



FAYETTEVILLE / CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE ON HOMELESSNESS

## **2023 Continuum of Care Program Grant Competition**

### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

Standard Renewal Projects  
and  
New Projects

Funding Available for Renewal & New Projects (including reallocation): \$858,000

**Funding Available for Reallocation (new projects): \$449,428**

Funding Available for CoC Housing Bonus: \$70,392

Funding Available for New Domestic Violence Bonus: \$100,560

**Electronic Project Applications Due: Monday, August 28, 2023, by 11:59 p.m.**

CoC Lead Agency:  
Cumberland County Community Development  
910-323-6112

**Released: August 2, 2023**

Reference: <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/FY-2023-CoC-NOFO-Publication.pdf>

# FAYETTEVILLE/CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE ON HOMELESSNESS

## 2023 COC PROGRAM GRANT COMPETITION PROCESS

### INTRODUCTION

The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the 2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance Program on July 5, 2023. The FY2023 NOFO is available at <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/FY-2023-CoC-NOFO-Publication.pdf>. Cumberland County Community Development (CCCD), as the lead agency and Collaborative Applicant for the Fayetteville / Cumberland County Continuum of Care (FCCCoC) on Homelessness, is encouraging eligible agencies to apply for funding made available through the CoC Program NOFO. All local project applications must be submitted by the local deadline (**August 28, 2023, 11:59 p.m. EST**) in order for the project applications to be considered for funding by FCCCoC and submitted to HUD by the deadline date.

**Agencies interested in applying for funding should submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) to express their interest in submitting renewal, new or expansion projects to Devon Newton at [dnewton@cumberlandcountync.gov](mailto:dnewton@cumberlandcountync.gov) by 5:00 p.m., August 11, 2023. CCCD will hold an informational webinar on August 1, 2023, to ensure that interested parties have a full understanding of the application process and requirements.**

HUD's Continuum of Care (CoC) Program (24 CFR part 578) is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, states, Indian Tribes or tribally designated housing entities (as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs), and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

The CoC Program NOFO sets up the procedure by which a local CoC, through its designee, submits a single collaborative application to fund eligible projects that advance the local CoC's goals. The consolidated application that will be submitted by CCCD for the FY2023 CoC Program Grant Competition will include eligible new projects and renewal projects. FCCCoC is seeking proposals from local providers to develop projects that would provide housing and services for persons experiencing homelessness.

Project applications must be submitted in HUD's electronic grant application system *e-snaps* no later than **August 28, 2023, 11:59:59 p.m., eastern time**. CCCD will provide applicants with access to *e-snaps* and technical assistance regarding the use of the system.

### FUNDING AVAILABILITY

FCCCoC expects renewal and new projects to be awarded a combined total of \$858,000 in this funding round. The following are estimated amounts available:

Preliminary Pro Rata Need	\$1,005,602
Total Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)	\$858,000
Tier 1	\$797,940
Available for reallocation (new projects)	\$449,428
CoC Bonus (New Project)	\$70,392
DV Bonus (New Project)	\$100,560
CoC Planning (not competitively ranked) *	\$50,280

\*Only the Collaborative Applicant (lead agency) can apply for CoC Planning.

## MATCHING FUNDS

The grantee must match all grant funds, except for leasing funds, with no less than 25% of funds or in-kind contributions from other sources. Guidance regarding cash and in-kind match is at 24 CFR 578.73. Cash match must be used for the costs of activities that are eligible CoC Program costs. Refer to the [CoC Program NOFO](#) for additional information.

## GRANT TERM

Renewal projects may only apply for one-year grant terms. New projects may request funds for an initial grant term of 1 year, 2 years, 3 years, 4 years, 5 years, or 15 years. The funding request submitted at this time must cover the entire period of the initial grant term (with the exception of projects with a 15-year grant term, as explained in the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO. All renewal project applications, including rental assistance, are limited to 1-year grant terms and may only request 1 year of funding.

## PROJECT APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Project application(s) must be submitted electronically in HUD's **e-snaps** system. The electronic application must include all required attachments. To access the e-snaps system for new applicants, please contact Devon Newton at [dnewton@cumberlandcountync.gov](mailto:dnewton@cumberlandcountync.gov) by 5:00 p.m., August 23, 2023.

**The deadline for submittal of Project Applications in the e-snaps system is August 28, 2023, at 11:59 pm. Project applicants will not be allowed to amend applications after September 15, 2023, unless approved by the Grant Review Committee. Any approved corrections/amendments must be made within the deadline date specified by the Grant Review Committee but no later than September 19, 2023.**

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants include non-profits with a (501)(c)(3) status, local units of government, and other public agencies. All applicants must have an active unique entity identifier (UEI) and have an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) before applying. As of April 4, 2022, entities doing business with the federal government must use the UEI created in SAM.gov. Also, you must provide a valid UEI, registered and active at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov) in the application. For more information, see: [Unique Entity Identifier Update | GSA](#)

## COC APPLICATION TIMELINES

Deadline	ACTIVITY
July 5, 2023	HUD CoC Program NOFO Opens
August 1, 2023 at 3:00 pm	Information Session – Link to virtual meeting will be emailed to listserv
August 2, 2023	Fayetteville/Cumberland County CoC FY2023 Application Period Opens
August 11, 2023, by 5:00 p.m. (EST)	Deadline to submit Letter of Intent (LOI) to <a href="mailto:dnewton@cumberlandcountync.gov">dnewton@cumberlandcountync.gov</a>

<b>August 28, 2023, by 11:59 p.m.</b>	Project applications (and required attachments) for <b>RENEWAL</b> and <b>NEW</b> projects <b>must be completed and submitted in e-snaps</b> . APR's will be accessed through SAGE and submitted to Grant Review Committee
Between August 29 – September 8, 2023	Grant Review Committee will review, score, and rank project applications.
September 11, 2023	Project applicants will be notified of Grant Review Committee's decision.
September 18, 2023	Appeals are due to the Grant Review Committee
Between September 23 – 26, 2023	Lead Agency (CCCD) prepares and posts all components (Consolidated Application and Priority Listing) on the FCCCoC's website.
<b>September 28, 2023, by 7:59 p.m. (EST)</b>	<b>Final HUD Deadline for Submission of Applications in e-snaps.</b>

## REVIEW PROCESS

All project applications that meet the threshold requirements will be further reviewed by the Grant Review Committee for evaluation, selection and ranking. The process used for threshold requirements and competitive review can be found at [FCCCoC's website](#). Applications conditionally selected by the Performance Evaluation & Grant Review Committee will be submitted as part of the CoC Program consolidated application to HUD by the deadline. Final approval will be made by HUD.

## POLICY PRIORITIES

FCCCoC established priorities that falls in line with HUD's homeless policy and program priorities. These priorities include:

1. Ending homelessness for all persons;
2. Using a Housing First approach;
3. Reducing unsheltered homelessness;
4. Improving system performance;
5. Partnering with housing, health, and service agencies;
6. Racial equity;
7. Improving assistance to LGBTQ+ individuals; and
8. Persons with lived experience;
9. Increasing affordable housing supply

## ELIGIBLE PROJECT TYPES

Project applications will be categorized as one of the following: Standard Renewal or New. All project applications will be evaluated and scored using an objective and system performance criteria. The FCCCoC Grant Review Committee will consider the priorities and information contained in the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO. Projects will be ranked based on the score and in accordance with the FCCCoC's project application evaluation policy.

The following types of projects are eligible for funding in this competition:

## 1. Standard Renewal Projects

Projects currently funded under HUD's CoC Program and listed on the HUD's FY2023 [Grant Inventory Sheet \(GIW\)](#) are eligible for renewal for FY 2023 funds if they have a grant agreement that expires in Calendar Year 2024. These projects will be evaluated using objective and performance criteria outlined in FCCCoC's scoring and ranking.

## 2. New Projects

New projects are projects that have never been awarded CoC Program funds. These projects will be evaluated and scored using FCCCoC's scoring criteria, guidance, and HUD's priorities listed in the CoC Program NOFO. **New organizations (with no prior CoC funding experience) are encouraged to apply.**

### A. New Projects Created Through the Reallocation Process, CoC Bonus, or a combination of reallocation and CoC Bonus, and new Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus projects.

Reallocation is the process of removing funding (in whole or in part) from a renewal project to fund a new project. FCCCoC's Reallocation Plan will be followed for any projects funded through the reallocation process.

Applicants may use reallocated funds to create:

- 1) Permanent housing-permanent supportive housing (PH-PSH) projects that meet the requirements of Dedicated PLUS as defined in the 2023 CoC Program NOFO or where 100 percent of the beds are dedicated to individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness, as defined in 24 CFR 578.3.
- 2) New permanent housing-rapid rehousing (PH-RRH) projects that will serve homeless individuals and families, including unaccompanied youth;
- 3) Joint Transitional Housing (TH) and Permanent Housing-Rapid Rehousing (PH-RRH) component projects as defined in the 2023 CoC Program NOFO to better serve homeless individuals and families, including individuals or families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who meet the following criteria:
  - a. residing in a place not meant for human habitation;
  - b. residing in an emergency shelter;
  - c. person meeting the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless, including persons fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
  - d. residing in a transitional housing project that is being eliminated;
  - e. residing in transitional housing funded by a Joint TH and PH-RRH component project as defined the 2023 CoC Program NOFO, or
  - f. receiving services from VA-funded homeless assistance program and met one of the above criteria at initial intake to the VA's homeless assistance system.
- 4) Dedicated HMIS project for the costs at 24 CFR 578.37(a)(4) that can only be carried out by the HMIS Lead, which is the recipient or subrecipient of an HMIS grant, and that is listed on the HMIS Lead form in the CoC Applicant Profile in e-snaps. Additionally, if the CoC has organizations within its geographic area that are victim service providers, the HMIS Lead, or subrecipient, may request HMIS funds for a comparable database. Victim service providers may also request HMIS funds in their project application budgets to enter data into a comparable database.
- 5) Supportive services only (SSO-CE) project to develop or operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system in Fayetteville/Cumberland County.

## **B. New Projects Created Through Domestic Violence Bonus**

Applicants may use the Domestic Violence Bonus funds to create:

- 1) Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-housing projects dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless at 24 CFR 578.3;
- 2) Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects as defined in HUD's FY2022 CoC Program NOFO dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are defined as homeless at 24 CFR 578.3; or
- 3) Supportive Service Only Coordinated Entry project to implement policies, procedures, and practices that equip the CoC's coordinated entry to better meeting the needs of individuals and families experiencing homelessness, including victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Only one supportive service only project will be funded.

## **C. Expansion Project**

Under the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO, HUD will allow project applicants to apply for a new expansion project (see the FY2023 CoC Program NOFO) under the DV Bonus, reallocation process or CoC bonus processes in order to expand eligible existing projects that will increase the number of units, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or to add additional activities to HMIS and SSO-Coordinated Entry projects. If the new expansion project will expand an existing eligible CoC Program renewal project HUD will not fund capital costs (i.e., new constructions, rehabilitation, or acquisition) and HUD will only allow a 1-year funding request. Project applications submitted as an expansion project must meet the criteria established in the CoC Program NOFO.

## **D. Consolidated Project**

Applicants that intend to use the consolidation process to combine two or more (but no more than ten) eligible renewal projects (e.g., permanent housing-permanent supportive housing projects) may do so through the renewal project application and must ensure:

- (a) Budget Line Items (BLIs) for the consolidated project application submitted exactly match the sum of the BLIs for each of the individual projects as they appear on the GIW located on HUD's website, or grant agreement as amended;
- (b) inclusion of the expiring grant numbers with period of performance and budget period start and end dates for the projects that are consolidating;
- (c) current period of performance and budget period end dates must end in CY 2023;
- (d) are in good standing with HUD, meaning none of the projects have:
  - (i) outstanding audit or monitoring findings,
  - (ii) outstanding obligation to HUD that is in arrears,
  - (iii) unresolved construction delays,
  - (iv) a history of poor financial management/drawdown issues,
  - (v) history of low occupancy levels, or lack experience in administering the project type, or
  - (vi) other capacity issues.

(e) the projects have the same recipient and are for the same component.

## ELIGIBLE COSTS

The following guidance indicates the costs that may be included in program budgets, to be paid for by the CoC grant or by matching funds.

- Rental Assistance;
- Leasing;
- Supportive Services;
- Operating Costs to provide transitional housing; and
- Project Administration.

Refer to the [CoC Program NOFO](#) for additional information.

**Ineligible costs:** Program funds may not be used for rental assistance and operating costs in the same project. Program funds may not be used for the maintenance and repair of housing where the costs of maintaining and repairing the housing are included in the lease.

## CHANGES TO THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA) AND MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT

### Category 4--New Definition of Homelessness

Under the CoC Program and other HUD programs, HUD is now required to consider the following criteria for qualifying as “homeless” for any individual or family who (changes in bold):

- Is **experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to, or** fleeing or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or other dangerous, **traumatic**, or life-threatening conditions **related to the violence against the individual or a family member in the individual’s or family’s current housing situation, including where the health and safety of children are jeopardized;**
- Has no other safe residence; and
- Lacks the resources to obtain other safe permanent housing.

### New Eligible Costs

Section 605(a)(2) of VAWA 2022 amends section 423(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to add the following eligible activity to the CoC program: “Facilitating and coordinating activities to ensure compliance with the emergency transfer plan requirement in 34 U.S.C. 12491(e) and monitoring compliance with the confidentiality protections in 34 U.S.C. 12491(c)(4).”

HUD has determined that this new eligible activity category is not subject to the CoC program’s spending caps on administrative costs under section 423(a)(10), (11), and (12). This activity may be included in new project applications. It may also be added to eligible renewal projects through expansion or added to eligible renewal projects by shifting up to 10 percent of funds from one eligible activity to the VAWA costs line item.

- a) Examples of eligible costs for emergency transfer facilitation include the costs of assessing, coordinating, approving, denying, and implementing a survivor’s emergency transfer which include:
  - i. Assistance with moving costs. Reasonable moving costs to move survivors for an emergency transfer.
  - ii. Assistance with travel costs. Reasonable travel costs for survivors and their families to travel for an emergency transfer.
  - iii. Security Deposits. Grant funds can be used to pay for security deposits of the safe units the



- survivor is transferring to via an emergency transfer.
  - iv. Utilities. Grant funds can be used to pay for costs of establishing utility assistance in the safe unit the survivor is transferring to.
  - v. Housing Fees. Fees associated with getting survivor into a safe unit via emergency transfer, includes but not limited to application fees, broker fees, holding fees, trash fees, pet fees where the person believes they need their pet to be safe, etc.
  - vi. Case management. Grant funds can be used to pay staff time necessary to assess, coordinate and implement emergency transfers.
  - vii. Housing navigation. Grant funds can be used to pay staff time necessary to identify safe units and facilitate moves into housing for survivors through emergency transfers.
  - viii. Technology to make an available unit safe. Grant funds can be used to pay for technology that the individual believes is needed to make the unit safe, including but not limited to doorbell cameras, security systems, phone and internet service when necessary to support security systems for the unit, etc.
- b) Examples of eligible costs for monitoring compliance with the VAWA confidentiality requirements include the costs of ensuring compliance with the VAWA confidentiality requirements which includes:
- i. Monitoring and evaluating compliance with VAWA confidentiality requirements.
  - ii. Developing and implementing strategies for corrective actions and remedies.
  - iii. Program evaluation of confidentiality policies, practices and procedures. (iv) Training on compliance with VAWA confidentiality requirements.
  - iv. Reporting to Collaborative Applicant, HUD and other interested parties on Page 43 of 124 compliance with VAWA confidentiality requirements
  - v. Costs for establishing methodology to protect survivor information
  - vi. Staff time associated with maintaining adherence to confidentiality requirements.

## COC PRIORITIES FOR NEW PROJECTS FOR THE FY2023 COMPETITION

The following populations and/or housing types are considered priorities for new projects in this competition:

- 1) Chronically homeless individuals/families
- 2) Families with children
- 3) Disabled individuals
- 4) Victims of domestic violence / human trafficking
- 5) Veterans
- 6) Youth aged 18-24

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. Project applicants and potential subrecipients must meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the CoC Program as described in 24 CFR part 578.
2. Funds may be used only to assist persons meeting the HUD definition of homeless found at 24 CFR 578.3.
3. For projects requesting funds for leasing, leasing funds cannot be used to lease units or structures owned by the recipient, subrecipient, or their parent, subsidiary or affiliated organization.
4. Selected project applicant(s) must be a member of the Fayetteville / Cumberland County Continuum of Care on Homelessness.
5. Selected project applicant(s) will be required to participate and maintain records in FCCCoC's local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).
6. Selected project applicant(s) will be required to participate in the community-wide, coordinated intake/assessment process in accordance with FCCCoC's written policy and procedures.



7. Domestic violence agencies are exempt from the HMIS participation but must meet separate reporting requirements that make their data available to the state for all State and Federal reporting and evaluations.
8. Final approval will be made by HUD and funding will be provided directly from HUD to the selected applicant.
9. Selected project applicants funded for sponsor-based and project-based rental assistance must execute the grant agreement (with HUD) and begin providing rental assistance within 2 years. HUD strongly encourages all rental assistance to begin within 12 months of award.
10. Selected project applicants must meet statutory deadlines regarding the obligation of grant funds.

## HUD REQUIREMENTS

This document summarizes key components of the CoC Program. More information is available from HUD's website at [https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/coc/competition](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/competition) and from the Continuum of Care Program regulations, available at <https://www.hudexchange.info/coc/coc-program-law-regulations-and-notices/#regulations>.

If there are any conflicts between guidance in this document and HUD guidance, the HUD guidance takes priority and is what should be relied upon.

## HUD DEFINITIONS

### Chronically Homeless

A "chronically homeless" individual is defined to mean a homeless individual with a disability who lives either in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter, or in an institutional care facility if the individual has been living in the facility for fewer than 90 days and had been living in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter immediately before entering the institutional care facility. In order to meet the "chronically homeless" definition, the individual also must have been living as described above continuously for at least 12 months, or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years, where the combined occasions total a length of time of at least 12 months. Each period separating the occasions must include at least 7 nights of living in a situation other than a place not meant for human habitation, in an emergency shelter, or in a safe haven.

Chronically homeless families are families with adult heads of household who meet the definition of a chronically homeless individual. If there is no adult in the family, the family would still be considered chronically homeless if a minor head of household meets all the criteria of a chronically homeless individual. A chronically homeless family includes those whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless.

### CoC Deed-Restricted

Means a site-based program in a building purchased, constructed or rehabilitated with Continuum of Care funds, where the building is subject to a deed restriction related to its CoC funding requiring that it be used for transitional housing or permanent supportive housing for a period of 10 years after the date of initial occupancy, and the building is within the 10-year restricted period.

### DedicatedPLUS Project

A DedicatedPLUS project is a permanent housing-permanent supportive housing (PH-PSH) project where 100 percent of the beds are dedicated to serve a broadened criterion of individuals with disabilities and families in which one adult or child has a disability, including unaccompanied homeless youth.

### Housing First

A model of housing assistance that is offered without preconditions (such as sobriety or a minimum income threshold) or service participation requirements, and rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing are primary goals. The only real expectations of Housing First, which the individual agrees to prior to starting with the program, is to agree to have support workers visit at home, to pay their rent on time and in full (or agree to third party payment of rent), and to avoid disrupting the reasonable enjoyment of other tenants in the same building that would cause their eviction.

## **Joint Transitional Housing (TH) and Permanent Housing - Rapid Rehousing (PH-RRH) Project**

Is a project that includes two existing program components – transitional housing and permanent housing- rapid rehousing – in a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

### **Mainstream Services**

Publicly funded programs that provide services, housing and income supports to low- income persons whether they are homeless or not. They include programs providing welfare, health care, mental health care, substance abuse treatment, and veterans' assistance.

### **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**

Permanent housing in which supportive services are provided to assist homeless persons with a disability to live independently. Permanent housing is community-based housing without a designated length of stay. To be permanent housing, the program participant must be the tenant on a lease for a term of at least one year, which is renewable for terms that are a minimum of one month long, and is terminable only for cause.

### **Rapid Rehousing (RRH)**

Short-term (up to 3 month) or medium-term (3 to 24 months) financial assistance to obtain or maintain permanent housing, along with case management during the period of rental assistance.

### **Scattered Site**

Housing model in which the housing units are not located in a single building.

### **Transitional Housing (TH)**

Housing, where all program participants have signed a lease or occupancy agreement, the purpose of which is to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families into permanent housing within 24 months or such longer period as HUD determines necessary. The program participant must have a lease or occupancy agreement for a term of at least one month that ends in 24 months and cannot be extended.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Access to CoC Program NOFO, project application instructions, and general information can be found on [FCCCoC's website](#).

## **AMENDMENTS**

In the event FCCCoC or the Lead Agency determines, in its sole discretion, that it is necessary to revise any Part of this RFP, an addendum, supplement, or amendment to this RFP will be posted at [FCCCoC's website](#). It is the responsibility of the applicant to check the website for any such addendums, supplements, or amendments made to the RFP.