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: IL-508 - East St. Louis, Belleville/St. Clair County CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: St. Clair County

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: St. Clair County

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	No	No
Local Jail(s)	No	No
Hospital(s)	Yes	Yes
EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	No	No
Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes
Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes
Affordable Housing Developer(s)	No	No
Disability Service Organizations	No	No
Disability Advocates	No	No
Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes
CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	No	No
Non-CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes
Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes
School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes
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	No	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)		
Private Landlord		
Faith Community		

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)

1.The Homeless Action Council, which is the CoC entity for IL-508, has a robust strategy for soliciting and considering opinions of those who have an interest in preventing or ending homelessness. Our strategy relies on the utilization of public meetings. During these public meetings we draw on the knowledge and expertise on homelessness from its members and from all individuals and groups in St. Clair County who express concern about homelessness.

2.We communicate CoC meeting dates and time to the public through the St. Clair County Intergovernmental Grants Department's Facebook page.

3.During our monthly open meetings, we discuss community homelessness issues and solicit feedback from all present. Through these monthly exchanges we identified new homeless encampments, and our street outreach teams connected with homeless individuals and families who lived there. Based on feedback, the Homeless Action Council designated homeless youth as a priority population. After each meeting we encourage opinions from the dozens of groups and persons to whom we send the meeting minutes.

In addition, the Homeless Action Council holds numerous focus groups and committee meetings, drawing in outside agencies and individuals with expertise and/or knowledge in a variety of issues that affect our homeless population so as to improve the delivery of homeless prevention services. These issues include addressing mental health challenges from hospital discharge through permanent housing placement; serving LGBT individuals/families; improving employment and non-employment income; and youth homelessness.

These specific focus groups and committee meetings have led to feedback on improvement of services and suggestions for new approaches that were incorporated into our new strategic plan and increased membership within the CoC.

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.Our CoC's new member invitation process is two-fold. First, St. Clair County, as the collaborative applicant, issues open invitations to potential members through social media such as Facebook and the CoC's website. Second, we constantly reach out to church, non-CoC agencies and government groups to invite their participation.

2.Communication on the invitation process to solicit new members is delivered in stages. First the Housing Resource Center Coordinator contacts the individual by phone or email to discuss the basics of membership and to set a face-to-face meeting. The second stage is the face-to-face meeting to discuss the expectations and benefits of membership and to answer questions. The final stage is a recommendation at the Homeless Action Council meetings to be officially voted into the Council.

3.We have a year-round continuous process for engaging new groups and soliciting members into the CoC with formal solicitations quarterly.

4. We actively encourage current homeless and former homeless individuals to participate in meetings through our PIT outreach, and by having projects identify participants who can be effective advocates in CoC meetings and on committees. Once identified, staff review with the individual the reasons why chosen, how to participate in CoC meetings, what's expected for active participation and how to interact within the meetings.

**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)**

1.The CoC notified the public – including previously unfunded entities – of application opportunities in two ways. First, the CoC compiled a list of allowable new project types that HUD has opened to applicants. Second, the CoC notified the general public of the funding opportunities.

2.To determine which projects were included, we asked for detailed Letters of Intent, and a neutral panel reviewed and scored all eligible applications. The panel applied identical factors for new and renewal projects. Through this process, we approved one unfunded organization this year.

3.This year we used email (7/20/2018), web postings (7/24/2018), and announcements at community meetings.The Homeless Action Council vigorously encouraged all agencies to consider applying for CoC funds, particularly those agencies which do not currently receive CoC funding.

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)	Yes
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.We work closely with the ESG recipient, the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA), to develop performance standards. The CoC provides IHDA with PIT data, HMIS data, and ESG subrecipient information. The CoC Board of Directors reviews each project proposal and makes allocation recommendations

to the recipient.

2.The CoC's Prevention Committee developed performance standards for all ESG projects, which were adopted and implemented in monitoring. The CoC evaluates outcomes of ESG projects throughout the year.

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 CoC prioritizes persons fleeing domestic violence for safe housing and services by partnering with the county's provider for domestic violence and sexual assault response, the Violence Prevention Center (VPC). Consistent with our trauma-informed and victim-centered approach, the CoC has a Memorandum of Agreement with VPC. When victims of domestic violence – including stalking and other crimes – present at our Coordinated Assessment Center, they are promptly referred to VPC. VPC arranges for shelter and engages in legal advocacy, safety planning, peer support, counseling, and children's services. The Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation helps with obtaining Orders of Protection.

2.To assure that client choice is integrated with safety and confidentiality, all personal data between providers is shared in a confidential manner. No personal identifiable data about individuals who have experienced domestic violence is ever entered into our HMIS. VPC and the Housing Resource Center work together to find appropriate housing based on client choice.

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)

During the past 12 months, the CoC sponsored training for CoC area project staff in Trauma-Informed Care, Motivational Interviewing and domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. The domestic violence training was provided by VPC (Violence Prevention Center) and the Trauma-Informed Care and Motivational Interviewing was provided by Barnes-Jewish Hospital Behavior Health Department Staff. Two CoC providers, Call for Help and VPC, offer domestic violence training throughout the year and invite all area staff to these trainings. Continuing education is provided annually or more often if needed.

The CoC requires all coordinated entry staff to receive 40 hours of training from the VPC. Topics include Court Advocacy; Detecting Domestic Abuse; Counseling Persons Fleeing; and Intensive Case Management. In addition, coordinated entry staff attended the Trauma-Informed Care and Motivational Interviewing training. VPC provided an annual training review on domestic violence to coordinated entry staff.

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 Violence Prevention Center utilizes a comparable database to the Coordinated Entry's HMIS database. VPC provides statistics and relevant data related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking to help the CoC assess the community needs related to domestic violence. VPC shares this information with Coordinated Entry as well as providers during monthly Homeless Action Council meetings.

Within the coordinated entry center, our intake protocols focus on safety concerns. We immediately refer any individuals indicating safety concerns to the Violence Prevention Center. The VPC follows additional safety and planning protocols to ensure the safety and needs of the individual or family are met.

**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	
RRH	
Joint TH/RRH	X

**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)

1.The CoC is currently serving 42 domestic violence survivors within the CoC's geographic area.

2.The CoC used data collected through Violence Prevention Center's intake assessment and InfoNet's reports. In addition, data was collected through the CoC's HMIS reports.

3.The CoC's Housing Resource Center receives a monthly report from the Violence Prevention Center identifying the number of clients residing in shelter including information on household size, age, race, gender, VA status and ethnicity. This information is entered into CoC's HMIS database.

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)

1.From June 2017 through July 2018, the CoC's domestic violence agency, Violence Prevention Center, provided shelter to 265 adults and 228 children, which resulted in 8,149 nights of care.

2.Violence Prevention Center utilizes Infonet Data Base. All their client services, direct and indirect hours as well as indirect non-client services, are documented in this system. This information is used to track program outcomes, quarterly and annually for grant reports, yearly program projects, to identify outcomes; areas of strengths as well as areas in need of improving.

3.The CoC collected the data from the county's lead domestic violence agency, Violence Prevention Center.

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)

1.There is a great unmet need for housing and services for domestic violence survivors in St. Clair County, as evidenced by the 225 adult survivors and the 265 child survivors who stayed in the VPC emergency shelter during the last year. The immediate need of a survivor fleeing domestic violence is safety. Those who cannot stay in their home are in need of an immediate place to stay such as an emergency shelter before re-entering their own independent

housing.

Many of the survivors who come to the VPC emergency shelter have limited resources to obtain independent housing. When survivors arrive with limited economic resources it is nearly impossible for them to re-establish themselves to the point of successful self-sufficiency in such a limited amount of time as the 45 day limit VPC must follow due to other funding restrictions. This difficulty in becoming self-sufficient is compounded if the individual has no income at all.

The VPC is the only domestic violence shelter in St. Clair County. Due to limited number of housing opportunities for homeless individuals in this community, VPC ends up extending multiple clients for a longer period of time than the 45 day guideline as there isn't any place for these survivors to go. These extensions of time in the emergency shelter do indeed support these individuals but prevents other survivors of domestic violence from finding an open shelter bed. This leaves them either staying in their abusive homes or living on the streets. Many are not willing to leave St. Clair County for shelters in other counties due to unwillingness to leave their support system or out of fear. This lack of medium term housing leads to lack of short term housing which exuberates the housing challenges for domestic violence survivors.

2.There is a great need for housing services for survivors of domestic violence. From July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, the VPC provided services to approximately 1,800 survivors and received 8,202 hotline calls. Of those 1,800 survivors, the VPC provided shelter services to 225 adults and 265 children. VPC was not able to provide emergency shelter to 42 survivors and their children due to no availability.

3.The CoC relied on data generated by VPC's InfoNet database and hotline tracking system to quantify the unmet need for housing and services for DV survivors.

4.We determined the unmet need through our partnership with VPC who provides the county's domestic violence 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)

This project will address the unmet needs of survivors of domestic violence utilizing a two-step
process. The first step is the survivor entering the VPC Domestic Violence Emergency Shelter. This shelter is the foundation of ending homelessness for victims of domestic violence. The second step is the Rapid Rehousing project which will build on that foundation. Medium length rental assistance will help the clients exit shelter and regain housing. The opportunity for affordable housing will reduce their risk of homelessness. Affordable housing will give survivors hope for a violence free future for themselves and their children.

Housing needs and safety are the basics needed for survivors to begin a successful transition from homelessness, but to sustain independent living support services are needed. Program participants will be assigned a case manager who will provide ongoing intensive case management. Supportive

services are critical in maintaining stability. The case manager will assist the client with locating housing, transportation, working with the landlord, becoming established with household items, seeking and maintaining employment or sustaining other means of income such a cash assistance and SSI monies.

Once the participant is in the Rapid Rehousing program the case manager will continue to provide intensive case management support services. These support services include but are not limited to budgeting activities and financial education, ongoing domestic violence education, opening a bank account, resume writing and job search, child care assistance, linkage to needed community resources including VPC domestic violence counseling services, VPC legal advocacy services to provide support and education with legal matters, updated safety plans as situations change, assistance with obtaining legal documents for self and children, state identification, medical resources, and other life skills building activities.

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)

1.The Violence Prevention Center's current rate of housing placement for domestic violence survivors is 80%. VPC anticipates the client residing in the shelter no more than 45 days before moving into their own home through this project. However, this will be determined on a case by case situation as some survivors enter into the shelter extremely traumatized and need some respite and healing time before taking on additional responsibilities. Other factors include the time it takes to complete necessary steps needed to move into their home such as paying past utility bills, addressing past criminal activities, etc.

2.The rate of housing retention of domestic violence survivors is 80%

3.The safety plan ensures that victims are aware of their options to remain safe, examine the potential for short-term and long-term physical and emotional risks; identify and evaluate available and make informed decisions. Additionally, the Violence Prevention Center help victims with outlining safe places to go in their home should violence occur, identifying safe people to rely on for assistance, and discuss what to do if violence occurs at work or in the community. These conversations help to ensure the safety of the victim during a time of crisis. We provide victims with basic domestic violence education to assist them in recognizing the cycle of violence in order to recognize key warning signs before abuse happens.

4.VPC often works with participants who face multiple barriers. During the intake assessment, case managers immediately to assist them in identifying goals which they establish and to address their needs. Some of those needs include the following: getting medical attention; addressing financial barriers such as high or past due utility bills, back rental payments, previous eviction

notices, and/or application fees and deposits. Support services include addressing barriers such as medical issues, mental health and/or substance abuse needs. Case managers assist in participants obtaining ID, birth certificate, social security card, child care, child placement in school, applying for non-employment benefits, and assisting in activities for employment search. VPC assists all clients with developing a safety plan. It provides domestic violence education and links survivors to counseling and legal advocacy services if desired.

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?
East St. Louis Housing Authority	0.00%	Yes-Public Housing	No
Saint Clair County Housing Authority	0.00%	Yes-Public Housing	No

If you select "Yes--Public Housing," "Yes--HCV," or "Yes--Both" for "PHA has general or limited homeless preference," you must attach documentation of the preference from the PHA in order to receive credit.

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)

Not Applicable

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)

We address the needs of LGBTQ individuals and families by working through our network of
providers, including those funded by ESG and CoC resources and those funded through other
resources. The CoC (Homeless Action Council) adopted and implemented an anti-discrimination policy in FY2017. However, we identified during our gaps analysis that the CoC needed more training and effective strategies for providers.

To address this gap, over this past year the CoC has sponsored training in Working with LGBT individuals/families; Equal Access final rule, and Gender Identity final rule. LGBT issues were also included in training curriculums in domestic violence, Trauma-Informed Care, Motivational Interviewing, Housing First and Mental Health 101.

The CoC held two focus groups centered on LGBTQ individuals and families and how the
CoC can better serve these individuals. Several non-CoC agencies participated in these focus
groups to expand our knowledge of the issue and to develop more effective strategies. In
addition, our Youth Homeless Committee discussions have also included LGBTQ youth and
their challenges and issues.

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?	Yes
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)?	Yes
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)?	Yes

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:		X

Engaged/educated law enforcement:	X
Engaged/educated local business leaders:	☐
Implemented communitywide plans:	☐
No strategies have been implemented:	☐
Other:(limit 50 characters)	
	☐
	☐
	☐

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 CoC covers the geographic area of St. Clair County. Outreach efforts extend to known homeless service providers, police departments and community churches.

2.Coordinated entry staff participant in the outreach committee efforts. Outreach staff reach out to homeless individuals who have multiple barriers. Most of these individuals are chronically homeless and have mental health and/or substance abuse issues. The Outreach committee develops and maintains a by-name list of these individuals and discuss the progress of outreach staff in encouraging individuals to reach out for housing.

3.The coordinated entry assessment process prioritizes those most in need of assistance through the use of a VI-SPDAT score, an individual's length of homelessness, the date of first engagement; Coordinated entry staff does follow-up with participants to ensure services have been received in a timely manner through calls with clients and agencies within 30 days of the referral acceptance or denial in the HMIS system; and with participants housing move-in dates.

4.See attached assessment tool: VI-SPDAT.

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:	X
Health Care:	X
Mental Health Care:	X
Correctional Facilities:	X
None:	

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:	X
Health Care:	X
Mental Health Care:	X
Correctional Facilities:	X
None:	

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)

1. We considered the specific severity of needs and vulnerabilities through three stand-alone criteria in our prioritization system. All projects were rated based on: (1) actual percentage of chronic homeless served, which includes significant physical and mental disabilities; and (2) multiple barriers in current population: mental illness, chronic health conditions, physical disabilities, HIV/AIDS, developmental disabilities, and substance use disorders; and (3) acceptance of persons with low or no income, criminal records, current or past substance usage and high utilization of emergency systems.

2. The CoC's neutral panel gave special consideration to projects serving a higher number of vulnerable participants, based on the three aforementioned criteria, through the ranking, review and selection process. Together, these three factors accounted for 15 of 60 points, 25% of the total score.

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	☐	CoC or other Website	☐
Email	☐	Email	☐
Mail	☐	Mail	☐
Advertising in Local Newspaper(s)	☐	Advertising in Local Newspaper(s)	☐
Advertising on Radio or Television	☐	Advertising on Radio or Television	☐
Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	☐	Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	☐

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 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)

While the CoC has not had 20% reallocation between FY2014 and FY2018, we have developed efforts to improve funded projects' performance within the past year. The Ranking and Review Committee created a monitoring system to review CoC and ESG funded projects within St. Clair County. The monitoring process occurs quarterly and reviews projects APR data for the quarter. These reviews also determined HUD compliance with Housing First standards, Housing Quality Standards, and project policies and procedures.

The Ranking and Review Committee reviews the outcomes of the monitoring. During discussion, the committee creates strategies to improve the monitoring process and the performance of projects.

**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:
(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).**   p2-3

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?   ServicePoint

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 (ES) beds	50	24	22	84.62%
Safe Haven (SH) beds	0	0	0	
Transitional Housing (TH) beds	129	0	129	100.00%
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	0	0	0	
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	304	0	304	100.00%
Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds	0	0	0	

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)

Emergency Shelter (ES) bed coverage was 84.62%. The CoC has reviewed and identified the program with the deficit in coverage. This project is a non-HUD funded project, Fontabella. This project has had some challenges during the past year and has recently merged with another agency.

The CoC coordinated entry staff has met with staff from this new agency, Caritas. The agency has become a member of the CoC and has made changes in meeting bed coverage, working with coordinated entry and participation in the PIT count.

To ensure an increase in Emergency Shelter bed coverage the CoC has identified the following specific steps. First, Housing Resource Staff will provide training on the CoC's referral process, communication with the Housing Resource Center and data entry into the HMIS system. Second, the Outreach Committee will provide training to outreach staff regarding Transtheoritical Model of Change and the engagement process with homeless individuals to encourage them to find temporary shelter at Emergency Shelters and to contact the Housing Resource Center for housing. Third, the Housing Resource Staff will keep in contact with Emergency Shelter staff regarding challenges they have in keeping full bed coverage and serving clients with multiple barriers.

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

2A-7. CoC Data Submission in HDX. Applicants must enter the date the CoC submitted the 2018 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data into the Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX). (mm/dd/yyyy) 04/30/2018

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). 01/25/2018

2B-2. HDX Submission Date. Applicants must enter the date the CoC submitted its PIT count data in HDX (mm/dd/yyyy). 04/30/2018

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)

  Not Applicable

2C-2. Did your CoC change its provider coverage in the 2018 sheltered count?   Yes

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:	10
Beds Removed:	6
Total:	4

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   No
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 and unsheltered PIT count in
2018, select Not Applicable.

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

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 took specific actions to identify homeless youth during the 2018 PIT count. Part of the planning process included activities focused on working with youth service agencies and stakeholders such as Emerson Park Development Corporation, Children's Home + Aid (formerly CHASI), and school homeless liaisons to determine the most effective strategies to identify homeless youth.

2.Representatives from these stakeholders actively participated in the planning process, identified other stakeholders, supplied potential homeless youth locations, and conducted street outreach during the PIT count.

3.We did not involve homeless youth in this process, although they were represented by advocates. We have identified this need for the 2019 count and will address it in the coming months.

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)

The CoC implemented specific strategies to improve PIT outreach to certain populations. For each of these groups, we partnered with PIT agencies to address problems with previous PIT surveys and increase the number and quality of responses.

1.To reach persons and families experiencing chronic homelessness, we worked with outreach teams to identify homeless encampments and had these

familiar staff members participate on the survey team. We improved training for staff and volunteers who administered the survey.

2.For families with children, we included questions about children; this also helped prevent family separation when the households moved to homeless facilities.

3.For veterans, our PIT team coordinated with the Veteran Affairs office and SSVF, allowing increased outreach to homeless encampments and other locations.

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.	416

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)

Regrettably, our CoC experienced an increase in first-time homeless from 398 in FY 2016 to 416 in FY 2017.

1.To address this outcome, we focused our Coordinated Entry assessment on specific risk factors such as prior homelessness; disability; low or no income; number of people in household; amount of rent; support system of family and/or friends in area and a score on the VI-SPDAT of 25 or lower.

2.Our strategies revolve around directly addressing these risk factors. When risk factors are noted, Coordinated Entry staff enroll or refer individuals to appropriate resources and benefits such as subsidized housing, and mainstream benefits such as Social Security.

3.The position responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy on reducing or ending the number of first-time homelessness is the Housing Resource Center Coordinator.

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)

We reduced the length of time of homelessness from FY 2016 to FY 2017, with the average bed-nights for all persons dropping from 163 to 140, and the median from 117 to 78. For those in shelters, the average dropped from 95 nights to 41 nights.

2.Our strategies to reduce the length of homelessness included developing a Project Homeless Employment event that focused on homeless individuals to assist in addressing challenges to gaining employment, which resulted in several individuals finding jobs at the event. The event also helped individuals with needed paperwork and resources to obtain ID's and Social Security Cards; identified benefits; and Rapid Re-Housing opportunities through ESG.

3.To identify and house individuals and families with the longest length-of-time homeless, we utilize HMIS. The Housing Resource Center Coordinator works with the CoC's community outreach committee and outreach staff to ascertain the outreach staff's progress in assisting homeless individuals and families to contact the Housing Resource Center for assistance in finding housing.

4.The Community Outreach Committee is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce length-of-time homeless.

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.	62%
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.	96%

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.Successful placements into permanent housing from shelters and transitional housing declined from 70% to 62%. The CoC has implemented three strategies to increase the rate of individuals and families exit to permanent housing

destinations: 1) planned for PH placement on the first day of entering a transitional housing project or emergency shelter; (2) intensified case management in permanent housing; and (3) identified and encouraged participation in medication management, health services, and supportive services such as AA/NA and counseling.

2. Successful retention in permanent housing increased from 87% to 96%. During the next 12 months, the CoC will meet with providers to increase the rate of permanent housing placement and work with these agencies on implementing identified strategies.

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	14%

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.Our methodology for identifying common factors of individuals and families who return to homelessness is through HMIS data and the intake VI-SPDAT assessment.

2.Our strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families returning to homelessness over the next 12 months is three-fold. First, all housing providers fully embrace the Housing First approach. Second, Permanent Supportive Housing providers have stopped discharging persons for minor offenses or failure to maintain sobriety. Third, tenants requiring ongoing intensive support services are placed in projects with on-site mental health and/or substance use treatment services.

3.The position responsible for overseeing our efforts to reduce returns to homelessness is the Housing Resource Center Coordinator.

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.In the past 12 months, the CoC held focus groups on increasing client employment and non- cash resources. These focus groups led to the creation of a Project Homeless Employment event similar to our annual Project Homeless Connect, with the focus on employment services, resources and assistance for the challenges and issues faced by persons experiencing homelessness. . To assist our projects in implementing these strategies, the CoC reviews current employment opportunities at every monthly HAC meeting, and the state employment service works with providers and clients on resume writing, interviewing and job searches. Program-funded projects work with a variety of agencies to help clients increase their income, such as Workforce Development Group of St. County.

2.To increase access to employment and mainstream benefits, the CoC implemented action plans for program participants that focus on identifying current employment opportunities; enrolling in GED courses or college classes to improve employability; and securing daycare so adults can go to work or school. SOAR-trained staff help participants obtain mainstream benefits.

3.The Community Resources Committee is responsible for oversight.

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 (mm/dd/yyyy)   05/21/2018

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	86
Total number of beds dedicated to individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness	34
Total	120

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)	X
Number of previous homeless episodes	X
Unsheltered homelessness	X
Criminal History	
Bad credit or rental history	X
Head of Household with Mental/Physical Disability	X

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 current CoC strategy for rapidly rehousing households with children is to interview and approve these household within 48 hours after the initial referral. Our current timeframe is that we typically rehouse households within 15-20 days of becoming homeless. This short timeframe offers clear evidence of the effectiveness of our approach. However, we face two challenges in rapidly rehousing these households: finding appropriate housing and curing poor credit histories. In these cases, our coordinated entry center works to find temporary housing through hotel vouchers and shelters.

2.The CoC's Rapid Rehousing providers provide case management with participants of their programs and link these individuals with the appropriate community resources to assist in maintain stable housing.

3.The position who oversees the CoC's repaid rehousing strategy is the Housing Resource Center Coordinator.

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.	☐
CoC conducts optional training for all CoC and ESG funded service providers on these topics.	☐
CoC has worked with ESG recipient(s) to adopt uniform anti-discrimination policies for all subrecipients.	☐
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.	☐
CoC has sought assistance from HUD through submitting AAQs or requesting TA to resolve non-compliance of service providers.	☐

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	No
Exits from foster care into homelessness	No
Family reunification and community engagement	No

Positive Youth Development, Trauma Informed Care, and the use of Risk and Protective Factors in assessing youth housing and service needs	No

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)	X
Number of Previous Homeless Episodes	X
Unsheltered Homelessness	X
Criminal History	
Bad Credit or Rental History	

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's coordinated entry center is the primary source of contact for youth facing homelessness. Our geographic area is severely deficient in housing resources for youth. Our major strategy is to coordinate housing availability through the coordinated entry center in order to stretch the limited number of units as far as possible and assure that housing is allocated to those most in need.
During the past year a new Homeless Youth Committee was created to collaborate with current CoC-funded agencies as well as other community agencies and advocates to improve on the CoC's efforts to assist homeless youth in our area.

2.The CoC's new committee on Homeless Youth is working with community agencies on new funding sources to increase housing and services available. These agencies the CoC has partnered with include Caritas Family Solutions and Children's Home and Aid. Once funding is secured, both agencies will increase the number of housing options for homeless youth and increase resources and support services. In addition, Children's Home and Aid additional funding would allow this agency to provide a dedicated homeless youth Coordinated Entry portal in conjunction with the CoC's coordinated entry office.

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)

1.To determine the effectiveness of the two strategies in item 3B-2.6, our CoC looks at two types of factors. For the first strategy, which concerns overall youth homelessness, we want to examine past and current practices to see if the limited housing resources are being directed to those most in need. The evidence for this is found in Coordinated Entry HMIS records.

For the second strategy, which focuses on unsheltered youth homelessness, we want to track three factors: (1) the number of providers serving young persons experiencing homelessness; (2) the number of beds and units available to young persons experiencing homelessness; and (3) the types of housing options available. The evidence for the first two factors is found in HMIS and the annual HIC; the evidence for the third factor is found in the minutes of the Homeless Youth Committee.

2.To measure the first strategy we review VI-SPDAT scores for young persons and track subsequent housing referrals to determine if those with higher risks and needs are being referred to housing. To measure the second strategy, we review HMIS and HIC data to determine the number of housing providers and the number of beds and units available; next, we review committee minutes to determine what types of housing options are available.

3.We believe these are the most effective and direct measures possible to determine the effectiveness of our strategies. Regarding the first strategy, because housing resources are so minimal, it is imperative to serve those most in need, and the VI-SPDAT is the common tool used by the vast majority of CoCs to measure the level of need. We can compare HMIS records of housing referrals with VI-SPDAT scores to see if those with highest needs and risks are most likely to received housing referrals.

Regarding the second strategy of increasing the availability and range of housing options for youth, using HMIS and HIC data is clearly the most accurate measure that can be used.

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)

1.Collaborations with youth education providers are coordinated through the local Regional Office of Education. Referrals to the CoC from these providers are made through this office.

2. Our CoC works closely with LEAs to identify students who are eligible for

services. The Associate Regional Superintendent is on the CoC Board and several committees. CoC homeless providers make referrals to the Regional Office of Education when a family with children are identified.

3. Collaborations with school districts are coordinated through the local Regional Office of Education. Referrals to the CoC from these providers are made through this office.

4. The CoC has a formal partnership with the Regional Office of Education (REO). This partnership states that the REO will outreach to youth education providers and school districts to identify at risk youth for homelessness. The REO makes referrals to the Housing Resource Center encompassing these stakeholders. CoC's policies require funded projects to ensure all children are enrolled in early childhood programs or in school and are connected to appropriate education related services. Referrals from these projects are made to the REO.

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)

Whenever the Coordinated Entry center encounters a family experiencing homeless under either HUD or DOE standards we contact the appropriate school. All funded providers inform homeless families of eligibility for McKinney-Vento education services. For example, when a family with school-aged children enters a transitional housing program, the program notifies the Regional Office of Education (ROE), which arranges for the children to receive specialized assistance.

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	Yes	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)

Our CoC's providers deploy street outreach teams to identify homeless veterans, canvassing known encampments throughout the year but specifically during PIT count when survey questions ascertain military service. Staff at the Coordinated Entry center uses the VI-SPDAT for all individuals and families to identify veterans.

When we identify veterans we refer them to Chestnut Health Systems' SSVF program and the Veterans Assistance Commission of St. Clair County (VAC), which make eligibility determinations for VA assistance. St. Clair County does not have an allocation of HUD-VASH vouchers, but we utilize HUD-VASH vouchers from St. Louis, Missouri on a case-by-case basis.

Our CoC and SSVF maintain a current by-name list of all homeless veterans in the geographic area and contact each one monthly. Monthly HAC meetings allow non-VA funded organizations an avenue for client referrals for supportive services and appropriate VA services.

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 Housing First approach? Yes

3B-5. Racial Disparity. Applicants must: (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. Yes

3B-5a. Applicants must select from the options below the results of the CoC's assessment.

People of different races or ethnicities are more or less likely to receive homeless assistance.	
People of different races or ethnicities are more or less likely to receive a positive outcome from homeless assistance.	X
There are no racial disparities in the provision or outcome of homeless assistance.	
The results are inconclusive for racial disparities in the provision or outcome of homeless assistance.	

3B-5b. Applicants must select from the options below the strategies the CoC is using to address any racial disparities.

The CoC's board and decisionmaking bodies are representative of the population served in the CoC.	☐
The CoC has identified steps it will take to help the CoC board and decisionmaking bodies better reflect the population served in the CoC.	☐
The CoC is expanding outreach in geographic areas with higher concentrations of underrepresented groups.	☐
The CoC has communication, such as flyers, websites, or other materials, inclusive of underrepresented groups	☐
The CoC is training staff working in the homeless services sector to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness.	☐
The CoC is establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of different races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector.	☐
The CoC has staff, committees or other resources charged with analyzing and addressing racial disparities related to homelessness.	☐
The CoC is educating organizations, stakeholders, boards of directors for local and national non-profit organizations working on homelessness on the topic of creating greater racial and ethnic diversity.	☐
The CoC reviewed coordinated entry processes to understand their impact on people of different races and ethnicities experiencing homelessness.	☐
The CoC is collecting data to better understand the pattern of program use for people of different races and ethnicities in its homeless services system.	☐
The CoC is conducting additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness.	☐
Other:	☐

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.Our Continuum supplements CoC program funds to assist participants in applying for mainstream benefits. St. Clair County provides $20,000 in cash to support this function in our Coordinated Entry center. These are public resources. CoC providers work with individuals and families to apply for mainstream benefits. If the providers cannot assist them to apply online, clients are referred to agency partners who have designated SOAR counselors to apply for benefits.

2. We update providers on mainstream resources for homeless program participants through our monthly CoC meetings and through email updates.

3.The person/agency responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy for mainstream benefits is the Housing Resource Center Coordinator, which is a unit within our Collaborative Applicant, St. Clair County Intergovernmental Grants Department.

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.	17
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.	17
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.The CoC's outreach team consists of four agencies that conduct street outreach. These four agencies – Holy Angels, St. Vincent de Paul, SSVF, and Comprehensive Behavioral Health Center – provide street outreach three days per week. In addition, one agency offers a free meal daily as an outreach activity.

2.Outreach staff reach out to individuals in 100% of the geographic area of St. Clair County.

3.Outreach workers go to locations where people can be found. For people whose first language is not English, we have brochures and print material in Spanish, and the Latino Roundtable joins in outreach. We have translators on call for several on-English languages and interpreter for the hearing impaired persons. For the sight-impaired, we have large-print publications. The coordinated entry center is fully accessible for persons with disabilities.

4.We customize these activities to reach those who are unlikely to request help. Our Outreach Committee has been trained in Transtheoretical Models of Change so outreach workers are aware of levels of engagement for individuals

who are least likely to ask for assistance. This allows the outreach staff to adjust their approach when they go out to homeless encampments.

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.Our CoC has implemented several specific strategies to further fair housing. Among these are: marketing housing and supportive services at HAS meetings; written flyers and brochures; alliances with the Latino Roundtable; and partnerships with mental health and substance abuse providers.

2.We provide print information in Spanish, and large print. The CoC has a list of interpreters available in a variety of languages as well as for the hearing-impaired, and large-print brochures for the sight-impaired to assist clients in understanding resources and fair housing standards.

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	36	36	0

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

Attachment Details

Document Description: PHA Homeless Pref

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: CE assessment tool

Attachment Details

Document Description: Scoring tool

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description: Public Posting Competition

Attachment Details

Document Description: reallocation process

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notifications Accepted

Attachment Details

Document Description: Notifications rejected or reduced

Attachment Details

Document Description: Public Posting Deadline

Attachment Details

Document Description: HMIS Governance

Attachment Details

Document Description: HMIS Policy Procedures Manual

Attachment Details

Document Description: HDX FY18

Attachment Details

Document Description: Order of Priority

Attachment Details

Document Description: Racial Disparities Summary

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Submission Summary

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

Page	Last Updated
1A. Identification	09/11/2018
1B. Engagement	09/12/2018
1C. Coordination	09/11/2018
1D. Discharge Planning	09/11/2018
1E. Project Review	09/11/2018
2A. HMIS Implementation	09/11/2018
2B. PIT Count	09/11/2018
2C. Sheltered Data - Methods	09/11/2018
3A. System Performance	09/12/2018
3B. Performance and Strategic Planning	09/12/2018
4A. Mainstream Benefits and Additional Policies	09/12/2018
4B. Attachments	Please Complete

Submission Summary   No Input Required