

V.I. CONTINUUM OF CARE



V.I. Housing Finance Authority, Collaborative Applicant

2017 HUD CONTINUUM OF CARE GRANT APPLICATION (Funding Opportunity Number: FR-6100-N-25) RATING AND REVIEW PROCEDURE

Each year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issues funding opportunities under the Continuum of Care Grant Program. The Continuum of Care Grant Program is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by non-profit providers, state, and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

The local Continuum of Care (VI- CoC) is required by HUD to solicit renewal and/or new homeless services projects to be included under a consolidated application for funding under the CoC Grant. The VICoC made information about the funding opportunity available via announcements at the monthly CoC meetings and also via e-mail.

Pursuant to the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Fiscal Year (FY 2017) Continuum of Care Grant Program Competition, HUD expects the CoC to implement a thorough review of all new and renewal applications submitted for consideration to ensure the project's eligibility and satisfaction of published project quality threshold requirements as applicable for the project type. In addition, HUD also requires the CoC to score and then either approve and rank or reject each application.

The VICoC's project review and rating procedure consists of designation of an Evaluation Committee composed of at least three representatives of CoC member organizations. To avoid conflict of interest, only representatives of agencies which have not submitted an application the current cycle are eligible to serve on the Evaluation Committee.

The evaluation team will utilize a project ratings tool sourced from the HUDexchange website. The rating factors considered include applicant experience, design of housing and support services, timeliness of proposed implementation, financial capacity, and project effectiveness. Within these factors, the project evaluators will review specific criteria such as applicant's utilization of a Housing First approach, program's effectiveness in assisting program participants to achieve and maintain independent living and housing stability, performance against plans and goals established in initial application [renewal projects only], and grant management

performance. (Note: HMIS projects are not evaluated for factors relating to client assistance).

The CoC reserves the right to return applications for correction of minor issues identified during the review process. The CoC also reserves the right to reject project applications for the following reasons:

1. Audit findings(s) for which a response is overdue or unsatisfactory
2. Inadequate financial management capacity or accounting systems
3. Unsatisfactory grant performance as evidenced by untimely expenditure of prior year grant funds
4. History of capacity issues that have negatively impacted project operation and performance.

All applications will be notified in writing within 15 days of the application deadline of the disposition of their application relative to whether the application will be accepted and ranked on the CoC Priority Listing, rejected, or reduced. Where a project application is being rejected or reduced, the CoC will provide a reason for the action.