#### Escambia-Santa Rosa Counties Continuum of Care (CoC) Request for Proposals

#### FY 2024 HUD CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Program Competition

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the FY 2024-2025 HUD CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Program Competition on July 31, 2024. (See <u>HUD NOFO</u>.)

Opening Doors Northwest Florida (Opening Doors NWFL) is the Collaborative Applicant responsible for completing and submitting the annual CoC Program application on behalf of the Escambia-Santa Rosa Counties CoC (FL-511).

Opening Doors Northwest Florida, on behalf of the Escambia-Santa Rosa Counties CoC, is soliciting requests for proposals of projects to be considered for CoC Program funds available to FL-511 Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties Continuum of Care for the FY2024 Competition. All eligible entities are invited to submit project proposals, including entities that have not previously received HUD CoC funding.

Wednesday, July 31, 2024 Thursday, August 1, 2024	<ul> <li>HUD published the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 CoC Competition and the Renewal or Replacement of YHDP grants.</li> <li>e-snaps open for submissions of FY24-25 CoC Application,</li> </ul>
Thursday, August 22, 2024	<ul><li>FY24 CoC Priority Listing, FY24 Project Applications.</li><li>Opening Doors announces the HUD CoC NOFO Competition for</li></ul>
mursudy, August 22, 2024	Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties CoC Public Posting of Request for Proposals (Website & Email). Information will also be distributed to the Escambia County Governmental Liaison, the Homeless Reduction Task Force, and the FDOH Area 1 Linkage Coordinator.
Monday, August 26, 2024	HUD CoC NOFO Workshop Time: 2:00–3:30 PM CDT In-person and virtual options are available Location: Opening Doors Northwest Florida 1020 N. New Warrington Road, Pensacola, FL 32506 Virtual Meeting: <u>Workshop Meeting Link</u>
Friday, August 30, 2024	Letters of Intent to apply for project funding (new and renewal) must be submitted by 7 PM CDT using the Google form available at: LOI Link

#### Timeline

Tuesday, September 10, 2024	Project Applications (new and renewal) must be submitted, with required attachments, by 7 PM CDT by email to grants@openingdoorsnwfl.org.
	No applications submitted after the deadline will be considered by the Project Review and Ranking Committee.
Wednesday, September 11 to Tuesday, September 16, 2024	Project Review and Ranking Committee (PRRC) window is open.
Wednesday, September 17, 2024	PRRC Committee meeting to discuss and finalize the ranking and selection recommendations.
Thursday, September 18, 2024	Project applicants receive an email notification of the PRRC recommendations of projects accepted, reduced, and rejected, along with scores and ranks.
Thursday, September 19, 2024	The CoC Board reviews the PRRC's recommendations for project inclusion and ranking.
Friday, September 20 to Monday, September 23, 2024	The Appeals Window opens at 8 AM CDT on September 20. Appeals must be submitted via email to grants@openingdoorsnwfl.org. The Appeals Window closes at 8 AM CDT on September 23.
Monday, September 23, 2024	If any appeals have been submitted, the CoC Executive Committee holds an emergency meeting to review and respond to those appeals.
Tuesday, September 24, 2024	Public Announcement of Final Ranking and Selected Project Applications for FY2024 Local CoC Competition. Project applicants will be notified by email and results posted to the website (openingdoorsnwfl.org).
Monday, October 7, 2024	Project applications must be submitted in e-snaps by 2:00 PM CDT.
Friday, October 11, 2024	Project applicants must correct in e-snaps any problems identified by the CoC by 2:00 PM CDT.
Thursday, October 24, 2024	Final CoC Application and Priority Listing posted to the website (openingdoorsnwfl.org)
Monday, October 28, 2024	CoC Application, Priority Listing, and Project Applications submitted in e-snaps.
Wednesday, October 30, 2024	HUD's CoC NOFO Final Submission Deadline 7:00 PM CDT

# Funding

HUD has published the following available funding amounts for the CoC.

- Estimated Annual Renewal Demand: \$781,646
- Anticipated Tier I amount: \$703,481

- CoC Bonus Project amount: \$352,945
- DV Bonus Project amount: \$441,181
- Planning Project amount: \$147,060

Note: See the <u>HUD NOFO</u> for definitions of these funding designations. Explanations of Tier I and Tier II can be found in the HUD CoC NOFO in Section I.B.3.h.

# **Eligible Applicants**

Eligible project applicants for the HUD CoC Program Competition include nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments, Indian Tribes and TDHE [as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)]. Public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100, are eligible without limitation or exclusion. For-profit entities are ineligible to apply for grants and are prohibited from being subrecipients of CoC Program grant funds. Faith-based organizations may apply for this award on the same basis as any other organization. For additional details, refer to the FY 2024-2025 HUD CoC Program <u>NOFO</u>. Project applicants must be members of the CoC.

The Escambia-Santa Rosa Counties CoC will not recommend funding for any entities debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in federal assistance programs under the Nonprocurement Common Rule implementing Executive Order 12549, "Debarment and Suspension". The Collaborative Applicant is responsible for verifying subrecipient status in the SAM system.

# **Eligible Project Types**

Eligible project types include the following.

- PSH (new and renewal) Permanent Supportive Housing projects, which must be Dedicated or Dedicated Plus, as defined in the NOFO. (See Section 1.B.2.c.2. and 1.B.2.c.5.)
- RRH (new) Rapid Rehousing projects that serve households who qualify as homeless under paragraphs (1), (2), or (4) of 24 CFR 578.3 or, for new projects, Section 103(b) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
- DV RRH (new) Rapid Rehousing projects to serve households fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, stalking, trafficking, and/or dating violence who qualify as homeless under paragraphs (1) or (4) of 24 CFR 578.3 or, for new

projects, Section 103(b) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

- HMIS (new and renewal) Homeless Management Information System (eligible only if submitted by Opening Doors Northwest Florida as HMIS Lead).
- SSO-CE (renewal) Supportive Services Only projects for Coordinated Entry (eligible only if submitted by Opening Doors Northwest Florida as Coordinated Entry System Lead).
- Planning (new) CoC Planning (eligible only if submitted by Opening Doors Northwest Florida as CoC Lead).

Renewal projects must request funding at the same level as currently funded, as shown on the Grant Inventory Worksheet. Any request for an increase in funding for a renewal project must be submitted as a new project.

# Letter of Intent Requirement

Entities interested in applying for project funding for a renewal or new project are required to submit a Letter of Intent by the deadline in the timeline, using the Google Form here: LOI Link.

# **Project Applications and Scoring Tools**

Entities applying for project funding for a renewal or new project are required to submit a Project Application by the deadline in the timeline, using the appropriate type of Project Application: Renewal Project Application, New DV Project Application, or New Non-DV Project Application. These Application forms, along with related Scoring Tools, may be found here: <u>https://openingdoorsnwfl.org/collaboration/coc-program-competition-2024</u>. Note that Opening Doors Northwest Florida is the only entity that will utilize project applications for HMIS, Coordinated Entry, and Planning.

# **Project Application Attachments**

To meet threshold requirements, project applicants must attach the following documentation.

- Nonprofit Status 501(c)(3) determination letter, IRS Form 990, and FDACS Registration and Renewal
- SAM Registration Renewal Must show expiration date and UEI number
- Letters of Support

- Match Letters
- Applicant Code of Conduct: Must be included in the HUD Code of Conduct Library (see <u>Code Library</u>). If not listed, a Code of Conduct that complies with 2 CFR 200 requirements must be attached to the project application.
- Attachments as required in the Application.

#### **Project Evaluation**

Proposals will be evaluated by the Project Review and Ranking Committee (PRRC) using the FY 2024 Scoring Tool appropriate for the type of project submitted. These Scoring Tools are available on the Opening Doors Northwest Florida website.

The PRRC will discuss the applications and determine a recommendation for funding to be presented to the CoC Board or Executive Committee for approval. These recommendations of funding will include the following types of recommendations:

- Projects to be rejected.
- Projects to be included in the CoC Application, along with recommended funding and any reallocations from renewal projects.
- Scores and ranks of each project to be included in the CoC Application, apart from the CoC Planning grant, which is not subject to ranking as required by HUD.

The CoC Board or Executive Committee will review the recommendations provided by the PRRC and make the final decision regarding which projects to include in the CoC Application to HUD, at what amounts, and with what ranks. Upon approval, Opening Doors Northwest Florida staff will provide notice via email to each project applicant regarding the CoC decisions, as described above.

# Appeals

The Escambia-Santa Rosa Counties CoC will accept written appeals submitted to grants@openingdoorsnwfl.org by the deadline indicated in the timeline. The appeal must explain the reason for the appeal but may not provide any documentation or additional information that was not submitted with the original project proposal.

The CoC Board or Executive Committee will hold a virtual emergency meeting to discuss any appeals and finalize decisions. The project applicant and any affected parties will be notified of the Executive Committee's decision in accordance with the published timeline.

# **Project Listing Ranking and Notification**

At the conclusion of the local competition, all accepted, reduced, and rejected project applications will be notified by email by Opening Doors Northwest Florida. Rejected and reallocated project notifications will include an explanation for rejection or reallocation, as applicable.

# **E-snaps Submission**

Accepted project applicants must submit a project application in e-snaps (the HUD CoC Program online grant system). Project applicants may request technical assistance from Opening Doors to complete submission in e-snaps.

# **HUD Resources**

Important information regarding program components, expansion projects, consolidating grants, transition grants, CoC bonus projects, and DV bonus projects, including threshold requirements, are found in the HUD CoC NOFO. All new and renewal project applicants should review the HUD CoC NOFO to ensure that requirements and expectations are understood and met. Project applicants must also understand fully the definitions, requirements, eligible costs, program components, and expectations set forth in the CoC Program Rule in <u>24 CFR 578</u>.

Below are HUD resources that will be helpful.

- <u>HUD FY 2024 NOFO</u>
- HUD Continuum of Care Overview Page (including guidance)
- HUD Continuum of Care Program Competition Page
- <u>24 CFR 578</u> (the federal regulations governing the CoC program)
- Introduction to E-Snaps
- <u>E-Snaps</u>

# Additional Information

• Questions may be directed to grants@openingdoorsnwfl.org.

 Application materials, scoring tools, and additional information on the Escambia-Santa Rosa Counties FY2024 CoC Program Competition can be found at: <u>https://openingdoorsnwfl.org/collaboration/coc-program-competition-2024</u>. Updates will be posted as new information becomes available.