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| Date | Question | Response |
| 01/16/19 | Are unsafely housed youth (HUD homeless definition category 4) included in the target population? | **Yes. Please see highlighted text from the RFP.**  **Target Population**  Youth are defined as individuals up to and including the age of 24 who are either unaccompanied or pregnant and/or parenting. To be eligible for YHDP-funded assistance, youth must be literally homeless or imminently at-risk of literal homelessness within 14 days.  ***Literally homeless***   * In shelter including emergency shelter, transitional housing, or hotel or motel paid by government or charity; OR * On the street or another place not meant for human habitation (e.g., car, garage, park, abandoned building); OR * In an institution (e.g., jail, hospital, juvenile detention) that the youth is exiting and where youth was resident for 90 days or less AND the youth resided in emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately prior to entering that institution; OR * Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and who lack resources and support networks to obtain other permanent housing.   ***At-risk of literal homelessness***   * In own housing, but being evicted within 14 days; OR * In a hotel or motel paid for by the youth, family, or friends and cannot stay for more than 14 days (often due to lack of ability to continue paying); OR * With family or friends and being asked to leave within 14 days; AND * Have no safe alternative housing, resources or support networks to maintain or obtain permanent housing. |
| **01/16/19** | Does the 25% match dollars apply to the whole budget or is it only certain categories of cost? | The Match of at least 25% applies to the whole grant, minus Leasing. The only program type that would have Leasing funding is Transitional Housing (TH). CSB encourages applicants to focus on what it would cost to fund the proposed program as a whole. While 25% match is required, applicants may need to leverage other resources beyond the YHDP grant and matching funds to make the program successful. |
| **01/16/19** | Can capital dollars be used as “Match”? | Yes, they count as a match the 1st 2 years of the grant only. |
| **01/16/19** | Do we have specific outcome measures for the CARR Team Project? | Outcome measures for youth have been determined by the CoC’s Youth Core Team and are included in the Coordinated Community Plan. However, outcome goals have not been set and finalized yet. Because these projects are new, we will want to proceed carefully and be looking at benchmarks after YHDP funded CARR Team services have been implemented and prior to finalizing expectations for project/program outcomes. |
| **01/16/19** | Are we expected to use a progressive engagement model and are support services mandatory? | Yes, YHDP funded projects should generally use a progressive engagement model of service provision, starting with basic program services and offering more (or less) services as needed and desired by youth participants.All supportive services funded by YHDP must be voluntary. However, participants receiving rapid re-housing (RRH) must meet with a RRH case manager at least once per month to assist the program participant in ensuring long-term housing stability. It will be important that the support services are what youth need and want to facilitate retention/goal completion. |
| **01/16/19** | Do we know how many youth currently being served have addictions to alcohol or other drugs? | Youth served by providers who participate in HMIS provide self-reported information on their disabling condition(s), if any. . That information can be found on our interactive date tool located [here](https://www.csb.org/news-and-publications/interactive-data) on our website. |
| **01/16/19** | What will we do for youth who cannot do a 1-year lease? | For now, this is a HUD requirement. As part of the Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) and YHDP funding approval process we have asked for a waiver.In any event, it is the expectation that youth providers will work closely with landlords when issues arise and support youth to avoid evictions and/or relocate to other more suitable housing, as necessary. |
| **01/16/19** | Do all the organizations that are applying need to have attended the bidder’s conference? | No, only the lead applicant agency needed to attend the bidder’s conference. |
| **01/16/19** | Will these projects be serving minor youth? | It is not likely. The CARR team may be engaging with minor youth and facilitating linkage to minor youth-specific services, but for crisis shelter and re-housing assistance, these projects will be serving young adults 18-24. |
| **01/16/19** | What is the process for RRH referrals? Will programs recruit their own participants? | The Youth Core Team’s Coordinated Access workgroup will help develop this this process as part of establishing a coordinated and dynamic prioritization system-wide consistent with CoC and CSB standards and HUD requirements. Programs will receive referrals via the to-be-established CoC-wide coordinated access process that will include initial eligibility screening and prioritization. |
| **01/16/19** | Can the project proposal prioritize a specific sub-population? | While prioritization and referral will be part of coordinated access, projects that are designed to serve a specific sub-population (i.e. LGBTQ, Pregnant and Parenting, etc.) may be proposed. Keep in mind that you don’t have to apply for the full amount of funding available, so if you want to focus on a specific sub-population, you can propose a project that uses only a part of the funds and serves only part of the total youth population. |
| 01/16/19 | In the overarching requirements section (pg. 3) applicants are supposed to “adhere to Housing 1st practices”.  I’m aware of the one having to do with no preconditions and the fact that housing isn’t connected to service participation, but are there others? | *Housing First* is both an orientation to and set of practices for working with people who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness that acknowledges that safe and stable housing is the primary solution to homelessness, with the right service and financial supports. Examples of practices consistent with Housing First practices also include:Rapidly resolving at-risk situations and diverting people from entering emergency shelter or being in unsafe situations through active and individualized problem-solving.Immediate screening/assessment for housing-specific concerns, history, tenant screening (e.g., prior evictions) and retention barriers.Eviction prevention strategies that seek to avoid loss of housing using individualized interventions and supports, including active engagement with landlord partners and the availability of alternative housing options besides eviction and/or a return to homelessness. |
| 01/16/19 | In the same section (pg. 3), it talks about promoting youth choice in services and housing assistance. How does that work for an individual housing provider? | Providing youth with choices about their services and housing options is a responsibility of YHDP funded programs that is also dependent on the availability of options within and outside of the youth homeless crisis response system. YHDP funded providers will be expected to work closely with system and community partners to maximize youth choices where ever possible. |
| 01/16/19 | What are “youth-driven supports”? | Support services the youth both want and need. |
| 01/16/19 | For the CARR Team, it seems like they will be the primary provider (worker) for the case when they are “called in” by the other parts of the system when a young person needs additional help and when they find youth in the community that they have screened or provided prevention services.  Are the applicants expected to do both outreach programming and specialized case management?  *(re: question #6 on the application regarding scope)* | The scope of responsibilities for the CARR Team is expected to evolve and change over time as the youth homeless crisis response system is operationalized. Applicants should propose a team that can fulfill the basic duties outlined in the RFP, which may include outreach activities and specialized navigational support for targeted youth with more severe service needs. |
| 01/16/19 | In the Joint TH/RRH section about wrap-around supportive services, does this mean that the applicant should be prepared to address other life domains in addition to housing? If the services are not specifically provided by the applicant, do we need to have an agreement with other service providers that prioritizes our clients? | Applicants should propose a supportive services approach that assures youth receive a full range of supportive services to address their needs related to permanent housing, education, employment, basic life skills, transportation, health, positive and lasting relationships, and any other critical need identified. |
| 01/16/19 | Can Rapid Rehousing providers own the units where the youth will be housed? | For the Rapid Rehousing Tenant based Rental Assistance component the agency applying for funds and any subrecipient cannot own the units leased. Owning the units would make the assistance “project” based or “sponsor” based and not “tenant” based, per HUD requirements. |
| 01/16/19 | Can Transitional Housing providers own the units where the youth will be housed? | Transitional Housing providers can own the units where youth will be housed but the “leasing” budget line item cannot be used in this instance; the “Operating” budget line item has to be used instead.  Per HUD CoC Interim Rule section § 578.49 Leasing.  (a) Use.  (1) Where the recipient or subrecipient is leasing the structure, or portions thereof, grant funds may be used to pay for 100 percent of the costs of leasing a structure or structures, or portions thereof, to provide housing or supportive services to homeless persons for up to 3 years. Leasing funds may not be used to lease units or structures owned by the recipient, subrecipient, their parent organization(s), any other related organization(s), or organizations that are members of a partnership, where the partnership owns the structure, unless HUD authorized an exception for good cause.  (2) Any request for an exception must include the following:  (i) A description of how leasing these structures is in the best interest of the program;  (ii) Supporting documentation showing that the leasing charges paid with grant funds are reasonable for the market; and  (iii) A copy of the written policy for resolving disputes between the landlord and tenant, including a recusal for officers, agents, and staff who work for both the landlord and tenant. |
| 01/22/19 | Regarding the application questions that relate to the fair compensation and qualifications of staff: | The goal is to encourage applicants to respond with projects that seek to hire and retain qualified staff as well as, pay a livable wage. The desire is to fund YHDP projects that pay staff a minimum of $15/hour or address how they will ensure that progressively they can attain this compensation. |
| 02/06/19 | Can the rapid rehousing units using the RA TRA subsidy be owned by a grantee?If ownership is allowed, what are the restrictions to eliminate conflict of interest? | The grantee can own the unit that houses a program participant receiving rental assistance.  With tenant-based rental assistance (such as Rapid Rehousing), however, program participants choose their own housing. While program participants are not prohibited from renting a unit owned by the recipient or subrecipient, Section 578.51 (c) of the CoC Program interim rule states that recipients or subrecipients may only require program participants to live in a specified structure for the first year of program participation, and only then if it is "necessary to facilitate the coordination of supportive services."  In instances when the recipient or subrecipient is the owner of the building, the organization and its employees must ensure compliance with the conflict of interest requirements of the CoC Program interim rule. Section 578.95 notes that conflict of interest would "arise when an employee or a recipient or subrecipient participates in making rent reasonableness determinations under Section 578.49(b)(2) and Section 578.51(g) and housing quality inspections of property under Section 578.75(b) that the recipient, subrecipient, or related entity owns." |
| 02/26/19 | Sub-Grantees vs. Sub-contracts: HUD requirements | In projects that may include multiple providers and/or are a collaborative approach, the applicant that is designated the “lead applicant organization” holds the responsibility for adherence with all HUD regulations.  Sub-grantees must meet the same HUD requirements as the lead organization and are subject to monitoring and compliance auditing by CSB and HUD.  Contracted and/or Vendor services must also adhere to HUD requirements, but are monitored by the contracted lead organization such that the lead organization maintains compliance. |
| 02/26/19 | Coordinated Entry, Dynamic Prioritization, and Addressing Vulnerability | Coordinated Entry, prioritization, and related processes for identifying youth participants do not need to be addressed as part of your proposals. While you may chose to highlight how vulnerable populations are uniquely supported in your projects, the pathway by which youth are identified and enter that program/project will be developed by the Youth Committee and CSB, based on the recommendations of the Youth Coordinated Entry Workgroup. |
| 03/05/19 | What is the flexibility of each project to re-allocate budget dollars from one allowable cost to another (i.e. Case management to Mental health) after the project is operational? | The project can reallocate funds between allowable costs within a funding category (like supportive services) after the project is operational. The example of moving funds from case management to mental health is allowable, because both are in the category of supportive services. Movement between funding categories is not allowable in the first 2 years of operations. After the first 2 years, movement between funding categories is allowed, but there are some restrictions. Projects cannot move funds between fiscal years. Projects can move funds out of Administration, but not into Administration. |
| 03/05/19 | What is match and what are the match requirements? | Match is actual cash or in-kind resources contributed to the grant. All costs paid for with matching funds must be for activities that are eligible under the CoC Program, even if the recipient is not receiving CoC Program grant funds for that activity. All grant funds must be matched with an amount no less than 25% of the awarded grant amount (excluding the amount awarded to the leasing budget line item) with cash or in-kind resources.  Match resources may be from public (not statutorily prohibited by the funding agency from being used as a match) or private resources. Match includes program income (in general, the client portion of the rent paid to the sub-recipient) and excludes participant mainstream benefits. Match may come from any source, including other federal, state, local, or private sources, but it is important to note that some federal sources of funding outside of HUD do not allow their funds to be used as match.  **Cash Contributions**  Cash match is when the recipient or subrecipient pays for an eligible activity with funds from the agency that are not CoC program grant funds. CoC Program funds cannot be used to match other CoC funded projects.  **In-kind/non-Cash Contributions**  In-kind match is the value of any real property, equipment, goods, or services contributed to a CoC Program grant that would have been eligible costs under the CoC Program if the recipient/subrecipient was required to pay for such costs with CoC Program grant funds. Services provided by individuals must be valued at rates consistent with those ordinarily paid for similar work in the recipient or subrecipient’s organization. If the recipient or subrecipient does not have employees performing similar work, the rates must be consistent with those ordinarily paid by other employers for similar work in the same labor market.  Please note: If your project is awarded CoC funds, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) must be executed for all in-kind service match provided by another entity prior to the execution of your grant agreement/operating year. |