Before Starting the Special CoC Application

You must submit both of the following parts in order for us to consider your Special NOFO Consolidated Application complete:
1. the CoC Application, and
2. the CoC Priority Listing.

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

As the Collaborative Applicant, you are responsible for reviewing the following:
1. The Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (Special NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The Special NOFO Continuum of Care (CoC) Application Detailed Instructions for Collaborative Applicants which provide additional information and guidance for completing the application.
3. All information provided to ensure it is correct and current.
4. Responses provided by project applicants in their Project Applications.
5. The application to ensure all documentation, including attachment are provided.

CoC Approval is Required before You Submit Your CoC's Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application
- 24 CFR 578.9 requires you to compile and submit the Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application on behalf of your CoC.
- 24 CFR 578.9(b) requires you to obtain approval from your CoC before you submit the Consolidated Application into e-snaps.

Answering Multi-Part Narrative Questions
Many questions require you to address multiple elements in a single text box. Number your responses to correspond with multi-element questions using the same numbers in the question. This will help you organize your responses to ensure they are complete and help us to review and score your responses.

Attachments
Questions requiring attachments to receive points state, "You must upload the [Specific Attachment Name] attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen." Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed–including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process. Include a cover page with the attachment name.
- Attachments must match the questions they are associated with–if we do not award points for evidence you upload and associate with the wrong question, this is not a valid reason for you to appeal HUD's funding determination.
- We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).

1A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Identification

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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1A-1. CoC Name and Number: CA-500 - San Jose/Santa Clara City & County CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: County of Santa Clara by and through Office of Supportive Housing

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: County of Santa Clara Office of Supportive Housing

1A-5.	New Projects	
	Complete the chart below by indicating which funding opportunity(ies) your CoC applying for projects under. A CoC may apply for funding under both set asides; however, projects funded through the rural set aside may only be used in rural areas, as defined in the Special NOFO.	
1.	Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside	Yes
2.	Rural Homelessness Set Aside	No

1B. Project Capacity, Review, and Ranking–Local Competition

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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1B-1.	Web Posting of Your CoC Local Competition Deadline–Advance Public Notice. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Deadline attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC published the deadline for project application submission for your CoC's local competition.	09/16/2022

1B-2.	Project Review and Ranking Process Your CoC Used in Its Local Competition. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.a.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Scoring Tool attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ranked and selected new project applications during your CoC's local competition:	
1.	Established total points available for each project application type.	Yes
2.	At least 33 percent of the total points were based on objective criteria for the project application (e.g., cost effectiveness, timely draws, utilization rate, match, leverage), performance data, type of population served (e.g., DV, youth, Veterans, chronic homelessness), or type of housing proposed (e.g., PSH, RRH).	Yes
3.	At least 20 percent of the total points were based on system performance criteria for the project application (e.g., exits to permanent housing destinations, retention of permanent housing, length of time homeless, returns to homelessness).	Yes

1B-3.	Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
1.	Did your CoC reject or reduce any project application(s)?	Yes
2.	Did your CoC inform the applicants why their projects were rejected or reduced?	Yes
3.	If you selected yes, for element 1 of this question, enter the date your CoC notified applicants that their project applications were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, list the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 6/26/22, 6/27/22, and 6/28/22, then you must enter 6/28/22.	09/26/2022

1B-3a.	Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Accepted attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC notified project applicants that their project applications were accepted and ranked on the New Priority Listings in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, list the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 6/26/22, 6/27/22, and 6/28/22, then you must enter 6/28/22.	09/26/2022

1B-4.	Web Posting of the CoC-Approved Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.1.b.	
	You must upload the Web Posting–Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	Enter the date your CoC posted its Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application on the CoC's website or affiliate's website–which included: 1. the CoC Application, and 2. Priority Listings.	10/18/2022

2A. System Performance

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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2A-1.	**Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless–Risk Factors.**	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.b.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	**how your CoC determined which risk factors your CoC uses to identify persons becoming homeless for the first time;**
2.	**how your CoC addresses individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless; and**
3.	**provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time or to end homelessness for individuals and families.**

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The CoC used local & national data to ID RISK FACTORS. PIT data since 2011 shows eviction, lack of employment, low or no income as primary causes of homelessness. The CoC's Homelessness Prevention System (HPS) data identified DV as a risk factor for families. Local housing data show extreme costs & lack of affordable housing disproportionately impact very low-income residents. National research indicates various risk factors, including low or no income, mental illness, abuse, criminal justice involvement. Based on this data, HPS set eligibility criteria: low income; self-report that housing will be lost w/in 14 days or housing is unsafe; & a score of 8+ on the Prevention VI-SPDAT, which scores income & financial health, history of homelessness, eviction risk, abuse &/or trafficking, interaction w/ emergency services, including criminal justice, acuity of mental & physical health needs. DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, national data showed that low-income & people of color were at higher risk for health & economic impacts.
2) STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THOSE AT RISK: A)CoC-wide HPS coordinates 19 agencies to offer financial assistance & case management to meet each client's needs, w/ ongoing evaluation of outcomes. HPS housing specialists help clients retain housing or relocate. From HPS launch in July 2017 to Sept 2022, annual service capacity has increased from 840 to 1,600 households; funding has increased from $5.7M to $16.9M; 95.8% of 4,455 households remained stably housed while receiving services, and 92.4% retained housing 1 year after exit. B)The CoC partners w/ Law Foundation of Silicon Valley for eviction prevention & HPS staff refer directly. C)CalWORKS & SSVF provide HP financial assistance, case management, connections to benefits & job training. D)DURING THE PANDEMIC, the CoC expanded beyond the HPS to a network of 72 orgs to distribute financial assistance to high-risk neighborhoods & communities. Of a total $85.4 million in COVID assistance to 19,695 households, with over 1/3 of funding going to the 5 most highly COVID-19 impacted and lowest-income neighborhoods in the CoC.
3) RESPONSIBLE: OSH, CoC Quality Improvement Manager

2A-2.	**Length of Time Homeless–Strategy to Reduce. (All Applicants)**	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.c.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	**your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless;**
2.	**how your CoC identifies and houses individuals and persons in families with the longest lengths of time homeless; and**
3.	**provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.**

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC's 2020-25 Community Plan to End Homelessness sets a goal to house 20,000 people; as of July 31, 2022, the CoC has housed 8,207 people (41% to goal) despite significant economic impacts and systemwide staffing challenges related to COVID-19. 1) ES, TH, RRH: A) A persistent gap between high rents & stagnant wages is a primary barrier to housing. The CoC's Living Wage Employment Initiative prioritizes RRH & RRH-eligible clients on the CE queue for job training & employment programs.This initiative helps to increase income of households in need of permanent housing to promote increased placements and housing stability. Affordable housing funded by a County Housing Bond & other funds includes 501 deeply affordable units set aside for RRH clients, w/ 1,099 more RRH units planned. This initiative is increasing the supply of RRH units to increase overall placement rates. B) The CoC's landlord incentive programs bring in new landlords & retain existing landlords as they have new vacancies. In 2015-2021, the All the Way Home vets program engaged 912 new landlords to house 2,201 vets. Landlord Engagement strategies are increasing housing placement and retention rates. D) RRH programs offer housing-focused case management from program entry. E) Since 2016, the CoC has expanded housing case management to more ES, to increase exits to PH. F) DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC, TH & RRH providers swiftly implemented strategies to help clients to find & maintain housing, including remote CM & adjustments to subsidy step-downs. G) In 2022, the CoC expanded Housing Problem Solving to all ES providers. Housing Problem Solving utilizes trained staff and flexible funds to rapidly resolve housing crises & avoid or shorten ES stays facilitating increased housing placement rates. 2) THE COC'S PSH maintains consistently high housing stability (98-99% in 2020-22) via Housing First, intensive case management & a no-fail approach. A) Staff are trained in evidence-based practices (trauma-informed care, motivational interviewing, harm reduction). B) Meaningful daily activity programs build social supports. C) High-utilizer PSH programs integrate medical & psychiatric services to meet housing & healthcare needs. D) The CoC partners w/ SSA for dedicated SSI advocates, Law Foundation for legal services, Valley Homeless Healthcare Program for dedicated medical team. The CoC is continuing these strategies to promote housing stability and retention.

2A-3.	Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.d.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC will increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in:
1.	emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations; and
2.	permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC's 2020-25 Community Plan to End Homelessness sets a goal to house 20,000 people; as of July 31, 2022, the CoC has housed 8,207 people (41% to goal) despite significant economic impacts and systemwide staffing challenges related to COVID-19. 1) ES, TH, RRH: The CoC will increase housing placement rates through the following initiatives. A) A persistent gap between high rents & stagnant wages is a primary barrier to housing. The CoC's Living Wage Employment Initiative prioritizes RRH & RRH-eligible clients on the CE queue for job training & employment programs. This initiative helps to increase income of households in need of permanent housing to promote increased placements and housing stability. Affordable housing funded by a County Housing Bond & other funds includes 501 deeply affordable units set aside for RRH clients, w/ 1,099 more RRH units planned. This initiative is increasing the supply of RRH units to increase overall placement rates. B) The CoC's landlord incentive programs bring in new landlords & retain existing landlords as they have new vacancies. In 2015-2021, the All the Way Home vets program engaged 912 new landlords to house 2,201 vets. Landlord Engagement strategies are increasing housing placement and retention rates. D) RRH programs offer housing-focused case management from program entry. E) Since 2016, the CoC has expanded housing case management to more ES, to increase exits to PH. F) In 2022, the CoC expanded Housing Problem Solving to all ES providers. Housing Problem Solving utilizes trained staff and flexible funds to rapidly resolve housing crises & avoid or shorten ES stays facilitating increased housing placement rates.
2) THE COC'S PSH maintains consistently high housing stability (98-99% in 2020-22) via Housing First, intensive case management & a no-fail approach. A) Staff are trained in evidence-based practices (trauma-informed care, motivational interviewing, harm reduction). B) Meaningful daily activity programs build social supports. C) High-utilizer PSH programs integrate medical & psychiatric services to meet housing & healthcare needs. D) The CoC partners w/ SSA for dedicated SSI advocates, Law Foundation for legal services, Valley Homeless Healthcare Program for dedicated medical team. The CoC is continuing these strategies to promote housing stability and retention.

2A-4.	Returns to Homelessness–CoC's Strategy to Reduce Rate. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.e.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC identifies individuals and families who return to homelessness;
2.	your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness; and
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families return to homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The CoC IDENTIFIES HOUSEHOLDS WHO RETURN TO HOMELESSNESS by using HMIS reports, CE & Homelessness Prevention System (HPS) data to track returns system-wide, by project type, by subpopulation, & by individual client.
2) The CoC implements the following STRATEGIES TO REDUCE RETURNS TO HOMELESSNESS: A) Supportive housing program staff build relationships with and educate landlords and educate tenants about good tenancy and tenant rights to promote stable tenancy after project support ends. B) Supportive housing programs offer life skills training and connections to resources outside of project support to address common destabilizing factors after project support ends. C) The County Office of Supportive Housing (OSH) & housing providers partner with the Law Foundation for anti-eviction legal services & mediation. D) PSH housing programs offer Housing First no-fail support for clients even after evictions, working with clients to address causes of eviction & find better-fit housing. RESULT: 98% PSH housing stability and 5% returns to HL after one year. E) The CoC's RRH Workshop trainings for provider staff emphasize long-term stability strategies, including housing stability planning, employment, and connections to resources outside of project support. F) The CoC's Living Wage Employment Initiative engages job training & employment partners in living-wage industries to prioritize RRH clients, enhancing stability after RRH ends. G) RRH offers flexible length of assistance responsive to client need, up to 2 yrs, with regular check-ins to assess potential for long-term stability. H) For clients fleeing DV, trauma-informed care & prioritizing client choice & safety support housing stability. I) For TAY, the YHDP Coordinated Community Plan as well as existing youth providers utilize Positive Youth Development & trauma-informed care; family reconciliation; GED & diploma programs, vocational training, & higher ed; and a focus on building permanent, positive connections to community and to supportive older adults. J) The Homelessness Prevention System is a widely used resource available for households who exited homelessness & are at risk of return; housing providers refer former participants to the HPS as necessary. K) The CoC incentivizes a focus on long-term stability with 10 pts on CoC scoring tool for renewal projects based on returns to homelessness.
3) RESPONSIBLE: County OSH RRH & PSH Program Managers

2A-5.	**Increasing Employment Cash Income–Strategy. (All Applicants)**	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.f.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	**the strategy your CoC has implemented to increase employment cash sources;**
2.	**how your CoC works with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families increase their cash income; and**
3.	**provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase income from employment.**

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The CoC's strategy to INCREASE EMPLOYMENT INCOME targets full-time living-wage employment. The CoC's LIVING WAGE EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE (LWEI) engages job training & employment partner JobTrain to prioritize RRH clients & those in ES, TH & unsheltered for training & employment. The LWEI's goal is to connect participants "with living-wage employment leading to careers in high-growth industries" such as healthcare, technology, advanced manufacturing, building & construction. JobTrain offers resume support, career exploration, interview skills, job search assistance, & youth-targeted paid work experience, as well as job training in healthcare, construction trades, IT, culinary arts, digital literacy, & financial literacy. In 2021, the CoC added a standard Employment Assessment into HMIS to facilitate assessment & referral of clients for employment services as a strategy to increase employment income. In 2020 & 2021, the County of Santa Clara & the City of San Jose (CSJ) expanded employment opportunities for unhoused & formerly unhoused adults w/ RFP/contract incentives, e.g. for shelter hotline, vaccination outreach, & interim housing staffing.
2) The LWEI's direct partnership w/ a mainstream employment service organization allows the CoC to offer comprehensive, coordinated employment services that target the unique needs & barriers of unhoused & newly housed people. Employment & training are targeted to homeless & formerly homeless adults through a contract w/ JobTrain. Housing provider & employment partner staff attend LWEI mtgs for case conferencing & info sharing about employment opportunities. In addition to formal partnerships, JobTrain maintains connections with local employers & training programs and provides regular updates to housing providers on employment-related resources and opportunities.
3. RESPONSIBLE: County OSH RRH Program Manager

2A-5a.	Increasing Non-employment Cash Income–Strategy. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.2.f.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	the strategy your CoC has implemented to increase non-employment cash income;
2.	your CoC's strategy to increase access to non-employment cash sources; and
3.	provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) INCREASING ACCESS TO NON-EMPLOYMENT INCOME: The CoC's strategy to increase access to non-employment income includes partnerships and connections with mainstream systems that provide cash assistance and benefits programs. A) All housing providers assess clients for benefits eligibility and help clients apply for and maintain federal, state, and local public cash assistance benefits (SSI, SSDI, GA, VA benefits, TANF, CAPI, etc) B) The CoC offers annual CoC-wide trainings on connecting clients to public benefits co-presented with the local legal aid providers and other benefit-specific specialists. Trainings cover eligibility, application process & best practices, common barriers & problem solving, and peer sharing. In 2022, trainings covered SSI & SSDI, CalFresh (SNAP), General Assistance (GA), WIC, Medicare, Medi-Cal, and Covered CA. C) The CoC partners with SSA to provide dedicated SSI advocates for PSH clients. D) In 2018, the County Office of Supportive Housing and SSA partnered to implement the state-funded Homeless Disability Advocacy Program, which co-locates behavioral health clinicians at the GA office for Coordinated Entry intake & help with documentation for SSI applications. Highly vulnerable homeless GA recipients are targeted to HDAP-aligned PSH funds. E) The CoC notifies homeless providers of changes to benefits availability, eligibility, & application requirements via the SPN email list. F) DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, the CoC provided info to providers on COVID-related stimulus, unemployment benefits, and emergency financial & rental assistance via the 1,060-person Service Providers Network email list and weekly or twice-weekly all-provider calls. G) Coordinated Entry & homeless service providers coordinate with the VA to ensure homeless veterans are identified & assessed for eligibility for VA medical care & benefits
2) RESPONSIBLE: County Office of Supportive Housing PSH Program Managers

2B. Coordination and Engagement–Inclusive Structure and Participation

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

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2B-1.	Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Sections VII.B.3.a.(1)	

	In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022:
1.	select yes or no in the chart below if the entity listed participates in CoC meetings, voted–including selecting CoC Board members, and participated in your CoC's coordinated entry system; or
2.	select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist in your CoC's geographic area:

	Organization/Person	Participated in CoC Meetings	Voted, Including Electing of CoC Board Members	Participated in CoC's Coordinated Entry System
1.	Affordable Housing Developer(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
2.	Agencies serving survivors of human trafficking	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
5.	CoC-Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
6.	Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.	Disability Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
9.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	No	No	No
10.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	Hospital(s)	Yes	No	Yes
12.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	No	No	No
13.	Law Enforcement	Yes	No	No
14.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	No	No
15.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	Yes	No	Yes
16.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	Yes
17.	Local Jail(s)	No	No	Yes
18.	Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes

20.	Non-CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
21.	Non-CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
22.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes	Yes	Yes
23.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes	No	Yes
24.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	No	No	Yes
25.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
26.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	No	Yes
28.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
29.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	No
30.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	No	Yes
31.	Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	Youth Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)			
33.	Employment services	Yes	No	No
34.	Homelessness prevention	Yes	Yes	No

2B-2.	Open Invitation for New Members. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(2), V.B.3.g.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	communicated the invitation process annually to solicit new members to join the CoC;
2.	ensured effective communication with individuals with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats;
3.	conducted outreach to ensure persons experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless persons are encouraged to join your CoC; and
4.	invited organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in the geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, other People of Color, persons with disabilities).

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) NEW MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN by attending any CoC meeting, joining the CoC email list, or telling the CoC they want to join. The CoC solicits new members at public CoC meetings AT LEAST MONTHLY & in email about CoC meetings sent AT LEAST MONTHLY to the Service Providers Network & CoC listservs (1,289 & 929 members). Online CoC calendar gives details about all meetings. The CoC uses funding announcements & ongoing CE/HMIS outreach to invite new members. The CoC drafted a contract addendum for use by City of San Jose, the County, &other funders, which requires local grantees to join HMIS & CE. The CoC publicizes its work in monthly system reports & annual Community Plan reports.

2) Meeting announcements are plain-text email READABLE BY ASSISTIVE TECH. In-person meetings are PHYSICALLY ACCESSIBLE & SIGN-LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS are available on request; remote meetings offer CLOSED CAPTIONING. The CoC website is reviewed against Web Content Accessibility Guidelines & errors are addressed.

3) The CoC has incorporated an equity focus and targeted invitations to organizations with ties to groups over-represented in the homeless population for all major planning & policy work in the past year. In 2021, core system partner Destination: Home (D:H) & the Collaborative Applicant met with the Si Se Puede Collective, 4 CBOs from San Jose's Mayfair neighborhood, about CoC system barriers for BIPOC communities. During the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) community planning process in 2022, the CoC targeted invitations to organizations serving LGBTQ+ youth and organizations led by people of color. The CoC also held a YHDP listening session for orgs specializing in LGBTQ+ youth services. In 2022, D:H developed the Andre Ellison Equity Fund, a fund developed to support the work of organizations led by people with lived experience of homelessness and/or people of color, committing a total of $2.75 million over 3 years to 7 CBOs. The CoC reached out directly to Andre Ellison recipients and other BIPOC-led orgs to encourage participation in NOFO Committee mtg discussions of Racial Equity scoring and strategies. The CoC's current Coordinated Entry redesign process is led in part by a Prioritization Committee of people with lived experience being unhoused (including BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, immigrant, undocumented, and disabled participants) and an Implementation Subcommittee that includes seats specifically for two organizations representing people with disabilities.

2B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(3)	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	solicited and considered opinions from a broad array of organizations and individuals that have knowledge of homelessness or an interest in preventing and ending homelessness;
2.	communicated information during public meetings or other forums your CoC uses to solicit public information; and
3.	took into consideration information gathered in public meetings or forums to address improvements or new approaches to preventing and ending homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The CoC SOLICITS & CONSIDER OPINIONS at public meetings and through special committees and listening sessions. A) Public meetings of the Performance Management Work Group, NOFO Committee, Coordinated Entry Work Group (CEWG), Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) planning process, HMIS Admins, and General Membership gather input on all areas of CoC operations. Public mtgs are widely advertised via the CoC & Service Provider Network email lists (1,289 & 929 members) & on the CoC's public calendar. Attendees in 2022 included healthcare, VSPs, youth providers, child welfare, education partners, behavioral health, veterans services, private funders, affordable housing developers, local gov't, employment, and more. B) In 2022, the CEWG moved forward a Coordinated Entry redesign process with a Prioritization Committee comprised of people with lived experience being unhoused, including members self-identified as BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, immigrant, undocumented, disabled, survivors, parents, YYA, seniors, vets, criminal legal system impacted, former foster youth, and currently unhoused. A CE Redesign Implementation Committee includes representatives of lived experience, ES, Outreach, Supportive Housing, DV advocacy, medical care, behavioral health, YHDP, and long-term nursing care. C) The CoC attends twice-monthly Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) meetings & weekly Youth Action Board (YAB) mtgs to solicit input for proposed policies, funding decisions, & system design. D) In 2022, the CoC led an extensive planning process for the YHDP with the Youth Action Board (YAB), a group of youth and young adults who have lived experience being unhoused, and a YHDP Planning Group including local gov't, youth housing, juvenile criminal legal system, legal services, Local Education Agency, medical & behavioral health, child welfare agency, DV & human trafficking, LGBTQIA+ orgs, and BIPOC-led orgs. 2) The CoC COMMUNICATES INFO ON NEW POLICIES, RESOURCES, & BEST PRACTICES through standing CoC Update items as well as specific agenda items at public mtgs above.3) FEEDBACK IN PUBLIC MEETINGS IS A PRIMARY CATALYST FOR CHANGES to CoC policies & practices, & new policies are vetted by CoC committees. E.g. after hearing input in public CEWG mtgs on the community's desire to design a more equitable CES process in 2021, the CoC began in 2022 to design a more equitable CES process by beginning the work of developing a new assessment & prioritization tool. E.g. Each year, the NOFO Committee debriefs and makes recommended change

2B-4.	Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Funded. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.a.(4)	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC notified the public:
1.	that your CoC's local competition was open and accepting project applications;
2.	that your CoC will consider project applications from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding;
3.	about how project applicants must submit their project applications;
4.	about how your CoC would determine which project applications it would submit to HUD for funding; and
5.	how your CoC effectively communicated with individuals with disabilities, including making information accessible in electronic formats.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) The CoC's Intro to CoC Funding training, prior to the competition period (2/7/22), was attended by 14 non-CoC-funded agencies. This training covers the basics of CoC Program funding, eligible uses, and grant requirements, & trainers encouraged new applicants to apply. Additional training sessions on CoC project design and application components were offered 7/27 and 7/28 to lower barriers for new applicants. CoC funding competition announcements & reminders to the CoC and SPN email lists (1,365 & 933 members), and all attendees of Intro to CoC Funding sessions, on 8/2 & 8/10 EXPRESSLY WELCOMED AGENCIES NOT CURRENTLY RECEIVING COC FUNDING and made clear that new project funding is available.

2) Application materials were provided at a 2-hour public TA Workshop (8/10/22), posted on the CoC website (8/10/22) and emailed to the CoC & SPN lists. The TA Workshop covers the local competition process and e-snaps guidance for renewal and new project applicants, including a review of local and e-snaps application forms, process timeline & deadlines, and local submission method and requirements. On-call TA was provided by phone & email to help applicants understand the local process and HUD requirements 13 non-CoC funded agencies attended the TA Workshop, 4 expressed intent to apply, & 2 applied.

3) The TA Workshop TRAINED APPLICANTS ON THE REVIEW & RANK PROCESS, including the R&R panel scoring and appeals process, the creation of a tiered Priority Listing, and the scoring factors applied to new project applications. Applications for new project funding are scored by the R&R panel based on the extent the new project will contribute to system performance. Scoring includes: Project readiness; Plan for services; Performance outcomes & data quality for past projects; Supports for Fair Housing; Housing First; Agency capacity to administer grant funding; and Extent of client participation in program design and policy-making. Like renewals, new projects are ranked in the priority listing based on total score. There is no point bonus for prior experience with CoC funding.

4) CoC funding announcements & TA Workshop meeting invitations (plain-text email) and scoring tool PDFs were formatted to be READABLE BY ASSISTIVE TECH. The TA Workshop was on Zoom & LIVE CAPTIONING was provided. The CoC's website is actively reviewed against Web Content Accessibility Guidelines and errors are addressed.

2C. Coordination / Engagement–with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

2C-1.	**Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations. (All Applicants)**	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.b.	

	In the chart below:
1.	**select yes or no for entities listed that are included in your CoC's coordination, planning, and operations of projects that serve individuals, families, unaccompanied youth, persons who are fleeing domestic violence who are experiencing homelessness, or those at risk of homelessness; or**
2.	**select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist within your CoC's geographic area.**

	Entities or Organizations Your CoC Coordinates with for Planning or Operations of Projects	Coordinates with Planning or Operations of Projects
1.	Funding Collaboratives	Yes
2.	Head Start Program	No
3.	Housing and services programs funded through Local Government	Yes
4.	Housing and services programs funded through other Federal Resources (non-CoC)	Yes
5.	Housing and services programs funded through private entities, including Foundations	Yes
6.	Housing and services programs funded through State Government	Yes
7.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Yes
8.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)	Yes
9.	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Yes
10.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	No
11.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes
12.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes
13.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	No
14.	Private Foundations	Yes
15.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes
16.	Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Yes
17.	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)	
18.		

2C-2.	CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.b.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG funds;
2.	participated in evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients;
3.	provided Point-in-Time (PIT) count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area; and
4.	provided information to Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions to address homelessness within your CoC's geographic area so it could be addressed in Consolidated Plan update.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1) THE CoC CONSULTS WITH BOTH ESG RECIPIENTS IN THE COC: the City of San Jose (CSJ) & the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). CSJ is an active member of the CoC & CoC staff regularly communicate w/ CSJ regarding the use of ESG funding to fill capacity gaps & attend CSJ City Council meetings to report on homeless system efforts. CSJ was on the Community Plan Steering Committee & currently co-leads Community Plan implementation. The CoC provides detailed custom data reports to CSJ throughout the year for use in planning. HCD subcontracts ESG funding to the County Office of Supportive Housing (OSH), the CoC Collaborative Applicant. OSH makes all local decisions for award of HCD ESG & ESG-CV funding based on HCD funding requirements and priorities. CoC staff participate in HCD listening sessions & other opportunities for input into the HCD's ESG Annual Plan & funding allocation. DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, OSH & CSJ STAFF CO-LOCATED at a Joint Departmental Operations Center to coordinate support for the unhoused population for the first several months of the pandemic and MET WEEKLY to coordinate all COVID response funding. ESG-CV funding filled key funding gaps. Coordination meetings continue biweekly and include the Housing Authority and Destination: Home.

2) EVALUATION & REPORTING: The HMIS Lead assists CSJ to generate an annual ESG CAPER and provides custom HMIS reports with city-specific outcomes used to monitor CSJ programs, including ESG-funded. OSH administers all HCD ESG funding & tracks performance of subgrantees w/ CoC performance metrics. CoC and ESG written standards include a process for monitoring ESG subrecipients using HMIS data.

3) The CoC PROVIDES PIT AND HIC DATA to Con Plan jurisdictions via the CoC website.

4)The CoC provides MONTHLY SYSTEM PERFORMANCE REPORTS to Consolidated Plan jurisdictions via the CoC website. The CoC presented the 2020-2024 Community Plan to County and cities; 11 of 17 jurisdictions endorsed, and the CoC offered TA to all interested cities to develop implementation plans aligned with the Community Plan (3 cities have received TA).

2C-3.	Discharge Planning Coordination. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.c.	

	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC actively coordinates with the systems of care listed to ensure persons who have resided in them longer than 90 days are not discharged directly to the streets, emergency shelters, or other homeless assistance programs.	
1.	Foster Care	Yes
2.	Health Care	Yes
3.	Mental Health Care	Yes
4.	Correctional Facilities	Yes

2C-4.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–SEAs, LEAs, School Districts. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the entities your CoC collaborates with:	
1.	Youth Education Provider	Yes
2.	State Education Agency (SEA)	No
3.	Local Education Agency (LEA)	Yes
4.	School Districts	Yes

2C-4a.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–SEAs, LEAs, School Districts–Formal Partnerships. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC collaborates with the entities checked in Question 2C-4; and
2.	the formal partnerships your CoC has with the entities checked in Question 2C-4.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The SCC CoC has formal partnerships built into its governance structure to support efforts to prevent and end youth homelessness. The CoC has a Community Plan to End Youth and Young Adult Homelessness and is a YHDP community. The CoC has a Youth Action Board (YAB) that is formally part of the CoC Governance Structure. The CoC Governance Charter was revised in March 2022 to add an at-large seat for one youth or young adult with lived experience of homelessness. The YAB provides input and recommendations directly to the CoC Board. The YHDP Planning Group and Coordination Team includes youth educational partners including Santa Clara County Office of Education and San José State University.

The CoC has adopted policies and procedures related to supporting educational services for youth experiencing homelessness. Policies and procedures were informed by partnerships with local schools and the Santa Clara County Office of Education. Education providers help with training and support of homeless service providers so all are equipped and supported in ensuring educational resources are provided to youth experiencing homelessness.

2C-4b.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth–Informing Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.d.	

Describe in the field below written policies and procedures your CoC adopted to inform individuals and families who become homeless of their eligibility for educational services

(limit 2,500 characters)

CoC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REQUIRE PROGRAMS to: 1) Inform families with children and unaccompanied youth of their educational rights, including providing written materials, help with enrollment, and linkage to McKinney Vento Liaisons as part of intake procedures; 2) Post notices of student's rights at each program site that serves homeless children and families in appropriate languages; 3) Designate staff that will be responsible for ensuring that homeless children and youth in their programs are in school and are receiving all educational services they are entitled to and to coordinate with the CoC, the Department of Social Services, the County Office of Education, the McKinney Vento Coordinator, the McKinney Vento Educational Liaisons, and other mainstream providers as needed; 4) Take the educational needs of children into account when placing families in housing and place families with children as close as possible to their school of origin so as not to disrupt such children's education; 5) Allow parents or the youth (if unaccompanied) to make decisions about school placement; 6) Not require children and unaccompanied youth to attend after-school or educational programs that would replace/interfere with regular day school or prohibit them from staying enrolled in their original school.

2C-5.	Mainstream Resources–CoC Training of Project Staff. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.e.	

Indicate in the chart below whether your CoC trains project staff annually on the following mainstream resources available for program participants within your CoC's geographic area:

	Mainstream Resource	CoC Provides Annual Training?
1.	Food Stamps	Yes
2.	SSI–Supplemental Security Income	Yes
3.	TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Yes
4.	Substance Abuse Programs	No
5.	Employment Assistance Programs	Yes
6.	Other	

You must select a response for elements 1 through 6 in question 2C-5.

2C-5a.	Mainstream Resources–CoC Collaboration with Project Staff Regarding Healthcare Organizations. (All Applicants)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.B.3.e.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	systemically provides up-to-date information on mainstream resources available for program participants (e.g., Food Stamps, SSI, TANF, substance abuse programs) within your CoC's geographic area;
2.	works with project staff to collaborate with healthcare organizations to assist program participants with enrolling in health insurance;
3.	provides assistance to project staff with the effective use of Medicaid and other benefits; and
4.	works with projects to promote SOAR certification of program staff.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC Lead offers Annual free open-invitation mainstream benefits training for providers CoC-wide, advertised via the CoC and Service Provider Network listservs (677 and 580 members). Training is co-presented by the CoC and benefits providers including healthcare partners. This is 4 part, 12 hour training series that includes how to apply for benefits and best practices for maintaining benefits including SSI/SSDI, GA, SNAP, WIC, TANF, Medicaid & Medicare, CAPI, and CalWorks. The CoC lead partners closely with the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center's Valley Homeless Healthcare Program (VHHP) to ensure homeless and PSH clients connect with health insurance and care. VHHP mobile medial outreach and dedicated PSH clinical team assist eligible clients with Medicaid enrollment. All PSH and RRH case manager also assess Medicaid eligibility at enrollment. The CoC also collaborates with the behavioral health system that oversees mental health and substance use treatment to educate providers on referring and navigating these benefits for persons who desire those services. The CoC tracks healthcare benefits enrollment as a local benchmark to ensure connections are made and sustained for eligible participants. In addition to promoting SOAR training for all service providers and partners, the CoC in partnership with the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley provides a comprehensive training on applying, navigating and appealing SSI/SSDI benefits. A two-part training, this series covers post-eligibility issues most commonly faced including health insurance benefits, payees, living arrangements and SSI, Incarceration, working while receiving benefits and overpayments.

3A. New Projects With Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

3A-1.	**Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects. (Rural Set Aside Only).**	
	Special NOFO Section VII.A.	

If the answer to the question below is yes, you must upload the CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
Is your CoC requesting funding for any new project(s) under the Rural Set Aside for housing rehabilitation or new construction costs?	No

3B. Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

3B-1.	Designating SSO/TH/Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Projects to Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. (Rural Set Aside Only)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.C.	

Is your CoC requesting to designate one or more of its SSO, TH, or Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects to serve families with children or youth experiencing homelessness as defined by other Federal statutes?	No

3B-2.	Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes. (Rural Set Aside Only)	
	Special NOFO Section VII.C.	
	You must upload the Project List for Other Federal Statutes attachment to the 4A. Attachments Screen.	
	If you answered yes to question 3B-1, describe in the field below:	
1.	how serving this population is of equal or greater priority, which means that it is equally or more cost effective in meeting the overall goals and objectives of the plan submitted under Section 427(b)(1)(B) of the Act, especially with respect to children and unaccompanied youth than serving the homeless as defined in paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of the definition of homeless in 24 CFR 578.3; and	
2.	how your CoC will meet requirements described in Section 427(b)(1)(F) of the Act.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

4A. Attachments Screen For All Application Questions

	Please read the following guidance to help you successfully upload attachments and get maximum points:
1.	**You must include a Document Description for each attachment you upload; if you do not, the Submission Summary screen will display a red X indicating the submission is incomplete.**
2.	**You must upload an attachment for each document listed where 'Required?' is 'Yes'**
3.	**We prefer that you use PDF files, though other file types are supported–please only use zip files if necessary. Converting electronic files to PDF, rather than printing documents and scanning them, often produces higher quality images and reduces file size. Many systems allow you to create PDF files as a Print Option. If you are unfamiliar with this process, you should consult your IT Support or search for information on Google or YouTube.**
4.	**Attachments must match the questions they are associated with.**
5.	**Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed–including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process.**
6.	**If you cannot read the attachment, it is likely we cannot read it either. - We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time). - We must be able to read everything you want us to consider in any attachment.**
7.	**Open attachments once uploaded to ensure they are the correct attachment for the required Document Type.**

Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1B-1. Local Competition Announcement	Yes	SCC Special NOFO ...	10/11/2022
1B-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	SCC Project Scori...	10/11/2022
1B-3. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	Notification of P...	10/12/2022
1B-3a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	Notification of A...	10/12/2022
1B-4. Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application	Yes	ConAppPosting_10....	10/18/2022
3A-1. CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs	No		
3B-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No		
P-1. Leveraging Housing Commitment	No	Agrihood PSH PBV ...	10/12/2022
P-1a. PHA Commitment	No	PHA Support Letter	10/12/2022
P-3. Healthcare Leveraging Commitment	No	Healthcare Leverage	10/20/2022
P-9c. Lived Experience Support Letter	No	LEAB and YAB Supp...	10/20/2022
Plan. CoC Plan	Yes	CA-500 Plan to Se...	10/20/2022

Attachment Details

Document Description: SCC Special NOFO Competition Announcment_Timeline

Attachment Details

Document Description: SCC Project Scoring Tool

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Projects Rejected

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notification of Accepted Projects

Attachment Details

Document Description: ConAppPosting_10.18.22

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: Agrihood PSH PBV Commitment

Attachment Details

Document Description: PHA Support Letter

Attachment Details

Document Description: Healthcare Leverage

Attachment Details

Document Description: LEAB and YAB Support Letters

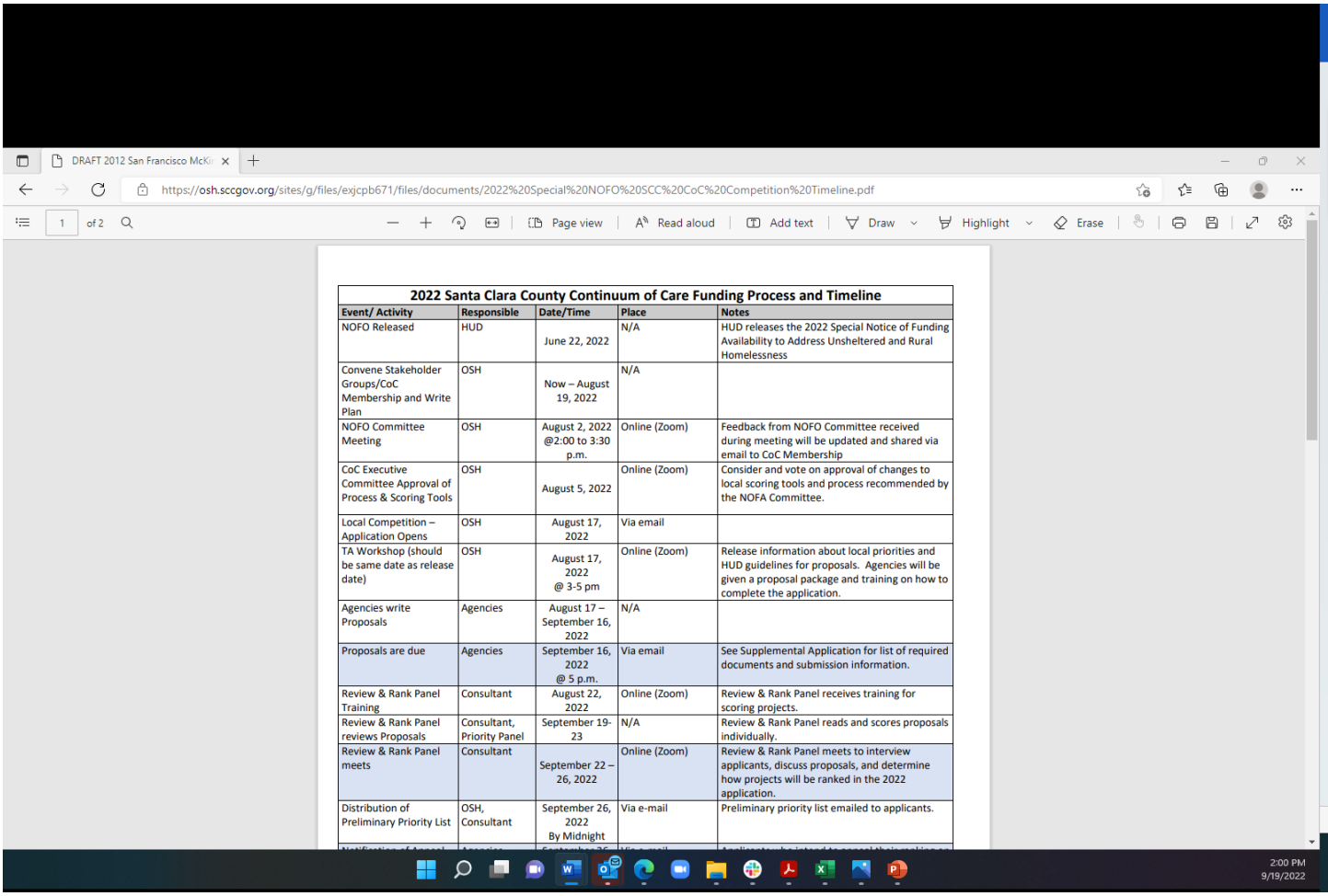
Attachment Details

Document Description: CA-500 Plan to Serve Unsheltered Persons with Severe Service Needs

Submission Summary

Ensure that the Special NOFO Project Priority List is complete prior to submitting.

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	10/20/2022
1B. Project Review, Ranking and Selection	10/20/2022
2A. System Performance	10/03/2022
2B. Coordination and Engagement	10/20/2022
2C. Coordination and Engagement–Con't.	10/20/2022
3A. New Projects With Rehab/New Construction	No Input Required
3B. Homelessness by Other Federal Statutes	10/20/2022
4A. Attachments Screen	10/20/2022
Submission Summary	No Input Required



2022 Santa Clara County Continuum of Care Funding Process and Timeline

Event/ Activity	Responsible	Date/Time	Place	Notes
NOFO Released	HUD	June 22, 2022	N/A	HUD releases the 2022 Special Notice of Funding Availability to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
Convene Stakeholder Groups/CoC Membership and Write Plan	OSH	Now – August 19, 2022	N/A	
NOFO Committee Meeting	OSH	August 2, 2022 @2:00 to 3:30 p.m.	Online (Zoom)	Feedback from NOFO Committee received during meeting will be updated and shared via email to CoC Membership
CoC Executive Committee Approval of Process & Scoring Tools	OSH	August 5, 2022	Online (Zoom)	Consider and vote on approval of changes to local scoring tools and process recommended by the NOFA Committee.
Local Competition – Application Opens	OSH	August 17, 2022	Via email	
TA Workshop (should be same date as release date)	OSH	August 17, 2022 @ 3-5 pm	Online (Zoom)	Release information about local priorities and HUD guidelines for proposals. Agencies will be given a proposal package and training on how to complete the application.
Agencies write Proposals	Agencies	August 17 – September 16, 2022	N/A	
Proposals are due	Agencies	September 16, 2022 @ 5 p.m.	Via email	See Supplemental Application for list of required documents and submission information.
Review & Rank Panel Training	Consultant	August 22, 2022	Online (Zoom)	Review & Rank Panel receives training for scoring projects.
Review & Rank Panel reviews Proposals	Consultant, Priority Panel	September 19-23	N/A	Review & Rank Panel reads and scores proposals individually.
Review & Rank Panel meets	Consultant	September 22 – 26, 2022	Online (Zoom)	Review & Rank Panel meets to interview applicants, discuss proposals, and determine how projects will be ranked in the 2022 application.
Distribution of Preliminary Priority List	OSH, Consultant	September 26, 2022 By Midnight	Via e-mail	Preliminary priority list emailed to applicants.

2022 SPECIAL NOFO PROJECT SCORING TOOL

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

(Required but not scored. If "no" for any threshold criteria, the project is ineligible.)

Item	Maximum Score
HMIS Implementation: Projects that do not participate, or have not agreed to participate, are not eligible for funding, unless it is a victim-service agency, serving survivors of domestic violence. Project has agreed to participate in the Santa Clara County HMIS and signed a local Certification of Intent to participate. Victim-services agencies must utilize a comparable database to HMIS and be able to produce de-identified aggregate data.	N/A
Coordinated Entry: Projects that have not agreed to participate in Coordinated Entry, when it is available for the program type, are not eligible for funding. Victim-service agencies or those serving survivors of domestic violence shall participate with Coordinated Entry while protecting client data and safety to ensure fair and equal access to the coordinated entry process and housing and services opportunities.	N/A
Eligible Applicant: Applicant and subrecipient (if any) are eligible. Eligible project applicants for the CoC Program are nonprofit organizations, States, local governments, and instrumentalities of State and local governments.	N/A
Project Shall Meet HUD Timeliness Standards: Project has secured or will secure proof of site control, match, environmental review, and the documentation of financial feasibility within 12 months of the announcement of the award.	N/A
Target Populations: The population to be served meets CoC program eligibility requirements, and the project application must clearly establish eligibility of project applicants.	N/A
Amount of Request: The CoC retains the right to request that new applicants adjust the amount of their requests.	N/A
Match: The agency has committed to match 25% of the grant except for leasing funds.	N/A
Ineligible Activities for New Projects: In order to best optimize the McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care funds and in alignment with HUD requirements outlined in the Special NOFO, the LHCB has determined that new projects shall not request funds for construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition.	N/A
Master-leased Units: If units are master-leased, lease is for at least 10 years.	N/A
CoC Strategic Plan Compliance: Project aligns with the Santa Clara County Community Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2025	N/A
Equal Access and Non-Discrimination: The project ensures equal access for program participants regardless of their race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, familial status, or disability. The project complies with all federal and state civil rights and fair housing laws including the Fair Housing Act, Title IV of the Civil Rights Act and the Equal Access Rule.	N/A
Training and Technical Assistance: All projects must agree to be responsive to training and technical assistance from the Collaborative Applicant and the CoC Board.	N/A
Substantially Changed Systems: All projects agree to inform CoC and Collaborative Applicant if they have key personnel changes or substantially changed systems (such as changes to client admissions criteria).	N/A

SCORED CRITERIA

Review Panel members will review responses related to the identified application questions to score each project application area. Applicants should use the supplemental narrative questions to provide additional detail and information not included in the e-snaps application. Review Panelists should only score the questions highlighted in blue.

In reviewing, the panelists should read all project application materials from e-snaps and the supplemental narrative. The far right (Application Question) column references the sections of the e-snaps application and supplemental narrative to review sections of the project application that are responsive to each scored category.

Review Panelists will score a total of 65 points plus the potential 10 bonus points.

Scoring Factors		Points	Application Question
1	**Project's Work Consistent with Community Needs**	**10**	
1a	**Project Readiness**		
	The project will be ready to start by HUD's statutory deadlines. Consider: • Regulatory obstacles such as tenant displacement or relocation, environmental or zoning issues anticipated. • Whether the applicant has feasible timeline for staffing the project, establishing site control, beginning to draw down funds, and otherwise comply with CoC program deadlines; • Whether the applicant has policies and procedures that can be used or easily adapted for use in a CoC-funded project	Max points: 10 **Applicant Score**	e-snaps application: Screen 3B: Project Description—Project Milestones Supplemental Application: Factor 1A

2	Project Ability to Enhance System Performance	57	
2a	**Services Provided**		
	Services provided or described are adequate to meet the needs of the population served as indicated by: • The applicant understands and describes the needs of the participant population. • The type of services that will be provided (housing navigation, substance use treatment, trauma-informed care, youth-targeted programming, etc.) will meet the needs of the participant population. ○ For projects dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and/or human trafficking, the project design promotes participant safety. • The project will maintain case manager to participant ratios that meet the needs of the participants, taking into consideration other program staffing and the scope of responsibilities for case management alone vs case management and housing search. • The applicant will take a participant-led and strengths-based approach to housing search, housing stability planning, and goal-setting that meets each participant where they are.	Max points: 10 **Applicant Score:** **N/A Scored by Pre-NOFO Panel**	**e-snaps Application:** Screen 4A: Supportive Services for Program Participants **Supplemental Narrative:** Factor 2A
2b	**Staffing & Training**		
	Will the project be staffed appropriately to provide the services the applicant will offer? **(max 4 points)** Will staff be well-trained to meet the needs of the target population? **(max 4 points)** For services that will be provided by other community organizations, how will the applicant connect participant to those services? **(max 4 points)**	Max points: 12 **Applicant Score**	**Supplemental Narrative:** Factor 2B

2c	**Program Outcomes**		
	Has the applicant demonstrated, through past performance, the ability to successfully carry out the work proposed and to provide services to people experiencing housing crises? Consider: • The applicant's experience and outcomes related to the following or comparable measures of housing stability and increased income in any prior housing projects. **(Max 5 points)** ○ **For permanent supportive housing:** The percentage of formerly homeless persons who remain housing in permanent supportive housing project or exited to other permanent housing, excluding participants who have passed away; ○ **For rapid rehousing/transitional housing**: The percentage of homeless persons who exited the project to a form of permanent housing, excluding those who have passed away; ○ **For all projects:** The percentage of stayers/leavers that increase cash income from entry to latest status or exit; ○ **For all projects:** The percentage of stayers/leavers with non-cash benefit sources. • How the applicant has analyzed the outcomes and improved program design and service delivery **(max 5 points)** • The extent to which the applicant has taken proactive steps to minimize barriers to housing placement and retention and actively support highly vulnerable and high-needs clients to obtain and maintain housing in prior housing projects **(max 6 points)** •	Max points: 16 **Applicant Score**	**Supplemental Application:** Factor 2C
2d	**Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing**		
	The program design ensures that housing will be available and accessible to the diverse population of persons experiencing homelessness, and the applicant will take proactive steps to promote fair access to housing without regard to race, ancestry, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identify, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, familial status, and source of income. **(Max 9 points)** • To what extent will the program be able to effectively serve eligible clients of different	**Max points: 9**	**Supplemental Application:** Factor 2D

	backgrounds, experiences, cultures, abilities, and language proficiencies. • How will the program ensure clients receive reasonable accommodations whenever they are needed? • How will the program ensure that clients know their housing rights and are protected from housing discrimination based on race, ancestry, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, familial status, and source of income?	**Applicant Score**	
2e	**Alignment with Housing First Practices**		

	The project will enroll individuals or households referred through Coordinated Entry regardless of the following circumstances. Scoring panel should take into account any legal requirements explained by applicant. **(Up to 5 points)**
	• Behavioral Health
	  ○ Person is actively using substances
	  ○ Person has chronic substance use issues
	  ○ Person has a mental health condition
	  ○ Persona has an untreated mental health condition
	• Criminal Legal System Involvement
	  ○ Person has a felony conviction
	  ○ Person has an arson conviction
	  ○ Person is on California Sex Offender Registry
	  ○ Person has a conviction for intimate partner violence or sexual assault
		Max Points: 10
		
		Applicant Score:
		
		N/A Scored by Pre-NOFO Panel
			e-snaps Application: Screen 3B, #5
			
			Supplemental Application: Factor 2E

	○ Person has other criminal conviction • Income ○ Person has no current source of income ○ Person has poor credit • History of Intimate Partner Violence ○ Person has been victim of intimate partner violence and either has not separated from their abuser or does not plan to obtain a protection order. • Service Participation ○ Person refuses to agree to participate in services The applicant will work with participants to avoid involuntary project exit, in compliance with the CoC's Policy for Participant Termination, through client-centered case management, robust support and resources, and a no-fail approach. (Up to 5 points)		

3	**Agency/Collaborative Capacity to Enhance System Performance**	**25**	
3a	**Administrative Capacity**		
	The applicant agency has experience managing and implementing at least one other federal, state, county, or similar large grant or project that demonstrates its financial capacity; OR The agency describes adequate staffing, financial systems, and internal controls to demonstrate its financial capacity; OR The agency describes a robust and concrete plan to develop staffing, financial systems, and internal controls to successfully manage the CoC grant funding (e.g. through hiring, training, and/or technical assistance)	**Max 10 points** **Applicant Score**	**e-snaps Application:** Screen 2B: Experience of Applicant, Subrecipient(s) and Other Partners **Supplemental Narrative:** Factor 3A

3b	**Compliance Responsiveness and Resolution**		
	To what extent do the agencies (especially the lead agency)/does the agency have: • Any outstanding financial audit findings or concerns? • Any outstanding HUD monitoring findings or concerns and/or and history of sanctions imposed by HUD, including but not limited to—suspending disbursements (e.g. freezing LOCCS), requiring repayment of grant funds, or de-obligating grant funds due to performance issues? • If yes, what steps is the agency taking to resolve the findings or concerns and to what extent has the program advised the Collaborative Applicant of issues identified by HUD? If an agency has no outstanding audit or monitoring findings and no history of sanctions imposed by HUD, they should receive full points.	**5 points** **Applicant Score:** **N/A Scored by Pre-NOFO Panel**	**e-snaps Application:** Screen 2B: Experience of Applicant, Subrecipient(s) and Other Partners **Supplemental Narrative:** Factor 3B
3c	**CoC Participation (based on information submitted in proposal)**		
	The applicant receives one point if they attended at least 6 CoC meetings or trainings in the 12-month period specified on the Request for Information	**1 point** **Applicant Score** **N/A Scored by Pre-NOFO Panel**	
3d	**Participant in Leadership in Service Design and Project Implementation**		
	This will be scored based on written policies and procedures submitted by the project and a narrative response demonstrating client participation in program design and policy-making. Will the agency engage unhoused and formerly unhoused participants and staff in service design and project implementation? 5points: Agency uses or will implement one or more of the following strategies for gathering participant input and/or building participant leadership. High priority strategies: (max 5 points) •The applicant has a participant advisory board that has the authority to make recommendations directly to the agency leadership and board of directors; OR At least 15% of the applicant's board of directors and/or leadership is reflective of the population it serves (e.g. race, ethnicity, experience of houselessness, disability, experience	**9 points**	**Supplemental Narrative:** Factor 3D

	with the criminal legal system, experience in foster care, etc); OR •At least 25% of the applicant's staff OR 25% of staff of the proposed CoC-funded project are reflective of the population served (e.g. race, ethnicity, experience of houselessness, disability, experience with the criminal legal system, experience in foster care, etc) - not including temporary or stipended roles; OR •Resources will be dedicated to support community advocacy by participants in this CoC funded project (e.g. stipends for participant advocacy work, public speaking skills development, etc) OR •The applicant's hiring policies and approaches (e.g. job descriptions and/or qualifications, peers support positions, on-the-job-training, outreach/recruitment strategies, etc) are designed to prioritize hiring and retention of people with lived experience or identities that reflect the population served (e.g. race, ethnicity, experience of houselessness, disability, experience with the criminal legal system, experience in foster care, etc). Additional Strategies (eligible for max 3 points) •This CoC-funded project will have at least one staff member with experience being unhoused; •The applicant has a participant advisory board, but it is not entitled to make recommendations directly to leadership or the board of directors; •The applicant will administer satisfaction or feedback surveys to participants in this project; •The applicant will use client focus groups which include participants in this project; •Other strategies. 4 Points: The applicant must give an example of feedback or input received from participants in the past 4 years (time frame is given in the Request for Information form). Feedback can be from participants in any project or services operated by the agency. The applicant should clearly describe the type of project or services they were providing to the participant and the specific feedback they received. The applicant must describe how they responded to the feedback, which may include but is not limited to any of the following: •Exploring the feasibility of changes in response to the feedback, •Communicating with agency leadership and/or board of directors about the feedback, •Communicating with participants about follow-up efforts in a feedback loop, •How the decision was made to make changes or not make changes based on the feedback, and/or any changes that were made to the project or services.	**N/A Scored by Pre-NOFO Panel**	

3E	**Advancing Racial Equity and Cultural Competency**		
	Criteria: Has the agency implemented strategies to advance racial equity within the applicant agency and/or it's programs? 2 Points: The applicant utilizes one or more of the methods listed in the Local Project Application for advancing racial equity. Applicants that can check at least 2 boxes will receive 1 point. Applicants that can check at least 4 boxes will receive 2 points. 2 Points: The applicant describes one or more of the applicant's most important strategies to address racial inequities and ensure culturally-responsive programming, including any significant successes they have had with these strategies over the past year. The applicant should use specific examples where possible, including any substantive changes to programming that were made.	Max 4 points **Applicant Score: N/A Scored by Pre-NOFO Panel**	Supplemental Narrative: Factor 3E
4	**HMIS Participation**	**8**	
	Criteria: The agency describes how it uses data or information about participant outcomes to inform and improve it's project implementation or service delivery. The description should include: •how and when information is collected from participants, •how it is recorded or stored, •how participant confidentiality is protected, •how and how frequently outcomes are analyzed. The agency describes the measures it uses or will use to evaluate project success. The measures described do not need to be identical to the CoC's performance metrics, but at least one should related to housing and/or economic stability.	Max Points 8 **Applicant Score:**	Supplemental Narrative: Category 4

5	Component/Population-Type Prioritization	Up to 10 points per project	
5a	**Permanent Supportive Housing**		
	Criteria: Permanent Supportive housing serving chronically homeless individuals and families will be awarded bonus points to demonstrate the CoC's funding priorities.	**5 Bonus points awarded if project serves CH** **Applicant Score:**	e-snaps application Part 5: Program Participants screen 5A and 5B (Subpopulations)
5b	**Rapid Rehousing**		
	Criteria: Rapid rehousing projects serving high priority populations (such as families and transition-aged youth coming directly from streets, shelter, or locations not meant for human habitation, or persons fleeing domestic violence or trafficking) will be awarded bonus points to demonstrate the CoC's funding priorities. These points will not be awarded to joint TH-RRH projects	**5 bonus points awarded if project serves families, TAY, DV** **Applicant Score**	e-snaps application Part 5: Program participants screen 5a and 5b (subpopulations)
5c	**Leveraging Housing or Healthcare Resources**		
	Criteria: Permanent Supportive Housing or rapid rehousing projects that submit at least one written commitment that meets at least one of the criteria below will be awarded bonus points. The written commitment can be a letter of commitment, contract, or other formal written documents that demonstrates one of the criteria below: Criteria 5c1: Leveraging Housing Resources: Housing subsidies or subsidized units not funded through the CoC or ESG programs that account for: • 25% of PSH units; OR • Housing for 35% of RRH Participants Criteria 5C1: Leveraging Healthcare Resources: Resources from a healthcare provider or public or private health insurance provider of at least:	Up to 5 bonus points for	**Supplemental Narrative:** Question 12

	• In the case of a substance use treatment or recovery provider, access to treatment or recovery services for all qualifying or interested participants; OR • An amount that is equivalent to 25% of the funding being requested for the project will be covered by the healthcare organization Sources of healthcare resources include direct contributions from a public or private health insurance provider to the project, or provision of healthcare services by a private or public organization tailored to the program participants. **Partial Points:** New PSH and RRH project applications will receive 2 of 5 bonus points for attaching any written commitment of housing or healthcare resources, even if they do not meet the threshold for amount of commitment (e.g. a housing commitment of few than 25% of PSH units).	**Applicant Score:**	

Pre-NOFA Panel Score		
Panelist Score		
Total:		

From:	Tara Carruth
To:	sujathav
Cc:	Cao, Hong
Subject:	CoC Special NOFO--Notification of Final Approved Project Listing
Date:	Wednesday, October 5, 2022 3:58:00 PM
Attachments:	WVCS Notificaiton Special NOFO Final Approved Project Listing.pdf

Good afternoon Sujatha,

Attached is the final approved project listing for the Santa Clara County Special CoC NOFO as approved by the CoC Board today.

Thank you for your participation in the process.

Sincerely,

Tara Carruth
Senior Consultant
tara@focusstrategies.net
p: (816) 500-7397
www.FocusStrategies.net
Pronouns: she, her, hers

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October 5, 2022

Delivered via email to Sujatha Venkatraman, West Valley Community Services of Santa Clara County, sujathav@svcommunityservices.org

Dear Mrs. Venkatraman,

This letter is to inform you that the Santa Clara County CoC Rank and Review panel met on September 23, 2022, to score and rank all projects applying for the 2022 Special CoC NOFO funding. Scoring of new project applications was based on the locally adopted criteria aligned with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) priorities including threshold requirements, alignment and consistency with community needs, project ability to enhance system performance, agency/collaborative capacity to enhance system performance and HMIS participation, as described in the Project Review and Ranking Process.

The panel recommended that the two applications from West Valley Community Services (TBRA Unsheltered and WVCS Haven to Home) not be selected for funding in the 2022 CoC Special Unsheltered Project Priority List. The reason these projects were not selected is that they scored lower on rating factors listed in the Project Rank and Review Process. The WVCS projects scored slightly lower on 1) Capacity to Enhance System Performance, 2) Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing and 3) Leadership in Service Design and Project Implementation.

The CoC Board met on October 5, 2022 and approved the attached project priority listing.

In addition, the CoC Lead Agency can provide feedback on the quality of the application upon request. If you would like to receive feedback, please let us know. Detailed feedback will be provided in October 2022, after the CoC competition process closes.

Sincerely,

Tara Carruth

2022 SPECIAL NOFO PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

CA-500 Santa Clara County

	Maximum Grant	Current Allocation	Difference
Competitive Projects	$ 10,775,831	$ 10,775,829	$ 2
CoC Planning Grant	$ 333,273	$ 333,273	$ -
Total	**$ 11,109,104**	**$ 11,109,102**	**$ 2**

Rank	Project	Organization	Project Score	Application Type	Amount Approved
1	Agrihood Senior Apartments	County of Santa Clara/OSH	104.3	New Project	$ 2,159,202
2	Unsheltered RRH	County of Santa Clara/OSH	99	New Project	$ 3,153,534
3	Client Engagement Team	County of Santa Clara/OSH	96.3	New Project	$ 5,463,093
4	CoC Planning	County of Santa Clara/OSH	0	Planning Grant	$ 333,273

Cummulative Total	Prioritization Status
$ 2,159,202	Prioritized
$ 5,312,736	Prioritized
$ 10,775,829	Prioritized
$ 14,252,066	Planning Grant

From: Tara Carruth
To: Kong, Ben
Cc: Cao, Hong
Subject: CoC Special NOFO--Notification of Final Approved Project Listing
Date: Wednesday, October 5, 2022 3:51:00 PM
Attachments: OSH 2022 Notification Special NOFO_Approved Projects.pdf

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Hi Ben,

Attached is the official notice of CoC approval of the Special NOFO Project Listing. The CoC Board approved the OSH projects to be included in the Special CoC Unsheltered NOFO to be submitted later this month.

Thank you,
Tara

Tara Carruth
Senior Consultant
tara@focusstrategies.net
p: (816) 500-7397
www.FocusStrategies.net
Pronouns: she, her, hers

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October 5, 2022

Delivered via email to Ben Kong, Office of Supportive Housing, ben.kong@hhs.sccgov.org

Dear Mr. Kong,

This letter is to inform you that the Santa Clara County CoC Review and Rank panel met and their review of the following applications from the Office of Supportive Housing ranked for the Special NOFO. The CoC Board approved this project listing on October 5, 2022. The following applications will be included in the CoC Unsheltered NOFO to be submitted no later than October 20, 2022.

Project Name	**Rank**	**Project Score**	**Funding Amount**
Agrihood Senior Apartments-PSH	1	104.3	$2,159,202
Unsheltered Rapid Rehousing-RRH	2	99	$3,153,534
Client Engagement Team -SSO	3	96.3	$5,463,093
CoC Planning	4		$333,273

Please do not take any action in e-snaps at this time; we will be in touch separately regarding our technical review of the e-snaps project application and any requested revisions.

In addition, the CoC Lead Agency can provide feedback on the quality of the application upon request. If you would like to receive feedback, please let us know. Detailed feedback will be provided in October 2022, after the CoC competition process closes.

Sincerely,

Tara Carruth

2022 SPECIAL NOFO PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

CA-500 Santa Clara County

	Maximum Grant	Current Allocation	Difference
Competitive Projects	$ 10,775,831	$ 10,775,829	$ 2
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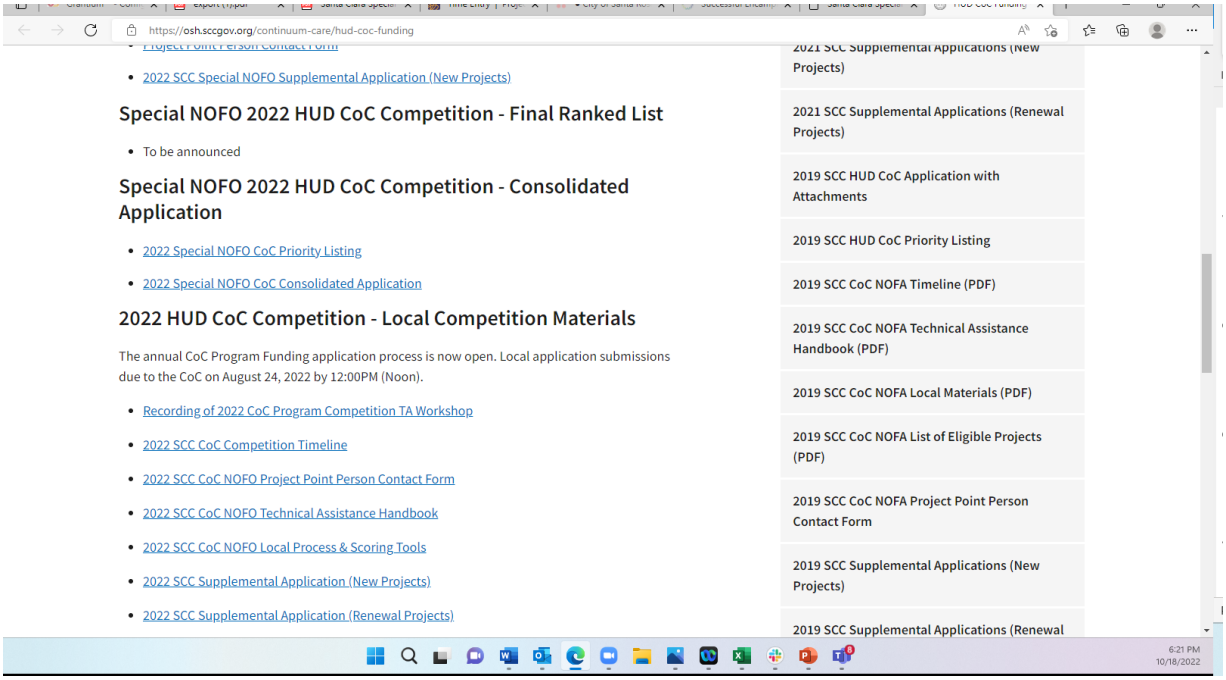
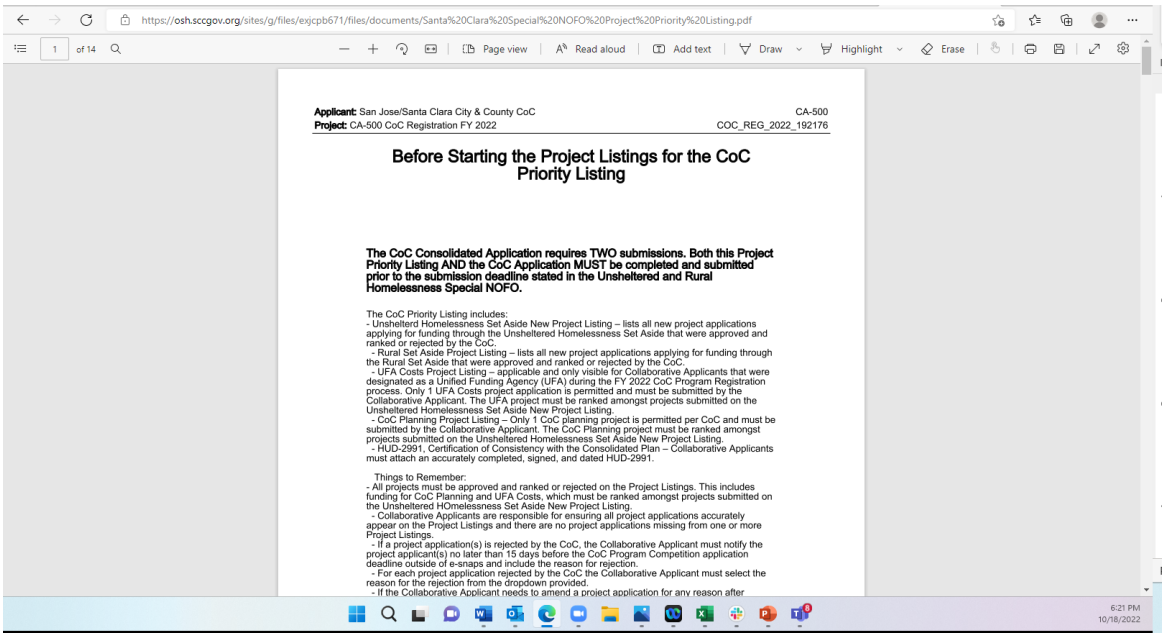
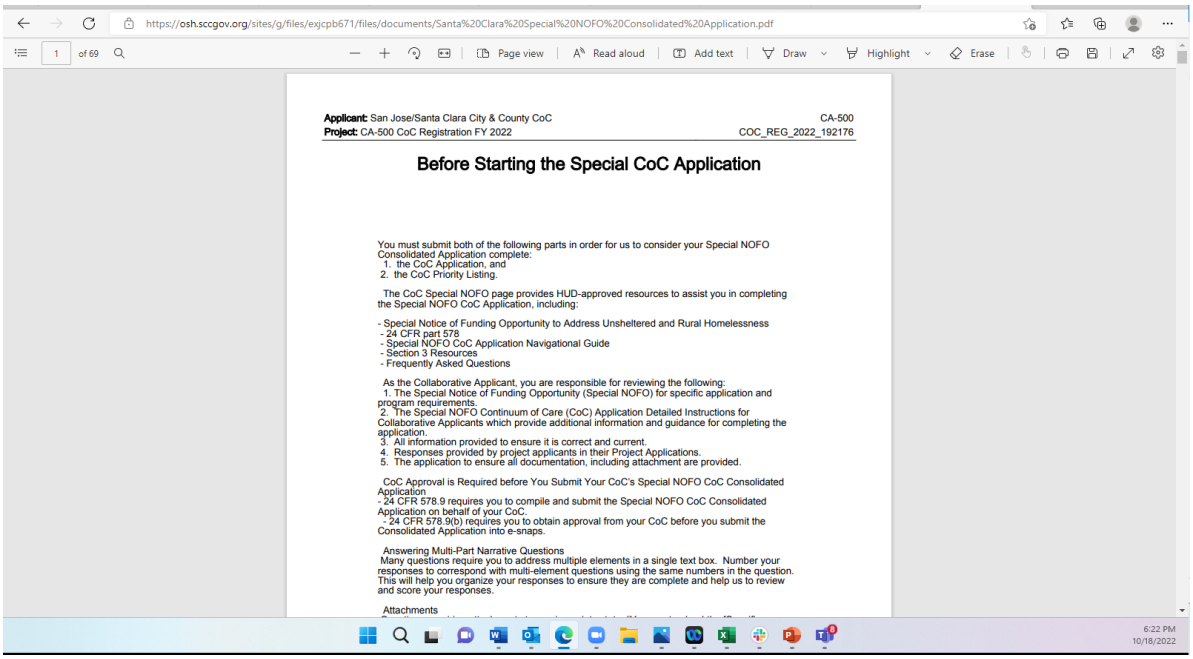
$ 10,775,829	Prioritized
$ 14,252,066	Planning Grant


https://osh.sccgov.org/continuum-care/hud-coc-funding
2022 SCC Special NOFO Supplemental Application (New Projects)
Special NOFO 2022 HUD CoC Competition - Final Ranked List
To be announced
Special NOFO 2022 HUD CoC Competition - Consolidated Application
2022 Special NOFO CoC Priority Listing
2022 Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application
2022 HUD CoC Competition - Local Competition Materials
The annual CoC Program Funding application process is now open. Local application submissions due to the CoC on August 24, 2022 by 12:00PM (Noon).
Recording of 2022 CoC Program Competition TA Workshop
2022 SCC CoC Competition Timeline
2022 SCC CoC NOFO Project Point Person Contact Form
2022 SCC CoC NOFO Technical Assistance Handbook
2022 SCC CoC NOFO Local Process & Scoring Tools
2022 SCC Supplemental Application (New Projects)
2022 SCC Supplemental Application (Renewal Projects)
2021 SCC Supplemental Applications (New Projects)
2021 SCC Supplemental Applications (Renewal Projects)
2019 SCC HUD CoC Application with Attachments
2019 SCC HUD CoC Priority Listing
2019 SCC CoC NOFA Timeline (PDF)
2019 SCC CoC NOFA Technical Assistance Handbook (PDF)
2019 SCC CoC NOFA Local Materials (PDF)
2019 SCC CoC NOFA List of Eligible Projects (PDF)
2019 SCC CoC NOFA Project Point Person Contact Form
2019 SCC Supplemental Applications (New Projects)
2019 SCC Supplemental Applications (Renewal
6:21 PM
10/18/2022


https://osh.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb671/files/documents/Santa%20Clara%20Special%20NOFO%20Project%20Priority%20Listing.pdf
1 of 14
Page view
Read aloud
Add text
Draw
Highlight
Erase
Applicant: San Jose/Santa Clara City & County CoC
CA-500
Project: CA-500 CoC Registration FY 2022
COC_REG_2022_192176
Before Starting the Project Listings for the CoC Priority Listing
The CoC Consolidated Application requires TWO submissions. Both this Project Priority Listing AND the CoC Application MUST be completed and submitted prior to the submission deadline stated in the Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness Special NOFO.
The CoC Priority Listing includes:
- Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside New Project Listing – lists all new project applications applying for funding through the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside that were approved and ranked or rejected by the CoC.
- Rural Set Aside Project Listing – lists all new project applications applying for funding through the Rural Set Aside that were approved and ranked or rejected by the CoC.
- UFA Costs Project Listing – applicable and only visible for Collaborative Applicants that were designated as a Unified Funding Agency (UFA) during the FY 2022 CoC Program Registration process. Only 1 UFA Costs project application is permitted and must be submitted by the Collaborative Applicant. The UFA project must be ranked amongst projects submitted on the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside New Project Listing.
- CoC Planning Project Listing – Only 1 CoC planning project is permitted per CoC and must be submitted by the Collaborative Applicant. The CoC Planning project must be ranked amongst projects submitted on the Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside New Project Listing.
- HUD-2991, Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan – Collaborative Applicants must attach an accurately completed, signed, and dated HUD-2991.
Things to Remember:
- All projects must be approved and ranked or rejected on the Project Listings. This includes funding for CoC Planning and UFA Costs, which must be ranked amongst projects submitted on the Unsheltered HOmelessness Set Aside New Project Listing.
- Collaborative Applicants are responsible for ensuring all project applications accurately appear on the Project Listings and there are no project applications missing from one or more Project Listings.
- If a project application(s) is rejected by the CoC, the Collaborative Applicant must notify the project applicant(s) no later than 15 days before the CoC Program Competition application deadline outside of e-snaps and include the reason for rejection.
- For each project application rejected by the CoC the Collaborative Applicant must select the reason for the rejection from the dropdown provided.
- If the Collaborative Applicant needs to amend a project application for any reason after
6:21 PM
10/18/2022



Before Starting the Special CoC Application

You must submit both of the following parts in order for us to consider your Special NOFO Consolidated Application complete:
1. the CoC Application, and
2. the CoC Priority Listing.

The CoC Special NOFO page provides HUD-approved resources to assist you in completing the Special NOFO CoC Application, including:

- Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness
- 24 CFR part 578
- Special NOFO CoC Application Navigational Guide
- Section 3 Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions

As the Collaborative Applicant, you are responsible for reviewing the following:
1. The Special Notice of Funding Opportunity (Special NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The Special NOFO Continuum of Care (CoC) Application Detailed Instructions for Collaborative Applicants which provide additional information and guidance for completing the application.
3. All information provided to ensure it is correct and current.
4. Responses provided by project applicants in their Project Applications.
5. The application to ensure all documentation, including attachment are provided.

CoC Approval is Required before You Submit Your CoC's Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application
- 24 CFR 578.9 requires you to compile and submit the Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application on behalf of your CoC.
- 24 CFR 578.9(b) requires you to obtain approval from your CoC before you submit the Consolidated Application into e-snaps.

Answering Multi-Part Narrative Questions
Many questions require you to address multiple elements in a single text box. Number your responses to correspond with multi-element questions using the same numbers in the question. This will help you organize your responses to ensure they are complete and help us to review and score your responses.

Attachments

HOUSINGAUTHORITY
SANTA CLARA COUNTY
making homes, growing communities

Santa Clara County Housing Authority • 505 West Julian Street, San José, CA 95110 • TEL 408.275.8770 scchousingauthority.org

April 29, 2019

Chris Neale
The Core Companies
470 South Market Street
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Request for Project Based Vouchers
Project Name: Agrihood
Project Location: 1834 Worthington Circle, Santa Clara, CA 95050

Dear Mr. Neale:

This letter confirms Santa Clara County Housing Authority's (SCCHA) tentative conditional award of Project Based Vouchers (PBVs) to the above-named Project as follows:

PBVs conditionally awarded: 54
Total number of units in Project: 165
Special Population Allocation: 54 PBVs for the Special Needs Direct Referral (SNDR) program
Tenants for PBVs will come from: County of Santa Clara Office of Supportive Housing

The initial Housing Assistance Payment contract term for the PBVs is up to 20 years with a possible extension term of up to 20 years, subject to annual appropriations and applicable United Stated Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and SCCHA requirements.

The full award of these PBVs to your organization for this Project is contingent upon:

1. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), to be completed in conjunction with SCCHA and the Responsible Entity, the unit of local government which exercises land use authority over the property on which the Project is located;

2. Under the direction of SCCHA, obtaining an approved and certified Subsidy Layering Review from the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC);

3. Customary HUD requirements for executing the Agreement to Enter into Housing Assistance Payments (AHAP) and Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) contracts;

4. The Project being ready to enter into an AHAP contract **within 18 months of the date of this Conditional Award (ground breaking cannot occur until the NEPA and Subsidy Layering Review have been approved by HUD and CTCAC respectively);**

5. Determination of initial contract rent;

6. Completion of a Site & Neighborhood Review to ensure the housing site is consistent with the goal of deconcentrating poverty and expanding housing and economic opportunities;

7. SCCHA's approval of the Tenant Selection Criteria and the Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan;

8. If the project will have 9 or more PBVs attached, the developer or owner must submit quarterly evidence of compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act to SCCHA; and

9. Submittal of any other additional documentation as required by SCCHA in order to complete your application.

Please be aware that construction **may not begin** until the AHAP between you and SCCHA is executed; pursuant to 24 CFR §983.152 and §983.153, SCCHA is prohibited from entering into an AHAP if construction has started.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the tentative conditional award of PBVs, please contact John Lo, Senior Housing Policy Analyst, at 408-993-2970 or john.lo@scchousingauthority.org.

Sincerely,

Katherine Harasz
Executive Director

CC: Heather Miller, SCCHA
John Lo, SCCHA
Consuelo Hernandez, County of Santa Clara

HOUSINGAUTHORITY
SANTA CLARA COUNTY
making homes, growing communities

Santa Clara County Housing Authority • 505 West Julian Street, San José, CA 95110 • TEL 408.275.8770 scchousingauthority.org

November 27, 2019

Chris Neale
The Core Companies
470 South Market Street
San Jose, CA 95113

RE: Initial Contract Rent Derivation/ Determination for Agrihood Project
90 North Winchester Boulevard
Santa Clara, CA 94050
Winchester Sustainable LP

Dear Mr. Neale,

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (**HUD**) regulation 24 CFR 983.301(b) requires Project Based Voucher (**PBV**) contract rents to be set at the lowest of (1) an amount not to exceed 110 percent of the applicable fair market rent (**FMR**) for the unit bedroom size minus any utility allowance; (2) the reasonable rent or (3) the rent requested by the owner.

The below is a summary of the PBV Contract rent analysis for the Agrihood Project:

Bedroom Size	**110% of Fair Market Rents for Bedroom Size Less Utility Allowance**	**Reasonable Rents Based on Comparability Study from GoSection8 Database**	**Owner Requested Rents**	**Approved Gross Rents per 24 CFR 983.301 (b)**
0-Bedroom	$2,103 x 110% - $0 = $2,313	$2,689	$2,313	**$2,313**
1-Bedroom	$2,458 x 110% - $0 = $2,703	$3,028	$2703	**$2,703**
2-Bedroom	$2,970 x 110% - $0 = $3,267	$3,684	$3,267	**$3,267**

Please do not hesitate to contact John Lo, Senior Housing Policy Analyst, at (408) 993-2970 or john.lo@scchousingauthority.org should you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

John Lo
Senior Housing Policy Analyst

U.S.Department of Housing and Urban Development
San Francisco Regional Office - Region IX
One Sansome Street, Suite 1200
San Francisco, California 94104-4430
www.hud.gov
espanol.hud.gov

JUL 18 2019

Ms. Katherine Harasz
Executive Director
Santa Clara County Housing Authority
505 West Julian Street
San Jose, CA 95110

SUBJECT: Environmental Review
Agrihood Housing Project

Dear Ms. Harasz,

This is to acknowledge receipt of the Request for Release of Funds and Certification (form HUD-7015.15) for the project known as Agrihood Housing Project, located at 90 N. Winchester, Santa Clara, CA.

The environmental review was performed under Part 58 and was signed by Andrew Crabtree, Community Development Director, in his capacity as the Certifying Officer on July 2, 2019. We have reviewed the environmental documentation you submitted and concur that the environmental review requirements have been met.

Enclosed please find a signed copy of the Authority to Use Grant Funds (form HUD-7015.16). Please keep a copy of this letter with all relevant background information for your file for audit purposes.

If you have any further questions, please contact Rebecca Rudzianis, Portfolio Management Specialist, (415) 489-6636.

Sincerely,

Gerard R. Windt
Director
Office of Public Housing

Enclosure

Authority to Use Grant Funds

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development

To: (name & address of Grant Recipient & name & title of Chief Executive Officer)	**Copy To:** (name & address of SubRecipient or Secondary Contact)
Santa Clara County Housing Authority 505 West Julian Street San Jose, CA 95110	City of Santa Clara 1500 Warburton Avenue Santa Clara, CA 95050

We received your Request for Release of Funds and Certification, form HUD-7015.15 on	7/2/2018
Your Request was for HUD/State Identification Number	

All objections, if received, have been considered. And the minimum waiting period has transpired.
You are hereby authorized to use funds provided to you under the above HUD/State Identification Number.
File this form for proper record keeping, audit, and inspection purposes.

Program: Section 8 Project-Based Voucher Program

Project: Agrihood Housing Project

Description of project/activity:

The project proposes to construct 165 senior apartments and 160 multi-family apartment units within two separate structures. 36 townhouses are also proposed. Apartments would be 5-story podium structures. The podium apartment structures would be approx. 63 feet tall. The townhouses would be three stories and would be approx. 41 feet to the top of roof.

Private open space would be provided as approx. 50-square-foot balconies within 50% of the senior and multifamily apartment units and townhouses. The project would also provide approx. 1.5 acres of professionally managed community agricultural/ garden space, as well as communal open space for residents and the public. The remainder of the on-site open space areas, in particular along N. Winchester Boulevard, would be public open space for local events and recreation. A single- story community building and café for public and resident use, and a garden workshop/shed are also proposed.

Parking for the 325 senior and multi-family apartments would be located within parking garages wrapped by the podium structures so that they are integrated and not visible from primary public vantage points. The project would provide 99 parking spaces (0.60 spaces per unit) for the senior apartments and 200 spaces for the multi-family apartments (1.25 spaces per unit). The multi-family apartment building would have one level of below-grade parking and one level of parking on the first.
The Santa Clara County Housing Authority (SCCHA) will be providing 54 Project-Based Vouchers (PBVs) to the project. Housing Assistance Payments (HAPs) to be made to the project on behalf of the residents of the PBV units will be provided for an initial contract term of up to 20 years, with a possible automatic renewal term of up to an additional 20 years, subject to annual appropriations and SCCHA's determination that the owner is in compliance with the HAP contract and other applicable HUD requirements. The estimated amount of total funding for rental subsidy is $29,835,840 ($1,491,792 annually) during the initial 20-year term of the HAP contract, which is subject to rent reasonableness study prior to execution of the contract, and contingent upon the availability of Section 8 funds as allocated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Typed Name of Authorizing Officer:	Signature of Authorizing Officer	Release Date:
Gerard R. Windt Title of Authorizing Officer Director Office of Public Housing		JUL 18 2019

Previous editions are obsolete.

form **HUD-7015.16** (2/94)
ref. Handbook 6513.0

October 19, 2022

Re: Commitment for Health Care Services

As a Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan in Santa Clara County, Anthem Blue Cross, is pleased to provide this letter of commitment to provide healthcare resources to support the permanent housing projects being proposed as part of the Santa Clara County Continuum of Care (CoC) HUD Special NOFO to address unsheltered homelessness. We are actively working with the CoC and other partners on addressing homelessness in the county and see the supportive housing and rapid re-housing programs being proposed as solutions to end the homelessness among our most vulnerable members, primarily those living unsheltered with complex health needs.

We are committing up to $1,050,570 in health care resources through services delivered under California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) specifically Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports including housing navigation, rental deposit assistance, and housing tenancy services. Other leveraged health care resources may also include direct financial investments under the state's Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP), and other health care services provided through contracted healthcare and/or community partners.

This services commitment through CalAIM and other health care services are available to Anthem Blue Cross Medi-Cal members that will be served through the proposed permanent housing projects. However, this commitment does not restrict the project target population or require clients to be Medi-Cal eligible or Anthem members. HHIP funds can be used for all individuals served by the program regardless of insurance status. If awarded, the commitment from Anthem Blue Cross will cover the duration of the initial 3-year grant term of the Special NOFO projects.

As a representative of Anthem Blue Cross authorized to make the commitment identified in this letter, I am pleased to offer our support and looking forward to continued partnership with the CoC.

Sincerely,

Beau Hennemann
RVP Local Engagement and Plan Performance
beau.hennemann@anthem.com

DocuSign Envelope ID: 3423AD65-6B5B-421E-A301-8EE251C841B8

DOCUMENTATION OF LEVERAGED RESOURCE

In the chart below is information regarding the leveraged resource being provided by this agency.

Name of organization providing the leveraged resource or cash match	County of Santa Clara Health System – Behavioral Health Services Department
Type of contribution*	Behavioral Healthcare
Value of the contribution	$1,227,798 total over a three-year period
Name of project	Agrihood
Name of sponsor	County of Santa Clara Office of Supportive Housing
Starting date the contribution will be available for three years	9/1/2023
Name of person authorized to commit these resources	Sherri Terao
Title of person authorized to commit these resources.	Director, Behavioral Health Services Department
Signature of person authorized to commit these resources.	DocuSigned by: Sherri Terao DAB699BA2A1544D...
Date	10/20/2022

DocuSign Envelope ID: B7D2F1A7-9AC7-4204-ADAF-C23450A0E0A7

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DOCUMENTATION OF LEVERAGED RESOURCE

In the chart below is information regarding the leveraged resource being provided by this agency.

Name of organization providing the leveraged resource or cash match	Santa Clara Valley Healthcare – Valley Homeless Healthcare Program
Type of contribution*	Healthcare
Value of the contribution	$ 378,675 total over a three-year period
Name of project	Agrihood
Name of sponsor	County of Santa Clara Office of Supportive Housing
Starting date the contribution will be available for three years	9/1/2023
Name of person authorized to commit these resources	Paul Lorenz
Title of person authorized to commit these resources.	CEO, Santa Clara Valley Healthcare
Signature of person authorized to commit these resources.	DocuSigned by: Paul Lorenz 47ECF3A78343489...
Date	10/20/2022

DocuSign Envelope ID: BA2F6D26-FE9B-4190-A4C5-1BCB78B364C5

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Continuum of Care Supplemental NOFO to Address Unsheltered Homelessness

Santa Clara County's Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) was formed in 2018. The LEAB is a leadership development body consisting of members with current or past experiences of homelessness. The LEAB serves as a platform for people who have experienced homelessness to provide meaningful input to improve the Santa Clara County supportive housing system. The LEAB has participated in the development of the Santa Clara Community Plan to End Homelessness and is one of the core partners to provide strategic input and recommendations on improving regional strategies, regional investments, and program and system design for the Santa Clara Continuum of Care (CA-500).

The CoC has shared with the LEAB the Plan to Serve Individuals and Families with Severe Service Needs as part of the application for the Unsheltered NOFO. As per the signature of the authorized representative, the LEAB is in support of the Santa Clara County Continuum of Care's Special CoC NOFO submission and supports the following components of the application:

1. The priorities for serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness with severe service needs as outlined in the CoC's application.
2. The projects that were selected and ranked to apply for funding.
3. The CoC (CA-500) Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs.

Dontae Lartigue	DocuSigned by: Dontae Lartigue 7A22AFF07797478...	10/20/2022
Name	*Signature*	*Date*

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LETTER OF SUPPORT

Continuum of Care Supplemental NOFO to Address Unsheltered Homelessness

Santa Clara County's Youth Action Board (YAB) was formed in 2021. The YAB is comprised of youth and young adults between the ages of 18-26 who are currently or formerly unhoused or have lived experience of housing instability. The YAB serves as a platform for young adults who have experienced houselessness to provide meaningful input to improve the Santa Clara County supportive housing system. The YAB has participated in the development of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) and provides strategic input and recommendations on improving regional strategies, regional investments, and program and system design for the Santa Clara Continuum of Care (CA-500)

The YAB and other stakeholders with lived experiences of homelessness have reviewed the Santa Clara County Continuum of Care's Plan to Serve Individuals and Families with Severe Service Needs. As per the signature of the authorized representative, the YAB is in support of the Santa Clara County Continuum of Care's Special CoC NOFO submission and supports the following components of the application:

1. The priorities for serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness with severe service needs as outlined in the CoC's application.
2. The projects that were selected and ranked to apply for funding.
3. The CoC (CA-500) Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs.

Lilliana Martinez	DocuSigned by: 6BE50228A681411...	10/14/2022
Name	*Signature*	*Date*

CA-500 – Santa Clara County Continuum of Care

Plan to Serve Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs

The Santa Clara County Continuum of Care (CoC) is building upon the adopted 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness (CPTEH) to improve the response to unsheltered homelessness by meeting the severe service needs of the most vulnerable unsheltered individuals and families. The CPTEH incorporates guiding values that raise the voices of people with lived experience and center power with people who are unhoused in the community. The CoC is focusing on developing and implementing policies and programs that reduce racial inequity to reverse the disproportionately high rates of people of color who are unhoused and experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The CPTEH is built on input from more than 8,000 community members including people with lived experience, subject matter expert input, and evidence-based practices and data. The CPTEH includes three core strategies: 1) Address the root causes of homelessness through system and policy change; 2) Expand homelessness prevention and housing programs to meet the community need; and 3) Improve the quality of life for unsheltered individuals and create healthy neighborhoods for all.

Responding to unsheltered homelessness effectively, efficiently, and equitably is a priority of the CoC. Individuals and families staying in unsheltered locations are often the most vulnerable and marginalized in the community. The CoC is developing strategies to leverage housing and healthcare resources, coordinate and align outreach services, expand access to interim and permanent housing, involve people with lived expertise in decision-making, and create an equitable homelessness response system. The Office of Supportive Housing in the County of Santa Clara serves as the CoC's Collaborative Applicant and facilitates the process to develop, expand, and refine these strategies.

I. Leveraging Housing Resources (P-1)

The CPTEH includes efforts to significantly expand permanent housing solutions. The community aims to create 8,000 new housing opportunities and house 20,000 persons by 2025. As reflected in the CoC's Housing Inventory Count (HIC), Santa Clara County increased the inventory of permanent supportive housing by 910 units from 2021-2022. The 2022 HIC includes 259 rapid rehousing beds for adults and 1,134 beds for families with children with plans to expand housing inventory with projects supported with this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). From January 2020 to August 2022, the CoC and its partners have made 8,392 housing placements, or 42% towards its goal of 20,000 people by 2025.

In 2016, Santa Clara County approved a $950 million affordable housing bond (Measure A) to address the housing needs of vulnerable populations including veterans, seniors, persons with disabilities, low and moderate-income individuals and families, foster youth, survivors of gender-based violence and households experiencing homelessness. The community is aiming to create 4,800 new housing units with funds from Measure A. As of June 2022, $583 million has been committee for 3,693 units with 711 units completed.

The County, in partnership with cities and housing developers, has leveraged the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development Homekey funding to support the goal of increasing housing inventory for the most vulnerable unhoused community members with nearly 300 new supportive housing and interim housing units across the region. In September 2021, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors ("Board of Supervisors") approved a Challenge Grant of up to $40 million to jumpstart as many as 16 housing sites/projects to develop housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness across the county. The Challenge Grant can be leveraged by qualified applicants to catalyze the development of service-enriched shelter sites in the county using modular construction. This investment in interim housing supports the countywide efforts to reduce unsheltered homelessness and provide comprehensive support services to meet the needs of the most vulnerable unhoused people. In October 2022, the Board of Supervisors approved two challenge grants for service-enriched shelters funded through Homekey located in San José and Palo Alto, with a total of 312 units. These sites are expected to become operational in 2023.

A. Landlord Recruitment (P-1.c.)

Landlord recruitment is a critical system strategy to support utilization of tenant-based housing resources for rental assistance programs including housing choice vouchers and rapid rehousing programs. The tight rental market with limited vacancies makes landlord recruitment a challenging endeavor in Santa Clara County. Landlord recruitment is done through outreach efforts, landlord incentives, and a focus on retaining landlord partners by providing supportive services to program participants and a mitigation fund to cover damages to a participating housing unit. Participating landlords or property owners are eligible for vacancy loss payments, rental arrear payments and coverage of uncollected rent if the participating tenant must be evicted.

The CoC and its partners work with thousands of landlords throughout the county to provide safe, stable housing to individuals and families. Building upon the success of the All the Way Home initiative with goals to achieve functional zero homelessness among veterans, the CoC is leveraging the learnings and successes to build a systemwide landlord engagement effort. The All the Way Home initiative has recruited 912 landlords providing housing to 2,201 persons in veteran households since launching in 2015. This initiative leverages partnerships to provide landlord incentives including security deposits and gratitude payments totaling $1.5 million and 1,749 welcome home kits and furniture sets for newly housed individuals and families. This initiative is made possible through the partnerships of County of Santa Clara, City of San José, the Santa Clara County Housing Authority, Destination: Home and other non-profit providers, faith-based partners, and corporate sponsorship. Over the last year, the number of veterans housed has exceed the number of veterans seeking assistance for the first time.

Santa Clara County and its partners utilize landlord incentives to recruit landlords to accept households with housing vouchers or other rental assistance programs. New landlords who accept a housing choice voucher or other rental subsidy with a 12-month lease are eligible for a $1,500 incentive payment. Additional gratitude payments are available for landlords who make

additional units available. Abode Services, a CoC-funded service agency, holds an assortment of appreciation and recruitment events for landlords.

Landlord retention strategies are another focused systemwide effort and include initiatives such as Project Welcome Home, the community's first Pay for Success program. Abode Services, as the County's Rental Assistance Program Administrator, currently partners with 412 landlords to support 1,067 leases providing more than $35 million annually in direct payments to private housing providers. Yearly surveys of landlords and property owners are utilized to make critical changes to support landlord partners. Abode Services operates a 24/7 landlord hotline with staff on-call to respond to urgent issues. The County's Heading Home Campaign, a community-wide initiative to end family homelessness, supports households who are moving into a rental unit with items they may need to make their new apartment or housing unit a home. These resources, coupled with comprehensive supportive services to new tenants and landlord supports, result in an effective landlord engagement and recruitment strategy.

In the last year the City of San José has launched the Better Housing Initiative which engages tenants, property owners, and other stakeholders in collaborative communication and strengthened partnership. This pilot program has engaged stakeholders through community surveys at supportive housing properties; the City of San José uses this data and information to respond to concerns of tenants, property owners, and stakeholders. An assessment tool has been developed to inventory social and physical conditions of multi-family properties which will inform stakeholders of areas to improve quality of housing, and in turn elevate the overall community.

Engaging landlords in a tight and expensive rental market is challenging despite efforts to recruit, incentivize, and support partner landlords and property owners. The CoC is responding to this housing shortage by focusing efforts on increasing inventory of affordable housing by leveraging local, state, and federal sources to create affordable housing units. A portion of affordable units developed with local bond funding are being set-aside for households experiencing homelessness to improve utilization of tenant-based rental assistance including housing choice vouchers and rapid rehousing programs. The Unsheltered Rapid Rehousing project as part of this funding opportunity will offer program participants an option of securing a housing unit set-aside for rapid rehousing households. This strategy will support individual choice of program participants and the ability to transition individuals and households more quickly from unsheltered homelessness into permanent housing.

The CoC utilizes data to evaluate all system efforts to connect people experiencing homelessness with permanent housing including recruiting and retaining landlords by tracking the number of rental units secured quarterly through utilization of tenant-based rental assistance programs. This data is utilized to understand the geographic representation of rental units and inform targeted outreach to areas where the CoC and its partners have not been able to secure units. The data is evaluated in relation to the overall CoC performance metrics and locally tracked data to understand the connections between housing retention rates with programs leveraging landlord partnerships.

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II. Current Strategy to Identify, Shelter, and House Individuals and Families Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness (P-3.)

Santa Clara County's 2022 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count saw a slight overall increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness of 3% to 10,028. Approximately 77% of Santa Clara County's unhoused population was staying in unsheltered locations according to the 2022 PIT Count. This was a 3% reduction in the number of unsheltered persons from the last PIT count in 2019.

Santa Clara County's current strategy includes efforts to regularly engage individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness and connect them to low barrier shelter, interim housing, and permanent housing by leveraging the coordination and partnership of street outreach, service site locations, healthcare partners, the shelter call center, and shelter and housing providers.

The CPTEH includes a focus on improving the quality of life for persons living unsheltered through doubling capacity to provide immediate shelter to an additional 2,000 persons each night. The plan's goals include efforts to:

1) Double the number of year-round temporary housing beds and offer a variety of welcoming temporary housing options throughout the county.
    a. Build new partnerships to host emergency shelter, safe places to park and access services, and safe camping locations that are not sept and include hygiene and support services;
    b. Reduce barriers to shelter such as allowing for pets, storage of personal items, greater privacy, longer stays, and higher levels of safety for residents;
    c. Expanding hours at new and existing shelters to remain open during the day;
    d. Ensure all families with minor children who are unhoused have access to emergency shelter or temporary housing by expanding temporary motel program;
    e. Provide more public services in neighborhoods hosting emergency shelter or temporary housing programs.

2) Increase street outreach, hygiene services, and transportation options to match the needs of unsheltered residents.
    a. Increase access to basic hygiene resources, including mobile showers, and laundry services and bathrooms;
    b. Increase the number of free public transit passes and other transportation options for people who are unhoused to access services;
    c. Increase the number of street outreach staff and case managers at encampments;
    d. Provide opportunities for people who have lived experience of homelessness to provide peer-to-peer support.

3) Increase mental health and substance use services.

a. Increase the number of mobile crisis teams with clinical staff, and expand their hours, to support individuals experiencing severe mental health and substance use crisis;
b. Increase the number of beds available for substance use treatment and provide the follow-up supportive services needed to prevent relapses;
c. Increase access to mental health treatment for people who are unhoused and struggling with mental illness;
d. Develop a plan to eliminate service gaps for unsheltered people struggling with chronic and severe mental illness.

A. Current Street Outreach Strategy (P-3.a.)
Countywide Outreach Strategies

The County's street outreach efforts include a coordinated response with multiple partners including County service departments, community-based organizations, and community advocates. As part of Strategy 3 in the CPTEH to improve the quality of life for unsheltered individuals and create healthy neighborhoods for all, the CoC has been working to foster a positive relationship between outreach providers and community advocates to ensure a cohesive coordination to reach unhoused people with severe service needs particularly during inclement weather episodes. This partnership allows for the CoC to maximize coordination and resources to shelter people and alleviate further harm to those who are unsheltered. Outreach services serve as an access point to shelter, housing, and other resources through the coordinated entry system. Outreach services are conducted daily and throughout the CoC geography, with specialized teams targeting those that are hardest to reach and have the most significant service needs.

The CoC has established systemwide standards for all participating street outreach programs and provides on-going training in evidence-based practices including progressive engagement, harm reduction, and trauma-informed care. Interventions and services are carried out in the field to support addressing the client's full range of needs including linkages with medical, psychiatric, and alcohol and drug treatment services, benefits programs, and linkages to safe placements. Direct service provision includes assistance in meeting basic survival needs (food, hygiene, shelter) in addition to clinical services. Outreach services are conducted by teams of professionals and paraprofessionals, including people with lived experience of homelessness.

The CoC is participating in the Racial Equity Action Lab to facilitate a training and action program focused on racial equity practices in the regional homelessness response system. The CoC is focusing its project on street outreach and engagement to uncover best practices and gaps in the region. The first phase of this work resulted in policy recommendations to support an increase of culturally specific outreach partners, improved outreach in geographic areas that are currently under-resourced, improved outreach and engagement techniques, and improved connections to housing and services. The CoC is continuing to engage in this deep work of ensuring the outreach and engagement services are meeting the needs of unhoused persons with the most severe service needs while also centering racial equity.

HomeFirst, a system partner, operates outreach services at identified encampment sites and to ad-hoc locations as needed. HomeFirst veterans outreach identifies unhoused veterans and encampment locations where veterans reside throughout the county. A CoC-funded youth provider, Bill Wilson Center, conducts outreach throughout the county every Tuesday to Friday. PATH conducts daily outreach in downtown San José in partnership with Downtown Streets Team providing peer outreach. The County Valley Homeless Healthcare Program conducts medical outreach in encampments throughout the CoC geography.

In the last calendar year, 4,205 households were served by outreach and engagement services with 56% served experiencing chronic homelessness, 52% experiencing serious mental illness, and 39% experiencing substance use disorders. The CoC evaluates the number of people successfully placed into interim and permanent placements from street outreach programs and analyzes the location, demographics, and service needs of people successfully placed in relation to the overall community need to adjust the street outreach response throughout the region. The CoC has been focused on increasing the number of successful placements from street outreach programs. In the last report period, nearly 38% of persons engaged by systemwide street outreach programs had a successful placement documented in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The CoC has established a local target of 40% successful placements for 2022-23.

The regional system is aiming to increase outreach to the most vulnerable of the unhoused population and increase placements from street outreach into interim and permanent housing. The CoC aims to accomplish this with partnership from core system partners and increasing the number of street outreach staff and case managers engaging people living in encampments. The County of Santa Clara and City of San José, in partnership with the CoC, are leveraging California Homeless Housing and Assistance Program (HHAP) funds to expand the coordinated outreach response to meet the needs of the most vulnerable unhoused community members.

Behavioral Health Services Targeted Outreach

The County's Office of Supportive Housing (OSH) and Behavioral Health Services Department (BHSD) have launched the newly Homeless Engagement and Access Team (HEAT), funded by the Mental Health Services Act. The HEAT is staffed by outreach specialists and clinicians who can treat unsheltered, uninsured people, engaging people where they are to build trust as a bridge to housing and long-term services. In 2019-20, the County also expanded existing mental health services, such as the Mobile Crisis Services Team, which trains and supports law enforcement agencies in effectively interacting with community members who may be in crisis and experiencing unsheltered homelessness. In 2022, the BHSD launch the new Trusted Response Urgent Support Team (TRUST) program, designed to help residents who need assistance in resolving conflicts or stressful situation. Residents can call 988, the new three-digit number for the Crisis and Suicide Prevention Lifeline, and a trained counselor may dispatch of the specialized BHSD outreach teams.

Valley Homeless Healthcare Program Outreach

The OSH also partners with the County Valley Homeless Healthcare Program (VHHP). Each year, VHHP provides healthcare services to over 7,000 people, with services including:

- Primary care services, including physical exams, cancer screenings, testing for HIV and sexually transmitted infections, and treatment of conditions like diabetes and high blood pressure;
- Mental health services including psychiatric care and counseling for conditions like depression, anxiety, ADHD, and post-traumatic stress disorder);
- Social support services including help with income, transportation, food, and shelter;
- Substance use treatment including medication assisted treatment like buprenorphine and naltrexone for heroin, pain medication or alcohol use;
- Legal services including help from a public defender or lawyer.

Bringing Healthcare to People Experiencing Homelessness

VHHP services are set up to meet the needs of the community and are designed with accessibility and the specific needs of the most vulnerable populations in mind. The Program has clinic locations in the geographic region with the highest number of unsheltered homeless people and two clinics located at two shelters. VHHP also hosts three clinic sites at brick-and-mortar buildings and offers three Mobile Health Centers that deliver care to clients across the county. Finally, VHHP meets the unique healthcare needs of specific subpopulations and communities through its Medical Respite Program, Gender Clinic, Saludas Migrant Farmworker Clinic, Backpack Homeless Healthcare Program and Teen Van.

The Backpack Homeless Healthcare Program or street medicine program is an effort to meet people "where they are" and aims to reach and serve the most vulnerable unsheltered people experiencing homelessness throughout the County. This was a critical program for unsheltered people during the pandemic to receive resources such as hygiene supplies, COVID-19 testing and vaccination. The mobile and specialty clinics partner with and are connected to the larger healthcare system and facilitate connections to emergency shelter, permanent housing, and other resources. A key component of serving unsheltered persons with the most severe service needs in Santa Clara is the expansion of this critical street medicine program.

In addition to expanding medical and service-based outreach, the CoC and its system partners are increasing access to basic hygiene resources making the mobile hygiene program operational six days per week. This program provides bathrooms, showers, and laundry service to people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

B. Current Strategy to Provide Immediate Access to Low-Barrier Shelter and Temporary Housing for Individuals and Families Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness (P-3.b.)

The Santa Clara County Community Plan to end homelessness includes a goal to double the capacity of emergency shelter/temporary housing inventory by 2025. The system has increased capacity by 18% to date and aims to increase the number of emergency housing units by over 1500 units by 2025. The community has met their established goal of reducing the inflow of people becoming homeless by 30%, relieving system pressure to improve services to those who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Additionally, Santa Clara County's goal to house 20,000 people through the supportive housing system and focus on increasing supportive and affordable housing inventory is focused on helping people quickly obtain permanent housing and transition from unsheltered homelessness to permanent housing more quickly.

The community has prioritized reducing unsheltered homelessness and has leveraged the state Homekey program and other sources to develop innovative emergency interim housing inventory. Local jurisdictions including the cites of Mountain View, San José, and Palo Alto have committed more funding than ever before to increase temporary housing opportunities. In the last year, 188 new units of interim housing have been added to the regional inventory. The County and its partners have increased nightly temporary shelter capacity for unhoused families to 390 units, including 38 cold weather shelter program units and 27 units for survivors of gender-based violence. Newer resources include the City of San José's emergency interim housing site known as Evans Lane which provides 49 units of temporary shelter to unhoused families and the expansion of the County's family motel program with 89 nightly hotel rooms available for unhoused families, focusing on families who are in housing search.

Santa Clara County CoC and its partners embraced Housing First within the homeless response system in 2010 and reaffirmed the commitment through the adoption and updates of the Community Plan to End Homelessness. In the past several years, the CoC has worked with all shelter programs to increase the number of shelters that are open and operating 24/7 or longer hours to the extent possible based on the availability of facilities. The CoC and County have provided linkages to partnerships including the Humane Society to support more shelter programs accepting persons with pets and have lowered other barriers that were previous in place such as drug-testing at shelter programs. The system has implemented a centralized shelter call center to support a streamlined process of accessing emergency shelter placements and is strengthening the partnership and coordination of outreach and other providers and partners serving unsheltered individuals and families to improve access to safe interim housing.

Centralize Shelter Referrals and Housing Resources

The Here4You Call Center (Call Center) is a new initiative that was launched as the COVID-19 pandemic and continued because of its effectiveness. It provides a single-point of access to emergency shelter beds and centralizes emergency shelter referrals including a set aside of shelter beds for unhoused persons who need to recuperate post-hospitalization. The Call Center was developed in partnership with the CoC, OSH, the Bill Wilson Center (call center administrator), and Bitfocus (HMIS administrator). These partners developed the workflow, trained staff to implement Housing Problem Solving, and improved data entry on shelter referrals and connection to services to better measure performance. The Call Center offers immediate

Housing Problem Solving support to callers and is the access point to the shelter portion of the Coordinated Entry System. The Call Center was developed as a response to input from providers, community advocates and people experiencing homelessness recommending a streamlined process for access to shelter placements and housing resources. The Call Center hires people with lived experience and people through the local CalWORKs subsidized employment program and has demonstrated success since launching with improved utilization of shelter programs.

Housing Problem Solving has been integrated into the crisis Coordinated Entry and Shelter Referral process to assist households in identifying safe, alternative options to emergency shelter whenever possible. This strategy helps to preserve emergency shelter resources for households who do not have alternative options or supports to rely upon. Housing Problem Solving occurs throughout the crisis response system with aims to reduce the length of time a household experiences homelessness and facilitates quicker exits from the homelessness response system. The Housing Problem Solving conversations are grounded in a household's current housing situation, available resources, and identification of safe housing options that households are willing to explore outside of the supportive housing system. The role of the Housing Problem Solving specialist is to partner with the household to identify viable alternatives for permanent or temporary housing stability and facilitate connections to the household's preferred alternatives. Housing Problem Solving leverages creative conversations, providing advocacy when appropriate, serving as a mediator, connection to short and long-term supports including mainstream resources, and connection to flexible financial assistance when needed.

In October 2022, Housing Problem Solving expanded to include emergency shelters to continue to explore rapid exits from shelters through viable alternatives. The CoC is currently engaged in a research study to evaluate the effectiveness of Housing Problem Solving within the supportive housing system to better understand how effective the intervention is for different populations experiencing housing crises. Findings from this evaluation will help the CoC continue to improve and tailor interventions to respond to people with the most severe service needs.

C. Current Strategy to Provide Immediate Access to Low-Barrier Permanent Housing for Individuals and Families Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness (P-3.c.)

The Santa Clara County CoC's current strategy for providing permanent housing for individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness includes a strong focus on creating new inventory of permanent affordable housing to ensure that periods of homelessness are brief and non-recurring. In addition to creating more pathways to permanent housing, the system is adding additional inventory of interim housing to give individuals and households matched with rental assistance programs more stability while they are being supported to find a housing unit. The CoC has expanded employment opportunities for people who are unhoused or recently housed, opening doors to employment opportunities within the service system in roles such as call center operators, vaccine outreach ambassadors, and interim housing staff. The Destination: Work initiative was launched as a partnership between the Office of Supportive Housing, Destination: Home, and JobTrain that connects participants with living-wage employment, leading to careers in high growth industries such as health care, technology, advanced manufacturing, and building and construction.

All permanent housing programs in partnership with the CoC implement a Housing First approach and support individuals and families with a no-fail approach to providing support with the goal of housing retention. Permanent housing program providers are trained in best practices and utilize harm reduction and trauma-informed approach to engaging participants in supports to maintain stable housing. All permanent housing resources are matched through coordinated entry prioritizing households with the most severe service needs.

Client Engagement Team – Street Outreach

The Client Engagement Team (CET) includes street outreach and navigation activities to support households that have been assessed through the CoC's Coordinated Entry System and have been prioritized on the Community Queue for permanent housing. The goal of CET is two-fold: to engage and build rapport with unsheltered residents, encourage and support them in accessing permanent housing resources and to decrease the length of time people experience homelessness by streamlining the housing enrollment and transition process. The CET's dedicated outreach and engagement staff locates unsheltered persons who are prioritized for permanent housing. After engaging and establishing rapport, CET staff assists participants to collect all required eligibility documentation and complete necessary housing application forms. In other words, CET assists participants to be "document ready" for transition to housing. Once participants are ready for move-in, the CET assists participants in arranging and supporting the details of the move from streets to housing. This includes assistance with moving and transporting personal belongings and helping to provide move-in kits. Lastly, the CET provides a warm handoff to the appropriate service provider for the housing program. The expansion of CET as part of this funding opportunity will help expand the number of staff carrying out these critical engagement activities with the goal to decrease unsheltered homelessness by facilitating more timely connections to interim and permanent housing.

The CoC and regional partners are tracking goals established in the Community Plan to End Homelessness. From January 2020 to August 2022, the CoC and its partners have made 8,392 housing placements, or 42% towards its goal of 20,000 people by 2025. In addition, System Performance metrics demonstrate increases in permanent housing placements increasing to 42% from all program types in 2021. The CoC has high rates of retention in permanent housing programs with nearly 98% of individuals and families remaining stably housed.

The CoC is leveraging this funding opportunity to increase permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing opportunities for individuals and families with the longest episodes of homelessness and most severe service needs. The Agrihood Senior Apartments permanent supportive housing project is leveraging 54 project-based units for all supportive housing units included in this competition. The Unsheltered Rapid Rehousing project is leveraging set-aside units built through local affordable housing bond funding to provide dedicated units to households matched with this program.

III. Updating the CoC's Strategy to Identify, Shelter, and House Individuals Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness with Data and Performance (P-4.)

The Santa Clara CoC and its partners have established process improvements across all strategies in the Community Plan to End Homelessness. This includes a focus to expand coordination between systems, increase the use of data to improve programs, and to increase training opportunities for all partners. The Santa Clara CoC has committed to:

- Share data across safety net, criminal justice, healthcare, and housing systems to better predict and target households who experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.
- Better utilize data collected in the homeless system of care and across County departments to know what is working well, what programs need improvement, and to identify inequities in the system.
- Provide demographic data, including race and ethnicity, in all reports on homelessness to highlight and address inequities.
- Create accessible dashboards that show progress and hold systems accountable.

The Santa Clara CoC evaluates system performance and establishes local benchmarks each year to strive toward a high performing system of care to respond to homelessness.

Street Outreach programs serve as an access point to the larger coordinated entry system and utilize HMIS for data collection. Street outreach aims to link unsheltered persons with severe service needs to the services they need and desire, with a goal to move people out of unsheltered homelessness and into temporary or permanent housing. The 2022-2023 local benchmark aims to place 40% of persons served by street outreach in successful placements. To achieve this goal and to reach the most vulnerable unsheltered populations, the CoC and its partners are expanding capacity in street outreach, including leveraging healthcare partners through street medicine and behavioral health crisis teams. Alongside this performance metric is a focus on increasing the temporary and permanent inventory to have adequate supply of placement options that meet the service needs and desires of people who are unsheltered. The CoC is including people with lived experiences of unsheltered homelessness in the design, implementation, and evaluation of street outreach efforts, and ensuring staff are trained and supported to achieve the performance objectives of the system.

Emergency shelter and interim housing programs also serve as access points within the larger coordinated system. The CoC is focused on increasing inventory of interim housing while enhancing existing programs to incorporate feedback from people with lived experience to improve privacy, storage, pet accommodations, and other desired services and amenities. The CoC has created a centralized call center to improve access to and utilization of emergency shelter and interim housing programs. Emergency shelter programs in Santa Clara County are incorporating housing first, harm reduction, and trauma-informed practices, and striving to facilitate shorter lengths of stay by connecting participants to permanent housing. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic factors driving rental prices up with tightening vacancy rates have put pressures on crisis systems, resulting in longer stays than desired in emergency shelter programs. Case management services are provided to clients in emergency shelters to address barriers in finding housing with a goal to identify housing opportunities to meet the

client's needs. The CoC aims to reduce lengths of stay in interim placements to 131 days on average with ongoing efforts to increase housing supply to make continued progress in reducing the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.

The CoC aims to have high performing housing programs including permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing, and other permanent housing to resolve homelessness for individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness including:

- Supporting housing programs that provide support services focused on housing stability and retention with local benchmarks focused on reducing returns to homelessness;
- Targeting less than 5% returns to homelessness from supportive housing programs and less than 8% returns from rapid rehousing programs; and
- Engaging in efforts to connect participants to health care and employment or other income benefits to support housing stability.

The CoC analyzes system data quarterly to evaluate the community's progress towards achieving goals established in the Community Plan to End Homelessness. The CoC's monthly Supportive Housing System report evaluates program capacity and utilization, metrics aligned with HUD System Performance goals, monthly housing placements vs inflow of newly homeless households, characteristics of participant households and outcomes by program, and demographics of households served.

The Client Engagement Team (CET) included in this proposal provides an expansion to support the most vulnerable unsheltered individuals and families prioritized and matched with housing programs through the Coordinated Entry System. This robust outreach team will engage and build rapport with unsheltered individuals and families and streamline the housing enrollment process. The CET will help participants gather required eligibility documentation and complete housing application forms. Once participants are ready for move-in, the CET assists participants in arranging and supporting the move from streets to housing and conducts a warm handoff to the housing supportive services provider. This newly expanded program will meet a system need to decrease the length of time that the most vulnerable individuals and households experience unsheltered homelessness in Santa Clara County.

IV. Identify and Prioritize Households Experiencing or with Histories of Unsheltered Homelessness (P-5.)

The County's Coordinated Entry System currently prioritizes persons for permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing programs, transitional housing, and emergency shelter programs. Access points include street outreach programs, service site locations, emergency shelters and transitional housing programs. There are nearly 90 organizations that participate in the regional system and six sites that serve as drop-in locations. The system includes county organizations, non-profit organizations, cities, re-entry programs, healthcare partners, and other social service partners. The CoC utilizes the VI-SPDAT for assessing service needs, vulnerabilities, and histories of unsheltered homelessness. The system refers to the community queue for matching

the most vulnerable and eligible households with the most severe service needs and longest episodes of homelessness to available housing resources.

The CoC is in the process of redesigning its coordinated entry system to more effectively prioritize and refer people to available housing programs, with a focus on streamlining the process and improving the ways the process is client-centered and equitable. This effort is being co-led by a committee of people with lived experiences of homelessness and is focused on reducing unsheltered homelessness, ensuring the most vulnerable and underserved populations are prioritized for housing interventions.

Leveraging resources as part of this special funding competition, the County will expand upon the robust outreach services by funding an expansion of the CET. This specialized team will facilitate connections and placements of unsheltered populations into interim and permanent housing by identifying individuals and families prioritized on the community queue and assisting with linking the population to those placements. The CET facilitates service connections and assists with securing identification and other documents needed for access to permanent housing. In addition to funding expansion of the CET, the CoC will leverage the remaining funds available in this competition to support expansion of rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing to reduce unsheltered homelessness in the county.

The CoC regularly analyzes available data from street outreach programs, interim housing/emergency shelter programs, and permanent housing programs to evaluate for trends in demographics, locations of unsheltered populations, and service needs to adjust the system response to meet needs of vulnerable unsheltered populations. The CoC collaborates with mainstream service partners to facilitate increased access to essential services including healthcare, benefits and supportive services for persons who are experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

The CoC is improving the coordination between street outreach, service sites and the shelter and housing systems informed by data and input from people with lived experience and histories of unsheltered homelessness. Input from people with lived experience has emphasized the following priorities incorporated in the Santa Clara County plan to serve the most vulnerable households experiencing unsheltered homelessness:

- Improve data collection to better understand who outreach programs are serving and their individual needs
- Map encampment locations and share with all groups involved in outreach to improve coordination among advocates, volunteers, and service providers
- Improve Point-in-Time Count efforts to focus on underserved locations in South County
- Increase number of drop-in center/service site locations and allow for folks to be assessed for coordinated entry when they want housing but no other services

V. Involving Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Decision Making – Meaningful Outreach (P-6.)

In 2018, Santa Clara County established its Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB). The LEAB was formed to foster leadership and a sense of empowerment among its members, and to provide clear communication and ongoing partnership between decision makers and the people the system serves. The LEAB strives to empower people with lived experience of homelessness and to inform system planning, improve the supportive housing system, dispel myths about homelessness, and help the broader community better understand their needs. To provide further opportunities for those with lived experience to inform system planning and engage and collaborate with community members, the Santa Clara County CoC elected two members of the LEAB to the CoC Board, the governing body that oversees the CoC and sets strategic priorities regarding affordable housing and homelessness.

The CoC also engages and collaborates with youth and young adults who have lived experience through its Youth Action Board (YAB). The YAB is an advisory board comprised of youth and young adults including those with lived experience of homelessness. This work began with youth and young adults leading the development of the Community Plan to End Youth and Young Adults Houselessness in 2022 and making recommendations related to the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). . Through the YHDP, the CoC and the YAB have made a commitment to build authentic partnerships with youth and young adults to engage and collaborate with system partners through a cohort model of partnership for continuous engagement and collaboration.

Currently, LEAB and YAB members participate in trainings for Supportive Housing System initiatives, provide advisory services to aid in policy development, review solicitations across numerous for a, and provide system evaluation. Since both LEAB and YAB have leadership roles and are integral partners in the local Supportive Housing System to set policy, the CoC and its partners believe that people with lived experiences deserve to be equitably valued and compensated in the same way as other independent consultants with requisite professional experience or expertise (in this case, lived expertise). To recognize the value that people with lived experience offers to the countywide programs and services, the County and Destination: Home provide stipends and administrative support to people with lived experience of homelessness who provide training and advisory services at the request of the CoC and its partners. People with lived expertise who support these initiatives are provided a stipend, ranging from a minimum of $100 to a maximum of $750 a month based on their participation.

VI. Supporting Underserved Communities and Supporting Equitable Community Development (P-7.)

Santa Clara County system data for the CoC shows Black, Indigenous, and Hispanic people are over-represented in the local unhoused populations. Through the recommendations of the SPARC (Supporting Partnerships for Anti-Racist Communities) report titled *Race and Homelessness in Santa Clara County*, the CoC has adopted strategies to address racial inequities and support underserved communities in the Community Plan to End Homelessness. The 2020 Santa Clara County general population from the 2020 Census reported 25% Hispanic/Latinx compared to 47% Hispanic/Latinx unhoused population reported in the 2022 Point-in-Time

Count. Similar disproportionalities exist for Black or African Americans where they represent 2% of the Santa Clara County general population and 14% of the unhoused population. American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous represent less than 1% of the general population and 7% of the unhoused population in Santa Clara County.

One of the most significant actions that the County of Santa Clara is undertaking to ensure equity in service delivery is the redesign of the Coordinated Entry System (CES). The Coordinated Entry Work Group (CEWG) has embarked on a collaborative process to redesign the local CES. The goal of CES redesign is to lessen the burden of discussing invasive questions on unhoused persons and providers, provide transparency about who will and who will not be housed through CES, improve equitableness of housing referrals, and create a process that more effectively prioritizes people with the highest needs for support. A Prioritization Committee comprised of a group of 10-12 people with lived experiences of homelessness to participate in the redesign of CES. The Prioritization Committee includes a diversity mechanism to ensure input from persons who have been disproportionately impacted by homelessness (e.g. BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, survivors of gender-based violence, formerly incarcerated, youth and young adults, veterans, etc.) are included.

The CoC has incorporated an equity focus with targeted invitations to organizations with ties to groups who are disproportionately impacted by homelessness for all planning and policy work in the last year. Organizations engaged in identifying CoC system barriers for BIPOC include the ¡Si Se Puede! Collective, five community-based organizations (CBOs) from San José's Mayfair neighborhood who serve BIPOC communities. A core system partner, Destination: Home, has established the Andre Ellison Equity fund, a fund developed to support the work of organizations led by people with lived experiences of homelessness and/or people of color. Two and a half million dollars in funds have been committed to seven CBOs over three years. The CoC has engaged with Andre Ellison recipient organizations and other BIPOC-led organizations to encourage participation in NOFO committee meeting discussions of racial equity scoring and strategies.