



2026

Request for Proposal for Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program Funding

NY-508

Erie | Niagara | Genesee | Orleans | Wyoming Counties



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Introduction

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s Continuum of Care (CoC) fund is a nationwide competition for homeless funding. This competition involves two main steps:

1. Local Application Process:

- Applicants must submit a local application in response to this Request for Proposal (RFP) released by the Homeless Alliance of Western New York (HAWNY), the CoC lead agency for NY-508 (Buffalo Niagara Falls/Erie, Niagara, Genesee, Orleans, and Wyoming Counties).
- **Deadline: July 22, 2026 4:00 PM**

2. Federal Application Process:

- Projects that make the selection list will advance to the federal application process through HUD's electronic program application and grants management system, e-snaps.

Applicants are responsible for preparing both the local application and, if approved, the subsequent federal electronic submission of their project application in e-snaps.

Based on funding availability and the requirements of the FY2026 HUD CoC NOFO, HAWNY will announce which projects are selected to advance into the national competition. The FY2026 HUD CoC NOFO places increased emphasis on participant engagement, treatment and recovery, self-sufficiency, reducing homelessness, minimizing trauma, community safety, organizational capacity, and compliance with federal requirements. Projects that demonstrate strong alignment with these priorities are expected to be more competitive in both the local and national



funding process.

Key Dates:

- **June 23, 2026** Local New and Expansion Project RFP release.
- **July 22, 2026 4 PM EST:** Local Application Deadline.
- **Before August 7:** Announcement of local project rankings and results.
- **August 19:** Deadline for selected new projects to complete applications through eSnaps for the national competition.

Key HUD Priorities, Expectations, and Requirements

The FY2026 HUD CoC NOFO emphasizes structured programming, participant engagement, community safety, and compliance with federal requirements. Projects that align with these priorities are more likely to be competitive for funding.

1. Service Participation

Consistent with FY2026 HUD priorities, projects are expected to incorporate supportive service participation requirements based on individual need in accordance with 24 CFR 578.75(h).

- ### **2. Housing projects (TH, PH-PSH, PH-RRH, and Joint TH-RRH), except Domestic Violence projects, are expected to utilize written supportive service participation agreements that outline participant responsibilities, supportive service engagement, and goals related to recovery, housing stability, and self-sufficiency.**

3. Nondiscrimination and Fair Housing

Project applicants must comply with all applicable federal civil rights and fair housing laws and must not engage in unlawful discrimination prohibited by federal law.

4. Prohibition on Safe Consumption Site Activities

Applicants must not:

- Operate drug injection or “safe consumption” sites;
- Knowingly distribute illegal drug paraphernalia; or
- Permit unlawful drug distribution activities on program property.

5. Improving Outcomes and Reducing Homelessness

Projects should demonstrate how proposed activities will reduce homelessness, improve participant outcomes, increase housing stability, and support successful transitions to permanent housing.

6. Self-Sufficiency and Independence

Projects are encouraged to support participant self-sufficiency through employment, education, treatment engagement, recovery support, life skills



development, and other activities that increase independence and long-term housing stability.

7. Minimizing Trauma and Promoting Well-Being

Projects should incorporate approaches that minimize trauma, support participant well-being, promote safe and stable living environments, and reduce barriers to successful housing outcomes.

8. HMIS & Coordinated Entry

All applicants must:

- Participate in HMIS, or a HUD-approved comparable database for victim service providers;
- Participate in Coordinated Entry processes and follow CoC prioritization and referral requirements.

9. Timely Implementation

Projects must demonstrate the capacity to begin operations within 12 months of award.

10. Match Requirement

Projects must demonstrate the ability to provide the required 25 percent match in cash or in-kind contributions (see Appendix III).

11. Administrative Costs

Administrative costs may not exceed 10 percent of the total project request.

Funding Types

There are **four funding opportunities*** included in this RFP:

1. Renewal Grants
2. Transition Grant and/or YHDP replacement project/Reallocation
3. DV Bonus
4. CoC Bonus

***HUD will conditionally select new project applications created through these funds. It is a highly competitive grant. It is unlikely that HUD will fund all projects that are submitted from each CoC. HUD may reduce the award amount based on funding availability.**

1. Renewal Grants

Renewal Grants are existing CoC-funded projects funded with a contract expiring in CY2027. This includes existing CoC-funded projects, YHDP-funded projects, and previously awarded CoC DV Bonus projects. Approximately \$15



million in renewal funding is expected to be included in the local CoC competition.

2. Transition Grant / YHDP Replacement Project / Reallocation

Existing renewal projects may apply through the reallocation process to create new projects or transition from one program component to another eligible component.

A Transition Grant is a type of reallocation project that transitions an existing renewal project from one program component to another eligible component over a 1-year period. Existing YHDP projects seeking significant project changes should apply as a YHDP Replacement Project in accordance with HUD YHDP requirements.

Projects created through reallocation must comply with all applicable HUD eligibility, project quality, and component requirements. Approximately \$9 million in eligible renewal funding may be considered for transition, replacement, expansion, consolidation, or reallocation activities through the local competition.

3. Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, & Stalking Bonus (DV Bonus)

DV Bonus projects must serve survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. HUD supports that persons fleeing or attempting to flee human trafficking may qualify as homeless under paragraph (4) of the [homeless definition](#); however, DV Bonus projects may not exclusively serve persons fleeing or attempting to flee human trafficking. Approximately \$5 million is the maximum amount NY-508 may apply for through the DV Bonus competition. HUD funding awards are highly competitive and not guaranteed. HUD may partially fund, reduce, or reject project applications based on national competition results and funding availability.

4. CoC bonus

CoC Bonus projects may be proposed as either new projects or expansion projects. The amount available to the CoC is determined by HUD formula calculations and national competition results. The Project Review Committee reserves the right to adjust funding amounts to align with local competition priorities and available funding. Approximately \$4 million is the estimated maximum amount NY-508 may apply for through the CoC Bonus competition.



Final funding availability depends on HUD formula calculations, project ranking, and national competition results. HUD funding awards are highly competitive and not guaranteed.

Eligible Project Types

1. Permanent Supportive Housing(PSH)

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is permanent housing in which housing assistance (e.g., long-term leasing or rental assistance) and supportive services are provided to assist households with at least one member (adult or child) with a disability in achieving housing stability.

For purposes of the FY2026 NY-508 local competition, existing PSH projects are eligible to apply for Renewal Grant funding. The CoC is not soliciting applications for new PSH projects through the FY2026 local competition.

2. Rapid Rehousing (RRH)

RRH is permanent housing that provides short-term (up to three months) and medium-term (4-24 months) tenant-based rental assistance and supportive services to households experiencing homelessness.

For purposes of the FY2026 NY-508 local competition, RRH projects will only be considered under Renewal Grants or DV Bonus opportunities.

3. Joint Transitional Housing–Rapid Re-Housing (TH-RRH)

Joint TH-RRH projects combine Transitional Housing (TH) and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) into a single project. Participants may receive temporary housing and supportive services through the TH component and transition to RRH assistance when appropriate.

Joint TH-RRH projects are designed to provide a flexible pathway from homelessness to permanent housing while supporting participant engagement, housing stability, recovery, self-sufficiency, and long-term success.

This project type is only eligible under Renewal Grants.



4. Transitional Housing (TH)

Transitional Housing (TH) is a temporary, service-intensive housing intervention designed to help individuals and families stabilize and transition to permanent housing. TH projects provide time-limited housing, generally up to 24 months, combined with structured and customized supportive services.

Services may include case management, behavioral health supports, recovery support services, life skills development, employment assistance, treatment engagement, education, and community-building activities.

HUD's FY2026 NOFO places increased emphasis on treatment, recovery, supportive service participation, and long-term self-sufficiency.

HAWNY strongly encourages applications from providers operating recovery-oriented housing models, including sober or substance-free housing environments, particularly where projects demonstrate strong supportive service participation approaches, behavioral health partnerships, treatment connections, and clear pathways to permanent housing and self-sufficiency.

This project type is only eligible under Transition Grant / YHDP Replacement Project / Reallocation/CoC Bonus/ DV Bonus.

5. Supportive Service Only (SSO)

Supportive Services Only (SSO) projects provide service-focused interventions designed to help individuals and families increase housing stability, recovery, employment, and long-term self-sufficiency. Services may include housing navigation, case management, employment and workforce development services, behavioral health coordination, substance use recovery support, treatment connection, benefits assistance, transportation, life skills development, and other supportive services.

Consistent with FY2026 HUD priorities, applicants are strongly encouraged to demonstrate partnerships with workforce development providers, behavioral health systems, recovery and treatment providers, and other mainstream service systems that support long-term economic independence and housing stability.



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This project type is only eligible under CoC Bonus, DV Bonus, or Reallocation opportunities.

6. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

HMIS projects support the Continuum of Care's Homeless Management Information System infrastructure, including data collection, system administration, reporting, training, technical support, and database management activities required under HUD regulations.

This project type is only eligible under Renewal Grants

7. Supportive Service Only --Coordinated Entry

SSO-Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) projects support the operation and administration of the Coordinated Entry system, including assessment, referral, prioritization, navigation, and coordination activities to ensure households are connected to appropriate housing and services.

This project type is only eligible under Renewal Grants.

Submission Requirements and Deadline

Program Requirements/Thresholds

Applicants must be a nonprofit organization, local/state government, Indian Tribe and Tribally Designated Housing Entity, or public housing agency. For profit entities are ineligible to apply or to be subrecipients of the grant funds.

Application Deadline

All applications must be submitted no later than July 22, 2026, at 4:00 PM EST.

- Complete the Renewal Application: <https://forms.gle/EyHCyW88zQJBNYYU7>
- Complete the Transition Application: <https://forms.gle/ct8Y6VocDoQKzWEJ7>
- New Project Applicants
 - Download and complete the New Project Application and submit it to:



Kexin Ma, kexinma@wnyhomeless.org

- New Application:
<https://wnyhomeless.org/app/uploads/2026/06/NY-508-FY2026-New-Project-Application-FY2026.docx>

Local Review, Ranking, and Appeals

Submission of a project application does not guarantee inclusion in the CoC Priority Listing or advancement to HUD's national competition. All project applications are subject to the local review, ranking, and selection process.

Applications will be evaluated based on HUD priorities, project quality, system needs, local competition results, project performance, fiscal capacity, grant management and anticipated competitiveness in the national HUD review process. Renewal projects ranked in Tier 2 may be evaluated competitively alongside new, expansion, transition, replacement, or reallocation projects.

The Project Selection Committee reserves the right to adjust rankings, funding recommendations, project classifications, and funding amounts to maximize competitiveness and ensure compliance with HUD requirements.

HUD may:

- Choose not to fund any submitted project;
- Fund only a portion of a project request;
- Reduce project funding amounts;
- Reissue or revise the NOFO; or
- Determine that a project does not meet federal requirements.

Additional information regarding scoring, ranking methodology, Tier 1/Tier 2 strategy, and appeal procedures will be included in the FY2026 Funding Guide.

By applying, applicants acknowledge that final award decisions rest solely with HUD.

Appendix I: Terms and Definitions

HOMELESS DEFINITION

Category 1 – Literally Homeless: An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- (i) They have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation;
- (ii) They are living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to



- provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, and local government programs); or
- (iii) They are exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution

Category 2 – Imminent Risk of homelessness: An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:

- (i) The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
- (ii) No subsequent residence has been identified; AND
- (iii) The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks needed to obtain other permanent housing

Category 3 – Homeless under other federal status: Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:

- (i) Are defined as homeless under the other listed federal statutes;
- (ii) Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing during the 60 days prior to the homeless assistance application;
- (iii) Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during the preceding 60 days; and
- (iv) Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time due to special needs or barriers

Category 4 – Fleeing Domestic Violence: Any individual or family who:

- (i) 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;
- (ii) has no other safe residence; and
- (iii) lacks the resources to obtain other safe permanent housing.

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

An unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition, or an adult member of a homeless family who has a disabling condition, who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, OR has had at least four (4) occasions of



homelessness in the past three years, where all combined occasions have to total a length of time of at least 12 months. Each period separating the occasions must include at least seven nights of living in a situation other than a place not meant for human habitation in an emergency shelter or a safe haven. In this case, the term “homeless” means a person sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets), in an emergency homeless shelter, or in a Safe Haven as defined by HUD.

COMPARABLE DATABASE

Victim Services Providers (VSP) that are recipients or subrecipients under HUD’s Continuum of Care (CoC) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs are required to collect client-level data consistent with [Homeless Management Information Systems \(HMIS\)](#) data collection requirements. The [Violence Against Women Act \(VAWA\)](#) and the [Family Violence Prevention and Services Act \(FVPSA\)](#) contain strong, legally codified confidentiality provisions that limit Victim Service Providers from sharing, disclosing, or revealing victims’ personally identifying information (PII), including entering information into shared databases like HMIS. To protect clients, VSPs must enter required client-level data into a comparable database that is comparable to and complies with all HMIS requirements. For additional information, please refer to the [HUD Exchange HMIS Comparable Database Manual](#).

COORDINATED ENTRY

The primary goals for coordinated entry processes are that assistance be allocated as effectively as possible and that it be easily accessible no matter where or how people present. Most communities lack the resources needed to meet all of the needs of people experiencing homelessness. This combined with the lack of well-developed coordinated entry processes can result in severe hardships for people experiencing homelessness. They often face long waiting times to receive assistance or are screened out of needed assistance.

Locally, our community prioritizes people who are most vulnerable/have the most barriers to housing as well as have been homeless the longest. More information can be found on our website: <https://wnyhomeless.org/continuum-of-care/coordinated-entry/>

DISABLING CONDITION

A disabling condition is defined as: (1) a disability as defined in Section 223 of the Social Security Act; (2) a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration, substantially impedes an individual’s ability to live independently, and of such a nature that the disability



could be improved by more suitable conditions; (3) a developmental disability as defined in Section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act; (4) the disease of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome or any conditions arising from the etiological agent for acquired immune deficiency syndrome; or (5) a diagnosable substance abuse disorder. A disabling condition limits an individual's ability to work or perform one or more activities of daily living.

EXPANSION

The process used by renewal project applicants to submit a new project application to add funds to a project to expand its current operations by adding units, beds, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or in the case of HMIS, increase the current HMIS activities within the CoC's geographic area.

PSH DEDICATEDPLUS

A DedicatedPLUS project is a PSH project where the entire project serves individuals and families that meet at least one of the following criteria at project entry:

- (1) experiencing chronic homelessness, meaning they qualify as "chronically homeless" as defined in 24 CFR 578.3;
- (2) residing in a TH project that will be eliminated and meets the definition of chronically homeless in effect at the time in which the individual or family entered the TH project;
- (3) residing in a place not meant for human habitation, emergency shelter, or Safe Haven and had been admitted and enrolled in a PH project within the last year but were unable to maintain a housing placement and met the definition of chronically homeless as defined by 24 CFR 578.3 prior to entering the project;
- (4) residing in transitional housing funded by a Joint TH/PH-RRH component project and who were experiencing chronic homelessness as defined by 24 CFR 578.3;
- (5) residing and has resided in a place not meant for human habitation, Safe Haven, or emergency shelter for at least 12 months in the last three years, but has not done so on four separate occasions and the individual or head of household meet the definition of 'homeless individual with a disability; or
- (6) receiving assistance through a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)-funded homeless assistance program and met one of the above criteria at initial



intake to the VA's homeless assistance system.

VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS

HUD defines a victim service provider to mean a private nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to provide direct services to victims of domestic violence.

Appendix II: Eligible Cost

Eligible cost includes:

- Leasing
- Rental assistance
- Supportive Services
- Operating Costs (only eligible for leasing project), and
- Administrative Cost
- HMIS

For detail of each eligible cost please refer to [CoC Interim rules](#), sections:

- 578.49 Leasing
- 578.51 Rental Assistance
- 578.53 Supportive Services
- 578.55 Operating Costs
- 578.59 Project Administrative cost



Appendix III: Match Requirement

What is Match?

Match is a statutory requirement of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. HUD and the CoC will not pay 100% of your program's expenses, meaning CoC grant recipients must "match" a portion of the CoC funds they receive. Recipients or subrecipients must match at least 25% of the total CoC Program grant funds expended, except for leasing funds (no match requirement). Match may be from cash or in-kind contributions.

Overall Match Requirements

Recipients and subrecipients are responsible for:

- Meeting the 25% requirement over the grant term;
- Securing match contributions for the project;
- Documenting match sources;
- Tracking match expenditures; and
- Developing procedures and reporting formats to collect/compile match information.

Sources of Match

Match resources may be from any federal, state, local, or private source (excluding Continuum of Care

Program funds) as long as the source of the funds is not statutorily prohibited from being used as a match. (Note: the recipient is responsible for determining this.)

Important: Other HUD funds (e.g., ESG, HOME, and CDBG) may be used as a match as long as they haven't been committed as a match to another project.

Match Types

In-Kind: The grant recipient may use the value of any real property, equipment, goods, or services contributed to the project as a match, provided that if the grant recipient had to pay for them with CoC funds, the costs would have been eligible.

Cash: Cash from a non-CoC funding source that goes into the applicant's bank account and is then used for CoC Project Eligible activity during the grant term. Real money spent by the grant recipient on CoC-eligible activity, used for eligible expenses during the grant's Period of Performance (grant term) can be considered match. This includes:

- Revenues from agency fundraising
- Cash from other sources, whether public or private; and



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- Grants from private or governmental sources that aren't prohibited for the matching activity that you intend

Funds Ineligible as Match

- Volunteer services that are agency-wide, but not specific to the CoC program participants
- Public benefits that are available for the public who are eligible, but not specific to the program participants
- Anything that is ineligible for CoC funds will not be classified as a match. For example, furniture is not eligible under the Rental assistance program, so, purchasing furniture for participants cannot be counted toward a match. However, if the project is a leasing project, furniture will be eligible as a match because it is an eligible activity under leasing.

Required Documentation for In-Kind

- A written MOU between the recipient and third-party provider of the services being donated, before receiving the CoC contract;
- Documentation of the value of the services during the year, such as a tracking sheet or a match log. The provider could state services at the end of the commitment period to verify.

Requirements for an MOU

- Legal names of the agencies who are party to the agreement.
- Contact information for both agencies.
- Grant number and period of performance. An MOU is grant-specific.
- Scope of Services to be provided (i.e., case management, counseling, two dental visits per year, etc.)
- Qualifications of personnel providing the service (case manager, counselor, CPA, etc.)
- Length of time services will be provided/contract term
- Number of clients that will receive service, if it is client-specific (ex: 25 per year).
- Dated signatures by authorized representatives from both parties
- "Unconditional commitment" statement by the donor to provide the service

Funds Ineligible for Cash Match

- Mainstream benefits awarded to clients. Example: SSI/SSDI are available to all eligible applicants. Their eligibility is not based on their CoC participation
- CoC program funds



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- Match designated to another project
- Client savings
- Funds spent on CoC ineligible activity

Required Documents for Cash Match

A letter of the committed funds is required on agency letterhead, signed and dated by an authorized representative. It must include:

- Amount of cash to be provided (copy of award letter, if available)
- Date(s) the cash will be available
- Grant number being matched (& fiscal year if applicable) e.g NY1234L2C082103 - Year 2021)
- Time period – it should reflect the grant’s period of performance
- Eligible expenses that will be paid with the cash match.

Grant Life Cycle and Match

Recipients must do the following:

- Application: Typically the annual CoC Program NOFA requires securing written commitments of match and providing information about match type (cash or in-kind), source, and value.
- Grant execution: Document the match to HUD.
- APR: Document progress toward meeting match obligation.
- Conclusion of grant term: Document that matches was spent on eligible activities and met the requirement to match 25 percent of actual funds expended on the CoC Program grant (except leasing funds).
- HUD monitoring: When monitored by HUD, documentation to support all matches may be requested and reviewed.

Resources

- CoC Match Funding at a Glance:
<https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Virtual-Binders-At-A-Glance-Match.pdf>
- In-Kind Match Funding Documentation Required:
<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-match/in-kind-match/documentation/>
- Cash Match Documentation Required:
<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-match/cash-match/documentation/>
- Documentation FAQ:
<https://www.hudexchange.info/faqs/1561/what-are-the-documentation-requirements-for-in-kind-services-as-match/>



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- Federal Match Regulation Citation:
<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200#200.306>