

COC REVIEW, SCORE, & RANKING PROCEDURES AND REALLOCATION PROCESS

Performance Scoring Policy

Applications for New and Renewal Projects will undergo a threshold review to ensure compliance with the HEARTH Act, the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and the local CoC Request for Applications. Any new or renewal project not meeting the threshold requirement will not be further reviewed and will not be considered for funding. Renewal projects have previously passed HUD threshold review and only in very exceptional cases of changed HUD policies or program changes will be at risk of not passing the threshold review.

The Homeless Trust makes available, and accepts comment on the scoring standards for renewal projects on our website, and annually at CoC Planning meetings. The Renewal Scoring Rubric, the New Project Scoring Criteria and the Housing First/Low Barrier Self Questionnaire are attached.

Scoring of renewal projects is tabulated by Homeless Trust staff and is largely based on data obtained from HMIS and adhere to the HUD approved System Performance Measures for the previous year.

The Miami-Dade County Mayor appoints a selection committee of subject matter experts to review, rate and rank New Project applications. After meeting the local RFA and program requirements, all New Projects are subject to the scoring outlined in the local RFA and new project scoring criteria, Attachment 20. The Selection Committee utilizes scoring to inform the selection of conditional sub-recipients. The committee has the discretion to select one or more applications for the amount available for new projects. The committee also may give staff direction to negotiate with conditional applicants.

New and Renewal projects will receive additional points based on the Housing First/Low Barrier Self Questionnaire, Attachment 24.

The Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust, the Miami-Dade CoC's governing body and lead agency, will rank applications after scoring all New and Renewal Projects within the CoC based on the Renewal Project Scoring Rubric and the New Project Scoring Criteria.

Ranking Policy

HUD requires Collaborative Applicants to rank all projects in two tiers. Tier 1 is defined by HUD in the NOFA as a percent of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) approved by HUD on the final HUD-approved Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW). Tier 1 projects are traditionally protected from HUD cuts. Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC's ARD plus any amount available for the permanent housing bonus as described in the HUD NOFA. Tier 2 projects have to compete nationally for funding.

Renewal projects will be scored and ranked according to the Renewal Project Scoring Rubric, Attachment 21, with the exception of first time renewals or projects funded as part of the NOFA competition that have not been in operation for at least one year. Projects funded as part of the NOFA competition that have not been in operation for at least one year will be ranked ahead of first time renewals. First time renewal projects will be ranked after the renewal projects, projects funded as part of a previous NOFA that have not been in operations for one year, and ahead of the new project applications. Should there be a need to place a first time renewal project(s) in Tier 2, those projects will be ranked based on the Selection Committees rating of the new project application submitted in the

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previous year as part of the local solicitation for inclusion in the NOFA collaborative application. New projects will be scored based on the New Project Scoring Criteria and ranked after renewal projects unless otherwise instructed in the USHUD CoC NOFA.

Projects that are deemed essential to the CoC but which would be at risk of loss of funding if placed in Tier 2, will be ranked at the bottom of Tier 1. This may include project-based housing programs currently under construction; HUD-sanctioned Transitional Housing projects dedicated to unaccompanied minors; and Support Service Only Outreach projects providing Coordinated Entry.

Tier 2: Project components will be organized to best maximize the CoC Consolidated Grant Overall Score.

Projects will be ranked in Tier 2 as follows:

- Renewal project applications ranked according to scoring rubric
- Projects funded as part of the NOFA competition that have not been in operation for at least one year
- First time renewal projects
- Reallocation and Bonus project applications ranked according to new project scores that emphasize the HUD priorities as outlined in the NOFA (The Selection Committee will consider ranking recommendations generated from a mock HUD scoring using the NOFA scoring criteria to determine if the repositioning of project applications could be projected to yield increased federal funding).

Planning Project: not ranked.

Re-Allocation Policy

Any funds reallocated as part of recapturing unspent funds, voluntary or involuntary reallocation will be made available for reallocation to create new projects during the local solicitation process.

Unspent Funds

Projects that are not fully expending or underspending their grant awards are subject to the re-allocation process. Projects that have underspent their award by 10% may be reduced and those funds will go to reallocation for New Project(s). A one year grace period may be extended by the Homeless Trust to providers who appeal proposed reallocation with a plan that demonstrates that the grant's expenditure will be improved in the current program year. Projects that have under-expended more than 10% of their award in two consecutive program years will have their funding reduced through reallocation in the next CoC NOFA competition. The Homeless Trust will recapture 75% of unspent funds after making allowances for vacancies.

Voluntary Re-Allocation

As part of the local solicitation for inclusion in the HUD CoC collaborative application, providers are asked whether they wish to voluntarily re-allocate some or all of their funding. Such re-allocated funds are pooled for re-allocation to New Projects. The competitive process for New Projects provides bonus

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points as an incentive to providers offering to reallocate their entire project funds to create a new project addressing CoC priorities.

Involuntary Re-Allocation (Unconditional v Conditional Renewal]

Projects with poor performance, not serving the intended population or with significant, unresolved findings are subject to re-allocation.

The Homeless Trust will establish a threshold for unconditional renewal at 75% of the top score, excluding bonus points. For example, if the top score is 100, the minimum threshold will be set at 75. All projects submitting full renewal applications meeting threshold and scored above the threshold are approved for renewal without conditions.

Projects scoring below the threshold will be asked to develop a plan to address performance issues by next year's competition (Performance Improvement Plan), or to voluntarily give up award moneys to be reallocated to a new project. If problems continue, projects may be reallocated in the following cycle. Applicants may appeal the decision, and the appeal must be considered by the Homeless Trust Board.

Determination of any conditions to renewal will be made at least 45 days ahead of the NOFA due date. Any required Performance Improvement Plans or plan that demonstrates that the grant's expenditure will be improved as part of a reallocation appeal must be submitted for approval at least 30 days ahead of the NOFA due date, so that a final determination can be made as to whether the project goes forward for renewal. A final list of renewal projects will be presented to the CoC Board and posted on the Homeless Trust website.