

NY-602 New Project Scoring Criteria

1. Applicant Experience: _____ of 20

A. Applicant and sub-recipient(s) prior experience in serving homeless people and in providing housing similar to that proposed in the application. (10 points)

B. Satisfactory experience with prior HUD grants and/or other public contracts, including satisfactory drawdowns and performance for exiting grants as evidenced by timely reimbursement of sub-recipients (if applicable), full expenditures of awards, timely resolution of monitoring findings, and timely submission of APRs or other compliance reporting on existing grants. (10 points)

2. Project Quality: _____ of 25

A. Extent to which the applicant: (15 points)

- i. Demonstrates an understanding of the needs of the people to be served
- ii. Proposes an appropriate mix of people to be served through the project
- iii. Shows a clear relationship between the type of housing provided and needs of the population to be served.
- iv. Shows a clear relationship between the type of support services provided and needs of the population to be served
- v. Supports Housing First where the client is housed regardless of their involvement in services they do not believe will help them achieve their stated goals
- vi. Gains client access to mainstream (non-COC) resources
- vii. Establishes performance measures for housing and income that are measureable, objective and meet or exceed any established HUD, HEARTH, or OCHC codified benchmarks

- viii. Complies with the requirement under the Education subtitle of the McKinney/Vento Act
 - ix. Commitment to quickly place households in permanent housing
- B. Extent to which the applicant provides a sound plan to ensure that homeless peoples will be assisted to both OBTAIN and REMAIN in permanent housing and only terminate clients based on lease violations (5 points)
- C. Extent to which there is a sound plan to ensure that participants will be assisted both to increase their INCOMES and to maximize their ability to LIVE INDEPENDENTLY (5 points)

3. Project and Client Accessibility: _____ of 10

- A. Extent to which the applicant identifies specific and appropriate programs (street outreach and shelters) from which it obtains referrals of potential eligible program participants that will ensure the project operates at full capacity and that eligible persons are served (coming from the streets or shelter for all programs. Must also be chronically homeless for PSH, and must prioritize persons with the most severe needs for permanent housing)
- B. Agreement to participate in the Coordinated Entry/Assessment System
- C. Project does not present barriers to entry (i.e. length of sobriety, income, criminal background, number of children, gender of head of household, family composition, LGBTQ status)

NY-602 Orange County Housing Consortium
New Project Scoring Policy (Both Reallocation and Bonus)

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to ensure that an objective and universal procedure and instrument is utilized by the Scoring/Ranking Committee in determining the weighted value of each new project which is presented either as a Bonus Project or a Reallocation Project and as a means to guide the ranking of new projects within the overall ranking procedure.

The scoring criteria has been developed by the OCHC membership to conform to HUD's Threshold Review. Additionally, the Project Quality section of the instrument is consistent with the information requested of New Project applicants in the Standard Application Form.

Policy: It is the policy of the Orange County Housing Consortium to score all New Project Applications formulated with both Bonus and Reallocation dollars submitted by applicants for funding in response to the OCHC's Call For Proposals in a fair and objective manner.

Procedure:

>Throughout the year at all General Membership meetings, member are advised of the prospect of New Projects being created during the COC Program application cycle.

>Upon announcement of the COC Program Competition, the OCHC Board President issues a jurisdiction-wide Call For Proposals and includes guidance for submission of Letters of Intent.

>The Standard Application Form (which is a modification of the New Project form contained in esnaps) and Scoring Criteria for New Projects is sent to all interested parties and contact information for technical assistance is provided.

4. Timeliness: _____ of 10

A. Applicant clearly describes a viable plan for rapid implementation of the program documenting how the project will be ready to begin housing the first program participant within 6 months of the award.

5. Cost: _____ of 15

6. Accuracy of Budgets/Charts _____ of 20

TOTAL SCORE: _____ of 100

BONUS POINTS (One point for each)

1. Applicant has never been the recipient of HUD COC Funding: _____ of 1

2. Applicant has actively participated in OCHC meetings/planning: _____ of 1

3. Applicant has participated in annual Point-in-Time Count _____ of 1

4. Applicant has experience with a Data Management System like HMIS _____ of 1

5. Applicant participates in the Coordinated Entry/Assessment System _____ of 1

TOTAL BONUS POINTS _____ of 5

FINAL TOTAL SCORE (Score plus Bonus Points) _____ of 105

>The Executive Committee of the Board appoints a non-conflict Scoring/Ranking Committee comprised of Homeless/COC Subject Matter Expert Stakeholders.

>The Committee utilizes the New Project Scoring Instrument (see attached) and scores each project accordingly.

>The preliminary score results are sent to all New Project applicants who are requested to put into writing any grievance to the Board President within 24 hours of receipt.

>The Executive Committee will meet with representatives of the Agency which has submitted a grievance to ensure that the scoring was performed accurately.

>The decision of the Board is final. Rejected projects are advised in writing of their right to submit a **SOLO PROJECT** according to HUD's policies and procedures.

NY-602 Orange County Housing Consortium

Renewal Project Scoring Policy

Purpose: Except for HMIS and the COC Planning Coordinator, all current projects and newly developed PSH beds have been dedicated to individuals and families who are chronically homeless. All PSH turn-over beds are prioritized for the Chronically Homeless as well. Annually the OCHC evaluates the performance of all projects based on established OCHC performance measures to: ensure compliance with HUD requirements; to preserve funding for high performing projects and; when necessary, shift investments from lower performing projects which are at risk of losing HUD funding to new projects that help advance our community's goal of reducing homelessness and which are aligned with HUD priorities.

The scoring criteria has been developed by the OCHC membership to conform to HUD's policy priorities and have been formulated to be standard, transparent and fair for all projects which for our COC are exclusively Permanent Supportive Housing.

Policy: It is the policy of the Orange County Housing Consortium to score all COC program projects which intend to apply for renewal funding prior to the submission of the renewal applications and the final ranking of COC projects.

Procedure:

- Upon announcement of the COC Program Competition the OCHC Board President requests of each funded project a Letter of Intent to Renew to be submitted with the most recent APR for the project.
- The Executive Committee of the Board appoints a non-conflict Scoring/Ranking Committee comprised of Homeless/COC Subject Matter Expert Stakeholders.
- The Committee, utilizing the Renewal Evaluation Scoring Instrument (see attached) and the respective APR, scores each project for renewal and ranks them in descending order,
- The preliminary score results and rankings are sent to all renewal projects who are requested to put into writing any grievance to the Board President within 24 hours of receipt.
- The Executive Committee will meet with representatives of a project which has submitted a grievance to ensure that the scoring was performed accurately.

Ny-602 Orange County Housing Consortium

Ranking and Prioritization Policy and Plan

Purpose: The purpose of this Ranking and Prioritization Policy and Plan is to ensure that the Orange County Housing Consortium has fulfilled due diligence in determining how to most effectively utilize HUD funding resources to advance the goal of preventing and ending homelessness in our local community. Further, the Policy and Plan fulfill the HUD requirement to prioritize and rank as contained in the NOFA.

Policy: It is the policy of the OCHC to annually evaluate and rank for prioritization all projects to be submitted for funding under the COC Consolidated Application following the Two Tier methodology as prescribed by HUD.

Procedure: This policy and plan is integrated into the following OCHC Policies: **Renewal Project Application Scoring Policy; New Project Application Scoring Policy; Reallocation Policy and Plan.**

The OCHC prioritizes and ranks projects after evaluating and scoring all new and renewal projects within the COC utilizing the two scoring (Renewal and New) instruments respectively which have been designed to be objective and universal.

The Executive Committee of the Board appoints a non-conflict Scoring/Ranking Committee comprised of Homeless/COC Subject Matter Expert stakeholders. The Committee is trained by the Board in the application of the Renewal Project instrument against the APR and the application of the New Project scoring instrument against the New Project Application.

Additionally, the Committee is trained on the HUD Homeless Policy and Program Priorities so that they understand clearly the context within which their scoring and ranking duty is integrated and meaningful.

Finally, they are trained to understand the specific performance measure benchmarks in each of the instruments as they evaluate each project with the following foundational questions:

- >Does the project prioritize the most vulnerable populations?
- >How well is the project performing in achieving outcomes?
- >Does the project use a Housing First Model?
- >Has the project improved it's services over the past year?
- >Does the project have strong HMIS participation and data quality?
- >Does the project have a budget that makes sense?
- >Does the project fully participate in the COC's Coordinated Entry System?
- >Does the project coordinate with other resources effectively?
- >Does the project contribute towards goals and activities in the COC's strategic jplan?

Special Note: These same questions are used to frame Corrective Action Plans for poor performing Projects.

In accordance with this policy and HUD's guidance under the 2016 NOFA, the Orange County Housing Consortium will prioritize projects as presented here:

TIER 1: Valued at 93% Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)

A. Permanent Supportive Housing projects (renewing, first time renewal, new re-allocated, new bonus)

B. Rapid Re-Housing projects (new reallocated, new bonus)

C. HMIS

>Within Project component ranked according to score

>Projects with equal scores and same component are rank alphabetically

>Within project component rank projects renewing for the first time that have not completed an APR, and thus do not have a renewal score at the end of that funding component. For example: PSH projects renewing for the first time will be the last ranked under PSH projects.

>It is possible for a project to "straddle" Tier 1 and Tier 2 depending on the prioritization of the allocation of 93% of the ARD

TIER 2: Project components will be organized to best maximized the COC Consolidated Grant Overall Score

1. Tier 2 will be valued at 7% of the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) plus and PH Bonus Funding.
2. Projects will be ranked in Tier 2 as follows:
 - A. Renewal project applications ranked according to renewal score
 - B. Reallocation and Bonus Project applications ranked according to new project Scores.
 - C. Projects will be ranked until there are no more funds remaining in Tier-2.

COC Planning Coordinator Project is not ranked.

**NY-602 Orange County Housing Consortium
New Project Scoring Policy (Both Reallocation and Bonus)**

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The scoring criteria has been developed by the OCHC membership to conform to HUD's Threshold Review. Additionally, the Project Quality section of the instrument is consistent with the information requested of New Project applicants in the Standard Application Form.

Policy: It is the policy of the Orange County Housing Consortium to score all New Project Applications formulated with both Bonus and Reallocation dollars submitted by applicants for funding in response to the OCHC's Call For Proposals in a fair and objective manner.

Procedure:

>Throughout the year at all General Membership meetings, member are advised of the prospect of New Projects being created during the COC Program application cycle.

>Upon announcement of the COC Program Competition, the OCHC Board President issues a jurisdiction-wide Call For Proposals and includes guidance for submission of Letters of Intent.

>The Standard Application Form (which is a modification of the New Project form contained in esnaps) and Scoring Criteria for New Projects is sent to all interested parties and contact information for technical assistance is provided.

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6. Accuracy of Budgets/Charts _____ of 20

TOTAL SCORE: _____ of 100

BONUS POINTS (One point for each)

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NY-602 Orange County Housing Consortium

Reallocation Policy and Plan

Purpose: The purpose of the Reallocation Policy and Plan is to ensure that funding resources are targeted on an annual basis to meet the needs of those homeless in our community who are most vulnerable measured against HUD's prioritization guidance.

The Orange County Housing Consortium utilizes objective and performance based criteria and outcome data to ensure that we are strategically allocating all federal, state and local resources within our jurisdiction to the most effective projects and interventions that are proving to reduce homelessness.

Annually, the OCHC is required to rank all projects submitted by applicants (both renewal and new) to be prioritized and included for funding under the COC Program Competition. HUD encourages COC's to reallocate funds from renewal projects to make available funding for new projects which create increased capacity for permanent housing.

Besides objective performance-based criteria used to evaluate presently funded projects, the OCHC fulfills its responsibility to strategically focus resources by assessing projects and interventions for potential reallocation within the context of and alignment with: The Federal Strategic Plan: Opening Doors; HUD's Homeless Policy and Program Priorities as contained in the NOFA; the HEARTH Act COC Performance Measures and; the OCHC priorities.

Policy: It is the policy of the Orange County Housing Consortium to annually fulfill its responsibility to inventory all local, state and federal resources to evaluate all projects and interventions dedicated to preventing and ending Homelessness which use such resources, and to identify underutilized resources or resources not meeting priorities which can be either voluntarily or involuntarily reallocated for new projects which meet the prescribed priorities.

Procedures: The OCHC has reached consensus that actual reallocation from HUD funded projects will not be an annual mandate as the present projects are very effectively serving many of our most fragile homeless households with high-risk vulnerability and severity of need.

The concern is that great care must be taken through the reallocation process so that valuable projects are not defunded which could result in destabilizing those homeless who are served by these projects. This does not mean that the OCHC does not value reallocation when necessary. It does mean that before a project is defunded, the OCHC must responsibly ensure that a relocation plan for the participants in a project being considered for defunding is in place to protect the stability of the present participants and/or that funders with priorities better suited to sustain these projects have been identified and engaged.

Voluntary Reallocation

A funded COC project can voluntarily reallocate all or part of their present award amount if they meet the following thresholds:

- >That they have indicated in writing to the Board that they are no longer receptive to receiving HUD funding and have worked out a plan to serve the participants in their project in an alternative and effective manner;
- >That they have indicated in writing to the OCHC Board a decision to reallocate all or part of their present funding to a new project;
- >That they are proposing a new project(s) aligned with PSH for Chronically Homeless or RR for individuals and families coming from shelter or the street;
- >That in all matters they have demonstrated their capacity to operate a project and that their present project is reasonably compliant with operating and performance measures and expectations;
- >That an adequate plan has been developed by the project to ensure the continued housing stability of project participants who will no longer be served under HUD funding;
- >That the new proposed project with reallocated funds is submitted to the Scoring/Ranking Committee as prescribed;
- >The final reallocation decisions are made by the Board after considering the recommendation of the Scoring/Ranking Committee.