



2023 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Introduction

The Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness is requesting proposals on behalf of the Suncoast Continuum of Care (CoC) (FL-500) in response to the CoC Program Competition through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). Proposals must be from eligible organizations and selected proposals must fully operate within the Manatee/Sarasota CoC established homeless crisis response system, the Oneby1 Coordinated Entry System, use evidence-based approaches in service delivery, and meet performance standards that contribute to our community's goal of ensuring homelessness is rare, brief, and one time.

As each component of the homeless crisis response system relies on the other for success, strong collaboration within the community is essential. The CoC Leadership Council and the Suncoast Partnership encourage partnerships and collaborations that strengthen and contribute to our homeless response system in ways such as increasing access to services, promoting cultural competency in service provision, including lived expertise in program and service planning, and improving housing outcomes. Applicant partnerships should be jointly designed and should focus on strengthening the capacity of the partners, leveraging other funding, public or private, and show commitment to collecting and using data.

All proposals **MUST** be Housing First and low barrier and the agency's adherence to these philosophies should be evident in the application. This approach allows for the person's immediate crisis of homelessness to be resolved in order to increase their stability. A customized supportive service package is then created to assist them in housing stability and prevent returns to homelessness. Housing First projects are fluid and flexible and ensure housing and service options are modified to meet the unique needs of each household requesting services, and that participants are offered the services that they identify as important to them.

As such, project proposals should have:

- Few to no programmatic prerequisites to permanent housing entry such as demonstration of sobriety, completion of treatment programs, requirements regarding household income or agreeing to comply with treatment.
- Low barrier admission policies which are designed to "screen in" rather than screen-out participants with the greatest barriers to housing such as having no or very low income, poor rental history, or criminal histories.
- Supportive services are voluntary but should be attractive to the participant and used to persistently engage participants to ensure housing stability. Services are proactively offered to help achieve and maintain housing stability but are not a condition of tenancy. Harm reduction and motivational interviewing techniques are critical.

- Practices, policies, and strategies to prevent lease violations and evictions. Note: alcohol and drug use are not considered lease violations unless such use results in disturbances to neighbors or is associated with illegal activity.

All proposals must include the agency’s experience in compliance with past contracts and/or directives, state any deficiencies identified in recent program audits including monitoring findings and corrective action plans as applicable, and what steps you have taken to complete recommendations.

Proposed projects should be scalable depending upon the funding available. You should be able to describe how your project would operate if less funds were available. Projects should be designed with the knowledge that federal programs require matching funds/in kind services in order to receive funding. Additionally, proposals should demonstrate how the agency is prepared to handle any gaps in funding to ensure participants needs are met and stability is maintained in the event that there is a delay in contracting, funding availability, or service requirement beyond the contract year.

All of the listed eligible activities and requirements described in the project proposal section and included in this RFP are subject to requirements set forth by the Federal Government and local community plan. Notice Of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) FR-6700-N-25 prevails: [FY 2023 CoC Program Competition: Funding Opportunity - HUD Exchange](#)

The amount of funding available under this Request For Proposals is: Up to \$278,981 for Rapid Rehousing and up to \$398,545 for DV Bonus.

Timeline

Funding Opportunity (RFP) Released	Tuesday, August 1 st , 2023
Information Session – Virtual	Monday, August 7 th , 3:30 pm– Registration required
Application Portal Open	Monday, August 7 th
RFP Application Deadline	Monday, August 21 st , 4:00 pm
Evaluation and Scoring Period	Monday, August 21 st – Tuesday, August 29 th
Rank and Review Committee Meeting to Score and Approve Projects	Tuesday, August 29 th
Rank and Review Committee Meeting to Rank Projects	Wednesday, August 30 th
Notification of Approved Projects	Wednesday, August 30 th
Deadline for Appeal	Friday, September 1 st , 5:00 pm
Appeal Response Deadline	Thursday, September 7 th
Renewal Projects Completed in E-snaps for Review	Monday, September 11 th
New Approved Projects Completed in E-Snaps for Review	Friday, September 15 th
Final Application Posted on Suncoast Website	Friday, September 22 nd

CoC Leadership Council Approval of Application - electronic vote	Tuesday, September 26th
CoC Collaborative Application due to HUD	Thursday, September 28th

Due to the competitive nature of this RFP, questions outside of the information sessions must be submitted in writing to both Tara Booker, Interim Chief Executive Officer, tara@suncoastpartnership.org and Taylor Neighbors, Chief Administrative Officer, taylor@suncoastpartnership.org, and must be of technical nature only.

New to our Suncoast CoC this year is an electronic application and grant management system through Zengine/WizeHive. The link to the application portal will be live on Monday, August 7th. The live link will be posted on Suncoast Partnership’s website: www.suncoastpartnership.org. Complete proposals must be received by 8:00 pm, Monday, August 21st, 2023, through the online application portal.

The evaluation and scoring session will be open to the applicants if they wish to observe. There will be no opportunity for the applicant to address the committee at this session unless a member of the review and rank committee calls on the applicant. All applicants will be notified in advance of the session with the date, time, and location.

Thresholds

In addition to the items required for an application to be considered complete as included in this RFP, the following are required by HUD for funds under the CoC Program NOFO:

- HUD will not consider a project application from an ineligible project applicant. Applicant eligibility includes having an active SAM (System for Award Management) registration and valid UEI number.

In evaluating project applications for funding, HUD considers an applicant’s past performance in managing HUD funds. As such, renewal projects must be in good standing and have no:

- Audit finding(s) for which a response is overdue or unsatisfactory.
- Outstanding obligation to HUD that is in arrears or for which a payment schedule has not been agreed upon.
- History of inadequate financial management accounting practices.
- Evidence of untimely expenditures on prior award.
- History of serving ineligible program participants, expending funds on ineligible costs, or failing to expend funds within statutorily established timeframes.
- History of other major capacity issues that have significantly affected the operation of the project and its performance.
- History of low occupancy levels or lack of experience in administering project type.

Agency Profile

In the agency profile section, organizations will be required to provide basic information about the organization along with questions that establish eligibility and narrative information that will be reviewed as part of the scoring process for agency experience, capacity, and distinction.

Along with questions that will be answered directly in the application portal, the agency profile has two required questions to be answered and uploaded. The required narrative uploads in this section are:

- Describe your organization's experience working within a community homeless response system. Include any information specific to participation in the Oneby1 Coordinated Entry system.
- Describe how your agency demonstrates commitment to a practice of non-discrimination in organization operations and program service delivery and promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion. This narrative must include reference to the organization's policy specific to protected classes by law; there will be a space to upload the organization's official policy. Communicate ways in which your organization is working on diversity, equity, and inclusion for staff, leadership, and incorporating the voice of those you serve. If currently implementing a plan, share any accomplishments and proven strategies as well as learning opportunities. If plans and initiatives in this area are still in the discussion phase, talk about how the process is being structured including who is included and how.

If your organization has an agency profile already, you will not need to do anything for this portion of the application unless there are any information updates you need or desire to provide.

Application

The application section will consist of **Section 1** with questions related to the overall organization and **Section 2** with questions specific to the program proposal. Organizations may apply for both Rapid Rehousing and the DV Bonus and will be prompted to answer all required questions accordingly.

Section 1: Agency Experience, Capacity, and Distinction

The following questions will be required to be answered directly in the application portal:

- Describe how your agency works within the Oneby1 Coordinated Entry System and as part of the greater CoC homeless crisis response system.
- Does your agency serve as an Access Point?
- Please share what days/hours you are open for diversion and access points.
- When did your organization adopt a Housing First approach?
- What specific policies and practices does your organization have in place to ensure a Housing First philosophy is implemented throughout programs and projects?
- How does your agency ensure data is entered in CSIS accurately, in a timely fashion, and that all

- required documents are uploaded? Include who is responsible for oversight and monitoring and the frequency of reviews.
- Describe how your agency is prepared to handle any gaps in funding to ensure participant needs are met and stability is maintained in the event that there is a delay in contracting, funding availability, or a service requirement beyond the contract year.
- Are your agency staff trained in harm reduction and trauma informed practices?
- How are these implemented in your daily work?
- Describe how your organization coordinates and integrates with other mainstream health, social services, and employment programs to ensure program participants are assisted to obtain benefits from the programs for which they may be eligible (ie, Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, Food Stamps, Early Childhood Education, Local Workforce Office).
- If program participants have grievances, or a need/desire to change the way they receive services, what is the path your agency has put in place to accommodate them and how is that path communicated to clients?

The following questions are to be answered in narrative form and uploaded in the application portal:

1. How does your agency provide a client-centered approach to services? In what ways do you accommodate people with specialized needs like disabilities, addictions, transportation issues, etc.? How are your services easy to access and your processes adaptable for those with special needs? (Consider intake procedures, ease of phone/website use, signage of hours and service availability, case manager mobility, etc.)
2. What barriers to admission does your agency have in place; what is the rationale for each, and how do you accommodate people who are “screened-out” so they can still receive needed services? For example, a family currently fleeing domestic violence may be a barrier to family shelter admittance due to the shared environment with other families and lack of 24/7 security, so an accommodation is to refer them to the local DV shelter program and follow through with a phone call to provide a warm hand-off for services.
3. Are all your supportive services voluntary for clients within your programs? If so, how do you make these services attractive and encourage participation? If not, what services are required for participation, why are they required, and what are the consequences for failing to engage with these services?
4. What specific evidence-based program models do you use within your agency? Describe how you identify which models to use, how you keep current with best practices, and how you evaluate what is working best and what needs to be improved.

Section 2: Program Proposal

The program proposal section will include information specific to the project proposal for which your agency is seeking funding. Each project type will require a separate budget and budget narrative to be uploaded.

System Area: Rapid Rehousing (RRH) or Transitional Housing/RRH (TH/RRH) -Domestic Violence –Up to \$398,545 available

Domestic Violence (DV) project proposals for either Rapid Re-housing (RRH) and/or Joint Transitional Housing (TH) and Rapid Rehousing (TH/RRH) must be targeted to serve people fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking as defined in 24 CF 578.3 and/or victims of human trafficking. DV project proposals are expected to enable our community to integrate domestic violence programs into our CoC's planning more broadly than in the past. Submit a proposal for the following types of projects:

- Rapid Rehousing (RRH) project that demonstrate trauma-informed, victim-centered approach, OR
- Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing (TH/RRH) component project that demonstrates trauma-informed, victim-centered approaches.

Project submissions must clearly demonstrate how they plan to involve survivors in policy and program development throughout the project's operation.

Priority will be given to proposals that utilize housing subsidies or subsidized housing units not funded through CoC or ESG programs that serve at least 25% of the program participants served by the project. A commitment letter of such funds or resources or a contract must be submitted with this application.

Priority will be given to proposals that leverage healthcare resources including direct contributions from a public or private health insurance provider to the project, such as Medicaid, or provision of healthcare services tailored to the program participants, such as Ryan White funded organization. This must be demonstrated through a written commitment from a health care organization and meet: a) in the case of a substance use disorder treatment or recovery provider, it will provide access to treatment or recovery services for all program participants who qualify and choose those services; or b) the value of assistance being provided is at least 25% of the funding being requested for the RRH project, which will be covered by the healthcare organization. HUD fair housing prevails, and participant eligibility must not be restricted by any eligibility requirements of the health care service provider.

While funding under the DV Bonus is available to all who meet established eligibility criteria, project applications that are not in partnership and/or collaboration with our local certified domestic violence centers, HOPE Family Services and Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center will not be considered by the Review and Ranking Committee. A formal Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) to describe such partnership is required.

DV project proposals must demonstrate trauma-informed, victim-centered approaches to better meet the needs of people whom are survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking that are defined as homeless at 24 CFR 578.3. Safety and trauma-informed services for people participating in programs should be at the forefront; responses should reflect how this is incorporated in your daily work.

For Joint TH-RRH projects, proposals must demonstrate that there is enough RRH assistance to ensure that, at any given time, a program participant may move from transitional housing to permanent housing. This can be demonstrated through a budget that has twice as many resources for the RRH portion of the project than the TH, by having twice as many RRH units as one time compared to TH, or by demonstrating that the budget and units included are appropriated for the population by served in the proposed project.

The following questions will be required to be answered in the application portal:

Provide a summary of your project proposal, including any previous experience implementing rapid rehousing projects or transitional housing projects. If incorporating subsidized units or partnerships with healthcare as described above, please include that information here.

Describe the need for this project in our community, including data to support the extent of need and how this project will fill the gap.

How will you collaborate with other organizations regarding affordable housing for DV persons who are homeless in order to strengthen our community's response and assist the community in achieving its goal of ensuring homelessness is rare, brief, and one-time. This response may include how you will work to:

- Build a community list of available housing stock.
- Best assure that the community fills known vacancies with those who are homeless regardless of the agency for which the person(s) is enrolled.
- Improve landlord relations and bring new landlords into the system for the benefit of all.

Have you identified any barriers to participation faced by persons of different races and ethnicities? What are your steps to eliminate the identified barriers?

Describe how this project will help address racial equity and racial disparities affecting individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Specifically address how the program will be able to target underserved populations based on program data.

How will you incorporate participant location strategies to engage people with whom you have received a referral for your housing project?

How will you assist people in locating appropriate permanent housing that meets the needs they have identified?

How does your program ensure it meets Federal requirements including rent standards and habitability?

How does your agency ensure that housing stability case plans and budgets are developed in a person-centered, strengths-based manner that includes goals the person(s) has identified as important to them?

How will you provide supportive services and follow-up to ensure recipients of services are stable? And if they are not, what steps will you take to address the situation?

Describe your strategy for progressive engagement to build client stability, use RRH dollars most effectively, and keep people permanently housed.

All responses should demonstrate an understanding of how the above steps help our community meet its goals (listed below) and your agency's commitment to achieve these.

- 85% of households having a permanent outcome
- Total days from project entry to move in date being 30 to 60 days
- 85% of households remain stably housed at the one-year mark from project exit to a permanent destination

- 30% of households have an increase in income from project entry to project exit

Provide program participant information:

Total Number of Households	Households with at least one adult and one child	Adult households without children	Total

Provide information on project milestones:

Milestone	Days from Execution of Grant Agreement
Begin hiring staff or expending funds	
Begin program participant enrollment	
Program participants occupy leased or rental assistance units or structure (s), or supportive services begin	

Budget

The budget should include the entire cost for the implementation of the proposed program, not just the amount of funds being sought. There is a 25% match required with CoC funding. A sample budget template is provided in Appendix A although you are not required to use this. Your budget document will be uploaded to the application portal.

Budget Narrative

The budget narrative must clearly state the precise dollar amounts to be spent for each budget line item with the explanation. For example, if you are requesting funding for a staff person, you would enter the position title – 1 FTE @ \$45,000 including fringe benefits of \$x. Or if you were entering a cost for a cell phone, you would include a description such as - monthly use of cell phone to contract program participants @ \$x per month..

Cost-effectiveness and impact on our system performance are important considerations in HUD funding. Once your budget narrative to match the proposed budget is complete, please provide an additional summary paragraph to include what other funding sources will be used to maximize the impact of the project, how this project will be scalable depending on funding availability, how you intend to sustain the proposed project beyond a year, and how will these funds be used to complement existing homeless crisis response services?

For information regarding program components and eligible costs, please refer to the CoC Program Interim Rule: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2035/coc-program-interim-rule-formatted-version/>

System Area: Rapid Rehousing – Up to \$278,981 available

Rapid rehousing (RRH) provides rental assistance and supportive services to help those experiencing homelessness find housing quickly, increase their self-sufficiency, and remain stably housed. This service is offered in a Housing First approach therefore not requiring preconditions (such as employment and sobriety) and the supportive service package is designed to meet the unique needs of the individual client or family. RRH programs use progressive engagement to ensure appropriate levels of assistance at appropriate times to develop and maintain permanent housing stability.

Priority will be given to proposals that utilize housing subsidies or subsidized housing units not funded through CoC or ESG programs that serve at least 25% of the program participants served by the project. A commitment letter of such funds or resources or a contract must be submitted with this application.

Priority will be given to proposals that leverage healthcare resources including direct contributions from a public or private health insurance provider to the project, such as Medicaid, or provision of healthcare services tailored to the program participants, such as Ryan White funded organization. This must be demonstrated through a written commitment from a health care organization and meet: a) in the case of a substance use disorder treatment or recovery provider, it will provide access to treatment or recovery services for all program participants who qualify and choose those services; or b) the value of assistance being provided is at least 25% of the funding being requested for the RRH project, which will be covered by the healthcare organization. HUD fair housing prevails, and participant eligibility must not be restricted by any eligibility requirements of the health care service provider.

The following questions will be required to be answered in the application portal:

Provide a summary of your project proposal, including any previous experience implementing rapid rehousing projects. If incorporating subsidized units or partnerships with healthcare as described above, please include that information here.

If your agency does not currently work in the Oneby1 Coordinated Entry System, please explain why and how you would implement this project within the system.

How will you collaborate with other organizations regarding affordable housing for persons who are homeless in order to strengthen our community's response and assist the community in achieving its goal of ensuring homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring. This response should include how you will work to:

- Build a community list of available housing stock.
- Best assure that the community fills known vacancies with those who are homeless regardless of the agency for which the person is enrolled.
- Improve landlord relations and bring new landlords into the system for the benefit of all.

How will you incorporate participant location strategies with people whom you have received a referral for your housing project?

Describe how will you work to improve participant’s income through either earned or non-earned sources including strategies that are likely to increase employment income and/or non-employment income with the goal of long-term housing stability.

Have you identified any barriers to participation faced by persons of different races and ethnicities? What are your steps to eliminate the identified barriers?

How will you assist people in locating appropriate permanent housing that meets the needs they have identified?

How does your program ensure it meets Federal requirements including rent standards and habitability?

How does your agency ensure that housing stability case plans and budgets are developed in a person- centered, strengths-based manner that includes goals the participant has identified as important to them?

How will you provide supportive services and follow-up to ensure recipients of services are stable? And if they are not, what steps will you take to address the situation?

Describe your strategy for progressive engagement to build client stability, use RRH dollars most effectively, and keep people permanently housed.

All responses should demonstrate an understanding of how the above steps and strategies help our community meet its goals (listed below) and your agency’s commitment to achieve these.

- 85% of households having a permanent outcome
- Total days from project entry to move in date being 30 to 60 days
- 85% of households remain stably housed at the one-year mark from project exit to a permanent destination
- 30% of households have an increase in income from project entry to project exit

Provide program participant information:

Total Number of Households	Households with at least one adult and one child	Adult households without children	Total
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Provide information on project milestones:

Milestone	Days from Execution of Grant Agreement
Begin hiring staff or expending funds	
Begin program participant enrollment	
Program participants occupy leased or rental assistance units or structure (s), or supportive services begin	

Budget

The budget should include the entire cost for the implementation of the proposed program, not just the amount of funds being sought. There is a 25% match required with CoC funding. A sample budget template is provided in Appendix A although you are not required to use this. Your budget document will be uploaded to the application portal.

Budget Narrative

The budget narrative must clearly state the precise dollar amounts to be spent for each budget line item with the explanation. For example, if you are requesting funding for a staff person, you would enter the position title – 1 FTE @ \$45,000 including fringe benefits of \$x. Or if you were entering a cost for a cell phone, you would include a description such as - monthly use of cell phone to contract program participants @ \$x per month..

Cost-effectiveness and impact on our system performance are important considerations in HUD funding. Once your budget narrative to match the proposed budget is complete, please provide an additional summary paragraph to include what other funding sources will be used to maximize the impact of the project, how this project will be scalable depending on funding availability, how you intend to sustain the proposed project beyond a year, and how will these funds be used to complement existing homeless crisis response services?

For information regarding program components and eligible costs, please refer to the CoC Program Interim Rule: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/2035/coc-program-interim-rule-formatted-version/>

Legal and Additional Submission Requirements

Appeals: Applicants may appeal decisions, in writing, within two (2) days of the project selection notification date. Appeals must be submitted to Tara Booker, Interim CEO, at tara@suncoastpartnership.org and must be received by 5:00 pm on Friday, September 1st. The review committee shall have two (2) business days to review the appeal and an additional one (1) business day to provide a written response to the applicant. Please note:

appeals may not be made based on any additional information not provided in the original application nor can they be made in objection to the amount of funding allocated.

Eligibility: Private provider organizations, who are a 501(c)3 or 501(c)4, with a presence and office space in Sarasota and Manatee Counties are eligible to submit proposals in response to this RFP. Individuals and any entity that is not a duly formed business entity are ineligible to participate. Additionally, applicants:

- Must have a minimum of two (2) years' demonstrated experience working within a homeless response system.
- Must have a policy demonstrating commitment to a practice of non-discrimination, as it relates to the operation of the organization and service delivery, on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, physical or mental health, sexual orientation or any characteristic protected by law.
- Must comply with applicable federal, state and municipal laws and regulations.
- Must actively participate in the Continuum of Care with membership in good standing, 211 with organization profile up to date, Oneby1 Coordinated Entry System, and the Community Services Information System (CSIS) or a plan to meet these requirements if proposal is selected. All these components must be in place prior to any contracting and acceptance of funds. For DV agencies, a database comparable to CSIS may be substituted.
- Must demonstrate financial stability to be able to float a project/program on the front end or back end of a contracting period as may be required. This is to ensure that program participants are adequately supported to maintain stability and to meet any contract obligations and/or expectations for the CoC.
- Any other requirements as described and outlined by HUD in the FY23 CoC Program Competition NOFO (FR-6700-N-25).

Format: For narrative portions that will be uploaded into the application portal, responses must be single spaced on 8-1/2 x 11-inch paper using size 12pt Times New Roman Font and 1-inch margins.

General Disclaimer: While the Review and Rank Committee, Suncoast Partnership, and the CoC Leadership Council has made every effort to outline basic requirements such as eligibility, all selected projects will be subject to the formal funding guidelines and requirements of each individual funding source. This may include a number of items such as use of specific forms when utilizing funds, organizational policies regarding conflict of interest, strict written standards on client confidentiality, and standards for data and information security and standards. Selected applicants must be willing and able to perform as required.

The review and rank committee reserves the right to select a lower ranked project in order to ensure adequate geographic representation for our Continuum of Care.

Proposal Pieces Required: All required questions and uploads must be answered in the

electronic application portal for the application to be considered complete.

Submissions: Proposals must be submitted as described in the Timeline section.

The Suncoast Partnership, at the behest of the CoC Leadership Council and/or the Review & Rank Committee reserves the right to cancel the RFP, reject any or all proposals, and waive minor informalities for proposers if deemed in the public interest to do so.

Evaluation and Scoring (See Attachments for detail):

Criteria	Percentage
Agency Experience and Capacity	15%
Quality of Proposed Project	25%
Oneby1 Coordinated Entry	25%
CSIS System Performance	35%

Up to 10 BONUS points for healthcare partnership and leveraging housing resources outside of CoC and ESG as described.

Appendices & Attachments

Appendix A: Sample Budget

Appendix B: CSIS

Attachment 1: Housing First Principles and Quick Check

Attachment 2: Scoring Rubric

Appendix A

Budget Worksheet **Sample**

CoC Agency	2023-2024
Revenue	Budget
Sarasota County	
Manatee County	
CoC	
ESG	
Contributions - General	
Special Events	
Program Service Fees	
Membership Dues	
In Kind donation(s)	
Total Revenue	
Expenses	
Compensation:	
Wages/Salaries	
Employee Benefits	
Payroll Taxes	
Total Compensation	
Non-Compensation:	
Professional Fees/Contracts	
Dues/Subscriptions	
Equipment	
Occupancy	
Insurance	
Legal Services	
Office Expenses	
Outreach/Public Relations	
Printing	
Telephone/Internet	
Local Travel	
Conferences/Meetings/Trainings	
Utilities	
In Kind donation(s)	
Expense Total	
Surplus or (Deficit)	

Appendix B

For the CSIS system performance section, data will be pulled from CSIS (HMIS) by the Suncoast Partnership. If you have not worked within the Sarasota/Manatee CoC CSIS (HMIS) but have entered data into another Homeless Management Information System, you may provide comparable reports from that system. For assistance with this, please contact Tara Booker, Interim CEO, tara@suncoastpartnership.org. If you have not previously entered information into the Suncoast Partnership Homeless Management Information System (CSIS), or another Continuum of Care HMIS system, please provide alternative program performance reports or grant outcome reports to demonstrate your performance.

The maximum number of points an organization who has not previously entered data into HMIS can receive is 15 points.

For organizations applying for funding in system areas where they have no historical CSIS/HMIS data for scoring the CSIS section of the RFP, Suncoast Partnership will pull report data for project types where the outcomes are most closely aligned with the project type being applied for. For example, if an agency applying for Rapid ReHousing (RRH) funds does not have a RRH project in CSIS/HMIS, another project type where permanent housing is the primary outcome goal would be substituted.

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Attachment 1

HOUSING FIRST

Housing First is a proven approach in which people experiencing homelessness are offered permanent housing with few to no treatment preconditions, behavioral contingencies, or barriers. It is based on overwhelming evidence that all people experiencing homelessness can achieve stability in permanent housing if provided with the appropriate levels of wrap-around services. Study after study has shown that Housing First yields higher housing retention rates, reduces the use of crisis services and institutions, and improves people's health and social outcomes. (www.USICH.gov)

For more on Housing First: <http://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/housing-first-fact-sheet.pdf>

Is your project Housing First?

For your homeless response service system to work the most efficiently and effectively, individual programs must embrace a Housing First approach.

Quick Screen: Does Your Project Use Housing First Principles?

1. Are applicants allowed to enter the program without income?
2. Are applicants allowed to enter the program even if they are not “clean and sober” or “treatment compliant”?
3. Are applicants allowed to enter the program even if they have criminal justice system involvement?
4. Are service and treatment plans voluntary, such that tenants cannot be evicted for not following through?

Attachment 2

Scoring Rubric – Rapid Rehousing	Max Points																														
<p>Agency Experience and Capacity</p> <p>Applicants demonstrating extensive experience in administering federal, state and/or municipal funds, and providing the proposed service and/or serving the proposed population, with demonstrated fiscal stability to maintain operations, will receive up to 15 points.</p>	15																														
<p>Project Quality</p> <p>Each application will be scored on the overall quality of the project, and the extent to which the applicant can clearly demonstrate the following:</p> <p><u>Housing First</u>: Applicants may receive up to 7 points based on the extent to which they demonstrate a housing focused shelter model and have followed/will follow a Housing First Model/Low Barrier approach.</p> <p><u>Collaboration</u>: Projects with specific referenced collaborations that include either MOU’s or other letters of documentation demonstrating collaborative efforts- Up to 3 points.</p> <p><u>Low Barrier</u>: Projects demonstrating Low Barriers to program admission and flexible participation policies designed to retain program participants will receive up to 5 points.</p> <p><u>Leveraged Impact</u>: Projects demonstrating that they are scalable relating to the amount of funds available and have matching funds or in-kind services to maximize impact and support the project proposed will receive up to 3 points.</p> <p><u>Understanding</u>: Projects demonstrating a clear understanding of the community goals, intended outcomes of rapid rehousing within the community’s homeless crisis response system, use of evidence based and established best practices in service delivery in coordination with the Homeless Crisis Response System will receive up to 7 points.</p>	25																														
<p>CSIS System Performance*</p> <p>Data Quality and Consistency – Up to 5 points</p> <p>Data Entry Timeliness – Up to 5 points</p> <p>Positive outcomes either at exit or with move in dates during participation - Up to 8 points</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">85% or higher</td> <td style="text-align: center;">65 to 84</td> <td style="text-align: center;">45 to 64</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25 to 44</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Below 25</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> </table> <p>Total days from project entry to move in date being from 30 to 60 days – 5 points – 61-80 days – 3 points</p> <p>Households with permanent housing exits remain stably housed at the one-year mark – Up to 7 points</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">85% or higher</td> <td style="text-align: center;">75 to 84</td> <td style="text-align: center;">60 to 74</td> <td style="text-align: center;">50 to 59</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Below 50</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> </table> <p>Households have an increase in income from project entry to project exit – Up to 5 points</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">30% or higher</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25 -29%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">16 -24%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10 – 15%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Less than 10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> </table> <p>*For organizations who have not entered data into an HMIS and/or have contributed into another HMIS system and do not have the data from that system to support your performance measures, the maximum number of points you can receive in this bracket is 15 (See Appendix B).</p>	85% or higher	65 to 84	45 to 64	25 to 44	Below 25	8	7	5	1	0	85% or higher	75 to 84	60 to 74	50 to 59	Below 50	7	6	4	1	0	30% or higher	25 -29%	16 -24%	10 – 15%	Less than 10%	5	4	3	1	0	35
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<p>Oneby1 Coordinated Entry</p> <p>To receive maximum points, applicants must demonstrate and/or clearly show a commitment to working in the CoC’s established Homeless Crisis Response System, Oneby1 Coordinated Entry System, and collaborating with community partners to ensure our goal of effectively ending homelessness.</p>	25																														
<p>BONUS POINTS</p> <p>Partnership with mental health/healthcare -Up to 5 points</p> <p>Leveraging housing resources per priorities- Up to 5 points</p>	10																														