



Reading/Berks County Continuum of Care (CoC)  
FY 2022 Notice of Intent (NOI) to  
Solicit “New” and “Expansion” Projects

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The Reading/Berks County CoC (PA-506) is issuing this Notice of Intent (NOI) to solicit new and expansion projects to be submitted for HUD CoC Program funds. The CoC anticipates that HUD will release the FY 2022 CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (CoC NOFO) in the upcoming weeks. Upon release of the FY 2022 CoC NOFO, the CoC will release a new project Request For Proposals (RFP) to solicit new project Preliminary Applications from eligible entities operating within PA-506 CoC if funds are available for new projects.

The CoC is releasing this NOI to provide advance notice regarding the anticipated allowed uses of HUD’s FY 22 CoC Program funds and PA-506 CoC’s funding priorities set by a survey of the CoC. PA-506 CoC’s goal in providing this information is to give organizations time to consider how new CoC funding could support the local needs. The CoC encourages organizations to begin thinking about what types of projects they would like to apply for once the CoC’s new project RFP is released.

Interested applicants **DO NOT** need to respond to this NOI. Once HUD releases the FY 2022 CoC NOFO, PA-506 CoC will release a Request for Proposals (RFP). To be included in the PA-506 CoC’s funding application to HUD, organizations must reply to the forthcoming RFP by submitting a Preliminary Application, and their Preliminary Application must be selected by the PA-506 CoC’s Ranking Committee. New CoC funding will be awarded by HUD based on the performance of PA-506 CoC in the 2022 Continuum of Care competition.

**The CoC is interested in receiving Preliminary Application for the following project types:**

- New Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Projects
  - Rapid Re-Housing is a model of housing assistance that is designed to assist those experiencing homelessness, with or without disabilities, move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. Rapid Re-Housing assistance is time-limited, individualized, and flexible.
- New Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Projects
  - Permanent supportive housing is permanent housing with indefinite leasing or rental assistance paired with supportive services to assist homeless persons/families with a disability achieve housing stability.
  - Units must be dedicated specifically to individuals and/or families who meet the chronically homeless definition. When a program participant exits the project, the bed must be filled by another household that meets the definition unless there are no chronically homeless persons located within the CoC’s geographic area.
- New Transitional Housing/Rapid Re-Housing (TH-RRH) Joint Component Projects

- The Joint TH and PH-RRH component project (also known as TH-RRH) combines two existing program components—transitional housing and permanent housing-rapid rehousing—in a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Recipients should prioritize those with the highest needs using an evidence-based approach designed to provide stable housing and services that, to the greatest extent possible, move the participant towards self-sufficiency and independence.
- When a program participant is enrolled in a Joint TH and PH-RRH component project, the project applicant or subgrantee must be able to provide both components, including the units supported by the transitional housing component and the tenant-based rental assistance and services provided through the PH-RRH component, to all participants. A program participant may choose to receive only the transitional housing unit or the assistance provided through the PH-RRH component, but the project applicant or subgrantee must make both types of assistance available. For more information about the Joint TH and PH-RRH component project, see HUD materials at <https://www.hudexchange.info/trainings/courses/joint-th-rrh-component-projects/2941/>
- *Note:* Any agencies interested in creating a Joint Component Project will need to describe (in narrative and data) why the Transitional Housing component of the project is needed in the community.
- Expansions of existing CoC grants, including Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), and Transitional Housing/Rapid Re-Housing Joint Component (TH-RRH) Projects. Important notes:
  - The CoC would like to ensure that all CoC grantees have sufficient funding to appropriately compensate the staff who are working on the project. CoC grantees may wish to request new project funding to expand their existing grant to increase funding for staffing (i.e., supportive services line item).
  - Existing CoC grantees may also request to expand the number of units in their existing PSH, RRH, or TH-RRH project.
  - Those applying for expansion projects must be able to describe how the project will expand by offering more services, serving more households, increasing the number of units, etc.

### **Who is eligible for homeless assistance in the CoC?**

CoC Funding: Project participants in CoC-funded projects are limited to the categories 1 and 4 of the HUD Homeless Definition. Category 1 includes individuals and families experiencing literal homeless in an emergency shelter or in a location not appropriate for sleeping (e.g., street, tent, car, etc.). Category 4 includes persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault,

and stalking. Under certain circumstances, Category 4 may also include persons who are fleeing or attempting to flee human trafficking, including sex trafficking.

### **Who are eligible applicants?**

Non-profit organizations, States, local governments, and instrumentalities of State or local governments are eligible to apply.

### **What will a HUD CoC grant pay for?**

The HUD CoC grant can be used towards:

- Housing Costs:
  - Operating funds to operate a site owned or leased by your agency (including the Transitional Housing portion of a Joint TH-RRH project).
  - Rental Assistance to assist a household pay their rent;
    - Note: If applying for Rapid Rehousing, Rental Assistance is the only eligible housing cost. It cannot be combined with Operating.
    - Under a Rental Assistance model, the program participant enters into the lease with the landlord
  - Leasing of a single site or scattered site housing units;
    - Under a Leasing model, the project applicant enters into the lease with the landlord and has a sublease or rental agreement with the program participant.
  - Note regarding eligible housing costs:
    - Permanent Supportive Housing projects may request operating funds, rental assistance, or leasing dollars, depending on the structure of the project.
    - Rapid Re-Housing projects may only request rental assistance. Operating and leasing are not eligible costs under this component type.
    - Joint TH/RRH Components may only request operations or leasing dollars to support the TH portion of the project. The RRH portion of the project is limited to rental assistance.
- Supportive Services Costs: Case management to assist households in obtaining and maintaining their housing.
  - *Note:* Housing Search services (costs of assisting eligible program participants to locate, obtain, and retain suitable housing) are eligible costs under Supportive Services for projects utilizing Rental Assistance. Applicants may wish to design PSH, RRH, and TH-RRH projects that incorporate housing navigation and housing search assistance, separate from case management roles (e.g., housing navigator in addition to case management staff).

- Administrative Costs: To provide funding for your agency to manage the grant including drawing down funds and reporting to HUD.
- More details on all of these are available in HUD's CoC Binder:  
<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-eligible-activities/coc-eligible-activities-overview/>

### **Are there match requirements?**

The grantee must provide a 25% match – either cash or in-kind. The only exception is that leasing costs do not require a match. For more information on match, visit:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-match/coc-match-overview/>

### **Are there any special considerations that I need to be aware of when applying for funding through the CoC?**

- PSH and RRH, as well as the TH-RRH Joint Component, are permanent housing programs and are expected to operate in accordance with a Housing First approach:
  - Participants are not screened out based on the following:
    - Having too little or no income
    - Active or history of substance use
    - Having a criminal record with exceptions for state-mandated restrictions
    - History of domestic violence
- Participants are not terminated from the program based on the following:
  - Failure to participate in supportive services
  - Failure to make progress on a service plan
  - Loss of income or failure to improve income
  - Being a victim of domestic violence
  - Any other activity not covered in a lease agreement typically found in the project's geographic area
- All project participants enrolled must come from the CoC's Coordinated Entry program
- CoC-funded programs must enter complete and accurate data into the CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). This will include adhering to the data quality and data timeliness expectations outlined within the HMIS Policies and Procedures. Victim services organizations must enter data into a DV comparable database.
- All CoC funding recipients must be or must become a member of the Reading/Berks County CoC, attend meetings of the full CoC, and attend training provided through the CoC.
- CoC-funded programs will be expected to have the capacity to operate programs in accordance with HUD requirements including:
  - Submitting your Annual Progress Report (APR) on time
  - Drawing down funds at least quarterly

- Expend all of grant funds within the 12-month grant period
- For more information about CoC Program funding requirements, visit HUD's CoC Virtual Binder:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/>

We encourage anyone interested in new projects to review these materials.

**If I have questions, who should I contact?**

Send an email to [elise@bceh.org](mailto:elise@bceh.org) or call Elise McCauley at 610-372-7222 ext. 205

If you would like Technical Assistance to think through potential project design, send an email to [elise@bceh.org](mailto:elise@bceh.org) or call Elise McCauley at 610-372-7222 ext. 205