

Boston Continuum of Care 2015 Competition Reallocation Policy

Boston is seeking funds from reallocated projects in order to:

- Create a New Coordinated Access Supportive Services Only project
- Create a new HMIS project in order to increase CoC staff capacity, fund the projected increased cost of ETO software, secure additional software licenses for state and federal partners (DMH and the VA), and customizations in order to interface with the Coordinated Access system
- Create new Permanent Housing (PH) Projects for chronically homeless (CH) individuals and families
 - a. CH projects that serve individuals should be consistent with the priority stated in An Action Plan to End Veterans and Chronic Homelessness. The plan calls for the creation of 200 new units of very low barrier housing with supportive services. Any application for new Permanent Housing should be consistent with this goal
- Create new Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) projects for individuals and families and youth up to 24 (persons must come from streets and emergency shelter)

Process to identify resources for reallocating projects to fund a new Coordinated Access project and a new HMIS project (1 and 2 above):

- The CoC will first accept projects that are willing to voluntarily reallocate
- If there are not enough resources identified to fund a new CA and new HMIS, the CoC will then reallocate projects where mainstream resources have been identified in order to continue to fund the project. These resources may be identified by the project sponsor or by the CoC.
- If there are not enough resources identified to fund a new CA and a new HMIS, the CoC will then reallocate projects based on performance and consistency with HUD and CoC objectives. These will include: consistency with HUD's Homeless Policy and Program Priorities (pages 8-11 of the NOFA), CoC Performance Measures and Strategic Objectives (pages 34-48 of the CoC application), high quality of participation in HMIS, financial management and performance and reasonable program costs

Reallocation of Transitional Housing and Support Service Only Projects

- The CoC is not mandating that any TH or SSO project reallocate to the types of projects listed above (1-4) but we are strongly encouraging TH and SSO projects to consider reallocation. The scoring system outlined in the NOFA gives less points to TH and SSO projects in Tier 2
- If a TH or SSO project does reallocate to 1-4 listed above there is not guarantee that the project will be in Tier 1 but there is a higher likelihood that a new PH or RRH in Tier 2 will be funded over a renewal TH or SSO project.

Total Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) \$24,063,154

Tier 1 = 85% of the ARD or \$20,453,681

Tier 2 = 15% of the ARD or \$3,609,473

Tier 1 - HUD will select projects that are fully in Tier 1 and pass eligibility and threshold criteria based on CoC score beginning with the highest scoring to the lowest scoring CoC

Tier 2 - HUD will select projects that pass eligibility and threshold review in Tier 2 using the following criteria: Total 100 points – up to 60 points for CoC score, up to 20 points for CoC project ranking, up to 10 points for project type and up to 10 points for commitment to policy priorities

The CoC uses several methods to monitor the performance of program recipients. Sponsors are required to invoice monthly and bills are reviewed to ensure eligibility of activities, expenditure rates and administrative capacity. APRs are reviewed for utilization, success in accessing mainstream benefits, positive destination data and recapture rates and both HUD and provider program outcomes are assessed. HMIS is reviewed to ensure participation and quality. CoC staff also maintain an on-site monitoring schedule, which includes review of client records, in addition to feedback on performance concerns that may have presented through APRs, billings or other means. The CoC triages visits based on risk, with new providers and programs or large programs more likely to be selected for increased oversight. The CoC also offers on-demand technical assistance to ensure providers have adequate systems and information necessary to effectively manage the programs.

Tier 1 Projects

Projects will be placed in Tier 1 in order by project type.

Tier 1 - Priority One

An HMIS (SSO) renewal project and the creation of a new HMIS project in order to increase CoC staff capacity, fund the projected increased cost of HMIS software, secure additional software licenses for state and federal partners (DMH and the VA), and customizations in order to interface with the Coordinated Access system

Tier 1 – Priority Two

Projects that were reallocated to Rapid Re-housing and Permanent Supportive housing projects from Transitional Housing and Support Service projects in the 2014 and 2015 competitions

Tier 1 –Priority Three

Renewal Permanent Supportive Housing Projects that include costs associated with rental assistance or leasing (costs that support permanent supportive housing units). Projects within this priority would be ranked by the CoC scoring methodology using the CoC scoring tool

Tier 1 –Priority Four

SSO or TH projects that provide a crucial and essential function in the Boston Continuum of Care and their loss would create an essential gap resulting in the loss of the safety net for unsheltered and sheltered individuals in the Boston CoC. Examples of this would be the elimination of street outreach and reduction in access to emergency shelter. Projects within this priority would be ranked by the CoC scoring methodology using the CoC scoring tool

Tier 1 – Priority Five

A new Coordinated Access Support Service Only project. The new Coordinated Access project will also be selected as the straddle project

Tier 1 projects will be ranked as follows within **Priority One** through **Priority Five**

Priority One (HMIS projects) The HMIS renewal project will be ranked before the HMIS new project

Priority Two (Reallocated projects) These projects will be ranked based on total project dollar amount – from largest to smallest

Priority Three (Permanent Supportive Housing projects that include costs associated with rental assistance or leasing) These projects will be ranked based on total project dollar amount – from largest to smallest

Priority Four (Essential SSO or TH projects) These projects will be rated by score – See scoring criteria below

Priority Five (Coordinated Access Project) There will be only one Coordinated Access project and will be ranked at the bottom of Tier 1

Tier 2 Ranking Options :

Option One:

Tier 2 – Priority One

Permanent Supportive Housing projects that do not fund the cost of housing units but provide support services to homeless persons in permanent supportive housing. Projects within this priority would be ranked by the CoC scoring methodology using the CoC scoring tool.

Tier 2 Priority Two

Transitional Housing Programs. Projects within this priority would be ranked by the CoC scoring methodology using the CoC scoring tool

Tier 2 Type 3

Support Service Only Programs. Projects within this priority would be ranked by the CoC scoring methodology using the CoC scoring tool

Option Two:

Tier 2 – Priority One

Permanent Supportive Housing projects that do not fund the cost of housing units but provide support services to homeless persons in permanent supportive housing. Projects within this priority would be ranked by the CoC scoring methodology using the CoC scoring tool.

Tier 2 Priority Two

Transitional Housing and Support Services Only Programs. Projects within this priority would be ranked by the CoC scoring methodology using the CoC scoring tool.

Please note that on October 28, 2015, the CoC Board (known as the Leadership Council) voted unanimously to approve the Tier 1 ranking as described above and selected Option Two for ranking Tier 2 projects. In addition, they voted to place Permanent Housing Bonus projects in at the bottom of Tier 2 by score as long as their placement did not jeopardize Tier 2 renewal projects.

Projects that are ranked by score will be scored using the CoC scoring tool. The score will be made up of the following criteria:

1. Component Type (PH will receive more points than TH, for example)
2. Consistency with HUD objectives regarding Housing Outcomes, Employment Goals and obtainment of Mainstream resources (Data s from the APR)
3. Consistency with HUD policy and program objectives (examples would include; can the project demonstrate that it works toward ending chronic, veterans, youth and family homelessness , does the project adopt housing first principles, have a low barrier to entry etc.)
4. Amount of Leveraging Resources
5. HMIS data quality and bed utilization
6. Financial Management and Performance