

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-506 - Upper Cumberland CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: Homeless Advocacy for Rural Tennessee

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: Crossville Housing Development Corporation

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	Yes
2.	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.	Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	Disability Service Organizations	No	No	No
5.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	No	No	No
6.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.	Hospital(s)	Yes	Yes	No
8.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent	No	No
9.	Law Enforcement	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	Nonexistent	No	No
12.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	No
13.	Local Jail(s)	Yes	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	No

17.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes	No	No
18.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Nonexistent	No	No
19.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
20.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	Yes
21.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes	Yes
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	Yes	Yes
26.	Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	Other Victim Service Organizations	Nonexistent	No	No
29.	State Domestic Violence Coalition	Yes	Yes	Yes
30.	State Sexual Assault Coalition	Yes	Yes	Yes
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.	Veterans Services	Yes	Yes	Yes
35.				

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)

1B-1a

1)Serving on the HART Board is a Black female who is a member of NAACP and very active in her local chapter. Connie regularly promotes the services of the CoC with literature and announcements. It is her goal to be sure that this population is aware of the rental assistance that is available for those experiencing homelessness, as well as funding opportunities for the non-profits represented in those NAACP meetings. In addition to this formal affiliation, many in the membership of HART are reaching out to the Hispanic community. Based on feedback and CES calls, the Hispanic community does not experience a large amount of Category 1 homelessness. However, they are known to double up and are committed to multi-generational housing arrangements to provide housing for all.

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)

1B-2

1) June is the annual membership for Homeless Advocacy for Rural Tennessee (HART). To increase community awareness, a committee was formed to plan an in-person event where attendees were invited to join the CoC. This event was highly publicized, hosted by a local bank and hospitality was provided by current members of the CoC. Local, county, and state elected officials were invited and there was representation on every level in attendance. Besides the CoC email list serve, members invited local organizations who were new to HART and several joined the continuum.

The membership application is available on the website year around. The Board continues to research effective ways to promote membership, including social media options.

2) In addition to website availability for the membership application, the in-person event contained a virtual option for all whose attendance would have been hindered due to a disability.

3) An elected Board comprised of local leaders, community members and agencies, leads HART's efforts to prevent and end homelessness. HART has member agency representation from the Black and Asian communities, persons with lived expertise, and the LGBTQ+ community. Over the last year, HART has developed a new staff position within HART to expand efforts into the underserved areas of the 18-county region. This position provides CE training to various member agencies in rural communities, so that extremely rural and under-resourced communities can link unhoused neighbors with services immediately. The diversity in the HART Board, allows for the exploration of new approaches and the development of new procedures that are more inclusive and address the needs of the growing homeless communities in HART's 18-county region. With much of this region being rural, HART has determined that member agencies that serve in these rural communities require access to HMIS and the Coordinated Entry system to effectively provide services. HART has also developed a close partnership with law enforcement and regular contact occurs to continue education efforts regarding available services. For the first time, HART was represented at the PRIDE festival in 2024 where literature was distributed and the services/membership of HART were promoted. A Board Member is also a member of the NAACP, and regularly promotes HART in the meetings, seeking for potential members and generally informing them of the services provided by HART.

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)HART is growing. Outreach has been extended from staff, Board members, and the general membership to new organizations who have given cultural insight into every county with the CoC region. New organizations include faith-based entities, mental health/substance use providers, hospitals, law enforcement and more. In specific, HART has an MOU with Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency (UCHRA), who provides eviction prevention through the ERA grant. Over the last year, UCHRA spent \$761,761.92 to households within the HART region who were at risk of homelessness. This organization also provides LIHEAP and other services to those who are at-risk of losing their housing.

2) Part of CES promotion, is to attend all County Health Council meetings, resource fairs, round table discussions and local events, to share the services of HART and glean information that might be helpful to member organizations. Hospitals and law enforcement are finding ways to provide data that will help formulate gaps analysis and bring needed programs to areas. HART was invited to the Pride festival held in Cookeville, TN, to distribute pamphlets and engage with those that may be experiencing homelessness. HART also has a veteran case manager that is a member of the LGBTQ+ community serving veteran clients of member organizations.

3) HART literature is circulated among mental/physical health facilities. There is an effort to be sure that discharge planners and case managers are aware of the services of HART. The HART literature also contains TTY information for the deaf and all monthly meetings have zoom options. Many times, an advocate will assist the unhoused individual with the initial call to the hotline and begin the process of gaining assistance.

4)Working with area hospitals, law enforcement and community service providers, the CoC gathers valuable insight into preventing and ending homelessness. HART hosted Open Table Nashville, and several of the members have joined this initiative to talk about homelessness in Tennessee to solicit opinions and ideas from the public on strategies to prevent and end homelessness. Additionally, HART has joined a housing task force in multiple counties in which homelessness, housing and services that should be made available and offered are discussed regularly along with funding opportunities to pursue. These meetings have successfully garnered interest in pursuing solutions to homelessness from elected officials

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) In order to communicate funding opportunities, the CoC utilizes the HART website to announce the various NOFOs and ESG Grant Information. HART also shares funding opportunities at Health Council meetings, community events and notifies local government officials where there is interest in addressing homelessness. HART continuously implores agencies that have a vested interest in ending homeless in TN to join the efforts of the CoC and apply for funding to augment services already being delivered. The rural nature of HART’s service region often presents challenges for smaller agencies. HART is determined to break down barriers by facilitating trainings regarding the application process and aiding understanding on how HART is aligned with the strategic goals of HUD.
- 2) The HART website contains the current information about all funding opportunities, including CoC grants and ESG. Each NOFO is posted with a timeline. Contact information is listed on the website for any who may have questions regarding the grant process. Over the last fiscal year, HART has become aware of how intimidating this grant funding process is for non-profits who have a need for funding. HART closely partners with the Crossville Housing Authority and a representative from the Housing Authority has developed a training to assist agencies in navigating the application. A new strategy to invite new applicants was implemented by planning grant staff. The staff member goes to counties for round table discussions to explain the process and help communities determine WHICH non-profit might best be able to administer a grant. This has helped the process to be less intimidating, and has encouraged new applicants for the 2024 CoC NOFO and ESG.
- 3) The Ranking and Review process, threshold requirements, and scoring rubrics are all listed for public review on the HART website. All processes, procedures and scoring tools are updated with each new NOFO. Screen shots of all procedures, threshold requirements and ranking tools are attached to this application.
- 4) All information regarding the application process is listed on the website for the convenience of individuals/organizations who might have physical disabilities. In addition to the website, the HART monthly membership meetings are held by zoom, making them virtually accessible to everyone.

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	Yes
2.	Head Start Program	Yes
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)	Nonexistent
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	Nonexistent
14.	Private Foundations	Yes
15.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes
16.	Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Yes
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?	No
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?	No

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	Yes
2.	State Education Agency (SEA)	Yes
3.	Local Education Agency (LEA)	Yes
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)

HART has always collaborated with the county School Homeless Liaisons by visits from the outreach worker and providing literature/contact information to make the services of HART available in all 18 counties. Additionally, HART is hosting Zoom meetings with the county homeless school liaisons to provide education and knowledge of organizations in their area who might be helpful to the families they serve. The liaisons have become very familiar with the services of HART and make frequent calls to the office while they assist their families. Some of the county liaisons are now active members of HART and others have signed MOUs to show partnerships. Both members and non-members who are county liaisons are committed to helping with the PIT count and outreach committees of HART. For the 2024 PIT count, HART hosted a workshop to engage the school liaisons and case managers to assist with the count. The CoC has also taken an active role with the Counties who are setting up Resource Centers to serve the unhoused families in their communities. A few counties are attempting to establish non-profits and align themselves with the process of applying for outreach grants. These resource centers vary with the county, but some are providing laundry machines, clothes closets, school supplies, food banks, and are raising funds to help families in crisis to pay for a motel. These school liaisons are utilizing partnerships with churches and civic groups to stock their centers.

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)

Case managers, and agencies conducting intakes during the Coordinated Entry Process interact with homeless liaisons in the schools throughout the 18-county region. The schools fill out residency information that alerts to the potential situation of homelessness. Using the MOUs with County School districts, schools contact HART to offer services to students and families experiencing homelessness that present in school to the liaison. Posters are displayed throughout the schools with information available. HART also works directly with several resources centers that serve several school districts by providing washer/dryer access toiletries, and other essentials to students and families experiencing homelessness and/or at risk of becoming homelessness.

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	Yes	No
2.	Child Care and Development Fund	Yes	No
3.	Early Childhood Providers	Yes	No
4.	Early Head Start	Yes	No
5.	Federal Home Visiting Program–(including Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home and Visiting or MIECHV)	No	No
6.	Head Start	Yes	No
7.	Healthy Start	Yes	No
8.	Public Pre-K	Yes	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	Yes
2.	State Sexual Assault Coalitions	Yes
3.	Anti-trafficking Service Providers	Yes
	Other Organizations that Help this Population (limit 500 characters)	
4.		

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)There are currently 4 shelters for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault within the CoC membership. One of those have Board of Director representation. Their input coupled with the new guidance from HUD VAWA, HART has updated the Emergency Transfer Plan. These organizations also take turns providing education to the membership through monthly meeting features.

2)In partnership with the National Health Coalition for the Homeless, HART conducts trainings throughout the year during monthly meetings. The topics vary, but several trauma-informed and evidence-based practices for engagement have been conducted. Additionally, HART incorporates cultural sensitivity and gender-responsive training to ensure that the individual needs are recognized and new policies and procedures will be developed to ensure an equitable process for service delivery. The complex needs of survivors of violence and trauma histories that trigger episodes of homelessness is well recognized among the population served.

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)Safety planning protocols

The CoC has four DV shelters in its jurisdiction who are members of the CoC. One is a member of the Board of Directors. The CoC continues to review and seek improvement of its strategies for working with survivors of DV. Training is conducted annually on trauma-informed care for survivors of DV, and at least annually, domestic violence and sexual assault awareness training is presented by one of the DV shelter staff. Appropriate and sensitive language use is emphasized to avoid re-traumatizing individuals seeking assistance in addition to ensuring confidentiality in an active abuse situation. CoC policies regarding working with survivors are found in the CES policies and procedures and the emergency transfer plan. The CES staff train annually at the CoC training events and at least one training outside of the CoC sponsored training. Any new planning in the CES process requires staff training to ensure that the process remains seamless to prioritize safety.

2)Confidentiality protocols

There is a question on the CES assessment that gives the client an opportunity for a verbal ROI. This allows us to "share" information with program managers or case workers. If the client does not wish to grant the ROI, their information is not shared. HMIS is highly secured system and staff are trained to keep all personal information undisclosed from the public

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 CoC’s written policies and procedures do include an emergency transfer plan, and it was updated in 2024 according to HUD guidance.
- 2) In order to receive rental assistance through CoC funded programs, the client is required to attend a Voucher Debriefing, where the rights, policies and procedures are reviewed with every individual applicant. In accordance with HUD, HART’s Emergency Transfer Plan states that “if a tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same unity, or the tenant is a victim of a sexual assault occurring on the premises with the 90-date period preceding a request for an emergency transfer”, the tenant requesting an emergency transfer must expressly request the transfer in accordance with the procedures described in this plan.
- 3) As a part of the Debriefing (referenced in 1C-5e, 1) the HART Emergency Transfer Plan states, “a tenant must notify the housing program’s administrator or manager and submit a written request for transfer to that individual. The tenant’s written request for an emergency transfer should include either a statement expressing why the tenant reasonably believes that there is imminent harm, OR that the tenant was a sexual assault victim and that the sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90-day period preceding the request for emergency transfer.
- 4)HART’s new leadership includes a domestic violence/sexual assault shelter operator that has assisted in the updated Emergency Transfer Plan. This plan identifies tenants who are eligible for an emergency transfer; the documentation needed to request an emergency transfer; confidentiality protections; and how an emergency transfer may occur. In addition, it provides guidance for tenants on safety and security. The plan is based on a model emergency transfer plan published by HUD, the federal agency which ensures that HART and the CoC- and ESG-funded providers within its geographic area in compliance with VAWA. Within the housing and services provided, Trauma-informed approaches are embedded within service delivery. Agencies providing DV/SV/Stalking support and services are trauma-informed and receive additional training and support through HART’s collaborative learning sessions that are offered throughout the years.

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)

The HART CoC includes questions on the initial assessment concerning whether a caller is a victim of/fleeing from DV/SA. While CES may give them additional information about resources in the geographical area, they are also assessed to see if they qualify for any of the Homeless housing programs available through the CoC. Staff are trained to use trauma-informed language that does not convey victim blaming and asks questions that are understandable for all individuals. CoC policies regarding working with survivors are found in the CES policies and procedures and the Emergency Transfer Plan.

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)Domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence and stalking trainings are offered to all HART CoC member agencies. It is widely understood that homelessness, trauma, justice involvement and interpersonal violence overlap quite often. The expansion of member agencies and affiliates throughout the 18-county region, work to remove barriers that violence survivors experience, through education to a large amount of providers that include: law enforcement, hospital staff, substance use disorder and mental illness treatment staff, homeless school liaisons, shelter operators, transitional housing operators, outreach workers and emergency medical providers. Through these cross-sector partnerships, stigma surrounding domestic and sexual violence is decreased, while available services and awareness are increased.

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)There is representation from HOPWA serving on the HART Board of Directors. As policies (including antidiscrimination) are updated, these members provide the necessary input/trauma informed language to be sure that LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive equal supportive services, shelter, and housing free from discrimination from organizations who are funded through ESG/CoC grants.

2)Member agencies of HART are involved in internal audits addressing antidiscrimination policies. While each agency has programs that operate differently, these policies remain universal. LGBTQ+ service recipients are vulnerable to victimization and stigmatized responses when seeking assistance. HART ensures involvement with agencies adaption of anti-discrimination policies and responds to LGBTQ+ individuals and families with compassion and understanding to offer choices in available housing and shelters.

3)As part of the CoC monitoring process, each organization receiving funding is screened to be sure they are practicing the anti-discrimination policy accepted by HART.

4)If a CoC member agency who is receiving funding has been identified as noncompliant with the anti-discrimination policy, HART will develop a corrective action plan. As needed, HART will report flagrant infractions to HUD.

1C-7.	Public Housing Agencies within Your CoC's Geographic Area--New Admissions--General/Limited Preference--Moving On Strategy.
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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?
Crossville Housing Authority	17%	Yes-Both	No
Tennessee Housing Development Agency	0%	Yes-HCV	No

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

Describe in the field below:

1.	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
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2.	state that your CoC has not worked with the PHAs in its geographic area to adopt a homeless admission preference.
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(limit 2,500 characters)

1)HART CoC has a long-term relationship with one of the largest public housing authorities in the CoC. It is one of the few housing authorities in the entire 18-county area that administers HCVs. It prioritizes homelessness. The state agency, Tennessee Housing Development Agency administers HCV in the other 17 counties. HART has requested that they prioritize homeless persons, but they have not agreed to include such a prioritization. Most of the housing authorities do not have enough units to adequately cover their area. They prioritize the elderly and disabled and cannot fill those needs. The need is so high that most still have their waiting list closed and current lists have a large backlog. With homeless families needing immediate assistance, PHAs are not the answer in most of the communities. However, through outreach and education, three more housing authorities have put their membership in HART. They are restructuring and considering how they may be able to apply for HCV's in the future.

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	Yes
2.	PHA	Yes
3.	Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments	Yes
4.	Local low-income housing programs	Yes
	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	Yes

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.	
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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.	
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	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?	No

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.	7
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.	7
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) In the CoC’s written standards for PSH, it states that all CoC-funded projects will use the Housing First approach to promote the acceptance of applicants regardless of their sobriety, or use of substance, completion of treatment, or participation in services. The attached Housing First Evaluation is utilized in the review process, as well as one other time during the year.
- 2) HART will be able to determine if Housing First is being applied to projects based on comparison of unsheltered homeless individuals with sheltered individuals. By taking the data from unsheltered homeless, HART will be able to determine the causes of remaining unsheltered as compared to the number of available units. Additional performance measures must be met to satisfy this requirement in accordance with the requirements of the funding agency.
- 3) HART has a Housing first checklist that each grantee must complete outside of the ranking and review process. The questions are very specific to Housing First philosophy.
- 4) The concept of Housing First is often not accepted among very rural communities due to the lack of supportive services available. There are very few sources of case management and mental health services that will engage with an unhoused individual on the one-to-one level that is necessary. However, HART has conducted trainings during the monthly meetings and has set up peer coaching opportunities for those trying to learn how to implement the strategies. Through this, one of the grantees has adjusted their own organizational policies to further align with the Housing First Model.

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)

With an increase in persons with lived expertise in homelessness serving as HART board members and member agencies, the outreach strategy has improved. HART and agency members utilized peers (with lived expertise) to visit homeless encampments throughout the region. The peers offer assistance in the form of essential items, hotel/motel vouchers, referrals for services, triage for immediate needs and complete an intake form for submission into HMIS. Moreover, this engagement strategy involves police participation to decrease encampment sweeps, by immediately relocating homeless encampment resident to safe shelters/transitional housing.

HART is fortunate enough to have a Board Chair with lived expertise in homelessness. A new street outreach approach was formulated in which the Board Chair and peers visit homeless encampments directly to engage with residents. This has allowed HART to assist individuals with short-term rental assistance, vouchers, and other essential services. Additionally, this approach has been essential in building trust and rapport in the homeless communities throughout Upper Cumberland. Tennessee, being one of the first states to criminalize homelessness, has seen the negative effects related to criminalization. Individuals experiencing homelessness are more hidden and even more resistant to seeking assistance out of fear and legal consequences. HART's street outreach approach, coupled with newly established access points in rural communities has already experienced an increase in the number of individuals served. The rural access points are established within rural HART member providers that can complete coordinated entry forms and enter data into HMIS. HART's office staff provides support and technical assistance as needed to ensure data is captured sufficiently

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	No
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	No
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.	HIC	21	45

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) HART works diligently to disseminate new information or changes to existing resources during monthly CoC meetings as HART continues to expand its reach deeper into the counties served. Case managers access clients' health care needs and ensure that they access all available health resources to meet their needs. There is HART representation at local Health Council Meetings and Drug coalition in every county within the HART region and the hope is to have representation from the TN Department of Human Services at some of the members meetings as another path to coordinating care systems for the service area. 2) UCAssist, the digital resource navigation tool, is available on-line or through strategically placed Kiosks throughout the counties, accessible to anyone and updated regularly. UCHRA has office locations in each of the 14 counties served for facilitated access to MH and SUD treatment. HART also partners with many area agencies' that provide behavioral health services as well as physical health services in both in-person and telehealth format to extend the reach into rural communities, otherwise difficult to serve due to lack of broadband and other mainstream resources. Independence Again, a member agency of HART, provides residential SUD treatment, access to MAT and has PH options on site. Volunteer Behavioral Health, another member agency provides outpatient mental health treatment and serves the entire HART region. HART is working closely with area hospital to develop programs that will provide a secure housing placement upon discharge from the hospital, particularly for those that require follow up medical appointments. 3) The Shelter Plus Care Manager is SOAR certified and works through the Crossville Housing Authority. The services provided include obtaining health insurance and using County Health Departments and various free mental/physical health services. The use of the mainstream resources of HUDVASH and HCVs have provided more housing available for individuals/families experiencing homelessness. The collaborative applicant is the lead agency in addressing this performance measure and collaborates with the TN Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services' SOAR Liaison for additional support and assistance with certification and implementation. Volunteer Behavioral Health, a member of HART, is SOAR-certified and provides service to the many clients that enter into CES.

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) There has been an uptick of mobile medical units that have stepped up to provide services to homeless individuals within our region. HART has put great effort into connecting the services of these units to the homeless population. Churches and non-profits have been hosting well-advertised events providing treatment and immunization to those who would otherwise not be able to receive treatment. In addition to medical units, there have been mental health units, dental/vision units, HIV/HCV testing, and shower/hygiene units. These events generally have access to clothing and food as well.

2) HART partners with the Cumberland Medical Center, and Cookeville Regional Medical Center, both of which serve several counties in the HART region. Hospital policies prohibit exiting people to homelessness and the hospital makes every effort to connect people with services prior to discharge. In the event that an individual experiencing homelessness does not have a safe place to go, Cumberland Medical Center engages the local shelter/homeless services provider, Cumberland Fellowship (CF), a HART member organization, for assistance. If a patient will be discharging to homelessness, the hospital has an MOU with CF in which bed space is reserved and services are available. Regional Medical Center often pays for motels upon discharge for individuals experiencing homeless, while case management is provided to assist with seeking permanent housing options. These partnerships demonstrate the strong commitment that the Upper Cumberland region has to ending homelessness. Additionally, the lead applicant has partnered with the Putnam County Housing Authority, Highland’s Residential, on a 20-unit project for those at risk of/experiencing homelessness. This new partnership is prioritizing individuals that are experiencing homelessness and providing a project-based voucher for the newly created unit voucher for the newly created units with vouchers from Crossville Housing Authority. HART also works directly with member agencies that provide in-reach services to community members that will be exiting incarceration. The services provided prepare individuals for reentry to the community and offer resources to prevent 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)The most common ways our CoC shares information related to public health measures is through email and through the HART monthly meetings by zoom. In addition to a very diverse membership, approximately 100 other individuals/organizations receive our email blasts and invitations to HART meetings. Since the meetings are virtual, it is convenient for all to attend.
 2)HART and members of the CoC work closely with Health Departments in all 18 counties served for coordination of care for residents. Agencies providing congregate shelter services and conducting street outreach, follow all CDC guidelines on infectious diseases. Staff are equipped with PPE, including gloves, masks, and hand sanitizer. Agencies providing shelter, attempt to use non-congregate locations whenever possible to limit exposure to possible infectious disease. In the event of a severe outbreak in the community, agency providers will follow protocols from the CDC and the local health department and share information as allowed.

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 CoC’s coordinated entry system covers the whole 18-county jurisdiction. Covering the 6,000 square miles required the CoC to adopt a phone-based system and e-mail method. HART has also expanded HMIS to include an outreach position to work with the newly created access points within the 18 counties to accommodate individuals in need of assistance in the isolated, rural communities of the service area.
- 2)The HART CES has created an assessment form that is used for every individual seeking housing assistance. This assessment asks specific questions that will define subpopulations. Currently, the information gleaned on veterans is used on case conferences/by-name list meetings. With the new involvement in the statewide youth homelessness initiative, case conferencing/by-name list meetings will be developed for this subpopulation as well. HART is considering developing this strategy of case conferencing for multiple subpopulations who are assessed in CES. Guidance is being sought from other CoCs who have been successful with this plan. HART and member agencies conducting Coordinated Entry intakes are trained in trauma-informed engagement tactics so that the first encounter with utilizing the coordinated entry will create a safe space to discuss the services and resources that are available to individuals that are not at risk of or experiencing homelessness.
- 3) HART has increased the amount of trauma-informed/person centered training offered through monthly meetings for both CES staff and the general membership. This is creating an environment of safety for all seeking assistance through the CoC. Every effort is made to ensure and preserve the dignity of all.
- 4)The CES assessment tool is updated to accommodate the changes of each program that participates in coordinated entry. Such changes include varying income requirements, geographic coverage and HUD/THDA requirements

	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)CES covers the 18-county CoC consisting of 6,000 square miles, which necessitated the adoption of a phone-based system (also email and website form). To engage with hard-to-reach individuals that are less likely to apply for homelessness assistance, the CoC reaches out to agencies and other advocates that might have contact with unhoused population by attending community meetings and events. Staff/HART members leave rack cards and literature in various community places where the unhoused population is known to frequent. Collaborating with various community entities serves as another point of access for locating and engaging with those experiencing homelessness. 2) The current assessment/prioritization tool is designed to match services with the needs of the homeless household. The goal of CES is to make a strong, warm hand-off referral, even to an organization that is not funded through the CoC. This ensures that the ones needing the most help will be connected to the best resources available. 3) Partnerships with mainstream providers has demonstrated that those most in need often seek services from hospitals and have contact with law enforcement. HART has worked to secure partnerships with hospitals and is exploring strategies to develop respite housing for individuals that need additional medical care post discharge. The partnership developed with law enforcement targets frequent system users that are unhoused. Collecting data on these individuals will help shape better approaches to service delivery and advocate for PSH. 4) HART's CES consists of traditional phone calls and referrals in addition to newly formed homeless encampment outreach. Dialing the hotline will connect the caller to a referral for available services and shelter. Through the addition of access points throughout the 18 counties, individuals do not have to travel for an intake and to initiate available services. The unhoused in rural areas usually remain hidden due to the fear of incarceration, creating a homeless population that is extremely reluctant to ask for assistance. This method reduces travel burdens and increases the likelihood that individuals seek out resources as they are being served through agencies in their vicinity. Agencies conduct intakes and collect the needed information to assess individual needs. They have the advantage of knowing their local community, the locations of encampments, and other areas that individuals may spend time during daylight hours.

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) HART's anti-discrimination policy clearly states that all services and housing area available to all persons experiencing homelessness regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex gender identification, sexual orientation, age, familial status, disability or veteran status.
- 2) During the CE process, program participants are made aware of their fair housing and civil rights via Release of Information forms. The rights are verbally explained and participants are provided with a copy of the form that is signed, demonstrating acknowledgment.
- 3) THDA controls the consolidated planning process as the administrator of Federal ESG funding and appoints a TA to HART for guidance. The TA meets regularly with HART and holds a monthly State wide homeless services call, which solicits input from CoC's for the consolidated planning process. It is during this call that any violations or actions that impede fair housing are communicated and discussed to develop action plans to mitigate barriers and improve service delivery.

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.	07/22/2022

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) HART used data from the 2020 Census Bureau in each county, HMIS, and PIT count data to create the Racial Disparities Report.
 2) Using PIT count data, HART has identified that the Hispanic populations are severely underserved. HART is working diligently to providing training and assistance to CoC agencies on racial equity, systemic racism and cultural awareness in order to provide equitable outreach and services in a non-stigmatizing way that will increase community members' ability to access community agencies and other service providers will help provide awareness available services and destigmatize involvement with social service providers or minimize housing instability out of fear for repercussions. Limited English proficiency puts community members at further risk of victimization while experiencing homelessness. The Upper Cumberland area has a total population of 594,894 people. Of that amount, 18,378 people identify as Black (3%), and 25,178 (4%) identify as Hispanic. Using the 2024 Racial Disparity Tool, individuals identifying as Black comprise 9% of the homeless population while individuals identifying as Hispanic comprise 2% of the homeless population.

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?	No
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)

HART has been working on increasing educational training opportunities for community agencies and CoC members that address equity, elimination of bias, and providing person-center care. By equipping agencies and communities with a solid foundation of facial disparities that are occurring because of systemic racism, homeless individuals will have more of an opportunity to engage with the services in a non-stigmatizing manner. Trainings, supervision meetings, community meetings with an open forum for discussion and outreach strategies designed to meet people where they are, comprise the actions that HART is working toward to address disparities in the service region. Ensuring that all individuals have an equal ability to engage in services and have the same opportunities for safe housing remain critical for the 18 counties served.

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)HART intends to track progress in the prevention and elimination of disparities within the homeless services provided by increasing outreach effort to engage with non-CoC agencies and businesses. Due to the rural nature of the service region, HART has established relationships with more non-traditional homeless assistance entities such as churches, stores, and gas stations to broaden the scope of finding and engaging with unhoused community members. Utilizing peers that have lived expertise in homelessness to engage individuals living in encampments is proving to be a valuable method to ensure that the disparities within the access to services is eliminated.

Homelessness in rural communities may include more individuals residing in wooded areas or abandoned properties. By engaging with businesses in the area that supply food and other necessary items, more individuals can be identified and provided with services. Additionally, surveys and other success indicators such as prevention of homelessness through RRH, will be utilized to track progress of eliminating barriers to services for Black and Hispanic community members.

2)HART utilizes its own tool for Coordinated Entry, called “CES Initial Assessment and Priority”. This tool allows workers to assess the needs of each person and match quickly and efficiently those needs with available resources. HART also utilizes internal data collection from Law Enforcement and 2 area hospitals to determine the needs of individuals that have frequent contact with mainstream providers to drive new resources for housing and outreach. HART hopes to have data to report on over the next year. Through the hospital partnerships, individuals have been connected to resources through HART, while others were provided with emergency shelter and services that otherwise would have resulted in another episode of homelessness. This data along with the data entered by the outreach workers and the access points agencies will help ensure accuracy and identify trends within the services rendered to underserved Black and Hispanic communities.

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)

PIT count – many of the organizations who made up the PIT count committed to recruiting currently/recently homeless individuals to interview other individuals/families experiencing homelessness for the count. Several of the organization directors have lived experience as well, which strengthened HART’s multi-level implementation strategy of using lived expertise to destigmatize outreach efforts.

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.	2	2
2.	Participate on CoC committees, subcommittees, or workgroups.	10	13
3.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's local competition rating factors.	2	2
4.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's coordinated entry process.	2	2

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)

Professional development and Employment opportunities are very high on the priority list for member/associate organizations with HART. Most of the homeless shelters, DV/SA shelters, facilities for substance use rehabilitation, homeless housing programs and mental health professionals with HART have very strong working relationships with their local Work Force Development Agencies. Working to develop strong relationships also entails providing education and awareness to agencies. Individuals with criminal justice involvement experience additional barriers. To respond to this additional barrier, HART and member agencies have worked hard to provide awareness and education of the benefits of employing individuals with criminal justice involvement. Often these community members have additional supervision upon reentry and are often eager to obtain housing and integrate into the community. Community involvement and earning wages serve as motivation to acquire and maintain stable housing. HART considers this a very important part of living independently and an integral part of the re-entry process.

In addition to partnering with work force development agencies, many of the member organizations of HART have hired individuals with lived experience of homelessness.

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) HART openly recruits for feedback from persons with lived expertise to advise and help guide policies and procedures that shape best practices for service delivery.
- 1) HART regularly collects feedback from persons experiencing homelessness through the member organizations that provide housing and services.
- 2) HART has not established specific times of gathering information. Member organizations and organizations who provide housing and services keep the membership updated on the feedback they receive.
- 3)The clients who receive housing/services through CoC funded programs are encouraged to give feedback on which parts of the programs were helpful, or where addition barriers may exist. The CoC is “working with” funded programs to incorporate exit surveys/routine reporting avenue that will give a voice to those with lived experience of homelessness. As clear instruction is given and policies updated, it will be a question on the rubric for ranking and review.
- 4) HART gathers feedback regularly during monthly membership meetings and throughout the duration of service delivery.
- 5) Several committees have been formed to address challenges with accessing services, as observed by individuals with lived expertise. From those meetings, new outreach strategies have been developed. The Board President, with lived expertise in homelessness, leads efforts of outreach in the encampments along with several peers.

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)HART, the same as most of the CoCs are discovering, recognizes the need for more affordable housing that will prioritize homelessness and accept housing vouchers/rental assistance. Over the past 12 months, CoC Board members, membership organizations and associates have been attending meetings on a city, county, and state level to advocate for more affordable housing. Among the membership of HART is representation from County Commissioners, State Senator's Office and a Congressman's office.

2)HART continues to engage stakeholders, City/County Government and other entities that may influence regulatory barriers to housing development. Several member agencies of HART have been able to break down some barriers to the development of affordable housing and continue advocating for the provision of additional units. HART is also partnering with the Cookeville and Crossville hospital administrators that also supports ending homelessness and providing appropriate, affordable, permanent housing to develop a strategic plan for additional housing units devoted to homeless individuals exiting the hospitals. Additionally, several Board Members and member agency leadership staff drove to Nashville to voice concerns and denounce the criminalization of homelessness in Tennessee. The staunch support for decriminalizing homelessness from the leadership level models agencies' approach to increasing housing, supports, and resources to neighbors experiencing homelessness. HART's hope is that criminalizing laws are dismantled and that will lead the way for regulatory barriers to be broken down so that more affordable housing can be developed.

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.	No
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.	No
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1E-2a.	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. NOFO Section V.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., and 2.d.	
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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)?	200
2.	How many renewal projects did your CoC submit?	4
3.	What renewal project type did most applicants use?	PH-PSH

1E-2b.	Addressing Severe Barriers in the Local Project Review and Ranking Process. NOFO Section V.B.2.d.	
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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)As part of the ranking and review process, the committee reviewed the HMIS data, including the APR, SAGE reports, System Performance measures and Data Completeness Report for each agency applying for funding.
- 2)Due to the severe housing shortage in our geographic area, more subjective analyzation was given to the effort put forth in case management and assistance in finding housing.
- 3)The HART CoC has migrated the severity of needs/vulnerabilities priority scoring to the CoC via the coordinated entry system. Agencies receiving the CoC and ESG funding must take referrals from the CES.
- 4)The CoC considers lack of housing to be the biggest barrier to housing homeless individuals/families. Landlords do not want to accept housing vouchers due to the low dollar amount attached to them.

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.	
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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)The CoC has representation of people with diverse racial makeup in the CoC membership, on the Board of Directors, and on the ranking and review committee. The Board of Directors and member agencies are integrally involved in the decision making for determining the rating factors for project applications and provide essential insight into the way in which racial disparities affect service delivery.

2)Utilizing feedback and experiences from the Board of Directors and member agencies helps shape the approaches that need to be utilized in engagement and outreach efforts that destigmatize the utilization of services. While services always remain available to all people experiencing homelessness, barriers to accessing the services are still occurring. HART hopes that by utilizing feedback from persons of color, those barriers will be identified and overcome. Incorporating education on the root causes of homelessness will help agencies equitably meet the individual needs of persons experiencing homelessness.

3)HART leans into discussions regarding equitable service delivery with the CoC

Board and member agencies that have persons of color employed within the agencies. These individuals are integrally involved in the decision making for determining the rating factors for project applications by serving the Ranking and Review committee for this granting process. The unique experiences of this committee provide much needed insight that will help guide rating factors. Currently, the CoC's ranking process does not include preference or encouragement to the applications that may address issues concerning clients vs. homeless population demographics for their area.

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) Excerpt from the policies and procedures: “Currently-funded project applicants interested in voluntarily reallocating their project funding should notify the CoC program and review committee chair during the annual review process or sooner when possible. Project applicants who do not meet thresholds for the year during the competition will be notified in writing that they have one year to improve the project and to submit a plan of correction. The CoC will provide support and assistance to the project and will monitor the progress of the plan next annual review, they will not be eligible to submit a renewal application in the annual collaborative application to HUD and the grant funds will be reallocated to an eligible project based on the current HUD CoC NOFO. In the case of gross negligence or significant HUD findings, there may be cause to reallocate funds without a year of probations. This is reserved for extreme cases, and the decision will be made by the CoC Board of Directors.”

2) HART has not identified a low-performing project.

3) HART did not reallocate any projects.

4) Why your CoC did not reallocate low performing or less needed projects during the local competition.

Historically, HART has had little participation from area agencies that are willing to apply for funding. In recent years, HART has continued to engage in more partnerships, strongly advocating for the needs of the homelessness community and develop new plans for ending homelessness.

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?	Yes
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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?	Yes
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?	Yes
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.	10/11/2024

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.	10/11/2024
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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.	
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You must enter a date in question 1E-5c.

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.	
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You must enter a date in question 1E-5d.

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.	Well Sky
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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.	05/01/2024
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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)HART CoC has a very strong relationship with the DV shelters within the region.
 Regular monitoring – both virtual and on-site, include questions and verification concerning the database being HMIS comparable. All shelters are compliant with this standard.
 2)All CoC/ESG funded DV housing providers are compliant with the 2022 HMIS Data Standards.

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	269	77	203	75.00%
2. Safe Haven (SH) beds	0	0	0	0.00%
3. Transitional Housing (TH) beds	30	15	15	50.00%
4. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	45	0	45	100.00%
5. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	130	0	78	60.00%
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)HART will reach out to the organizations who are deficient to learn if there are barriers that could possibly be addressed. Every effort will be made to bring education and additional staffing resources where needed. Two out of the three organizations providing TH beds are domestic violence shelters. Both of them have both emergency beds and TH beds. The shelters were nearly full, but not as many people were enrolled in the TH program. Two of the emergency shelters had illness among the staff and were not able to be open at full capacity. One of them has closed down and did not notify HART. The largest organization with a transitional housing program is a faith-based mission who does not wish to participate in HMIS. HART continues to work on these partnerships with round-table discussions.

2)Through outreach, it has become apparent that the majority of these transitional housing and emergency shelters are not receiving any CoC or ESG funding. The expense incurred to staff an HMIS position poses a hardship on the institution that most feel is unnecessary. In 2024, HART has expanded CES and HMIS to include an organizational outreach worker who will set up these shelters as access points and collect their data throughout the year. This will allow the CoC to keep a closer look on the barriers to filling these beds. This will open an opportunity for education and learning about other resources. If this is resolved throughout the year, perhaps the PIT count would find them at a higher capacity coverage rating.

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.	01/23/2024
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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.	05/01/2024
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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)The DV shelters within HART’s region all participate heavily in the Pit count. These organizations have strong relationships with the county school liaisons in addition to their own contacts with youth.
- 2)The County School Liaisons participate in the PIT count to capture a complete view of youth homelessness.
- 3)While there may have been some youth who participated in the 2024 PIT count, this has never been a focus for HART since the numbers collected are historically low. HOWEVER, through conversation, the HART Staff/Board has become aware of an uptick in youth homelessness. HART has actively participated in a statewide approach to youth homelessness led by the Chattanooga CoC. The Chattanooga CoC was awarded funding for youth rental assistance and 4 AmeriCorps staffers to assist the other CoC’s with collecting this data. HART will be utilizing those services to establish Youth Action Boards across the 18 counties in hopes that the CoC will be able to identify and house 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)

1)For the 2024 sheltered PIT count, the CoC gave the interview forms directly to the DV/SA shelters, cold weather shelters, and the homeless shelters. The shelters agreed to conduct their own sheltered count and turn it in to the HMIS lead. They participated in their county unsheltered PIT count under the leadership of a county captain. Challenging member agencies with this task has revealed underlying educational needs on the importance of collaboration that can now be addressed by HART.

2)Since COVID, there has been an increase in homelessness across the HART region. It was clear from previous outcomes, that this picture was not adequately captured. Local organizations, who currently have a trusting relationship with the unhoused in their communities, hosted warming stations. In many of the counties, backpacks, hygiene items, socks, blankets, hand-knitted scarves and hats, \$5 McDonald's gift cards, and other items were collected and dispersed to those who were interviewed for this event. This did not replace going out to places where the unhoused are typically found, but it did draw them out to a safe environment for both the homeless population and those who serve them. One other strategy was increased provided to volunteers involved with the PIT count. HART provided training to PIT count volunteers to avoid mistakes on the forms and to appropriately interview individuals experiencing homelessness.

3)The 2024 PIT count was not affected by people displaced by a natural disaster, however, there has been an influx of people moving to Tennessee and it has created a crisis for both shelters and CoC funded programs who do not have sufficient funding for the increase in applicants for PSH. There are not enough units to house those most in need of housing.

4)Working through those who have trusting relationships with the homeless in rural areas produced a more accurate picture of this increase. Outcomes from this strategy include, 1) new organizations have joined HART and are applying for funding on this application to further their efforts for the homeless community. 2) It created interest to become more involved with/supportive of these service organizations...and to learn from them to exemplify this in other counties. Building on the work accomplished this year, new strategies are formulating for additional approaches to engaging with the homeless population.

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) During assessment and case management phases, case managers grow to understand the risk factors for homelessness which are often the same housing barriers that are often associated with homelessness and the fluidity households make up, to include domestic violence situations.
- 2) HART has always advocated that organizations apply for ESG’s homeless prevention funds in order to prevent first-time homelessness. There were 4 applicants in 2024, but none of them received funding. However, HART has a partnership with the Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency (UCHRA) which covers 14/18 counties. UCHRA applied for, and was funded through the ERA-EPP program through THDA. They were able to serve 794 individuals rental assistance in the amount of \$761,761.92. There was a small agency in Cannon County, and another in Scott County who had similar programs. CES has also become very informed of Churches and non-profits who will assist with Utilities/Rents for those who are at risk of homelessness. Together, these organizations have decreased the number of individuals/families thrust into homelessness.
- 3) The HART Board takes the recommendations from the HMIS/Data Committee and the Outreach Committee to develop strategies that will prevent first-time homelessness.

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)At the first contact with CES, an individual/family experiencing homelessness will be screened for available programs in rapid rehousing/permanent housing. In addition to this inside referral to a CoC funded program, the person will be educated about public housing authorities, churches and organizations who may assist with rent/utilities. There is a severe shortage of housing and landlords who will accept homeless vouchers within the 18 counties of the HART region. 2024 has been a year of creating new relationships with landlords and providing education to increase the number of units available.

2)The CoC will continue to mold its coordinated entry system in ways that best connects homeless persons to temporary and permanent housing solutions while streamlining the application process.

3) The HART Board of Directors oversees the CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.

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)The central theme to move those from a temporary housing situation to a permanent housing destination is to provide immediate assistance in completing the applications (include procuring needed documents) and helping find an appropriate landlord that will work with increased levels of need. With the ever-revolving coordinated entry system, the CoC now has the ability for a member of the CES team to go to the client regardless of location throughout the 18 counties and verify their homelessness and assist them with the project manner. The strategy is that the quicker we can get them moving on a path to housing, the more likely they will follow through before frustration sets back in. Support and guidance throughout the process is provided to maintain and advance progress as long wait times and complicated procedures and forms often act as impediments to completing the process.
- 2)HART partners with UCHRA (Upper Cumberland Human Resources Agency) once a family or individual obtains permanent housing. The program allows the agency to serve the lowest AMI families and individuals and provide them with the resources to lift them out of poverty. The program employs the use of navigators that align families and individuals with financial assistance and support in meeting their educational and vocational goals that will allow families to taper off public assistance as they build self-sufficiency.
- 3)The HART Board of Directors oversees the CoC strategy to increase the rate that individuals and families exit to or retain permanent housing.

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)Using the client list from the System Performance Measurement 2 report, the CoC can get feedback from their case managers on the factor on why they returned to homelessness. The data committee can provide analysis of the information to the planning committee that fine-tunes the CoC’s homeless strategies. HART is restructuring the HMIS and CoC HMIS/Data committee to meet quarterly to analyze data and submit findings to the membership and outreach committees. The structuring will provide a means to ensure that regular conversations on quality systems improvement are happening throughout the year.

2The current strategy rests with the housing stability case management. Most returns to homelessness are clients that are not able to use public housing due to unresolved trauma and unmet needs experienced while homeless. Individuals often experience anxiety, depression and other mental health and physical health challenges upon obtaining housing and need intensive support and connection to services. During the 4-12 months, participants are enrolled in the RRH program, they receive INTENSIVE case management, including job training, financial training, mainstream benefits and wrap around services, to set individuals on a path that will lead to more successful outcomes with stability in permanent housing. Several member agencies have funding source that allow them to assist with rental/utility payments, reducing the rate of returning to homelessness.

3)The HART Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing the strategy to reduce the rate of individuals returning to homelessness.

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)The CoC’s strategy to increase employment income begins with the project case managers completing financial counseling with the clients. The financial counseling class is conducted in a nonjudgmental manner to avoid blaming the client for the current situation. Instead, great efforts are made to help clients understand some of the factors that may have led to the situation and work with the client to develop a plan that is attainable for them. The CoC has become familiar with many new employers who identify as second-chance employers. A few of the county governments have received funding for employers to hire individuals experiencing homelessness. These methods have opened new opportunities for the homeless population.
- 2)The CoC advocates that agencies work with the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development, connecting clients to existing job openings or job-training programs to prepare clients for jobs for which they are not yet qualified. The American Job Centers assist clients in improving their opportunities in employment such as GED education and receiving training to improve their opportunities in employment such as GED education and testing, certifications, or apprenticeships. The American Job Centers also have services tailored to meet the needs of individuals that have criminal justice involvement. HART works closely with individuals that have prior criminal justice involvement as it is well known that these individuals can be difficult to place into employment. The process for this begins while individuals are still incarcerated and a plan is developed prior to release. Over the past year, HART has partnered with new agencies who will employ, and sometimes temporarily house those needing re-entry opportunities. A big push is on to recruit agencies across all 18 counties who will hire community members with lived experience of homelessness.
- 3)The HART Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing the 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)For the clients enrolled in the permanent supportive housing projects, the leading non-employment income concern is “Are qualified individuals receiving SSI/SSDI?” The primary strategy is ensuring the SOAR is available for these clients. Most of the RRH also have access to SOAR, but if not, they are screened and referred to an alternative agency to assist with disability processing. Case manager also monitor for eligibility for SSI. Through more CoC training and revived awareness, case management outside of PSH/RRH has begun to show an uptick of wrap around services and main stream benefits. It has been discovered that many individuals lose their benefits and do not know how to reinstate them, due to no established address. Organizations across the CoC are now helping clients to reinstate these benefits, often using the organization as a mailing address. The active involvement of the CoC staff/membership in County Health council meetings across the region has informed us that there is staff at local health departments to assist with TNCare and disability insurance applications. Many member organizations are facilitating the use of these services.

2)The Board of Directors is responsible for monitoring the strategy to increase non-employment cash incomes.

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)

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)

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
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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	Yes
2.	PH-RRH or Joint TH and PH-RRH Component	Yes

4A-2.	Information About the Project Applicant for the New Support Services Only Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) DV Bonus Project.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(3)	

Enter in the chart below information about the project applicant that applied for the new SSO-CE DV Bonus project:

1.	Applicant Name	Cannon County SAVE
2.	Project Name	SAVE

4A-2a.	Addressing Coordinated Entry Inadequacies through the New SSO-CE DV Bonus Project.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(3)(c)	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. the inadequacies of your CoC's current Coordinated Entry that limits its ability to better meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and	
	2. how the proposed project addresses inadequacies identified in element 1 of this question.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) HART has been working on improving the current CoC-CE policies and procedures. The Committee recognizes that there is an inadequacy in the way DV/SA referrals have previously been made. Since the five DV/SA Shelters within the HART region are in very rural areas, there is a gross lack of beds available. The CES works to remove barriers with victims by giving a warm hand-off to shelters where they can receive safe assistance. However, there has been very little tracking to see if the victim is being served.

2) Cannon Co SAVE has worked to coordinate with other shelters across the state - and even on the borders of some of the surrounding states. In the event that SAVE (or the nearest geographical shelter) does not have room for a victim, they will search the state to try to find assistance for the victim. The hope is that the CoC will be able to develop a form of a by-name list for victims similar to the VA by-name list. By name list meetings could, potentially be held to be sure that victims are receiving the best possible care. In all of this, the staff has been thoroughly trained on the importance of confidentiality for the victims.

4A-2b.	Involving Survivors in Policy and Program Development, Operations, and Evaluation in the New SSO-CE DV Bonus Project.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.j.(3)(d)	
	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) Lisa Baird, the Executive Director of Cannon Co SAVE, has lived experience of dating violence. She has hired a child advocate and case manager with lived experience of DV/SA as well. These staff members understand the victims and their lived experience helps them to relate to each individual who comes for help.

2) Cannon Co SAVE has two Board of Directors members with lived experience. These Board members help guide the Board to policies and procedures that will produce long-term help for the victims. They require regular trainings around trauma-informed/person-centered language. This empathy from the Board spills over to any staff who is not a survivor. It creates a warm, loving environment where victims feel safe and cared for.

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:	383
2.	Enter the number of survivors your CoC is currently serving:	25
3.	Unmet Need:	358

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) A survey was conducted among the 5 DV/SA Shelters within the HART region of how many survivors were served since January 2024 that needed permanent housing. This number includes the children/other family members living with the survivor. Some of the shelters utilize other housing methods, so we used the HMIS numbers of who was served through the CoC funded programs so show the number of survivors that are currently being served.
- 2) The HMIS carrier for the HART CoC is well-sky. The DV shelters use a comparable data base for their clients, but they typically have the client call the CES hotline to apply for housing. The CES hotline calls are referred through HMIS.
- 3) The CoC has several barriers in meeting the needs of survivors.
 - A) There is just not enough housing available - especially that will accept the homeless vouchers. Landlords can charge much higher rates than the vouchers will pay.
 - B) HART has only one organization who has been willing to apply for Rental Assistance. This organization has stretched its arms into the communities where domestic violence shelters are located in an effort to partner with the shelters to provide permanent housing for survivors. However, due to the growing number of homelessness, and the renewal funding cut back included in this NOFO, Crossville Housing Authority will no longer be able to cover all five counties that have shelters. Lisa Baird, with Cannon County SAVE, is attempting to provide the rental assistance for the survivors and homeless population in her county and those in surrounding counties.

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
Cannon County SAVE

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	Cannon County SAVE
2.	Rate of Housing Placement of DV Survivors–Percentage	60%
3.	Rate of Housing Retention of DV Survivors–Percentage	100%

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)How the project applicant calculated the rate of housing placement:
 Cannon County SAVE calculated the rate of housing placement by dividing the number of people who were placed in permanent housing by the number of survivors who needed housing. Some of the clients exited the shelter under different circumstances, and others are still staying on site.

2)Whether the rate for housing placement accounts for exits to safe housing destinations;

The rate for housing did include exits to safe housing destination which may have included moving in with family and friends.

3)How the project applicant calculated the rate of housing retention;
 Cannon Co SAVE has case management that follow clients at least one year after they exit the program – whether to housing or other destination, as long as the client is willing. This case management has been very successful because it is designed to meet the individual needs of each client.

4)the data source (e.g. comparable databases, other administrative data, external data source, HMIS for non-DV projects).

The shelter used their comparable data base, CAP 60, to calculate the data.

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)ensured DV survivors experiencing homelessness were quickly moved into safe affordable housing

To ensure that housing placement occurs as quickly as possible, shelter staff assists with housing applications, pay application fees, provides deposits & rental assistance, partner with local organizations to furnish the house, assists with poor credit if that is a barrier, and provides financial training to be sure the placement is successful.

2)Making determinations and placements into safe housing

When survivors enroll in the SAVE program, they set individual goals. The prioritization for permanent housing is based on the progress of these goals. All goals are set to remove barriers to becoming permanently housed and independent.

3)Determined survivors supportive service needs

The survivors are given opportunity to express their needs, concerns and perceived barriers to safety and housing during the intake process. The case managers use these concerns to help the client set individual goals. Whatever services are needed to achieve the goals are put into place immediately to the best of shelter ability.

4)Connect survivors to supportive services

SAVE has many community partnerships with professionals who provide services to the survivors at no cost. This, in addition to connect the survivors to SOAR providers and mainstream benefits begins the process of connecting survivors to supportive services.

5)Moved survivors from assisted housing to housing they could sustain-address housing stability after the housing subsidy ends.

A large part of individual goal setting includes employment training/options, and financial training. As case managers follow the survivor from the shelter into permanent housing, every effort is made to ensure the survivor has the skills and support to grow into housing independence. One such partner is UCHRA, who hosts a program called, "Empower Upper Cumberland". This program is designed to assist working families in getting off assistance and into wealth building to bring about financial/housing independence.

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) Taking steps to ensure privacy/confidentiality during the intake and interview process to minimize potential coercion of survivors.
 The intake process, along with private counselling sessions, take place in private rooms where the client is free to speak openly without being heard. The staff is trained quarterly on the topics of confidentiality and update strategies to ensure privacy.
- 2) Making determinations and placements into safe housing
 As permitted by the client, the case manager arranges conversations with the landlord and local law enforcement to be sure the location and logistic of the permanent housing unit are easily visible and patrol is increased.
- 3) Keeping survivors' information and location confidential
 One of the heavily enforced rules for SAVE residents is the confidentiality of everyone housed there. There is a zero tolerance for residents to disclose information about another resident OR THEMSELVES while staying in the shelter. A signed confidentiality agreement is part of the intake process.
- 4) Training staff on safety and confidentiality policies and practices
 The TN Coalition against DV/SA provides virtual and in-person training for the staff throughout the year. The Executive Director provides reminders and updated information concerning confidentiality during the monthly staff meeting as well.
- 5) Taking security measures for units (congregate or scatter site), that support survivors' physical safety and location confidentiality.
 When a housing option is determined, the survivor is equipped with safety planning (Ex: be sure windows & doors lock securely, and the door can be approached safely). Law enforcement is contacted and survivors are encouraged to become acquainted with neighbors who could be trusted, and who might be a resource in the event of an emergency.

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)

Cannon County SAVE has been serving DV/SA clients since 2016. By 2018, it became apparent that the property/facility was too easily accessible to predators and unwelcomed guests. An electric fence was installed complete with a coded gate for entrance to the parking lot and front doors. Later panic buttons were installed inside of the shelter to be sure law enforcement could be contacted in a timely manner. In addition to these improvements, The Executive Director and staff at SAVE have nurtured strong relationships with the neighbors living near the shelter. These neighbors have become very protective of the organization and its clients. They have been known to report suspicious activity and generally keep an eye on the property. SAFETY has been a very high priority and SAVE continues to watch for ways to improve the safety of all who dwell within, as well as their points of entry/exits.

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)Prioritizing placement and stabilization of survivors;
 Everything the ED and staff of Cannon County SAVE do (intake, goal setting, bringing down barriers, mental health counselling, stabilizing children in school, etc.), is done to achieve permanent and stable housing. Clients are dealt with on an individual basis, and their needs/barriers cover a wide variety of topics. However, EVERY client must be on a path to permanent and stable housing to remain in the program.

2)Placing survivors in permanent housing
 The staff at SAVE consider the needs and options of each client. Housing options include, permanent housing, Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid rehousing which are all available through CoC funded programs. Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) provides HC Vouchers, and veterans are referred to HUD-VASH programs. In addition to programs with rental assistance, local housing authorities, independent landlords, and living with family permanently are all considered. The staff is trained to assist each client with the application process and planning for whichever housing option the survivor chooses.

3)Placing and stabilizing survivors consistent with their preferences
 As previously stated in answer #2, the staff is trained to explore every available option of housing with the client. Sometimes that includes providing transportation to another City, County, or even state. Cannon County SAVE makes every effort to follow the lead of the preferences of each client.

4)Placing and stabilizing survivors consistent with their stated needs
 The staff at Cannon County SAVE are committed to really listening to the stated needs of the client and setting goals to achieve the desires of the client. All planning, training, therapy, and support is given within the bounds of survivor’s stated needs.

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) 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;
Example for not using punitive interventions: There is a rule that no alcohol or drugs are allowed on the property. However, if a client has been off campus and returns under the influence of such items, they are given opportunity to sleep it off in a private area. Only if the client becomes a physical/mental threat to other survivors would they be asked to exit the facility/program. SAVE has a serious track record of requiring staff to respect every client, regardless of religion, race, or any other perceived variable. There have even been instances of staff dismissal for violation of this policy. Clients are not approached as “beneath” or “less than”, no matter their circumstances.

2) Providing survivors access to information on trauma, e.g. training staff on providing survivors with information on the effects of trauma
Cannon County SAVE partners with two local, licensed counselors who provide weekly classes on the effects of trauma to the body and brain at no cost to the survivors. The counselors and the ED also hone in on prevention of re-victimization.

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.
As part of the intake process of Cannon County SAVE, a survey is taken by the survivor, which includes an opportunity to express strengths and weaknesses, as well as dreams, ambitions, and personal goals. These elements are taken into consideration as the case manager and client set the goals for entering the program. These goals are used throughout the tenure of the stay in the shelter program.

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
Located in strategic places (on web-site, in client handbooks, posted on walls throughout the facility) are statements and rules about nondiscrimination. Part of the intake process includes the signing of such policies, and coaching the client to value themselves and the other survivors, no matter of race, ethnicity, culture, religion, or gender preferences.

5) Providing a variety of opportunities for survivors’ connections, e.g., groups, mentorships, peer-to-peer, spiritual needs
It is a very high priority for Cannon County SAVE to stay informed of community events, clubs, church activities and groups that would be beneficial to their clients. Transportation is provided to a variety of churches and community events. SAVE also hosts cooking classes, basic mechanics classes and other skills-based training that will enable them to find peers with similar interest.

6) Offering support for survivor parenting, e.g., trauma-informed parenting classes, childcare, and connections to legal services.
One of the partner agencies, Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency (UCHRA), conducts survivor parenting classes. Clients are also connected to legal aid, and given assistance in applying for an attorney needed. SAVE has a court advocate on staff, but does not have funding for a child advocate at this time. Part of the funds of this grant would provide this service to the survivors.

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)

Child Custody – Cannon County SAVE assisted survivors to pursue child custody by utilizing the partnerships they have with CASA, DHS, Child Advocacy Center, Local Law Enforcement, providing necessary transportation to appointments and visits, and continues to provide group support for those experiencing similar challenges.

Bad Credit History – SAVE used case management to quickly assess whether survivors needed credit repair services. In partnership with the local Legal Aid, clinics are provided to assist with restoring survivor credit. This is often needed to obtain affordable housing for survivors whose credit has been damaged.

Housing Search and Counseling – Staff is trained to assist each survivor with a housing search and financial counseling to identify local landlords and apartments. SAVE also pays for the required applications and credit checks that incurred in this process.

Crisis DV Services – Cannon County SAVE employees staff the shelter 24/7 and are part of the TN 24-hour crisis helpline where trauma-informed support is readily given.

Long-term housing stability safety planning – A major part of permanent housing goal setting is safety planning classes, which develop long-term housing safety plans in preparation for the program participant exiting the project. This includes self-advocacy, systems advocacy, legal support, representative support, and community involvement.

Educational Services – Cannon County SAVE partners with the local community college to provide GED classes and move into college options.

Financial assistance applications are a part of case management, if the client has made this a part of their goals.

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) Prioritizing placement and stabilization of program participants.
 In the past, SAVE was dependent on Crossville Housing Authority (a small-town project 2 hours away) to provide rental assistance/vouchers for survivors who chose CoC Funded housing as their option. CHA is no longer able to extend their services to counties who are located so far away. This application for rental assistance will be used to replace that rental assistance for these victims and other individuals experiencing homelessness in Cannon and DeKalb counties.
- 2) Place program participants in permanent housing
 Often, the process of applying for/being awarded a homeless housing voucher (rental assistance), is known to be very lengthy. Bringing all of this in-house to the shelter where case managers can assist with gathering information and documentation, will make the process more expedient. The client will be directed to:
 - Permanent Supportive Housing through this CoC funding
 - Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) through THDA
 - HUD-Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)
 SAVE will continue to assist in local rental by program participant and connection with family or friends who are protentional permanent housing options.
- 3) Place and stabilize program participants consistent with their preferences
 Cannon County will continue with their policy of assessing each client at intake and establish the short-term and long-term goals of the survivor. This includes the high priority of permanent housing. The client will choose the housing programs and geographic locations that work best for their situation.
- 4) Place and stabilize program participants consistent with their stated needs.
 Cannon County will continue with their policy of assessing each client at intake and establish the short-term and long-term goals of the survivor. This includes the high priority of permanent housing. The client will choose the housing programs and geographic locations that work best for their situation.

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) 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
Example for not using punitive interventions: There is a rule that no alcohol or drugs are allowed on the property. However, if a client has been off campus and returns under the influence of such items, they are given opportunity to sleep it off in a private area. Only if the client becomes a physical/mental threat to other survivors would they be asked to exit the facility/program. SAVE has a serious track record of requiring staff to respect every client, regardless of religion, race, or any other perceived variable. There have even been instances of staff dismissal for violation of this policy. Clients are not approached as “beneath” or “less than,” no matter their circumstances.

2) Providing survivors access to information on trauma, e.g. training staff on providing survivors with information on the effects of trauma
Cannon County SAVE partners with two local, licensed counsellors who provide weekly classes on the effects of trauma to the body and brain at no cost to the survivors. The counsellors and the ED also hone in on prevention of re-victimization.

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.
As part of the intake process of Cannon County SAVE, a survey is taken by the survivor, which includes an opportunity to express strengths and weaknesses, as well as dreams, ambitions, and personal goals. These elements are taken into consideration as the case manager and client set the goals for entering the program. These goals are used throughout the tenure of the stay in the shelter program.

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
Located in strategic places (on web-site, in client handbooks, posted on walls throughout the facility) are statements and rules about nondiscrimination. Part of the intake process includes the signing of such policies, and coaching the client to value themselves and the other survivors, no matter of race, ethnicity, culture, religion, or gender preferences.

5) Providing a variety of opportunities for survivors’ connections, e.g., groups, mentorships, peer-to-peer, spiritual needs
It is a very high priority for Cannon County SAVE to stay informed of community events, clubs, church activities and groups that would be beneficial to their clients. Transportation is provided to a variety of churches and community events. SAVE also hosts cooking classes, basic mechanics classes and other skills-based training that will enable them to find peers with similar interest.

6) Offering support for survivor parenting, e.g., trauma-informed parenting classes, childcare, and connections to legal services.
One of the partner agencies, Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency (UCHRA), conducts survivor parenting classes. Clients are also connected to legal aid, and given assistance in applying for an attorney needed. SAVE previously had a court advocate on staff, but did not have the funding to continue with this position. Part of the funds of this grant would provide this service to the survivors

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)With a range of lived experience
 The Executive Director, along with several staff members have lived experience of DV/SA victimization. Their experience provides a necessary level of understanding and empathy toward their clients. It also provides real-life examples of experiences that can be shared with clients during counselling sessions.

2)In policy and program development throughout the projects operation.
 In addition to the ED and staff members lived experience, some of the members of the Board of Directors have lived experience of DV/SA, as well. It is very important to them to read, discuss, and implement changes based on the exit interviews and feedback of their current clients. Since they have been in this situation, they value this feedback and encourage policy updates and program development.

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		
1C-7. PHA Moving On Preference	No		
1D-10a. Lived Experience Support Letter	Yes	Lived Experience ...	10/16/2024
1D-2a. Housing First Evaluation	Yes	Housing First Eva...	10/16/2024
1E-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	Local competition...	10/16/2024
1E-2a. Scored Forms for One Project	Yes	Scored form for o...	10/16/2024
1E-5. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	Notification of P...	10/16/2024
1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	Notification of p...	10/23/2024
1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results	Yes	Local competition...	10/16/2024
1E-5c. Web Posting—CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	Web Posting of ap...	10/16/2024
1E-5d. Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes		

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		

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: Lived Experience Support Letters

Attachment Details

Document Description: Housing First Evaluation

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local competition scoring tool

Attachment Details

Document Description: Scored form for one project

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Project Rejected

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of projects accepted

Attachment Details

Document Description: Local competition selection results

Attachment Details

Document Description: Web Posting of approved applicants

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: 2024 HDX Competition Report

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

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Submission Summary

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

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	10/02/2024
1B. Inclusive Structure	10/16/2024
1C. Coordination and Engagement	10/23/2024
1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd	10/23/2024
1E. Project Review/Ranking	Please Complete
2A. HMIS Implementation	10/21/2024
2B. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count	10/21/2024
2C. System Performance	10/21/2024
3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare	10/21/2024
3B. Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs	10/21/2024
3C. Serving Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes	10/21/2024

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

To whom it may concern,

My name is Justin Veals, and I am the current Board Chair for HART, our CoC here in the Upper Cumberland.

I was born in Knoxville, TN, to a single mother named Cheryl Anne. My mom probably did her best, but my childhood was difficult. I experienced multiple types of abuse, leading to an existence defined by isolation and abject, toxic loneliness. These feelings led me down some very dark pathways. At 13, I began using drugs to cope with these painful emotions.

At first, drugs saved me. They gave me the ability to keep going. They didn't fix a single problem I was facing, but they made the problems seem less large, destructive, or important. They worked so well that I never learned any other coping skills for life's many hardships.

I first experienced homelessness as a teenager. My mother kicked me out because her new partner and I did not get along. I bounced from friend to friend, trying not to overstay my welcome. Some nights, I had nowhere to go. I would go to Waffle House, order a cup of coffee, and sit there all night, smoking cigarettes and drinking coffee until morning came. There were times when I would trade sexual favors, for drugs and a place to sleep, to older men cruising the streets looking for teenage boys like me. I kept my situation a secret from everyone. I used more and stronger drugs to cope, and by the time I was 19, I was addicted to heroin.

This lifelong affair with heroin had severe consequences for me and my loved ones. I was a terrible father, husband, and friend. I hurt everyone who dared to stand too close to the wrecking ball I had become. In my early 20s, I was convicted of my first felony and sent to state prison. At that point, I felt like my citizenship had been revoked. Although they don't word it that way, without my voting rights and bearing the stigma of being a convicted felon, I felt I no longer belonged. With my rights stripped, I became a second-class citizen—less than human.

All of this reinforced the shame from my childhood trauma, driving my substance use and criminal behavior. I was in and out of jail, unable to hold down a job, and sinking deeper into the underworld of my hometown.

At 30, I found myself on the streets again.

I lived in that world for the next six years, existing in back alleyways, trap motels, and the hidden corners of Knoxville. I sought out bigger and better experiences to cope. I experienced suicidal thoughts. I spent time in detox units, psych wards, and stabilization units. I felt hopeless. I wished for death. On three occasions, I overdosed and almost died from heroin use. Nothing stopped me, nothing slowed me down. Life felt never-ending, each day worse than the last. The final six months of my addiction were the most difficult.

It all ended on April 13, 2018, when I was arrested by the Knoxville Police Department. I weighed 150 pounds and hadn't slept in almost two weeks. I was at the end of my rope. For months, I had wanted to quit, but I didn't know how to live without drugs.

I spent nine months in the Knox County Jail, waiting for a plea deal. Eventually, I pled guilty to a Class B felony with the agreement that I would complete treatment before sentencing and be placed on ten years of probation. I went to treatment, and for the first time, I was ready to

hear the message of recovery. I struggled, and some days I wanted to leave and get high. Despite that, I completed treatment. I was sentenced to probation, and I moved to Cookeville, TN, to start over.

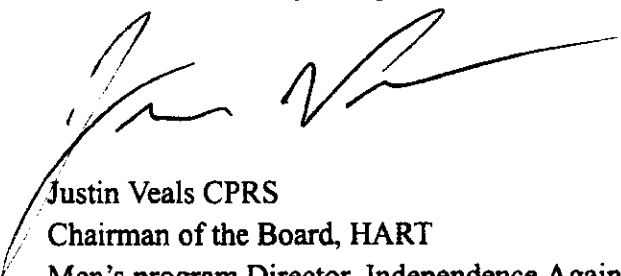
I have since built a new life. I attribute my recovery to my engagement in service to my community. After gaining some clean time, I was hired to start and run a men's therapeutic sober living program. We admit men who are trying to change their lives, offering them a safe place to do so. I am a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist, using my personal experience, along with continuing education in mental health and substance use, to teach healthy coping skills and model healthy behavior. I also facilitate Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) classes for my residents, a cognitive behavioral program shown to reduce recidivism. I oversee three locations and 48 beds for the small non-profit where I work.

Life today is good.

I became involved with HART a few years ago. At the time, I was very new to the world of non-profit work. During my first term on the board, I became Vice Chair. I didn't seek re-election and the end of my term in order to focus on my other work in the community. My wife and I started a project called The Recovery Kitchen. It's our personal way to give back to our community and help our neighbors experiencing homelessness in Putnam County. We currently serve 100 hot and homemade meals that are hand delivered by our volunteers who are all in recovery from substance use and dedicated to giving back. We also provide basic necessities and assist with any immediate needs that we can. We also run resource events multiple times a year that feature service providers, hair cuts, narcan training, hiv and hep-c testing and so much more. Our mission is compassion without expectation.

My work with these organizations has shown me the many intersectional issues we must understand if we are to build and run programs that not only help but also avoid harming the individuals we serve. This year, I was asked if I wanted to run for the board again. I was voted onto the board and named Chairman by my fellow members.

My lived experience with homelessness, trauma, substance use, mental health, and incarceration gives me a unique perspective on these issues. I spend most of my time advocating for the people we serve with our community leaders. I promote compassion and understanding. I do everything I can to humanize the diverse, overlapping communities represented by both the unhoused and the prison population. My life is about service, and I see HART as an extension of the work I'm already doing.



Justin Veals CPRS
Chairman of the Board, HART
Men's program Director, Independence Again
Co-founder of The Recovery Kitchen

To whom it may concern,

I am writing today about my personal journey and how it connects to the work I do with The Recovery Kitchen and the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count for our Continuum of Care.

There was a time when I didn't have a place to call home. My husband and I have both faced homelessness, substance use, and incarceration. It's an experience that stays with you in ways I can't fully explain. When you're out there, it feels like the world is moving around you, but you're stuck, unseen and unheard. It's scary, lonely, and hard to find hope. But what's harder is how quickly people forget that homelessness isn't just a number, it's people—people like us.

Those experiences drive me to do the work I do now. The Recovery Kitchen is a way for us to give back and support those who are going through what we went through. We provide hot meals, a friendly face, and any other resources we can to those who need it most. The people we serve aren't just clients to me—they're my neighbors, and I understand the challenges they face because I've been there.

I also help with the Point in Time Count because I believe it's important to make sure no one is overlooked. When I'm out there talking to people who are struggling, it reminds me of how far I've come and how important it is that we keep fighting for real solutions. Everyone deserves to be seen, heard, and supported.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Veals". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melissa Veals
Co-Founder, The Recovery Kitchen

Christopher Wayne Troutt
255 Kacie Ave.
Cookeville, TN 38501
ctroutt@independenceagain.org

To whom it may concern.

I am writing to share my lived experience with homelessness and my current involvement in the Point in Time Count for the Continuum of Care (CoC).

Having experienced homelessness firsthand, I understand the profound challenges and stigmas that come with it. There were times when I felt invisible, navigating a system that often seemed unresponsive to the needs of individuals like me. The lack of stable housing not only affected my physical health but also took a toll on my mental well-being. I experienced feelings of isolation, fear, and uncertainty about the future.

However, my journey has also been marked by resilience and hope. With the support of local organizations and community members, I was able to find the resources I needed to regain my footing. This transformation has inspired me to give back to others who are still struggling.

Currently, I am actively involved in the Point in Time Count, an initiative that gathers crucial data on homelessness in our community. Participating in this count has been incredibly rewarding, allowing me to use my experiences to help others. I am committed to ensuring that those who are homeless feel seen and heard. Through this work, I aim to advocate for better resources and policies that address the root causes of homelessness.

I believe that data collection is essential, not just for understanding the scope of homelessness, but for shaping effective solutions. Each person counted represents a story, a struggle, and a life that deserves acknowledgment and support.

Thank you for considering my perspective. I am hopeful that my involvement in the Point in Time Count can contribute to meaningful change and help create a community where everyone has a place to call home.



Christopher Wayne Troutt, CPRS
Sober Living Director, Independence Again

HART Housing First / Low Barrier Checklist

This checklist is to determine how in line with Housing First a CoC Program project is. HART expects CoC projects to have as few barriers as possible for initial and continued enrollment.

In order to maximize points on the project scoring during CoC Program competition, any answer of "No" or "Yes, but" requires a written or oral response as to why. "Yes, but" means that the project mostly meets the standard, but not totally. A reason might be due to a federal, state, or local law or ordinance that requires the restriction. Also, the committee must consider if there are access limitations to supportive services due to the rural community.

Yes No Yes, but	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.
Yes No Yes, but	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."
Yes No Yes, but	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.
Yes No Yes, but	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.
Yes No Yes, but	Housing and service goals and plans are highly tenant-driven.
Yes No Yes, but	Supportive services emphasize engagement and problem-solving over therapeutic goals.
Yes No Yes, but	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.
Yes No Yes, but	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.
Yes No Yes, but	Substance use in and of itself, without other lease violations, is not considered a reason for eviction.
Yes No Yes, but	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.
Yes No Yes, but	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.

By signing below, the CoC Program applicant verifies that the answers above are correct.

Agency and Project(s): _____

Signature

Printed Name

Date

Is there an attached response to "No" and "Yes, but" answers? Yes No

4/1/23 - 3/31/24

2024 HART Renewal Permanent Supportive Housing Scoring Rubric

Agency: _____ Project: HOPE

Weight	Criteria Category	Renewal Evaluation Criteria	Source of Criteria And Calculation	Points	Score
40%	SPM/ APR NOTE: DV Agencies will generate data from their comparable database	1. Occupancy / average unit utilization	APR Q8b vs 2 Unit utilization rate	<input type="checkbox"/> 20 pts for >95% <input type="checkbox"/> 15 pts for 90-95% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 pts for 85-89% <input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts for 80-84% *Explanation <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts for <80%	16
		2. Extent to which persons who exit homelessness to PH destinations return to homelessness.	SPM 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 15 pts: All 3 parts = 0 <input type="checkbox"/> 12 pts: 2/3 = 0 and 3 rd improved <input type="checkbox"/> 9 pts: 1/3 = 0 and other 2 improved <input type="checkbox"/> 6 pts: 2/3 = 0 or improved and 3 rd stable <input type="checkbox"/> 3 pts: 2/3 = 0 or improved and 3 rd decreased <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts: All others	15
		3. Percentage of participants who increased income.	SPM 4-3 and 4-6 merged	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 pts: >49% w/no decrease <input type="checkbox"/> 9 pts: > 49% and decreased <input type="checkbox"/> 8 pts: 25-49% CY & increased from PY <input type="checkbox"/> 7 pts: 25-49% CY & no change <input type="checkbox"/> 6 pts: 25-49% CY & decreased from PY <input type="checkbox"/> 3 pts: <25% & increased from PY <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts: All others	12
		4. Percentage of participants who remain in PSH or exited to permanent housing	SPM 7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 15 pts: 100% <input type="checkbox"/> 12 pts: >79% w/improvement <input type="checkbox"/> 9 pts: > 79% w/o improvement <input type="checkbox"/> 6 pts: 70-79% w/improvement <input type="checkbox"/> 3 pts: 70-79% w/o improvement <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts: <70%	15
		5. Leavers who exit to shelter, streets or unknown	APR Q23c (Homeless shelter + place not meant for human habitation + unknown destinations) / (total leavers - deceased)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18 pts for <6% <input type="checkbox"/> 9 pts for 6-20% <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts for >20%	18
20%	Severity of Needs	6. Housing high priority subpopulations	HMIS – APR Q5a % of new clients in project who were chronically homeless, veterans, youth, or families w/children at entry (if no new clients, use current)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 pts for 75-100% <input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts for 25-74% <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts for 0-24%	10
		7. Agency identifies barriers to reaching persons of different races, ethnicities, or gender orientation.	Anti-discrimination policy and implementation.	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 pts for satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts for concerns <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts for unsatisfactory	5
		8. Connection to mainstream resources	Evidence from agency	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 pts for satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts for concerns <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts for unsatisfactory	5
		9. Does not screen out potential clients for barriers unless imposed by federal, state, or local law or ordinance.	HART Housing First Checklist	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 pts for satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts for concerns <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts for unsatisfactory	10
10%	HMIS & Data Quality	10. HMIS data quality standards	HMIS Data Quality Report (Null) Missing data column	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18 pts if all UDEs have nulls <6% <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pt less from 10 for each UDE >5% null	18
		11. HMIS timeliness	APR Q6e % of clients entered in HMIS IAW HMIS P/P timeliness standards (Current timeliness standards approved on 9/14/17)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 pts for 90-100% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 pt for 50-90% <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts for <50%	1
Subtotal Page 1:					119

PSH Project:

Weight	Criteria Category	Renewal Evaluation Criteria	Source of Criteria And Calculation	Points	Score
10%	Financials	12. Audit review	Audit submitted by agency	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts if audit shows agency as a low-risk auditee & no findings <input type="checkbox"/> 3 pts if audit shows agency as low risk auditee or agency has no findings <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts if audit shows agency high risk auditee AND findings	5
		13. Expenditure of funds	APR Q28 and document demonstrating amount awarded (Expended funds / Awarded amount)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts for >90% <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 pts if < 90% and reallocated 80% unexpended funds, otherwise <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts	4
		14. Cost effectiveness	Ranking committee review of agency response to per household cost comparisons between renewal projects	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts for satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> 3 pts for concerns <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts for unsatisfactory	3
		15. Timely draws	LOCCS Minimum of quarterly draws	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 pts for yes <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts for no	5
10%	CoC Participation	16. Attendance at membership meetings	HART Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 pts for >74% <input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts for 50-74% <input type="checkbox"/> 0 pts for <50%	10
		17. PIT count involvement	PIT Committee Chair or another designated person	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts for participating in the PIT count committee and PIT count <input type="checkbox"/> 3 pts for participating in PIT count committee only <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pt for participating in PIT count only	5
		18. CoC committee (other than PIT) involvement	HART Secretary/Committee Chairs	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 pts if a member of agency was a committee chair and held quarterly meetings <input type="checkbox"/> 3 pts if a member of agency was on a committee and attended at least 75% of meetings	5
10%	Review of Overall Project	19. Review of monitoring overall evaluation	Agency answers to committee question concerning barrier strategies to end homelessness.	Up to 20 points	20
Subtotal Page 2:					57
Subtotal Page 1:					119
Total Points:					176
Bonus	+ 5				
Total Points After Bonus and Penalty:					

Ranking Committee Chair Certification:



 Justin Veals
 10-3-24

Signature
 (Printed Name)
 (Date)



Homeless Advocacy for Rural Tennessee
P.O. Box 3311, Crossville, TN 38557

October 11, 2024

Shelia Fann
Homeless of McMinnville Effort
PO Box 301
McMinnville, TN 37111

Dear Ms. Fann,

Thank you so much for your effort and time in applying to the CoC Collaborative Application. You are a valued member of HART, and your hard work at HOME does not go unnoticed.

We regret to inform you that your application for the Social Services Only – Coordinated Entry Grant did not meet the threshold requirements of that grant.

In reviewing your application, and considering your interview, the committee recommends that you look into the funding opportunities found in the ESG funding that is offered by Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) in the spring.

As always, please let us know how the HART CoC can serve you in your mission with HOME.

Respectfully Submitted,



Justin Veals,
HART Board Chairman
Ranking and Review Committee Chairman