

## 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:** NY-508 - Buffalo, Niagara Falls/Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming Counties CoC

**1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name:** Homeless Alliance of Western New York, Inc.

**1A-3. CoC Designation:** CA

**1A-4. HMIS Lead:** Homeless Alliance of Western New York, Inc.

1A-5.	<b>New Projects</b>	
	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.	<b>Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside</b>	No
2.	<b>Rural Homelessness Set Aside</b>	Yes

## 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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<b>1B-1.</b>	<b>Web Posting of Your CoC Local Competition Deadline–Advance Public Notice. (All Applicants)</b>	
	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.	08/04/2022

<b>1B-2.</b>	<b>Project Review and Ranking Process Your CoC Used in Its Local Competition. (All Applicants)</b>	
	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

<b>1B-3.</b>	<b>Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)</b>	
	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)?	No
	2. Did your CoC inform the applicants why their projects were rejected or reduced?	No
	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.	

1B-3a.	<b>Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps. (All Applicants)</b>	
	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.	09/23/2022
1B-4.	<b>Web Posting of the CoC-Approved Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application. (All Applicants)</b>	
	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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<b>2A-1.</b>	<b>Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless–Risk Factors.</b>	
	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. We have reviewed HMIS data (general characteristics for those who become homeless), DV information provided by DV providers, Covid cases/poverty by zip codes, poverty information, number of low-income renters by neighborhood. We discussed with service providers specific risk factors to use in program design. We also discussed factors and challenges with people with lived experience to determine the risk factors.
2. To prevent people from becoming homeless, our CoC targeted funding to assist disproportionately affected zip codes, people fleeing DV, heads of households older than 62, households with young children, people with a history of homelessness, people exiting jail, people with chronic disabilities, and zero income households. Agencies screened individuals and families with a homeless prevention tool with factors identified above to prioritize those most likely to become homeless. This vulnerability score and compliance with HUD financial guidelines (not exceeding the 50% AMI) were the determining factors for prevention services. When the eviction moratorium was lifted January 15th, 2022, in NYS, legal representation was being funded through the courts to prevent eviction and connect community members unable to receive Emergency Rental Assistance Funding (ERAP) to homeless prevention providers throughout the CoC. Local resource guides were updated and widely distributed, and 211 was a central resource call center. Individuals and families can also utilize the local Department of Social Services resources, which includes emergency utility shut-off, foreclosure eviction assistance, home repair, and assistance moving to prevent people from becoming homeless. Other strategies include supporting the creation of more affordable housing, connecting reentry population to resources, and supporting family reunification.
3. The Department of Social Services and ESG recipients

<b>2A-2.</b>	<b>Length of Time Homeless–Strategy to Reduce. (All Applicants)</b>
	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)**

1. The CoC's Strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless including:a)prioritizing those who experience homelessness the longest. Both CoC and ESG funded PSH and RRH prioritized people who experienced homelessness the longest. Town of Amherst and City of Buffalo PHA also adopted this priority in the selection of Emergency Housing Vouchers(EHV). b) increase housing options. Besides CoC/ESG/VA funded programs, we are able to assist people who are in shelter to utilize EHV, housing choice vouchers, State funded affordable housing, as well as ESG-CV funded Rapid rehousing programs. Housing Navigators and case managers have been actively recruiting landlords and sharing vacancies with participants. c) remove barriers to housing. Housing First approach and no denial policy is required in all CoC/ESG programs. Utilizing ESG-CV funds, we are able to provide risk mitigation funds as a landlord incentive, especially for those who have higher barriers in housing. We also utilize United Way EFSP funds to pay for first month rent, Department of Social services also provides moving cost, utility arrears, security agreement, storage assistance, water assistance and start up household items. d)Shared housing, although it is still in its infancy implementation, our community partners have been trained in the concept and best practices in shared housing. This strategy provides more quality housing options and affordability.
2. Coordinated Entry leads utilize HMIS data and proof of homeless history provided by third parties to identify people who have the longest homeless history. The by-name list is being updated weekly. At the by-name meeting, CE leads, shelter staff, outreach workers, housing case managers, and other partners develop solutions to assist clients with the longest homeless history and ensure they are being referred to any available openings and appropriate housing.
- 3.Coordinated Entry Oversight Committee

<b>2A-3.</b>	<b>Successful Permanent Housing Placement or Retention. (All Applicants)</b>
	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)**

1. The CoC utilizes many strategies to increase the rate of permanent housing, including a) ensuring all shelters, transitional housing, and street outreach teams connect to Coordinated Entry (CE). Ongoing training is provided to program staff, verifying they understand the importance of timely data entry and how to refer clients to CE. b) increasing housing options: shelters, CE, and Rapid Rehousing case managers work closely to address the housing crisis. Collectively, our CoC identifies the best resources eligible for clients. Our CoC leverages all community housing resources, such as CoC/ESG/ ESG CV-funded Rapid rehousing, Emergency Housing Vouchers, FYI, Non-elderly Disable Vouchers, State-funded subsidized and affordable housing (Medicaid redesign beds, mental health, and senior housing). c) improving income for affordability, case managers help clients apply for public benefits and jobs to afford their apartments. d) when we reviewed the # of clients who have returned to homelessness, we learned that many clients were able to self-resolve with the resources/referrals provided to them. However, clients often exit without talking to anyone, so it is hard to have accurate exit data. We continue to provide training and education to ensure staff understands the importance of data entry to reflect a more accurate exit rate.

2. Our exit and retention into permanent housing rates have been over 96% for years. Our success is resulting in 1) partnering with PHA to support the moving on the initiative. 2) adopting a low barrier, housing first, and harm reduction approach. Promoting a person-centered approach helps reduce barriers to receiving services. 3) case managers provide continued support and help to mediate any problems that may arise between clients and landlords.

<b>2A-4.</b>	<b>Returns to Homelessness–CoC’s Strategy to Reduce Rate. (All Applicants)</b>	
	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. Using Stella P, we identified that unaccompanied minors (18 or younger) were more likely to return at 20% within a year, households without children are next at 13%, and households with children are the lowest at 4%. Some other characteristics that show higher chances of returning to homelessness include people with disabilities, singles ages over 55, and Black people(28% compared to 24% White). Homeless Alliance also produces quarterly performance reports to monitor program performance and system outcomes.

2. We recognized that youth are more likely to return because the project is their safety net. We have been allocating more resources to the youth program, and in 2019, we were fortunately selected to be one of the YHDP communities. Funding is utilized to support youth and young adults to stabilize their housing, and a family engagement team was created to reconnect youth with their families. We have adopted a targeted prevention strategy. We are prioritizing people who have been homeless previously in ESG/CDBG funded Prevention program and through the CARES Act rental assistance program. People with disabilities, over 55, and people living in under-resourced communities have also been added to the prioritization rating. Besides utilizing the CoC/ESG funded housing program that assists people in exiting homelessness, we also utilize other resources such as Mainstream NED vouchers, State-funded supportive subsidized housing, and other subsidized housing. These resources all help to prioritize people who have a homeless history or currently experiencing homelessness.

3. Homeless Alliance of WNY

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 includes 1) working with local employment agencies and employers; 2) creating partnerships with public and private organizations that promote employment 3) developing in-house employment and hiring participants; 4) monitoring program performance on employment and continually promoting employment opportunities; 5) create vocational specialists in PSH/RRH programs; 6) encourage participants to participate in job and education programs; 7) remove barriers to employment such as child care and transportation by providing client child care subsidies and bus passes, and 8) ensure resources to address mental health and substance use needs.

2. The CoC partners with local employment programs, such as Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR), which assists individuals living with disabilities through vocational rehabilitation to reach their employment goals. In particular, our Coordinated Entry Lead agency is also an ACCES-VR agency. They have locations in both urban and rural communities within the CoC to assist clients. Local employment programs such as Buffalo Employment and Training Center also are connected to all CoC programs. They share monthly job opportunities, and now with the unemployment rate being high, it has been weekly. Participants are encouraged to enroll in local employment organizations, such as Northland Workforce Training Center, which provides manufacturing/energy training that directly connects to job placements. Other economic self-sufficiency programs also participate through the Departments of Social Services/Department of Senior Services and affiliated nonprofits such as the Buffalo City Mission, Catholic Charities, Veterans One-Stop, and the Goodwill of WNY. The CoC promotes enrollment in the Job Corp, YouthBuild, and the Buffalo Summer Youth Program, which provides young adults education and job opportunities.

3. Homeless Alliance of WNY

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. Strategies used to increase program participant non-employment cash income includes: (1) all programs within the CoC are encouraged through points in our local application to have a SOAR-trained staff member. ESG fund is used to create a SOAR position. (2) all case managers are trained on mainstream cash benefits eligibility and the application process; this includes Safety-Net and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) public assistance programs, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and utility assistance such as HEAP. CoC projects assess the income goals of individuals at intake to connect them with resources such as potential legal services to increase non-employment cash income from available Federal and State mainstream benefit programs. Additionally, clients receive support in applying for these mainstream benefits. We monitor funded program outcomes on increasing non-employment cash income quarterly. The Homeless Coalition hosts a DSS dialogue monthly to communicate updates on the application, concerns from clients or case managers, and confusion on any concerning matters regarding the services/cash benefits that DSS offers. In addition, our CoC encourages persons with lived experience to join advocacy groups to share valuable ongoing insight into community resources. Due to Covid, people can now apply for many benefits online, such as SNAP, daycare, emergency services, and TANF. Some of these benefits could be applied by mail-in application. If clients wish to meet in person, they can still apply in person and have a walk-in appointment.

2. To increase access to non-employment cash sources, the Departments of Social Services (DSS)and Social Security Administration are very supportive of our communities. The Homeless Coalition hosts a DSS dialogue monthly to communicate updates on the application, concerns from clients or case managers, and confusion on any concerning matters regarding the services/cash benefits that DSS offers.

3. The Department of Social Services

## 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.	<b>Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry. (All Applicants)</b>	
	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	No
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)	Yes	Yes	Yes
10.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	Hospital(s)	Yes	No	No
12.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	No	No	No
13.	Law Enforcement	Yes	Yes	Yes
14.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
15.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
16.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	Yes
17.	Local Jail(s)	Yes	No	No
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	Yes	Yes
24.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
25.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
26.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
29.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
30.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
31.	Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	Youth Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)			
33.	Organizations led by and serving indigenous community	Yes	No	No
34.	Organizations serving asylum seekers	Yes	No	Yes

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. Our CoC has a transparent invitation process to encourage ongoing solicitation of new members by continually promoting sign-up through the CoC lead agency website that is open to the public. Through this, individuals can get on our email/ mailing list or become a member. Additionally, our agency continuously sends out meeting information to the public, encouraging those already members to open up the invitations to anyone they feel would be interested, as monthly meetings are open to the community. Actively seeking new members has been achieved by meeting an individual where they are at, explaining the goals and mission of the CoC, how they can get involved, and how participation benefits the community. Lastly, our CoC's recruitment and formal membership are conducted through our website, an annual mailing invitation, social media, and email.
2. All our public meetings are accessible through teleconferencing. Pre-Covid, all meetings were held in handicap-accessible locations. Currently, all our meetings are virtual. All forms, meeting minutes, and reports are available on the CoC lead's website through accessible electronic formats.
3. We are actively inviting people with lived expertise to join the CoC as well as attend committee meetings, especially for the project review committee, youth action board, and youth task force.
4. Organizations serving culturally specific communities such as Black, Latino, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, New Americans, refugees, trafficked victims, and persons living with disabilities are invited to meetings and to be part of the CoC to address equity. We reached out to these organizations individually to inform them of funding opportunities, recruit them into CoC committees and workgroups, and share available housing and services resources with them. Our CoC made special efforts to reach out to Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) by phone, email, and other local connections to include them in our meetings and explain the CoC funding opportunities.

2B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness. (All Applicants)	
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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 utilizes different strategies to solicit and seek the valued opinions from a board array of organizations and individuals that have knowledge of homelessness or an interest in preventing and ending homelessness. Strategy includes creating committees and workgroups, organizing and participating in community meetings, utilizing social media or emails, one-on-one meetings or interviews, and focus groups. People with lived experiences actively participate in our focus groups, workgroups, and county-wide coalitions. Our public meetings are held monthly in four different locations to solicit the opinions of urban, suburban, and rural residents. The CoC lead staff also attend many community meetings. For example, eviction prevention planning, increasing shelter capacity committee, ensuring food access, assisting people living in poverty, and emergency rental assistance planning committee. Additionally, our CoC has collaborated with our local media outlets to promote our continuum’s agenda.
2. Our CoC mutually exchanges information with the public, held monthly, at various locations spanning across our rural, suburban, and urban municipalities. Information solicited from the public includes topics such as employment, education, public safety, healthcare, housing, and community development. This approach holistically addresses the social inequities within our system and the distribution of resources.
3. The CoC always looks for improvement or new approaches by taking into consideration information gathered in meetings, interviews, or focus groups. For example, we changed our CoC application and scoring criteria after hosting a focus group with people with lived experience to better reflect their priority in scoring. Another example would be after the initial implementation of ERAP, we gathered feedback from clients and providers and funded additional support to assist clients to gather necessary documents and housing search to improve the leased rate. System wide changes, such as Coordinated Entry policies, were reviewed and discussed through workgroups/committees, and recommendations will be reviewed by the board for final approval and communicated to the whole membership after approval.

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. Scoring criteria, application, and funding opportunities(request for proposals) are posted on the CoC's website and social media. The CoC also notified the public that the local competition was open via email to community partners, stakeholders, and interested individuals within the CoC's five counties. During the community-wide meetings, CoC lead staff promote funding opportunities and encourage all organizations to apply. Further, our CoC provided Q&A sessions to the public to assist and encourage those who never received this funding to apply. Go-to-meeting link for the Q&A was posted on the website without the requirement of registration.
2. One-on-one outreach to agencies that have not been funded but expressed interest or have experiences in serving special populations, such as trafficking survivors, BIPOC, rural communities, and refugees, to explain the funding source and encourage them to apply. The scoring and threshold session demonstrated that prior CoC funding experience is not required. This year, two providers who have never applied before were selected.
3. Request For Proposals was posted on the CoC's website. This included a submission outline stating applicants must email their application before the deadline to the CoC lead.
4. Projects that meet the CoC's thresholds will be reviewed by the Project Selection Committee, non-funded peers, and individuals with lived experience, using a standardized scoring tool. Our thresholds include a commitment to using a Housing First approach, HMIS or comparable database, Coordinated Entry, and a 25% funding match. The Project Selection Committee evaluates a project based on organizational capacity to manage public funding, delivery of proposed services using best practice models, racial equity, cost reasonableness, and organization experience. Each committee member scores projects independently. Projects that meet these thresholds, eligibility, highest score, and are within the cost range of the CoC will be included in the competition.
5. All application materials are posted online in word or pdf. If additional accommodations are requested, our community partners can translate our documents or make them accessible for those who are visually or hearing impaired. Q&A webinars are hosted on a platform where captions are available.

## 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:

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2C-1.	<b>Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations. (All Applicants)</b>	
	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	Nonexistent
2.	Head Start Program	Yes
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	Yes
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 collaborated with all five ESG recipients-City of Buffalo, Erie County, Town of Tonawanda, City of Niagara Falls and State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. In recent years, due to the pandemic, there was increased communication about ESG and ESG-CV funding allocation, spending and service needs. Some could be weekly communication. The CoC Lead provided and reviewed data with ESG recipients to identify needs and gaps to determine funding strategies. We shared guidance from HUD and conferences on best practices to modify existing plans if needed.

2. ESG recipients and the CoC collaborated on creating and updating ESG program performance measures. The CoC evaluates ESG/ESG-CV sub-recipient project performance quarterly and outcomes are published on the CoC's website. ESG recipients and the CoC met with sub-recipients monthly to address any issues that arose. We also offer State ESG recipient quarterly reports on County-based performance. Performance data is utilized in the sub-recipient selection process that the CoC participates in.

3. The CoC provides PIT, HIC, Monthly/Quarterly Performance Reports, Annual Reports, shelter occupancy reports, and # of people housed by ESG recipients. These reports can be found on our CoC website.

4. CoC lead provided feedback on part of the Consolidated Plan related to homelessness and provided updated information on homeless programs to the ESG recipients. The CoC and HMIS lead also provided CAPER and other customized reports to analyze gaps. The CoC and ESG recipients work closely to address homelessness within the CoC geographic area.

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 CoC has a formal partnership through MOU with Head Start/Early Head Start to send direct referrals. We brought HeadStart enrollment and childcare availability to our family programming to break down barriers regarding early childhood learning. We also have an MOU with Buffalo Urban League and a partnership with the Service Collaborative of WNY for cross-referrals and job training. The CoC and Youth Education Providers participate on respective committees, share referrals and data, and provide paid and volunteer roles for youth leadership. The CoC's Youth Task Force members include the Buffalo Public Library, Planned Parenthood, Niagara County Community College, University at Buffalo, and Say Yes to Education.

The CoC and our SEA/LEA partners collaborate to share data and resources and participate in CoC planning committees. The Homeless Alliance is a member of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey Advisory Board for Buffalo Public Schools (BPS), ensuring BPS includes homelessness questions on their YRBS student survey. The CoC Youth Task Force SEA/LEA members include BPS, Niagara Falls City School District, Lockport City Schools, and Starpoint Central School District. These partnerships led the district administration and staff to participate in our youth planning committee, which developed the Coordinated Community Plan to end youth homelessness. The CoC providers accept district referrals and educate school staff on CoC services. This ongoing partnership allows schools to proactively identify youth at risk of experiencing homelessness—before they reach a crisis.

BPS Parent Engagement Center participates in the CoC youth task force, and CoC providers conduct training on resources for families and youth. BPS Mckinney Vento Liaison and Niagara Falls City School district participate on the CoC YHDP Lead committee and refer students to CoC providers. This unique collaboration has led to a decrease in students who are encountering disruption to their educational pursuits when a change in school districts is necessary.

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)**

The CoC's written policies and procedures state that family-serving providers are required to designate a staff person as an "educational liaison" who ensures that individuals and families are informed of their educational rights and connected to available resources. Educational rights for homeless children are posted in locations frequented by families experiencing homelessness, including shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens. Furthermore, formal partnerships with CAO Head Start Program have been established to ensure that homeless providers understand the education services eligibility, point of contact, and referral processes to then inform program participants. Education Liaisons relay information via posters, flyers, resource packets, and assistance to youth and their families. Additionally, our YHDP written standards for Family Engagement Team RRH, Drop-In Center SSO, and Joint TH-RRH ensure education is a goal for all programs, and referrals and outcomes are tracked in HMIS.

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	Yes
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)**

1. Annually, the Department of Social Services (DSS) provides training on application submission and program eligibility. Training includes food stamps, SSI, Safety-Net, and TANF. 211 offers up-to-date information on substance abuse, mental health, housing, and other social services on its website. The CoC lead also invites programs to monthly meetings to ensure all members are aware of local program information such as Child and Family Services -DV, ECDMH- Mental Health, Evergreen Health's-HIV/AIDS healthcare, Save the Michaels- Substance Abuse Programs, and Goodwill- Employment Program. Through this, the CoC keeps its members informed and updated when changes in accessing/utilizing mainstream resources occur.
2. Our CoC works with project staff to bring healthcare organizations onsite to homeless service provider locations. They collaborate with service providers by enrolling new clients into medical insurance programs or re-certifying clients to ensure coverage does not lapse. In addition, homeless and healthcare providers participate jointly in outreach events, assisting clients with obtaining healthcare coverage and making referrals to needed services.
3. The CoC has several Health Homes. Health Homes provide case management services to Medicaid and Medicare recipients. Care coordinators help to reduce the utilization of avoidable/preventable inpatient stays, and ER visits and improve health outcomes. They help link individuals to a primary care physician, medical specialist, immediate care facility, pharmacy, and general navigation of the healthcare system. They also provide referrals to services in the community. These services include mental health and substance abuse counseling, food security initiatives, education and employment resources, housing programs, domestic violence support, and LGBTQ-affirming programs.
4. Our CoC works with projects to promote SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) certification of program staff by ongoing promotion of SOAR training. Within the last year, we have seen an increase in staff who have become SOAR trained, which includes every CoC program having at least one staff member SOAR trained. Through this ongoing initiative, our CoC is now able to expedite the SSI/SSDI application time for homeless individuals and improve the quality of the information submitted with the application to increase the likelihood of a disability benefit award at the initial application.

### 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.	<b>Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects. (Rural Set Aside Only).</b> 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)

NA

## 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.<br>- 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).<br>- 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	RFP posted on 8/4...	10/06/2022
1B-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	--	10/06/2022
1B-3. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	CoC did not reduc...	10/06/2022
1B-3a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	email notification	10/06/2022
1B-4. Special NOFO CoC Consolidated Application	Yes		
3A-1. CoC Letter Supporting Capital Costs	No		
3B-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No		
P-1. Leveraging Housing Commitment	No	Department of Soc...	10/06/2022
P-1a. PHA Commitment	No	--	10/06/2022
P-3. Healthcare Leveraging Commitment	No	Commitment letter...	10/18/2022
P-9c. Lived Experience Support Letter	No	A total of 5 peop...	10/06/2022
Plan. CoC Plan	Yes	CoC Plan for Serv...	10/18/2022

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** RFP posted on 8/4 and due on 8/31.

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:**

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** CoC did not reduce or reject any project.

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** email notification

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:**

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:**

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:**

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** Department of Social services committed to provide 6 vouchers to support the proposed program, which is 50% of the proposed households(12) served for the Rapid rehousing proposal.

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:**

## **Attachment Details**

**Document Description:** Commitment letters from two healthcare providers in the rural communities- Spectrumhealth and GCASA. Estimated a total of \$85,000 (\$25,000 from GCASA and \$60,000 from SpectrumHealth) value of healthcare assistance per year, \$255,000 for 3 years.

## Attachment Details

**Document Description:** A total of 5 people with lived homeless experience in the Rural CoC workgroup signed to support this project.

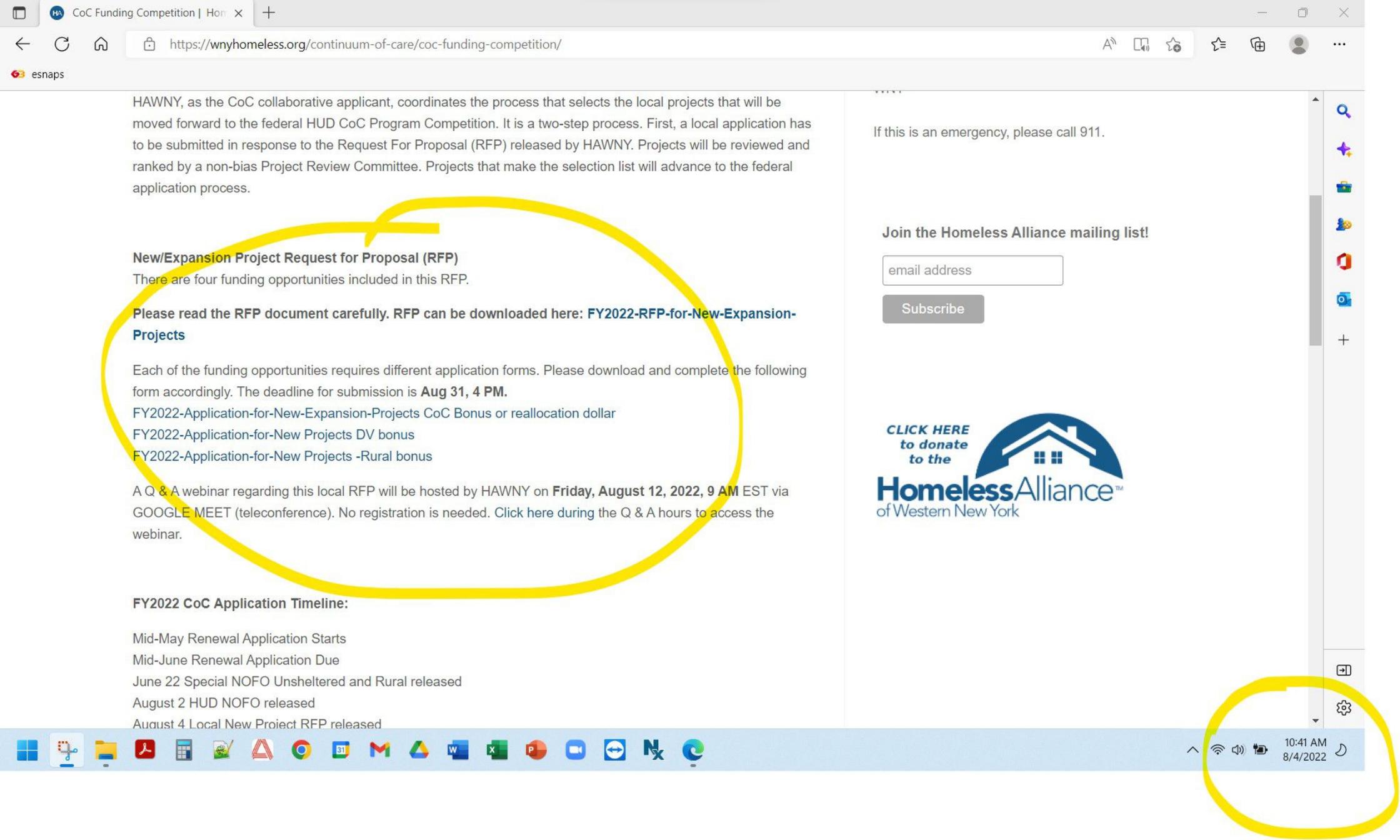
## Attachment Details

**Document Description:** CoC Plan for Serving Individuals and Families experiencing homelessness 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	10/12/2022
1B. Project Review, Ranking and Selection	10/18/2022
2A. System Performance	10/12/2022
2B. Coordination and Engagement	10/12/2022
2C. Coordination and Engagement–Con't.	10/18/2022
3A. New Projects With Rehab/New Construction	No Input Required
3B. Homelessness by Other Federal Statutes	10/12/2022
4A. Attachments Screen	Please Complete
Submission Summary	No Input Required



HAWNY, as the CoC collaborative applicant, coordinates the process that selects the local projects that will be moved forward to the federal HUD CoC Program Competition. It is a two-step process. First, a local application has to be submitted in response to the Request For Proposal (RFP) released by HAWNY. Projects will be reviewed and ranked by a non-bias Project Review Committee. Projects that make the selection list will advance to the federal application process.

### New/Expansion Project Request for Proposal (RFP)

There are four funding opportunities included in this RFP.

**Please read the RFP document carefully. RFP can be downloaded here: [FY2022-RFP-for-New-Expansion-Projects](#)**

Each of the funding opportunities requires different application forms. Please download and complete the following form accordingly. The deadline for submission is **Aug 31, 4 PM.**

[FY2022-Application-for-New-Expansion-Projects CoC Bonus or reallocation dollar](#)

[FY2022-Application-for-New Projects DV bonus](#)

[FY2022-Application-for-New Projects -Rural bonus](#)

A Q & A webinar regarding this local RFP will be hosted by HAWNY on **Friday, August 12, 2022, 9 AM EST** via GOOGLE MEET (teleconference). No registration is needed. [Click here](#) during the Q & A hours to access the webinar.

### FY2022 CoC Application Timeline:

Mid-May Renewal Application Starts

Mid-June Renewal Application Due

June 22 Special NOFO Unsheltered and Rural released

August 2 HUD NOFO released

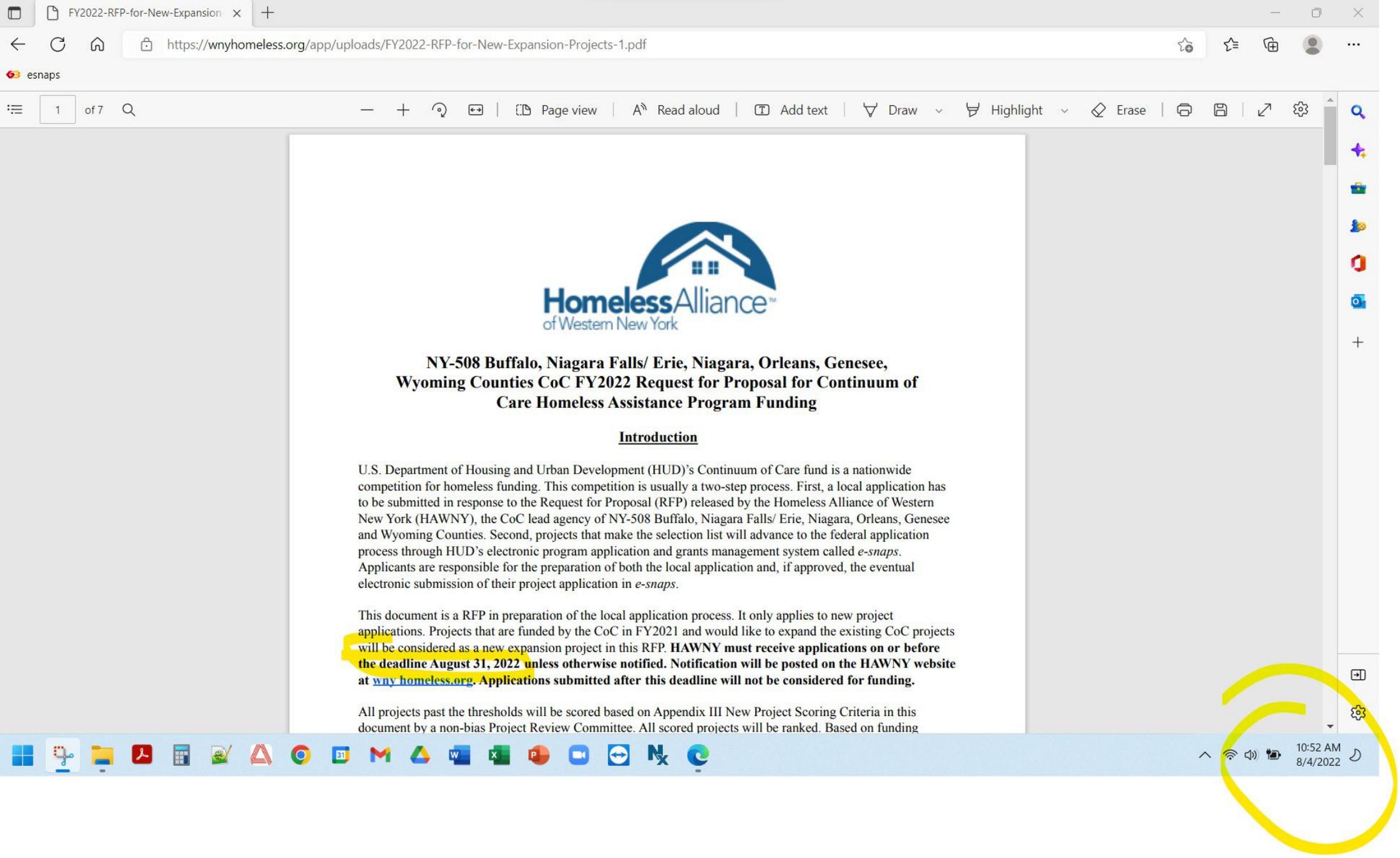
August 4 Local New Project RFP released

If this is an emergency, please call 911.

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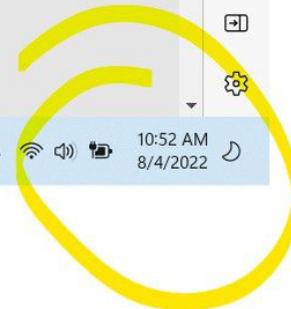
## NY-508 Buffalo, Niagara Falls/ Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming Counties CoC FY2022 Request for Proposal for Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program Funding

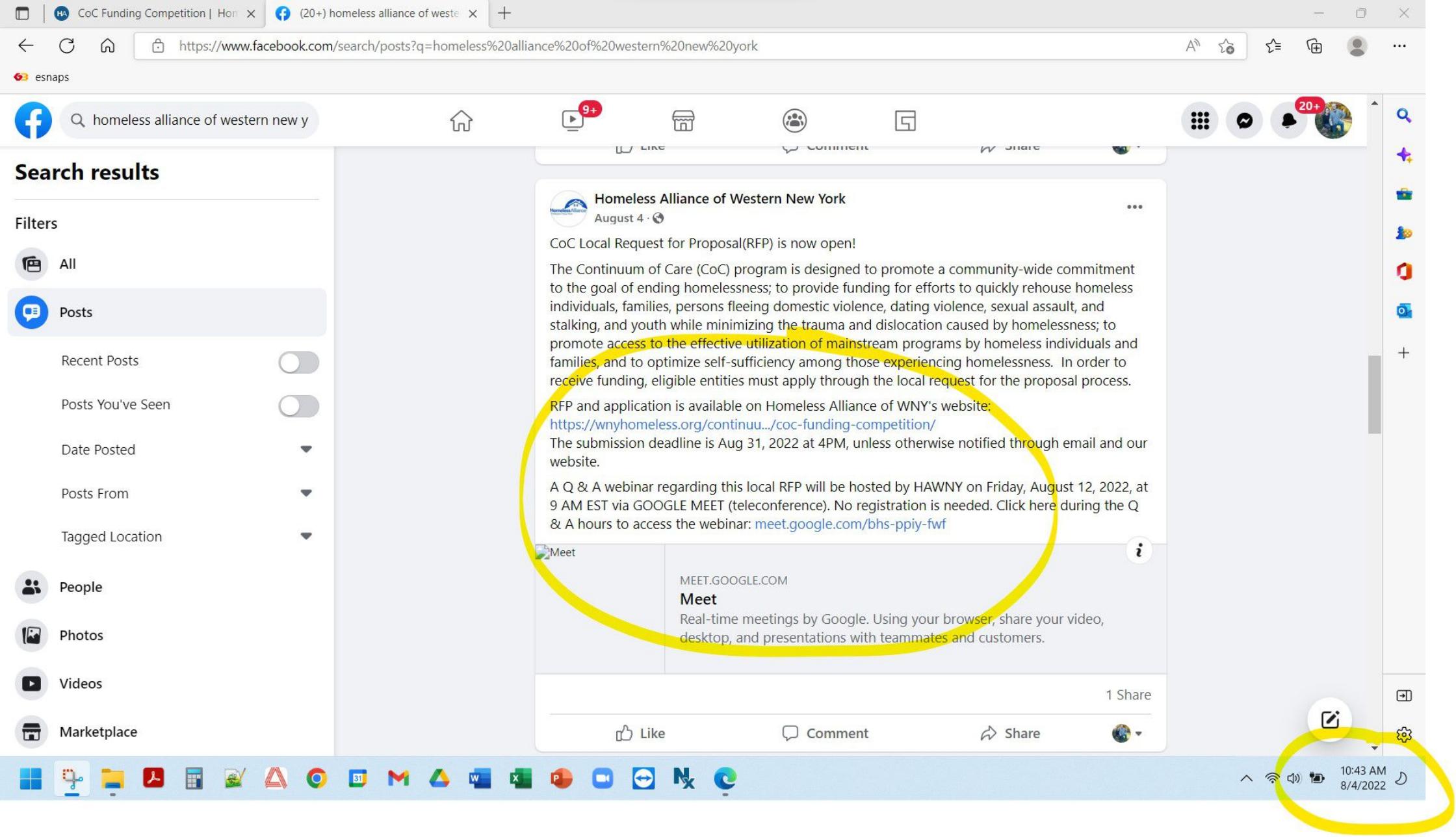
### Introduction

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s Continuum of Care fund is a nationwide competition for homeless funding. This competition is usually a two-step process. First, a local application has to be submitted in response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) released by the Homeless Alliance of Western New York (HAWNY), the CoC lead agency of NY-508 Buffalo, Niagara Falls/ Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee and Wyoming Counties. Second, projects that make the selection list will advance to the federal application process through HUD's electronic program application and grants management system called *e-snaps*. Applicants are responsible for the preparation of both the local application and, if approved, the eventual electronic submission of their project application in *e-snaps*.

This document is a RFP in preparation of the local application process. It only applies to new project applications. Projects that are funded by the CoC in FY2021 and would like to expand the existing CoC projects will be considered as a new expansion project in this RFP. **HAWNY must receive applications on or before the deadline August 31, 2022 unless otherwise notified. Notification will be posted on the HAWNY website at [wny.homeless.org](http://wny.homeless.org). Applications submitted after this deadline will not be considered for funding.**

All projects past the thresholds will be scored based on Appendix III New Project Scoring Criteria in this document by a non-bias Project Review Committee. All scored projects will be ranked. Based on funding





homeless alliance of western new y

### Search results

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**Homeless Alliance of Western New York**  
August 4 · 🌐

CoC Local Request for Proposal(RFP) is now open!

The Continuum of Care (CoC) program is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts 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 the effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families, and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness. In order to receive funding, eligible entities must apply through the local request for the proposal process.

RFP and application is available on Homeless Alliance of WNY's website:  
<https://wnyhomeless.org/continuu.../coc-funding-competition/>  
The submission deadline is Aug 31, 2022 at 4PM, unless otherwise notified through email and our website.

A Q & A webinar regarding this local RFP will be hosted by HAWNY on Friday, August 12, 2022, at 9 AM EST via GOOGLE MEET (teleconference). No registration is needed. Click here during the Q & A hours to access the webinar: [meet.google.com/bhs-ppiy-fwf](https://meet.google.com/bhs-ppiy-fwf)

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## Renewal Scoring Standards:

Renewal projects will receive their performance information during the renewal application period. Providers will then have at least two weeks to review and correct their performance data. HAWNY staff will provide technical assistance if needed. The performance data will be final on the date the renewal application is due. It is the provider's responsibility to ensure their performance data is accurate. The Project Selection Committee will not accept low performance due to data inaccuracy.

Renewing housing applications **must** meet the following **thresholds**:

- Use Coordinated Entry.
- Use a Housing First approach and low barriers to admission and retention in the program.

Renewal Scoring Sheet (Total Score 120 points)

Project Type	Rating Factor	Data Source	Measure	Total Points
<b>Annual Performance (75 Points)</b>				
<b>1. Occupancy</b>				
RRH or Joint RRH-TH	Percent of beds/units filled by households each night during the reporting period	Local HMIS data/Comparable database (entry/exit dates, application capacity info)	>= 95% = 15 90-94% = 10 85-89% = 5	15
PSH	Percent of beds/units filled by clients each night during the reporting period	Local HMIS data (entry/exit dates, provider's bed/unit count)	>= 90% = 15 85-89% = 10 80-84% = 5	
<b>2. Exit to Permanent Housing</b>				
RRH or Joint RRH-TH	Percent of clients who move to permanent housing	APR Q23c - divide the number of exits to permanent destinations by the total number of exits	>= 90% = 15 85-89% = 10 80-84% = 5	15
PSH	Percent of clients who remain in or move to permanent housing	Calculation: 1) Refer to Q5a for the number of stayers 2) Refer to Q23c for the number of clients who exit to permanent destinations and 3) Add stayers (Step 1) and leavers to permanent housing destinations (Step 2) and divide by number of participants (Q7) minus the number of excluded leavers in Q23c	>= 95% = 15 90-94% = 10 85-89% = 5	
<b>3. Quickly Housing Clients</b>				
RRH or Joint RRH-TH	Average time to housing based on time between program entry date and move-in date	APR 22c - Average length of time to housing	<= 30 days = 15 31-45 days = 10	15
PSH	Average time to housing based on time between program entry date and move-in date (includes all clients who entered after 10/1/17)	APR 22c - Average length of time to housing	<= 45 days = 15 46-60 days = 10 61-90 days = 5	
<b>4. Returns to Homelessness</b>				
RRH or Joint RRH-TH (non DV providers)	Percent of clients who return to homelessness within 6 months after exiting to permanent housing	Local HMIS Data    Only considers clients who return to homelessness during the reporting period if the new entry is within six months of the original exit date	0-5% = 15 5-10% = 8	15
PSH (non DV providers)	Percent of clients who return to homelessness within 6 months after	Local HMIS Data    Only considers clients who return to homelessness during the reporting period if the new entry is within	0-10% = 15 10-20% = 10	

	exiting to permanent housing	six months of the original exit date	20-35% = 5	
<b>5. Domestic Violence Providers only</b>				
DV TH-RRH providers	Reduce the length of stay in transitional housing by 5%	Compare DV data length of stay from previous year to current year	5%=10	15
DV provider	Percentage of clients who have a safety plan	Report provided by DV provider	100% = 5	
<b>6. Adults who maintained/increased earned income</b>				
RRH or Joint RRH-TH and PSH	Percent of Adults who Maintained/Increased Earned Income	APR Q19a1 + Q19a2 – Add “Number of Adults with Earned Income” for “Retained Income Category But Had Less \$...”, “Retained Income Category and Same \$...”, “Retained Income Category and Increased \$...”, and “Did Not Have the Income Category at Start and Gained the Income Category...” for both Q19a1 + Q19a2 and divide by “Total Adults (including those with No Income) for both Q19a1 + Q19a2 + # Adults w/o Required Annual Assessment (Q18)”  *APR only considers adults who have exited or have had an annual assessment. Data entered in a general interim “update” is not considered.	PSH 10-19%=3 >=20%=5 RRH 15%-29%=3 >=30%=5	5
<b>7. Adults who Maintained/Increased Any Income</b>				
RRH or Joint RRH-TH and PSH	Percent of Adults who Maintained/Increased Any Income	APR Q19a1 + Q19a2 – Add “Number of Adults with Any Income” for “Retained Income Category But Had Less \$...”, “Retained Income Category and Same \$...”, “Retained Income Category and Increased \$...”, and “Did Not Have the Income Category at Start and Gained the Income Category...” for both Q19a1 + Q19a2 and divide by “Total Adults (including those with No Income) for both Q19a1 + Q19a2 + # Adults w/o Required Annual Assessment (Q18)”  *APR only considers adults who have exited or have had an annual assessment. Data entered in a general interim “update” is not considered.	PSH 60%-79%=5 >=80%=10 RRH 30-49%=5 >=50%=10	10
<b>SOAR (5 Points)</b>				
All Projects	Have a SOAR trained staff			5
<b>HMIS data quality (15 Points)</b>				
All Projects	Personally Identifiable Information	CoC APR Q 6a	< 5% =2 5-10% = 1	2
All Projects	Universal Data Elements	CoC APR Q 6b	<5%=2 5-10%=1	2
All Projects	Destination	CoC APR Q 6c	<5% =2	2
All Projects	Income	CoC APR Q 6c	<5% =2	2
All Projects	Timeliness	CoC APR Q.6e. Largest % of data falls the following day range.	%>0-3 days=5 %>4-6 days =3 %>7+ day=0	5
All Projects	HMIS user turnover	HAWNY Staff User Reports	>66%	2
<b>Narrative responses (10 points)</b>				
All projects	Engaging with People with Lived expertise & Racial Equity	Written Response		5
All Projects	COVID Response	Written Response		5
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>105</b>
<b>Bonus (15 points)</b>				
<b>PSH</b>				

PSH	Percent of clients who exit to PH (positive turnover rate)	APR Q23c - exits to permanent destination divided by all clients	>10%	8
PSH	Percent of clients with 2+ disabilities	APR Q13b2 & Q13c2	>= 80%	5
PSH	Percent of persons that enter with zero income	APR Q16 clients with no income at entry divided by total number of persons served	>40%	2
<b>RRH Singles</b>				
RRH or Joint RRH-TH	Percent of clients with 1+ disabilities	APR Q13b2 & Q13c2	>= 50%	5
RRH or Joint RRH-TH (non-DV providers)	Average VI-F/VI/TAY score for all clients served	Local HMIS data/by name list data for DV clients (VI score, entry/exit date, head of household)	Avg. 8 or more	5
RRH or Joint RRH-TH	Percent of persons that enter with zero income	APR Q16 clients with no income at entry divided by total number of persons served	>40%	5
DV providers only	Participates in Coordinated Entry Procedure	Coordinated Entry Lead verification		5
<b>RRH Families</b>				
RRH or Joint RRH-TH	Percent of clients with 1+ disabilities	APR Q13b2 & Q13c2	>= 50%	3
RRH or Joint RRH-TH (non-DV providers)	Average VI-F/VI/TAY score for all clients served	Local HMIS data/by name list data for DV clients (VI score, entry/exit date, head of household)	Avg. 8 or more	5
RRH or Joint RRH-TH	Percent of households with 5+ members	Local HMIS data/comparable database data (household ID, entry/exit date)	10%+	2
RRH or Joint RRH-TH	Percent of persons that enter with Zero income	APR Q16 clients with no income at entry divided by total number of persons served	>40%	5
DV providers only	Participates in Coordinated Entry Procedure	Coordinated Entry Lead verification		5
Total including Bonus			120	

Programs that have been operating for less than 1 year will not be scored based on the measures above.

All projects that are lower-performing but given chances for improvement due to population or region considerations will be put on probation for a year. Projects on probation will be required to meet with the Homeless Alliance of WNY/Project Selection Committee quarterly.

## New Project Scoring Standards:

New Projects that do not meet threshold criteria or submit after the deadline stated in the local Request for Proposal (RFP) will not be reviewed or scored.

<b>Threshold Criteria</b>
Commitment to only take referrals from CoC Coordinated Entry
Using a Housing First and low barrier approach

Matching funds equal or over 25% of the total request	
No more than 10% of the program expense budget can be for the administrative cost	
For RRH, project must meet category 1 or 4 in the homeless definition <sup>1</sup>	
Must use HMIS. For Victim Service Providers, must use a comparable database.	
<b>New project scoring</b>	
Clearly demonstrate the unmet need for the proposed population using local data	5
Demonstrate program design meets the needs of the targeted population	5
Project proposed outcomes align with CoC system and project outcome	5
Provide sufficient supports to ensure clients obtain and remain in housing	10
Assist participants to obtain mainstream benefits(Health, social, employment, childcare)	10
Experience with proposed homeless population and previous performance	15
Experience with grant management	10
Cost are reasonable and feasible	5
No findings in audited financial statement	5
Racial Equity	10
Leveraging Housing Resources	10
Leveraging Healthcare Resources	10
bonus:Community Need/Priority	10
<b>Total Points</b>	100+10 bonus

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<sup>1</sup>[https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HomelessDefinition\\_RecordkeepingRequirementsandCriteria.pdf](https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HomelessDefinition_RecordkeepingRequirementsandCriteria.pdf)

## Ranking Policy:

### Tier 1:

- 1: Renewal Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid rehousing, and RRH based on Project Score. (Depends on the amount of funding available in Tier 1, the lower scoring programs may be ranked in Tier 2 or reallocated)
- 2: PH that has operated for less than 1 year
- 3: HMIS
- 4: Coordinated Entry
- 5: New project created through reallocation process  
(Projects may be in Tier 1 or straddle between Tier 1 and Tier 2)

### Tier 2:

- 1: Remaining PSH, RRH based on score.
- 2: Remaining new projects based on Score

YHDP renewal projects and the CoC Planning Project are not being ranked with the rest of the project.

To ensure the YHDP programs are operating as intended, and effectively, a review of the program will be completed in May 2023. At such time determination of continuance of funding will be made.

## Funding Security for Regions

CoC agrees to attempt to maintain the level of funds that are available to newly merged areas: Niagara and GOW(Genesee, Orleans and Wyoming),and seek opportunities to expand its funding if the programs perform well or through new applications. Renewal projects are still held to the same standards in terms of performance.

## Appeals

An applicant organization that has been denied funding or awarded funds in an amount that is less than applied for or requested under the local application process may submit an appeal to the CoC Project Selection Committee under any of the following conditions:

- a. If they were denied the right to reasonably participate in the local application process;
- b. If the Project Selection Committee overlooked information in the application that would have caused the application to meet thresholds or be successfully scored. No additional application information may be submitted after the deadline stated in local RFP;

CoC did not reduce or reject any project through the Special Rural NOFO local application process.



Kexin Ma &lt;kexinma@wnyhomeless.org&gt;

## FY2022 COC Rural Set Aside NOFO Project Selection Result

Kexin Ma &lt;kexinma@wnyhomeless.org&gt;

Fri, Sep 23, 2022 at 10:00 AM

To: Douglas Usiak &lt;dusiak@wnyil.org&gt;, Rae Frank &lt;rfrank@wnyil.org&gt;

Dear Douglas Usiak,

Thank you for your interest and submitting your application responding to the RFP for the CoC's FY2022 CoC Rural Application. The Homeless Alliance of Western New York and the Project Selection Committee would like to congratulate you on your proposed project, "Independent Living Rural Rapid Rehousing", for being selected to be included in the CoC's Project Priority Listing and to move forward in the HUD FY2022 CoC Special Rural and Unsheltered NOFO National Competition. I would like to point out that the selection to move forward to the HUD FY2022 CoC competition does not guarantee that the project will be awarded. Selection is based on project eligibility, quality threshold, and the CoC collaborative application score. Please anticipate HUD announcing their selections in 2023.

Here is the scoring detail and approved amount:

Approved amount/grant term: 752,597 for 3 years

Category: FY2022 Special Rural NOFO

	Total	Project Design and supportive services	Experience	Cost and financial audit	Resources and community need	Racial equity
Max points	110	30	25	10	35	10
Your project scored	93	25.75	22.25	9	28.5	7.5

All project decision and ranking is posted on our website:

<https://wnyhomeless.org/continuum-of-care/coc-funding-competition/>

In order to advance into the National competition, you must complete and submit your application via esnaps by **October 7,2022**

Here is the necessary information to assist you submitting your application via esnaps:

**Step 1:** (for new esnaps users): create esnaps user and organization account: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Project-Applicant-Profile-Navigational-Guide.pdf>

**Step 2:** The linked video below explains how to access project application in esnaps: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/6226/video-accessing-the-coc-program-project-application-in-esnaps/>

**Step 3:** Once you have created the application, please use this detailed guide to complete and submit the application: <https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/CoC/FY-2022-New-Application-Detailed-Instructions.pdf>

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions. Thank you!

**Kexin Ma, MUP** Executive Director

Homeless Alliance of WNY 960 Main St. Buffalo, NY 14202

7168531101 ext.107 Call or text: 7169704321

[www.wnyhomeless.org](http://www.wnyhomeless.org)

# GENESEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

5130 EAST MAIN STREET - SUITE 3  
BATAVIA, NEW YORK 14020-3497  
585-344-2580  
FAX: 585-343-5548

Public Assistance, Medicaid, SNAP: 585-344-2587  
Child Support Collection/Enforcement: 1-888-208-4485

**DAVID A. RUMSEY**  
Commissioner  
**CARLA MINDLER**  
Director of Financial Services



**BEN DENNIS**  
Director of Social Services  
**SARAH JARKIEWICZ**  
Director of Fiscal Operations and Child Support

## Letter of Commitment

September 20, 2022

Rae Frank, Director  
Independent Living of the Genesee Region  
319 W Main Street, Batavia, NY 14020

Dear Rae Frank,

This letter of commitment is to support the Independent Living of the Genesee Region application, *Rural NOFO Rapid Rehousing*, for the FY2022 CoC Special Rural and Unsheltered NOFO. If awarded in the FY2022 Special Rural CoC funding competition, the Genesee County Department of Social Services will provide 6 Rapid Rehousing Program participants rental subsidies using the Rental Supplement Program during calendar years 2023 and 2024.

The Rental Supplement Program is a New York State funded program that provides rental assistance up to 85% of local Fair Market Rent. The eligibility requirements to this program are similar to CoC Rapid Rehousing. Participants in the Rental Supplement Program must be Genesee County residents, facing homelessness or facing an imminent loss of housing, and have a household income no greater than 50% AMI with initial priority given to households who earn no more than 30% of AMI. Households are no longer eligible when their income reaches a level where their rent is 30% or less of their total monthly income, at which point the housing will be considered affordable for the individual/family.

Signature  
Title  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Financial Services  
\_\_\_\_\_  
9/20/22



**KATHY HOCHUL**  
Governor

## Homes and Community Renewal

**RUTHANNE VISNAUSKAS**  
Commissioner/CEO

September 16, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

New York State Homes and Community Renewal is committed to partnering with the NY-508, Western Homeless Alliance of New York Continuum of Care (CoC), to pair potential Stability Vouchers with CoC-funded support services. Additionally, the PHA will work with the CoC and other stakeholders to develop a prioritization plan for a potential allocation of Stability Vouchers through the coordinated entry process for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, or fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Sincerely,

*Daniel P. Buyer*

Daniel P. Buyer, Vice President/Assistant Commissioner  
New York State Homes and Community Renewal



Genesee/Orleans Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse  
430 East Main Street, Batavia, NY 14020  
Phone: 585-343-1124  
Clinic Fax: 585-343-1197  
Administration Fax: 585-343-9622  
Office Locations: Batavia, LeRoy, Albion

Rae Frank

Independent Living of the Genesee Region  
319 West Main Street, Rear Left  
Batavia, NY 14020

Dear Rae Frank,

The Genesee-Wyoming County Rural Grant for Rapid Rehousing proposed in this application will be operated by Independent Living of the Genesee Region.

Genesee Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, Inc. (GCASA) provides substance use disorder (SUD) prevention, treatment, and recovery services, including some services for people with SUD who are homeless. GCASA provides a near-full continuum of SUD care, that includes but is not limited to assessment; outpatient, stabilization and withdrawal, and residential treatment; medication assisted treatment (MAT/MOUD/MSR); peer support; a recovery center; a reentry program; support for pregnant and post-partum women with SUD; support for parents in recovery; case management; housing; childcare and transportation in Genesee and Orleans Counties. (Only Genesee County is relevant to this project.) Many of our programs are licensed or otherwise supported by the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (NYS OASAS) and funded in whole or in part by Medicaid, Medicare, and other third-party payor reimbursement. A number programs are funded with various state and federal grants and/or through deficit funding contracts. GCASA commits to building a stronger continuum of care for people who are homeless in Genesee County by partnering with Independent Living and the local GOW CoC subcommittee on this project and our new SAMHSA Grant to Benefit Homeless Individuals by making and receiving appropriate referrals and tracking healthcare services received by participants in this project. We anticipate the cost of healthcare services provided by GCASA to participants of this project will total \$25,000 per year for 3 years. Individual counseling sessions are reimbursed at approximately \$125 each. Reimbursement for 1 week of methadone dosing is typically \$105.

As CFO for GCASA, I attest that I have reviewed and approve these matching estimates for healthcare services to be provided by GCASA to clinically appropriate participants of this grant. All services will be billed to and paid for by insurance (or the participants if self-paying).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "JoAnn Ryan".

JoAnn Ryan, CFO



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***The path to recovery begins here.***

Prevention. Treatment. Recovery. Support.

gcasa.net



227 Thorn Avenue  
Orchard Park, NY 14127  
716.662.2040  
www.shswny.org

10/17/22

Rae Frank  
Independent Living of the Genesee Region  
319 West Main Street, Rear Left  
Batavia, New York 14020

Dear Ms. Frank,

Please accept this in support of your application on the Genesee-Wyoming County Rural Grant for Rapid Rehousing to be operated by Independent Living of the Genesee Region.

Founded in 1973, Spectrum Health and Human Services' Mission is to respectfully partner with adults, children, and families as they recover from behavioral, emotional, mental health, and/or substance abuse-related disorders; and to promote hope, empowerment, and self-defined improvements in their quality of life.

We provide a full continuum of treatment, peer support, medical assessment/ monitoring, housing, mobile crisis response, and care coordination services in Western New York. We operate outpatient treatment programs licensed by the NYS Offices of Mental Health and Addiction Supports which are funded by Medicaid/Medicare and other third-party reimbursement. In addition, we operate a number of community support programs funded with various state and federal grants through deficit funding contracts. We are also a Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC); one of 13 agencies designated in New York State's CCBHC program demonstration since 2016.

Spectrum Health commits to building a stronger continuum of care for people who are homeless in Wyoming County by partnering with Independent Living of the Genesee Region and the local GOW CoC subcommittee on this project by making and receiving appropriate referrals and tracking healthcare services received by participants in this project.

We anticipate the cost of healthcare services provided by Spectrum Health to participants of this project will total \$60,000 per year for 3 years based on our \$206.00 average cost per service and our estimate that we will serve up to 20 individuals/families per year. We have the staff and resources to provide all the matching services listed above. All services will be billed to and paid for by insurance, or the participants if self-paying.

As CFO for Spectrum Health, I attest that I have reviewed and approve these matching estimates for healthcare services to be provided by Spectrum Health to clinically appropriate participants of this grant.

Sincerely,

  
Nicholas Jerome, CFO

Oct. 4, 2022

**Applicant Name: Western New York Independent Living, Inc d/b/a Independent Living of the Genesee Region**

**Project Name: Independent Living Rural Rapid Rehousing Grant**

**Project Type: Rapid Re-Housing**

**Amount Requested: \$248,963.00 per year**

This letter confirms the Rural CoC Workgroup's approval of the above listed project for the Special Unsheltered and Rural NOFO. The Rural CoC Workgroup approves and supports this project because we feel that this project will be serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness with severe service needs, especially those who are unsheltered homelessness and people with disabilities in Genesee and Wyoming counties, and bring service expertise, linkage, and transportation to our community.

Sincerely,

Rural CoC Workgroup lived experts

A block of three handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is the most prominent, followed by two others below it.A block of handwritten text, possibly initials or a signature, consisting of a large 'U' shape and the letters 'JF BL' below it.