Request for Proposals (RFP)
Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County Continuum of Care (CoC)
Issued July 28, 2018

INTRODUCTION
Metro as the Collaborative Applicant for the Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care is accepting proposals for new projects or the expansion of current Permanent Supportive Housing or Rapid Re-Housing projects with Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care is soliciting proposals that address housing and service priorities established through the Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care, with a high priority for Permanent Supportive Housing dedicated to chronically homeless persons.

Funding available is up to $375,000 which includes funding from the CoC reallocation process (approximately $125,000) and permanent housing bonus funding ($250,000). Final amounts of reallocation funding will be announced following the August 8, 2018 CoC Board meeting. Final amount available for CoC Bonus funding will be available once HUD posts the Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN) on the HUD Exchange (https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2018-coc-program-nofa-cocprogram-competition/#application-supporting-documents)

The following projects types being solicited by the CoC Board on behalf of the CoC Alliance. The following list is prioritized based on current needs in the Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County CoC service system.
1. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) dedicated to chronically homeless persons; 2. Supportive Services Only (SSO-CE) project to operate a coordinated entry system.
3. Permanent Housing-Rapid ReHousing (PH-RRH) that serve homeless individuals and families including unaccompanied youth;

The projects being solicited will be innovative and highly effective and increase housing resources for vulnerable populations or build capacity within Pathways to Home, the local coordinated entry system. Competitive projects will create additional housing inventory for this population through tenant based or project based rental assistance or leasing. Projects are encouraged to show collaboration among providers and leverage mainstream resources to support highly vulnerable chronically homeless individuals. Priority will be for projects that have a plan for securing dedicated housing units for the project.

Funding will come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) 2018 McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care (CoC) for the Homeless Program, as amended under the HEARTH Act and the CoC Program Interim Rule. The availability and priorities for any funding for new projects is articulated in HUD's CoC Notice of Funding Available (NOFA):
https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/fy-2018-coc-program-nofa-coc-programcompetition/#nofa-and-notices

More information on this program, the HEARTH Act, the Interim Rule and the NOFA is available on HUD's website: https://www.hudexchange.info/coc

Organizations that do not currently receive Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County CoC program funding are encouraged to submit proposals. Proposals are also welcome from current recipients of this funding, provided the proposed project creates new housing opportunities for those experiencing homelessness.

DEADLINE

Proposals must be submitted via e-snaps and emailed to the Collaborative Applicant Office **by 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 31, 2018.** Submission procedures are described starting on page 6 of this RFP. Applications will be reviewed by CoC staff and the CoC Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee for recommendations to be forwarded to the CoC Board on August 8, 2018. Proposals/Applicants who are approved to move forward to be submitted in the CoC Consolidated Application will work with CoC staff to revise applications to be most competitive in the CoC application process.

BACKGROUND

HUD publishes a CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for each funding year. This RFP is being released in support of the 2018 CoC NOFA released on June 20, 2018. A single, consolidated submission of all selected projects in Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County will be submitted to HUD by the Collaborative Applicant. The Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County CoC goal is to submit the application no later than September 18, 2018. Funding will be derived from Federal Fiscal Year 2018 allocations of HUD funds and is subject to funding approval by HUD.

NEW PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

The Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County Continuum of Care seeks one or more qualified applicants to administer new or expanded programs to serve homeless individuals consistent with the guidance provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) including, but not limited to, using a Housing First approach.

Competitive Proposed Projects Will:

- Clearly meet the CoC Program funding opportunities of HUD and the Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County CoC;
- Have a clear plan for acquiring dedicated housing units for the project (PSH & PH-RRH);
- Describe a housing first and trauma-informed service delivery approach, including low-barrier access to the housing and services that will work effectively with the Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County Coordinated Entry System, Pathways to Home;
- Be based upon best practices and the most effective, evidence-based, culturally competent, and individualized client models possible;
- Include plans to successfully meet HUD and local performance measures (PSH & PH-RRH);
- Be administered by organizations that have demonstrated experience providing similar services and serving the proposed population (all project types).

Selection Process: Projects responding to this RFP will be reviewed and ranked by the Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County CoC Data, Performance & Evaluation Committee and recommendations will be forwarded to the Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County CoC Board for approval on August 8, 2018. Projects will be reviewed in reference to organizational capacity, project approach, past performance, design and cost effectiveness. Prior to the full HUD application process, proposals will be reviewed for basic eligibility and other criteria by the Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County CoC Data, Performance and Evaluation Committee. Prior to the full HUD application process, proposals will be reviewed for basic eligibility and other criteria by the Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County CoC Data, Performance and Evaluation Committee. The committee is comprised of formerly homeless persons, community professionals, service providers and supported by staff from the Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County CoC. The Data, Performance and Evaluation Committee will review applications and make recommendations to the CoC Board for final decisions.

Eligible Applicants: Applications will only be accepted from eligible nonprofit agencies, private nonprofit agencies, units of government and public housing agencies.

Match Funding Requirements: 25% Match funds are required. As described by HUD: "Match and Leverage are two distinct categories of program funds that are acquired from other sources not associated with this grant request. Match funds must be used for program eligible costs only and must be equal or greater than 25 percent of the total grant request for all eligible costs with the exception of leasing costs."

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. With the exception of renewal grants, HUD will only fund **new or expanded** projects. Funds cannot be used to close a funding gap or replace lost funding in an existing housing project or service program. Project applicants must demonstrate that they are not replacing other funding sources.

    The population to be served must be homeless or chronically homeless as defined by HUD. The final definition for chronically homeless can be found here:
    https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4847/hearth-defining-chronically-homeless-finalrule/

2. Projects must be able to meet timeliness standards. The applicant is expected to initiate approved projects promptly in accordance with the requirements that are specified in the 2018 NOFA. Grant terms and associated grant operations may not extend beyond the availability of funds. Applicants must plan accordingly and only submit applications that can achieve project goals and outcomes within the specified grant term.

3. Applicants must meet HUD recipient and/or sub-recipient eligibility requirements.

4. Participation in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is required of all HUD grant recipients.

5. Participation in the Coordinated Entry System, Pathways to Home in Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County is required including filling units with referrals from Pathways to Home and prioritizing resources for the most vulnerable persons and households.
6. Projects must provide 25% match of eligible funds or in-kind services.
7. Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-Housing projects must provide on-site supportive services or have an agreement in place for a partner agency to do so.

PROJECT TYPES

Permanent Supportive Housing

In order to increase the number of beds specifically for the chronically homeless population and work towards the goal of ending chronic homelessness in Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County, CoC's will be able to apply for new or expanded projects for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) that proposes to exclusively serve the chronically homeless adult population**.**

Eligible activities include: Leasing, Rental Assistance, Supportive Services, Operations and HMIS. All components require a 25% match except for leasing. Leasing also requires that rent not exceed Fair Market Rent. http://www.Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Carecoc.org/for-providers/coc-documents

Information on eligible activities and expenses can be found in the Interim Rule (https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2033/hearth-coc-program-interim-rule/)

 and at this link:https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/toolkit/program-componentsand-eligible-costs/

Supportive Services Only—Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE)

The Supportive Services Only (SSO) component allows recipients to conduct outreach to sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons and families, link clients with housing or other necessary services and provide ongoing support. SSO projects may be offered in a structure or structures at one central site or in multiple buildings at scattered sites where services are delivered. Projects may be operated independent of a building (e.g. street outreach) and in a variety of community-based settings, including homeless programs operated by other agencies.

Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County Pathways to Home is the local coordinated entry system that operates with support from the HMIS Lead Agency, the County Human Services Agency. All service providers participate in screening and entering homeless persons and families through the system and participate in case conference meetings to prioritize the most vulnerable persons/households for vacancies in supportive housing. The current system utilizes all service providers as points of
entry. For more information on Pathways to Home please see the VC CoC website http://www.Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Carecoc.org/pathways-to-home

Interested applicants should submit project applications that are designed to support the existing coordinated entry system.

Eligible costs include the cost of providing services, the salary and benefits

Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-Housing (PH-RRH)

In order to increase the supply of permanent housing options, CoC's will be able to submit applications for new or expanded Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-Housing (PH-RRH) programs. Competitive proposals will have a clear plan for assisting homeless individuals and families secure rental housing in Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County's competitive market. Expanded programs must propose to increase the number of persons/families served by their currently funded program.
Competitive applications will propose to serve underserved and vulnerable populations including unaccompanied youth.

Eligible activities include: Rental Assistance, Supportive Services, Operations and HMIS. All components require a 25% match. http://www.Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Carecoc.org/for-providers/coc-documents

Information on eligible activities and expenses can be found in the Interim Rule (https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2033/hearth-coc-program-interim-rule/

and at this link:https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/toolkit/program-componentsand-eligible-costs/

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

To be considered as meeting project quality threshold, new or expanded permanent supportive housing project applications must meet the following criteria:

1. Whether the type, scale, and location of the housing fit the needs of the program participants;

2. Whether the type and scale of the supportive services fit the needs of the program participants–this includes all supportive services, regardless of funding source;

3. Whether the specific plan for ensuring program participants will be individually assisted to obtain the benefits of the mainstream health, social, and employment programs for which they are eligible to apply meets the needs of the program participants;

4. Whether program participants are assisted to obtain and remain in permanent housing in a manner that fits their needs;

5. Whether at least 75 percent of the proposed program participants come from the street or other locations not meant for human habitation, emergency shelters, safe havens, or fleeing domestic violence.

System Performance Threshold Data Requirements:

1. Housing Stability: 80% of CoC program participants remain in permanent supportive housing or exit to another permanent destination;
2. Jobs and Income Growth: At least 54% of CoC program adult participants gain or increase their income from non-employment sources;
3. Mainstream Benefits: 56% of CoC program participants obtain non-cash mainstream benefits.

EVALUATION and PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

The CoC Data, Performance and Evaluation committee will review submissions and make final determinations. Committee members will be unbiased and cannot have a personal or financial interest in final recommendations. The VC CoC Ranking and Selection Policy and scoring tool is posted at http://www.Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Carecoc.org/the-alliance/funding

The successful project(s) will be recommended for selection based on the following criteria:

1. Meets minimum requirements of HUD
2. Experience and Capacity of the Applicant
3. Project/Program Features
4. Vulnerabilities of target population
5. Past or current system performance and plans to achieve satisfactory performance
6. Applicant Readiness to Submit Full Application
7. Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care County Continuum of Care Priorities

Projects responding to this RFP will be reviewed and selected by the Continuum of Care Board on **August 8, 2018**. Proposals will be reviewed in reference to organizational capacity, project approach and design and cost effectiveness.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS in e-SNAPS

1. SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance;
2. SF-424 Supplement, Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunities for Application required for nonprofit applicants only where completion and submission of this survey is voluntary;
3. Form HUD-2880, Applicant/Recipient Disclosure/Update Report;
4. SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable);
5. Form HUD-50070, Certification for Drug-Free Workplace; 6. Applicant Code of Conduct that complies with 2 CFR part 200.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The regulations for the Continuum of Care program may be found at:

https://www.hudexchange.info/coc/coc-program-law-regulations-and-notices/

All parties intending to apply for funding are strongly encouraged to review the program regulations, including those organizations that are currently or were previously funded. Proposals which do not conform to the regulations will not be considered for funding. Please contact Tara Carruth at (805) 6543838 or tara.carruth@Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care.org with questions about HUD programs.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Please use e-snaps to prepare and submit a project proposal.

E-snaps can be accessed at: https://esnaps.hud.gov
In addition, please email one PDF copy of the complete e-snaps application with **a cover letter signed by the organization's authorized representative** to tara.carruth@Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care.org.

Additional supportive documentation may be requested by staff of new applicants.

AWARD OF FUNDS
The project(s) selected by the Continuum of Care Board will be notified on August 13, 2018. Please be aware that applications need to be finalized in eSNAPS and submitted to the CoC Collaborative Applicant by noon August 18, 2018. If the funding is awarded by HUD, grant funds are estimated to be made available by HUD by **the first half of calendar year 2019**. The timing of awards and grant-making by HUD is outside of the control of the County of Flint/Genesee County Continuum of Care. Therefore, agencies seeking and receiving new funding must be aware of all operating year start and end dates and must make arrangements to cover any period of which a HUD funding award is pending, delayed, or not awarded.