

Before Starting the CoC Application

The CoC Consolidated Application consists of three parts, the CoC Application, the CoC Priority Listing, and all the CoC's project applications that were either approved and ranked, or rejected. All three must be submitted for the CoC Consolidated Application to be considered complete.

The Collaborative Applicant is responsible for reviewing the following:

1. The FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Available (NOFA) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions 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.
6. Questions marked with an asterisk (*), which are mandatory and require a response.

1A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Identification

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

1A-1. CoC Name and Number: MA-510 - Gloucester, Haverhill, Salem/Essex County CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: City of Peabody

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: City of Peabody

1B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Engagement

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

1B-1. CoC Meeting Participants. For the period from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018, using the list below, applicant must: (1) select organizations and persons that participate in CoC meetings; and (2) indicate whether the organizations and persons vote, including selecting CoC Board members.

Organization/Person Categories	Participates in CoC Meetings	Votes, including selecting CoC Board Members
Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes
CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes
Law Enforcement	Yes	No
Local Jail(s)	Yes	No
Hospital(s)	No	No
EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	Yes	Yes
Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes
Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes
Affordable Housing Developer(s)	Yes	Yes
Disability Service Organizations	Yes	No
Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes
Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes
CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	No	No
Non-CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes
Youth Advocates	Yes	No
School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	No
CoC Funded Victim Service Providers	No	No
Non-CoC Funded Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes
Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes
Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Advocates	Yes	No
LGBT Service Organizations	No	No
Agencies that serve survivors of human trafficking	Yes	Yes
Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes
Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes
Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes
Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes

Other:(limit 50 characters)		
State Agencies	Yes	No
Veterans Organizations	Yes	Yes
Career Centers	Yes	Yes

1B-1a. Applicants must describe the specific strategy the CoC uses to solicit and consider opinions from organizations and/or persons that have an interest in preventing or ending homelessness. (limit 2,000 characters)

The North Shore CoC (NSCoC) holds monthly meetings which are widely advertised across the CoC via email, on partner agency websites, and on the NSCoC website (www.nscocma.com). Invitees include a broad cross-section of organizations and individuals interested in addressing homelessness. Individuals representing diverse organizations from across the entire region actively participate in meetings, on subcommittees, on the Board of Directors, invite others to participate, speak at meetings and collaborate in the NOFA funding process. CoC leadership personally reach out to agencies working with underrepresented populations to encourage their participation. Leaders also act as mentors to new participants to answer questions and support them to remain at the table.

These meetings provide an opportunity to identify and discuss obstacles to housing and services for homeless persons, including specific challenges such as domestic violence (DV), opioids, implementing Housing First (HF), and unaccompanied youth. This is also a time to discuss different approaches, points of view and solutions to challenges for those in crisis. This consistent outreach and inclusion made it possible to 1) have DV-focused organizations provide input into our Coordinated Entry (CE) process and participate in a line by line review of the Collaborative Application, 2) provide better communications with law enforcement and have their regular representation at meetings, 3) engage a diverse working group from across the region to provide input into this year's Gaps Analysis, and 4) interest prospective CoC members. These discussions have been an invaluable tool that feeds the decisions the CoC makes about reallocation, new projects, renewing existing projects, policy changes and NSCoC priorities.

1B-2.Open Invitation for New Members. Applicants must describe:

- (1) the invitation process;**
 - (2) how the CoC communicates the invitation process to solicit new members;**
 - (3) how often the CoC solicits new members; and**
 - (4) any special outreach the CoC conducted to ensure persons experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless persons are encouraged to join the CoC.**
- (limit 2,000 characters)**

(1) The NSCoC regularly solicits new members in both a formal and informal manner. Monthly meeting invitations are sent out to a broad cross-section of interested parties across the region and announced via the CoC website. At the

annual meeting, the CoC makes a special effort to invite those who may be interested in membership, and the monthly meetings often have special speakers or are issue-oriented to provide information and to entice new members. Through this process, the NSCoC has engaged a new DV partner who has been invaluable in helping us understand the needs and challenges of this population. Individual agencies have made special invitations to agencies and colleagues they've identified as interested parties. We have held meetings in venues outside of the monthly meeting to make it easier for those in the outlying areas to attend, and to increase interest.

(2) The CoC advertises its meetings via email, on partner agency websites, and on the NSCoC website (www.nscocma.com).

(3) The CoC solicits new members on an ongoing basis (monthly meetings, annual meeting).

(4) The CoC has targeted specific populations such as unaccompanied youth, Veterans, and those with addictions. We have targeted agencies such as Citizens Inn which serves families, and HAWC, Jeannie Geiger Crisis Center, and YWCA Northeastern MA for their expertise in domestic violence. We have invited new members to participate in committees addressing topics where their expertise will help the CoC be most effective.

To increase engagement of unaccompanied homeless youth, we utilized incentives and stipends offered by the state during the annual homeless youth count to engage unaccompanied youth and young adults under 25.

1B-3.Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Funded. Applicants must describe how the CoC notified the public that it will accept and consider proposals from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding, even if the CoC is not applying for new projects in FY 2018, and the response must include the date(s) the CoC publicly announced it was open to proposals. (limit 2,000 characters)

In meetings prior to the FY18 NOFA release, the ongoing work to build the membership of the NSCoC included a discussion of new applicants. Following these meetings, members made special efforts to engage new agencies. Our Board President reached out to Citizens Inn (Families), our CA lead contacted HAWC (DV) when a new Executive Director was hired, one member brought Jeannie Geiger Crisis Center (DV) back to the table, and a Board member reached out to fellow Veterans organizations to encourage their participation in our CoC. In addition, several current CoC members have a relationship with the North Shore Community Development Coalition and have worked to keep them interested.

Prior to the NOFA, Lifebridge (which has not been funded for some time) had a meeting, emails and calls with the CA and the consultant to the CoC to discuss possible projects. They decided not to apply this year due to other commitments but have indicated an interest in applying in the future.

The CA and consultant also had conference calls with HAWC, a local DV services agency to discuss ways they could participate. While they, too, decided not to submit a proposal, they are part of the DV Bonus project submitted with this application and have contributed to the Consolidated Application and the NSCoC Transfer Plan.

All new projects receive technical assistance in developing an application, particularly if they've never used eSNAPS. The Ranking and Review Committee meets to review new applicant proposals to confirm eligibility and adherence to

HUD and NSCoC priorities. If accepted, all new project applications, including those from currently funded organizations, are evaluated using the same Ranking Tool.

This year, the RFP was distributed on July 13 via email and placed on the CoC website as well as several partner websites. An announcement was made on June 20 that the NOFA had been received and the CoC would be accepting applications.

1C. Continuum of Care (CoC) Coordination

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

1C-1. CoCs Coordination, Planning, and Operation of Projects. Applicants must use the chart below to identify the federal, state, local, private, and other organizations that serve individuals, families, unaccompanied youth, persons who are fleeing domestic violence who are experiencing homelessness, or those at risk of homelessness that are included in the CoCs coordination, planning, and operation of projects.

Entities or Organizations the CoC coordinates planning and operation of projects	Coordinates with Planning and Operation of Projects
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Yes
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Yes
Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Not Applicable
Head Start Program	Yes
Funding Collaboratives	Yes
Private Foundations	Yes
Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Funded Housing and Service Programs	Yes
Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Funded Housing and Service Programs	Yes
Housing and service programs funded through other Federal resources	Yes
Housing and services programs funded through State Government	Yes
Housing and services programs funded through Local Government	Yes
Housing and service programs funded through private entities, including foundations	Yes
Other:(limit 50 characters)	

1C-2. CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients. Applicants must describe how the CoC:

- (1) consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG funds; and**
 - (2) participated in the evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients.**
- (limit 2,000 characters)**

(1) ESG funding in the NSCoC is distributed directly to agencies through DHCD which consults with CoCs to consider priorities and changes needed. Each CoC identifies priorities in its region and votes on them every three years. Previously, ESG targeted only individuals but due to a gap in housing, families are now

included. This decision included a review of other resources available including HomeBASE, RAFT and MRVP. Three CoC members receive ESG and work with other members to use this funding across the NSCoC.

(2) The North Shore HOME Consortium and the City of Peabody (our CA) are responsible for the single Consolidated Plan that covers the CoC. Members work collaboratively with these entities to provide input and data, attend monthly and bi-annual meetings to refine priorities, provide annual HIC and PIT data, and share information related to changing needs. In addition, CoC agencies do individual CAPER reports quarterly, as well as an annual Sage submission. That data is also used to analyze current need, trends, and inform future use of these funds.

The effectiveness of ESG funding is evaluated on a region-wide basis using the data and input described above including special consideration for families who don't qualify for HomeBase.

1C-2a. Providing PIT and HIC Data to Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions. Did the CoC provide Point-in-Time (PIT) and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area? Yes to both

1C-2b. Providing Other Data to Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions. Did the CoC provide local homelessness information other than PIT and HIC data to the jurisdiction(s) Consolidated Plan(s)? Yes

1C-3. Addressing the Safety Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors. Applicants must describe:

(1) the CoC's protocols, including the existence of the CoC's emergency transfer plan, that prioritizes safety and trauma-informed, victim-centered services to prioritize safety; and

(2) how the CoC maximizes client choice for housing and services while ensuring safety and confidentiality. (limit 2,000 characters)

(1) The NSCoC has adopted the HUD-developed Domestic Violence Emergency Transfer Plan and protocols after having them reviewed by HAWC (Healing Abuse Working for Change), a CoC member whose mission is to "help abused women, children, men, and nonbinary people live free from violence and fear." These documents, HUD-5380 to HUD-5383, are attached to this application. CoC-funded agencies have been required to adopt these policies and non-funded agencies are encouraged to do the same.

(2) Each of the organizations requesting funding through this NOFA has staff trained in trauma-informed care and providing a victim-centered approach. Through the CoC network, we have access to three highly regarded organizations that specifically address the challenges of domestic violence,

dating violence, sexual assault and stalking (hereinafter DV). The NSCoC takes the needs of this population very seriously. We met with representatives of two member organizations dedicated to serving this population to identify ways of including these clients in the Coordinated Entry (CE) process while protecting their identities and ways to maximize client choice for housing and services while ensuring safety and confidentiality. With their input, we have updated our CE policy and procedures to address the needs of this population. The CE protocols call for CE specialists to screen anyone contacting them for assistance for the possibility of victimization and to provide a warm hand-off to a specially trained victim services provider if desired. Those experiencing domestic violence will also be entered into the CE waiting list, if they would like, using de-identified information to protect their safety. As part of the CE, they can indicate their preference for type of housing and geographic location they are interested in to ensure they feel safe.

1C-3a. Applicants must describe how the CoC coordinates with victim services providers to provide annual training to CoC area projects and Coordinated Entry staff that addresses best practices in serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. (limit 2,000 characters)

Domestic Violence has long been a concern within our CoC as evidenced by previous actions and planned activities. This fall, in partnership with DV providers in our CoC, we will offer a training for housing and service providers covering 1) the true picture of domestic violence, 2) the value and basics of trauma-informed care, and 3) the need for victim-centered engagement. We will also offer a training to cover HMIS and CE coverage for this population, to ensure privacy and confidentiality are maintained.

Our CE has been updated to reflect the input of two of our partners, the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center and YWCA Northeastern MA, which are each doing extensive work with this population. With their guidance, we prepared a self-assessment for use by providers in our CoC and are working to ensure that individuals and families are placed in housing and receive needed services as expediently as possible, and in a location where they feel safe. We also received TA from TAC to ensure our CE System yields appropriate responses for DV clients.

In addition, we are closely monitoring the Justice Department/HUD Initiative to Combat Sexual Harassment announced last October. We have shared the PSA released July 23, 2018 with all of our networks and will share the Outreach Toolkit when it is ready.

1C-3b. Applicants must describe the data the CoC uses to assess the scope of community needs related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including data from a comparable database. (limit 2,000 characters)

The NSCoC utilizes several methods to acquire and share de-identified aggregate data. Our partner, HAWC, uses a database whose sole purpose is to provide effective and secure data management support to victim service organizations (EmpowerDB). CE has been strengthened with input from two

CoC partners, the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center and YWCA Northeastern MA, to ensure confidentiality while providing data for use in evaluating the NSCoC needs. We also use the data accumulated by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), CDC’s National Center for Injury Prevention and Control Division of Violence Prevention, and Jane Doe Inc., a statewide membership coalition that brings together organizations and people committed to ending domestic violence and sexual assault.

In recent NSCoC meetings, service providers have shared concerns that they are seeing increasing numbers of women who are victims of DV and estimate that number to be 1 in 4. This anecdotal evidence is supported by FY17 data accumulated by DPH for the whole state, as well as by CDC data that shows 1 in 3 women and 1 in 5 men in MA report having experienced DV by an intimate partner. In 2017, 17% of women and 6% of men reported being sexually assaulted (CDC data).

This year, we prepared a Gaps Analysis which included data, interviews and a Working Group discussion. Information from CoC APRs showed that 18% of all program participants were either fleeing or victims of DV, and that the greatest challenge for this population in our region is adequate housing. According to the last CE APR, 15% of those enrolled in the CE program had a history of DV and 13% of those who had a history of DV said that they were actively fleeing at the time of CE enrollment.

Each of these sources has been vital to developing a picture of the need in the NSCoC. The NSCoC agencies work as a collaborative body in which each agency’s strengths are shared to ensure the strength of the whole CoC.

**1C-4. DV Bonus Projects. Is your CoC Yes
applying for DV Bonus Projects?**

1C-4a. From the list, applicants must indicate the type(s) of DV Bonus project(s) that project applicants are applying for which the CoC is including in its Priority Listing.

SSO Coordinated Entry	<input type="checkbox"/>
RRH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joint TH/RRH	<input type="checkbox"/>

1C-4b. Applicants must describe:

- (1) how many domestic violence survivors the CoC is currently serving in the CoC’s geographic area;**
- (2) the data source the CoC used for the calculations; and**
- (3) how the CoC collected the data.**
(limit 2,000 characters)

According to the most recent NSCoC APRs, 297 people (18%) reported fleeing or being victims of DV. Our partner HAWC documented serving 2,275 clients either fleeing or victims of DV during FY18. using the DV-specific database EmpowerDB. The most recent PIT count for the NSCoC reflected 10 individuals identified as DV survivors on the night of the count. Information from the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center, another DV service provider partner, indicated that they

served 1,181 households in FY18, and many of these were within our CoC. These calculations seem to be consistent with data and statistics compiled by Jane Doe, Inc. which states that in Massachusetts, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 5 men reported having experienced rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner. These numbers are supported by other 2017-18 data including an in-depth Gaps Analysis of our 30-town service area. This analysis used research of state databases and reports, provider surveys, interviews, a working group meeting attended by a range of interested organizations, and the statistical data available through our APRs, AHAR, HIC, PIT and SPM reports. The conclusions illustrated the needs in the NSCoC and identified gaps in housing and services. Domestic violence was one of the areas highlighted in the conclusion indicating additional services and housing are a critical need.

1C-4c. Applicants must describe:

- (1) how many domestic violence survivors need housing or services in the CoC’s geographic area;**
 - (2) data source the CoC used for the calculations; and**
 - (3) how the CoC collected the data.**
- (limit 2,000 characters)**

In our geographic area, we know that a minimum of 2,275 unduplicated clients were survivors of domestic violence and sought housing and/or services at HAWC over the past 12 months. 256 of those clients indicated an immediate need for housing during intake. The APRs of CoC-funded organizations reported that 297 DV survivors acquired housing through CoC-funded agencies. HAWC’s service area covers all of the NSCoC, so the calculations are reflective of the experience of the NSCoC as a whole. As described in 1C-4b above, we used a variety of sources to identify the need in our geographic area. Every encounter one of the agencies had with this population involved a need for services or housing, and these needs were addressed to the greatest extent possible by the agency where assistance was sought or through a referral. These engagements were recorded in HMIS, and EmpowerDB, as well as in the annual PIT and APRs at the time of intake, referral and throughout the time the client utilized case management services. Every effort was made to ensure de-duplication in reporting and the CE system in particular, works to record the experience of survivors in our system while maintaining their privacy.

1C-4d. Based on questions 1C-4b. and 1C-4c., applicant must:

- (1) describe the unmet need for housing and services for DV survivors, or if the CoC is applying for an SSO-CE project, describe how the current Coordinated Entry is inadequate to address the needs of DV survivors;**
 - (2) quantify the unmet need for housing and services for DV survivors;**
 - (3) describe the data source the CoC used to quantify the unmet need for housing and services for DV survivors; and**
 - (4) describe how the CoC determined the unmet need for housing and services for DV survivors.**
- (limit 3,000 characters)**

Throughout the NSCoC, the cost and limited availability of housing is prohibitive for low- and even median-income households. The larger the unit needed, the

greater the challenge can be. In many communities, it can be more expensive on a monthly basis to rent a unit if it has more than one bedroom, than it is to purchase a home. For survivors of DV, these limited options can be still more daunting if they are constrained by the need to avoid specific areas. Our service providers are constantly working with landlords to build their housing portfolios and consistently seeking opportunities in partnership with other agencies to increase available housing.

DV services are not as challenging to access as we have three providers across the region with the capacity to assist this population, but as with any population in crisis, the availability of services is always in flux. Again, our providers consistently try to work together and cross-refer when needed, but this can be inhibited if the client is unable to live in certain communities out of fear a perpetrator may find them.

As referenced in 4b and 4c, we are certain there were more than 3,000 individuals in the region who requested housing and services. These calculations are based on the NSCoC's most recent APRs and data captured within databases used by the victim service providers (i.e., HAWC's DV-specific database called EmpowerDB). In addition, our CE which began accepting families in the past year, documented 15% of all clients entered, indicated a history of domestic violence and 14% of those with a history were also fleeing at the time they were entered into CE.

While we have confidence in the methodology used to attain this data, the numbers appear to be inconsistent across databases. There is concern in the NSCoC that current data underrepresents the real need. In recent NSCoC meetings, shelter and service providers have discussed concerns that they are seeing increasing numbers of women who are victims of DV and estimate that number to be 1 in 4. This anecdotal evidence is supported by data accumulated by the Massachusetts Department of Health for the whole state as well as the CDC's Division of Violence Prevention. However, many survivors do not want to document or acknowledge it formally out of embarrassment, shame, and fear their perpetrators will find them or discover they have shared this information. The very nature of domestic violence and sexual assault (DV) means that accurate statistics can be difficult to acquire. As indicated in 1C-3b, we use the resources and databases to which we have access to create a profile of this population, but we recognize the need to undertake an effort in this bonus project to increase the accuracy of the data across the region while providing the needed housing and services.

1C-4e. Applicants must describe how the DV Bonus project(s) being applied for will address the unmet needs of domestic violence survivors. (limit 2,000 characters)

As indicated, we are aware from our Gaps Analysis, APRs, data provided from our DV partner's confidential registry, and conversations in CoC monthly meetings and committee meetings, that there is a serious need across the NSCoC region for DV housing and services. Through this project, we will 1) connect 20 DV households with RRH and services; 2) increase DV data accuracy across the region and document how the collaborative efforts of the CoC are meeting needs identified; and 3) hire a DV Liaison to work with every agency in the NSCoC and facilitate housing search and connection to services and case management. This project fills a critical need by bringing a new applicant into the NSCoC with the DV expertise to be able to provide insights, a database created for DV service providers, and training and education for other

agencies. It will contribute to the ability of the NSCoC as a whole to better document and serve those fleeing or victims of DV. These objectives will be reached through a collaborative effort of the lead applicant for the project, the Northeast Veterans Outreach Center (VNOC), an experienced recipient of CoC funding, and a local DV service provider, Healing Abuse Working for Change (HAWC), which provides a domestic violence helpline, emergency shelter, legal services, advocacy and counseling services to more than 2,500 families in the North Shore area each year. They will form the hub of this project which is designed to meet the needs of survivors and engage service providers across the NSCoC. Regardless of where a client comes into the system, if the agency is unable to meet all needs, the DV Liaison will facilitate housing search and connection to needed services through other resources and agencies in the system in a manner consistent with trauma-informed care, and be available to the client's case manager to identify other resources as the client continues to move through the immediate crisis and works toward stabilization.

1C-4f. Applicants must address the capacity of each project applicant applying for DV bonus projects to implement a DV Bonus project by describing:

- (1) rate of housing placement of DV survivors;**
 - (2) rate of housing retention of DV survivors;**
 - (3) improvements in safety of DV survivors; and**
 - (4) how the project applicant addresses multiple barriers faced by DV survivors.**
- (limit 4,000 characters)**

VNOC, the applicant for this funding has a well-documented history of quickly placing anyone in need of housing and helping them retain PH. As documented in their APRs, it is not uncommon for them to be able to place in less than a week. Because this project is designed to utilize every agency in the CoC that has the capacity to safely house DV survivors, we will defer to our SPM report which demonstrates that the NSCoC has consistently improved in lessening the LOT homeless. In 2017, NSCoC ES clients experienced, on average, 64 fewer bed nights homeless than in the previous year. In addition, there were 367 fewer persons in ES and 1,047 fewer people who became homeless for the first time. The level of returns to homelessness after placement in PH was only 2% after one year and 5% after two. While these numbers reflect all clients in the NSCoC, they demonstrate a pattern of success in minimizing the impacts of homelessness and the level of homelessness in the NSCoC.

We do not have placement and retention rates specifically for DV clients, but have the capacity through our CE, HMIS, and our HAWC's EmpowerDB to begin tracking it. In addition, through the DV Bonus project described, our partner HAWC will provide its expertise with this population to increase the level and accuracy of data across the region. There is concern across the NSCoC that current data underrepresents the real need. In recent NSCoC meetings, shelter and service providers have discussed concerns that they are seeing increasing numbers of women who are victims of DV and estimate that number to be 1 in 4. This anecdotal evidence is supported by data accumulated by the Massachusetts Department of Health for the whole state as well as the CDC's Division of Violence Prevention. However, many survivors do not want to document or acknowledge it formally out of embarrassment, shame, and fear

their perpetrators will find them or discover they have shared this information. The very nature of domestic violence and sexual assault (DV) means that accurate statistics can be difficult to acquire. As indicated in 1C-3b, we use the resources and databases to which we have access to create a profile of this population, but we recognize the need to undertake an effort in this bonus project to increase the accuracy of the data across the region, while providing the needed housing and services and we are confident the collaboration described will do that.

Our partner in this endeavor, HAWC, is a DV provider with more than 40 years experience. This experience is fundamental to ensuring the safety of our DV clients. Each agency in the CoC has training and protocols to protect this population, but through training and use of the CE screening tool developed in partnership with two other DV providers, the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center and the Haverhill/Lowell YWCA, we will strengthen those efforts thereby increasing the confidence of our clients to disclose their status as survivors or currently fleeing DV.

1C-5. PHAs within CoC. Applicants must use the chart to provide information about each Public Housing Agency (PHA) in the CoC’s geographic areas:

- (1) Identify the percentage of new admissions to the Public Housing or Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Programs in the PHA who were experiencing homelessness at the time of admission;**
- (2) Indicate whether the PHA has a homeless admission preference in its Public Housing and/or HCV Program; and**
- (3) Indicate whether the CoC has a move on strategy. The information should be for Federal Fiscal Year 2017.**

Public Housing Agency Name	% New Admissions into Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program during FY 2017 who were experiencing homelessness at entry	PHA has General or Limited Homeless Preference	PHA has a Preference for current PSH program participants no longer needing intensive supportive services, e.g. move on?
Beverly Housing Authority		Yes-Both	
Gloucester Housing Authority		Yes-Both	
Haverhill Housing Authority		Yes-Public Housing	
Salem Housing Authority		Yes-Both	
Peabody Housing Authority		Yes-Both	

1C-5a. For each PHA where there is not a homeless admission preference in their written policy, applicants must identify the steps the CoC has taken to encourage the PHA to adopt such a policy. (limit 2,000 characters)

The Gloucester Housing Authority (GHA) is an active member of the CoC and is a model when it comes to offering preferences/priorities for homeless households. The CoC will leverage GHA’s enthusiasm and success, and will enlist GHA’s support in persuading other housing authorities to adopt similar policies.

GHA's State-aided Elderly & Family Public Housing Programs offer priority to households that are displaced through natural disaster, public action or are otherwise homeless through no fault of their own. In addition, GHA has 12 set-aside placements annually in its State-aided Family Public Housing Development for families who are currently in State-funded Homeless Shelters. Effective July 1, 2018, GHA has established an annual set-aside in its Federal Public Housing Program for 4 families currently residing in State-funded homeless shelters. The GHA also administers 52 units of Section 8 McKinney SRO Housing, which requires that individuals meet the HUD definition of homelessness at time of admission. Finally, the GHA has 4 Section 8 HCV Project-based units leased to Action Inc. for 4 chronically homeless individuals.

1C-5b. Move On Strategy with Affordable Housing Providers. Does the CoC have a Move On strategy with affordable housing providers in its jurisdiction (e.g., multifamily assisted housing owners, PHAs, Low Income Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments, or local low-income housing programs)? No

1C-6. Addressing the Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT). Applicants must describe the actions the CoC has taken to address the needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender individuals and their families experiencing homelessness. (limit 2,000 characters)

Consistently, research shows that homelessness is disproportionately higher among LGBTQ unaccompanied youth than among their straight peers. Recognizing that, the NSCoC Youth Committee has made a significant effort during the annual MA Homeless Youth Count to reach out to organizations that serve this population including the New Liberty School in Salem and the regional nAGLY (northeast Association of Gay and Lesbian Youth). We have recruited volunteers and stipended Ambassadors to distribute surveys, engage young people and provide input into ways to connect with this population during the Count and year-round.

The CoC enforces non-discriminatory practices in its Governance Charter (page 39), which are reviewed in the project's annual monitoring. All program participants across the CoC are accepted based upon how they present to the agency. Agencies in the NSCoC take this very seriously and have held staff trainings sponsored by different agencies. The new rules and regulations that have come out of the Equal Access Final Rule, which went into effect on 09.21.16, have been widely distributed and agencies continue to explore and implement best practices.

In the fall, the CoC is having the annual fair housing training, which will include this as one of the emphasized components. In addition, as part of the monthly meeting special speaker series, Cultural Competence is slated to be a topic in the coming year. The NSCoC strives to address the needs of the LGBTQ population in a manner that ensures each individual and family are treated with

dignity and respect.

1C-6a. Anti-Discrimination Policy and Training. Applicants must indicate if the CoC implemented a CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy and conducted CoC-wide anti-discrimination training on the Equal Access Final Rule and the Gender Identity Final Rule.

1. Did the CoC implement a CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy that applies to all projects regardless of funding source?	No
2. Did the CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement the Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity (Equal Access Final Rule)?	No
3. Did the CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs in Accordance with an Individual's Gender Identity (Gender Identity Final Rule)?	No

1C-7. Criminalization of Homelessness. Applicants must select the specific strategies the CoC implemented to prevent the criminalization of homelessness in the CoC's geographic area. Select all that apply.

Engaged/educated local policymakers:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Engaged/educated law enforcement:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Engaged/educated local business leaders:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implemented communitywide plans:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No strategies have been implemented:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:(limit 50 characters)	
Collaborated w/ law inforcement Comm. Impact Units	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>

1C-8. Centralized or Coordinated Assessment System. Applicants must:
 (1) demonstrate the coordinated entry system covers the entire CoC geographic area;
 (2) demonstrate the coordinated entry system reaches people who are least likely to apply homelessness assistance in the absence of special outreach;
 (3) demonstrate the assessment process prioritizes people most in need of assistance and ensures they receive assistance in a timely manner; and
 (4) attach CoC's standard assessment tool.
 (limit 2,000 characters)

1) The NSCoC Coordinated Entry (CE) process covers the entire CoC

geographic area as referenced in the Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures attached to the CE application. Specifically, pages 3 and 5 discuss the geographic coverage, and page 41 discusses the composition of the CE Subcommittee which has representatives from all areas of the CoC geography. The CoC CE program uses a Multisite Centralized Access system. CE access points with CE specialists have been embedded into all adult and family emergency shelters in the region. Two regional intake centers assist other individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis. Regional intake specialists are mobile and will meet households in their own communities if needed. These access points ensure full geographic coverage.

2) Representatives of our agencies regularly do street outreach and maintain relationships with existing and previous clients in area jails, rehabilitation facilities, and through the court system, among other venues. They use these opportunities to enroll people interested in housing in the CE System so that when they are ready the system can quickly identify housing for them.

3) The Policies and Procedures developed by the NSCoC include the Order of Priority protocols in HUD CPD-16-11 and its subsequent briefing HUD-17-01. Consequently, the most vulnerable in the CoC are always at the top of the CE list for housing. We were encountering challenges with filling vacant units quickly. To combat that, when agencies make a request to fill a vacancy, they now receive the top 10 applicants on the CE list who fit their unit, e.g. individual or family. After the unit is filled, the remaining applicants are returned to the CE list. Likewise, when an agency indicates it has an individual or family in need of a unit, the applicant(s) is connected with a housing provider immediately to seek housing and is referred to the CE access points.

4) The Standard Assessment tool is attached.

1D. Continuum of Care (CoC) Discharge Planning

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

1D-1. Discharge Planning–State and Local. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC has a discharge policy to ensure persons discharged from the systems of care listed are not discharged directly to the streets, emergency shelters, or other homeless assistance programs. Check all that apply (note that when "None:" is selected no other system of care should be selected).

Foster Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mental Health Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Correctional Facilities:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

1D-2. Discharge Planning Coordination. Applicants must indicate whether the 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. Check all that apply (note that when "None:" is selected no other system of care should be selected).

Foster Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mental Health Care:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Correctional Facilities:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

1E. Continuum of Care (CoC) Project Review, Ranking, and Selection

Instructions

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

1E-1. Project Ranking and Selection. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC used the following to rank and select project applications for the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition:

- (1) objective criteria;**
- (2) at least one factor related to achieving positive housing outcomes;**
- (3) a specific method for evaluating projects submitted by victim services providers; and**
- (4) attach evidence that supports the process selected.**

Used Objective Criteria for Review, Rating, Ranking and Section	Yes
Included at least one factor related to achieving positive housing outcomes	Yes
Included a specific method for evaluating projects submitted by victim service providers	Yes

1E-2. Severity of Needs and Vulnerabilities. Applicants must describe:

- (1) the specific severity of needs and vulnerabilities the CoC considered when reviewing, ranking, and rating projects; and**
- (2) how the CoC takes severity of needs and vulnerabilities into account during the review, rating, and ranking process.**

(limit 2,000 characters)

The NSCoC FY18 NOFA RFP, Ranking Policy, and Ranking Tools for New and Renewal projects each emphasize the importance of projects that take into consideration the severity of needs and vulnerabilities of the population being served. The final Ranking Tool for both renewal and new projects required a narrative regarding use of Housing First and low barrier entry processes, and the Ranking Committee used the Housing First Assessment tool to evaluate a renewal project's ability to house the most vulnerable people using this model.

Additional points were given to projects in which 90-100% of the beds were dedicated to the chronically homeless and projects that specifically targeted a specific population including DV. Using the most recently submitted APRs, the Ranking Committee also evaluated housing stability (specifically the percentage who maintain or exit to PH), those placed into PH within 90 days, and those placed within 24 months. Maintenance and increase of all income, as well as earned income, were also evaluated using APRs.

New projects were evaluated on elements that are important for all populations

including DV. DV-specific considerations included the provision of Mainstream Services, which were evaluated using the project application, specific population focus and special capacity within the agency to provide it, and a review of a narrative submitted by the applicant regarding its use of community partnerships and resources to meet the needs of program participants.

As the NSCoC CE has been developed with severity of needs and greatest vulnerabilities as priorities, both new and renewal applications were required to participate in CE as part of the threshold review.

1E-3. Public Postings. Applicants must indicate how the CoC made public:

- (1) objective ranking and selection process the CoC used for all projects (new and renewal);**
- (2) CoC Consolidated Application—including the CoC Application, Priority Listings, and all projects accepted and ranked or rejected, which HUD required CoCs to post to their websites, or partners websites, at least 2 days before the CoC Program Competition application submission deadline; and**
- (3) attach documentation demonstrating the objective ranking, rating, and selections process and the final version of the completed CoC Consolidated Application, including the CoC Application with attachments, Priority Listing with reallocation forms and all project applications that were accepted and ranked, or rejected (new and renewal) was made publicly available, that legibly displays the date the CoC publicly posted the documents.**

Public Posting of Objective Ranking and Selection Process		Public Posting of CoC Consolidated Application including: CoC Application, Priority Listings, Project Listings	
CoC or other Website	<input type="checkbox"/>	CoC or other Website	<input type="checkbox"/>
Email	<input type="checkbox"/>	Email	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mail	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mail	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advertising in Local Newspaper(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Advertising in Local Newspaper(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advertising on Radio or Television	<input type="checkbox"/>	Advertising on Radio or Television	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>

1E-4. Reallocation. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC has cumulatively reallocated at least 20 percent of the CoC’s ARD between the FY 2014 and FY 2018 CoC Program Program Competitions.

Reallocation: No

1E-4a. If the answer is “No” to question 1E-4, applicants must describe how the CoC actively reviews performance of existing CoC Program-funded projects to determine the viability of reallocating to create new high performing projects. (limit 2,000 characters)

The NSCoC utilizes a rigorous monitoring process in which each funded project is monitored annually. This process is used to ensure each project is contributing to the NSCoC efforts to end chronic homelessness in the CoC region, and that it is using CoC funds in the most efficient manner. Each monitoring is undertaken by a monitoring team of two individuals with different areas of expertise, who do not have an interest in the project or agency that could be a conflict. If challenges are identified, the project is given an opportunity to address it. If it is not addressed in a timely manner, the NSCoC Reallocation Policy and the Monitoring Policy call for reallocation of the funds by a vote of the full CoC.

This activity has been very successful in helping agencies share best practices and methods used to accomplish strategies such as Housing First. To date, no project has been reallocated for noncompliance with the recommendations of the Monitoring Committee.

In the monthly meetings, the NSCoC also discusses the priorities of the CoC and what type of projects are most likely to achieve those priorities. Members whose projects no longer fulfill the HUD and NSCoC policy priorities are encouraged to reallocate funding. This year, Emmaus reallocated its Safe Haven program, then applied to fund two new projects which use PH-RRH and PH-PSH respectively. Both projects were ranked and approved by the full CoC for inclusion in the Priority Listing.

1E-5. Local CoC Competition. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC:
(1) established a deadline for project applications that was no later than 30 days before the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Application deadline—attachment required;
(2) rejected or reduced project application(s)—attachment required; and
(3) notify applicants that their project application(s) were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps, at least 15 days before FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Application deadline—attachment required. :

(1) Did the CoC establish a deadline for project applications that was no later than 30 days before the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Application deadline? Attachment required.	Yes
(2) If the CoC rejected or reduced project application(s), did the CoC notify applicants that their project application(s) were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps, at least 15 days before FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Application deadline? Attachment required.	Did not reject or reduce any project
(3) Did the CoC notify applicants that their applications were accepted and ranked on the Priority Listing in writing outside of e-snaps, at least 15 before days of the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition Application deadline?	Yes

2A. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Implementation

Intructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

2A-1. Roles and Responsibilities of the CoC and HMIS Lead. Does your CoC have in place a Governance Charter or other written documentation (e.g., MOU/MOA) that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the CoC and HMIS Lead? Attachment Required. Yes

2A-1a. Applicants must: 9-11; 23-36
(1) provide the page number(s) where the roles and responsibilities of the CoC and HMIS Lead can be found in the attached document(s) referenced in 2A-1, and
(2) indicate the document type attached for question 2A-1 that includes roles and responsibilities of the CoC and HMIS Lead (e.g., Governance Charter, MOU/MOA).

2A-2. HMIS Policy and Procedures Manual. Does your CoC have a HMIS Policy and Procedures Manual? Attachment Required. Yes

2A-3. HMIS Vender. What is the name of the HMIS software vendor? Social Solutions (ETO)

2A-4. HMIS Implementation Coverage Area. Using the drop-down boxes, applicants must select the HMIS implementation Coverage area. Single CoC

2A-5. Bed Coverage Rate. Using 2018 HIC and HMIS data, applicants must report by project type:
(1) total number of beds in 2018 HIC;
(2) total beds dedicated for DV in the 2018 HIC; and

(3) total number of beds in HMIS.

Project Type	Total Beds in 2018 HIC	Total Beds in HIC Dedicated for DV	Total Beds in HMIS	HMIS Bed Coverage Rate
Emergency Shelter (ESG) beds	615	17	598	100.00%
Safe Haven (SH) beds	6	0	6	100.00%
Transitional Housing (TH) beds	62	0	43	69.35%
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	159	0	96	60.38%
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	415	0	216	52.05%
Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds	393	0	194	49.36%

2A-5a. To receive partial credit, if the bed coverage rate is 84.99 percent or lower for any of the project types in question 2A-5., applicants must provide clear steps on how the CoC intends to increase this percentage for each project type over the next 12 months. (limit 2,000 characters)

Our CoC is actively working to increase our bed coverage rate over the next 12 months. Currently, it is not technically possible to enter RRH data into our HMIS system (which is owned by the State of Massachusetts). We are able to identify them, however they cannot be separated in the HomeBASE (family RRH) system because there are differences between the state and federal definitions of homelessness. Our CoC will work with the state to address this issue over the next 12 months to ensure our HMIS system will meet our CoC's needs. Our CoC will also continue working with all other CoCs across Massachusetts to create a data warehouse that will enable us to better differentiate these units. Additionally, our bed coverage rate is also lower due to VASH vouchers used in our region; to address this, we will work with the VA to better incorporate their information into our system. The VA is now attending our Coordinated Entry and CoC meetings; we intend to build upon this relationship. We also understand that other CoCs in MA have been able to work with the VA to include VASH, and we intend to capitalize on their experiences. The CA Lead and CE Manager are currently looking into the best ways to accomplish this task and will present their findings to the full CoC.

2A-6. AHAR Shells Submission: How many 2017 Annual Housing Assessment Report (AHAR) tables shells did HUD accept? 3

2A-7. CoC Data Submission in HDX. 04/27/2018
Applicants must enter the date the CoC submitted the 2018 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data into the Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX). (mm/dd/yyyy)

2B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Point-in-Time Count

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

2B-1. PIT Count Date. Applicants must enter the date the CoC conducted its 2018 PIT count (mm/dd/yyyy). 01/31/2018

2B-2. HDX Submission Date. Applicants must enter the date the CoC submitted its PIT count data in HDX (mm/dd/yyyy). 04/27/2018

2C. Continuum of Care (CoC) Point-in-Time (PIT) Count: Methodologies

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

**2C-1. Change in Sheltered PIT Count Implementation. Applicants must describe any change in the CoC’s sheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology and data quality changes from 2017 to 2018. Specifically, how those changes impacted the CoC’s sheltered PIT count results.
 (limit 2,000 characters)**

There was no change.

2C-2. Did your CoC change its provider coverage in the 2018 sheltered count? No

2C-2a. If “Yes” was selected in 2C-2, applicants must enter the number of beds that were added or removed in the 2018 sheltered PIT count.

Beds Added:	0
Beds Removed:	0
Total:	0

2C-3. Presidentially Declared Disaster Changes to Sheltered PIT Count. Did your CoC add or remove emergency shelter, transitional housing, or Safe Haven inventory because of funding specific to a Presidentially declared disaster, resulting in a change to the CoC’s 2018 sheltered PIT count? No

2C-3a. If “Yes” was selected for question 2C-3, applicants must enter the number of beds that were added or removed in 2018 because of a Presidentially declared disaster.

Beds Added:	0
Beds Removed:	0
Total:	0

2C-4. Changes in Unsheltered PIT Count Implementation. Did your CoC change its unsheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology and data quality changes from 2017 to 2018? If your CoC did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2018, select Not Applicable. No

2C-5. Identifying Youth Experiencing Homelessness in 2018 PIT Count. Did your CoC implement specific measures to identify youth experiencing homelessness in its 2018 PIT count? Yes

2C-5a. If “Yes” was selected for question 2C-5., applicants must describe:
(1) how stakeholders serving youth experiencing homelessness were engaged during the planning process;
(2) how the CoC worked with stakeholders to select locations where youth experiencing homelessness are most likely to be identified; and
(3) how the CoC involved youth experiencing homelessness in counting during the 2018 PIT count.
(limit 2,000 characters)

(1) The CoC Youth Committee worked together to plan specific measures for reaching youth as part of the 2018 PIT count. The Youth Committee includes agencies and stakeholders that serve youth experiencing homelessness or youth who are unstably housed. Committee members engage youth and young adults in their own programs to obtain critical input into this process from these stakeholders.

(2) Identifying the locations where youth were most likely to be found was spearheaded by the youth and young adults in our CoC programs, as well as by the youths' participation in the annual MA Homeless Youth Count which is undertaken in May/June of each year. During that process, youth and young adults participated as volunteers and stipended Ambassadors to facilitate outreach efforts.

(3) Youth experiencing homelessness and youth who are unstably housed were integral to counting during the 2018 PIT Count. These youth were specifically responsible for the count itself, in part because we understand that youth are often more likely to trust their peers. These youth went into the community and relied on word-of-mouth to find/connect with homeless youth and ensure they were included in the PIT.

2C-6. 2018 PIT Implementation. Applicants must describe actions the CoC implemented in its 2018 PIT count to better count:
(1) individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness;
(2) families with children experiencing homelessness; and
(3) Veterans experiencing homelessness.
(limit 2,000 characters)

(1),(2) The CoC used the strength of its networks to reach out to all service providers in the 30-community region, regardless of their previous level of

participation in the PIT, in order to gain the most accurate data. This was particularly useful in ensuring that all unsheltered locations were identified including camps and regular hang-outs. In addition, this helped us identify those who were unable to maintain housing after using HomeBASE and/or RAFT funding. One CoC member is a legal advocate who consistently provides input about this population to help us identify them. The CoC worked with local communities - including law enforcement, meal programs, and faith communities - to establish PIT working groups to plan outreach and focus on unsheltered homeless populations who have a higher incidence of CH. The NSCoC worked with emergency shelters to differentiate families with unaccompanied youth heads of household from those with older heads of household to ensure their unique needs were met.

(3) We are fortunate to have attained functional zero for our Veterans, so no additional actions were needed. The PIT used the standard methods for counting Veterans that have been successful in identifying and housing them.

3A. Continuum of Care (CoC) System Performance

Instructions

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

3A-1. First Time Homeless as Reported in HDX. In the box below, applicants must report the number of first-time homeless as reported in HDX.

Number of First Time Homeless as Reported in HDX.	1,446
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3A-1a. Applicants must:

(1) describe how the CoC determined which risk factors the CoC uses to identify persons becoming homeless for the first time;
(2) describe the CoC's strategy to address individuals and families at risk of becoming homeless; and
(3) provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time. (limit 2,000 characters)

(1) The CoC used the Coordinated Entry (CE) process, data trends, and the experience of agencies and front-line staff to determine the risk factors that would be used to identify persons becoming homeless for the first time. These risk factors include: DV, families with young children, single heads of household, untreated mental illness, chronic substance abuse, high rent burden, lack of familial resources, lack of affordable housing, and lack of income/low income.

(2) The CoC utilizes the CE program to identify, assess, and triage households at imminent risk of homelessness to proactively and quickly link them to resources that can help them stabilize their housing. The CE Regional Specialists reach out to community-based agencies throughout the region to connect with those experiencing a housing crisis. The CoC works with community-based providers and state agencies to connect these households with RRH funds, TBRA, and other short-term subsidies. The CoC relies on: state programs such as RAFT, HomeBase, and Tenancy Preservation Program; federal programs such as SSVF, HOPWA, and ESG that are administered by community-based nonprofits; and private foundation funds that can be used for TBRA and prevention (administered by community action agencies and other nonprofits in the region). The CoC partners with nonprofits and state agencies to ensure clients have access to: eviction and foreclosure prevention services (Northeast Justice Center offers legal services, community action agencies offer counseling); re-entry services (through partnerships with DOJ and Essex County Sheriff's Department); and RRH prevention services (through the Department of Transitional Assistance).

(3) The CoC Board of Directors, led by Laura MacNeil (Executive Director of NSCAP), is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to reduce or end first-time homelessness in the region.

3A-2. Length-of-Time Homeless as Reported in HDX. Applicants must:
(1) provide the average length of time individuals and persons in families remained homeless (i.e., the number);
(2) describe the CoC’s strategy to reduce the length-of-time individuals and persons in families remain homeless;
(3) describe how the CoC identifies and houses individuals and persons in families with the longest lengths of time homeless; and
(4) provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.
(limit 2,000 characters)

(1) Average length of time homeless for FY17 was 434 bed nights.

(2) The CoC's strategy to reduce the length-of-time homeless involves increasing access to housing opportunities in the region and providing outreach to homeless individuals/families. The CoC has Coordinated Entry (CE) intake staff, who provide targeted outreach to ensure homeless persons are on the CE list and all other housing lists in the region. The CoC also prioritizes its housing resources in ways that intend to reduce the length-of-time homeless (i.e., using ESG to rapidly rehouse those who are able to be quickly rehoused with short-term assistance and using PSH for those who are experiencing chronic homelessness). The CoC also intends to create a working group after submission of this application to discuss the SPMs.

(3) The CoC identifies and houses individuals and persons with the longest length of time homeless by utilizing the Coordinated Entry (CE) process. Agencies pull names from the top of the CE list in accordance with the CoC's CE policy to assure the longest-time homeless individuals are prioritized for housing.

(4) The CoC Board of Directors, led by Laura MacNeil (Executive Director of NSCAP), is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to reduce length-of-time homeless in the region.

3A-3. Successful Permanent Housing Placement and Retention as Reported in HDX. Applicants must:
(1) provide the percentage of individuals and persons in families in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing that exit to permanent housing destinations; and
(2) provide the percentage of individuals and persons in families in permanent housing projects, other than rapid rehousing, that retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations.

	Percentage
Report the percentage of individuals and persons in families in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid re-housing that exit to permanent housing destinations as reported in HDX.	39%

Report the percentage of individuals and persons in families in permanent housing projects, other than rapid re-housing, that retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations as reported in HDX.	91%
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3A-3a. Applicants must:

- (1) describe the CoC’s strategy to increase the rate at which individuals and persons in families in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations; and**
- (2) describe the CoC’s strategy to increase the rate at which individuals and persons in families in permanent housing projects, other than rapid rehousing, retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations.**

(limit 2,000 characters)

(1) Through CE, the CoC undertakes outreach at the community level to inform individuals, families, and agencies of available housing and services. The CoC embedded the CE into emergency shelters and other systems serving our region’s most vulnerable populations to reach households least likely to seek assistance. Two regional intake centers also assist other individuals and families experiencing housing crises. CoC members have built a strong network to ensure that clients who come to the top of the CE list are housed, regardless of which agency was their first contact point within the CoC. CE biannually reviews outcomes pulled from HMIS to identify and brainstorm low-barrier resources that are available within NSCoC.

(2) Client-based efforts within all agencies include providing voluntary, intensive case management, increasing collaboration with health insurance and CSPECH and with case managers at the State level (i.e. those at DMH and DCF), utilizing health insurance case managers to identify resources, working with landlords to educate them, and use of master leasing to encourage landlords to participate. VNOG uses a leasing mechanism through which the landlord leases with VNOG until the individual household stabilizes; then they enter into their own lease with the landlord.

3A-4. Returns to Homelessness as Reported in HDX. Applicants must report the percentage of individuals and persons in families returning to homelessness over a 6- and 12-month period as reported in HDX.

	Percentage
Report the percentage of individuals and persons in families returning to homelessness over a 6- and 12-month period as reported in HDX	2%

3A-4a. Applicants must:

- (1) describe how the CoC identifies common factors of individuals and persons in families who return to homelessness;**
- (2) describe the 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 the CoC’s strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families returns to homelessness.**

(limit 2,000 characters)

(1) The CoC identifies common factors of persons returning to homeless using HMIS data, the CE process/system, data trends, and the experience of agencies and front-line staff.

(2) The CoC uses many of the same strategies to prevent returns to homelessness that it does to prevent first time homelessness including referrals to wraparound resources via CAP agencies and referrals to legal services to assist people before they become homeless; use of networking among CoC agencies; emergency assistance to prevent evictions; using one application for all services (many agencies use Virtual Gateway); and use of CE.

(3) The CoC Board of Directors, led by Laura MacNeil (Executive Director of NSCAP), is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce the rate of returns to homelessness.

3A-5. Job and Income Growth. Applicants must:

- (1) describe the CoC's strategy to increase access to employment and non-employment cash sources;**
 - (2) describe how the 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 the CoC's strategy to increase job and income growth from employment.**
- (limit 2,000 characters)**

(1) The CoC strives to ensure all programs provide clients with access to non-employment cash resources and employment assistance. Case managers are trained in income maximization techniques and assist clients with applying for all mainstream benefits or refer clients to other staff who are better equipped to assist (i.e., agencies have SOAR-trained staff who can assist with difficult SSDI situations). Individual programs help clients access employment by providing short-term, time-limited employment opportunities within their own agencies, which help connect unemployed clients with employment to build their skills, confidence, and ability to provide future employers with an employee reference. Programs also work with multiple CoC partner agencies that provide job training, counseling, and job search assistance.

(2) Mainstream employment agencies, such as the North Shore Career Center, are invited to and participate in regular CoC meetings. The CoC also works with community action agencies, which offer job training, job counseling, and other employment-related services to low-income individuals and families. Agencies partner with Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, Workforce Investment Board, and other state and federal agencies that help increase clients' employment.

(3) The CoC Board of Directors, led by Laura MacNeil (Executive Director of NSCAP), is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to increase job and income growth from employment.

3A-6. System Performance Measures Data Submission in HDX. Applicants must enter the date the CoC submitted the System Performance Measures data in HDX, which included the data quality section for FY 2017 05/31/2018

(mm/dd/yyyy)

3B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Performance and Strategic Planning Objectives

Instructions

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

- 3B-1. DedicatedPLUS and Chronically Homeless Beds. In the boxes below, applicants must enter:**
- (1) total number of beds in the Project Application(s) that are designated as DedicatedPLUS beds; and**
 - (2) total number of beds in the Project Application(s) that are designated for the chronically homeless, which does not include those that were identified in (1) above as DedicatedPLUS Beds.**

Total number of beds dedicated as DedicatedPLUS	0
Total number of beds dedicated to individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness	179
Total	179

3B-2. Orders of Priority. Did the CoC adopt the Orders of Priority into their written standards for all CoC Program-funded PSH projects as described in Notice CPD-16-11: Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing? Attachment Required. Yes

3B-2.1. Prioritizing Households with Children. Using the following chart, applicants must check all that apply to indicate the factor(s) the CoC currently uses to prioritize households with children during FY 2018.

History of or Vulnerability to Victimization (e.g. domestic violence, sexual assault, childhood abuse)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Number of previous homeless episodes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unsheltered homelessness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criminal History	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bad credit or rental history	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Head of Household with Mental/Physical Disability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3B-2.2. Applicants must:

- (1) describe the CoC’s current strategy to rapidly rehouse every household of families with children within 30 days of becoming homeless;**
 - (2) describe how the CoC addresses both housing and service needs to ensure families successfully maintain their housing once assistance ends; and**
 - (3) provide the organization name or position title responsible for overseeing the CoCs strategy to rapidly rehouse families with children within 30 days of becoming homeless.**
- (limit 2,000 characters)**

(1) The CoC utilizes the state of Massachusetts' robust diversion program (HomeBASE, RAFT) to rapidly rehouse families with children who have become homeless. The CoC also utilizes the Community Support for Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness (CSPECH) program for persons who meet the definition of chronic homelessness; CSPECH requires housing within 90 days. When families have been identified as at-risk for homelessness, they are referred to State resources. Additional enhanced diversion assistance is provided/available for families with barriers to being rehoused quickly (ie, families with 5+ members, medical issues). Many families are referred to the CoC via the state's Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) and are able to take advantage of DHCD programs and other state agency resources. The CoC also works with Family Promise to help families access resources (ie, shelter, job training) if they are denied state-funded emergency shelter.

(2) Families are provided with housing and support services to increase their stability during the rapid rehousing process. The CoC ensures clients are connected to mainstream organizations that provide ongoing supports so that families will have access to continuous support services - that can help them maintain their housing and stability - once assistance ends.

(3) The CoC Board of Directors, led by Laura MacNeil (Executive Director of NSCAP), is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy to rapidly rehouse families with children.

3B-2.3. Antidiscrimination Policies. Applicants must check all that apply that describe actions the CoC is taking to ensure providers (including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing (PSH and RRH) within the CoC adhere to antidiscrimination policies by not denying admission to or separating any family members from other members of their family or caregivers based on age, sex, gender, LGBT status, marital status, or disability when entering a shelter or housing.

CoC conducts mandatory training for all CoC and ESG funded service providers on these topics.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CoC conducts optional training for all CoC and ESG funded service providers on these topics.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CoC has worked with ESG recipient(s) to adopt uniform anti-discrimination policies for all subrecipients.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CoC has worked with ESG recipient(s) to identify both CoC and ESG funded facilities within the CoC geographic area that may be out of compliance, and taken steps to work directly with those facilities to come into compliance.	<input type="checkbox"/>
CoC has sought assistance from HUD through submitting AAQs or requesting TA to resolve non-compliance of service providers.	<input type="checkbox"/>

3B-2.4. Strategy for Addressing Needs of Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness. Applicants must indicate whether the CoC’s

strategy to address the unique needs of unaccompanied homeless youth includes the following:

Human trafficking and other forms of exploitation	No
LGBT youth homelessness	Yes
Exits from foster care into homelessness	Yes
Family reunification and community engagement	Yes
Positive Youth Development, Trauma Informed Care, and the use of Risk and Protective Factors in assessing youth housing and service needs	Yes

3B-2.5. Prioritizing Unaccompanied Youth Experiencing Homelessness Based on Needs. Applicants must check all that apply from the list below that describes the CoC’s current strategy to prioritize unaccompanied youth based on their needs.

History or Vulnerability to Victimization (e.g., domestic violence, sexual assault, childhood abuse)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Number of Previous Homeless Episodes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unsheltered Homelessness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criminal History	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bad Credit or Rental History	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**3B-2.6. Applicants must describe the CoC's strategy to increase:
 (1) housing and services for all youth experiencing homelessness by providing new resources or more effectively using existing resources, including securing additional funding; and
 (2) availability of housing and services for youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness by providing new resources or more effectively using existing resources.
 (limit 3,000 characters)**

(1) The CoC relies on data and partnerships as the foundation of its strategy to increase housing and services for all youth experiencing homelessness. Each year, the CoC’s Youth Committee leads the CoC-wide Youth Count, which helps foster relationships throughout the region. Homeless youth are entered into the CoC’s CE system. Providers in the CoC have partnered with drop-in centers and day shelters to serve and identify homeless youth (i.e., Action Inc. staff work closely with staff at Lifebridge’s Grace Center day shelter in Gloucester; Emmaus works closely with Community Action Inc.’s drop-in center in Haverhill). The CoC partners with existing mainstream agencies that work with unaccompanied youth, recognizing that these existing organizations can help the CoC better access this population. The CoC has partnered with the North Shore Community Development Coalition (local CDC) and Children’s Friend & Family Services to work with youth who are couch surfing or at risk of homelessness. Lifebridge provides housing for participants in the North Shore CDC’s Youth Build participants. The CoC also works with North Shore Community College, Northern Essex Community College, and Salem State

University to identify homeless students who need housing and services. The CoC has McKinney-Vento Educational Liaisons that sit on the Youth Committee. The CoC uses data gathered through the annual Youth Count to advocate for additional funding (ie, funding from the Interagency Council on Housing & Homelessness). We intend to continue strengthening the Youth Count because this data is a critical tool for increasing resources and funding in our region.

(2) The CoC’s strategy for increasing the availability of housing and services for youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness is the same as listed above. The CoC focuses on strengthening its Youth Count and increasing its street outreach in order to better identify the unsheltered homeless youth population in the region, recognizing that this data can help persuade funders to increase resources for these individuals.

3B-2.6a. Applicants must:

(1) provide evidence the CoC uses to measure both strategies in question 3B-2.6. to increase the availability of housing and services for youth experiencing homelessness;

(2) describe the measure(s) the CoC uses to calculate the effectiveness of the strategies; and

(3) describe why the CoC believes the measure it uses is an appropriate way to determine the effectiveness of the CoC’s strategies.

(limit 3,000 characters)

Across the CoC, drop-in centers are highly utilized to connect with this population. The annual homeless youth count is an invaluable resource as it connects us to those who have housing as well as to those who need it and helps in the identification of new resources and ways to house youth. The CoC prioritizes youth for diversion to minimize homelessness among this population.

The NSCoC also uses the networks and strong relationships it has created with other CoCs such as the Lynn CoC and Balance of State to identify creative ways to house youth. CoC members have utilized regional NSHAG funding, as well as NSHAG-funded workshops, and is currently working with NSHAG to partner in an application for funding from the State of Massachusetts specifically for youth housing.

Through the Youth Committee, shelters and other mainstream providers have been educated about the unique needs of unstably housed youth and how to make programs more user-friendly for them. Continuing outreach and meeting with individual agencies is effective as it ensures regional engagement while addressing unique agency concerns. This is measured by the increased number of participants in the Youth Committee, numbers reflected in the PIT and MA Annual Youth Count, and interest in funding opportunities.

3B-2.7. Collaboration–Education Services. Applicants must describe how the CoC collaborates with:

(1) youth education providers;

(2) McKinney-Vento State Education Agency (SEA) and Local Education Agency (LEA);

(3) school districts; and

(4) the formal partnerships with (1) through (3) above.

(limit 2,000 characters)

NSCoC has McKinney-Vento Educational Liaisons on the Youth Committee. During local PIT counts, they facilitated the use of the school's social media and email to inform school staff and parents about the PIT and about how to participate. They are vital to acquiring data regarding the number of homeless families, demographics, parental status, and housing and service needs, and actively refer homeless families to the CE intake sites. State and local Educational Liaisons are invited to monthly meetings and CoC members regularly attend their meetings to encourage networking and information sharing, thus opening doors for referrals, funding, and service collaboration. There are informal and long-standing partnerships outside of the engagements described here.

3B-2.7a. Applicants must describe the policies and procedures the CoC adopted to inform individuals and families who become homeless of their eligibility for education services. (limit 2,000 characters)

Each CoC-funded project serving households with children has a staff member dedicated to education and is in regular contact with local and State educational providers as required by the CoC's Education Policy. As indicated, the CoC has strong relationships with McKinney-Vento Liaisons and use those regularly to ensure that children are attending school during times of housing crisis. Educational needs are consistently explored across the CoC at intake and in the development of Client Plans.

The agencies in the CoC also regularly refer clients to area CAP agencies who have specific programs related to increasing and attaining education and employment.

3B-2.8. Does the CoC have written formal agreements, MOU/MOAs or partnerships with one or more providers of early childhood services and supports? Select "Yes" or "No". Applicants must select "Yes" or "No", from the list below, if the CoC has written formal agreements, MOU/MOA's or partnerships with providers of early childhood services and support.

	MOU/MOA	Other Formal Agreement
Early Childhood Providers	No	No
Head Start	Yes	No
Early Head Start	Yes	No
Child Care and Development Fund	No	No
Federal Home Visiting Program	No	No
Healthy Start	No	No
Public Pre-K	No	No
Birth to 3 years	No	No
Tribal Home Visting Program	No	No
Other: (limit 50 characters)		

3B-3.1. Veterans Experiencing Homelessness. Applicants must describe the actions the CoC has taken to identify, assess, and refer Veterans experiencing homelessness, who are eligible for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) housing and services, to appropriate resources such as HUD-VASH, Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) program and Grant and Per Diem (GPD). (limit 2,000 characters)

All NSCoC member agencies refer clients to VNOC if they have served in the military for verification of veteran status and eligibility for services, as VNOC is the CoC's lead SSVF agency. VNOC assists eligible participants with direct or indirect services. VAMC's staff conduct GPD and HUD/VASH intakes and participant counseling at VNOC's SSVF Service Center. VNOC SSVF intakes are conducted at the participant's place of choice. Eligible participants are offered available EB/TH/PH/PSH housing and are typically sheltered that day. VNOC works closely with area VAMC's, and has contracts with SSVF, Transitional Beds, Emergency Beds, GPD Beds, and GPD Service Center. VNOC manages 56 PSH Beds at the VAMC and owns/manages nearly 200 affordable veterans housing units. Highly recognized for the success of its homeless veterans programs, VNOC received the 2017 VA Secretary's National Award for Best Managed Homeless Veterans Programs. Recently, VNOC partnered with the Bedford VA Medical Center and TAC to sponsor a statewide initiative to align the VA and CoC's Coordinated Entry processes. This initiative produced a commonality of measures to address VA/CoC CE overlap, VA participation in CoC meetings, and confidentiality with by name lists. The initiative also created a monthly VA/CoC conference call concerning difficult-to-place veterans. Additionally, VNOC was recently awarded a Department of Labor HVRP grant to provide employment assistance to homeless veterans and a two-year VAGPD Transition In Place grant to provide 25 permanent scattered-site housing units to CH/H veterans and veteran families. This is the only program of its kind in all the New England states. VNOC is breaking ground in September on a 44-unit affordable housing complex in Haverhill, MA for veterans and their families with a priority for CH/H veterans. This project is funded by the use of HOME Funds, Tax Credit Funding, and donations.

3B-3.2. Does the CoC use an active list or by name list to identify all Veterans experiencing homelessness in the CoC? Yes

3B-3.3. Is the CoC actively working with the VA and VA-funded programs to achieve the benchmarks and criteria for ending Veteran homelessness? Yes

3B-3.4. Does the CoC have sufficient resources to ensure each Veteran experiencing homelessness is assisted to quickly move into permanent housing using a Yes

Housing First approach?

3B-5. Racial Disparity. Applicants must: No
(1) indicate whether the CoC assessed whether there are racial disparities in the provision or outcome of homeless assistance;
(2) if the CoC conducted an assessment, attach a copy of the summary.

4A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Accessing Mainstream Benefits and Additional Policies

Instructions:

For guidance on completing this application, please reference the FY 2018 CoC Application Detailed Instructions and the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition NOFA. Please submit technical questions to the HUD Exchange Ask A Question.

- 4A-1. Healthcare. Applicants must indicate, for each type of healthcare listed below, whether the CoC:**
- (1) assists persons experiencing homelessness with enrolling in health insurance; and**
 - (2) assists persons experiencing homelessness with effectively utilizing Medicaid and other benefits.**

Type of Health Care	Assist with Enrollment	Assist with Utilization of Benefits?
Public Health Care Benefits (State or Federal benefits, Medicaid, Indian Health Services)	Yes	Yes
Private Insurers:	Yes	Yes
Non-Profit, Philanthropic:	Yes	Yes
Other: (limit 50 characters)		

- 4A-1a. Mainstream Benefits. Applicants must:**
- (1) describe how the CoC works with mainstream programs that assist persons experiencing homelessness to apply for and receive mainstream benefits;**
 - (2) describe how the CoC systematically keeps program staff up-to-date regarding mainstream resources available for persons experiencing homelessness (e.g., Food Stamps, SSI, TANF, substance abuse programs); and**
 - (3) provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing the CoC’s strategy for mainstream benefits. (limit 2,000 characters)**

(1) CoC members use single forms during client assessment to identify needs and benefit eligibility, help clients access benefits, and follow up through case management. The CA regularly invites State and local benefit programs to monthly meetings. All funded agencies have SOAR-trained staff.

(2) Program staff are regularly encouraged to attend benefits meetings and review benefit program websites and social media to ensure they are aware of changes and opportunities for clients. As information becomes available to the CA, emails are distributed to all CoC members and they share information through the extensive CoC network.

(3) The NSCoC Board is responsible for oversight. Laura MacNeil, the Executive Director of NSCAP, is the President of the CoC Board.

4A-2.Housing First: Applicants must report:

- (1) total number of new and renewal CoC Program Funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe-Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC is applying for in FY 2018 CoC Program Competition; and**
- (2) total number of new and renewal CoC Program Funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe-Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC is applying for in FY 2018 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach—meaning that the project quickly houses clients without preconditions or service participation requirements.**

Total number of new and renewal CoC Program Funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe-Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC is applying for in FY 2018 CoC Program Competition.	11
Total number of new and renewal CoC Program Funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe-Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC is applying for in FY 2018 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach—meaning that the project quickly houses clients without preconditions or service participation requirements.	11
Percentage of new and renewal PSH, RRH, Safe-Haven, SSO non-Coordinated Entry projects in the FY 2018 CoC Program Competition that will be designated as Housing First.	100%

4A-3. Street Outreach. Applicants must:

- (1) describe the CoC’s outreach;**
- (2) state whether the CoC's Street Outreach covers 100 percent of the CoC’s geographic area;**
- (3) describe how often the CoC conducts street outreach; and**
- (4) describe how the CoC tailored its street outreach to persons experiencing homelessness who are least likely to request assistance. (limit 2,000 characters)**

(1) Street outreach is undertaken in 100% of the NSCoC geography on a daily and weekly basis. CoC agencies take responsibility for specific areas and share information with their partners across the region as well as with the CE. Venues include community meals programs, encampments, and street outreach in partnership with local police. In Haverhill, Emmaus hired an outreach worker (with private foundation funding) to work with CE and partner with police task forces (Newburyport, Haverhill, Amesbury), go to camps where they do CE, and provide backpacks with hygiene items. Most communities in the region have an active Mayor’s Task Force which the CoC actively participates in. VNOC hires previously homeless Veterans to do street outreach. Many agencies go to the same places repeatedly, building relationships with the hardest to house, those who are CH and least likely to request assistance.

(2) The CoC's street outreach covers 100% of the CoC's geographic area.

(3) The CoC conducts street outreach on a daily and weekly basis.

(4) Youth are less likely to ask for assistance due to the stigma of being homeless, or fear of being placed in DCF custody if they are under 18. Therefore, regular street outreach occurs in the places where they are most likely to congregate (i.e., parks, laundromats, coffee shops, and college communal areas).

Agencies tailor outreach to clients who are less likely to engage by partnering with service providers who have existing relationships with those clients. Agencies also have some bilingual staff members who assist with street outreach as needed.

4A-4. Affirmative Outreach. Applicants must describe:
(1) the specific strategy the CoC implemented that furthers fair housing as detailed in 24 CFR 578.93(c) used to market housing and supportive services to eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identify, sexual orientation, age, familial status or disability; and
(2) how the CoC communicated effectively with persons with disabilities and limited English proficiency fair housing strategy in (1) above.
(limit 2,000 characters)

(1) The CoC Governance Charter requires compliance with the Fair Housing Act in its Antidiscrimination Policy. Outreach through CE educates agencies serving specific, difficult-to-reach populations (including, but not limited to, independent living centers, mental health and substance abuse programs) about CE and housing opportunities available through enrollment. The CE lead enlists culturally competent partner agencies to assist in completing CE Assessments, which are then forwarded to entry points. CE Regional Entry Points have bilingual and culturally competent staff to assure effective communication and outreach. CE Regional Staff are mobile to address barriers faced by households with physical or emotional disabilities.

(2) Housing resources are posted on the MassAccess Housing Database to further ensure the implementation of fair housing. Additionally, as mentioned above, the CoC enlists culturally competent partner agencies, staff, and bilingual staff to assist with communicating effectively with persons with disabilities and limited English proficiency.

4A-5. RRH Beds as Reported in the HIC. Applicants must report the total number of rapid rehousing beds available to serve all household types as reported in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) for 2017 and 2018.

	2017	2018	Difference
RRH beds available to serve all populations in the HIC	141	159	18

4A-6. Rehabilitation or New Construction Costs. Are new proposed project applications requesting \$200,000 or more in funding for housing rehabilitation or new construction? No

4A-7. Homeless under Other Federal Statutes. Is the CoC requesting to designate one or more of its SSO or TH projects to serve families with children or youth defined as homeless under other Federal statutes? No

Submission Summary

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

Page	Last Updated
1A. Identification	07/24/2018
1B. Engagement	09/06/2018
1C. Coordination	09/08/2018
1D. Discharge Planning	08/23/2018
1E. Project Review	09/06/2018
2A. HMIS Implementation	09/06/2018
2B. PIT Count	09/06/2018
2C. Sheltered Data - Methods	09/06/2018
3A. System Performance	09/06/2018
3B. Performance and Strategic Planning	09/06/2018
4A. Mainstream Benefits and Additional Policies	09/06/2018
Submission Summary	No Input Required