income—CoC's Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.f.	
	In the field below:	
1.	describe your CoC's strategy to access employment cash sources;	
2.	describe how your CoC works with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness increase their employment cash income; and	
3.	provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase income from employment.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512's strategy to access employment case sources involves intensive case management and wrap-around services for program participants. Case managers assist participants in their search for employment opportunities that meet their skill sets and education levels. They also assist participants in completing job applications, preparing for interviews, acquiring needed materials for the new job, pursuing educational opportunities to increase their skill sets, and solving transportation barriers. Case managers work with participants who are receiving mainstream benefits to understand maximum earned income limits and seek appropriate employment opportunities.
2. TN-512 partner agencies work with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness increase their employment income by partnering with local businesses and staffing agencies to provide employment opportunities. CoC partner agencies assist individuals in learning how to utilize mainstream employment organizations and online tools to draft resumes, search for open positions, prepare for and arrange interviews, and evaluate if the opportunity is a good fit. TN-512 partner agencies also work with local businesses to refer qualified participants for available jobs. Resource events for individuals and families experiencing homelessness often include the local American Job Center to provide on-the-spot access to resume building, skill set evaluation, and employment recommendations or offers.
3. The Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness Executive Director, who serves as the Lead Agency representative, oversees the CoC's strategy to increase income from employment.

2C-5a.	Increasing Non-employment Cash Income—CoC's Strategy	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.f.	
	In the field below:	
	1. describe your CoC's strategy to access non-employment cash income; and	
	2. provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. TN-512's strategy to access non-employment cash income is based on identified barriers, such as a lack of regional SOAR-certified professionals. A CoC partner agency recently had staff complete SOAR training to serve one of the counties within the region. TN-512 plans to continue identifying funding opportunities to increase SOAR-certified staff members to serve all 12 Tennessee Valley counties, ensuring that all homeless individuals and households maximize their non-employment income and benefits. Currently, CoC and non-CoC partner agencies depend on case managers to help provide transportation and application assistance to individuals seeking non-employment cash income sources. Case managers evaluate if the participant is presently receiving non-employment cash income, assist in assessing which non-employment cash income participants would be eligible for, assist in the identification of needed documents to complete the benefits process, and provide transportation to the appropriation location to start the application for the non-employment cash income. Case managers monitor the progress of attainment of non-employment cash income and assist in providing additional documentation or evaluating the initial denial of non-employment cash income.

2. The Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness Executive Director, who serves as the Lead Agency representative, oversees the CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income.

3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

3A-1.	New PH-PSH/PH-RRH Project–Leveraging Housing Resources.	
	NOFO Section V.B.6.a.	
	You must upload the Housing Leveraging Commitment attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Is your CoC applying for a new PH-PSH or PH-RRH project that uses housing subsidies or subsidized housing units which are not funded through the CoC or ESG Programs to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness?	No
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3A-2.	New PH-PSH/PH-RRH Project–Leveraging Healthcare Resources.	
	NOFO Section V.B.6.b.	
	You must upload the Healthcare Formal Agreements attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Is your CoC applying for a new PH-PSH or PH-RRH project that uses healthcare resources to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness?	No
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3A-3.	Leveraging Housing/Healthcare Resources–List of Projects.	
	NOFO Sections V.B.6.a. and V.B.6.b.	

If you selected yes to questions 3A-1. or 3A-2., use the list feature icon to enter information about each project application you intend for HUD to evaluate to determine if they meet the criteria.

Project Name	Project Type	Rank Number	Leverage Type
This list contains no items			

3B. New Projects With Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

3B-1.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

Is your CoC requesting funding for any new project application requesting \$200,000 or more in funding for housing rehabilitation or new construction?	No
--	----

3B-2.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

If you answered yes to question 3B-1, describe in the field below actions CoC Program-funded project applicants will take to comply with:

1.	Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u); and
2.	HUD’s implementing rules at 24 CFR part 75 to provide employment and training opportunities for low- and very-low-income persons, as well as contracting and other economic opportunities for businesses that provide economic opportunities to low- and very-low-income persons.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Not applicable

3C. Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

3C-1.	Designating SSO/TH/Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Projects to Serve Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes.	
	NOFO Section V.F.	

	Is your CoC requesting to designate one or more of its SSO, TH, or Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects to serve families with children or youth experiencing homelessness as defined by other Federal statutes?	No
--	--	----

3C-2.	Cost Effectiveness of Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes.	
	NOFO Section V.F.	

You must upload the Project List for Other Federal Statutes attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

If you answered yes to question 3C-1, describe in the field below:

1.	how serving this population is of equal or greater priority, which means that it is equally or more cost effective in meeting the overall goals and objectives of the plan submitted under Section 427(b)(1)(B) of the Act, especially with respect to children and unaccompanied youth than serving the homeless as defined in paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of the definition of homeless in 24 CFR 578.3; and
2.	how your CoC will meet requirements described in Section 427(b)(1)(F) of the Act.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Not applicable

4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants for New DV Bonus Funding

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2024 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

4A-1.	New DV Bonus Project Applicants.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.	

	Did your CoC submit one or more new project applications for DV Bonus Funding?		Yes
--	--	--	-----

4A-1a.	DV Bonus Project Types.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the type(s) of new DV Bonus project(s) your CoC included in its FY 2024 Priority Listing.

	Project Type	
1.	SSO Coordinated Entry	No
2.	PH-RRH or Joint TH and PH-RRH Component	Yes

You must click "Save" after selecting Yes for element 1 SSO Coordinated Entry to view questions 4A-2, 4A-2a. and 4A-2b.

4A-3.	Data Assessing Need for New DV Bonus Housing Projects in Your CoC's Geographic Area.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(c) and I.B.3.j.(3)(c)	

1.	Enter the number of survivors that need housing or services:	136
2.	Enter the number of survivors your CoC is currently serving:	52
3.	Unmet Need:	84

4A-3a.	How Your CoC Calculated Local Need for New DV Bonus Housing Projects.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(c)	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. how your CoC calculated the number of DV survivors needing housing or services in question 4A-3 element 1 and element 2; and	
	2. the data source (e.g., comparable databases, other administrative data, external data source, HMIS for non-DV projects); or	
	3. if your CoC is unable to meet the needs of all survivors please explain in your response all barriers to meeting those needs.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The YWCA tracks the amount of phone calls related to housing needs due to domestic violence. This number includes the callers either referred out to other services or placed on the TH waitlist. The HMIS Lead added the YWCA data to the number of individuals who seek assistance and are currently fleeing domestic violence from other CoC partner agencies providing housing services as identified in HMIS.
2. The YWCA collected data through staff self-reporting measures from the phone calls received for assistance. TN-512 pulled the data detailing the number of individuals seeking assistance who are currently fleeing domestic violence from the HMIS database.
3. Within TN-512, there are a limited amount of resources that do not currently meet the needs of individuals fleeing domestic violence. This, paired with the difficulty obtaining permanent housing without additional rental assistance, creates an inability to meet the needs of all survivors currently. This project will provide more housing opportunities for survivors actively fleeing domestic violence.

4A-3b.	Information About Unique Project Applicant Requesting New DV Bonus Housing Project(s).	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)	
	Use the list feature icon to enter information on each unique project applicant applying for New PH-RRH and Joint TH and PH-RRH Component DV Bonus projects—only enter project applicant information once, regardless of how many DV Bonus projects that applicant is applying for.	

Applicant Name
Young Women's Chr...

Project Applicants Applying for New PH-RRH and Joint TH and PH-RRH DV Bonus Projects

4A-3b.	Information About Unique Project Applicant Requesting New DV Bonus Housing Project(s).	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)	

Enter information in the chart below on the project applicant that applied for one or more New DV Bonus housing projects included on your CoC's FY 2024 Priority Listing for New Projects:

1.	Applicant Name	Young Women's Christian Association-Knoxville YWCA
2.	Rate of Housing Placement of DV Survivors-Percentage	100%
3.	Rate of Housing Retention of DV Survivors-Percentage	75%

4A-3b.1.	Applicant's Housing Placement and Retention Data Explanation.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(d)	

For the rate of housing placement and rate of housing retention of DV survivors reported in question 4B-3b., describe in the field below:

1.	how the project applicant calculated the rate of housing placement;
2.	whether the rate for housing placement accounts for exits to safe housing destinations;
3.	how the project applicant calculated the rate of housing retention; and
4.	the data source (e.g., comparable databases, other administrative data, external data source, HMIS for non-DV projects).

(limit 1,500 characters)

1. The housing placement was calculated based on the number of program participants who had permanent housing at the time of their participation.
2. Yes, the rate for housing placement accounts for exits to safe housing destinations.
3. The rate of housing retention was calculated based on the number of participants who remained in their permanent housing by the program's termination.
4. The above rates were pulled from the current YWCA client database, EmpowerDV.

4A-3c.	Applicant's Experience Housing DV Survivors.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(d)	

Describe in the field below how the project applicant:

1.	ensured DV survivors experiencing homelessness were quickly moved into safe affordable housing;
2.	prioritized survivors—you must address the process the project applicant used, e.g., Coordinated Entry, prioritization list, CoC's emergency transfer plan;
3.	determined survivors' supportive services needs;

4.	connected survivors to supportive services; and
5.	moved survivors from assisted housing to housing they could sustain—address housing stability after the housing subsidy ends.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The YWCA offers DV services that cover the spectrum of needs a survivor may face when fleeing violence, including civil/criminal court advocacy, transitional housing (TH) services, supervised visitation, culturally specific advocacy, support groups, resource connection, and financial assistance. Survivors connect with our agency as a walk-in to our office or as a referral from city and county court systems and other service providers. Upon connecting, advocates assess and address the needs that the survivor may be experiencing. Immediate safety needs are addressed by getting the survivor, and if applicable, their children, into an emergency shelter, in with their family or friends, or into a hotel. Advocates provide their clients with information regarding landlords and other housing options for the housing search. Upon signing a lease, the survivors are eligible for TH services. The speed of obtaining permanent housing depends on the survivor's ability to seek and obtain permanent housing while navigating the barriers of soaring rent costs and limited housing options.

2. There are no eligibility requirements for those seeking general DV services. To qualify for TH, survivors must be actively homeless as a result of fleeing domestic violence. Next, the client completes an application and is put on the TH waitlist. The advocate provides housing resources, and the client works to secure housing. Once a lease is signed, clients can receive financial assistance for deposits and ongoing rent payments.

3-5. Survivors are connected with TH services by utilizing other DV services. Cold callers to the TH program are referred to advocacy prior to entry into the program, as an advocate provides a needs assessment, safety plan, danger assessment, and resource connection. While in the program, survivors work with a TH coordinator to determine how much assistance will be provided over 6-12 months. The coordinator and client will meet monthly to plan goals, create a budget, and provide ongoing resource referrals and support ranging from TNCare application assistance to support while purchasing a car. The goal of services is for the client to become increasingly self-sufficient by tapering assistance so that the client can pay the total rent by the end of the program. Due to these programs being fully client-led, clients are not required to participate in services. Those with full participation have higher success upon exiting the program.

4A-3d.	Applicant's Experience in Ensuring DV Survivors' Safety.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(d)	
	Describe in the field below examples of how the project applicant ensured the safety and confidentiality of DV survivors experiencing homelessness by:	
1.	taking steps to ensure privacy/confidentiality during the intake and interview process to minimize potential coercion of survivors;	
2.	making determinations and placements into safe housing;	
3.	keeping survivors' information and locations confidential;	
4.	training staff on safety and confidentiality policies and practices; and	
5.	taking security measures for units (congregate or scattered site), that support survivors' physical safety and location confidentiality.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Intakes are done in a private, neutral location and never at a survivor's home or with the abusive party present. Law enforcement is only called if the survivor requests it, and the survivor is never pressured to report. YWCA will obtain a release of information (ROI) before communicating with any third party regarding a participant. The Transitional Housing Coordinator will explain mandatory reporting policies for self-harm/suicide, threats of harm against another person/duty to warn, and child abuse to each applicant and ensure acknowledgment.
2. Survivors determine they feel most safe and comfortable. Clients are provided information regarding confidential emergency shelter resources. Advocates work with the survivor to determine if a safe option exists with a friend or family member or other temporary housing options.
3. Client information is not shared outside of the primary advocate and other resources involved in the case per the client's written permission via an ROI. Client information is kept according to VAWA confidentiality standards. Client information is only shared with team members, the referring entity, or legally entitled officers of the court, if necessary. Services can be disclosed only under the specified conditions, including requests for client information, which must be referred to the immediate supervisor. Requests for information are to be in writing and placed in the client's record. Files are subject to required releases in accordance with all federal and state regulations, the Social Work Code of Ethics, and YWCA policies and procedures. Client information shall be discussed only while performing job duties and never in open areas where others might hear it. Records containing personally identifying information shall be kept from those not providing direct services.
4. Upon employment, staff sign a confidentiality agreement and are provided with confidentiality practices. Onboarding includes a 40-hour victim assistance training with a module specific to VAWA confidentiality practices. Staff is also given one-on-one supervision to discuss confidentiality practices and receive guidance on maintaining these policies.
5. Survivors themselves choose all permanent housing locations. Survivors wishing to find housing within another county are connected with local resources to support the transfer. Once in their permanent housing, survivors develop a safety plan at home.

4A-3d.1.	Applicant's Experience in Evaluating Its Ability to Ensure DV Survivors' Safety.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(d)	

Describe in the field below how the project evaluated its ability to ensure the safety of DV survivors the project served in the project, including any areas identified for improvement throughout the project's operation.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Since 1989, the YWCA has offered comprehensive victim services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, including court advocacy and accompaniment, community advocacy, resources and referrals, and support group services for victims and their families. Safety is the foundation of all services provided in DV programming. At intake, advocates assess survivors' needs as they pertain to physical and emotional safety and any other pertinent needs. Each client works with an advocate to create an individualized safety plan regarding all aspects of the survivor's life, including finances, children, and work. Physical safety may be practiced by assisting a client in getting into a shelter with a confidential location. For clients who stay in their homes or go to live with family, physical safety can be increased by providing financial assistance with Ring cameras or lock changes. Emotional safety is provided with regular support and check-ins from an advocate who is able to connect with higher-level care whenever needed. On an agency level, all client information is maintained utilizing VAWA confidentiality standards in paper files and electronic databases. If utilizing an HMIS system, any identifying information is withheld in order to ensure protection from anyone outside the victim service provider. All staff members, even those not in DV services, are trained with VAWA confidentiality standards to ensure consistent language is shared across the agency when answering phone calls or engaging with anyone outside the agency. One of the greatest barriers to ensuring safety for clients is the gap between initial contact and the transition into permanent housing. Shelter options in rural counties are limited, and financial limitations make it difficult to meet the needs of every person requesting services. It is not uncommon for survivors to couch-hop or sleep in their cars while working through the transitional period. Rapid re-housing options would drastically improve safety measures offered to survivors.

4A-3e.	Applicant's Experience in Placing and Stabilizing Survivors in Permanent Housing Using Trauma-Informed, Survivor-Centered Approaches.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(d)	

Describe in the field below the project applicant's experience in:	
1.	prioritizing placement and stabilization of survivors;
2.	placing survivors in permanent housing;
3.	placing and stabilizing survivors consistent with their preferences; and
4.	placing and stabilizing survivors consistent with their stated needs.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Survivors are always the primary determiners of where they feel most safe and comfortable. All clients and their children are provided with information regarding confidential emergency shelter resources. Advocates work with the survivor to determine if there is a safe option with a friend or family member, options within and outside of their county of residence, or if hotel services may be offered if no other options are available.
2. Survivors themselves choose all permanent housing locations in a place where they feel comfortable and safe. If a survivor wishes to find housing within another county, they are connected with local resources that are able to provide support with this transfer. Once in their permanent housing, advocates work with survivors to develop a safety plan at home for any instances where they may feel unsafe. The client and Transitional Housing Coordinator will work together to determine in what location the client needs to be housed, taking the client's safety and availability of housing into consideration. The client must meet the requirements of the landlord/lease. The lease will be placed in the participant's name. The client will sign the release of information form(s) so the Transitional Housing Coordinator can provide rental and utility subsidies directly to the vendor/landlord.
- 3,4. Survivors choose their permanent housing.

4A-3f.	Applicant's Experience in Trauma-Informed, Survivor-Centered Approaches.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(d)	
	Describe in the field below examples of the project applicant's experience using trauma-informed, victim-centered approaches to meet needs of DV survivors by:	
	1. establishing and maintaining an environment of agency and mutual respect, e.g., the project does not use punitive interventions, ensures survivors and staff interactions are based on equality, and minimize power differentials;	
	2. providing survivors access to information on trauma, e.g., training staff on providing survivors with information on the effects of trauma;	
	3. emphasizing survivors' strengths, e.g., strength-based coaching, questionnaires and assessment tools include strength-based measures, case plans worked towards survivor-defined goals and aspirations;	
	4. centering on cultural responsiveness and inclusivity, e.g., training on equal access, cultural competence, nondiscrimination, language access, improving services to be culturally responsive, accessible, and trauma-informed;	
	5. providing a variety of opportunities for survivors' connections, e.g., groups, mentorships, peer-to-peer, spiritual needs; and	
	6. offering support for survivor parenting, e.g., trauma-informed parenting classes, childcare, connections to legal services.	

(limit 5,000 characters)

1. Participation in the TH program is 100% client-led. The YWCA respects the importance of individuals served to express basic rights and expect resolution of complaints and/or appeals. Therefore, all persons served (parents, guardians) will be informed at intake of the client's right to lodge a grievance. Process and assistance for filing a grievance will be upon request. Provided program guidelines give clear information on any situations that may result in termination from the program, such as violating their lease agreement. Financial assistance is not dependent on a survivor's active participation in the program, although the success rate of maintaining permanent housing is increased with level of participation. As long as the client continues living in their permanent housing in alignment with their lease conditions, the TH program will continue to provide rental assistance for the period agreed upon by the coordinator and the client. Clients are empowered from the beginning of the program to find permanent housing that best suits their needs and wants, allowing them to feel ownership over their home and the work they put into obtaining it.

2. Education on the cycle of violence and impacts of trauma is a regular through-line in advocacy services. These topics are further expanded upon in weekly psychoeducational support groups available to clients in both English and Spanish. Staff begin trauma training during onboarding, including a 40-hour victim assistance program that dives into understanding the impacts of trauma and introduces trauma-informed practices. Staff participate in monthly "lunch and learn" training including but not limited to CPR, First Aid, Civil Rights, Nurturing Parenting, budgeting, cultural competency, and yearly staff retreat. Skills training for staff includes: Criminal Injuries Compensation, Trauma Informed Care practices, victim-centered advocacy, and domestic violence training.

3. The client fully leads goal setting. The advocate uses interviewing techniques to help survivors identify the areas they want to work on and discover what they are passionate about and the skills they already have that will help them achieve their goals. No milestone is considered small in the TH program, and advocates take time to celebrate each step in a survivor's journey to regain their autonomy.

4. During onboarding and then annually, staff complete a civil rights training covering Title VI requirements of non-discrimination compliance. Staff also agree to and sign an ethical standard of conduct that includes not favoring one client over another or entering personal relationships with clients. The staff handbook includes a diversity and inclusion statement that follows in line with the mission of the Y to empower women and eliminate racism. We strive to engage openly with

a diverse population of staff, volunteers, partners, and audiences who bring the perspectives of different genders, races, colors, national origins, sexual orientations, gender identities, abilities, political affiliations, religions, and veteran status. We seek diverse participation in programs and decision-making to better serve our clients, strengthen our staff, and serve as a model of fairness, pluralism, and cultural celebration that we wish for our greater society. YWCA clients are best served by a diverse and culturally competent staff who understand the impact of social injustice in our world and, specifically, in the communities that we serve. YWCA staff is strengthened professionally and personally by serving in a learning organization where open dialogue and diverse perspectives and talents are valued and inform our work. Our greater society is more just when organizations like ours confront and work through issues of intolerance, insensitivity, and discrimination, while honoring the fundamental value and dignity of all individuals

5. All attempts are made to meet the individual client's expressed needs and

interests in one-on-one connections, including connection to the weekly support group or other community resources. Recently one of our clients was accepted onto the CoC peer advisory board where she is able to connect with other people with lived experiences.

6. The Transitional Housing Coordinator will refer clients to local agencies for parenting classes or provide assessments based on the client's expressed needs.

4A-3g.	Applicant's Experience Meeting Service Needs of DV Survivors.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(d)	

Describe in the field below examples of supportive services the project provided to domestic violence survivors while quickly moving them into permanent housing and addressing their safety needs.

(limit 5,000 characters)

Since 1989, the YWCA has offered comprehensive victim services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking in Knox County, including court advocacy and accompaniment, community advocacy, resources and referrals, and support group services for victims and their families. These comprehensive victim services span six counties in East Tennessee and include culturally specific services to Hispanic, immigrant, and refugee communities with multilingual staff. More recently, the YWCA has offered scattered-site transitional housing and supportive services for victims and their families through an Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Transitional Housing award and with State of Tennessee Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding. Through the CoC project, services will include transitional and permanent housing for victims of domestic violence and their families. With goals to provide housing advocacy, assistance finding housing, relocation assistance, and long-term planning support using nationally recognized practices for victims and survivors of domestic violence, the program connects victims with trusted landlords and housing options that meet their needs in the short- and long-term and allow for continuity, community, and permanency. Staff members coordinate individual and family needs to address any barriers to remaining in independent housing and living free from harm. Advocates work with clients to establish client-identified goals for sustainability and will discuss progress, barriers, and additional needs. Clients will be encouraged to create a timeline and concrete steps for achieving goals, and the advocate will assist the client with accessing relevant services and opportunities and overcoming obstacles.

4A-3h.	Applicant's Plan for Placing and Stabilizing Survivors in Permanent Housing Using Trauma-Informed, Survivor-Centered Approaches in the New DV Bonus Housing Project(s).	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(e)	

Describe in the field below how the project(s) will:

1.	prioritize placement and stabilization of program participants;
2.	place program participants in permanent housing;
3.	place and stabilize program participants consistent with their preferences; and
4.	place and stabilize program participants consistent with their stated needs.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Survivors are always the primary determiner of where they feel most safe and comfortable. Information regarding confidential emergency shelter resources is provided to all clients and their children. Advocates work with the survivor to determine if there is a safe option with a friend or family member, options within and outside their county of residence, or if hotel services may be offered if no other options are available. With the addition of the rapid-rehousing component, survivors will be offered additional support that was previously unavailable by having transitional options prior to obtaining permanent housing. This will include expanded financial resources for hotel vouchers or the use of units leased by the agency on a transitional basis. These units will be accessible and able to accommodate a variety of family sizes in order to meet the greatest number of needs, will help assign prioritization to program participants

2. All permanent housing locations are chosen by survivors themselves in a place that they feel comfortable and safe. If a survivor wishes to find housing within another county, they are connected with local resources that are able to provide support with this transfer. Once in their permanent housing, advocates work with survivors to develop a safety plan at home for any instances where they may feel unsafe. Through the program expansion, survivors will have increased stability during the transition from fleeing to permanent housing, allowing ample time for advocates to assist with eliminating barriers to obtaining permanent housing, such as paying off prior fees, assisting with identification, and establishing a source of income, allowing for a quicker turn around for re-housing.

3,4. As temporary transitional housing options will be limited by the availability of funds and space, advocates will prioritize housing options that are safe and accessible. Advocates will follow their standard procedure of helping clients to identify shelter options, availability with family or friends, hotel options, and finally, assess for entry into the leased transitional units.

4A-3i.	Applicant's Plan for Administering Trauma-Informed, Survivor-Centered Practices in the New DV Bonus Housing Project(s).	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(e)	

Describe in the field below examples of how the new project(s) will:	
1.	establish and maintain an environment of agency and mutual respect, e.g., the project does not use punitive interventions, ensures program participant and staff interactions are based on equality, and minimize power differentials;
2.	provide program participants access to information on trauma, e.g., training staff on providing program participants with information on the effects of trauma;
3.	emphasize program participants' strengths—for example, strength-based coaching, questionnaires and assessment tools include strength-based measures, case plans work towards survivor-defined goals and aspirations;
4.	center on cultural responsiveness and inclusivity, e.g., training on equal access, cultural competence, nondiscrimination, language access, improving services to be culturally responsive, accessible, and trauma-informed;
5.	provide a variety of opportunities for program participants' connections, e.g., groups, mentorships, peer-to-peer, spiritual needs; and
6.	offer support for survivor parenting, e.g., trauma-informed parenting classes, childcare, connections to legal services.

(limit 5,000 characters)

1. Participation in the TH program is 100% client-led. The YWCA respects the importance of individuals served to express basic rights and expect resolution of complaints and/or appeals. Therefore, all persons served (parents, guardians) will be informed at intake of the client's right to lodge a grievance. Process and assistance for filing a grievance will be upon request. Provided program guidelines give clear information on any situations that may result in termination from the program, such as violating their lease agreement. Financial assistance is not dependent on a survivor's active participation in the program, although the success rate of maintaining permanent housing is increased with level of participation. As long as the client continues living in their permanent housing in alignment with their lease conditions, the TH program will continue to provide rental assistance for the period agreed upon by the coordinator and the client. Clients are empowered from the beginning of the program to find permanent housing that best suits their needs and wants, allowing them to feel ownership over their home and the work they put into obtaining it.

2. Education on the cycle of violence and impacts of trauma is a regular through-line in advocacy services. These topics are further expanded upon in weekly psychoeducational support groups available to clients in both English and Spanish. Staff begin trauma training during onboarding, including a 40-hour victim assistance program that dives into understanding the impacts of trauma and introduces trauma-informed practices. Staff participate in monthly "lunch and learn" trainings including but not limited to; CPR, First Aid, Civil Rights, Nurturing Parenting, budgeting, cultural competency, and yearly staff retreat. Skills training for staff includes Criminal Injuries Compensation, Trauma Informed Care practices, victim-centered advocacy, and domestic violence training.

3. Goal setting is fully led by the client. The advocate uses interviewing techniques to help survivors identify the areas they want to work on and discover what they are passionate about and the skills they already have that will suit them in obtaining their goals. No milestone is considered small in the TH program, and advocates take time to celebrate each step in a survivor's journey, regaining their autonomy.

4. During onboarding and then annually, staff complete a civil rights training covering Title VI requirements of non-discrimination compliance. Staff also agree to and sign an ethical standard of conduct that includes not favoring one client over another or entering personal relationships with clients. The staff handbook includes a diversity and inclusion statement that follows in line with the mission of the YWCA to empower women and eliminate racism. We strive to engage openly with

a diverse population of staff, volunteers, partners, and audiences who bring the perspectives of different genders, races, colors, national origins, sexual orientations, gender identities, abilities, political affiliations, religions, and veteran status. We seek diverse participation in programs and decision-making to better serve our clients, strengthen our staff, and serve as a model of fairness, pluralism, and cultural celebration that we wish for our greater society. YWCA clients are best served by a diverse and culturally competent staff who understand the impact of social injustice in our world and, specifically, in the communities that we serve. YWCA staff is strengthened professionally and personally by serving in a learning organization where open dialogue and diverse perspectives and talents are valued and inform our work. Our greater society is more just when organizations like ours confront and work through issues of intolerance, insensitivity, and discrimination while honoring the fundamental values and dignity of all individuals.

5. All attempts are made to meet the individual client's expressed needs and

interests in one-on-one connections, including connection to the weekly support group or other community resources. Recently, one of our clients was accepted onto the CoC peer advisory board, where she is able to connect with other people with lived experiences.

6. The Transitional Housing Coordinator will refer clients to local agencies for parenting classes or provide assessments based on the client's expressed needs.

4A-3j.	Applicant's Plan for Involving Survivors in Policy and Program Development, Operations, and Evaluation in the New DV Bonus Housing Project(s).	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(1)(f)	

Describe in the field below how the new project will involve survivors:

1.	with a range of lived expertise; and
2.	in policy and program development throughout the project's operation.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Many of the staff in our agency are survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence. They were drawn to this work out of their own experiences of seeking support from loved ones and community resources. Frequently, volunteers and board members have similar life experiences that draw their interest in supporting the YWCA. Their voices are used to guide the direction of our programs and provide the highest quality services to our community. Ongoing opportunities will expand to include focus groups and improve strategies to getting honest feedback from surveys.

2. The YWCA seeks out evidence-based practices guided by survivors to provide services throughout its victim-serving programs, including evaluating each piece of service delivery through clear program evaluation and relying on evidence-supported curriculums. Further, each client is asked to complete a voluntary survey at the time services are completed (for short-term services) or monthly (for ongoing services). Data from these surveys is collected, reviewed, and implemented into our service practices.

4B. Attachments Screen For All Application Questions

We have provided the following guidance to help you successfully upload attachments and get maximum points:

1. You must include a Document Description for each attachment you upload; if you do not, the Submission Summary screen will display a red X indicating the submission is incomplete.
2. You must upload an attachment for each document listed where 'Required?' is 'Yes'.
3. We prefer that you use PDF files, though other file types are supported—please only use zip files if necessary. Converting electronic files to PDF, rather than printing documents and scanning them, often produces higher quality images. Many systems allow you to create PDF files as a Print option. If you are unfamiliar with this process, you should consult your IT Support or search for information on Google or YouTube.
4. Attachments must match the questions they are associated with.
5. Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed—including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process.
6. If you cannot read the attachment, it is likely we cannot read it either.
 - . We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).
 - . We must be able to read everything you want us to consider in any attachment.
7. After you upload each attachment, use the Download feature to access and check the attachment to ensure it matches the required Document Type and to ensure it contains all pages you intend to include.
8. Only use the "Other" attachment option to meet an attachment requirement that is not otherwise listed in these detailed instructions.

Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1C-7. PHA Homeless Preference	No	PHA Homeless Pref...	10/21/2024
1C-7. PHA Moving On Preference	No		
1D-10a. Lived Experience Support Letter	Yes	Lived Experience ...	10/22/2024
1D-2a. Housing First Evaluation	Yes	Housing First Eva...	10/21/2024
1E-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	Local Competition...	10/21/2024
1E-2a. Scored Forms for One Project	Yes	Scored Forms for ...	10/22/2024
1E-5. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	Notification of P...	10/21/2024
1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	Notification of P...	10/21/2024
1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results	Yes	Local Competition...	10/21/2024
1E-5c. Web Posting—CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	Web Posting - CoC...	10/23/2024
1E-5d. Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	Notification of C...	10/23/2024

2A-6. HUD's Homeless Data Exchange (HDX) Competition Report	Yes	2024 HDX Competit...	10/21/2024
3A-1a. Housing Leveraging Commitments	No		
3A-2a. Healthcare Formal Agreements	No		
3C-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No		
Other	No	Website Screensho...	10/22/2024

Attachment Details

Document Description: PHA Homeless Preference

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: Lived Experience Support Letter

Attachment Details

Document Description: Housing First Evaluation

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local Competition Scoring Tool

Attachment Details

Document Description: Scored Forms for One Project

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Projects Accepted

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local Competition Selection Results

Attachment Details

Document Description: Web Posting - CoC-Approved Consolidated Application

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application

Attachment Details

Document Description: 2024 HDX Competition Report

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: Website Screenshots of Notifications

Submission Summary

Ensure that the Project Priority List is complete prior to submitting.

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	10/18/2024
1B. Inclusive Structure	10/23/2024
1C. Coordination and Engagement	10/23/2024
1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd	10/23/2024
1E. Project Review/Ranking	10/23/2024
2A. HMIS Implementation	10/23/2024
2B. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count	10/23/2024
2C. System Performance	10/23/2024
3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare	10/23/2024
3B. Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs	10/23/2024
3C. Serving Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes	10/23/2024

4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants	10/23/2024
4B. Attachments Screen	10/23/2024
Submission Summary	No Input Required

Attachment 1c-7
PHA Homeless Preference
Oak Ridge Housing Authority
(ORHA)

TN-512
Morristown/Blount, Sevier,
Campbell, Cocke Counties
CoC

PREFERENCES

ORHA has established a local preference system, which gives priority to families that meet specific criteria.

For **Public Housing**, ORHA uses the following local preferences:

CRITERIA	POINTS	PROOF REQUIRED
<p>Displaced by Government Action Families who have been displaced by Government action through no fault of their own (i.e. condemned property).</p> <p>Displaced from HCV Reduction Families displaced from ORHA Housing Choice Voucher Program due to a reduction in federal funding.</p>	100	<p>Document from government/city official verifying displacement</p> <p>A letter from the voucher agency stating the reduction in funding</p>
<p>Homeless Families who meet the homeless criteria under the HUD Category 1 Literally Homeless definition, who are referred by homelessness providers.</p> <p>Domestic Violence Families who are fleeing domestic violence.</p>	100	<p>Verification of homelessness status from a third party, such as a homeless/social service agency</p> <p>Verification of domestic violence status from a third party, such as a domestic violence/social service agency, or self-verification</p>
<p>Disabled Families where the head, spouse, co-head is a person with disabilities.</p> <p>Elderly Families where the head, spouse, co-head is a person 62 or older.</p> <p>Veterans This is a person who has served in the active military or naval services of the United States at any time and who shall have been discharged or released under any condition other than dishonorable.</p>	25	<p>Social Security disability letter or document from a knowledgeable professional reporting disability</p> <p>Photo ID/Birth certificate</p> <p>DD Form 214-Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD214)</p>
<p>Working Families Families where the head, spouse, co-head is employed at least 20 hours per week.</p>	25	<p>Pay stubs/proof of employment</p>

For **Section 8/HCV**, ORHA uses the following local preferences:

CRITERIA	POINTS	PROOF REQUIRED
<p>Displaced by Government Action Families who have been displaced by Government action through no fault of their own (i.e. condemned property).</p> <p>Displaced from HCV Reduction Families displaced from ORHA Housing Choice Voucher Program due to a reduction in federal funding.</p>	100	<p>Document from government/city official verifying displacement</p> <p>A letter from the voucher agency stating the reduction in funding</p>
<p>Current Public Housing Clients Current Public Housing clients who are enrolled in the FSS and Homeownership Programs.</p>	100	Acceptance into a homeownership program, verification of escrow or personal savings account
<p>Homeless Families who meet the homeless criteria under the HUD Category 1 Literally Homeless definition, who are referred by homelessness providers.</p> <p>Domestic Violence Families who are fleeing domestic violence.</p>	95*	<p>Verification of homelessness status from a third party, such as a homeless/social service agency</p> <p>Verification of domestic violence status from a third party, such as a domestic violence/social service agency, or self-verification</p>
<p>Disabled Families where the head, spouse, co-head is a person with disabilities.</p> <p>Elderly Families where the head, spouse, co-head is a person 62 or older.</p> <p>Veterans This is a person who has served in the active military or naval services of the United States at any time and who shall have been discharged or released under any condition other than dishonorable.</p>	25*	<p>Social Security disability letter or document from a knowledgeable professional reporting disability</p> <p>Photo ID/Birth certificate</p> <p>DD Form 214-Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD214)</p>
<p>Working Families Families where the head, spouse, co-head is employed at least 20 hours per week.</p>	25*	Pay stubs/proof of employment

*5 points will be added if the family does not currently receive housing assistance

Attachment 1D-10a
Lived Experience Support
Letter

TN-512

Morristown/Blount, Sevier,
Campbell, Cocke Counties
CoC

At the age of 16, I found myself experiencing homelessness due to my queerness. I spent time living in my car, couch surfing, living temporarily with friends and coworkers, and even sleeping in the McDonald's lobby, where I worked on nights when it was too warm to sleep in my car. Coming from a very small, rural town, homelessness resources were not readily available or accessible. So, when I bounced around the nearest city during my adolescence, I never thought about looking into homelessness resources. Part of that was due to my lack of knowledge of their existence, and part was because I did not consider myself homeless until a few years later.

When I got to college, I was so excited to be living in the dorms. I was able to eat at the dining hall, and everything I owned fit neatly into my two-person dorm room. When winter rolled around my first semester, I was told that I would have to leave campus. I sat in my dorm, wondering what I was going to do. Everyone was talking about going home for winter break and the holidays, and I cried as I realized I hadn't had a home in a few years. This was the first time I ever realized that the life I had been living was the life of someone who was homeless or precariously housed, depending on my living situation.

When I moved to Tennessee and became involved in the homelessness sector, I was astounded at the resources available to individuals experiencing homelessness. All around me were nonprofits reaching out their hands for those in need to hold onto. I was fortunate enough to become the Executive Director of one of those nonprofits. I am incredibly passionate about eliminating homelessness throughout the Tennessee Valley Region because if I can prevent just one person from experiencing the burden of having no place to call home, I feel that I have a purpose. I am very fortunate to work alongside a team that works daily to break down the barriers for those in homelessness and prevent individuals and families from ever losing their homes.

I know that the path I am on is the path I was meant to take. The barriers I faced molded me into the passionate nonprofit executive I am today. But sometimes, I can't help but wonder how much more I could have enjoyed life, rather than merely surviving, if I only had access to the types of services provided within the Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care. As a person with lived experience who did not have access to homelessness resources, I support the Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care (TN-512) and its efforts in serving individuals and families with severe service needs.



Katelyn McGuire

Executive Director

Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless | TN-512 Lead Agency

Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless

Tennessee Valley CoC Lead Agency
P.O. Box 27051
Knoxville, TN 37927
(865) 859-0749

14th October 2024

“A Light In The Darkness”

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to bring awareness to **“A Light in the Darkness”** and underscore how the Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care (TVCoC) is the epitome of the aforementioned phrase.

Due to unforeseen circumstances and a trail of unfortunate events, the journey of ascendancy from victim to survivor out of the pits of homelessness and domestic violence began for me somewhere around 2019-2020 just before the quarantine. I now fully understand why they say, “Never say never!” Upon moving across the continent, I vowed to myself that I would **never** return to the town where I was born and raised. The lesson from making that painstaking vow to myself is in the understanding of another saying, “Tell God your plans and watch Him laugh!” With all of that said, I was forced to make the humbling trek back across the country to the very place that I said I would **never** return.

I am fortunate enough to have a rather large family (or so I thought) because one would feel as though he/she has multiple outlets and/or support. The unfortunate case for me is that at this particular time in my life (2019-2020) is a pivotal transitioning and transformative timeframe. The family that I thought I knew and had to support me did not really know me; did not try to understand nor support me in ways that I needed; and basically ridiculed, shunned, and crucified me simply because they did not agree with my beliefs, practices and/or the way I choose to live my life. After not being welcomed in a sibling’s home and having to move in with my mother and her partner/spouse is when the harassment and domestic violence worsened over a span of a few years.

Growing up as a child in a home witnessing domestic violence, I promised my nearly seven or eight year-old self that I would **never** experience that nor allow that to happen in my home as an adult. Little did I know that I would in fact experience it yet again in the very same home, place and space that I grew up

in and made that promise to myself nearly four decades prior. The differences between the incidents as a child versus the more recent events are the faces of the perpetrators and the most important is the fact that I am now older and more equipped to handle myself and the situation. To make a long story short this is how I end up in the loving embrace of the TVCoC.

I am a 'go-getter' type of individual and I will do whatever it takes outside of compromising my soul and integrity to do what I need to do in order to secure and ensure the safety of myself and my child. After clawing my way out of the pits of victimhood and exhausting all resources not leaving a stone unturned is when I was gifted this miracle from heaven, this lifeline, and what I like to call **"A Light in the Darkness"** - The Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care. They were able to shine a light on other organizations, agencies and resources that I was not able to see in the darkness. Through the help of TVCoC and the resources provided, more and more people may be able to benefit from their services especially those who have nowhere else to go and/or do not know who/where to turn for help.

With the growing population of homelessness, my prayer going forward is that the Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care may continue to assist those in desperate need in hopes of diminishing the percentage(s) and disparities of those experiencing homelessness in the area and surrounding regions. I support TVCoC's priorities for serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness with severe service needs in the Tennessee Valley Region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Light-Worker', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

"A. Light-Worker"



152 Bus Terminal Road
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
www.oakridgetorch.org

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this letter of support for the Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness. I can confirm that I have the first hand lived experience of being homeless. I am currently an employee at TORCH and I advise on issues facing homeless Children and Youth. I am writing to verify that I support the CoC and their efforts in serving individuals and families with sever service needs in our continuum.

Cassidy Whalen
Cassidy Whalen



152 Bus
Terminal
Road Oak
Ridge, TN
37830
[www.oakridge
torch.org](http://www.oakridge
torch.org)

To Whom It May Concern,

Hello, my name is Amber Stanley. Please accept this letter of support for the Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness. I can confirm that I have the first hand lived experience of being homeless. I am currently an employee at TORCH and I advise on people with addiction issues, and Street Outreach. I am writing to verify that I support the CoC and their efforts in serving individuals and families with severe service needs in our continuum.

Amber N Stanley
10-18-2024
Amber Stanley

Attachment 1D-2a
Housing First Evaluation
PSH Family Services

TN-512

Morristown/Blount, Sevier,
Campbell, Cocke Counties
CoC



Housing First Checklist: Assessing Projects and Systems for a Housing First Orientation

Housing First is a proven approach, applicable across all elements of systems for ending homelessness, in which people experiencing homelessness are connected to permanent housing swiftly and with few to no treatment preconditions, behavioral contingencies, or other barriers. It is based on overwhelming evidence that people experiencing homelessness can achieve stability in permanent housing if provided with the appropriate level of services. Study after study has shown that Housing First yields higher housing retention rates, drives significant reductions in the use of costly crisis services and institutions, and helps people achieve better health and social outcomes.¹

This checklist was designed to help you make a quick assessment of whether and to what degree housing programs — and entire systems — are employing a Housing First approach. Robust tools and instruments are available elsewhere to quantitatively measure program quality and fidelity to Housing First. This tool is not meant to take the place of those more rigorous assessments, but is intended to help Continuums of Care, individual housing and services providers, funders, and other stakeholders to communicate about, and quickly assess, alignment with key Housing First approaches.

Core Elements of Housing First at the Program/Project Level

For your homelessness service system to work the most efficiently and effectively, individual programs must embrace a Housing First approach. This portion of the checklist can help you assess the extent to which your local programs are implementing Housing First. You can use this tool for trainings or planning sessions, during a site visit or program audit, as a guide when reviewing funding applications, or for many other uses.

- Access to programs is not contingent on sobriety, minimum income requirements, lack of a criminal record, completion of treatment, participation in services, or other unnecessary conditions.
- Programs or projects do everything possible not to reject an individual or family on the basis of poor credit or financial history, poor or lack of rental history, minor criminal convictions, or behaviors that are interpreted as indicating a lack of "housing readiness."
- People with disabilities are offered clear opportunities to request reasonable accommodations within applications and screening processes and during tenancy, and building and apartment units include special physical features that accommodate disabilities.

Quick Screen: Does Your Project Use Housing First Principles?

- 1) Are applicants allowed to enter the program without income?
- 2) Are applicants allowed to enter the program even if they aren't "clean and sober" or "treatment compliant"?
- 3) Are applicants allowed to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement?
- 4) Are service and treatment plans voluntary, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through?

- Programs or projects that cannot serve someone work through the coordinated entry process to ensure that those individuals or families have access to housing and services elsewhere.
- Housing and service goals and plans are highly tenant-driven.
- Supportive services emphasize engagement and problem-solving over therapeutic goals.
- Participation in services or compliance with service plans are not conditions of tenancy, but are reviewed with tenants and regularly offered as a resource to tenants.
- Services are informed by a harm-reduction philosophy that recognizes that drug and alcohol use and addiction are a part of some tenants' lives. Tenants are engaged in non-judgmental communication regarding drug and alcohol use and are offered education regarding how to avoid risky behaviors and engage in safer practices.
- Substance use in and of itself, without other lease violations, is not considered a reason for eviction.
- Tenants in supportive housing are given reasonable flexibility in paying their share of rent on time and offered special payment arrangements for rent arrears and/or assistance with financial management, including representative payee arrangements.
- Every effort is made to provide a tenant the opportunity to transfer from one housing situation, program, or project to another if a tenancy is in jeopardy. Whenever possible, eviction back into homelessness is avoided.

Core Elements of Housing First at the Community Level

Housing First should be adopted across your community's entire homelessness response system, including outreach and emergency shelter, short-term interventions like rapid re-housing, and longer-term interventions like supportive housing. You can use this part of the checklist to assess the extent to which your community has adopted a system-wide Housing First orientation, as well as guide further dialogue and progress.

- Your community has a coordinated system that offers a unified, streamlined, and user-friendly community-wide coordinated entry process to quickly assess and match people experiencing homelessness to the most appropriate housing and services, including rapid re-housing, supportive housing, and/or other housing interventions.
- Emergency shelter, street outreach, and other parts of your crisis response system implement and promote low barriers to entry or service and quickly identify people experiencing homelessness, provide access to safety, make service connections, and partner directly with housing providers to rapidly connect individuals and families to permanent housing.
- Outreach and other crisis response teams are coordinated, trained, and have the ability to engage and quickly connect people experiencing homelessness to the local coordinated entry process in order to apply for and obtain permanent housing.
- Your community has a data-driven approach to prioritizing housing assistance, whether through analysis of the shared community assessment and vulnerability indices, system performance measures from the Homeless Management Information System, data on utilization of crisis services, and/or data from other

Attachment 1E-2
Local Competition Scoring
Tool

TN-512
Morristown/Blount, Sevier,
Campbell, Cocke Counties
CoC

**TN-512 Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care
2024 CoC HMIS Application Scoring and Rating Criteria**

The Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care seeks to provide a coordinated, inclusive and outcome-oriented community process for the solicitation, objective review, ranking and selection of project applications for inclusion with our CoC Collaborative Application package we submit to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

To score and then rank Continuum of Care project applications, the CoC Ranking and Review panel will use information from project applicant interviews, as well as relevant information from other sources, including but not limited to HMIS, the Coordinated Entry System, HUD LOCCS, CoC Project Applications, SAGE, and Agency Annual Performance Reviews. The Ranking and Review panel will use these scoring factors as well as HUD’s CoC rules, regulations and objectives as well as local objectives to make a final determination of the acceptance and rank-order of applications we submit in our Collaborative Application.

*****In the past, the Rank and Review Committee has assigned the same score to both HMIS applications*****

Agency:
Project Name:
Name, phone, email of contact:

Threshold Questions for New Projects		
<i>Renewal projects are considered as having met these requirements through previously approved grant applications, unless information to the contrary is received.</i>	Yes	No
Is the applicant seeking funding for an eligible project category?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the project meet the threshold requirements for the applicable project category in sections III.C.5.b and III.C.5.c of the 2024 HUD CoC NOFO?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Project Administration and Quality Check (10 points total):
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant has no outstanding HUD findings or concerns from previous HUD Audits <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant submitted most recent APR in a timely manner

- Applicant completed a fiscal audit or fiscal evaluation in accordance with HUD and agency regulations
- New Projects – Applicant has a plan for maintaining HUD grant compliance and completing fiscal audit/evaluation as dictated by HUD and agency regulations

Section 1 points: _____ /10

2. Objective Criteria (65 points total):

Applicant Experience (8 points):

- Applicant demonstrates experience with population to be served
- Applicant demonstrates experience with proposed programming type
- Applicant demonstrates experience with operating and managing a federal grant

Commitment to Housing First (12 points):

Dedicated HMIS projects and supportive service only for coordinated entry (SSO-CE) projects will automatically receive 12 points.

Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues. Additionally, Housing First is based on the understanding that client choice is valuable in housing selection and supportive service participation, and that exercising that choice is likely to make a client more successful in remaining housed and improving their life. Below are is a checklist adopted from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness to determine if the project is operating under Housing First policies.

- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program without having a source of income
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they are not “clean and sober” or “treatment compliant”
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement
- Project allows applicants (clients) to participate in services and treatment plans in a voluntary manner, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through

Cost Effectiveness and Match Funding (10 points):

- Applicant can provide the required match for the proposed project
- Applicant has not had HUD funding recaptured in the past fiscal year
- Application budget explanation is reasonable, allocable, and allowable

System Performance Measures (35 points):

The extent to which an HMIS project furthers CoC-wide strategies to improve performance measures:

	Yes	No
Did the HMIS Lead submit complete Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data in a timely manner?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did the HMIS Lead submit complete Point in Time Count (PIT) data in a timely manner?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Did the HMIS Lead engage youth serving organizations and youth experiencing homelessness in the PIT count planning process?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did the HMIS Lead include youth experiencing homelessness in the actual count?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the HMIS Lead have in place, or is it developing or coordinating a comparable database with DV providers to collect required data element for reporting de-identified information to the CoC?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the HMIS Bed Coverage Rate for housing types within the CoC that includes emergency shelter, Safe Haven, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing above 85%?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did the HMIS Lead submit the complete Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) data in a timely manner?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 2 points: _____ /65		
3. Promoting Racial, Ethnic, Gender Experiential Equity (10 points total):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant offers a clear explanation regarding barriers they have identified to reaching persons of different races, ethnicities, gender expression, or sexual orientation <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant clearly describes what steps they have taken or plan to take to eliminate those identified barriers <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant has reasonable and adequate input from people with lived experience on their agency board and for program design and operation		
Section 3 points: _____ /10		
4. Community Collaboration (15 points total):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant participates in TVCoC HMIS <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant participates in TVCoC Coordinated Entry System <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant is an active member in good standing in the TVCoC		
Section 4 points: _____ /15		
TOTAL POINTS: _____ /100		

Additional Comments:

Recommendations for Future Applications:

**TN-512 Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care
2024 CoC Application Scoring and Rating Criteria**

The Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care seeks to provide a coordinated, inclusive and outcome-oriented community process for the solicitation, objective review, ranking and selection of project applications for inclusion with our CoC Collaborative Application package we submit to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

To score and then rank Continuum of Care project applications, the CoC Ranking and Review panel will use information from project applicant interviews, as well as relevant information from other sources, including but not limited to HMIS, the Coordinated Entry System, HUD LOCCS, CoC Project Applications, SAGE, and Agency Annual Performance Reviews. The Ranking and Review panel will use these scoring factors as well as HUD’s CoC rules, regulations and objectives as well as local objectives to make a final determination of the acceptance and rank-order of applications we submit in our Collaborative Application. (Note: Because HMIS is a central CoC activity and is functionally different than direct housing or service projects, its scoring rubric must be somewhat altered from the others to capture its information, and is available in a separate document.)

Agency:
Project Name:
Name, phone, email of contact:

Threshold Questions for New Projects		
<i>Renewal projects are considered as having met these requirements through previously approved grant applications, unless information to the contrary is received.</i>	Yes	No
Is the applicant seeking funding for an eligible project category?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the project meet the threshold requirements for the applicable project category in sections III.C.5.b and III.C.5.c of the 2023 HUD CoC NOFO?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Project Administration and Quality Check (10 points total):
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant has no outstanding HUD findings or concerns from previous HUD Audits <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant submitted most recent APR in a timely manner <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant completed a fiscal audit or fiscal evaluation in accordance with HUD and agency regulations

New Projects – Applicant has a plan for maintaining HUD grant compliance and completing fiscal audit/evaluation as dictated by HUD and agency regulations

Section 1 points: _____ /10

2. Objective Criteria (53 points total):

Applicant Experience (9 points):

- Applicant demonstrates experience with population to be served
- Applicant demonstrates experience with proposed programming type
- Applicant demonstrates experience with operating and managing a federal grant

Commitment to Housing First (12 points):

Dedicated HMIS projects and supportive service only for coordinated entry (SSO-CE) projects will automatically receive 12 points.

Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues. Additionally, Housing First is based on the understanding that client choice is valuable in housing selection and supportive service participation, and that exercising that choice is likely to make a client more successful in remaining housed and improving their life.

- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program without having a source of income
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they are not “clean and sober” or “treatment compliant”
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement
- Project allows applicants (clients) to participate in services and treatment plans in a voluntary manner, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through

Cost Effectiveness and Match Funding (12 points):

- Applicant can provide the required match for the proposed project
- Applicant has not had HUD funding recaptured in the past fiscal year
- Application budget explanation is reasonable, allocable, and allowable

System Performance Measures (20 points):

*The extent to which a project furthers CoC-wide strategies to improve performance measures, including **at least two** of the following:*

- Reducing the number of homeless individuals and families
- Reduction in the number of first-time homeless
- Length of time homeless
- Successful PH placement or retention
- Reduction of returns to homelessness
- Jobs and income growth

Section 2 points: _____ /53

3. Rapid Return to Permanent Housing and Severity of Barriers Experienced by Program Participants (15 points total):	
<i>The ranking and review process involves comparison of different programs that serve different types of individuals and families who are in a variety of different situations. These things can affect the extent to which a given project is able to address the objective system performance measures noted above.</i>	
Potential client service and housing barriers to achieving system performance measure goals may include:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Substance Abuse <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Illness <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal History <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Homelessness <input type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness <input type="checkbox"/> History of domestic violence <input type="checkbox"/> Service Resistance <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran Status <input type="checkbox"/> Income and Employment Status <input type="checkbox"/> Covid-19 pandemic <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant offers a clear explanation regarding how the severity of barriers experienced by project clients may affect the project's ability to achieve certain system performance measure objectives.	
Section 3 points: _____ /15	
4. Promoting Racial, Ethnic, Gender Experiential Equity (10 points total):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant offers a clear explanation regarding barriers they have identified to reaching persons of different races, ethnicities or gender orientation. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant clearly describes what steps they have taken or plan to take to eliminate those identified barriers. <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant has reasonable and adequate input from people with lived experience from marginalized groups over-represented in the local homelessness population on their agency board and for program design and operation.	
Section 4 points: _____ /10	
5. Community Collaboration (12 points total):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant participates or has a plan to participate in TVCoC HMIS <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant participates or has a plan to participate in TVCoC Coordinated Entry System <input type="checkbox"/> Applicant is an active member in good standing in the TVCoC	
Section 5 points: _____ /12	
TOTAL POINTS: _____ /100	

Additional Comments:

Recommendations for Future Funding Requests:

TN – 512 FY2024 CoC Program Competition

Project Applicant Questionnaire

HMIS Renewal Projects

Please answer all questions. Questionnaires are due at the same time as project applications for the local competition.

1. Type of project the applicant is requesting funding for
-

2. Does the agency have any outstanding HUD findings or concerns from previous HUD audits?

Yes

No

3. Did the HMIS Lead submit the most recent APR in a timely manner?

Yes

No

4. Did the agency complete a fiscal audit or fiscal evaluation in accordance with HUD and agency regulations?

Yes

No

5. What subpopulations does the program serve? Check all that apply.

DV

Veterans

Substance Abuse

Youth

Mental Illness

Families w/children

HIV/AIDS

Chronic Homeless

6. How many years of experience working with subpopulations? Check the applicable box.

None

1 year or less

1-3 years

5 years or more?

7. Describe your experience in working with the subpopulations to be served by this project.

8. What is your experience administering and managing this type of project?

9. Do you have previous experience administering and managing federally funded activities?

Yes

No

10. What is your total funding request?

11. Housing First Assessment. Check all boxes that apply to the proposed project.

Dedicated HMIS projects and supportive service only for coordinated entry (SSO-CE) projects will automatically receive 10 points.

12. How will your agency provide the required match funding for the project?

13. Did this project have funding recaptured by HUD in the previous fiscal year?

Yes

No

14. Provide a budget explanation that details what each line item in the budget will be utilized for. For example: Supportive Services will be used to provide case manager salary and fringe.

15. Did HMIS Lead submit complete Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data in a timely manner?

- Yes
- No

16. Did HMIS Lead submit complete Point in Time Count (PIT) data in a timely manner?

- Yes
- No

17. Did HMIS Lead engage youth-serving organizations and youth experiencing homelessness in the PIT count planning process?

- Yes
- No

18. Did HMIS Lead include youth experiencing homelessness in the actual PIT count?

- Yes
- No

19. Did HMIS Lead have in place, or is it developing or coordinating, a comparable database with DV providers to collect required data elements for reporting de-identified information to the CoC?

- Yes
- No

20. Is the HMIS Bed Coverage Rate for housing types within the CoC that includes emergency shelter, Safe Have, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing above 85%?

- Yes
- No

If not, please detail the strategy to increase the bed coverage rate by 85%.

21. Did the HMIS Lead submit the complete Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) data in a timely manner?

Yes

No

22. How does the HMIS Lead coordinate with CoC providers to gather relevant data to understand possible racial, ethnic, and gender inequities in the current service system?

23. What are the current strategies to address the inequities identified in the question above?

24. How does HMIS Lead provide support for the CE System?

25. How do people with lived experience influence the program design and operation of this project?

26. Does the agency participate in TVCoC HMIS?

- Yes
- No

27. Does the agency participate in the TVCoC Coordinated Entry System?

- Yes
- No

28. Describe the HMIS Lead's involvement in the TVCoC.

TN – 512 FY2024 CoC Program Competition

Project Applicant Questionnaire

New Projects

1. Agency Name

2. Project Name

3. Contact Name | Email | Phone Number

4. Type of project the applicant is requesting funding for

5. Does the agency have any outstanding monitoring findings or concerns from previously awarded grant audits?

Yes

No

6. Did the agency complete a fiscal audit or fiscal evaluation in accordance with HUD and agency regulations?

Yes

No

7. What subpopulations will the program serve? Check all that apply.

DV

Veterans

Substance Abuse

Youth

Mental Illness

Families w/children

- HIV/AIDS
- Chronic Homeless

8. How many years of experience working with subpopulations? Check the applicable box.

- None
- 1 year or less
- 1-3 years
- 5 years or more?

9. Describe your experience in working with the subpopulations to be served by this project.

10. What is your experience administering and managing this type of project?

11. Do you have previous experience administering and managing federally funded activities?

- Yes
- No

12. What is your total funding request?

13. Housing First Assessment. Check all boxes that apply to the proposed project

Dedicated HMIS projects and supportive service only for coordinated entry (SSO-CE) projects will automatically receive 10 points.

- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program without having a source of income
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they are not “clean and sober” or “treatment compliant”
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement
- Project allows applicants (clients) to participate in services and treatment plans in a voluntary manner, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through

14. How will your agency provide the required match funding for the project?

15. Describe the proposed project timeline, should the funding be awarded.

16. Provide a budget explanation that details what each line item in the budget will be utilized for. For example: Supportive Services will be used to provide case manager salary and fringe.

17. How will this project further CoC-wide strategies to improve performance measures, including **at least two** of the following (check and explain all that apply):

- Reducing the number of homeless individuals and families
- Reduction in the number of first-time homeless
- Length of time homeless
- Successful PH placement or retention
- Reduction of returns to homelessness
- Jobs and income growth

18. How many individuals/households will be served?

19. What is the cost per individual/household?

20. What services does the project include?

25. Does your agency have representation of people with lived experience (PLE) on your Board of Directors, within agency staff, and/or within volunteers? Explain, what levels of organization has representation from PLE.

26. How do people with lived experience influence the program design and operation of this project?

27. Does the agency commit to participating in TVCoC HMIS should the project be funded?

Yes

No

28. Does the agency commit to participate in TVCoC Coordinated Entry System?

Yes

No

29. Describe the agency's involvement in the TVCoC.

TN – 512 FY2024 CoC Program Competition

Project Applicant Questionnaire

Renewal Projects

1. Agency Name

2. Project Name

3. Contact Person | Email | Phone Number

4. Type of project the applicant is requesting funding for

5. Does the agency have any outstanding HUD findings or concerns from previous HUD audits?

Yes

No

6. Did the agency submit the most recent APR in a timely manner?

Yes

No

7. Did the agency complete a fiscal audit or fiscal evaluation in accordance with HUD and agency regulations?

Yes

No

8. What subpopulations does the program serve? Check all that apply.

DV

- Veterans
- Substance Abuse
- Youth
- Mental Illness
- Families w/children
- HIV/AIDS
- Chronic Homeless

9. How many years of experience working with subpopulations? Check the applicable box.

- None
- 1 year or less
- 1-3 years
- 5 years or more?

10. Describe your experience in working with the subpopulations to be served by this project.

11. What is your experience administering and managing this type of project?

12. Do you have previous experience administering and managing federally funded activities?

Yes

No

13. What is your total funding request?

14. Housing First Assessment. Check all boxes that apply to the proposed project.

Dedicated HMIS projects and supportive service only for coordinated entry (SSO-CE) projects will automatically receive 10 points.

- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program without having a source of income
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they are not “clean and sober” or “treatment compliant”
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement
- Project allows applicants (clients) to participate in services and treatment plans in a voluntary manner, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through

15. How will your agency provide the required match funding for the project?

16. Did this project have funding recaptured by HUD in the previous fiscal year?

- Yes
- No

17. Provide a budget explanation that details what each line item in the budget will be utilized for. For example: Supportive Services will be used to provide case manager salary and fringe.

18. How will this project further CoC-wide strategies to improve performance measures, including **at least two** of the following (check and explain all that apply). Please be sure to include System Performance Measures data from your most recent project SPM report. Housing projects are required to report on length of time homeless and successful PH placement or retention. If SPM report does not show a positive trend, include the strategy to improve that performance measure.

- Reducing the number of homeless individuals and families
- Reduction in the number of first-time homeless
- Length of time homeless
- Successful PH placement or retention
- Reduction of returns to homelessness
- Jobs and income growth

22. For PH Projects: What is the housing retention rate? Detail any strategies you plan to implement to improve the retention rate.

23. For SSO Projects: What percentage of client exits to a positive housing destination?

24. What barriers impact clients and how they may affect the project’s performance? Check all that apply

- Substance Abuse Mental Illness Criminal History Chronic Homelessness
- Unsheltered Homelessness Length of Time Homeless

Attachment 1E-2a
Scored Forms for One Project

TN-512

Morristown/Blount, Sevier,
Campbell, Cocke Counties
CoC

**TN-512 Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care
2024 CoC Application Scoring and Rating Criteria**

The Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care seeks to provide a coordinated, inclusive and outcome-oriented community process for the solicitation, objective review, ranking and selection of project applications for inclusion with our CoC Collaborative Application package we submit to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

To score and then rank Continuum of Care project applications, the CoC Ranking and Review panel will use information from project applicant interviews, as well as relevant information from other sources, including but not limited to HMIS, the Coordinated Entry System, HUD LOCCS, CoC Project Applications, SAGE, and Agency Annual Performance Reviews. The Ranking and Review panel will use these scoring factors as well as HUD’s CoC rules, regulations and objectives as well as local objectives to make a final determination of the acceptance and rank-order of applications we submit in our Collaborative Application. (Note: Because HMIS is a central CoC activity and is functionally different than direct housing or service projects, its scoring rubric must be somewhat altered from the others to capture its information, and is available in a separate document.)

Agency: Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless
Project Name: PSH
Name, phone, email of contact:

Threshold Questions for New Projects		
<i>Renewal projects are considered as having met these requirements through previously approved grant applications, unless information to the contrary is received.</i>	Yes	No
Is the applicant seeking funding for an eligible project category?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the project meet the threshold requirements for the applicable project category in sections III.C.5.b and III.C.5.c of the 2023 HUD CoC NOFO?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Project Administration and Quality Check (10 points total): 10
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant has no outstanding HUD findings or concerns from previous HUD Audits <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant submitted most recent APR in a timely manner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant completed a fiscal audit or fiscal evaluation in accordance with HUD and agency regulations

New Projects – Applicant has a plan for maintaining HUD grant compliance and completing fiscal audit/evaluation as dictated by HUD and agency regulations

Section 1 points: 10 /10

2. Objective Criteria (53 points total):

Applicant Experience (9 points): 9

- Applicant demonstrates experience with population to be served
- Applicant demonstrates experience with proposed programming type
- Applicant demonstrates experience with operating and managing a federal grant

Commitment to Housing First (12 points): 12

Dedicated HMIS projects and supportive service only for coordinated entry (SSO-CE) projects will automatically receive 12 points.

Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues. Additionally, Housing First is based on the understanding that client choice is valuable in housing selection and supportive service participation, and that exercising that choice is likely to make a client more successful in remaining housed and improving their life.

- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program without having a source of income
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they are not “clean and sober” or “treatment compliant”
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement
- Project allows applicants (clients) to participate in services and treatment plans in a voluntary manner, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through

Cost Effectiveness and Match Funding (12 points):12

- Applicant can provide the required match for the proposed project
- Applicant has not had HUD funding recaptured in the past fiscal year
- Application budget explanation is reasonable, allocable, and allowable

System Performance Measures (20 points): 20

*The extent to which a project furthers CoC-wide strategies to improve performance measures, including **at least two** of the following:*

- Reducing the number of homeless individuals and families
- Reduction in the number of first-time homeless
- Length of time homeless
- Successful PH placement or retention
- Reduction of returns to homelessness
- Jobs and income growth

Section 2 points: ___53_ /53

3. Rapid Return to Permanent Housing and Severity of Barriers Experienced by Program Participants (15 points total):

The ranking and review process involves comparison of different programs that serve different types of individuals and families who are in a variety of different situations. These things can affect the extent to which a given project is able to address the objective system performance measures noted above.

Potential client service and housing barriers to achieving system performance measure goals may include:

- Substance Abuse Mental Illness Criminal History Chronic Homelessness
- Unsheltered Homelessness History of domestic violence Service Resistance
- Veteran Status Income and Employment Status Covid-19 pandemic
- Other (please explain):

Applicant offers a clear explanation regarding how the severity of barriers experienced by project clients may affect the project's ability to achieve certain system performance measure objectives.

Section 3 points: 15 /15

4. Promoting Racial, Ethnic, Gender Experiential Equity (10 points total):

Applicant offers a clear explanation regarding barriers they have identified to reaching persons of different races, ethnicities or gender orientation.

Applicant clearly describes what steps they have taken or plan to take to eliminate those identified barriers.

Applicant has reasonable and adequate input from people with lived experience from marginalized groups over-represented in the local homelessness population on their agency board and for program design and operation.

Section 4 points: 10 /10

5. Community Collaboration (12 points total):

Applicant participates or has a plan to participate in TVCoC HMIS

Applicant participates or has a plan to participate in TVCoC Coordinated Entry System

Applicant is an active member in good standing in the TVCoC

Section 5 points: 12 /12

TOTAL POINTS: 100 /100

Additional Comments:

Recommendations for Future Funding Requests:

TN – 512 FY2024 CoC Program Competition

Project Applicant Questionnaire

Renewal Projects

1. Agency Name

Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness, Inc.

2. Project Name

PSH Family Services FY2024/2025

3. Contact Person | Email | Phone Number

Katelyn McGuire | kmcguire@tvceh.org | 865-440-8670

4. Type of project the applicant is requesting funding for

PH-PSH

5. Does the agency have any outstanding HUD findings or concerns from previous HUD audits?

Yes

No

6. Did the agency submit the most recent APR in a timely manner?

Yes

No

7. Did the agency complete a fiscal audit or fiscal evaluation in accordance with HUD and agency regulations?

Yes

No

8. What subpopulations does the program serve? Check all that apply.

- DV
- Veterans
- Substance Abuse
- Youth
- Mental Illness
- Families w/children
- HIV/AIDS
- Chronic Homeless

9. How many years of experience working with subpopulations? Check the applicable box.

- None
- 1 year or less
- 1-3 years
- 5 years or more?

10. Describe your experience in working with the subpopulations to be served by this project.

TVCH has been serving the above populations since the creation of Continuums of Care in 2012. TVCH is dedicated to serving all individuals eligible under this grant opportunity regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, or income status. For over ten years, TVCH has been serving individuals experiencing homelessness. TVCH works closely with DV providers and HUD Technical Assistance to ensure all policies and procedures specific to the PSH program are inclusive and equitable. TVCH also works diligently to ensure accessibility to this PSH program.

11. What is your experience administering and managing this type of project?

TVCH has been operating PSH programs since 2012. Over the past year and a half, we have worked alongside HUD and internal staff to ensure that all policies and procedures were compliant and effective. TVCH has also worked to ensure that the PSH program is inclusive, equitable, and accessible to all who may need it.

12. Do you have previous experience administering and managing federally funded activities?

Yes

No

13. What is your total funding request?

\$118,827

14. Housing First Assessment. Check all boxes that apply to the proposed project.

Dedicated HMIS projects and supportive service only for coordinated entry (SSO-CE) projects will automatically receive 10 points.

- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program without having a source of income
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they are not “clean and sober” or “treatment compliant”
- Project allows applicants (clients) to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement
- Project allows applicants (clients) to participate in services and treatment plans in a voluntary manner, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through

15. How will your agency provide the required match funding for the project?

TVCH will provide a 25% cash match, consisting of individual donations, corporate sponsorships, program revenue (Occupancy Rent), and foundation grants that allow funding to be utilized as a match source. Occupancy Rent, mentioned above, is program revenue that is specific to the PSH program. Program participants are asked to pay up to 30% of their income as Occupancy Rent to learn how to create financial habits that allow for rent and other bills to be paid. The Occupancy Rent is calculated from a HUD formula, and those without income are not asked to pay Occupancy Rent. Those unable to pay Occupancy Rent are NOT at risk of eviction, and Case Managers work with participants to better understand the barriers to making a payment. All funds acquired through Occupancy Rent go back into the PSH program for things the grant does not cover, such as pest control.

16. Did this project have funding recaptured by HUD in the previous fiscal year?

Yes

No

17. Provide a budget explanation that details what each line item in the budget will be utilized for. For example: Supportive Services will be used to provide case manager salary and fringe.

Leased Units – Rental and utility payments for PSH participants

Supportive Services – Up to 75% of case manager salary/fringe, case manager transportation costs

Operating – Furniture costs; other operational costs allowable that arise

HMIS – HMIS fees

Admin - Supports administrative costs such as salaries of admin staff, printing, copier costs, rent, etc.

18. *How will this project further CoC-wide strategies to improve performance measures, including **at least two** of the following (check and explain all that apply). Please be sure to include System Performance Measures data from your most recent project SPM report. Housing projects are required to report on length of time homeless and successful PH placement or retention. If SPM report does not show a positive trend, include the strategy to improve that performance measure.*

Reducing the number of homeless individuals and families

Reduction in the number of first-time homeless

Length of time homeless

Successful PH placement or retention

Reduction of returns to homelessness

Jobs and income growth

The Family Services PSH program currently houses 9 households and will increase to 12 households by the end of October. TVCH had another PSH program that was not funded for the upcoming fiscal year, which resulted in those individuals needing to be moved into permanent housing. Luckily, we were able to reserve spots in Family Services PSH to move the folks into as the other grant comes to a close.

TVCH has an 83% retention rate for our Family Services PSH program. Most of the individuals in this program have been housed for over a year. As we continue to work with participants to increase income and connect to benefits, we hope more units will open for new participants to move into.

This program currently has 0% returns to homelessness rate, which we are very proud of. We hope to maintain a 0% returns to homelessness rate as we continue to graduate participants from the program after helping them set up the necessary supports to be self-sufficient.

The length of time homeless is over 1,833 days for this program, but this number is skewed based on a few participants who experienced homelessness for a long period before we made first contact. Our goal is to always connect with individuals as quickly as possible once they experience homelessness so they can be connected with local resources to provide material goods and outreach services while they journey to permanent housing. TVCH has drastically increased its street outreach efforts over the past fiscal year, providing over 11,000 services to those in need. With this increased reach, TVCH is able to be part of the early intervention team to help folks who are at imminent risk of homelessness or currently experiencing homelessness. We will continue to expand our street outreach efforts to identify those in homelessness early into their permanent housing journey to decrease the overall length of time homeless.

This program reports a 0% increase in income. As we enroll the remaining folks in this program, our case manager will evaluate each household to better understand barriers to increasing income, so supportive services can be implemented.

19. How many individuals/households will be served?

12 households

20. What is the cost per individual/household?

Rent: \$550/ month - \$750/month; Utility Allowance: \$95-\$150; Case Management Services: \$55,000/yr

21. What services does the project include?

Family Services PSH offers case management, rent support, utility bill support, transportation (as needed), life skills training (as needed), linkage to resources, linkage to mainstream benefits, food, and access to other donated goods that program participants can utilize.

22. For PH Projects: What is the housing retention rate? Detail any strategies you plan to implement to improve the retention rate.

The Family Services PSH program has had an 83% retention rate over the past year. While we aim for a 100% housing retention rate, we find that providing wrap-around services, acting on participant feedback, and providing regular case management help increase participants' chances of retaining or exiting to permanent housing.

23. For SSO Projects: What percentage of client exits to a positive housing destination?

24. What barriers impact clients and how they may affect the project's performance? Check all that apply

- Substance Abuse
- Mental Illness
- Criminal History
- Chronic Homelessness
- Unsheltered Homelessness
- Length of Time Homeless
- Limited PH Programming in the region
- History of Victimization/Abuse, including Domestic Abuse, Sexual Assault, and Childhood Abuse
- Service Resistance
- Significant Challenges or Functional Impairments
- Veteran Status
- Income and Employment Status
- Covid-19 pandemic
- Other (please explain):

25. How may the severity of barriers experienced by project clients impact the project's ability to achieve certain system performance measure objectives?

Criminal history, chronic homelessness, unsheltered homelessness, and length of time homeless can impact an individual's methods of communication when it comes to landlord-tenant relationships. To mitigate this, TVCH is the leaseholder (per HUD standards) for all units in our PSH program, and the participants sublet the space. This dynamic helps participants and landlords by offering a third entity, TVCH, to mediate any issues. While this mitigates many issues, some folks who come into our PSH program have been homeless for over a year which sometimes results in not understanding the expectations of being a tenant. Because of this, landlords can have difficulty with tenant compliance. Substance abuse and mental illness can greatly impact how participants interact with staff, other participants, other tenants, and landlords and can sometimes cause lease violations. While individuals are not required to be sober to enter our program, many leases state that there can be no drugs on the premises. If drugs are found on the premises, participants may be

evicted from that unit, but that does not mean they will be terminated from the program. Mental health issues can result in difficulty maintaining their space, which can also result in eviction from the unit if the space is unsafe and the participant is not able to comply with the landlord's requests. History of victimization and veteran status can both leave lasting impacts on how individuals interact with those around them and can also impact their comfort level of asking for assistance or providing constructive feedback on programming or regarding their needs. Income and employment status can result in PSH participants remaining in the program for multiple years if they cannot maintain employment or income due to any of the barriers listed above. Limited PH programming provides only a few units across the region for all those who are chronically homeless and living with a disability. It also means that most landlords know nothing about our program until a spot opens. Then, when we need to move a participant to a county where we might not have established landlords, it can be challenging to find housing due to all the aforementioned barriers. Services resistance is frequent in the homeless services sector. While it is not required for folks in the PSH program to participate in services outside of the monthly home visit, it can greatly decrease their success rate if the program's wrap-around services are not utilized.

26. What barriers exist for your project to reach and serve persons of different races, ethnicities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations equitably?

Most of the barriers encountered are during the street outreach efforts that provide eligible participant information for possible program placement, which is the same process as SSO-CE. TVCH circulates our organizational information throughout the 12 counties we serve and makes an effort to reach persons of different races, ethnicities, gender expressions, and sexual orientations equitably. While TVCH makes a conscious effort to attend events and interact with persons of different communities, reaching communities with whom we do not currently have contact is always the barrier. Currently, racial/ethnic minorities are overrepresented in homelessness within our region, and TVCH is continuing to develop relationships with organizations, faith-based communities, and other groups to reach those who are disproportionately impacted by homelessness. TVCH regularly attends pride events within our 12 counties to ensure we are reaching into the LGBTQ+ community. Still, with the current fear of safety surrounding these events, we know we are missing opportunities to interact with those who may need our programming most. Lastly, with homelessness being criminalized in Tennessee, those mentioned in the question above are more likely to have negative interactions with law enforcement, which decreases the visibility of folks within these communities during our community and street outreach efforts.

27. How have you addressed these barriers?

TVCH has created relationships with community leaders, organizational leaders, Persons with Lived Expertise, and faith-based communities to better understand how to reach underserved populations. We are also scheduling meetings with local law enforcement as well as speaking with local law enforcement during street outreach efforts to ensure they know TVCH and other partner agencies are able to serve as resources while determining how law enforcement and homeless services agencies can work together to serve our unhoused neighbors. TVCH is identifying organizations, faith-based communities, and other groups to partner with to better understand the needs of those of different races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and gender expressions. Lastly, TVCH is brainstorming ways to make our services more accessible to minority populations, including creating a plan to make webpages and key materials available in Spanish. Currently, we work with a local organization that provides Spanish translation services during certain outreach events and Helpline conversations.

28. Does your agency have representation of people with lived experience (PLE) on your Board of Directors, within agency staff, and/or within volunteers? Explain, what levels of organization has representation from PLE.

Yes, TVCH has People with Lived Expertise (PWLE) represented within the Board of Directors, volunteers, and the organization's executive staff. TVCH distributes anonymous client satisfaction surveys for program participants to give unfiltered feedback on the operations of the program and supportive services provided. TVCH ensures that any feedback provided by those with lived expertise is discussed internally and policies, procedures, and program delivery are altered to better meet the needs of our unhoused neighbors and those who are housed in our program. Having PWLE in executive leadership and on the Board of Directors allows the leadership to understand some of the barriers and hardships those experiencing homelessness face. Though there is lived expertise in leadership, TVCH uplifts the lived expertise of those who are currently or have recently experienced homelessness within our region to ensure our programming is shifting as the needs and the world around us shift.

29. How do people with lived experience influence the program design and operation of this project?

People with Lived Expertise influence all levels of program design and operation of the Coordinated Entry project. Those who are met through street outreach efforts provide direct feedback on the PSH onboarding process. This feedback often focuses on the requirements of eligibility proof, length of time to find housing, and the housing secured.

TVCH also distributes client satisfaction surveys for folks to give anonymous feedback on program operations and supportive services. Feedback from the participants is filtered back to agency leadership staff and is utilized to improve the PSH program operations, policies, and procedures.

30. Does the agency participate in TVCoC HMIS?

Yes

No

31. Does the agency participate in TVCoC Coordinated Entry System?

Yes

No

32. Describe the agency's involvement in the TVCoC.

TVCH operates as the Collaborative Applicant, Lead Agency, and HMIS Lead Agency. TVCH staff members are present on every committee and have representation within the Governing Council as Lead Agency. Our staff members work alongside other CoC Partner Agencies to evaluate, develop, improve, and implement policies and procedures for HMIS, Coordinated Entry, and Provision of Services. As Lead Agency, TVCH is consistently arranging training for CoC Partner Agencies, recruiting organizations, state entities, and local government into the CoC, and facilitating various meetings to further progress toward the goals of the CoC. As the Collaborative Applicant, TVCH is responsible for completing and submitting the Consolidated Application for the CoC Program Funding Opportunity. As HMIS Lead, TVCH completes the LSA, SPM Submission, PIT/HIC, and is integral to the development, evaluation, and improvement of HMIS policies and procedures. HMIS Lead is also responsible for facilitating conversations to recruit organizations into HMIS, train organizations on HMIS, and so much more. TVCH is proud to represent the CoC through all of these roles and is always looking for ways to better the CoC and provide meaningful opportunities to the CoC Partner Agencies.