

Kentucky Balance of State Continuum of Care

2023 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Local Competitive Application Scoring, Ranking, and Reallocation Process

Approved by the KY BoS CoC Advisory Board August 7, 2023

This document includes the funding priorities and description of the scoring criteria, ranking, and reallocation process used by the Kentucky Balance of State Continuum of Care (KY BoS CoC) to score and rank Renewal, Expansion, and New Project Applications for inclusion in the KY BoS CoC's 2023 Consolidated Application to HUD for the 2023 CoC Program Competition.

I. Purpose:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\) for the Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2023 Continuum of Care \(CoC\) Program Competition and Renewal or Replacement of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Grants](#) on July 5, 2023. All interested applicants within the 118 counties comprising the Kentucky Balance of State Continuum of Care (KY BoS CoC), including current direct recipients and Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) subrecipients applying for renewal funding and all new project applicants, are expected to read the 2023 NOFO in its entirety to ensure its project design is consistent with HUD policy priorities and requirements.

The KY BoS CoC is seeking applicants committed to local and HUD policy priorities to ensure homelessness in Kentucky is rare, brief, and non-recurring, including:

- Renewal applicants;
- First-time applicants;
- Organizations not currently receiving CoC funding;
- Organizations serving victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
- Youth providers.

The KY BoS CoC Advisory Board charged the Scoring and Ranking Committee with developing a process and selection criteria to evaluate and rank projects per HUD's instructions and policy priorities as outlined in the 2023 NOFO. Using the approved criteria, projects will be scored and ranked by the KY BoS CoC's Collaborative Applicant, KHC. The ranking will be shared publicly and with the KY BoS Advisory Board for its approval prior to submission to HUD.

This document will outline the process and priorities that will be utilized by the KY BoS CoC when scoring and ranking projects to be included on the Priority Listing of projects with the CoC's Consolidated Application submission to HUD. The scoring criteria are intended to prioritize projects based on performance outcomes associated with achieving CoC system-wide goals and commitment to HUD and local policy priorities. The ranking of projects based on the objective scoring criteria may result in funding being reallocated from lower performing projects to higher performing projects or to new projects better aligned with policy priorities that will improve the CoC's overall performance and better respond to the needs of persons experiencing homelessness in the Balance of State.

As stated in the 2023 NOFO, Round 1 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) projects eligible for renewal will be scored and ranked alongside other non-YHDP projects. This means all KY BoS YHDP projects will compete in this year's competition.

II. KY BoS CoC Policy Priorities

The KY BoS CoC policy priorities reflect a commitment to the priorities set by HUD in the 2023 CoC NOFO. The KY BoS CoC's policy priorities are rooted in its commitment to developing a homeless response system that ensures homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

HUD Priorities

HUD Strategic Goals

HUD's Strategic Plan sets the direction and focus of our programs and staff to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality, affordable homes for all. The 2023 NOFO supports [HUD's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years \(FY\) 2022-2026](#) to accomplish HUD's mission and vision. Each of the five goals in the Strategic Plan include what HUD hopes to accomplish, the strategies to accomplish those objectives, and the indicators of success.

HUD will pursue two overarching priorities focused on increasing equity and improving customer experience across all HUD programs. Five strategic goals and several objectives undergird the Plan; however, the follow goals are applicable to this NOFO:

Applicable Goals and Objectives from HUD's Strategic Plan

1. Strategic Goal 1: **Support Underserved Communities** Fortify support for underserved communities and support equitable community development for all people.
2. Strategic Goal 2: **Ensure Access to and Increase the Production of Affordable Housing** Ensure housing demand is matched by adequate production of new homes and equitable access to housing opportunities for all people.
3. Strategic Goal 3: **Promote Homeownership** Promote homeownership opportunities, equitable access to credit for purchase and improvements, and wealth-building in underserved communities.
4. Strategic Goal 4: **Advance Sustainable Communities** Advance sustainable communities by strengthening climate resilience and energy efficiency, promoting environmental justice, and recognizing housing's role as essential to health

While the text below includes direct excerpts from the 2023 NOFO, all project applicants should review HUD's policy priorities included in the NOFO (Section I.4.b.: HUD's Homeless Policy Priorities) for a complete description of the overarching focus areas, which include:

1. **Ending homelessness for all persons:** In 2022, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) presented All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness to the President and Congress. The plan is built around six pillars: three foundations—equity, data and evidence, and collaboration—and three solutions—housing and supports, crisis response, and prevention. The work funded through this NOFO will support the actions and strategies proposed within the pillars. To end homelessness, CoCs should identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness. CoCs should measure their performance based on local data that consider the challenges faced by all subpopulations experiencing homelessness in the geographic area (e.g., veterans, youth, families, those experiencing chronic homelessness, and people with disabilities, including those living with HIV/AIDS). CoCs should partner with housing, health care, and supportive services providers to

expand housing options, such as permanent supportive housing, housing subsidies, and rapid rehousing. Additionally, CoCs should use local data to determine the characteristics of individuals and families with the highest needs and longest experiences of homelessness to develop housing and supportive services tailored to their needs.

- 2. Using a Housing First approach:** Housing First prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and does not have service participation requirements or preconditions. CoC Program funded projects should help individuals and families move quickly into permanent housing, and CoCs should measure and help projects reduce the length of time people experience homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should engage landlords and property owners to identify housing units available for rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing participants, remove barriers to entry, and adopt client-centered service methods. HUD encourages CoCs to assess how well Housing First approaches are being implemented in their communities.
- 3. Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness:** In recent years, the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness has risen significantly, including a rising number of encampments in many communities across the country. People living unsheltered have extremely high rates of physical and mental illness and substance use disorders. CoCs should explore all available resources, including CoC and ESG funded assistance, housing subsidies, and supportive services to provide permanent housing options for people who are unsheltered. CoCs should work with law enforcement and their state and local governments to eliminate policies and practices that criminalize homelessness.
- 4. Improving System Performance:** CoCs should be using system performance measures (e.g., average length of homeless episodes, rates of return to homelessness, rates of exit to permanent housing destinations) to determine how effectively they are serving people experiencing homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should use their Coordinated Entry process to promote participant choice, coordinate homeless assistance and mainstream housing, and services to ensure people experiencing homelessness receive assistance quickly, and make homelessness assistance open, inclusive, and transparent. CoCs should review all projects eligible for renewal in FY 2023 to determine their effectiveness in serving people experiencing homelessness, including cost-effectiveness. CoCs should also look for opportunities to implement continuous quality improvement and other process improvement strategies.
- 5. Partnering with Housing, Health, and Service Agencies:** Using cost performance and outcome data, CoCs should improve how all available resources are utilized to end homelessness. This is especially important as the CARES Act and American Rescue Plan have provided significant new resources to help end homelessness. HUD encourages CoCs to maximize the use of mainstream and other community-based resources when serving persons experiencing homelessness and should:

(a) Work closely with public and private healthcare organizations and assist program participants to receive primary care, receive housing related services, and obtain medical insurance to address healthcare needs. This includes developing close partnerships with public health agencies to analyze data and design approaches that reduce homelessness, improve the health of people experiencing homelessness, and prevent and address disease outbreaks, including HIV/AIDS.

(b) Partner closely with PHAs and state and local housing organizations to utilize coordinated entry, develop housing units, and provide housing subsidies to people experiencing homelessness. These partnerships can also help CoC Program participants exit permanent supportive housing through Housing Choice Vouchers and other available housing options. CoCs and PHAs should especially work together to implement targeted programs such as Emergency Housing Vouchers, HUD-VASH, Mainstream Vouchers, Family Unification Program (FUP) Vouchers, and other housing voucher programs targeted to people experiencing homelessness. CoCs should coordinate with their state and local housing agencies on the utilization of new program resources provided through the Homelessness Assistance and Supportive Services Program (HOME-ARP) that was created through the American Rescue Plan.

(c) Partner with local workforce development centers to improve employment opportunities.

(d) Work with Tribal organizations to ensure that Tribal members can access CoC funded assistance when a CoC's geographic area borders a Tribal area.

- 6. Racial Equity:** In nearly every community, Black, Indigenous, and other people of color are substantially over-represented in the homeless population. HUD is emphasizing system and program changes to address racial equity within CoCs. Responses to preventing and ending homelessness should address racial inequities to ensure successful outcomes for all persons experiencing homelessness using proven approaches, such as: developing a coordinated community response created in partnership with a racially diverse set of stakeholders and people experiencing homelessness and partnering with organizations with experience serving underserved populations. CoCs should review local policies, procedures, and processes with attention to identifying barriers that result in racial disparities and taking steps to eliminate barriers to improve racial equity and to address disparities.
- 7. Improving Assistance to LGBTQ+ Individuals:** Discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation manifests differently for different individuals and often overlaps with other forms of prohibited discrimination. CoCs should address the needs of LGBTQ+, transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary individuals and families in their planning processes. Additionally, when considering which projects to select in their local competition to be included in their application to HUD, CoCs should ensure privacy, respect, safety, and access regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation in projects. CoCs should also consider partnering with organizations with expertise in serving LGBTQ+ populations.
- 8. Persons with Lived Experience:** The people who know best what solutions will effectively end homelessness are those who are experiencing homelessness. HUD expects CoCs to include

people with lived homeless expertise and experience in their local planning and decision-making process. People with lived experience should determine how local policies may need to be revised and updated to improve the effectiveness of homelessness assistance programs, including participating in planning and oversight activities, and developing local competition processes. CoC leaders and stakeholders should prioritize hiring people who have experienced homelessness in areas where their expertise is needed.

- 9. Increasing Affordable Housing Supply:** The lack of affordable housing is the main driver of homelessness. CoCs play a critical role in educating local leaders and stakeholders about the importance of increasing the supply of affordable housing and the specific consequences of the continued lack of affordable housing. CoCs should be communicating with jurisdiction leaders, including for the development of Consolidated Plans, about the harmful effects of the lack of affordable housing, and they should engage local leaders about steps such as zoning and land use reform that would increase the supply of affordable housing. The FY 2023 CoC NOFO awards points to CoCs that take steps to engage local leaders about increasing affordable housing supply

Coordinated Entry

The KY BoS CoC is committed to creating and utilizing an effective Coordinated Entry process (a component of creating a systemic response to homelessness) that ensures:

- access to appropriate housing and service interventions for persons experiencing homelessness, including people fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
- vulnerable persons with the longest histories of literal homelessness, the most extensive service needs, tri-morbidity factors, and high COVID-19/Infectious Disease risk factors are prioritized first for limited resources;
- barriers to program entry or receiving assistance are removed;
- persons receive client-driven services and assistance tailored to their unique needs; and
- are housed as quickly as possible.

Project applicants awarded funding by HUD will be required to certify it does actively (or will if it is a new project) fully participate and will continue to participate in the KY BoS CoC Coordinated Entry System and follow the [KY BoS CoC Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures](#).

Anti-Discrimination Policy

Projects shall not discriminate on the basis race, ethnicity, color, national origin, language, ancestry, religion, sex, familial status, age (with the exception of youth serving projects), real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity (LGBTQ+: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, etc.), marital status, domestic or sexual violence victim status, or disability. Projects must ensure housing and services are provided free from discrimination and are administered in accordance with all federal, state, and local non-discrimination and equal opportunity rules and regulations as well as any additional provisions adopted by the KY BoS CoC. This includes adherence to all Fair Housing laws; HUD Equal

Access Rules—*Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity* and *Equal Access in Accordance with an Individual’s Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs*; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act; and applicable sections of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

III. Eligible Projects:

As stated in the NOFO, HUD is accepting applications for eligible renewal projects, new or expanded Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects, Rapid Rehousing (RRH) projects, Joint TH/PH-RRH projects, and Supportive Services Only (SSO-CE) projects for Coordinated Entry created through **Reallocation, CoC Bonus, or Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus** funding as applicable. **However, throughout this document, the KY BoS CoC has established policies further limiting what project types will be accepted and additional requirements for projects seeking consideration through this local competition.**

- A. Renewal:** Renewal projects are those projects currently funded through the Continuum of Care Program. Eligible renewal projects are those awarded funding through HUD’s 2022 CoC competition with grant terms expiring in 2024.
- B. Consolidation:** Eligible renewal applicants may consolidate two or more renewal projects of the same component type. For more information, see sections I.B.3.e and III.B.4.b.(8) of the NOFO.
- C. Reallocation:** The process by which a CoC may shift funds in whole or in part from existing eligible renewal projects to create one or more new eligible projects without decreasing the CoC’s Annual Renewal Demand (ARD).
- D. CoC Bonus (“Bonus”):** The KY BoS CoC is eligible to apply for up to \$968,818 in Bonus funding to create eligible new projects including expansion projects.

Note: Throughout this document, “Bonus” refers to funding available to create specific new projects under the traditional CoC competition as listed in (E) below or expand existing renewal projects as described in (F) below. “DV Bonus” refers to the set-aside funding specifically for projects serving victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking as listed in (G) below.

- E. New Projects: As stated in 2023 NOFO, CoCs may create entirely new projects for the following project components by making funds available through the Reallocation or Bonus funding (or a combination of both).**
 - 1. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) projects
 - 2. Rapid Rehousing (RRH) projects
 - 3. Joint Transitional Housing/Permanent Housing-Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH/RRH) projects (**Note: The KY BoS CoC will not accept any new Joint TH/RRH project applications during this funding round**).

4. Dedicated HMIS projects (only the CoC's HMIS Lead, KHC, is eligible to apply for this project type).
5. Supportive Services Only (SSO-CE) projects for Coordinated Entry to develop/operate a coordinated entry system. **(Note: The KY BoS CoC will not accept any new SSO-CE project applications during this funding round as priority is being placed on permanent housing projects.)**

New Projects Requesting Capital Costs Not Accepted

While eligible under the CoC Interim Rule, capital funding for construction, acquisition, and rehabilitation is not renewable and cannot be reallocated to other projects in future CoC competitions. Therefore, the KY BoS CoC will not allow new projects to request funding for these activities.

Additional requirements for entirely new projects can be found in Section VI of this document.

F. Expansion

Renewal projects meeting the criteria set forth for new projects in the NOFO may expand the size of their existing grant amount in order to increase the number of **units**, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or to add additional activities to HMIS and SSO-CE projects.

Expansion project applicants will be required to submit two applications—one for the existing renewal project at the current award amount and a separate “new” application for the amount requested to expand the existing project. If both the new expansion project and the renewal it expands are conditionally selected for funding by HUD, one grant agreement incorporating both project applications will be executed. If the renewal project application is not conditionally selected for funding by HUD, the expansion project will not be selected.

Additional Policies for Expansion Projects:

- HUD will not accept expansion project applications for TH or SSO projects not for coordinated entry.
- Projects funded for the first time through the 2022 CoC Competition do not yet have sufficient client-level performance outcomes and, therefore, are not eligible to apply for expansion funding.
- YHDP Projects are not eligible for expansion through this competition.
- Existing Supportive Services Only for Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) projects **are not eligible to apply for expansion this year**. Due to anticipated high demand for the limited CoC resources, the KY BoS CoC is prioritizing renewal projects as well as new and expanded PSH and RRH projects.

- An expansion project will not be accepted by the KY BoS CoC if the renewal project for which it is expanding is ranked in Tier 2 unless not all funds available through Bonus or Reallocation have been utilized.
- Expansion projects can be proposed if:
 - a. The expansion is for the purpose of adding a Services Budget Line Item (BLI) to a renewal project currently without a Services BLI and the project will also increase the number of units provided.
- The KY BoS CoC reserves the right to amend these restrictions in the event not all Reallocation and/or Bonus funds have been claimed by other new projects.

G. Domestic Violence Bonus (DV Bonus): The KY BoS CoC will not accept applications for DV Bonus projects during this year's competition. Applicants interested in proposing projects to serve survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless at 24 CFR 578.3 may still submit new or expanded project applications for funding consideration in this competition through the regular CoC Bonus or through Reallocation.

H. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Projects: Projects funded originally through HUD's YHDP competition. As part of this NOFO, HUD will be awarding funding to Round 1 YHDP projects through a competitive process whereby projects can submit either renewal applications or replacement project applications and projects are scored and ranked alongside non-YHDP projects. YHDP projects will work directly with KHC staff to ensure applications are consistent with HUD allowances for YHDP projects and submitted correctly.

NEW eligible CoC Activities: These following new budget line items (BLIs) will be built into the CoC Program Competition Application process. Applicants wishing to utilize these new BLIs can request a budget modification during the competition to add funds to these line items from an existing line item. Applicants may also request to expand existing renewal grants to add new funding to these BLIs.

I. VAWA Costs Budget Line Item. On March 15, 2022, the President signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022 (Pub. L. 117-103, 136 Stat. 49), which included the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 (VAWA 2022). VAWA 2022 reauthorizes, amends, and strengthens the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, as amended (VAWA) (Pub. L. 103-322, tit. IV, sec. 40001-40703; 42 U.S.C. 13925 et seq.). Section 605 of VAWA 2022 amends section 423(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to add the following eligible Continuum of Care Program activity:

Facilitating and coordinating activities to ensure compliance with [the emergency transfer plan requirement in 34 U.S.C. 12491(e)] and monitoring compliance with the confidentiality protections of [the confidentiality requirement in 34 U.S.C. 12491(c)(4)].

See section VI.B for more information on compliance with VAWA 2022 and section III.B.4.a.(3) of the NOFO for more information on eligible VAWA costs. For general guidance on implementation of VAWA 2022, please also see [The Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022: Overview of Applicability to HUD Programs](#) a notice HUD published in the Federal Register on January 4, 2023.

J. Rural Costs Budget Line Item. Section 5707 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (PL 117-263, December 23, 2022, 136 Stat 2395) amends section 423(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to include activities that address barriers to transitioning families in rural areas to permanent housing and additional activities to increase capacity to address the unique challenges CoCs face when serving people experiencing homelessness in rural areas. Activities include short term emergency lodging such as hotel/motel vouchers, repairs to units in which homeless families and individuals will be housed (or not currently fit for human habitation), staff training, skill development and staff retention activities.

See section III.B.4.a.(4) of the NOFO for more information on eligible Rural costs. HUD will publish a list of CoCs located in rural areas as defined in section I.B.2.b.(26) of the NOFO.

IV. Scoring and Ranking Overview

HUD is again requiring CoCs to rank all projects, including Round 1 YHDP projects, with exception of CoC Planning, eligible for renewal, in two tiers. The total amount of funds eligible for renewal, including YHDP projects, is called the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD). Tier 1 is equal to **93 percent** of the CoC’s Adjusted ARD. Tier 2 **equals 7%** of the CoC’s Adjusted ARD plus the amount available for the CoC Bonus. Below is a breakdown of the 2023 amount available funding by tiers.

A. KY BoS CoC 2023 ARD (including YHDP projects)	\$13,840,261
Tier 1	
B. Tier 1 (93% of Adjusted ARD above)	\$12,871,443
Tier 2	
C. Tier 2 (portion from 7% of Adjusted ARD above)	\$968,818
D. Tier 2 (portion from CoC Bonus)	\$968,818
Total available to KY BoS CoC (including YHDP) to request for renewal and new projects	\$14,809,079

Per HUD, projects ranked in Tier 1 will be conditionally selected by HUD from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC, provided the project applications pass both HUD eligibility and threshold review.

Projects ranked by the CoC in Tier 2 will be scored by HUD on a 100-point scale, which is described in detail in the NOFO. The 100 point-scale is based on the following categories:

- **CoC Score:** Up to 50 points in direct proportion to the score received by the KY BoS CoC on the CoC Application—the application KHC submits to HUD on behalf of the full CoC geographic area.
- **CoC Project Ranking:** Up to 40 points for the CoC’s ranking of the project application(s) in Tier 2 (i.e., where a project is placed in Tier 2).
- **Commitment to Housing First:** Up to 10 points based on a project application’s commitment to follow a Housing First approach as defined in Section III.B.2.o. of the NOFO.

When scoring the KY BoS CoC’s application, HUD will score CoCs on the extent to which they demonstrate the use of objective criteria to review project applications, specifically from past

performance with CoC Program funds, when applicable. HUD will score CoCs on the extent to which they consider the severity of needs and vulnerabilities experienced by program participants which includes but is not limited to: low or no income, current or past substance abuse, criminal record, and chronic homelessness as part of the project review, selection, priority, and ranking. For a complete listing of the scoring elements HUD will use to score the KY BoS CoC application, refer to Section VII.B. of the NOFO.

YHDP Projects

The KY BoS CoC has five projects eligible for renewal that were originally funded as part of HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). This year, HUD is awarding funding to YHDP projects eligible for renewal through a competitive process whereby YHDP projects can renew their existing project or replace the project with another YHDP eligible project. Therefore, YHDP projects will be included in the competitive ranking submitted to HUD (i.e., "Priority Listing" of projects selected by the CoC through its local competition).

Projects Eligible for Automatic Tier 1 Ranking

- **Infrastructure Grants:** The Kentucky Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and the KY Balance of State Coordinated Entry System are both required components of the CoC to comply with HUD requirements for both the CoC and Emergency Solutions Grant Programs (ESG). All CoC and ESG-funded projects in addition to other federal programs (SSVF and RHY) are required to enter data into HMIS and to participate in coordinated entry. Having a high performing HMIS and Coordinated Entry System are necessary components of a CoC's infrastructure. Therefore, the following ranking policy will be followed:

- ***HMIS Grants***

HMIS grants administered by KHC, the HMIS Lead for the KY BoS CoC, will automatically be ranked at the top of Tier 1. These grants are necessary for the effective operation of the KYHMIS, including the support for all CoC projects to be in compliance with CoC HMIS requirements. A portion of these funds are awarded to the state DV Coalition, ZeroV to support the requirement of ESG and CoC-funded Victim Services Providers (VSPs) to utilize an HMIS-comparable database.

- ***SSO-CE Grants***

KHC's support, as the lead entity for the implementation of the KY BoS CoC Coordinated Entry System, of the KY BoS CoC Coordinated Entry System is vital for CoC, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV), Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF), and other housing projects to be able to quickly identify and prioritize eligible households for housing and to be in compliance with HUD coordinated entry requirements. KHC's SSO-CE project application will be placed at the top of Tier 1 immediately after KHC's HMIS projects. In addition, the KY BoS CoC currently has five regional SSO-CE projects administered by partner agencies. While KHC has overall responsibility for implementing coordinated entry and directly manages referrals to all 15 Local Prioritization Communities (LPCs) as well as referrals to the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program and the Stability Voucher (SV Program), these local projects provide additional support to people needing housing assistance, particularly helping people who are unsheltered or not already connected to a housing provider access the

Coordinated Entry System. These renewal SSO-CE projects will be ranked at the top of Tier 1 under KHC's SSO-CE grant so long as they do not have a pattern of significant unspent funds.

- ***Entirely New Projects Funded for the First Time Through the 2022 CoC Competition***

The KY BoS CoC had 1 new permanent housing project that was funded for the first time through the 2022 CoC Competition. Because this new project have not yet started, they will automatically be ranked in Tier 1 directly below the Infrastructure Grants so long as the agency:

- Meets all threshold and self-certification criteria on the KHC Capacity Scorecard.
- Has no outstanding HUD or KHC findings related to its other CoC projects where the response is overdue or unsatisfactory.

V. Renewal Scoring Criteria and Ranking Process

Each project type will be scored in comparison to other projects within the same category.

All renewal projects, except for any project specifically listed in Section IV of this document , will be scored by KHC staff using a renewal scoring rubric approved by the Scoring and Ranking Committee and CoC Board available on the [2023 CoC Annual Competition NOFO page](#) of the [KHC website](#).

Projects will be initially ranked from highest to lowest based on the score each project receives on the scoresheet. All renewal projects, excluding the exceptions outlined in Section IV, will be ranked based on project performance, capacity, and commitment to HUD and local policy priorities.

Renewal Projects in Tier 2

A renewal project in Tier 2 will be ranked above new project applications also ranked in Tier 2 if it meets one or more of the criteria listed in (A) below and the criterion in (B) below:

(A)

- Serves 3 or more counties (or for site-based PSH or TH, persons from at least one full LPC are eligible), and/or,
- The project represents the only project type of its kind in its service area.

(B)

- Does not have unresolved monitoring findings

Renewal Scoring Criteria

The priority areas that will be evaluated by the KY BoS CoC are as follows:

Project Type and Populations Served

Project serves priority populations, including persons with the highest levels of need, resources are available regardless of household composition or gender.

Geographic Coverage Area

Project's resources are available in multiple counties (or for site-based TH or PSH participants from at least one full LPC are eligible)

Length of Time Homeless

Project works to quickly move participants into permanent housing
Number of days for RRH and PSH project entry to housing move-in date
Number of days in TH project

Housing Stability

Length of Stay in PSH
Exits to or retaining PH
Returns to Homelessness

Connecting Participants to Mainstream Benefits and Increasing Participants' Income

Project works to connect participants with mainstream benefits
Increase in income from employment
Increase in income from non-employment sources (cash and non-cash)
Maintain/Obtain non-cash benefits
Increase in health insurance enrollment

Utilization Rate

Extent to which project's resources are utilized.

Severity of Need and Commitment to HUD Policy Priorities for Subpopulations

Entries from streets/shelter
Entries by clients with no income
Project's commitment to the Housing First model
Identification of racial equity barriers
Implementation of steps to address identified racial inequities

Program Management, Capacity, HMIS (or comparable database for VSPs) Quality, and Participation

Project Capacity
Effective use of federal funds
Compliance Monitoring
HMIS Data Quality
CoC Participation
HUD Equal Access Rule Training

Data Sources (including for Victim Service Providers serving survivors of domestic violence)

Almost all the data used to evaluate renewal projects will come from HMIS or an HMIS-comparable database for Victim Service Providers (VSP). Additional information will be gathered from project applications (both KHC and e-snaps). Applicants applying for renewal funding will be required to submit an Annual Performance Report (APR) in **PDF format** for the period **August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023**. KHC will run a report for HMIS participating TH, RRH, Joint TH/RRH, and PSH projects to determine returns to homelessness for comparison to the KY BoS CoC System-Wide Performance Measure 2b.2.

VI. New Project Application Scoring Criteria and Ranking Process

HUD is allowing the creation of new projects through Reallocation or CoC Bonus funding. As stated in Section III. E. of this document, **the KY BoS CoC will accept entirely new project applications for the following program components only: PSH and RRH**

NOTE: Expansion Projects are technically considered new projects by HUD but will be scored by the KY BoS CoC using a separate scoring rubric than the one used for entirely new projects. Expansion scoring criteria is discussed in the next section.

2023 KY BoS New Project Funding Priorities and Requirements:

Geographic Area Availability:

- New projects following a scattered site tenant assistance model (leasing or rental assistance) must make the housing available to at least 4 or more counties in LPC. Projects that provide site-based housing must make the housing units available to anyone within the LPC(s) included in the proposed project.

Coordination with Housing and Health Care Providers

- New projects must meet the criteria for either Leveraging Housing Resources or Leveraging Health Care Resources as described in Section V.B.6(a) and (b) of the NOFO.

Populations Served: Entirely new projects must be able to serve both households with children and households without children, including individuals and two or more adults regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, or marital status. In addition, entirely new projects must be able to serve all people regardless of real or perceived gender identity. (Equal Access Rules pertaining to gender identity and sexual orientation apply regardless).

Housing First Model: New projects must commit to using a traditional Housing First model, which includes no service participation requirements.

Project Need: Applicants will be expected to use quantitative data to justify the need for the proposed project.

Commitment to Moving People Quickly into Permanent Housing: Applicants will be expected to describe a strong plan to move people into permanent housing quickly.

Housing Stability: Applicants will be expected to describe a strong plan to ensure participants maintain housing stability and do not return to homelessness, even after CoC assistance ends.

Connection to Mainstream Benefits: Applicants' commitment to connecting participants with mainstream resources.

Increasing employment: Applicant's plan to increase participant's income, particularly through employment.

Program Management, Capacity, and CoC Participation: Applicants will be required to complete the KHC Capacity Scorecard, which includes threshold and self-certification questions relating to program management, financial controls, and experience administering federal housing programs. In addition, applicants will receive points on the extent to which they have participated in the KY BoS CoC.

New or Expansion Project Rankings in Tier 1

No more than **one** Expansion Project and **one** entirely New Project application may be ranked in Tier 1. If more than one new and one expanded project initially score in Tier 1, the highest scoring project will remain and the other(s) will be placed in Tier 2 in order of their scoring.

VII. Expansion Project Scoring Criteria and Ranking Process

Eligible renewal projects proposing to expand their existing projects will use the scoresheet specifically for expansion projects. While HUD considers expansion projects to be "new", the KY BoS CoC will use largely client-level performance-based criteria for expansion projects.

The performance-based criteria used to score expansion projects mirrors the criteria used for renewal project applications. For expansion projects, emphasis is placed on percent of clients exiting to permanent housing, unit utilization rate, expenditure rates for current renewal projects, and justification of project need.

VIII. Additional Considerations

Once KHC completes the scoring and ranking, the following additional factors may be considered. The rationale for any adjustments must be made to the KY BoS CoC Advisory Board when the recommended ranking is presented to them for approval.

- The CoC may seek to preserve low-ranking projects at risk of losing funding where those projects represent the only CoC Program funding in their communities or where the CoC resources available are demonstrably inadequate based on quantitative data.

- The CoC may consider reducing funding requests for the lowest ranked projects as a means to preserve funding for higher ranked projects and the Continuum, if needed.
- The CoC may cap new and expanded project budget requests in order to allow as many new projects to be submitted to HUD as possible in order to achieve better geographic coverage across the 118-county CoC or for other strategic reasons approved by the Scoring and Ranking Committee and the CoC Advisory Board.
- The KY BoS CoC reserves the right to modify this document as needed to correct any errors or omissions.
- The KY BoS CoC reserves the right to modify the process and scoring and ranking criteria if it is deemed necessary due to changes or clarifications in the overall process made by HUD or information not considered at the time of the document's original approval. Any policy changes made to this document after the initial Board-approved process will require a recommendation by the Scoring and Ranking Committee.

IX. Timeline

- **July 21:** Renewal Project Intent to Apply forms due to KHC.
- **August 7:** Scoring and Ranking Criteria Approved by CoC Board.
- **August 16:** New/Expanded Project Intent to Apply forms due to KHC.
- **August 28: Project Application Submission to CoC for KHC Subrecipients: For KHC sub-recipients, all project information requested by KHC must be submitted to KHC no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 28, 2023.** KHC reserves the right to ask for additional information after August 28 to ensure the final project application submitted to HUD is accurate, complete, and competitive. In addition, KHC reserves the right to request information from subrecipients to be submitted prior to August 28.
- **August 28: New Applicants and Direct Grantees must submit completed project applications in e-snaps by 5:00 p.m. ET on August 28, 2023.** Note when you submit the application, it will be visible to KHC in e-snaps. It will not be submitted to HUD at that time. KHC reserves the right to ask for additional information/corrections to be made in e-snaps after August 28 to ensure the final project application submitted to HUD is accurate, complete, and competitive.
- **September 14:** CoC Board Approval of Project Ranking.
- **September 15:** Projects notified if they will be included as part of the CoC Consolidated Application.
- **September 26 (or earlier):** All parts of the Consolidated Application (including priority listing of projects) will be posted on KHC's website.
- **September 28 (or earlier):** Consolidated Application Submitted to HUD.

Note: Dates relating to the CoC Advisory Board's approval of Scoring and Ranking Criteria or approval of project rankings are subject to change. Any date changes will be communicated via KHC's eGrams.

X. Projects not selected for Inclusion

Project applicants that attempted to participate in the CoC's planning process that believe they were denied the right to participate in a reasonable manner may apply directly to HUD by following the procedure found in 24 CFR 578.35.

