

# HUD CoC Program NOFA Overview

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## CoC Values and Priorities

### Preliminary Rank Order

The CoC preliminary rank order is based on individual project scores which are tightly linked to **HUD goals** and to the **CoC Values and Priorities**.

To remain competitive in the national NOFA process, the Seattle King County CoC Program process must be strategic in the use of CoC Program funding within the community. The CoC holds a local funding process that rates and ranks all projects according to locally developed criteria. The local review determines which project applications are included in the consolidated application and their relative priority.

This means a rigorous review of current CoC Program investments, how well each project aligns with and supports **CoC Values and Priorities** and how each contributes to the collective impact on ending homelessness in Seattle King County.

We also consider **HUD's goals and approach** to the competition. HUD continues to emphasize the following at both the individual program and overall system level:

- Quality data and demonstrated performance
- Use of Coordinated Entry for All (CEA) to prioritize and refer people who most need assistance and ensure all programs are engaged and participating;
- Effective management of resources and reallocation where necessary from lower performing projects to the types of projects/practices most likely to reduce homelessness in the CoC; and
- Reducing barriers to program entry and utilizing a housing first approach to quickly move persons coming from streets or shelter to permanent housing.

Additionally, the CoC reserves the right to consider additional factors that may adjust the final rank order. This would be done to achieve a strong and balanced HUD application that achieves local priorities, maximizes points and thus funding for the entire Continuum. Those additional considerations include:

- The **geographic and population diversity** of projects;
- The potential **impact of the loss of housing units** on the CoC homeless system
- The **opportunity to respond to local CoC priorities and HUD strategic goals** for this fund source, including:
  - No or low barrier to housing
  - Serving literally homeless
  - Rapid exits to permanent housing or long/term housing stability in permanent housing
  - Racial Equity

## CoC Program Values and Prioritization Factors

The Seattle King County CoC affirmed the following local values and prioritization considerations to guide development of the Project Priority Listing:

1. To maintain as much HUD Continuum of Care Program funding in our CoC as possible.
2. To promote our goals of reducing racial disparities and making homelessness rare, brief, and one time in King County.
3. Center leadership of people with lived experience in the planning, programming and evaluation of Continuum of Care services.
4. Promote equitable access and service provision with an intersectional approach, serving the most vulnerable populations in our community, including but not limited to: people living with disabilities, people exiting the foster care system, the aging, people with criminal justice involvement, the LGBTQ community, people living with mental illness and substance use, and all immigrant communities.
5. To prioritize projects that:
  - a. Actively participate in the Continuum of Care
  - b. Help advance the collective goals of the CoC, including addressing racial disproportionality, and achieving equitable outcomes for indigenous, black and other people of color
  - c. Have movement to permanent housing and subsequent stability as the primary focus
  - d. Do not replace mainstream resources
  - e. Work to connect people served with community-based, culturally responsive resources
  - f. Focus on those who are literally homeless (streets, shelter, transitional housing for homeless, and includes people fleeing domestic violence)
  - g. Participate in the HMIS with complete, high quality data per HUD data standards
  - h. Demonstrate alignment with HUD Housing First standards (including screening, program entry, person-centered services, and termination policies)
  - i. Perform well against HUD Continuum of Care goals and positively impact system performance and equity outcomes
  - j. Consistently meet and exceed operational standards for spending, match, occupancy, and reporting.
  - k. Elevate the voices of people with lived experience as experts in the development and implementation of planning, programming and evaluation.