

Clackamas County Continuum of Care - FY2022 Ranking Process

Clackamas County CoC monitors project performance during APR review prior to submission, through regularly scheduled data quality and bed utilization reports, and as part of the evaluation, review, scoring and ranking process. Before working on updating score cards, Coordinated Entry, PIT count, and equity analysis data was examined to determine local needs. The score cards used for the CoC ranking process are also completed and evaluated by the Housing Services Steering Committee (HSSC), formally known as the CoC Steering Committee (CoCSC), as part of mid-year program and system performance evaluation. If the HSSC determines that a program is underperforming the HSSC will support programs to improve performance, following the CoC Corrective Action Process as per the CoC Bylaws. DV providers are scored on objective criteria data from comparable database.

At regular HSSC meetings all five score cards were updated. **Objective Criteria, used in review, ranking and selection** to determine future program success, was different based on the type of score card used:

For all Score Cards the following revisions were made to align with local and HUD priorities:

- **Revised narratives:** Healthcare collaboration, increased points.
- **Added narrative:** Ability to serve outside of the urban growth boundary (UGB) questions*. The UGB question was not scored this year, but provided information on how to increase services in rural parts of Clackamas County.
- **Revised narrative:** Description of equity and inclusion strategies. Significantly increased points for equity and inclusion (from 10 to 33 total points). Added additional equity questions.
- **Added narrative:** Added narrative question related to Housing First policies and practices. Increased points associated with Housing First question (from 1 to 10 total points).

The following elements are within each Score Card:

- **New Project Applications-** basic threshold requirements (such as HMIS, CE, and Equal Access); HUD application requirements (such as eligible activities, project type); local goals (Increase RRH and Dedicated CH beds, project that serves non-Chronic single adults, commitment to using Housing First approach with no service participation requirements or preconditions, Culturally Specific Organization and/or Culturally Specific Project); and narratives (agency administrative capacity, success with federal grants, experience working with homeless populations, program plans to positively contribute to HUD's System Performance Measures, description of their equity and inclusion strategies, ability to serve outside of the urban growth boundary, Housing First, collaboration with healthcare)
- **First-year Renewal Projects-** Steps taken to be incorporated into CE System; drawdowns (projects that are within 1 month of starting operating year have hired staff); HMIS data quality (getting new staff training in policies and procedures, data entry); submission by agency of Housing Inventory Form to HMIS staff; Participation in CoC meetings; increased or maintained income (staff member registered or completing SOAR training); HUD application requirements (such as eligible activities, project type); local goals (increase RRH and Dedicated CH beds, project that serves non-Chronic single adults, Commitment to using Housing First approach with no service participation requirements or preconditions, Culturally Specific Organization and/or Culturally Specific Project); and narratives

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(description of their equity and inclusion strategies, ability to serve outside of the urban growth boundary, Housing First, collaboration with healthcare)

- **Standard Renewal Projects**- unresolved HUD findings, on-time APR submission, eLOCCS drawdown rates, **System Performance**: HMIS data quality, bed utilization rates, exits to permanent housing, and increasing participant incomes, narratives (description of equity and inclusion strategies, ability to serve outside of the urban growth boundary, Housing First, and collaboration with healthcare)
- **Youth Renewal Projects**- evaluated based on the same criteria as Standard Renewal with 2 exceptions: The income measure was adapted to include increased/maintained income AND/OR attending school or training program

Up-to-date past performance data was used for all applications for which the data was available, including all Youth and Standard renewal projects. Data was pulled from projects' most recently completed program year. **Target population, housing component type, number of households to be served, and cost effectiveness** were some of the **objective criteria** included on all score cards. All new and renewal projects were scored on narrative responses related to equity, housing first, and healthcare collaboration efforts. Potential bonus points were awarded to new and renewal projects that met each of the following criteria:

- 100% Dedicated Chronically Homeless beds or Dedicated PLUS beds, intended to serve participants with severe barriers.
- Increases overall RRH beds
- Applicant is a Culturally Specific Organization and/or Project is Culturally Specific

Bed utilization rates, exits to permanent housing destinations, and increasing participant income, are the **factors related to achieving positive housing outcomes and factors related to improving system performance** that were explicitly evaluated using the attached score card. In order to ensure projects are in **compliance with 24 CFR part 578**, eLOCCS drawdown rates and timely APR submittal are considered, while funds recaptured by HUD and monitoring/audit findings are scored. The score card was filled in by CoC staff using HMIS and project application data, and project staff provided answers to the narrative section.

Score Cards award points for projects that address severe barriers to accessing housing and services: This includes questions tied to Housing First policies and practices; points associated with increasing cash and non-cash benefits; collaboration with healthcare organizations; and points tied to projects serving Chronically Homeless households.

Each of the score cards used is attached below. All new and renewal project applications were submitted through Esnap to the CoC by the deadline set by the CoC, August 30th, 2022. The projects included in our FY2022 CoC Application were monitored, evaluated, reviewed, scored, accepted, and ranked on September 8th, 2022. Minutes of this and other HSSC meetings are available to the public.

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New Project Applications

Extensive outreach was done to encourage new applicants. Unfortunately due to this year's accelerated timeline, no new agencies chose to apply. We did receive the following two new project applications from an existing service provider, to expand renewal projects for DV survivors. **The HSSC recognizes the particular vulnerability of abuse/victimization or a history of victimization/abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assault that people served through victim service providers have experienced and encouraged new applicants to apply for programs with a target population of DV survivors, including survivors of sexual assault.** Note: while these two projects initially ranked in Tier 1, the HSSC determined that an evaluation of local needs warranted prioritization of existing Renewal projects over Expansion projects. This year, expansion project applications were evaluated differently than renewal projects. The HSSC recognizes the importance of evaluating all projects based on their ability to effectively meet local needs and HUD priorities, and reallocates as necessary. Had new project applications been received outside of expansions, those new projects would have been evaluated to determine how they meet local needs and HUD priorities and ranked appropriately.

Rapid Rehousing (RRH) Expansion (Expansion) Project: The CoC received one new Rapid Rehousing (RRH) project application, to expand a renewal project. This project is ranked as a CoC Bonus Project. The CoC has a long-standing relationship with VSPs in our region, and has a specific method for evaluating projects submitted by VSPs. Once the blank score card was finalized by HSSC, it was emailed to VSPs to fill in using data generated from their comparable database. This project was screened for the **degree to which it improved safety for the population served**. The narratives in their application and score card clearly demonstrated the deep thinking and commitment each organization has for the safety of their participants. This project leverages non CoC and ESG funding housing and healthcare resources.

Supportive Services Only-Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) Expansion Project: The CoC received one new SSO-CE Expansion project, to expand a renewal project. This project is ranked as a DV Bonus Project. This project was screened for the **degree to which it improved safety for the population served**. The narratives in their application and score card clearly demonstrated the deep thinking and commitment each organization has for the safety of their participants. If selected for funding, this SSO-CE project would significantly increase capacity to reach and rapidly connect DV survivors, including survivors of sexual assault, to housing.

Renewal Project Applications:

Thirteen Ranked Renewal Projects: The HSSC received 13 renewal applications. Each were evaluated on performance, their ability to positively contribute to local and HUD priorities, and meet the needs of the community.

Three Projects Ranked but Not Scored: There were a few projects that could not be evaluated or had outcomes that could not be compared with the other CoC projects. **Coordinated Housing Access (CHA), CWS Coordinated Entry and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)** could not be evaluated in a meaningful way to compare with the other projects because these projects do not serve participants in the same

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way as TH, RRH or PSH projects. CHA, our Coordinated Entry, screens for the other programs and HMIS is used to collect and analyze data. For Coordinated Entry and HMIS, The HSSC decided that projects which are necessary for the success of the whole continuum need to be included at the top of Tier 1.

Projects Accepted but Not Ranked: As per instructions in the FY2022 CoC NOFO, 2 YHDP Replacement Projects were accepted but not ranked. The CoC Planning application was also reviewed for threshold compliance and quality of narrative response, but was not ranked.

Rejected or Reduced Projects: No projects were rejected or reduced during the FY2022 Ranking Process.

*ability to serve outside of the urban growth boundary – In May 2020, voters in greater Portland approved Measure 26-210 to fund services for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness within the urban growth boundary. Clackamas County is estimated to receive over \$25million annually to serve people experiencing homelessness within the metro area. While CoC funds will still be utilized in all areas of the county, we want to ensure that there is adequate capacity to serve rural communities.