

While the 2019 CoC NOFA has not been released, there are several things Continuum's of Care can be doing now. This checklist will help CoC's prepare for the 2019 Continuum of Care NOFA.



Review 2018 Consolidated Application

Carefully review last year's application and:

- Identify areas where you didn't achieve the maximum amount of points in the 2018 application.
- Prioritize and plan to address these areas.
- Make a list of activities that the CoC stated it would accomplish and collect data/information from stakeholders on progress towards stated goals.



Develop a Governance Plan

Meet with the Governance Committee now to:

- Meet with local providers to prepare them for any plans and/or changes.
- Establish your Review & Ranking Committee and prepare them for their responsibility.
- Prepare a request for proposals for new projects aligned with CoC priorities.



Review Funded Projects

Review your current projects. Ask:

- Which projects are not spending their funding or are not at capacity?
- Which projects are not meeting the performance benchmarks?
- What are the costs per permanent housing exit for each project?



Review Fidelity to Housing First

Review CoC project policies and procedures. Ask:

- Is the CoC providing regular training and clear guidance for providers on housing first philosophy and strategies?
- Does the CoC project scoring tool provide points for project's written policies and procedures that ensure participants are screened in, not out; not terminated due to high barriers; and actively minimize barriers to entry/retention?
- Does the CoC have methods to ensure that project housing first policies and procedures match practice?



Review Ranking Process and Forms

Review the 2018 process. Ask:

- Does CoC guidance and tools align with the HUD Policy Priorities
- Do project application materials and the ranking tool focus on performance for each project?
- Does the CoC prioritize projects that use funds efficiently?



Review PIT & HIC Data

Make sure CoC data quality is accurate. Ask:

- Are there any major changes or discrepancies from the 2018 data?
- Do the projects the CoC is planning on applying for reflect the need present in the data?



Establish/Review Performance Data

Review current performance measures.

Ask:

- Does the CoC have benchmarks and performance measurement goals for key System Performance Measures?
- Can the CoC measure project level performance (average length of time homeless, % of exits to permanent housing/homelessness; % of returns to homelessness)?
- Does the CoC use its performance data to improve system and project performance?



Create Resource Allocation Strategy

Review all current CoC projects as well as CoC NOFA Competition Guidance.

Ask:

- Are there projects that are underutilized or underperforming that can be reallocated (or portions of)?
- Are there funds from projects that can be recaptured to create new projects?
- Does the CoC have a strategy to approach underutilized or underperforming projects to voluntarily reallocate? Does it have a strategy to approach higher performing projects to accept more funds/participants?
- Does the CoC have a strategy as well as a documented community review process that explains its reallocation process and what the criteria will be when considering reallocation?