

## FY2023 HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Permanent Supportive Housing and Domestic Violence Bonus Request for Proposal Frequently Asked Questions Updated August 21, 2023

Last Day to Submit Questions: August 18, 2023

## Access session recording here

• While we are confident that we will be able to identify a full matching amount through local sources before funds are distributed in 2024, it's currently too soon in the process for us to know what the full amount and local sources will be yet. Given that, do you want us to submit a budget showing the full gap as CoC, or is there a maximum amount to include in our application now?

Thank you for reaching out. Unfortunately, since this is an open competitive process, we cannot predict who will be applying for what, and we cannot provide guidance on the amount for proposers to request. We'd suggest putting forward a proposal that that is commensurate with however much match commitment you currently have.

Can we still apply for the DV RRH funds even if we don't have McK-V funds?

Yes, you are still eligible to apply to the DV Bonus RFP regardless of not having McK-V funds. Please refer to the RFP Program Scope and Provider Profile & Eligibility as well as KCRHA's Minimum Eligibility Requirements.

"Applicant must be able to provide both components, including the units supported by the transitional housing, the tenant-based rental assistance, and services provided through the PH-RRH component, to all program participants up to 24 months as needed by the program participants." Does this mean we have to have a transitional facility or a relationship with a transitional facility?

There are two program models within the "DV Bonus RFP". One is a traditional rapid rehousing model and the other is a transitional housing to rapid rehousing (TH-RRH) joint component. To be eligible for the joint component an organization must be able to provide both components. If applying for the rapid rehousing model, you do not have to have a transitional housing component.

• We are not an RRH program, but do provide housing assistance, case management, etc. for survivors of DV. Would we be eligible to apply for this funding or ineligible because we are not an RRH agency?

Any agency who meets KCRHA minimum qualifications listed in the RFP Guidelines, who also has an interest in starting a new Rapid Rehousing program within King County, may apply for the RFP. You do not need to be an existing Rapid Rehousing provider to be eligible. Please also see Section III of the RFP guidelines which gives an overview of the scope of work and provider eligibility.

 Are these funds only for organizations that already have Rapid Rehousing since it is a Bonus fund?

No, you do not need to have an existing Rapid Rehousing Program to be eligible to apply. These funds are open to any organization who meets the minimum requirements outlined in the RFP and scope of work.

• In the guidelines it states that the amount awarded is 1,512,343. Is that a divided amount between organizations or is that the amount we should budget for.

There is not an award ceiling or floor for this RFP. We ask that you budget for only what you need. We anticipate making more than one award depending on the level of interest.

• Our organization is interested in submitting a proposal for the HUD CoC DV Bonus funding that will be made available in Summer 2024. It is our intention to establish a rapid re-housing component to our suite of services which includes housing stability services as well as legal support services for individuals and families who have experience, and are fleeing, domestic violence. Could you please clarify whether the September 28, 2023 deadline as listed on the HUD NOFO applies to RFPs for allocation of bonus funds. Or is the "Anticipated Funding Process Due Date" of August 28, 2023 as shown in the table on the KCRHA NOFA the correct deadline? We are trying to clarify if our proposal is being submitted to HUD or to KCRHA.

You will be submitting your application to KCRHA since we are the Seattle-King County's CoC lead on the Consolidated Applicant. The KCRHA will then submit the consolidated application which includes funding recommendation for the DV Bonus funds to HUD by September 28. The DV Bonus applications are due to KCRHA through our grants management system by 11:59pm on August 28, 2023. All the application details may be found HERE.

• I want to know whether we can apply for DV Bonus Funds. At the moment, we have a DV RRH Program which is funded with CHG funds for RRH through KCHRA and other funds from Seattle HSD. The program pays move-in costs for homeless DV survivors, but we don't pay an ongoing rental subsidy. We house about 65 households per year. However, in the City's recent DV RFP, our program's funding was cut. I am considering applying for funds under this NOFA (DV Bonus) to replace the funds we have lost, and to transition the program to a classical RRH model that pays rental subsidies: but I am not sure my proposal would be eligible. We wouldn't be expanding our program – we would be trying to retain the one we have. If the city restored our funding, we could use the COC funds to expand but I don't think we'll know anything about that until late December.

Yes, it sounds like your proposal would be eligible if you plan to transition the program to meet the program scope for either RRH or Joint component TH/RRH, residents meet HUD eligibility requirements; specifically, HUD's definition of homeless upon intake, and CoC funds may not be used to supplant local funding.

Please keep in mind, these awards are contingent upon the outcome of the local process as well as HUD's final CoC awards which are typically announced Q1 of 2024. New project agreements are typically not issued from HUD until Q3 or Q4 of 2024, and new programs or expansion projects cannot start until there is a signed project agreement with HUD.

I am trying to determine if we would be eligible for the Continuum of Care (CoC)
Permanent Supportive Housing Bonus Funding Request for Proposal (RFP) for an
existing building that is a mix of affordable and PSH units – about 28 of 95 units in
this building are specifically PSH. It is not a new building, but we have never had
CoC dollars there to my knowledge.

Yes, your agency may be eligible if units are unoccupied and there is an interest to convert the affordable housing units into new PSH units. All residents must meet HUD's PSH eligibility requirement time of intake, and CoC funds cannot be used to supplant local funding. If those conditions are met, you are encouraged to apply.

 Are we eligible to apply for these PSH Bonus dollars if we don't currently have a CoC contract?

Yes, any agency who meets KCRHA's <u>Minimum Eligibility Requirements</u> and has the ability to demonstrate how they are qualified to perform the scope of work outlined in either RFP, is encouraged to apply.

 Do we need to have all of our 25% match fully identified by the time we submit the application, or can we continue to seek out matching sources between now and when the funding will be implemented in the summer of 2024?

Yes, please submit verification of the 25% match commitment at the time of application.

- Within each section are multiple questions. Should we be prepared to respond to each question individually, or can all of the questions within a section be addressed in a single response? For example, here are the questions in Section D:
  - What role will residents play in planning, implementation, and evaluating your proposed project?
  - Explain how will your project gain and respond to resident feedback in its ongoing programming and operations? Should we prepare different individual answers for each of those two questions, or can we lump our answers to both questions in a single response?

Yes, you may lump your answers together or answer them separately. The raters will be looking for complete answers which meet the criteria listed within each section of the application.

• For the "improving systems performance" priority, is that something we would speak to in section "Project Applicant Experience & System Coordination (20 POINTS)" of the application?

Yes, we encourage applicants to speak about their organization's track record of serving people and similar program outcomes, or how you plan to meet the stated system performance measures. Such measures include exits to permanent housing, increasing income, connecting to benefits, longevity in PSH. You can find a breakdown of rated system performance measures here.

## What is Dedicated PLUS?

https://www.hudexchange.info/faqs/reporting-systems/e-snaps-homeless-assistance-application-and-grants-management-system/project-application/other/what-is-a-dedicatedplus-project/

• Is priority given to projects with existing collaborations? Do you need to list the collaborators as subcontractors or have letters of agreement/support?

If you have partnerships or formal agreements, please include those with your application. If your organization pays your collaborator for the work, then include those costs in your budget and in the budget narrative as well. If any partnerships are in-kind then that can be a part of your 25% match commitment as well. In-kind match will require a match letter and MOU.

Can a non-DV specific provider apply for the DV Bonus?

Yes, you can apply for DV Bonus RFP. The organization does not have to be serving 100% DV. The project you are proposing with the DV Bonus funds *must* serve those meeting the HUD category 4 homelessness definition.

Can current, non-CoC funding be used as match?

Yes, current funding *may* be used as match. However, only dollars spent on CoC eligible costs may be counted toward the 25% match requirement. For example, if you have other rapid rehousing funding and pay arrears, that payment <u>cannot</u> be counted toward the match requirement because the CoC does not allow for arrears payments.

More details on HUD requirements about match can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

Are the application materials available in FLUXX?

The application will be available in FLUXX on August 18. All necessary materials are currently available on our website under Requests for Proposals.

 Quick question about the CoC PSH Bonus Fund Review Process: will application reviewers be reading our applications in full, or will different reviewers be given different portions of our applications to read? Yes, each rater will read a handful of assigned proposals in their entirety, including budgets and supplemental attachments. We will also ensure each application is reviewed by at least two different raters and the average of the two scores will be used as part of the final funding considerations.

- In the RFP, it states that there's a word count limit of 1700 words per section. Since there are multiple questions within each section, does that mean that we should lump all of our answers to each of those questions in one response? Put another way, will the Fluxx application be formatted to ask each question individually, or should we write our responses as though all questions in a single section are part of the same "prompt"? For example, here are the questions in Section D:
  - What role will residents play in planning, implementation, and evaluating your proposed project?
  - Explain how will your project gain and respond to resident feedback in its ongoing programming and operations?

Should we prepare individual answers for each of those two questions, or can we lump our answers to both questions in a single response?

The 1700-word limit applies to each section of the application (A-E), including sections that have multiple questions within them. The Fluxx application portal will be formatted to mimic the same formatting that appears in the PDF version of the RFPs. We ask that applicants do their best to use plain language, clarify acronyms, and be as concise as possible to ensure raters have enough time for a thorough application r review.