HEART OF TEXAS HOMELESS COALITION
ADVOCACY · ASSISTANCE · ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Grant101

ABOUT **YHDP**

What is **YHDP**?

■ The **Youth Homeless Demonstration Program** (YHDP) is a competition grant awarded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program to select communities to develop and implement a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness.

■ The demonstration has 5 primary **objectives**:

– *Build national momentum.*

– *Evaluate the coordinated community approach.*

– *Expand capacity.*

– *Evaluate performance measures.*

– *Establish a framework for federal program and technical assistance collaboration.*

Funding of YHDP

- Round 1: $33 Million awarded for 10 communities

- Round 2: $43 Million awarded for 11 communities

- **Round 3** (current competition): $75 Million awarded for up to 25 communities, at least 8 of which will be rural; a minimum of $1 million for each grant awarded. Funds must be used before 9/30/25.

- Round 4: We've heard word that Congress has made and approved appropriations for a 4th round, possibly also at the $75 Million level

Funding of YHDP

- All grants for projects will be for an **initial 2-year grant term** with two 12-month budget periods.

- CoC planning projects will be for a 1-year grant term and are non-renewable. More than one planning project can be applied for over the course of the YHDP. HUD will only allow planning project applications until the community coordinated plan has been submitted and approved by HUD in order to determine remaining balance for project funding.

- Estimated that projects will run from 2019-2021.

- Funds must be used before 9/30/25.

- All grants require a **25% match** and are **reimbursement** grants.

Process of YHDP

- HUD will receive grant applications via the Collaborative Applicant (Heart of Texas Homeless Coalition), until **May 15ᵗʰ** on Grants.gov.

- Once awarded, communities work with technical assistance to develop a **Coordinated Community Plan**. Communities have 4 months to submit their plan and up to 4 months to address comments from HUD.

- Projects are approved by HOTHC, Youth Action Board, and HUD. They will operate for a 2 year grant term that is **renewable** in the CoC Competition if they are a CoC project type.

- Projects are required to use HMIS, participate in Coordinated Entry, and should be Housing First. They are subject to CoC & HMIS monitoring and evaluation by HOTHC's Lead CoC/HMIS Agency, the City of Waco.

Target **Community Area**

HOTHC will apply under two target community areas:

- **Rural** – will include the entire geography of the TX-604 Continuum of Care which is McLennan, Hill, Bosque, Falls, Freestone, and Limestone Counties.

- **Urban** – will include McLennan County only.

- HUD will only select to fund one of the two applications. If only the urban application is funded, in the next round, we can apply for the other 5 counties if we choose to do so.

YHDP **Lead Agency**

- For each application submitted, a YHDP Lead Agency needs to be identified.

- The YHDP Lead would likely be the agency with the most projects.

- Will house the staff member who will lead the YHDP (we are able to use planning grant to fund this position).

- Grant application must demonstrate how the CoC structure will support the lead agency.

Who is **served** by YHDP?

Unaccompanied homeless youth, including parenting and pregnant youth that fall under HUD's Definition of Homelessness Categories 1, 2, and 4.

- **Literal Homelessness** (Category 1):Those who live in a place not meant for human habitation (including the streets or in their car), emergency shelter, transitional housing, and hotels paid for by a government or charitable entity. Eligible for permanent housing, transitional housing, and supportive services only project types.

- **Imminent Risk of Homelessness** (Category 2): Those who will lose their primary nighttime residence within 14 days and has no other resources or support network to obtain other permanent housing. Eligible for permanent housing, transitional housing, and supportive services only project types.

Who is **served** by YHDP?

- **Fleeing Domestic Violence** (Category 4): Those who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions related to violence that has taken place in the house or has made them afraid to return to the house, including **trading sex for housing**, **trafficking**, **physical abuse**, violence (or perceived threat of violence) because of the youth's sexual orientation, and has no other residence, and lacks resources and support networks to obtain other permanent housing. Eligible for permanent housing, transitional housing, and supportive services only project types.

What Can You **Fund**?

You can fund any of the existing CoC Program projects types:

- Permanent Housing Project Types:
  - **Permanent Supportive Housing** (PSH)
  - **Rapid Re-housing** (RRH)
- **Transitional Housing** (TH)
- **Joint Component** Transitional Housing – Rapid Re-housing (TH-RRH)
- **Supportive Services Only** (SSO), including SSO Coordinated Entry
- **HMIS** (HMIS Lead Agency Only)
- **Planning** (YHDP or CoC Lead Agency Only)

What Can You **Fund**?

Other project types that are allowed without a waiver for YHDP:

- **Crisis Residential Transitional Housing**. A form of transitional housing that is short-term, low-barrier, utilizes a congregate living setting, and provides access to the following supportive services in particular: family engagement and unification, case management, emergency triage services and other supportive services whose purpose is to move youth rapidly into stable housing.

- **Host Homes and Kinship care**. YHDP funds may be used to subsidize the increased costs to the family that are attributable to housing the youth, if those costs are eligible CoC program costs.

- **Shared housing**. YHDP funds may be used to provide tenant-based rental assistance for a youth to reside with a family.

What Can You **Fund**?

Project types that require a waiver for YHDP:

- **Rapid Rehousing 2.0**. RRH that is longer than the max of 24 months that is allowable under CoC Program

- **Transition Aged Youth Rental Assistance**. Medium-term RRH for youth under the age of 24, with rental assistance expending past 24 month max.

- **Increased Security Deposits**

Special Projects/activities that can be funded with YHDP but are not renewable in the annual CoC competition:

- **Host Homes and Kinship care.** For the purposes of this Demonstration, recipients can use YHDP for other costs of the host family such as additional utility costs. However, under the Act, these utility costs are not eligible. Therefore, this activity is not renewable under the CoC program. Similar to paying food or meals costs to a host home, the project application must describe how the costs will be determined by the project applicant. HUD will be flexible in determinations of amount and supporting documentation.

Description of **Housing Project** Types

- **Permanent Supportive Housing** (PSH) provides permanent, open-ended housing assistance and services to people who are homeless and have disabilities

- **Rapid Re-housing** (RRH) provides housing without a designated length of stay where the agency provides short or medium-term rental assistance and services to people who are homeless

- **Transitional Housing** (TH) is designed to provide interim stability and support to assist participants as they move to and maintain permanent housing.

- **Joint Component Transitional Housing – Rapid Re-housing** (TH-RRH) combines TH and RRH project types.

Eligible Costs for Housing Projects

- Administrative (up to 10% of the total budget)

- HMIS

- Rental Assistance

- Leasing

- Operating Costs

- Supportive Services

- Acquisition

- Rehabilitation

- New Construction

- Indirect Costs (in accordance with 2 CFR 200, subpart E)

Additional resources about eligible costs can be found at:

https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoCProgramFundingforHMIS.pdf

https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2033/hearth-coc-program-interim-rule/

Description of **SSO Projects**

■ SSO program components allow agencies to provide services to homeless individuals not residing in housing operated by the agency. Funds can be used to provide:

- Coordinated Entry
- Housing search and placement services
- Case management
- Drop-in centers
- Legal services
- Street outreach
- Annual assessment of service needs
- Assistance with moving costs
- Child care operations or vouchers
- Education Services

- Employment assistance and job training
- Food (meals or groceries for program participants
- Life skills training
- Outpatient mental health services
- Outpatient health services
- Outpatient substance abuse treatment services
- Transportation
- Utility deposits

More information on
Project Types & Allowable Costs

- ■ https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CFR-2017-title24-vol3/xml/CFR-2017-title24-vol3-part578.xml#seqnum578.99

- ■ https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CoCProgramIntroductoryGuide.pdf

- ■ https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-program-eligibility-requirements/

- ■ https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3146/coc-program-components-and-eligible-costs/

- ■ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j2oK89L8J2M&index=3&list=PLS7Yr7j8XXlbNDTUUD6x-X8nanch6EYB0

KEY **CONCEPTS**

Continuum of **Care**

The term continuum of care refers to two things:

■ HUD's **Continuum of Care Grant** program is an annual competition that awards grants to agencies to provide housing and supportive services to end homelessness. Was enacted by the HEARTH Act.

■ A **Continuum of Care** is a group that comes together to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness through coordination of housing and services for families and individuals experiencing homelessness and housing instability.

Homeless Management Information System (**HMIS**)

- **HMIS** – a local information technology system used to collect client-level data and data on provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families, and persons at risk of homelessness

- HUD **requires** a CoC to use an single HMIS to **record all participant information** from dedicated homeless projects; this includes CoC Program, ESG and SSVF; *other project types are welcome to join too!*

- You can record participant data elsewhere too (e.g. an Excel spreadsheet), but you **MUST** record it in HMIS

Youth Action Board

- Required for grant to meet threshold to be scored.

- A group of at least 3 youth included in policy-making decisions of the CoC, particularly on policies that relate to preventing and ending youth homelessness.

- Each YAB member must be age 24 or younger, at least 2/3rds of the YAB members must be homeless or formerly homeless.

- Can use planning funds to provide a stipend to youth involved in the YAB.

Housing **First**

■ Housing First is both a **philosophy of services** and a **program model**

■ It means that participants may receive **housing before anything else**, without preconditions of sobriety or service participation

■ It also means participants **can't be denied** or **terminated** from housing based on non-participation in supportive services

■ HUD **rewards** CoCs for using Housing First; therefore HOTHC **rewards** projects that use Housing First

Coordinated Entry

■ **Coordinated Entry** (CE) – a standardized access, assessment, and referral process for housing and other services across agencies in a community.

■ All CoC funded projects **must** receive their referrals via CE

■ HOTHC CE system is called **Heart to Home**.

■ Heart to Home operates 2 **physical access points** at Meyer Center and The Salvation Army Community Kitchen, as well as a **phone line** (254-297-8929) for participants to access CE in the entire Heart of Texas region.

■ Heart to Home is overseen by the **CE Committee** of HOTHC

Additional **Information**

- For more information about the CoC Program, please contact:

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- To find additional resources about **our Continuum of Care** visit: http://www.heartoftexashomeless.org/continuum-of-care/

- To find additional resources about **HUD's CoC Program** visit: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/

- To find additional resources about **YHDP** visit: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/yhdp/