

Before Starting the CoC Application

You must submit all three of the following parts in order for us to consider your Consolidated Application complete:

1. the CoC Application,
2. the CoC Priority Listing, and
3. all the CoC's project applications that were either approved and ranked, or rejected.

As the Collaborative Applicant, you are responsible for reviewing the following:

1. The FY 2023 CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for specific application and program requirements.
2. The FY 2023 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.

Your CoC Must Approve the Consolidated Application before You Submit It
- 24 CFR 578.9 requires you to compile and submit the CoC Consolidated Application for the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition on behalf of your CoC.

- 24 CFR 578.9(b) requires you to obtain approval from your CoC before you submit the Consolidated Application into e-snaps.

Answering Multi-Part Narrative Questions

Many questions require you to address multiple elements in a single text box. Number your responses to correspond with multi-element questions using the same numbers in the question. This will help you organize your responses to ensure they are complete and help us to review and score your responses.

Attachments

Questions requiring attachments to receive points state, "You Must Upload an Attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen." Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed—including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process. Include a cover page with the attachment name.

- Attachments must match the questions they are associated with—if we do not award points for evidence you upload and associate with the wrong question, this is not a valid reason for you to appeal HUD's funding determination.

- We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).

1A. Continuum of Care (CoC) Identification

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1A-1. CoC Name and Number: MA-515 - Fall River CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: Fall River CoC (MA-515)

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: Fall River CoC (MA-515)

1B. Coordination and Engagement–Inclusive Structure and Participation

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
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1B-1.	Inclusive Structure and Participation–Participation in Coordinated Entry.	
	NOFO Sections V.B.1.a.(1), V.B.1.e., V.B.1f., and V.B.1.p.	
	In the chart below for the period from May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023:	
	1. select yes or no in the chart below if the entity listed participates in CoC meetings, voted—including selecting CoC Board members, and participated in your CoC's coordinated entry system; or	
	2. select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist in your CoC's geographic area:	

	Organization/Person	Participated in CoC Meetings	Voted, Including Electing CoC Board Members	Participated in CoC's Coordinated Entry System
1.	Affordable Housing Developer(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
2.	CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction	Yes	Yes	Yes
3.	Disability Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
4.	Disability Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
5.	EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
6.	Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
7.	Hospital(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
8.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent	No	No
9.	Law Enforcement	No	No	Yes
10.	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBTQ+) Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
11.	LGBTQ+ Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
12.	Local Government Staff/Officials	Yes	Yes	Yes
13.	Local Jail(s)	Nonexistent	No	No
14.	Mental Health Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
15.	Mental Illness Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes

16.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes	Yes	Yes
17.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes	Yes	Yes
18.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	Other homeless subpopulation advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
20.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes	Yes	Yes
21.	School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons	Yes	Yes	Yes
22.	Street Outreach Team(s)	Yes	Yes	Yes
23.	Substance Abuse Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
24.	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
25.	Agencies Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking	Yes	Yes	Yes
26.	Victim Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
27.	Domestic Violence Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
28.	Other Victim Service Organizations	No	No	Yes
29.	State Domestic Violence Coalition	No	No	Yes
30.	State Sexual Assault Coalition	No	No	Yes
31.	Youth Advocates	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	Youth Homeless Organizations	Yes	Yes	Yes
33.	Youth Service Providers	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Other: (limit 50 characters)			
34.				
35.				

By selecting "other" you must identify what "other" is.

1B-2.	Open Invitation for New Members.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(2)	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	communicated a transparent invitation process annually (e.g., communicated to the public on the CoC's website) to solicit new members to join the CoC;	
2.	ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats; and	
3.	invited organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in the geographic area to address equity (e.g., Black, Latino, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, and persons with disabilities).	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC communicates a transparent invitation process through easy-to-understand information in English, Spanish and Portuguese posted on the CoC's website, www.fallriverhomeless.com. The webpage prominently displays, "The Homeless Service Providers Coalition provides an open invitation to anyone living in, working in or otherwise having an interest in preventing and ending homelessness in the city of Fall River. The group meets virtually the fourth Thurs of the month from 9-10 a.m. Everyone has the opportunity to have a voice in the planning and development of policies, procedures, and programs within the CoC. To join the HSPC in its mission, please email mdcamara@fallriverma.org."

Invitees are solicited annually by email distribution to community listservs with hundreds of recipients, including new members to fill gaps in culturally specific populations. The invite explains HSPC's mission, goals and advantages of being part of the solution to end homelessness.

2.HSPC and its Board include representatives of several disability service providers who assist in communication with the disabled. Remote meetings are in place and closed caption is available. In-person meetings are held in fully accessible locations, and accommodations are provided upon request. www.FallRiverHomeless.com provides two-way communication with providers and the public-at-large. FRCDA (CoC Lead) has TTY. Mass211, sponsored by the United Way, is a hotline to reach essential services. Coordinated Entry can be reached by phone/email/walk-in and provides resources/referrals to the homeless or at risk. Information is available to be e-mailed in PDF format.

3.People with lived experience, people of color, the disabled and LGBTQ+ populations have CoC membership and input at meetings. Family shelters especially work with larger populations of persons of color, (Black and Latino), and Individual shelter programs tend to serve those with physical and mental disabilities. All organizations that operate shelter programs are members of the CoC, and their clients have open invitations to attend meetings and provide input. A transparent invitation is posted on www.fallriverhomeless.com in English, Spanish and Portuguese and is communicated to any organization or person with an interest in preventing and ending homelessness.

1B-3.	CoC's Strategy to Solicit/Consider Opinions on Preventing and Ending Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(3)	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	solicited and considered opinions from a broad array of organizations and individuals that have knowledge of homelessness, or an interest in preventing and ending homelessness;
2.	communicated information during public meetings or other forums your CoC uses to solicit public information;
3.	ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats; and
4.	took into consideration information gathered in public meetings or forums to address improvements or new approaches to preventing and ending homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

- 1.The CoC solicits/considers opinions from 120 members of the Homeless Service Providers Coalition and the Mayor's Task Force to End Homelessness (CoC Board). Members include those with lived experience and those that serve the homeless. Monthly meetings provide forums where knowledge and resources from diverse members impact CoC planning to end homelessness. On the www.fallriverhomeless.com website: "The HSPC provides an open invitation to anyone living in, working in or otherwise having an interest in preventing and ending homelessness in Fall River... Everyone has the opportunity to have a voice in the planning and development of policies, procedures, and programs within the CoC." When considering suggestions, the group discusses possibilities of achieving outcomes, available paths and resources and likeliness of attainability, then a committee is formed to pursue the proposal.
- 2.The CoC communicates information regarding activities, community resources, needs assessment and other info via:
 - HSPC and MTF monthly meetings – agendas, minutes & resources are shared, presenters are encouraged;
 - Street outreach, shelter and peer-to-peer workers connect with the unsheltered;
 - www.FallRiverHomeless.com provides communication with providers and the public in English, Spanish and Portuguese;
 - Public Hearings held by FRCDA solicit public opinion regarding community needs including homelessness which is compiled by CDA and presented as the Annual Action Plan;
 - Resources can be e-mailed in PDF form;
 - Coordinated Entry is widely promoted, staff is available via phone/email/in-person.
- 3.The CoC includes reps of several disability service providers who assist in communication with the disabled. Remote meetings are in place. In-person meetings are held in fully accessible locations, and accommodations are provided upon request. www.FallRiverHomeless.com provides two-way communication with providers and the public. FRCDA (CoC Lead) has TTY. CE is reached by phone/email/walk-in and provides resources/referrals to the homeless or at risk. Information is available to be e-mailed in PDF format.
- 4.In meetings and forums, the CoC works collaboratively to address new/improved approaches to preventing/ending homelessness. These include HUD Office Hours, NLIHC/NAEH webinars, Housing First series, Moving On planning, HOME-ARP development, strengthening healthcare partnerships, leveraging health insurance for services, creative housing search and placement.

1B-4.	Public Notification for Proposals from Organizations Not Previously Awarded CoC Program Funding.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.a.(4)	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC notified the public:	
1.	that your CoC will consider project applications from organizations that have not previously received CoC Program funding;	
2.	about how project applicants must submit their project applications—the process;	
3.	about how your CoC would determine which project applications it would submit to HUD for funding; and	
FY2023 CoC Application		Page 6 09/26/2023

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| 4. | ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats. |
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(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC publicly announces requests for proposals at community meetings, on www.fallriverhomeless.com & e-mails to an array of community stakeholders and constituents regarding funding availability and info on local deadlines for Letters of Intent and applications. The notification states, "Any organization seeking new or renewal funding must actively participate in the application process and may schedule time with me at my office to obtain assistance to complete the application in e-snaps, if necessary. All Project applications, new and renewal, are due in e-snaps August 25, 2023. I've attached a description of opportunities available in the federal competition...(local approval pending; available to any eligible organization operating in Fall River)." New agencies verbally inquired about new projects, but none were submitted.

2.Agencies interested in CoC funding must submit a Letter of Intent via email to the CoC Lead. The request includes the deadline, expectations of applicants, and how to find more information and obtain assistance with the process. New and renewal projects applications must be submitted in esnaps 30 days prior to the CoC Competition deadline. The specific HUD Guides are provided to all applicants. All applications are reviewed by the Collaborative Applicant.

3.Prior to meeting, the Review & Ranking Committee (impartial CoC members including consumers not employed by subrecipient agencies) is provided a summary with details of all new and renewal projects (expenditures, subpop priorities and performance) and a project rating tool with points for each measure. At the meeting, the CA explains the ranking and tiering process. Agencies present their projects to the Committee in detail. The Committee reviews, accepts/rejects, and ranks accepted projects based on all aforementioned and HUD and local priorities. The Comm submits the results in writing to the CA.

4.CoC Members include disability service providers in the fields of healthcare, mental health, substance abuse, physical disabilities and veterans who assist in communication with the disabled. www.FallRiverHomeless.com provides communication with providers and the public. FRCDA (CoC Lead) has TTY. Mass211, sponsored by the United Way, is a hotline for essential services. Information is emailable in PDF format. Remote meetings are in place, closed caption is available. In-person meetings are held in fully accessible locations, accommodations are provided upon request.

1C. Coordination and Engagement

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

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1C-1.	Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.b.	
	In the chart below:	
1.	select yes or no for entities listed that are included in your CoC's coordination, planning, and operations of projects that serve individuals, families, unaccompanied youth, persons who are fleeing domestic violence who are experiencing homelessness, or those at risk of homelessness; or	
2.	select Nonexistent if the organization does not exist within your CoC's geographic area.	

	Entities or Organizations Your CoC Coordinates with for Planning or Operations of Projects	Coordinates with the Planning or Operations of Projects?
1.	Funding Collaboratives	Yes
2.	Head Start Program	Yes
3.	Housing and services programs funded through Local Government	Yes
4.	Housing and services programs funded through other Federal Resources (non-CoC)	Yes
5.	Housing and services programs funded through private entities, including Foundations	Yes
6.	Housing and services programs funded through State Government	Yes
7.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)	Yes
8.	Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)	Yes
9.	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	Yes
10.	Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)	Nonexistent
11.	Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color	Yes
12.	Organizations led by and serving LGBTQ+ persons	Yes
13.	Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities	Yes
14.	Private Foundations	No
15.	Public Housing Authorities	Yes
16.	Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)	Nonexistent
17.	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Yes
	Other:(limit 50 characters)	

18.	Faith-based Organization	Yes
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1C-2.	CoC Consultation with ESG Program Recipients.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.b.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	consulted with ESG Program recipients in planning and allocating ESG Program funds;
2.	participated in evaluating and reporting performance of ESG Program recipients and subrecipients;
3.	provided Point-in-Time (PIT) count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC) data to the Consolidated Plan jurisdictions within its geographic area; and
4.	provided information to Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions to address homelessness within your CoC's geographic area so it could be addressed in the Consolidated Plan update.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The City of Fall River is the ESG recipient. As part of its annual planning process, agencies requesting ESG funding must submit a RFF application to CDA explain how funds would be used. Two public hearings are held annually regarding use of the funds to obtain input and comment. City admin staff met with CoC members including ESG subrecipients to discuss the most pressing needs for ESG funding in the CoC's geographic area and the potential allocation of funds to meet those needs. The discussion resulted in identifying the following current priorities for ESG funds:

- Maximizing shelter operations;
- A new seasonal shelter with a year-round day shelter component;
- A formal Street Outreach program;
- Homeless Prevention activities as a priority over Rapid Rehousing.

A CoC Committee developed ESG Written Standards, including ESG funding allocation for eligible activities; setting performance standards for ESG-funded activities; and establishing policies and procedures for operation and administration.

2.ESG subrecipients enter data in HMIS on a weekly basis, provide monthly statistics to CDA, provide updates for the Annual Plans, and report annually in the HIC, PIT Count, System Performance Measures, LSA. The recipient reports quarterly on ESG-CV CAPERs and uploads data monthly to the state's Rehousing Data Collective warehouse. Reports are made available to the CoC for review on a regular basis via email and are used to appropriate funds accordingly.

3.Annually on the last Wednesday of January, the CoC Lead compiles bed/unit inventories from the Fall River emergency shelter programs for the HIC, and the number of people using those beds for the PIT. The HIC is actual number of beds available. The PIT is derived from HMIS data collected on those utilizing ES beds on that designated night. Street Outreach staff use a mobile app for counting unsheltered homeless. The CoC Lead is responsible to compile and review all the data, prepare the HIC and PIT Count reports and submit them to HUDHDX.info by the HUD deadline. The compiled HIC and PIT reports are provided to the Consolidated Plan Jurisdiction by the CoC Lead.

4.The CoC Lead provides narratives, statistics, and CAPER reports (HMIS data uploaded to the Sage reporting platform) to the Consolidated Plan Jurisdiction annually via email and meetings for the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan and CAPER and quarterly for the ESG-CV CAPER.

1C-3.	Ensuring Families are not Separated.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.c.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ensures emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing (PSH and RRH) do not deny admission or separate family members regardless of each family member's self-reported sexual orientation and gender identity:

1.	Conducted mandatory training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated.	No
2.	Conducted optional training for all CoC- and ESG-funded service providers to ensure families are not separated.	Yes
3.	Worked with ESG recipient(s) to adopt uniform anti-discrimination policies for all subrecipients.	Yes
4.	Worked with ESG recipient(s) to identify both CoC- and ESG-funded facilities within your CoC's geographic area that might be out of compliance and took steps to work directly with those facilities to bring them into compliance.	Yes
5.	Sought assistance from HUD by submitting questions or requesting technical assistance to resolve noncompliance by service providers.	Yes

1C-4.	CoC Collaboration Related to Children and Youth—SEAs, LEAs, School Districts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the entities your CoC collaborates with:

1.	Youth Education Provider	Yes
2.	State Education Agency (SEA)	Yes
3.	Local Education Agency (LEA)	Yes
4.	School Districts	Yes

1C-4a.	Formal Partnerships with Youth Education Providers, SEAs, LEAs, School Districts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Describe in the field below the formal partnerships your CoC has with at least one of the entities where you responded yes in question 1C-4.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The Fall River CoC and the Fall River Public School (FRPS) Department McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison have a written Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU articulates the roles and responsibilities the CoC and the FRPS have in regards to children in homeless families and unaccompanied youth. The formal partnership ensures that the parties will strive to meet the purpose and goals of the MOU in regards to the needs of homeless children and families under the Education of Homeless Children and Youth Program. The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act works to ensure enrollment, attendance and the opportunity for homeless children/youth to succeed in school. Fall River takes advantage of state grants that are available to school districts with high numbers of homeless students for tutoring, academic support, mentoring, after school and summer programming for students, professional development, and engagement of homeless parents in their children's education. The FRPS Liaison's role is to ensure procedures and outreach activities are in place to identify homeless children and youths and that school staff members understand the homeless definition. The liaison informs homeless parents and unaccompanied youth of educational protections in the law by displaying posters in schools and other locations where homeless families and youth go. They help the children and youth enroll in school and receive services, including tutoring, school supplies, school uniforms and free meals. The liaison informs parents/guardians or unaccompanied youth how to appeal enrollment decisions. The homeless liaison is on the CoC Board and provides data to the CoC on homeless/at-risk students. Each year the CoC participates in the statewide homeless youth count organized and administered by the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless.

1C-4b.	Informing Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness about Eligibility for Educational Services.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Describe in the field below written policies and procedures your CoC uses to inform individuals and families who become homeless of their eligibility for educational services.

(limit 2,500 characters)

Subtitle B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ensures educational rights and protections for homeless students. In Massachusetts, all school districts must comply with the McKinney-Vento Act which requires the following: maintain students in school of origin; provide transportation to ensure access to school of origin; enroll homeless students immediately, even if required documentation is missing; require school districts to review and revise all local policies that may act as a barrier to retention and enrollment of homeless students; require a local homeless education liaison in all districts. Liaisons at the school department level ensure homeless students "enroll in, and have a full and fair opportunity to succeed in, the schools in their district." Homeless students are enrolled in school immediately to provide educational stability and avoid separation from school for any time while documents are located. Service providers contact Liaisons if they have children whose educational needs are not being met. Liaisons ensure that homeless parents and unaccompanied youth are informed of educational protections in the law by displaying posters in schools and other locations where homeless families and youth go. The FRPS homeless liaison is on the CoC Board/Mayor's Task Force to End Homelessness and provides data on homeless/at-risk students. The Fall River Public Schools' Homeless Education Assistance Program defined by the McKinney Vento Assistance Act ensures that each homeless child or youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education including public preschool. The CoC Board has adopted the policies and procedures of the FRPS HEAP services which provides the following services to eligible persons:

- Transportation to and from school, social service providers, medical and dental appointments, housing offices and other appropriate agencies;
- Mental health services including counseling and evaluation;
- Assistance in obtaining health insurance and other mainstream benefits;
- Basic school and personal hygiene supplies;
- Chromebooks and wi-fi hot spots;
- Uniforms and other clothing;
- Tutoring after school;
- Home visits to families with children 18 months and up;
- Professional development for school staff, human service agencies and the community;
- Educational opportunities for parents.

1C-4c.	Written/Formal Agreements or Partnerships with Early Childhood Services Providers.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.d.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your CoC has written formal agreements or partnerships with the listed providers of early childhood services:

		MOU/MOA	Other Formal Agreement
1.	Birth to 3 years	No	No
2.	Child Care and Development Fund	No	No
3.	Early Childhood Providers	No	No
4.	Early Head Start	Yes	No

5.	Federal Home Visiting Program—including Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home and Visiting or MIECHV)	No	Yes
6.	Head Start	Yes	No
7.	Healthy Start	No	Yes
8.	Public Pre-K	Yes	No
9.	Tribal Home Visiting Program	No	No
	Other (limit 150 characters)		
10.	Parent-Child Plus Program - on-site home and shelter visits	Yes	No

1C-5.	Addressing Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors—Collaboration with Federally Funded Programs and Victim Service Providers.
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.

In the chart below select yes or no for the organizations your CoC collaborates with:

	Organizations	
1.	state domestic violence coalitions	Yes
2.	state sexual assault coalitions	Yes
3.	other organizations that help this population	Yes

1C-5a.	Collaboration with Federally Funded Programs and Victim Service Providers to Address Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC regularly collaborates with organizations indicated in Question 1C-5 to:

1.	update CoC-wide policies; and
2.	ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC's geographic area are trauma-informed and can meet the needs of survivors.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC collaborates with organizations who help provide housing and services to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking to update CoC-wide policies. The programs in Fall River CoC include Our Sisters' Place of the Greater New Bedford Women's Center (Emergency Shelter for victims of domestic violence) and Stanley Street Treatment and Recovery Women's Center (advocacy, counseling and crisis intervention for DV survivors), and the state program is SafeLink. Policy updates are done via regularly scheduled main and sub-group meetings of the CoC. The CoC Board makes the proposal based on input from providers/new regulatory requirements, members vote on new policy and procedure changes, and the CoC Lead works with subrecipients to implement those changes across programming. Policies are written and revised based on updated VAWA requirements regarding the following: Coordinated Entry, safety and confidentiality, emergency transfer plan, rapid rehousing, fair housing/equal opportunity, intake, after-hour exceptions, strength-based and client-centric approaches.

2.The CoC initiates conversations at CoC meetings and during other working groups to ensure that CoC housing and services are trauma-informed and meet the needs of survivors. Coordinated Entry System regularly updates the CE procedures and solicits feedback from Victim Service Providers in the process. CoC providers are educated about trauma-informed and victim-centered approaches, safety and planning protocols, and the SafeLink program. As part of its annual CE training requirements, the CoC updates and distributes training protocols to organizations that serve as access points or administer assessments. For example, CoC providers were invited to attend a recent HUD web-based training series regarding the revised VAWA Act of 2022 (Violence Against Women Act) and is currently incorporating these new changes into its policies. In addition, a regional web-based training presented by The Women's Center, an organization whose mission is to help survivors of domestic violence, provided information and guidance on recognizing, responding to and referring victims of intimate partner domestic violence including types of abuse, tactics abusers use to maintain power and control, the cycle of abuse, legal options and consequences and best practices.

1C-5b.	Coordinated Annual Training on Best Practices to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC coordinates to provide training for:	
1.	project staff that addresses best practices (e.g., trauma-informed, victim-centered) on safety and planning protocols in serving survivors of domestic violence and indicate the frequency of the training in your response (e.g., monthly, semi-annually); and	
2.	Coordinated Entry staff that addresses best practices (e.g., trauma informed care) on safety and planning protocols in serving survivors of domestic violence and indicate the frequency of the training in your response (e.g., monthly, semi-annually).	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC provides annual trainings for direct client service staff. One training addresses specific needs of DV survivors. The Women's Center, a CoC Member, subrecipient and non-profit VSP, provides a regional annual web-based training that addresses safety and planning protocols in serving DV survivors, such as: information & guidance on recognizing, responding to and referring DV victims including types of abuse, tactics abusers use to maintain power/control, the cycle of abuse, legal options and consequences and best practices. VSPs provide comprehensive training to new staff pre-service. Providers are trained to engage in a fact-finding process to focus on a person's safety and what actions to take and instructed on trauma-informed, victim-centered approaches, safety planning and how to ensure that the victim is safe and has rights and a voice in their provision of housing and services. Invites are via email. Annual trainings are updated to adhere to current nat'l and state-wide best practices, along with changes in Federal requirements such as VAWA 2022.

2.The CoC holds CE annual trainings, and updates and distributes training protocols to agencies that are access points and administer assessments. CE training curricula includes the following topics for staff conducting assessments: review of CoC's written CE policies & procedures, including variations for specific subpops; requirements for use of assessment info to determine prioritization; criteria for uniform decision-making & referrals; reviewing best practices on trauma informed care regarding safety planning protocols in serving DV survivors. Catholic Social Services, a CoC member, grant subrecipient and non-profit service provider, manages the CE System and coordinates the annual training; invites are via email. Internally, CSS provides a comprehensive training for new CE screening staff that makes client assessments, including education about trauma-informed and victim-centered approaches. The CoC regularly updates CE procedures regarding the DV population and solicits feedback from CE staff & VSPs. Training includes: information & guidance on recognizing, responding to & referring DV victims including types of abuse, tactics abusers use to maintain power/control, the cycle of abuse, legal options and consequences and best practices. Annual trainings are updated to adhere to current nat'l and state-wide best practices, along with changes in Federal requirements such as VAWA 2022.

1C-5c.	Implemented Safety Planning, Confidentiality Protocols in Your CoC's Coordinated Entry to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry includes:	
1.	safety planning protocols; and	
2.	confidentiality protocols.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.Coordinated Entry has Safety Planning Protocols in place to address the needs of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking survivors. If CE staff makes a determination that a household is in imminent danger, fleeing, attempting to flee, under extreme life-threatening duress or is involved in a current DV situation, connection with appropriate resources including police, SafeLink 24/7 Crisis Hotline and/or local DV shelters is immediately provided. The standards, policies and procedures of CE cannot be used to screen people out of the CE process due to perceived barriers to housing services including DV history. Victims/survivors are allowed after-hours emergency admission. Intake of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking are conducted with a strength-based, client-centric, respectful approach. CE staff are educated about trauma-informed and victim-centered approaches. The evaluation informs CE regarding the specialized needs of survivors of DV, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness, i.e., whether the household needs rapid rehousing, emergency shelter, permanent housing with or without services; mental health counseling for PTSD, depression, anxiety, low-esteem, addiction; behavioral health counseling; financial education; parenting education; communication skills; and coping skills. CE staff follow protocol to make accurate, streamlined referrals to all CoC shelter, housing and service providers based on the households' needs.

2.Confidentiality protocol is a top priority with all homeless households including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking survivors. If a household expresses it's in imminent danger, it's discreetly referred to police, SafeLink 24/7 Crisis Hotline and/or local victim service providers. The VSP DV shelter uses a comparable database rather than HMIS, and data is de-identified and aggregated. The data is used to assist CE to assess specialized needs such as suitable location placement and appropriate program type. Client location of shelter or housing is undisclosed. The confidentiality procedures ensure that all paper/electronic records containing PII of any individual or family who applies for and/or receives assistance will be kept secure and confidential, i.e., locked filing cabinets, password-protected electronic documents, signed releases required by clients for disclosure.

1C-5d.	Used De-identified Aggregate Data to Address the Needs of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below:	
1.	the de-identified aggregate data source(s) your CoC used for data on survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and	
2.	how your CoC uses the de-identified aggregate data described in element 1 of this question to evaluate how to best meet the specialized needs related to domestic violence and homelessness.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The Victim Service Provider domestic violence shelter uses a comparable HMIS database called EmpowerDB to collect de-identified aggregate data on its clients. The vendor has assured the DV provider that their system complies with HUD Data Standards updates. The CSV files generated by EmpowerDB are compatible with the HUD-required reporting platforms.

2.The de-identified aggregate data is compiled by the Victim Service Provider, and the VSP uploads it to Sage as ESG CAPER, and can then be viewed without Personally Identifiable Information. The aggregated data is evaluated by the HMIS Lead along with HMIS data from CaseWorthy and data provided from other providers who are not included in the CoC/ESG reporting system as well as Coordinated Entry and DV hotlines. This evaluation informs the conversations among providers in the CoC regarding the specialized needs of victims/survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. The data is used to assist the CoC to assess specialized needs such as suitable location placement and appropriate program type, i.e., whether the individual or family needs rapid rehousing, emergency shelter, permanent housing with or without services; mental health counseling for PTSD, depression, anxiety, low-esteem, addiction; behavioral health counseling; financial education; parenting education; communication skills; and coping skills.

1C-5e.	Implemented Emergency Transfer Plan Policies and Procedures for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Survivors.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC communicates to all individuals and families seeking or receiving CoC Program assistance:	
1.	whether your CoC has policies and procedures that include an emergency transfer plan;	
2.	the process for individuals and families to request an emergency transfer; and	
3.	the process your CoC uses to respond to individuals' and families' emergency transfer requests.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC has policies & procedures that include an Emergency Transfer Plan. Upon enrollment, clients are provided with a Notice of Occupancy Rights informing them of their rights under VAWA in Federal Housing programs. The client is advised they may not be denied assistance, terminated from participation, or evicted from housing because they are/have been a victim of DV, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, and can request an Emergency Transfer if necessary. Leases contain these protections as well. CoC providers are advised to communicate the Emergency Transfer Plan to all at-risk/homeless persons seeking/receiving CoC and ESG assistance regardless of known domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking survivor status. Providers inform those seeking assistance that they are eligible for an emergency transfer if they reasonably believe there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if they remain within the same unit. The Emergency Transfer Plan describes how to request an emergency transfer.

2.Upon enrollment, clients are provided with a Notice of Occupancy Rights informing them of their rights under VAWA, including how to request an emergency transfer. To request an emergency transfer, the tenant shall notify the housing provider and submit a written or verbal request for a transfer. The tenant's request for an emergency transfer should include a statement that:

- The tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant were to remain in the housing provider assisted unit; or
- The tenant was a sexual assault victim and the sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period preceding the tenant's request for an emergency transfer.

3.When a tenant requests an emergency transfer, the tenant receives any available unit within the program. If there is no available unit in the program, the victim has priority over all other applicants as long as they meet all other eligibility requirements. The request for the emergency transfer and any other relevant information must be kept confidential. Alternatively, the program also has authority to evict, remove, terminate occupancy rights, or terminate assistance to anyone who engages in criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against an affiliated individual or other individual to provide a safe place for the survivor.

1C-5f.	Access to Housing for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	ensures that survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking have safe access to all of the housing and services available within the CoC's geographic area; and	
2.	proactively identifies systemic barriers within your homeless response system that create barriers to safely house and provide services to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.CoC ensures that survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking have access to all of the housing and services available within the Fall River area, not just assistance from Victim Service Providers. In the Coordinated Entry System intake screening, questions are asked to ensure that the person requesting assistance is in a safe situation, but this does not exclude them from being offered services and housing/shelter offered to anyone else requesting assistance. The process to offer at-risk/homeless person assistance is systemic, consistent and client-centric in order to make accurate, streamlined referrals for households' needs regardless of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking status. Coordinated Entry has Safety Protocols in place to address the needs of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking survivors. If a homeless household is in imminent danger, fleeing, attempting to flee, under extreme life-threatening duress or is involved in a current domestic violence situation, once the CES staff makes a determination that it is a DV situation, safety planning and connection with appropriate resources including police, SafeLink 24/7 Crisis Hotline and/or local domestic violence shelters is immediately provided.

2.The standards, policies and procedures of CES cannot be used to screen people out of the coordinated entry process due to perceived barriers to housing services including domestic violence history. All persons have fair and equal access to the Coordinated Entry process. Victims/survivors are allowed after-hours emergency admission. Providers work with survivors to find shelter/housing and services by working with other agencies and landlords to identify and surmount systemic barriers resulting from their domestic violence experience, including denials due to broken leases, eviction records, rent/utility arrearages, excessive calls to police, history of violence. The unit must also be perceived as a safe location by the survivor.

1C-5g.	Ensuring Survivors With a Range of Lived Expertise Participate in Developing CoC-Wide Policy and Programs.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.e.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
1.	ensured survivors with a range of lived expertise are involved in the development of your CoC-wide policy and programs; and	
2.	accounted for the unique and complex needs of survivors.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking with a range of lived expertise of homelessness participate in the development of CoC-wide policy and programs. Persons with lived experience are on the CoC Board along with the Fall River Homeless Service Providers Coalition; both groups meet monthly. Survivors provide recommendations to ensure that policies are written and revised from a strength-based, client-centric, respectful approach to identify victims and provide appropriate referrals for supportive, victim and/or legal services. Survivors also are able to assist in the identification of systemic barriers resulting from their DV experience so that providers are better equipped to overcome those barriers. Local programs convene advisory boards that include people with lived experience that work to achieve better outcomes for victims. The VSPs hire persons with lived experience because of their understanding of such situations and their points of view. Another approach to giving people with lived experience a voice is by inviting them to speak at events.

2. The CoC accounts for unique, complex needs of survivors and certifies that the CoC and ESG program staff are familiar with VAWA, CoC policies and procedures and the Emergency Transfer Plan. CoC and ESG providers were advised to attend a 3-part webinar series offered by HUD regarding VAWA 2022 to increase their capacity and knowledge about housing protections for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in homeless services systems. TA providers, policy experts and community leaders showcased requirements and best practices around VAWA implementation. A regional web-based training for the 3 local CoCs presented by The Women's Center provided information and guidance on recognizing, responding to and referring victims of DV including types of abuse, tactics abusers use to maintain power and control, the cycle of abuse, legal options and consequences and best practices. Providers are educated to be sensitive to the needs of survivors, i.e., safety and comfort, flexibility and accessibility to support services and engaging in those services on their own terms, and empowerment and independence in making their own choices. Policies and trainings are updated to adhere to current national and state-wide best practices used to serve this population, along with changes in any Federal requirements.

1C-6.	Addressing the Needs of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer+—Anti-Discrimination Policy and Training.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.f.	

1.	Did your CoC implement a written CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy ensuring that LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive supportive services, shelter, and housing free from discrimination?	Yes
2.	Did your 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 your CoC conduct annual CoC-wide training with providers on how to effectively implement Equal Access in Accordance With an Individual's Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs (Gender Identity Final Rule)?	No

1C-6a.	Anti-Discrimination Policy—Updating Policies—Assisting Providers—Evaluating Compliance—Addressing Noncompliance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.f.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC regularly collaborates with LGBTQ+ and other organizations to update its CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy, as necessary to ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC are trauma-informed and able to meet the needs of LGBTQ+ individuals and families;
2.	how your CoC assisted housing and services providers in developing project-level anti-discrimination policies that are consistent with the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy;
3.	your CoC's process for evaluating compliance with your CoC's anti-discrimination policies; and
4.	your CoC's process for addressing noncompliance with your CoC's anti-discrimination policies.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC has instituted a CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy as established by the Fair Housing Act, HUD's Equal Access Rule and Massachusetts housing laws. Federal and state laws prohibit discrimination in housing and community development programs and activities because of race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), national origin, familial status, and disability. The policy is reviewed annually and updated as necessary based on updates to fair housing laws and stakeholder feedback provided by CoC staff and program participants.
2. CoC-assisted providers' project-level anti-discrimination policies are aligned with the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy ensuring that homeless LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive shelter, housing and supportive services free from discrimination and harassment. Project-level policies and procedures determine requirements regarding interactions between staff and participants including the use of inclusive language and creating an inclusive environment. Interactions between staff and residents include avoiding gendered greetings, using preferred names and pronouns, respecting their choices to access housing and services without requiring proof. Policy also addresses language on intake forms, signage and publications promoting programs.
3. The CoC grantee performs on-site monitoring annually including monitoring the CoC subrecipients for compliance with CoC policies and procedures. Included is evaluating compliance with the CoC's anti-discrimination policy. CDA staff ensure that the agency has an anti-discrimination policy in place aligned with the CoC-wide policy and that staff are trained under such policy. CDA staff also checks signage, intake forms and promotional material for inclusive language.
4. Non-compliance with the anti-discrimination policies and serious complaints of sexual discrimination and harassment are taken seriously. Non-compliant issues are provided to the agencies in a written report of concerns and findings, and the CoC grantee works with the project to institute proper practices.

1C-7.	Public Housing Agencies within Your CoC's Geographic Area—New Admissions—General/Limited Preference—Moving On Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

You must upload the PHA Homeless Preference\PHA Moving On Preference attachment(s) to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

Enter information in the chart below for the two largest PHAs highlighted in gray on the current CoC-PHA Crosswalk Report or the two PHAs your CoC has a working relationship with—if there is only one PHA in your CoC's geographic area, provide information on the one:

Public Housing Agency Name	Enter the Percent of New Admissions into Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program During FY 2022 who were experiencing homelessness at entry	Does the PHA have a General or Limited Homeless Preference?	Does the PHA have a Preference for current PSH program participants no longer needing intensive supportive services, e.g., Moving On?
Fall River Housing Authority	6%	Yes-Both	Yes
Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities	12%	No	No

1C-7a.	Written Policies on Homeless Admission Preferences with PHAs.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	steps your CoC has taken, with the two largest PHAs within your CoC's geographic area or the two PHAs your CoC has working relationships with, to adopt a homeless admission preference—if your CoC only has one PHA within its geographic area, you may respond for the one; or
2.	state that your CoC has not worked with the PHAs in its geographic area to adopt a homeless admission preference.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Between March 2022 and January 2023, Fall River Housing Authority actively collaborated with the Fall River Continuum of Care (CoC) to develop and implement a new homeless preference for its Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) waiting list. Known as the Fall River “Moving On” Initiative, this applicant preference was established to give Permanent Supportive Housing program graduates the opportunity to transition to a rented unit in the private market with the help of a tenant-based housing voucher. As key stakeholders in this initiative, leadership from the two PSH providers in Fall River - Catholic Social Services and Steppingstone, Inc. – were active contributors throughout all stages of the pre-implementation process.

After a series of productive meetings in spring 2022, the “Moving On Roundtable” agreed that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that had been drafted between the CoC and FRHA would benefit from guidance of an outside consultant. To that end, in May 2022, the Fall River CoC submitted a formal request for Technical Assistance (TA) to the HUD Field Office. On June 8, 2022, FR CoC received notice that the TA request had been approved and the first of a series of strategy meetings with Cloudburst Consulting commenced on July 14, 2022. Deliverables from this TA process included: development of a PSH client assessment tool; codification of the Moving On referral process; and finalization of the MOU between FRHA and the CoC.

With execution of the MOU on January 9, 2023, and an introduction to the HCVP admissions process for PSH case managers the following day, all of the pre-implementation milestones had been met and the program officially launched.

Since then, a total of fifteen PSH clients have been referred to the Moving On program. Six PSH clients were issued vouchers: five recipients are leased up and actively receiving housing assistance through HCV, and one is currently being screened for admission. Two voluntarily withdrew their applications, and six did not pass the criminal background check for HCV and were denied admission.

2. FRCoC has not worked as closely with the State PHA, Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, to adopt a homeless admission preference, but its subrecipients administer Section 8, MRVP, RAFT and AHVP programs and provide funding for other local shelter and services in the CoC.

1C-7b.	Moving On Strategy with Affordable Housing Providers.	
	Not Scored–For Information Only	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate affordable housing providers in your CoC's jurisdiction that your recipients use to move program participants to other subsidized housing:

1.	Multifamily assisted housing owners	Yes
2.	PHA	Yes
3.	Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments	No
4.	Local low-income housing programs	Yes
	Other (limit 150 characters)	
5.		

1C-7c.	Include Units from PHA Administered Programs in Your CoC's Coordinated Entry.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

In the chart below, indicate if your CoC includes units from the following PHA programs in your CoC's coordinated entry process:

1.	Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV)	No
2.	Family Unification Program (FUP)	No
3.	Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)	Yes
4.	HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)	Yes
5.	Mainstream Vouchers	No
6.	Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) Vouchers	No
7.	Public Housing	Yes
8.	Other Units from PHAs:	

1C-7d.	Submitting CoC and PHA Joint Applications for Funding for People Experiencing Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

1.	Did your CoC coordinate with a PHA(s) to submit a competitive joint application(s) for funding or jointly implement a competitive project serving individuals or families experiencing homelessness (e.g., applications for mainstream vouchers, Family Unification Program (FUP), other programs)?	No
		Program Funding Source
2.	Enter the type of competitive project your CoC coordinated with a PHA(s) to submit a joint application for or jointly implement.	N/A

1C-7e.	Coordinating with PHA(s) to Apply for or Implement HCV Dedicated to Homelessness Including Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV).	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.g.	

	Did your CoC coordinate with any PHA to apply for or implement funding provided for Housing Choice Vouchers dedicated to homelessness, including vouchers provided through the American Rescue Plan?	No
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1C-7e.1.	List of PHAs with Active MOUs to Administer the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program.	
	Not Scored—For Information Only	

	Does your CoC have an active Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with any PHA to administer the EHV Program?	No
	If you select yes to question 1C-7e.1., you must use the list feature below to enter the name of every PHA your CoC has an active MOU with to administer the Emergency Housing Voucher Program.	
PHA		
This list contains no items		

1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1D-1.	Discharge Planning Coordination.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.h.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate whether your 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.

1. Foster Care	Yes
2. Health Care	Yes
3. Mental Health Care	Yes
4. Correctional Facilities	Yes

1D-2.	Housing First—Lowering Barriers to Entry.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.i.	

1.	Enter the total number of new and renewal CoC Program-funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects your CoC is applying for in FY 2023 CoC Program Competition.	5
2.	Enter the total number of new and renewal CoC Program-funded PSH, RRH, SSO non-coordinated entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects your CoC is applying for in FY 2023 CoC Program Competition that have adopted the Housing First approach.	5
3.	This number is a calculation of the percentage of new and renewal PSH, RRH, SSO non-Coordinated Entry, Safe Haven, and Transitional Housing projects the CoC has ranked in its CoC Priority Listing in the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition that reported that they are lowering barriers to entry and prioritizing rapid placement and stabilization to permanent housing.	100%

1D-2a.	Project Evaluation for Housing First Compliance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.i.	

You must upload the Housing First Evaluation attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC evaluates every project—where the applicant checks Housing First on their project application—to determine if they are using a Housing First approach;
2.	the list of factors and performance indicators your CoC uses during its evaluation; and
3.	how your CoC regularly evaluates projects outside of your local CoC competition to ensure the projects are using a Housing First approach.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. During the project application and Review & Ranking Committee process, project reviews include a Project Rating Tool using APR data to evaluate for compliance with the Housing First Model. The tool includes data regarding % of participants entering with zero income, having more than one disability and from a place not meant for human habitation. The projects must meet a minimum % in order to score points on a sliding scale relative to meeting the established goals.

2. The Review & Ranking Committee rate the projects using the following factors and performance indicators to evaluate for Housing First:

- Low barrier admission: people are not screened out of a program for having low/no-income, past criminal histories, past substance use, history of victimization, past poor tenancy/eviction records;
- Rapid and streamlined entry into housing;
- Tenants have full rights, responsibilities, and legal protections; and
- Housing is not contingent on compliance with services; supportive services are voluntary but can and should be used to persistently engage tenants and to ensure housing stability.

3. The Housing First Model is incorporated into all its PSH projects. The Continuum's Written Standards indicate adoption of the Model and the criteria that must be followed for its implementation. Outside of the local CoC competition Review & Ranking process, FRCDA uses the HUD Housing First Assessment Tool to perform annual on-site programmatic monitoring on every Subrecipient program every year for compliance with the Housing First Model. FRCDA reviews the following in project files: CE screening tools/assessments, information provided to clients, lease agreement language, case notes/participation agreements. Written reports are provided to the agencies each year. If it appears that an agency is not complying with the Model, FRCDA will work with the agency to implement practices to bring them in compliance. The CoC CE Operational Standards indicate that access into the local homeless system is streamlined and must be low-barrier. FRCDA continually shares Housing First resources with CoC Subrecipient agencies to keep providers well informed on the Model and its proven positive outcomes. Subrecipient Contract Agreements also indicate required compliance in this area.

1D-3.	Street Outreach—Scope.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.j.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	your CoC's street outreach efforts, including the methods it uses to ensure all persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness are identified and engaged;
2.	whether your CoC's Street Outreach covers 100 percent of the CoC's geographic area;
3.	how often your CoC conducts street outreach; and

4. how your CoC tailored its street outreach to persons experiencing homelessness who are least likely to request assistance.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.FR CoC's Street Outreach efforts consist of a comprehensive approach which includes city government, Police Dept, EMS, overnight and day shelters, hospitals and mental health providers. The Team's method is to identify and explore areas homeless live and frequent, address immediate needs and utilize best practice approaches such as motivational interviewing techniques to build trust and rapport with the homeless. The Outreach team includes outreach workers who are formerly homeless and/or trained in best practice approaches. These workers, known to the unsheltered, provide necessities such as food/lunches, gift cards, clothing, hygiene items, sunscreen, first aid, transportation, tents, blankets, pamphlets and provider referrals. Whereabouts of the homeless and the workers is dispersed by word of mouth and often recorded in HMIS. When a connection is made, the unsheltered feel more secure seeking services.

2.Outreach staff covers 100% of the geographic area, visiting areas that people frequent most and where people are having the most difficulties. Frequented areas include encampments, food pantries/soup kitchens, veterans drop-in centers, harsh weather shelters, parking lots, parks/playgrounds, bicycle/walking paths, wooded areas, laundromats, fast food restaurants, public building lobbies/sitting areas; some visits are pre-arranged. If a neighborhood resident, business owner, patron, etc. provides information about where the homeless may be, a team is called to investigate. The teams also act on word-of-mouth from other street homeless.

3.Street Outreach is performed daily, including nights and weekends. Outreach workers provide their cell phone numbers to the unsheltered. Events are organized to attract the unsheltered homeless in order to provide them with goods and resources and to engage them in the PIT Count, Project Homeless Connect, homeless/housing assistance fairs, harsh weather shelters, weekend lunch drop-offs, organized encampment visits, engagement with panhandlers where they work.

4.FR's CoC tailored its outreach to those least likely to request assistance through including outreach team members who were once homeless and can relate to the difficulties the unsheltered homeless face and by offering a compassionate approach. The foundation of outreach efforts begins by building trust and forming relationships with encountered individuals and families. The Team's outreach members offer an empathetic and comprehensive response.

1D-4. Strategies to Prevent Criminalization of Homelessness.

NOFO Section V.B.1.k.

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate strategies your CoC implemented to ensure homelessness is not criminalized and to reverse existing criminalization policies in your CoC's geographic area:

	Your CoC's Strategies	Ensure Homelessness is not Criminalized	Reverse Existing Criminalization Policies
1.	Engaged/educated local policymakers	Yes	No
2.	Engaged/educated law enforcement	Yes	Yes

3.	Engaged/educated local business leaders	Yes	No
4.	Implemented community wide plans	Yes	No
5.	Other:(limit 500 characters)		

1D-5.	Rapid Rehousing–RRH Beds as Reported in the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) or Longitudinal Data from HMIS.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.I.	

		HIC Longitudinal HMIS Data	2022	2023
	Enter the total number of RRH beds available to serve all populations as reported in the HIC or the number of households served per longitudinal HMIS data, e.g., APR.	HIC	94	74

1D-6.	Mainstream Benefits–CoC Annual Training of Project Staff.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.m.	

Indicate in the chart below whether your CoC trains program staff annually on the following mainstream benefits available for program participants within your CoC's geographic area:

	Mainstream Benefits	CoC Provides Annual Training?
1.	Food Stamps	Yes
2.	SSI–Supplemental Security Income	Yes
3.	SSDI–Social Security Disability Insurance	Yes
4.	TANF–Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Yes
5.	Substance Use Disorder Programs	Yes
6.	Employment Assistance Programs	Yes
7.	Other (limit 150 characters)	
	Domestic Violence, Medicare, MassHealth	Yes

1D-6a.	Information and Training on Mainstream Benefits and Other Assistance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.m	

Describe in the field below how your CoC:

1.	systemically provides up-to-date information on mainstream resources available for program participants (e.g., Food Stamps, SSI, SSDI, TANF, substance abuse programs) within your CoC's geographic area;
2.	works with project staff to collaborate with healthcare organizations, including substance abuse treatment and mental health treatment, to assist program participants with receiving healthcare services; and
3.	works with projects to promote SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) certification of program staff.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Within 30 days of program entry, providers assist participants to obtain mainstream benefits. Community partners and on-line applications facilitate the application process. SNAP, WIC, cash assistance and health insurance applications can be accessed on-line. Educational materials, in-person trainings, transportation to medical appointments, and assistance with insurance enrollment are provided, as is follow up. Presentations by any agency serving the homeless are welcome at meetings of the CoC members and the CoC Board. Agencies provide calendars of events, newsletters, and mass emailings of events and networking opportunities. Other agencies forward notices to the CoC Lead who disseminates it to a large listserv.

2. The CoC has 7 major healthcare organizations including primary care, dental, substance use and mental health treatment services. The city has several outpatient clinics and an urgent care clinic. Program participants are assisted with health insurance applications and encouraged to seek a PCP. Some healthcare facilities offer transportation; providers offer transportation or vouchers. Shelters offer on-site mental health and substance use services. Providers offer on-site recovery groups and online and telephone support. Peer coaching and skill-building workshops are available. Health and wellness activities are offered. Individual Service Plans that include healthcare and recovery goals are offered. Services pamphlets are available at www.FallRiverHomeless.com, various agencies, City Hall, soup kitchens, food pantries. The shelters provide space for onsite meetings with various agencies. Program participants are encouraged to attend events such as Project Homeless Connect, Overdose Awareness Day, Recovery Health and Wellness Day.

3. The CoC's strategy to increase non-employment income is to have caseworkers assist clients apply for mainstream unearned income benefits, such as SSI and SSDI. In order to process comprehensive and high-quality application packets for SSI/SSDI, provider staff attends SOAR trainings. Having a SOAR-trained case manager reduces the chance that the client will be rejected when applying for SSI/SSDI. The CoC brought in SAMHSA SOAR training consultants to provide social service agencies with additional education and certification to increase the number of SOAR-trained providers and to increase their ability to better navigate the application process.

1D-7.	Increasing Capacity for Non-Congregate Sheltering.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.n.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC is increasing its capacity to provide non-congregate sheltering.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC continuously works to increase capacity to provide non-congregate shelter. Through ESG-CV funding, the City has been able to fund emergency hotel vouchers to homeless individuals and families since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic in 2020.

The City of Fall River has one hotel located in the Industrial Park off Route 24S from Boston. The Industrial Park Association has imposed restrictions on hotel use so that it cannot be used for emergency shelter. However, if a homeless person/household presents for shelter and beds are not available in a congregate shelter or voucher program, ESG funds are regularly used to pay for emergency stays at hotels in neighboring towns, i.e., Westport, Dartmouth and Somerset. Transportation is provided by the street outreach team via newly purchased vans, or clients are provided with transportation vouchers.

Catholic Social Services, an area non-profit service provider, CoC Member and subrecipient, receives State funding for Emergency Shelter scattered-site units; the program currently has 47 emergency shelter voucher subsidies for private rental housing, up from 40 in 2022. This funding is leveraged with the City's HUD ESG Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing funds. CSS also has the ability to issue hotel vouchers. The Justice Resource Institute, an area social service provider, has 9 emergency shelter voucher subsidies to rent private units as well.

Fall River Housing Authority did not receive Emergency Housing Vouchers. However, EHV's from neighboring cities have been used in our CoC to rent scattered-site units.

While congregate, the First Step Inn and the Timao Center emergency shelters are both recently renovated spacious buildings with accommodations that allow for social distancing. Deep cleaning is provided. They also have installed touchless faucets, disinfecting and sanitizing units, thermometers and trash bins and stocked up on all PPE supplies at the shelters.

ID-8.	Partnerships with Public Health Agencies—Collaborating to Respond to and Prevent Spread of Infectious Diseases.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC effectively collaborates with state and local public health agencies to:	
1.	develop CoC-wide policies and procedures to respond to infectious disease outbreaks; and	
2.	prevent infectious disease outbreaks among people experiencing homelessness.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The COVID pandemic provided an opportunity to examine the City's emergency response readiness. Without prior experience of a pandemic, municipal leaders followed protocol set by state and federal authorities. The CDC and the MA Department of Public Health dictated protocols for social distancing, testing, vaccination sites and sanitary practices. In collaboration with the City Health Department, the CoC adopted state and federal safety protocols as policies and procedures to respond to infectious disease outbreaks. The Homeless Service Providers Coalition and the Mayor's Task Force to End Homelessness both have members from the City Department of Health and Human Services, local hospitals and healthcare centers who provide support, advice and resources to homeless service providers.

2.The City Director of Health and Human Services is on the CoC Board and Mayor's Task Force to End Homelessness. The Director provided updates at monthly meetings and provided daily e-newsletters on protocol and COVID stats during the pandemic. Policies and procedures regarding infectious disease outbreaks imposed standards and guidelines on how to run safe and sanitary congregate shelters and keep the sheltered and unsheltered homeless safe from infection. ESG-CV funding assisted congregate emergency shelters with deep cleaning and provided PPE for staff and guests. As necessary, guests are tested upon entry, and social distancing and masks are encouraged. All program staff and the sheltered and unsheltered homeless are educated and encouraged to receive the vaccine and to practice social distancing. Healthcare professionals visit shelters to provide vaccines. Street outreach and healthcare professionals formed teams that visit encampments and meet the homeless where they are to provide testing, vaccines, other healthcare, PPE supplies and everyday necessities. Shelters and transport vehicles were outfitted with plexiglass dividers funded by ESG-CV monies. Vaccines are made available at events such as Summer Kindness Initiative and Project Homeless Connect. The CoC worked with local officials to develop an additional congregate emergency shelter in 2020 with the use of ESG-CV COVID funds. The Shelter is run by Spindle City Church, an area faith-based non-profit. The additional shelter allows for social distancing, and addresses capacity issues at the main First Step Inn Emergency Shelter in the event of a Coronavirus outbreak.

ID-8a.	Collaboration With Public Health Agencies on Infectious Diseases.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.o.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC:	
	1. shared information related to public health measures and homelessness, and	
	2. facilitated communication between public health agencies and homeless service providers to ensure street outreach providers and shelter and housing providers are equipped to prevent or limit infectious disease outbreaks among program participants.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The City Director of Health and Human Services is on the CoC Board and Mayor’s Task Force to End Homelessness. The Director provided updates at monthly meetings and provided daily e-newsletters on protocol and COVID stats during the height of the pandemic. Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership convenes a quarterly behavioral and medical health cluster where healthcare providers share informative presentations regarding health issues including infectious disease and the effects on low-income and homeless persons. The clusters are open to housing and service providers. CoC members provide information related to public health measures and free testing and vaccination opportunities through emails and e-newsletters.

2.Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership convenes a quarterly behavioral and medical health cluster where healthcare providers share informative presentations regarding health issues including infectious disease and the effects on low-income and homeless persons. The clusters are open to housing and service providers. As state protocols to prevent and limit infectious disease outbreaks were updated, that information was communicated to shelter, service and housing providers to protect program participants’ health and well-being. Policies and procedures regarding infectious disease outbreaks imposed standards and guidelines on how to run safe and sanitary congregate shelters and keep the sheltered and unsheltered homeless safe from infection. Sheltered and unsheltered homeless are offered healthcare resources and encouraged to receive the vaccine and to practice social distancing. Healthcare professionals visit shelters to provide vaccines. Street outreach and healthcare professionals formed teams that visit encampments and meet the homeless where they are to provide testing, vaccines, other healthcare, PPE supplies and everyday necessities. Vaccines are made available at events such as Summer Kindness Initiative and Project Homeless Connect. Transportation is available if a homeless person needs access to testing or vaccination opportunities or other healthcare needs.

1D-9.	Centralized or Coordinated Entry System–Assessment Process.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC’s coordinated entry system:	
1.	covers 100 percent of your CoC’s geographic area;	
2.	uses a standardized assessment process; and	
3.	is updated regularly using feedback received from participating projects and households that participated in coordinated entry.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.Coordinated Entry covers 100% of the Fall River CoC geographic area. In operation since 2015, the CE System has a separate, centralized phone number, a separate email (FRCE@cssdioc.org), a web page on CSS's website and is featured on www.FallRiverHomeless.com where it also receives messages. Clients can also present in person at Catholic Social Services, the CE operating agency, at 1600 Bay St.

2.The CoC applies one standardized assessment tool in the operation of its CE System in order to ensure consistency throughout the CoC so as to achieve fair, equitable, and equal access to services within the community. The Coordinated Entry Assessment PSH Waitlist Assessment Tool, as part of a packet that documents eligibility and a person's experiences of homelessness, is conducted on those seeking housing assistance. The tool is a brief questionnaire to identify and rate those with longest histories of homelessness and barriers to accessing housing. The packet can be completed by anyone who is assisting persons experiencing homelessness. It is shared widely throughout the CoC. The completed packet is submitted to CE who is tasked with making precise assessments in order to provide accurate, efficient referrals and placements that suit the needs of the homeless to prevent returns to homelessness. The CE staff researches all available programs to find the most appropriate resources in a timely manner to get or keep people housed utilizing a barrier-free/low-barrier approach and based on their ranking result of the assessment process.

3.In the first half of 2023 the CE tool was overhauled and stripped back to a brief questionnaire regarding vulnerabilities in relation to health, age, veteran status, family status, length of time homeless, number of ER visits/detox stays/hospitalizations, income and whether they are a victim of violence. The update was conducted by a committee where about half of the participants providing input had experienced homelessness and are now part of street outreach working with the unsheltered, tasked with conducting the assessments with our most vulnerable neighbors. Other members were CE staff, the CoC Lead and other providers. The CoC will start using the new assessment tool when it is set up in HMIS under CE. Testing and modification of the tool is expected to be ongoing. The committee will meet in the next 12 months to assess progress based on results and feedback from participating projects and households.

1D-9a.	Program Participant-Centered Approach to Centralized or Coordinated Entry.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC's coordinated entry system:	
1.	reaches people who are least likely to apply for homeless assistance in the absence of special outreach;	
2.	prioritizes people most in need of assistance;	
3.	ensures people most in need of assistance receive permanent housing in a timely manner, consistent with their preferences; and	
4.	takes steps to reduce burdens on people using coordinated entry.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

- 1.The Fall River Coordinated Entry Assessment PSH Waitlist Assessment Tool is a brief questionnaire to identify and rate those with longest histories of homelessness and barriers to accessing housing. The tool can be completed by anyone who is assisting persons experiencing homelessness. It is shared widely throughout the CoC. People with lived experience and street outreach workers helped develop the assessment tool. The street outreach team use the tool to assess the most vulnerable people where they are. Multi-lingual CE staff is available by phone, email (FRCE@cssdioc.org) and walk-in at Catholic Social Services, the CE operating agency, at 1600 Bay St.
- 2.The Fall River Coordinated Entry Assessment PSH Waitlist Assessment Tool, as part of a packet that documents eligibility and the person's experiences of homelessness, is conducted on those seeking assistance. The tool is a brief questionnaire to identify and rate those with longest histories of homelessness and barriers to accessing housing. The assessment tool evaluates folks based on vulnerabilities in relation to health, age, veteran status, family status, length of time homeless, number of ER visits/detox stays/hospitalizations, income and whether they are a victim of violence.
- 3.In accordance with HUD standards, clients are able to decline a referral and continue to receive services. Participants are allowed to decide what information they provide during the assessment process, refuse to answer assessment questions, and refuse housing and service options without retribution or limiting their access to assistance. In order to serve those with the greatest needs in a timely manner, access to services is provided with a barrier-free/low-barrier approach. All PSH in the CoC is based on the Housing First model. The FRCoC instilled a Moving On program early this year to create movement in the PSH programs.
- 4.The CoC's access points take reasonable steps to offer coordinated entry process materials and participant instruction in multiple languages to meet the needs of minorities/ethnicities and groups with Limited English Proficiency as well as providing appropriate auxiliary aids and services necessary to ensure effective communication (TTY, large type, etc.). All persons experiencing homelessness are evaluated using the same assessment tool and are all afforded the same treatment, rights and remedies and appeal process.

1D-9b.	Informing Program Participant about Rights and Remedies through Centralized or Coordinated Entry-Reporting Violations.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.p.	
	Describe in the field below how your CoC through its centralized or coordinated entry:	
1.	affirmatively markets housing and services provided within the CoC's geographic area and ensures it reaches all persons experiencing homelessness;	
2.	informs program participants of their rights and remedies available under federal, state, and local fair housing and civil rights laws; and	
3.	reports any conditions or actions that impede fair housing choice for current or prospective program participants to the jurisdiction(s) responsible for certifying consistency with the Consolidated Plan.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC is affirmatively marketing housing and services in the geographical area reaching all persons experiencing homelessness without discrimination based on race/ethnicity, sex/gender orientation, familial status, disability status, limited English proficiency, age, veteran status, receipt of a subsidy. Fall River Community Development Agency conducts an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice every 5 years. Several public forums are conducted as an opportunity for citizens, service providers, business leaders and political leaders to provide input. The analysis indicates contributing factors of impediments and sets priorities and goals for the next 5 years.

2.CE program participants are provided information regarding their rights and remedies available under federal, state and local fair housing and civil rights laws as part of the packet of documents that contains the assessment tool and verifies eligibility and the person's experiences of homelessness. The packet includes a Grievance Form that is reviewed with the client upon intake by a case manager; the client signs a receipt acknowledgement of the information. Any person participating in the CES has the right to file a grievance or appeal a decision made by the CES or agencies participating in the CES. The purpose of the grievance and appeals process is to ensure that if a client has a problem or concern with the CES, they have a confidential means to report the concern. The form should be completed if the grievance relates to one of the following:

- Access to CES;
- Assessment/scoring;
- Prioritization or disagreement with housing designation;
- Housing referral or lack of follow through from housing provider;
- Other (housing discrimination or complaints).

It is the referring service provider's responsibility to notify CES participants of their right to file a grievance and/or appeal and to reasonably assist the participants in filing any such grievance. The CES follows its Grievance and Appeals procedures to address any grievances filed.

3.CE must report any conditions or actions that impede fair housing choice by any other organization to the CoC Lead/FRCDA. Also, fair housing impediments may be reported to the Fall River Community Housing Resource Board, SouthCoast Fair Housing and the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, agencies that provide resources for tenants and landlords regarding fair housing and discrimination.

1D-10.	Advancing Racial Equity in Homelessness—Conducting Assessment.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

1.	Has your CoC conducted a racial disparities assessment in the last 3 years?	Yes
2.	Enter the date your CoC conducted its latest assessment for racial disparities.	08/25/2022

1D-10a.	Process for Analyzing Racial Disparities—Identified Racial Disparities in Provision or Outcomes of Homeless Assistance.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	your CoC's process for analyzing whether any racial disparities are present in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance; and
2.	what racial disparities your CoC identified in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The Racial Equity Committee of the CoC uses the CoC Racial Equity Analysis Tool, race and ethnicity data from HMIS and anecdotal information from the Coordinated Entry System to analyze whether racial disparities are present in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance. The CoC has committed to racial equity in all of its homeless programs. The CoC Lead, the Fall River Community Development Agency, conducts an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice every five years. Several public forums are conducted as an opportunity for citizens, service providers, business leaders and political leaders to provide input. The analysis indicates contributing factors of impediments and sets priorities and goals for the next five years.

2.Although this question refers specifically to CoC program-funded assistance, the Racial Equity Committee found that in the Fall River CoC, families of color, particularly Black and Hispanic, experience a higher rate of sheltered homelessness, and homeless families in general spend more time in shelter than homeless individuals do. The higher rate of homeless families of color raises the question of why are they more likely to be homeless than white families, indicating that families of color also experience higher rates of poverty and possibly discrimination in housing or in obtaining housing. Lack of safe, affordable, sanitary housing presents an issue with moving all families, but especially those of color, out of emergency shelter and into permanent housing. Further analysis is needed at this point to determine whether the length of time in homeless shelters is a result of only lack of affordable housing, or whether there is a glitch in the Coordinated Entry System or a bigger issue of racial inequity when applying for housing under private landlords renting scattered-site PSH or private market rental units. The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice did not indicate racial inequities in the private market or Racially or Ethnically Centered Areas of Poverty. Due to the relatively low levels of segregation in the City, different racial and ethnic groups have fairly consistent access to environmentally healthy neighborhoods and low-cost and frequent transportation.

1D-10b.	Implemented Strategies that Address Racial Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate the strategies your CoC is using to address any racial disparities.

1.	The CoC's board and decisionmaking bodies are representative of the population served in the CoC.	Yes
2.	The CoC has identified steps it will take to help the CoC board and decisionmaking bodies better reflect the population served in the CoC.	Yes
3.	The CoC is expanding outreach in geographic areas with higher concentrations of underrepresented groups.	Yes
4.	The CoC has communication, such as flyers, websites, or other materials, inclusive of underrepresented groups.	Yes
5.	The CoC is training staff working in the homeless services sector to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness.	Yes

6.	The CoC is establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of different races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector.	No
7.	The CoC has staff, committees, or other resources charged with analyzing and addressing racial disparities related to homelessness.	Yes
8.	The CoC is educating organizations, stakeholders, boards of directors for local and national nonprofit organizations working on homelessness on the topic of creating greater racial and ethnic diversity.	Yes
9.	The CoC reviewed coordinated entry processes to understand their impact on people of different races and ethnicities experiencing homelessness.	Yes
10.	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.	Yes
11.	The CoC is conducting additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness.	Yes
	Other:(limit 500 characters)	
12.		

1D-10c.	Implemented Strategies that Address Known Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	

Describe in the field below the steps your CoC is taking to address the disparities identified in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC is making improvements and investments needed to address known racial disparities. The CoC and homeless providers continue to diversify their board and staff at all levels to reflect the population experiencing homelessness. The Racial Equity Committee uses the CoC Racial Equity Analysis Tool, race and ethnicity data from HMIS and anecdotal information from Coordinated Entry to analyze whether racial disparities are present in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.

Black and Hispanic homeless families are over-represented in our emergency shelters. Further analysis is needed at this point to determine whether the length of time in homeless shelters is a result of only lack of affordable housing, or whether there is a glitch in the Coordinated Entry System or a bigger issue of racial inequity when applying for housing under private landlords renting scattered-site PSH or private market rental units. The CoC is in the process of implementing a racial equity assessment at entry to determine how people of color are affected by Coordinated Entry.

The CoC and homeless providers continue to partner with other service providers to provide job opportunities to reduce poverty. Rental housing discrimination continues to be a problem and directly affects people of color to access affordable housing in good neighborhoods. The CoC and homeless providers continue to work with non-profit legal aid organizations and progressive landlords in reducing housing discrimination. The CoC is working with our local jails to help those exiting find safe, affordable housing.

The Mayor of the City of Fall River appointed a Diversity Working Group to address race within core elements: Community Involvement, Healthcare, Policing, Education, Employment. Although the group's focus is not currently racial disparities specifically among the homeless population, it certainly provides cross-over opportunities to address social issues among the homeless, particularly those of color. The FRCoC intends to invite members of the Diversity Working Group to participate on its Racial Equity Committee to implement improvements in racial equity and the provision of fair housing for all people of various color and ethnicity.

The CoC has committed to racial equity in all of its homeless programs and regularly reviews current policies and implements new policies that affect and improve racial equity in its homeless programs.

1D-10d.	Tracked Progress on Preventing or Eliminating Disparities.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.q.	
	Describe in the field below:	
	1. the measures your CoC has in place to track progress on preventing or eliminating disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance; and	
	2. the tools your CoC uses.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The Racial Equity Committee uses the HUD’s CoC Racial Equity Analysis Tool, race and ethnicity data from HMIS and “Stella P” on the HUD Homelessness Data Exchange 2.0 platform. Stella P provides visuals of how homeless households move through the homeless system and highlights outcome disparities. Stella P uses three performance measures:

- Length of time homeless;
- Exits to permanent housing; and
- Returns to homelessness after exits to permanent housing.

Stella P provides information and insight regarding the analysis of performance trends and equity in our homeless system response allowing our CoC to track progress on preventing or eliminating disparities in the provision or outcomes of homeless assistance.

To guide its work, the CoC adopted the use of a Racial Equity Toolkit, a process and set of questions designed to guide, inform, and assess how policies, programs, and budgetary decisions burden and/or benefit people of color experiencing homelessness. The Toolkit process is outlined below. The use of the Toolkit promotes racial equity by:

- Listening to the voices of those most impacted—people with lived experience of homelessness, as well as those directly serving them—to understand how policies, programs, and services within the homeless service delivery system and other intersecting systems benefit or burden people of color experiencing homelessness;
- Raising awareness of racial justice issues for those providing services and community members;
- Working across governmental systems, with other institutions and community members to align strategies to eliminate racial disparities impacting people of color experiencing homelessness; and
- Evaluating progress over time and demonstrating a commitment to share results with community members.

2.The Racial Equity Committee uses the CoC Racial Equity Analysis Tool, race and ethnicity data from HMIS and “Stella P” on the HUD Homelessness Data Exchange 2.0 platform. In addition, the CoC Lead, the Fall River Community Development Agency, conducts an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice every five years. Several public forums are conducted as an opportunity for citizens, service providers, business leaders and political leaders to provide input. The analysis indicates contributing factors of impediments and sets priorities and goals for the next five years.

1D-11.	Involving Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness in Service Delivery and Decisionmaking—CoC’s Outreach Efforts.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

Describe in the field below your CoC’s outreach efforts (e.g., social media announcements, targeted outreach) to engage those with lived experience of homelessness in leadership roles and decision making processes.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC's outreach efforts to engage those with lived experience of homelessness in leadership roles and decision-making processes has proven effective. The CoC Board has about 11 participants (9%) on the Homeless Service Providers Coalition and/or the Mayor's Task Force to End Homelessness who have experienced homelessness, most of whom are either in a CoC program or have experienced homelessness in the last 7 years, and many who have experienced living in an unsheltered situation at some point in their homelessness.

Local programs convene advisory boards that include people with lived experience, one agency having an advisory board comprised of all people with lived experience. A long-time consumer has been elected as an Officer on the HSPC. The client advisors work with the administrations to achieve client-centricity and better outcomes. CoC programs also hold tenant/participant meetings to garner opinions and suggestions to bring back to the CoC to inform policy-making. When feasible, CoC programs tend to hire formerly homeless persons because of their experiences and points of view.

Timao Center Drop-in, a day shelter, has a temporary summer work group comprised of unsheltered homeless persons that are paid to provide clean up around the city. Many of the participants have found shelter and other permanent housing outcomes through working with the Center.

Another approach to giving people with lived experience a voice is that we invite them to speak at events such as Project Homeless Connect, candlelight vigils, Summer Kindness Initiative, World AIDS Day, Overdose Awareness Day, Recovery Health and Wellness Day, etc.

People with lived experience are made aware of the opportunities available to them through announcements at meetings, published community event listings, postings on social media and fliers that are disseminated and posted throughout the community by providers and street outreach workers.

1D-11a.	Active CoC Participation of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

You must upload the Letter Signed by Working Group attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

Enter in the chart below the number of people with lived experience who currently participate in your CoC under the four categories listed:

	Level of Active Participation	Number of People with Lived Experience Within the Last 7 Years or Current Program Participant	Number of People with Lived Experience Coming from Unsheltered Situations
1.	Included in the decisionmaking processes related to addressing homelessness.	14	5
2.	Participate on CoC committees, subcommittees, or workgroups.	14	5
3.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's local competition rating factors.	1	1
4.	Included in the development or revision of your CoC's coordinated entry process.	5	4

1D-11b.	Professional Development and Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

Describe in the field below how your CoC or CoC membership organizations provide professional development and employment opportunities to individuals with lived experience of homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

The CoC and many of the CoC membership organizations provide opportunities for professional development and employment to our homeless and program participants:

- Timao Center Drop-in, a day shelter, in conjunction with the Mayor's office and the Community Development Agency, has a temporary summer work group comprised of unsheltered homeless persons that are paid to provide clean up around the city. Many of the participants have found shelter and other permanent housing outcomes through working with the Center.
- A long-time consumer has been elected as an Officer on the HSPC.
- Secure Jobs program at SER-Jobs assists adults in families in homeless programs to obtain employment.
- YouthBuild assists at-risk young adults, 16-24, neither in work nor school, by providing education and job opportunities.
- HealthFirst, a major healthcare provider, provides training/job opportunities to formerly homeless clients.
- Blount Fine Foods has a corporate office, processing plant, and store and restaurant in and near FRCoC. They have entry-level opportunities and will hire those in recovery.
- Monroe Staffing and Able Associates – Although temporary positions aren't long-term, they provide skill development, work history, links with potential long-term employers.
- MassHire Fall River Career Center offers individualized assessment and testing, vocational counseling, skills training information/referrals, training on computers/printers/copiers/fax machines, computer lab, re-employment options for laid off workers, resume writing skills, rehabilitation counseling/technical assistance, job referral, development, and placement assistance.
- Mass Rehab Commission helps individuals with disabilities live and work independently.
- Ticket to Work program of the Social Security Administration helps SSI/SSDI beneficiaries, 18-64, progress toward financial independence.
- Many local organizations that address substance abuse disorders provide training and employment for positions at their organizations such as outreach workers, recovery coaches, shelter staff, program staff, one-on-one peer coaches, etc.

It is a requirement that CoC and ESG funded programs involve their participants through employment or volunteer services, and must submit a letter to the CoC Lead, FRCDA, stating how they are in compliance with participation requirements.

1D-11c.	Routinely Gathering Feedback and Addressing Challenges of Individuals with Lived Experience of Homelessness.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.r.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	how your CoC routinely gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness;
2.	how your CoC routinely gathers feedback from people who have received assistance through the CoC or ESG Programs; and
3.	the steps your CoC has taken to address challenges raised by people with lived experience of homelessness.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.CoC routinely gathers feedback from people experiencing homelessness as follows:

- The CoC Board has about 11 participants (9%) on the Homeless Service Providers Coalition and/or the Mayor's Task Force to End Homelessness who have experienced homelessness, most of whom are either in a CoC program or have experienced homelessness in the last 7 years, and many who have experienced living in an unsheltered situation at some point in their homelessness.
- Local CoC programs convene advisory boards that include people with lived experience.
- CoC programs hold tenant/participant meetings to garner opinions and suggestions to bring back to the CoC to inform policy-making.
- CoC programs hire formerly homeless persons who bring their own experiences and points of view.

2.CoC routinely gathers feedback from people who have received assistance through the CoC or ESG programs as follows:

- Exit surveys for consumers and outcome forms for providers at the annual Project Homeless Connect which assist in identifying predominant subpopulations in need and gaps in services.
- The Coordinated Entry System solicits feedback from clients who have obtained housing and services through CES.
- Biannual Public Hearings for ESG funding held by FRCDA to communicate to the public and solicit public opinion regarding community needs including homelessness during the Annual Plan/Consolidated Plan process.
- Anecdotal stories of formerly homeless persons who speak at events such as Project Homeless Connect, candlelight vigils, Summer Kindness Initiative, World AIDS Day, Overdose Awareness Day, Recovery Health and Wellness Day, etc.

3.Challenges to engage people with lived experience in the CoC process include:

- Ensuring that CoC and ESG program assistance is presented as a client-centric, strength-based, respectful approach.
- Ensuring CoC and ESG programming is relevant and useful to the current population and its needs.

1D-12.	Increasing Affordable Housing Supply.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.t.	
	Describe in the field below at least 2 steps your CoC has taken in the past 12 months to engage city, county, or state governments that represent your CoC's geographic area regarding the following:	
1.	reforming zoning and land use policies to permit more housing development; and	
2.	reducing regulatory barriers to housing development.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The City of Fall River has been committed to converting buildings and structures not built for housing to apartment units and condominiums. These structures include office space, mill buildings, old schools and churches. With some exceptions, most of the housing is not intended for low-income persons, but it is presumed that the new market rate units will free up units in the city's older, smaller tenement buildings that tend to be more affordable.

In the development of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), the City in partnership with the CoC analyzed zoning, land use policies and housing regulatory barriers. While the AI identifies several impediments, none are directly related to barriers to increasing the affordable housing supply related to zoning and land use policies permitting housing development.

The CoC partnered with the Fall River Housing Authority to create a Moving On program. The program is targeted to former chronically homeless participants in a Fall River PSH program. The set aside for Moving On is 20 Housing Choice Vouchers and will be given absolute preference over all other HCV applicants on the waiting list.

The CoC partnered with the City and the Fall River Community Development Agency in designing the HOME-ARP program. A goal of producing 15 affordable housing units with HOME-ARP funding was established. FRCD A uses HOME funding to develop affordable housing units and HOME-assisted housing portfolio consists of approximately 458 units.

2.The development of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) provided an analysis of zoning, land use policies and housing regulatory barriers. While the AI identifies several impediments, none are directly related to barriers to increasing the affordable housing supply related to regulatory barriers to housing development. With some exceptions, the city Zoning Board currently does not impose parking space requirements, density issue requirements, height restrictions in areas outside the waterfront. There does tend to be a lengthy approval process in some cases. The reduced regulatory barriers have encouraged private developers to create over 2,000 new units in the city. Although most of the housing is not intended for low-income persons, it is presumed that the new market rate units will free up units in the city's older, smaller tenement buildings that tend to be more affordable.

1E. Project Capacity, Review, and Ranking–Local Competition

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

1E-1.	Web Posting of Your CoC's Local Competition Deadline–Advance Public Notice.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.a. and 2.g.	
	You must upload the Web Posting of Local Competition Deadline attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

1.	Enter your CoC's local competition submission deadline date for New Project applicants to submit their project applications to your CoC—meaning the date your CoC published the deadline.	08/03/2023
2.	Enter the date your CoC published the deadline for Renewal Project applicants to submit their project applications to your CoC's local competition—meaning the date your CoC published the deadline.	08/03/2023

1E-2.	Project Review and Ranking Process Your CoC Used in Its Local Competition. We use the response to this question and the response in Question 1E-2a along with the required attachments from both questions as a factor when determining your CoC's eligibility for bonus funds and for other NOFO criteria below.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., 2.d., and 2.e.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Scoring Tool attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	
	Select yes or no in the chart below to indicate how your CoC ranked and selected project applications during your local competition:	

1.	Established total points available for each project application type.	Yes
2.	At least 33 percent of the total points were based on objective criteria for the project application (e.g., cost effectiveness, timely draws, utilization rate, match, leverage), performance data, type of population served (e.g., DV, youth, Veterans, chronic homelessness), or type of housing proposed (e.g., PSH, RRH).	Yes
3.	At least 20 percent of the total points were based on system performance criteria for the project application (e.g., exits to permanent housing destinations, retention of permanent housing, length of time homeless, returns to homelessness).	Yes
4.	Provided points for projects that addressed specific severe barriers to housing and services.	Yes

5.	Used data from comparable databases to score projects submitted by victim service providers.	No
6.	Provided points for projects based on the degree the projects identified any barriers to participation (e.g., lack of outreach) faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and has taken or will take steps to eliminate the identified barriers.	No

1E-2a.	Scored Project Forms for One Project from Your CoC's Local Competition. We use the response to this question and Question 1E-2. along with the required attachments from both questions as a factor when determining your CoC's eligibility for bonus funds and for other NOFO criteria below.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.a., 2.b., 2.c., and 2.d.	

You must upload the Scored Forms for One Project attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

Complete the chart below to provide details of your CoC's local competition:

1.	What were the maximum number of points available for the renewal project form(s)?	80
2.	How many renewal projects did your CoC submit?	7
3.	What renewal project type did most applicants use?	PH-PSH

1E-2b.	Addressing Severe Barriers in the Local Project Review and Ranking Process.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.d.	

Describe in the field below:

1.	how your CoC analyzed data regarding each project that has successfully housed program participants in permanent housing;
2.	how your CoC analyzed data regarding how long it takes to house people in permanent housing;
3.	how your CoC considered the specific severity of needs and vulnerabilities experienced by program participants preventing rapid placement in permanent housing or the ability to maintain permanent housing when your CoC ranked and selected projects; and
4.	considerations your CoC gave to projects that provide housing and services to the hardest to serve populations that could result in lower performance levels but are projects your CoC needs in its geographic area.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.To determine each project successfully housed program participants in permanent housing, the CoC collected and analyzed data from its HMIS, specifically Exit Destination from the Annual Performance Reports – those who exit to Permanent Destinations and those who are Stayers in the PSH program.

2.In order to determine how long it takes to house people in permanent housing, the CoC collected and analyzed data from its HMIS, specifically Length of Time Prior to Housing. The R&R Committee didn't use LOT as a component in scoring applications as it is not a reflection on the project itself. Without documentation of how the participants came to a particular project, there is no demonstration of how that person navigated the CoC prior to becoming housed. LOT is a systemwide performance component of how the CoC operates as a whole.

3.The Review & Ranking Committee considered how the specific severity of needs and vulnerabilities affect placement in/maintenance of permanent housing. One project didn't meet two goals having 79% Exits to Permanent Housing and 40% Returns to Homelessness; all other programs met those goals. Program staff explained to the R&R Committee that a few people living in the congregate 22-unit PSH program were engaging in illegal substance use activity, making all participants living in the building vulnerable as they all have co-occurring mental health and substance use disorder. Some had to leave for the good of the rest. This information was taken into consideration when ranking the program, not basing their score solely on the Project Rating Tool.

4.The R&R Committee gave special consideration to one project that provides housing to the hardest-to-serve populations that resulted in lower performance levels. The project didn't meet two goals having 79% Exits to Permanent Housing and 40% Returns to Homelessness; all other programs met those goals. Program staff explained to the R&R Committee that a few people living in the congregate 22-unit PSH program were engaging in illegal substance use activity, making all participants living in the building vulnerable as they all have co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. Some had to leave for the good of the rest. This information was taken into consideration when ranking the program, not basing their score solely on the Project Rating Tool.

1E-3.	Advancing Racial Equity through Participation of Over-Represented Populations in the Local Competition Review and Ranking Process.	
NOFO Section V.B.2.e.		
Describe in the field below:		
1.	how your CoC used the input from persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, to determine the rating factors used to review project applications;	
2.	how your CoC included persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population in the review, selection, and ranking process; and	
3.	how your CoC rated and ranked projects based on the degree to which their project has identified any barriers to participation (e.g., lack of outreach) faced by persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and has taken or will take steps to eliminate the identified barriers.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC obtained input and included persons of different races, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, namely Black and Hispanic. There were 8 members of the Review & Ranking Committee and 6 representatives from agencies submitting renewal projects in the FY2023 CoC competition who were responsible to determine the rating factors used to review project applications. 14% of those persons are people of color, specifically Black, Hispanic and Indigenous. All were presented with the scoring tool as provided by HUD and the scoring and assessment tool used locally to decide what changes and updates should be made. Review & Ranking Committee members and project representatives all had the opportunity to provide input. The CoC Lead used that input to update the rating factors for the scoring tool for the FY2023 CoC competition.

2.The CoC obtained input and included persons of different races, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, namely Black and Hispanic. Of the committee that participated in the review, selection and ranking process of the projects, 14% were persons of color, specifically Black, Hispanic and Indigenous. The participants in the process included the staff of the projects up for renewal who influenced the scoring based on anecdotal information and explanations of program anomalies and Review & Ranking Committee who scored the projects and considered the anecdotal and descriptive information that was presented to them by the project staff.

3.The Committee that reviewed and ranked the projects, 14% of which was persons of color, did not find evidence of or identify any barriers to participation faced by persons of different races and ethnicities. Examination of the projects relative to those barriers continues as we continue to assess racial disparity and inequity in our community.

1E-4.	Reallocation—Reviewing Performance of Existing Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.f.	

	Describe in the field below:
1.	your CoC's reallocation process, including how your CoC determined which projects are candidates for reallocation because they are low performing or less needed;
2.	whether your CoC identified any low performing or less needed projects through the process described in element 1 of this question during your CoC's local competition this year;
3.	whether your CoC reallocated any low performing or less needed projects during its local competition this year; and
4.	why your CoC did not reallocate low performing or less needed projects during its local competition this year, if applicable.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The Reallocation Assessment Process is the result of CoC planning and the CoC's strategy to end homelessness. Local policy governing project ranking, reallocation, and tiering involves evaluating renewal projects regarding HUD's priorities:

- Compliance with HUD requirements;
- Preserving funds for high performing projects; and
- Shifting investments from low performing projects to new projects to advance the goal of reducing homelessness.

The Review & Ranking Committee used a Project Rating Tool to develop a summary Score Sheet of each project. The Score Sheet evaluated the projects based on:

- Project description;
- Funds expended;
- Performance Measures; and
- Whether the project is Low Barrier/Housing First.

In addition to ranking projects based on HUD's priorities and the scoring tool, project staff were able to present anecdotal information and explanations of program anomalies to the Review & Ranking Committee. The R&R Committee took into account that the projects assist the hardest-to-serve populations and those with severe needs and vulnerabilities when deciding whether to reallocate funding away from the programs that are meeting the CoC's needs.

2.Through the Reallocation Assessment Process, one project was identified as under-performing based on not meeting the goals Exits to Permanent Housing and % Returns to Homelessness.

3.The low-performing project's funds were not reallocated during this year's local competition.

4.The CoC did not choose to reallocate the low-performing project's funds during this year's local competition because it is a much-needed project assisting the hardest-to-serve populations with severe needs and vulnerabilities including co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders, and it expended 98% of its funds.

1E-4a.	Reallocation Between FY 2018 and FY 2023.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.f.	

	Did your CoC cumulatively reallocate at least 20 percent of its ARD between FY 2018 and FY 2023?	No
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1E-5.	Projects Rejected/Reduced–Notification Outside of e-snaps.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

1.	Did your CoC reject any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	No
2.	Did your CoC reduce funding for any project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	No
3.	Did your CoC inform applicants why your CoC rejected or reduced their project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?	No

4.	If you selected Yes for element 1 or element 2 of this question, enter the date your CoC notified applicants that their project applications were being rejected or reduced, in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, enter the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 06/26/2023, 06/27/2023, and 06/28/2023, then you must enter 06/28/2023.	
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1E-5a.	Projects Accepted–Notification Outside of e-snaps.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of Projects Accepted attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Enter the date your CoC notified project applicants that their project applications were accepted and ranked on the New and Renewal Priority Listings in writing, outside of e-snaps. If you notified applicants on various dates, enter the latest date of any notification. For example, if you notified applicants on 06/26/2023, 06/27/2023, and 06/28/2023, then you must enter 06/28/2023.	09/11/2023
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1E-5b.	Local Competition Selection Results for All Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Local Competition Selection Results attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Does your attachment include: 1. Project Names; 2. Project Scores; 3. Project accepted or rejected status; 4. Project Rank–if accepted; 5. Requested Funding Amounts; and 6. Reallocated funds.	Yes
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1E-5c.	Web Posting of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application 2 Days Before CoC Program Competition Application Submission Deadline.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g. and 24 CFR 578.95.	
	You must upload the Web Posting–CoC-Approved Consolidated Application attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Enter the date your CoC posted the CoC-approved Consolidated Application on the CoC's website or partner's website–which included: 1. the CoC Application; and 2. Priority Listings for Reallocation forms and all New, Renewal, and Replacement Project Listings.	09/25/2023
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1E-5d.	Notification to Community Members and Key Stakeholders that the CoC-Approved Consolidated Application is Posted on Website.	
	NOFO Section V.B.2.g.	
	You must upload the Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

Applicant: Fall River CoC

MA 515

Project: MA-515 CoC Registration FY 2023

COC_REG_2023_204354

	Enter the date your CoC notified community members and key stakeholders that the CoC-approved Consolidated Application was posted on your CoC's website or partner's website.	09/26/2023
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2A. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Implementation

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2A-1.	HMIS Vendor.	
	Not Scored—For Information Only	

	Enter the name of the HMIS Vendor your CoC is currently using.	CaseWorthy
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2A-2.	HMIS Implementation Coverage Area.	
	Not Scored—For Information Only	

	Select from dropdown menu your CoC's HMIS coverage area.	Single CoC
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2A-3.	HIC Data Submission in HDX.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.a.	

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2023 HIC data into HDX.	04/12/2023
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2A-4.	Comparable Database for DV Providers—CoC and HMIS Lead Supporting Data Collection and Data Submission by Victim Service Providers.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.b.	

	In the field below:	
1.	describe actions your CoC and HMIS Lead have taken to ensure DV housing and service providers in your CoC collect data in HMIS comparable databases;	
2.	state whether DV housing and service providers in your CoC are using a HUD-compliant comparable database—compliant with the FY 2022 HMIS Data Standards; and	

3. state whether your CoC's HMIS is compliant with the FY 2022 HMIS Data Standards.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC/HMIS Lead communicates with the CoC's one ESG-funded DV shelter provider often. The DV provider is present at Homeless Service Providers Coalition, Mayor's Task Force to End Homelessness, and the national HMIS Lead and System Administrator group monthly meetings. The Victim Service Provider domestic violence shelter uses a comparable HMIS database called EmpowerDB to collect de-identified aggregate data on its clients.
2.The VSP that uses EmpowerDB requested assistance from the CoC/HMIS Lead to assess its current HMIS product and compare it to other vendors' products. After several conversations between the provider and other vendors and the provider and the CoC/HMIS Lead, the VSP elected to remain with EmpowerDB as the vendor assured the provider that their system is compliant with FY2022 HMIS Data Standards.
3.The CoC uses CaseWorthy as the HMIS vendor and The Victim Service Provider domestic violence shelter uses a comparable HMIS database called EmpowerDB to collect de-identified aggregate data on clients. CaseWorthy and EmpowerDB are both in compliance with FY2022 HMIS Data Standards and are able to meet all reporting requirements.

2A-5. Bed Coverage Rate—Using HIC, HMIS Data—CoC Merger Bonus Points.

NOFO Section V.B.3.c. and V.B.7.

Enter 2023 HIC and HMIS data in the chart below by project type:

Project Type	Total Year-Round Beds in 2023 HIC	Total Year-Round Beds in HIC Operated by Victim Service Providers	Total Year-Round Beds in HMIS	HMIS Year-Round Bed Coverage Rate
1. Emergency Shelter (ES) beds	264	10	254	100.00%
2. Safe Haven (SH) beds	0	0	0	
3. Transitional Housing (TH) beds	24	0	0	0.00%
4. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	76	0	2	2.63%
5. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	192	0	172	89.58%
6. Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds	0	0	0	

2A-5a. Partial Credit for Bed Coverage Rates at or Below 84.99 for Any Project Type in Question 2A-5.

NOFO Section V.B.3.c.

For each project type with a bed coverage rate that is at or below 84.99 percent in question 2A-5, describe:

- steps your CoC will take over the next 12 months to increase the bed coverage rate to at least 85 percent for that project type; and
- how your CoC will implement the steps described to increase bed coverage to at least 85 percent.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. Transitional Housing Beds: The CoC/HMIS Lead has had discussions with the Fall River Housing Authority to include their Local Housing Authority Transitional Housing Program in HMIS. FRHA has agreed to participate in data entry and wants to enter their transitional housing program's participants into CaseWorthy. HMIS Lead has a training session set for this fall with new users and will include the TH program.

Rapid Re-Housing Beds: The CoC Lead added HomeBase RRH beds to its inventory in order to have an accurate count of RRH beds in the CoC's Housing Inventory Chart and Point-in-Time Count. HMIS Lead will work with the new HMIS staff at the Justice Resource Institute to bring the project on-board. No training is necessary, just data entry of all current clients.

2. Transitional Housing Beds: The FRHA LHATHP program staff will be offered training next month in order to be able to enter accurate data into CaseWorthy. This will bring up TH HMIS compliance to 100%.

Rapid Re-Housing Beds: If HomeBase clients are being entered into another HMIS, arrangements will be made to upload from their system to the Fall River CoC HMIS. If uploading data to CaseWorthy is not an option, the HMIS Lead will approach the agency about double data entry into CaseWorthy as well as their own HMIS.

2A-6.	Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Submission in HDX 2.0.	
	NOFO Section V.B.3.d.	
	You must upload your CoC's FY 2023 HDX Competition Report to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

Did your CoC submit at least two usable LSA data files to HUD in HDX 2.0 by February 28, 2023, 8 p.m. EST?	Yes
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2B. Continuum of Care (CoC) Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2B-1.	PIT Count Date.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.a	

	Enter the date your CoC conducted its 2023 PIT count.	01/25/2023
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2B-2.	PIT Count Data—HDX Submission Date.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.a	

	Enter the date your CoC submitted its 2023 PIT count data in HDX.	04/12/2023
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2B-3.	PIT Count—Effectively Counting Youth in Your CoC's Most Recent Unsheltered PIT Count.	
	NOFO Section V.B.4.b.	

	Describe in the field below how your CoC:
1.	engaged unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations in your CoC's most recent PIT count planning process;
2.	worked with unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations to select locations where homeless youth are most likely to be identified during your CoC's most recent PIT count planning process; and
3.	included youth experiencing homelessness as counters during your CoC's most recent unsheltered PIT count.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. During the annual 2023 PIT Count, street outreach teams engaged those organizations familiar with our unsheltered youth on the streets. The Fall River CoC was supported by many local community-based organizations to ensure youth needs and perspectives are included. The outreach strategy includes adequately resourced street teams familiar with our unsheltered youth on the streets with knowledge of, experience with and insight into youth habits and hangouts. The teams engaged local educational institutions, social media, drop-in centers, meal programs, food pantries, shelters and other places where young people congregate to promote the PIT Count.
2. The process involved managing capacity strategically so that the count can successfully be executed on task. Partnerships were integral to supporting and maximizing count impact, and obtaining an accurate count of youth was dependent on outreach staff and other community organizations who specialize in serving youth experiencing homelessness to inform the process of where to locate unaccompanied homeless youth and young adults. Locations included encampments, parks, playgrounds, basketball courts, schools, soup kitchens, and food pantries. The count was further enhanced by incorporating suggestions by youth on incentives the outreach teams should distribute during the count.
3. No homeless youth experiencing homelessness were used during the most recent unsheltered PIT Count as the street outreach teams had no one under the age of 25 represented.

2B-4.	PIT Count—Methodology Change—CoC Merger Bonus Points.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.a and V.B.7.c.	
	In the field below:	
	1. describe any changes your CoC made to your sheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2022 and 2023, if applicable;	
	2. describe any changes your CoC made to your unsheltered PIT count implementation, including methodology or data quality changes between 2022 and 2023, if applicable; and	
	3. describe how the changes affected your CoC's PIT count results; or	
	4. state "Not Applicable" if there were no changes or if you did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2023.	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. There were no changes to the sheltered PIT Count implementation between 2022 and 2023 counts. The PIT Count was conducted over 24 hours from 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 25 until 8:00 a.m. Thursday, January 26, 2023. FRCoC used HMIS data to complete the PIT Count with HMIS-participating agencies and paper surveys for non-HMIS participating agencies.
2. There were no changes to the unsheltered PIT Count methodology between the 2022 count and the 2023 count. Since 2020, the Fall River CoC has been using a mobile application called Counting Us developed by Simtech Solutions, Inc. The app allows street outreach to conduct paperless interviews and observations of the unsheltered homeless on the streets of our CoC using cell phones and tablets. The PIT Count was taken over the course of six days from Wednesday, January 25 through Monday, January 30, 2023. The street outreach teams have become more organized and have been able to expand their efforts by incentivizing the homeless to complete surveys in exchange for the provision of goods such as gift cards, clothing, hygiene items and other necessities.
3. There were no changes in the CoC's PIT Count implementation between 2022 and 2023.
4. Not applicable – an unsheltered PIT Count was conducted, but no changes were made in the methodology.

2C. System Performance

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

2C-1.	Reduction in the Number of First Time Homeless--Risk Factors Your CoC Uses.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.b.	
	In the field below:	
1.	describe how your CoC determined the risk factors to identify persons experiencing homelessness for the first time;	
2.	describe your CoC's strategies 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 your CoC's strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time	

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC identifies the following factors to be indicative of becoming homeless for the first time through the triage and assessment intake process when the household seeks assistance through the Coordinated Entry System: sudden loss of income, untreated chronic illness, substance abuse, disabling condition, domestic violence, rising cost of living. At CE intake, an assessment of the client is completed to evaluate for referrals and placements based on vulnerability, past history of homelessness, length of time homeless, etc.

2.Coordinated Entry staff, run by Catholic Social Services, devises creative strategies for diversion and prevention such as having at-risk households stay where they stayed the previous night or assisting them to go back to their community of support. Catholic Social Services runs a ESG-funded homeless prevention program with ongoing case management to provide crisis intervention and financial assistance to avoid eviction. RAFT, run by NeighborWorks Housing Solutions, provides short-term, limited financial assistance to help eligible families avoid homelessness by retaining current housing/securing new housing. The state's Tenancy Preservation Program helps disabled tenants facing eviction due to disability-related behavior by developing a plan to maintain tenancy and provide ongoing services. Community Counseling of Bristol County offers short-term community support to provide intensive case management to Medicaid clients considered at-risk of homelessness. Peer-to-peer recovery service agencies offer support in group or independent settings to avoid behavior and actions that might make a person homeless.

3.The CoC Board is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness for the first time by working collaboratively with CoC member provider organizations, reviewing and analyzing data, and implementing plans of action. CE staff, operated by Catholic Social Services, is responsible to identify ways to divert and prevent homelessness such as having them stay where they stayed the previous night or assisting them to go back to the town where they have their supports (family, doctors, church). NeighborWorks Housing Solutions operates the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT). Tenancy Preservation Program, Community Counseling of Bristol County, River to Recovery and Peer-to-Peer all offer crisis intervention to those at-risk of homelessness

2C-1a.	Impact of Displaced Persons on Number of First Time Homeless.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.b	

Was your CoC's Number of First Time Homeless [metric 5.2] affected by the number of persons seeking short-term shelter or housing assistance displaced due to:

1.	natural disasters?	No
2.	having recently arrived in your CoCs' geographic area?	No

2C-2.	Length of Time Homeless—CoC's Strategy to Reduce.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.c.	

In the field below:

1.	describe your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and persons in families remain homeless;
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2.	describe how your CoC identifies and houses individuals and persons in families with the longest lengths of time homeless; and
3.	provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC's strategy to reduce length of time homeless includes:

- Implement Coordinated Entry to streamline referrals, provide a centralized waitlist and provide real-time bed availability;
- Provide Case management and individualized service plans to all willing program participants including assistance to obtain mainstream benefits;
- Identify the unsheltered homeless and set them up with case management services through CoC providers;
- Develop approaches to facilitate everyday tasks of the homeless – Timao Center Drop-in provides a space every weekday to go and have breakfast and lunch, shower, do laundry and build life skills. CDA purchased mobile showers and laundry facilities. United Way provides funding for state IDs. The City waives fees for Fall River birth certificates. Walt's Closet provides appropriate attire for job interviews;
- Create volunteer/job opportunities – Timao Center Drop-in, a day shelter, has a temporary summer work group comprised of unsheltered homeless persons that are paid to provide clean up around the city;
- Create a Moving On program to rotate PSH units and open them up for additional clients by providing 20 Housing Choice Vouchers (PHA) to eligible PSH participants who no longer need supportive services.
- Identify issues around discharge planning – who the offenders are, how to decrease occurrences, how to enforce Massachusetts discharge planning laws.
- Steppingstone's First Step Inn shelter increased its beds from 20 to 30 and offers CSP-HI (Medicaid Community Support Program for Homeless Individuals) that begins specialized services to the homeless in any homeless situation (street, shelter, institution) to navigate from homelessness to permanent supportive housing and continue to provide services after being placed in housing to remain in, maintain, move on to independent permanent housing.

2.CE assessment tool and System Performance Measures are used to identify and prioritize those with longest histories of homelessness as well as observations by our street outreach workers. The CE tool awards points based on length of time homeless.

3.The Fall River CoC Board is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time individuals and families remain homeless. The CoC reviews and analyzes data and implements plans of action. Catholic Social Services is responsible to implement the Coordinated Entry System.

2C-3.	Exits to Permanent Housing Destinations/Retention of Permanent Housing—CoC's Strategy	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.d.	
	In the field below:	
1.	describe your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in emergency shelter, safe havens, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing exit to permanent housing destinations;	
2.	describe your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families residing in permanent housing projects retain their permanent housing or exit to permanent housing destinations; and	

- | | |
|----|---|
| 3. | provide the name of the organization or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and families exit to or retain permanent housing. |
|----|---|

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.Strategies to increase the rate at which those in ES, SH, TH & RRH exit to permanent housing destinations include:

- FR Housing Authority established a Limited Homeless Preference by eliminating the rent-burdened preference requirement from its HCVP waiting list: "Families residing or working in Fall River and paying 40% or more of their adjusted income for rent and utilities." Homeless households are paying at most 30% of their income for rent, therefore never met the criteria of rent-burdened.
- Provide case management and individualized service plans to all willing program participants including assistance to obtain mainstream benefits and to obtain/increase employment and non-employment cash income.
- Create volunteer/job opportunities – Timao Center Drop-in, a day shelter, has a temporary summer work group comprised of unsheltered homeless persons that are paid to provide clean up around the city. Many of the participants have found shelter and other permanent housing outcomes through working with the Center.
- Utilize ESG Rapid Re-Housing funds to move individuals and families from shelter to PSH and other permanent housing.
- Continue to convince private landlords of the benefits of renting to PSH program participants.

2.Strategies to increase the rate at which those in PSH projects retain PSH or exit to permanent housing destinations include:

- The CoC assisted and supported FRHA to establish a Moving On program by providing 20 vouchers specifically set-aside for participants in Fall River PSH programs who no longer need supportive services.
- Create volunteer/job opportunities – Timao Center Drop-in, a day shelter, has a temporary summer work group comprised of unsheltered homeless persons that are paid to provide clean up around the city. Many of the participants have found shelter and other permanent housing outcomes through working with the Center.
- Provide Case management and individualized service plans to all willing program participants including assistance to obtain mainstream benefits and to obtain/increase employment and non-employment cash income.
- Engage the McKinney-Vento School Liaison to identify students in families who need assistance to retain housing.
- Continue to convince private landlords of the benefits of renting to PSH program participants.

3.The Fall River CoC Board is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and families exit to or retain permanent housing

2C-4.	Returns to Homelessness—CoC's Strategy to Reduce Rate.
-------	--

NOFO Section V.B.5.e.

In the field below:

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | describe your CoC's strategy to identify individuals and families who return to homelessness; |
| 2. | describe your 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 your CoC's strategy to reduce the rate individuals and persons in families return to homelessness. |

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The indications of Returns to Homelessness run deeper than just the problems of the individual or family who has experienced homelessness. Although mental health and addiction issues are a strong indicator that one may not be able to retain housing, there are external issues that affect housing stability. These factors are identified through:

- HMIS data
- shelter data
- reports from the street outreach staff
- eviction rates
- housing market forecasts
- anecdotal evidence from those unstably housed and housing navigators.

The factors include:

- wage earnings increase and consequently public benefits are greatly reduced and/or eliminated;
- a lack of safe, decent, sanitary, affordable housing;
- unaffordable rents;
- the lack of vouchers.

2.The CoC's strategy to reduce Returns to Homelessness:

- Utilize ESG Prevention funds to assist individuals and families retain their housing when in crisis.
- Provide Case management and individualized service plans to all willing program participants including assistance to obtain mainstream benefits and to obtain/increase employment and non-employment cash income.
- Utilize the vouchers made available by Moving On program. Assist and support FRHA to apply for available housing vouchers for homeless/at-risk in the HUD Mainstream Voucher Program. Supportive service agencies provide case management to the residents who obtain vouchers.
- Engage the McKinney-Vento School Liaison to identify students in families who may be unstable or in crisis.
- Create volunteer/job opportunities – Timao Center Drop-in, a day shelter, has a temporary summer work group comprised of unsheltered homeless persons that are paid to provide clean up around the city. Many of the participants have found shelter and other permanent housing outcomes through working with the Center.
- Research HUD-assisted private housing, and create a campaign to encourage private landlords to adopt a homeless preference.

3.The Fall River CoC Board is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and persons in families return to homelessness.

2C-5.	Increasing Employment Cash Income–CoC's Strategy.	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.f.	

	In the field below:
1.	describe your CoC's strategy to access employment cash sources;
2.	describe how your CoC works with mainstream employment organizations to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness increase their employment cash income; and
3.	provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase income from employment.

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.To increase employment income, the CoC must meet needs to:

- provide opportunities for job training or education (community college, trade schools);
- assist in seeking appropriate job openings in their field;
- assist with resume-building; and
- assist with interviews skills and clothing and appropriate job materials.

For those who have been out of work for an extended period, or have low job skills/education levels, on-the-job support and communication with employers is key to assist employees with problem-solving and conflict-resolution. In all cases, employment stability and advancement must be promoted. The CoC Board includes organizations willing to provide job/training opportunities to the homeless and formerly homeless population.

Timao Center Drop-in, a day shelter, the Career Center and the Mayor's office created a temporary summer work program comprised of unsheltered homeless persons that are paid to provide clean up around the city. The CoC is seeking a way to expand upon this strategy.

2.CoC agencies have policies that employable clients must complete employment profiles and obtain job training, and they refer program participants to:

- Secure Jobs program at SER-Jobs assists adults in families in homeless programs to obtain employment.
- HealthFirst, a major healthcare provider, provides training/job opportunities to formerly homeless persons.
- Blount Fine Foods has a corporate office, processing plant, and store/restaurant in/near FRCoC. They have entry-level opportunities and will hire those in recovery.
- Monroe Staffing and Able Associates. Although temporary positions aren't long-term, they provide skill development, work history, links with potential long-term employers.
- MassHire Career Center provides job referral, development, and placement assistance.
- YouthBuild assists at-risk young adults, 16-24, neither in work nor school, by providing education and job opportunities.
- Mass Rehab Commission helps individuals with disabilities live and work independently.
- Ticket to Work program helps SSI/SSDI beneficiaries, 18-64, progress toward financial independence.
- Job fairs are provided by the city administration, temp agencies, restaurant chains, supermarkets, healthcare providers, manufacturing companies, transportation companies, etc.

3.The Fall River CoC Board is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to increase income from employment among the homeless and at risk of homeless population.

2C-5a.	Increasing Non-employment Cash Income—CoC's Strategy	
	NOFO Section V.B.5.f.	
	In the field below:	
	1. describe your CoC's strategy to access non-employment cash income; and	
	2. provide the organization name or position title that is responsible for overseeing your CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income.	
FY2023 CoC Application	Page 63	09/26/2023

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC's strategy to increase non-employment cash income is to have case managers assist clients applying for mainstream benefits, such as Supplemental Security Income, Social Security Disability Income, health insurance, food assistance (SNAP, WIC), Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children, Transitional Assistance for Families and Dependent Children. The case manager must also provide assistance with obtaining necessary documents and all other follow-up to obtain maximum mainstream benefits. The United Way provides funding for state IDs and the city waives the fees for Fall River birth certificates for the homeless.

Case managers are SOAR-trained to increase access to SSI/SSDI for eligible homeless or at-risk adults who have mental illness, medical impairment, and/or co-occurring substance use disorder. Having a SOAR-trained case manager reduces the chance that the client will be rejected when applying for SSI/SSDI. SAMHSA SOAR training consultants provide follow through with additional education and certification to increase the number of SOAR-trained providers and to increase their ability to better navigate the application process. Program staff can assist program participants to complete applications for insurance, SNAP benefits, and EAEDC benefits at www.virtualgateway.com via www.mass.gov.

Insurance can be applied for at any hospital, major healthcare facility (clinic), and through for profit and non-profit insurance companies (Neighborhood Health Plan, Inc., Boston Medical HealthNet Plan, Fallon Community Health Plan).

MassHire Career Center assists with applying for unemployment benefits.

2.The CoC Lead, the Fall River Community Development Agency, is responsible for overseeing the CoCs strategy to increase non-employment cash income. CDA is responsible for introducing the SOAR training consultants to the service providers of the CoC. Program Subrecipient organizations, Catholic Social Services, Steppingstone, Inc. and the New Bedford Women's Center, Inc. program staff are responsible to assist their clients to access applications to apply for non-employment cash income.

3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

3A-1.	New PH-PSH/PH-RRH Project–Leveraging Housing Resources.	
	NOFO Section V.B.6.a.	
	You must upload the Housing Leveraging Commitment attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Is your CoC applying for a new PH-PSH or PH-RRH project that uses housing subsidies or subsidized housing units which are not funded through the CoC or ESG Programs to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness?	No
--	--	----

3A-2.	New PH-PSH/PH-RRH Project–Leveraging Healthcare Resources.	
	NOFO Section V.B.6.b.	
	You must upload the Healthcare Formal Agreements attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.	

	Is your CoC applying for a new PH-PSH or PH-RRH project that uses healthcare resources to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness?	No
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3A-3.	Leveraging Housing/Healthcare Resources–List of Projects.	
	NOFO Sections V.B.6.a. and V.B.6.b.	
	If you selected yes to questions 3A-1. or 3A-2., use the list feature icon to enter information about each project application you intend for HUD to evaluate to determine if they meet the criteria.	

Project Name	Project Type	Rank Number	Leverage Type
This list contains no items			

3B. New Projects With Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

3B-1.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.s.	

Is your CoC requesting funding for any new project application requesting \$200,000 or more in funding for housing rehabilitation or new construction?	No
--	----

3B-2.	Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs–New Projects.	
	NOFO Section V.B.1.s.	

If you answered yes to question 3B-1, describe in the field below actions CoC Program-funded project applicants will take to comply with:

1.	Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u); and
2.	HUD's implementing rules at 24 CFR part 75 to provide employment and training opportunities for low- and very-low-income persons, as well as contracting and other economic opportunities for businesses that provide economic opportunities to low- and very-low-income persons.

(limit 2,500 characters)

N/A

3C. Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

3C-1.	Designating SSO/TH/Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Projects to Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes.	
	NOFO Section V.F.	

	Is your CoC requesting to designate one or more of its SSO, TH, or Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects to serve families with children or youth experiencing homelessness as defined by other Federal statutes?	No
--	--	----

3C-2.	Serving Persons Experiencing Homelessness as Defined by Other Federal Statutes.	
	NOFO Section V.F.	

You must upload the Project List for Other Federal Statutes attachment to the 4B. Attachments Screen.

If you answered yes to question 3C-1, describe in the field below:

1.	how serving this population is of equal or greater priority, which means that it is equally or more cost effective in meeting the overall goals and objectives of the plan submitted under Section 427(b)(1)(B) of the Act, especially with respect to children and unaccompanied youth than serving the homeless as defined in paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of the definition of homeless in 24 CFR 578.3; and
2.	how your CoC will meet requirements described in Section 427(b)(1)(F) of the Act.

(limit 2,500 characters)

N/A

4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants for New DV Bonus Funding

HUD publishes resources on the HUD.gov website at CoC Program Competition to assist you in completing the CoC Application. Resources include:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Noncompetitive Award of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Renewal and Replacement Grants;
- 24 CFR part 578;
- FY 2023 CoC Application Navigational Guide;
- Section 3 Resources;
- PHA Crosswalk; and
- Frequently Asked Questions

4A-1.	New DV Bonus Project Applications.	
	NOFO Section I.B.3.I.	

	Did your CoC submit one or more new project applications for DV Bonus Funding?	No
Applicant Name		
This list contains no items		

4B. Attachments Screen For All Application Questions

We have provided the following guidance to help you successfully upload attachments and get maximum points:

1.	You must include a Document Description for each attachment you upload; if you do not, the Submission Summary screen will display a red X indicating the submission is incomplete.		
2.	You must upload an attachment for each document listed where 'Required?' is 'Yes'.		
3.	We prefer that you use PDF files, though other file types are supported—please only use zip files if necessary. Converting electronic files to PDF, rather than printing documents and scanning them, often produces higher quality images. Many systems allow you to create PDF files as a Print option. If you are unfamiliar with this process, you should consult your IT Support or search for information on Google or YouTube.		
4.	Attachments must match the questions they are associated with.		
5.	Only upload documents responsive to the questions posed—including other material slows down the review process, which ultimately slows down the funding process.		
6.	If you cannot read the attachment, it is likely we cannot read it either.		
	. We must be able to read the date and time on attachments requiring system-generated dates and times, (e.g., a screenshot displaying the time and date of the public posting using your desktop calendar; screenshot of a webpage that indicates date and time).		
	. We must be able to read everything you want us to consider in any attachment.		
7.	After you upload each attachment, use the Download feature to access and check the attachment to ensure it matches the required Document Type and to ensure it contains all pages you intend to include.		
8.	Only use the "Other" attachment option to meet an attachment requirement that is not otherwise listed in these detailed instructions.		
Document Type	Required?	Document Description	Date Attached
1C-7. PHA Homeless Preference	No	1C-7. PHA Homeles...	09/19/2023
1C-7. PHA Moving On Preference	No	1C-7. PHA Moving ...	09/19/2023
1D-11a. Letter Signed by Working Group	Yes	1D-11a. Letter Si...	09/21/2023
1D-2a. Housing First Evaluation	Yes	1D-2a. Housing Fi...	09/26/2023
1E-1. Web Posting of Local Competition Deadline	Yes	1E-1. Web Posting...	09/06/2023
1E-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	1E-2. Local Compe...	09/08/2023
1E-2a. Scored Forms for One Project	Yes	1E-2a. Scored For...	09/08/2023
1E-5. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	1E-5. Notificatio...	09/26/2023
1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	1E-5a. Notificati...	09/11/2023
1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results	Yes	1E-5b. Local Comp...	09/11/2023
1E-5c. Web Posting—CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	1E-5c. Web Postin...	09/26/2023

1E-5d. Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	1E-5d. Notificati...	09/26/2023
2A-6. HUD's Homeless Data Exchange (HDX) Competition Report	Yes	2A-6. HUD's Homel...	09/06/2023
3A-1a. Housing Leveraging Commitments	No		
3A-2a. Healthcare Formal Agreements	No		
3C-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No		
Other	No		

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1C-7. PHA Homeless Preference

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1C-7. PHA Moving On Preference

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1D-11a. Letter Signed by Working Group

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1D-2a. Housing First Evaluation

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-1. Web Posting of Local Competition
Deadline

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-2a. Scored Forms for One Project

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5c. Web Posting–CoC-Approved
Consolidated Application

Attachment Details

Document Description: 1E-5d. Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application

Attachment Details

Document Description: 2A-6. HUD's Homeless Data Exchange (HDX) Competition Report

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. CoC Identification	08/03/2023
1B. Inclusive Structure	09/25/2023
1C. Coordination and Engagement	09/25/2023
1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd	09/25/2023
1E. Project Review/Ranking	09/26/2023
2A. HMIS Implementation	09/26/2023
2B. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count	09/26/2023
2C. System Performance	09/25/2023
3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare	09/19/2023
3B. Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs	09/19/2023
3C. Serving Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes	09/18/2023

4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants	08/25/2023
4B. Attachments Screen	09/26/2023
Submission Summary	No Input Required

4.4 APPLICANT PREFERENCES

A. APPLICANT PREFERENCE #1: EMERGENCY (65 PTS)

Applicants displaced by one of the following:

1. Fire
2. Federally declared natural disaster
3. Condemnation
4. Urban renewal
5. Presence of Lead Paint if a home with a child age 6 and under
6. Witness relocation as determined by city, county, state or federal law enforcement

B. APPLICANT PREFERENCE #2: LOCAL RESIDENCY (50 PTS)

Applicants who currently reside in the City of Fall River, or have at least one (1) adult member who either

1. Works or has been hired to work in the City of Fall River, *or*
2. Attends an educational or training program full-time in the City of Fall River.

FRHA does not require a minimum term of Fall River residency to qualify under this preference. A family that can provide proper verification as outlined in Section 6.3 (B) of this policy qualifies as a resident, provided they do not live somewhere else.

C. APPLICANT PREFERENCE #3: EMPLOYED/EDUCATION/WORK-EXEMPT (40 PTS)

1. Applicants with at least one adult who is employed a minimum of 32 hours weekly and has been employed for at least three months; *or*
2. Applicants with at least one adult who is a full-time participant in an educational or training program designed to prepare the individual for the job market; *or*
3. Applicants where both the Head of Household AND spouse/co-head, or sole member, are age 62 or older, or are receiving social security disability, supplemental security income, disability benefits, or any other payments based on an individual's ability to work.

4.5 APPLICANT PRIORITIES

Priority points will be added to preference category points for applicants at admission only.

A. VETERANS PRIORITY (+3 PTS)

Veterans will be given priority over non-veterans, regardless of whether they are eligible for an applicant preference. Applicants determined eligible for Veterans Priority shall have three (3) points added to their current preference point total.

B. VAWA PRIORITY (+4 PTS)

Victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking will be given applicant priority whether they are eligible for an applicant preference. (See: Appendix C:

Violence Against Women Act Policy) Applicants determined eligible for VAWA Priority shall have four (4) points added to their current preference point total.

4.6 UPDATING THE WAITING LIST

A. FREQUENCY

The FRHA will update its waiting list every three (3) years to ensure that the pool of applicants reasonably represents the interested families for whom the FRHA has current information.

B. PROCESS

1. FRHA will send each active applicant an update package that explains the update process and includes a form for the applicant to complete and return.
2. The update package will be mailed to each applicant in a format that accommodates individual applicant's need.
3. Applicants will be allowed thirty (30) calendar days from the post-date of the update package to respond either by mail or hand delivery to the FRHA.
4. Applicants must complete the form by marking if they are still interested in remaining on the waiting list and reporting any changes in address, family composition, income and preference.
5. Applicants who fail to respond within the time frame or whose letters are returned undeliverable will be removed from the waiting list and will not be entitled to an Informal Review.

4.7 FACTORS AFFECTING APPLICANT RANKING

There is no guarantee that an applicant's ranking on the waiting list will continually rise over time. Various factors affect the length of time an applicant spends on the waiting list. Factors such as unit turnover rates, waiting list demand, and the constant influx of new applicants qualifying for preference points may cause an incumbent applicant's ranking to rise or fall to varying degrees. Examples of these factors affecting rank include, but are not limited to:

- A subsequent applicant is placed on the same sub-waiting list and bedroom size but qualifies for a higher-ranking preference.
- An applicant with an older application date and/or higher-ranking preference category experiences a change that qualifies them to be placed on another sub-waiting list.

4.8 REMOVAL OF APPLICANTS FROM THE WAITING LIST

A. REASONS FOR REMOVAL

FRHA will only remove an applicant's name from the waiting list if he/she:

1. Requests in writing that the name be removed

2. Fails to respond to a written request for information or a request to declare their continued interest in the program
3. Fails to attend a scheduled appointment without advance notification and/or good cause.
4. Fails to meet either the eligibility or suitability criteria for the program.

If an applicant has been placed on more than one sub-waiting list for the federal public housing program, once they are admitted to federal public housing, they will be removed from all other sub-waiting lists.

B. RIGHT TO DISPUTE THE ACCURACY OF A CRIMINAL RECORD

1. **Notice:** Federal law requires that PHAs provide applicants with notification and the opportunity to dispute the accuracy and relevance of a criminal record before admission is denied on the basis of such record. To ensure that decisions are made based on accurate information, the FRHA will (a) first notify the family of the proposed action and (b) provide the subject of the record and the applicant a copy of the record and (c) an opportunity to dispute the accuracy or legitimacy of the record prior to a denial of admission.
2. **Response.** The applicant will have ten (10) business days to respond to the notice and request an Informal Review. Failure to respond within the timeframe will result in denial of admission.
3. **Dispute Process.** The applicant must be able to demonstrate that the record contains inaccurate or incomplete information as such it would deem the applicant eligible under this screening category. FRHA will consider the evidence in determining whether to admit or deny. During this process the applicant will maintain their position on the waiting list. Failure to present satisfactory evidence will result in denial of admission.

C. NOTIFICATION OF DENIAL

Following a determination of ineligibility, the applicant must be given the opportunity to present written or oral objections to FRHA's decision and present evidence of mitigating circumstances and/or request for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. In accordance with 24 CFR 982.554 (b), FRHA shall notify an applicant in writing of a determination of ineligibility and the notice shall:

1. State the reason(s) for the decision;
2. Inform the applicant of his/her right request an informal review of the decision; and
3. Describe how to obtain the informal review and timeframe in which to respond and request one.

D. APPLICANT'S RIGHT TO AN INFORMAL REVIEW

1. Applicants have 20 calendar days from the date of their Denial Notice to request an Informal Review.
2. The applicant must be given the opportunity to present written or oral objections to the FRHA's decision and present evidence of mitigating circumstances and/or request for reasonable accommodations based on a disability

Regular HCV Funding

Regular HCV funding may be used to assist any eligible family on the waiting list. Families are selected from the waiting list according to the policies provided in Section 4-III.C.

4-II.C. SELECTION METHOD

PHAs must describe the method for selecting applicant families from the waiting list, including the system of admission preferences that the PHA will use [24 CFR 982.202(d)].

Local Preferences [24 CFR 982.207; HCV p. 4-16]

PHAs are permitted to establish local preferences, and to give priority to serving families that meet those criteria. HUD specifically authorizes and places restrictions on certain types of local preferences. HUD also permits the PHA to establish other local preferences, at its discretion. Any local preferences established must be consistent with the PHA plan and the consolidated plan and must be based on local housing needs and priorities that can be documented by generally accepted data sources.

FRHA Policy

Local Preferences

FRHA has adopted a system of preferences that reflect the values, needs and priorities of both the Authority and the local community. Applicants will be sorted on the waiting list in accordance with any approved Preference. The ranking categories utilized by FRHA for Housing Choice Voucher Program new admissions are outlined below.

a. Category #1: “Moving On” Program

In partnership with the City of Fall River Continuum of Care (CoC), FRHA will set aside a one-time allocation of no less than twenty (20) Housing Choice Vouchers to pilot its “Moving On” initiative.

These vouchers will be made available through the adoption of a Limited Preference for applicants (formerly chronically homeless) who currently occupy Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and have been identified by the Fall River CoC as ready to “move on” from transitional housing after achieving stability in PSH. Qualifying applicants will be given absolute preference over all other HCV applicants on the waiting list until the target number of allocated vouchers (20) has been reached.

Once all set-aside vouchers under this preference have been issued and leased, no additional Moving On vouchers shall be issued until a participant admitted under this preference ends participation in HCV, thereby freeing up a Moving On voucher for the next PSH graduate on the waiting list.

To continually maintain the full complement of leased vouchers (20) under this set-aside, FRHA will continue to accept referrals from PSH providers so that any Moving On voucher that is returned to FRHA can be re-issued to the next eligible HCV applicant selected under this Limited Preference.

Eligibility for “Moving On” Preference is subject to the following criteria, to be verified upon selection:

- The applicant has been a tenant in a CoC-funded PSH program for at least twelve (12) months; and
- The applicant no longer requires the PSH program’s services or has completed the program’s services (as determined by the provider and CoC); and

As a result, must relocate from such housing.

Verification Requirements: FRHA will accept referrals from providers of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs that receive assistance through the Fall River CoC. When referring clients for selection under this Preference, PSH providers will follow the established CoC protocol to identify individuals and families that are good candidates for a successful transition from PSH to a Housing Choice Voucher.

b. Category #2: Fall River Resident

FRHA has adopted a Local Preference that gives priority to individuals and families living and/or working in the City of Fall River over their non-resident counterparts.

Eligibility for Residency Preference must be verified at the time of screening, prior to admission.

- Applicant families who currently reside in the City of Fall River, or
- Applicant families who have at least one (1) adult member who works (or has been hired to work) in the City of Fall River.

FRHA does not require a minimum term of Fall River residency to qualify for Residency Preference. A family that can provide proper verification as outlined in the following section shall qualify as a resident, provided they do not live somewhere else.

Verification Requirements. Proof that applicant is a current resident of the City of Fall River as verified by at least one of the following documents:

- Utility Bill: Gas, electric, telephone, cable, or heating oil bill, less than 60 days old, containing applicant’s name and residential address.
- Cell Phone, Credit Card, Doctor or Hospital Bill: Must be less than 60 days old.
- Pay Stub: Pre-printed with employer’s name and address and applicant’s name and residential address. This must be less than 60 days old.
- Bank Statement or Transaction-related Document: less than 60 days old, on a form generated by the issuing bank. This must display the bank’s name and mail address, and the applicant’s name and residential address. Must also have been received through mail by applicant.
- ATM/Debit Card or Credit Card Statement: With name and residential address, less than 60 days old.
- Car Insurance Policy or Bill: Must be less than 60 days old.

- Car Loan Payment Book: Must be current and display residential address.
- First-Class Mail from any Federal or State Agency: Must display residential address and no older than three (3) months.
- Household or Motor Insurance Certificate: No older than six (6) months.
- School Transcript: Must be an original with name and residential address and must be less than six (6) months old.
- School Letter: Original letter issued and signed by the principal, headmaster, or official keeper of records of Fall River school (including a college or university) that is on school letterhead and states that the applicant currently is an enrolled student and includes the applicant's name and residence.
- Voter Registration: Signed and certified by city/town clerk.
- Annual Pension or Retirement Statement: For the current year.
- Homeowners or Renters Insurance Policy: Must be current with applicant's residential address for current year.
- Official letter from Shelter/Homeless Services provider: Must be on original agency letterhead certifying applicant's date of placement and current temporary residency in a Fall River shelter.

c. Category #3: Standard (No Preference)

All other families on the waiting list will be considered Standard Applicants. Standard Applicants will be selected only after all applicants with Residency Preference have been selected.

Income Targeting Requirement [24 CFR 982.201(b)(2)]

HUD requires that extremely low-income (ELI) families make up at least 75 percent of the families admitted to the HCV program during the PHA's fiscal year. ELI families are those with annual incomes at or below the federal poverty level or 30 percent of the area median income, whichever number is higher. To ensure this requirement is met, a PHA may skip non-ELI families on the waiting list in order to select an ELI family.

Low-income families admitted to the program that are "continuously assisted" under the 1937 Housing Act [24 CFR 982.4(b)], as well as low-income or moderate-income families admitted to the program that are displaced as a result of the prepayment of the mortgage or voluntary termination of an insurance contract on eligible low-income housing, are not counted for income targeting purposes [24 CFR 982.201(b)(2)(v)].

FRHA Policy

FRHA will only select "Standard Applicants" after all applicants with "Residency Preference" have been selected. However, to the extent that an applicant is not Extremely Low Income (ELI), FRHA may elect to select ELI families ahead of other eligible families on an as-needed basis to ensure the annual income targeting requirement is met.

**Persons with Lived Experience
Working Group
Fall River Continuum of Care**

September 11, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

Having had experienced homelessness, the Working Group of Persons with Lived Experience feels it brings a unique and accurate perspective to the homeless issues concerning the Fall River Continuum of Care.

As members of the Fall River Homeless Service Providers Coalition and the Mayor's Task Force to End Homelessness (Continuum of Care Board), we have been presented opportunities to be involved in setting the priorities of funding for the FRCoC programs during the NOFO process, creating the CoC Governance Charter, developing the prioritization criteria for the Coordinated Entry System, generating policies and procedures for Emergency Solutions Grant and CoC programs, planning the Point-in-Time Counts, setting priorities for the CARES Act funding, and planning events for folks currently experiencing homelessness such as Project Homeless Connect and Summer Kindness Initiative. Our experiences help to thoughtfully shape strategies to work toward ending homelessness. We appreciate the opportunity to be part of the decision-making process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Niki Fontaine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chairperson, PWLE Working Group



Housing First Standards Assessment Tool

Overview: This tool aims to assess and document how closely a housing and service provider adheres to the recommended best practice standards of the Housing First model, in the context of the broader work to implement a Housing First orientation at the system-level. This tool specifically evaluates project-level fidelity to Housing First, which directly impacts a system's fidelity to Housing First. In addition to the universal best practice standards identified in this tool, Continuums should also take into account their local community context and local written standards pertaining to Housing First when assessing projects. A Continuum of Care can use this tool to prompt discussion and to

Provider Info tab: The Provider Information tab should be completed *prior* to beginning the assessment. Specifically, the *Project Name*, *Project Type*, *Target Sub-Population* served, and *Date of Assessment* fields need to be completed in order to populate the assessment standards and report summary with questions that are specific to the project type and population. Please complete this section prior to printing any standards for assessment.

Standards: The standards have been arranged into the following categories: *Access, Evaluation, Services, Housing, Leases, and Project-Specific*. The "Tab" chart at the bottom of this page describes each of the categories in more detail. Some of the categories are not applicable for all project types, and those standards do not need to be completed,

Project Type	Applicable Standards
Coordinated Entry	Access & Evaluation; Project-specific
Street Outreach	Access & Evaluation; Project-specific
Emergency Shelter	Access & Evaluation; Service & Housing; Project-specific
Transitional Housing	Access & Evaluation; Service & Housing; Leases; Project-specific
Rapid Rehousing	Access & Evaluation; Service & Housing; Leases; Project-specific
Permanent Supportive Housing	Access & Evaluation; Service & Housing; Leases; Project-specific

Safeguarding: Please keep in mind safeguarding concerns when assessing projects. In particular, we advise Continuums of Care to work with projects with victims of domestic violence to make sure that adequate safety and confidentiality policies and practices are in place before beginning assessments.

Scoring: For each standard, there are three scoring criteria: "Say It", "Document It", and "Do It" (as explained further below). To show that a project is in full compliance with each standard, the assessor should mark "Always" for each scoring criteria. Use the drop down in the three columns to the right to select "Always" or "Somewhat" or "Not at

- "Say It" means that project and agency staff can describe verbally what they do concerning each standard. The assessor should be able to identify that the organizational culture supports the standard by how staff talks about what is done.

- "Document It" means that there is written documentation that supports the project's compliance with each standard. Written documentation could include Policies and Procedures, Personnel Handbooks, Professional Development Plans, Project Rules, etc.

- "Do It" means that the assessor was able to find evidence that supports the project's compliance with each standard. Evidence could include information contained in client or other administrative files, client acknowledgement that something is being done, staff can point to documentation that supports implementation of the standard, etc.

Assessor Notes: A cell below each individual standard allows the assessor to add optional notes about the information collected for that particular standard. The notes can include where information was found, what questions were asked, who answered the questions, what additional information is needed to be able to mark that standard as "Always", "Sometimes," or "Not at all".

Tab	Description	Purpose
Instructions	Tool overview and aim	Offers instruction to users on the assessment tool
Provider Info	Input provider, project and general assessment information	Determines project-specific standards for consideration
Standards - Access & Evaluation	Input compliance with standards concerning participant access to the project and input, project evaluation and performance management	Assesses whether access and evaluation are compliant with Housing First principles
Standards - Leases	Input compliance with standards concerning the lease and occupancy agreements, where applicable	Assesses whether leases and occupancy agreements are compliant with Housing First principles
Standards - Services & Housing	Input compliance with standards concerning the service and housing models and structure, where applicable	Assesses whether services and housing are compliant with Housing First principles
Standards - Project-Specific	Prompts assessment standards based on project type and targeted sub-populations served by the project, where applicable	Assesses whether specific project standards are compliant with Housing First principles
Report Summary	Displays assessment scores and conclusions, and highlights non-compliant standards	Printable summary of the assessment



Provider Information

Please complete the information below on the organization being assessed.

Provider Information	
Provider's Legal Name	Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fall River, MA, Inc.
Acronym (If Applicable)	Catholic Social Services of Fall River, Inc. (CSS)
Year Incorporated	1954
EIN	04-2106394
Street Address	1600 Bay Street, Fall River, MA
Zip Code	02724

Project Information	
Project Name	Cornerstone
Project Budget	570411
Grant Number	MA0383L1T152109 (FY21 CoC Competition Grant)
Name of Project Director	Sheila Chasse, Director of Housing and Basic Needs
Project Director Email Address	schasse@cssdioc.org
Project Director Phone Number	508-997-7337
Which best describes the project *	Permanent Supportive Housing
<i>If project is a Safe Haven, please choose project type that it most operates like, e.g. shelter, transitional housing, or permanent housing</i>	
Are your services targeted to any of the following populations specifically? Please select one if so, as this impacts your assessment questions.	
None of the above	

*Please note that when you select a project type, particular standards may not be relevant.

Management Information	
Name of CEO	Susan Mazzarella, CEO
CEO Email Address	smazzarella@cssdioc.org
CEO Phone Number	508-674-4681
Name of Staff Member Guiding Assessment	Sheila Chassee, Director of Housing and Basic Needs
Staff Email Address	schasse@cssdioc.org
Staff Phone Number	508-997-7337

Assessment Information	
Name of Assessor	Erica Moniz, FRCDA Assistant Executive Director
Organizational Affiliation of Assessor	Fall River Community Development Agency (FRCDA)
Assessor Email Address	emoniz@fallriverma.org
Assessor Phone Number	508-679-0131
Date of Assessment	Feb 22 2023



Housing First Standards

For each standard, please use the drop down boxes in the three columns to the right to select "Not at all" or "Sometimes" or "Always". Marking "Always" signifies full compliance for the standard.

No.	Standard	Access Definition / Evidence	Say It	Document It	Do It
Access 1	Projects are low-barrier	<p>Admission to projects is not contingent on pre-requisites such as abstinence of substances, minimum income requirements, health or mental health history, medication adherence, age, criminal justice history, financial history, completion of treatment, participation in services, "housing readiness," history or occurrence of victimization, survivor of sexual assault or an affiliated person of such a survivor or other unnecessary conditions unless required by law or funding source.</p> <p><i>The Cornerstone CoC project is low-barrier. Based on file review and conversations with staff, admission to housing is not contingent on the pre-requisites noted above. The CoC Written Standards and Coordinated Entry Operational Standards state that the Continuum will operate projects under the HF Model as Low-Barrier.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Access 2	Projects do not deny assistance for unnecessary reasons	<p>Procedures and oversight demonstrate that staff do everything possible to avoid denying assistance or rejecting an individual or family for the reasons listed in Access Standard #1.</p> <p><i>The CoC Cornerstone project does not deny assistance for unnecessary reasons. Based on file review and conversations with staff, the project is complying with this area. Coordinated Entry screening/intake staff are trained on the proper intake protocols. See the Provider Decline Policy in the CoC Operational Standards. TH, RRH, and PSH programs may only decline individuals and families found eligible for and referred by CES under limited circumstances.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Access 3	Access regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status	<p>Equal access is provided in accordance with the 2012 and 2016 Equal Access Rules, meaning that any project funded by HUD must ensure equal access for persons regardless of one's sexual orientation or marital status, and in accordance with one's gender identity. Adult only households, regardless of marital status, should have equal access to projects (if these project types are not available within a CoC, the CoC should conduct an assessment to determine if these project types are needed and work with providers to accommodate the need). Please see Equal Access Rules here: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/1991/equal-access-to-housing-final-rule/</p> <p><i>The CoC follows the HUD Equal Access Rule in providing equal access for clients. Based on file review, the project appears to be in compliance. Also see Coordinated Entry Operational Standards.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Access 4	Admission process is expedited with speed and efficiency	<p>Projects have expedited admission processes, to the greatest extent possible, including helping participants obtain documentation required by funding sources, as well as processes to admit participants regardless of the status of their eligibility documentation whenever applicable.</p> <p><i>See CE Operational Standards. CE has multi-lingual staff that work with clients to obtain all intake documentation in timely manner.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Access 5	Intake processes are person-centered and flexible	<p>Intake and assessment procedures are focused on the individual's or family's strengths, needs, and preferences. Projects do not require specific appointment times, but have flexible intake schedules that ensure access to all households. Assessments are focused on identifying household strengths, resources, as well as identifying barriers to housing that can inform the basis of a housing plan as soon as a person is enrolled in the project.</p> <p><i>Upon entry, a thorough Needs Assessment is completed with clients.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Access 6	The provider/project accepts and makes referrals directly through Coordinated Entry	<p>Projects actively participate in the CoC-designated Coordinated Entry processes as part of streamlined community-wide system access and triage. If these processes are not yet implemented, projects follow communities' existing referral processes. Referrals from Coordinated Entry are rarely rejected, and only if there is a history of violence, the participant does not want to be in the project, there are legally valid grounds (such as restrictions regarding sex offenders) or some other exceptional circumstance that is well documented.</p> <p><i>All projects in the Continuum make referrals through Coordinated Entry. See CE Operational Standards Client/Consumer Choice-Preference and Decline Policy and Provider Decline Policy.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Access 7	Exits to homelessness are avoided	<p>Projects that can no longer serve particular households utilize the coordinated entry process, or the communities' existing referral processes if coordinated entry processes are not yet implemented, to ensure that those individuals and families have access to other housing and services as desired, and do not become disconnected from services and housing. Households encounter these exits under certain circumstances, such as if they demonstrate violent or harassing behaviors, which are described within agencies' regulation-adherent policies.</p> <p><i>The Cornerstone project follows a discharge planning process. Clients receive extensive case management through their duration in the program, and a case management works with them on placement in their exit destination. See case files for discharge documents and case notes.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Name		Participant Input Definition / Evidence	Say It	Document It	Do It
Participant Input 1	Participant education is ongoing	<p>Project participants receive ongoing education on Housing First principles as well as other service models employed in the project. In the beginning of and throughout tenancy, participants are informed about their full rights and responsibilities as lease holders, including the potential causes for eviction.</p> <p><i>See case notes; documents in client files; CoC Coordinated Entry Operational standards.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Participant Input 2	Projects create regular, formal opportunities for participants to offer input	<p>Input is welcomed regarding the project's policies, processes, procedures, and practices. Opportunities include involvement in: quality assurance and evaluation processes, a participant leadership/advisory board, processes to formally communicate with landlords, the design of and participation in surveys and focus groups, planning social gatherings, integrating peer specialists and peer-facilitated support groups to compliment professional services.</p> <p><i>See case notes; documents in client files; CoC Coordinated Entry Operational standards.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always



Housing First Standards

For each standard, please use the drop down boxes in the three columns to the right to select "Not at all" or "Sometimes" or "Always". Marking "Always" signifies full compliance for the standard.

	Standard	Lease and Occupancy Definition / Evidence	Say It	Document It	Do It
Leases 1	Housing is considered permanent (not applicable for Transitional Housing)	Housing is not time-limited (though rent assistance may be) and leases are automatically renewable upon expiration, except with prior notice by either party. See Cornerstone program Master Lease Agreement between CSS and the Landlord, and the Sub-Lease between CSS and the Client. See Technical Assistance guidance and monitoring reports provided to the Subrecipient by FRCSA regarding this piece.	Always	Always	Always
Leases 2	Participant choice is fundamental	A participant has, at minimum, choices in deciding the location and type of housing based on preferences from a range of housing types and among multiple units, as available and as practical. In project-based settings, participants should be offered choice of units within a particular building or within the portfolio of single site properties. In projects that use shared housing, i.e. housing with unrelated roommates, participants should be offered choice of roommates, as available and as practical. Additionally, as applicable, participants are able to choose their roommates when sharing a room or unit. See Client/Consumer Choice – Preference and Decline Policy in CoC Operational Standards. It appears that the above criteria is being met.	Always	Always	Always
Leases 3	Leases are the same for participants as for other tenants	Leases do not have any provisions that would not be found in leases held by any other tenant in the property or building and is renewable per the participants' and owner's choice. People experiencing homelessness who receive help moving into permanent housing should have leases that confer the full rights, responsibilities, and legal protections under Federal, state, and local housing laws. For transitional housing, there may be limitations on length of stay, but a lease/occupancy agreement should look like a lease that a person would have in the normal rental market.	Always	Always	Always
Leases 4	Participants receive education about their lease or occupancy agreement terms	See Cornerstone program Master Lease Agreement between CSS and the Landlord, and the Sub-Lease between CSS and the Client. Clients are provided with full tenant protections. Participants are also given access to legal assistance and encouraged to exercise their full legal rights and responsibilities. Landlords and providers abide by their legally-defined roles and responsibilities.	Always	Always	Always
Leases 5	Measures are used to prevent eviction	Cornerstone project case managers review this information with clients upon intake. Property or building management, with services support, incorporates a culture of eviction avoidance, reinforced through practices and policies that prevent lease violations and evictions among participants, and evict participants only when they are a threat to self or others. Clear eviction appeal processes and due process is provided for all participants. Lease bifurcation is allowed so that a tenant or lawful occupant who is a victim of a criminal act of physical violence committed against them by another tenant or lawful occupant is not evicted, removed or penalized if the other is evicted. The project makes every effort to avoid eviction. Upon intake, the client is provided an informational packet that includes this information. This includes VAWA protections.	Always	Always	Always
Leases 6	Providing stable housing is a priority	Providers engage in a continued effort to hold housing for participants, even if they leave their housing for short periods due to treatment, illness, or any other temporary stay outside of the unit. Per a review of the client files and case notes, this area being followed. Brief periods of stays in institutions, not to exceed 90 days for each occurrence, are not considered vacancies. This could include a client's stay in an institution, i.e., hospital or drug-treatment facility.	Always	Always	Always
Leases 7	Rent payment policies respond to tenants' needs (as applicable)	While tenants are accountable to the rental agreement, adjustments may be needed on a case by case basis. As necessary, participants are given special payment arrangements for rent arrears and/or assistance with financial management. Including representative payee arrangements. The CoC Cornerstone program funds Leasing Costs and has chosen to institute Occupancy Charges on the clients beginning with the FY21 grant year (this is the first grant year of such charges). Clients who are struggling to make payments receive financial assistance counseling from program staff, and have the option to enter into payment agreements to pay any back charges. The program does not terminate or burden clients for non-payment of occupancy charges, and works with them to address any challenges.	Always	Always	Always



Housing First Standards

For each standard, please use the drop down boxes in the three columns to the right to select "Not at all" or "Sometimes" or "Always". Marking "Always" signifies full compliance for the standard.

Standard	Services Definition / Evidence	Say It	Document It	Do It
Services 1	<p>Projects promote participant choice in services</p> <p>Participants are able to choose from an array of services. Services offered are housing focused and include the following areas of support: employment and income, childhood and education, community connection, and stabilization to maintain housing. These should be provided by linking to community-based services.</p> <p><i>An array of supportive services are provided to each client under the Cornerstone program that include those mentioned above; referrals to service providers are provided as necessary. A Case Manager works with the client upon intake to develop a Needs Assessment. Throughout their program stay, the CM works with the client to develop Individualized Service Plans and Housing Retention Plans. Client Choice is imperative in the Housing First Model. Participation in SS are optional and encouraged, but not mandatory. See program Participant Agreement. Welcome</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 2	<p>Person Centered Planning is a guiding principle of the service planning process</p> <p>Person-centered Planning is a guiding principle of the service planning process</p> <p><i>See program participant service plans and case notes in client files. It appears that this are is been followed.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 3	<p>Service support is as permanent as the housing</p> <p>Service connections are permanently available and accessible for participants in Permanent Supportive Housing. Rapid Re-Housing projects should, at a minimum, be prepared to offer services for up to 6 months after the rental assistance ends. In emergency shelter and transitional housing, services are available as long as the participant resides in the unit or bed – and up to 6 months following exit from transitional housing.</p> <p><i>The program maintains compliance in this area. Supportive Services are provided to the clients for their entire stay within the program; see case notes.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 4	<p>Services are continued despite change in housing status or placement</p> <p>Wherever possible, participants continue to be offered services even if they lose their housing unit or bed (for congregate projects), or if they are placed in a short-term inpatient treatment. Ideally, the service relationship should continue, despite a service hiatus during some institutional stays.</p> <p><i>The service relationship continues regardless of the client's change in housing status.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 5	<p>Participant engagement is a core component of service delivery</p> <p>Staff provide effective services by developing relationships with participants that provide immediate needs and safety, develop trust and common ground, making warm hand-offs to other mainstream service providers, and clearly explain staff roles. Engagement is regular and relationships are developed over time.</p> <p><i>The Cornerstone program provides intensive case management services; see client files.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 6	<p>Services are culturally appropriate with translation services available, as needed</p> <p>Project staff are sensitive to and support the cultural aspects of diverse households. Wherever possible, staff demographics reflect the participant population they serve in order to provide appropriate, culturally-specific services. Translation services are provided when needed to ensure full comprehension of the project. Projects that serve families with children should have family-friendly rules that allow for different schedules based on work and school hours and have services that allow parents to participate in activities without having to constantly supervise their children themselves (i.e. can use the bathroom or take a shower without their children being in the bathroom with them).</p> <p><i>Coordinated Entry and project staff provide translation services (if/when available; most staff are multi-lingual. Case managers work with households to develop a schedule that works for them.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Services 7	<p>Staff are trained in clinical and non-clinical strategies (including harm reduction, motivational interviewing, trauma-informed approaches, strength-based)</p> <p>Services support a participant's ability to obtain and retain housing regardless of changes in behavior. Services are informed by a harm-reduction philosophy, such as recognizing that substance use and addiction are a part of some participants' lives. Participants are engaged in non-judgmental communication regarding their behavior and are offered education regarding how to avoid risky behaviors and engage in safer practices.</p> <p><i>Coordinated Entry and project staff are trained on harm reduction techniques, motivational interviewing, trauma-informed approaches, etc. No client is denied services. If a client was terminated from a program, they are not banned from re-applying in the future.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Standard	Housing Definition / Evidence	Say It	Document It	Do It
Housing 1	<p>Housing is not dependent on participation in services</p> <p>Participation in permanent and temporary housing settings, as well as crisis settings such as emergency shelter, is not contingent on participating in supportive services or demonstration of progress made on a service plan. Services must be offered by staff, but are voluntary for participants.</p> <p><i>Clients are not required to participate in services to maintain in the program. While encouraged and regularly offered, service participation is not mandatory. See Participant Agreement on file. Client Choice is a core component of Housing First.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Housing 2	<p>Substance use is not a reason for termination</p> <p>Participants are only terminated from the project for violations in the lease or occupancy agreements, as applicable. Occupancy agreements or an addendum to the lease do not include conditions around substance use or participation in services. If the project is a recovery housing model focused on people who are in early recovery from drugs or alcohol (as outlined in HUD's Recovery Housing Brief), different standards related to use and subsequent offer of treatment may apply. See HUD's Recovery Housing brief here: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4852/recovery-housing-policy-brief/</p> <p><i>See the program's Termination Policy on file. Clients are not terminated for substance abuse. See exit files for any clients that were terminated.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Housing 3	<p>The rules and regulations of the project are centered on participants' rights</p> <p>Project staff have realistic expectations and policies. Rules and regulations are designed to support safe and stable communities and should never interfere with a life in the community. Participants have access to the project at all hours (except for nightly in and out shelter) and accommodation is made for pets.</p> <p><i>It appears that the project follows Fair Housing Act laws.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always
Housing 4	<p>Participants have the option to transfer to another project</p> <p>Transfers should be accommodated for tenants who reasonably believe that they are threatened with imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains in the same unit. Whenever possible, transfers occur before a participant experiences homelessness.</p> <p><i>See the CoC Emergency Transfer Plan and CoC Transfer Policy. Clients are provided with a Notice of Occupancy Rights at intake, along with information on how to request an Emergency Transfer if necessary. Participants have the option to transfer to a program if it better suits their needs.</i></p>	Always	Always	Always



Housing First Standards

For each standard, please use the drop down boxes in the three columns to the right to select "Not at all" or "Sometimes" or "Always". Marking "Always" signifies full compliance for the standard.

	Standard	Project-Specific Standards	Say It	Document It	Do It
Project 1	Quick access to RHH assistance	A permanent supportive housing project ensures quick linkage to a unit and wrap around services, based on participant needs, preferences, and resource availability.	Always	Always	Always
		The Cornerstone project provides PH-PSH. It appears that the above criteria is being met.			
Project 2	PSH is focused on ending homelessness for those with the most severe barriers to maintaining housing	Participants and staff understand that a primary goal of permanent supportive housing is to end homelessness for people with the most severe service needs and help participants stay housed, regardless of other perceived barriers.	Always	Always	Always
		See Coordinated Entry Operational Standards. PSH assists those with the most severe barriers with maintaining housing.			
Project 3	Property Management duties are separate and distinct from services/case management	In order to provide clear roles of staff for participants in terms of lease and rules enforcement as well as tenant advocacy, property management and service provider staff should be separate roles. However, they should work together on a regular basis through regular communications and meetings regarding Participants to address tenancy issues in order to preserve tenancy.	Always	Always	Always
		Property Management duties are separate and distinct from services/case management.			
		No additional standards			
		N/A			
		No additional standards			
		N/A			
		No additional standards			
		N/A			
		No additional standards			
		N/A			
		No additional standards			
		N/A			
Section is not applicable. Please see following section.					

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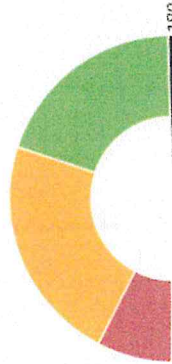
Housing First Standards Assessment Summary

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fall River, MA, Inc.

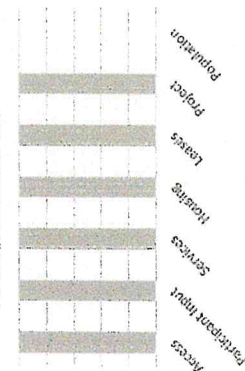
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Your score: 180
Max potential score: 180

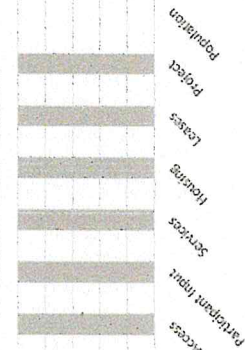
Score is calculated by awarding 1 point for standards answered 'sometimes' and 2 points for standards answered 'always'. Categories that are not applicable for your project are not included in the maximum potential score.



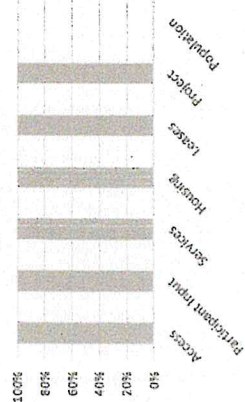
Percentage of Standards "Said"



Percentage of Standards "Documented"



Percentage of Standards "Done"



Activate Windows

Go to Settings to activate Windows.

Report Summary

Instructions Provider Info Access & Input Leases Services & Housing Project Specific

[Download Local Notice for RFI Letter](#)

Dear Director:

This is to inform you that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has announced the release of the Continuum of Care application for its competitive grants for housing and services for the homeless.

Any entity looking to apply for renewal funding of its programs must write a Letter of Intent. The Letter of Intent must be submitted to HUD by the deadline of August 15, 2013, as stated in www.hud.gov/section8/section8111 by 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 13, 2013.

Any organization seeking new or renewed funding must actively participate in the application process and may schedule time with me at my office to obtain assistance to complete the application. If necessary, all project applications, new and renewal, will be due on August 15, 2013.

I've attached a description of opportunities that are available in the federal competition and may be available in the fall later competition (final approval pending, available to any eligible entity). The information is available at www.hud.gov/section8/section8111. Existing CoC projects is available. To consolidate projects, the projects must be operated by the same agency and of the same component. To transition to another component, HUD is requiring a one-year term for the projects. These include information regarding what program(s) your agency is considering for consideration or transition in your Letter of Intent.

General information regarding the Continuum of Care Program Competition may be found at: www.hud.gov/section8/section8111, www.hud.gov/section8/section8111, www.hud.gov/section8/section8111

If you have any questions, please contact me at 508-679-0131.

Sincerely,

Howard D. Glavin
Homesless Service Provider's Coalition

August 3, 2023

Dear Director:

This is to inform you that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has announced the release of the Continuum of Care application for its competitive grants for housing and services for the homeless.

Any entity looking to apply for renewal funding of its programs must write a Letter of Intent. Please forward your Letter of Intent by scanning your original signed letter and attaching it to an email to renewals@california.gov by 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 13, 2023.

Any organization seeking new or renewal funding must actively participate in the application process and may schedule time with me at my office to obtain assistance to complete the application in e-Grants, if necessary. All Project applications, new and renewal, will be due in e-Grants August 25, 2023.

I've attached a description of opportunities that are available in the federal competition and may be available in the full floor competition (look ahead pending, available to any eligible applicant organization operating in all three). The opportunity to consolidate or transition existing GAC projects is available. To consolidate projects, the projects must be operated by the same agency and of the same component. To transition to another component, HUD is requiring a one-year term for the projects. Please include information regarding what program(s) your agency is considering for consolidation or transition in your Letter of Intent.

General information regarding the Continuum of Care Program Competition may be found at: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/ccc/competition.

if you have any questions, please contact me at 508.679-0131

Sincerely,

Mary D. Cimara
Homeless Service Providers Coalition

[Download Local Notice for RFI Letter](#)

Supporting Documents:

- [CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [CoC Estimated Annual Renewal Demand Report](#)
- [2023 CoC Competition Timeline](#)

Fall River
Homeless Service Providers Coalition

August 3, 2023

Dear Director:

This is to inform you that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has announced the release of the Continuum of Care application for its competitive grants for housing and services for the homeless.

Any entity looking to apply for renewal funding of its programs must write a **Letter of Intent**. Please forward your Letter of Intent by scanning your original signed letter and attaching it to an email to mdcamara@fallriverma.org by 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 15, 2023.

Any organization seeking new or renewal funding must actively participate in the application process and may schedule time with me at my office to obtain assistance to complete the application in e-snaps, if necessary. All Project applications, new and renewal, will be due in e-snaps August 25, 2023.

I've attached a description of opportunities that are available in the federal competition and may be available in the Fall River competition (local approval pending; available to any eligible applicant organization operating in Fall River). The opportunity to consolidate or transition existing CoC projects is available. To consolidate projects, the projects must be operated by the same agency and of the same component. To transition to another component, HUD is requiring a one-year term for the process. Please include information regarding what program(s) your agency is considering for consolidation or transition in your Letter of Intent.

General information regarding the Continuum of Care Program Competition may be found at https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/competition.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 508-679-0131.

Sincerely,



Mary D. Camara

Homeless Service Providers Coalition

FY2023 CoC Competition – Available Funding
Fall River Continuum of Care

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/coc/competition

Notice of Funding Opportunity link: [FR-6700-N-25 NOFO.pdf](#)

The **FY2023 Continuum of Care application** allows for the following:

- New projects created from **Reallocation** of funds from an existing under-performing project or **CoC Bonus** funds:
 - Permanent Housing-Permanent Supportive Housing (PH-PSH) projects;
 - Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-Housing (PH-RRH) projects;
 - Joint (Transitional Housing) TH/PH-RRH component projects.
- New projects created from **Domestic Violence Bonus** funds where 100% of the participants are or will be survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking:
 - Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-Housing projects (PH-RRH);
 - Joint TH/PH-RRH component projects;
 - Supportive Services Only-Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) project (specific for DV programs). (Please note, there are new eligible Budget Line Items available under DV due to the new VAWA requirements. See pages 42-43 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (FR-6700-N-25 NOFO.)
- Dedicated HMIS project (FRCoC is ineligible as we already have a grant for HMIS).
- Supportive Services Only (SSO-CE) project to develop or operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system (FRCoC is ineligible as we already have a grant for coordinated entry).
- Expansion project (**CoC and DV Bonus or Reallocated** funds) to increase the number of units, beds, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or to increase the current HMIS activities within the CoC.
- Consolidated project to combine two but no more than 10 eligible renewal projects of the same component and same agency.
- Transition Grant (new in FY2023) to fund a new CoC project to transition an eligible renewal project being eliminated through **Reallocation** from one program component to another eligible new component over a 1-year period.

If your agency is considering applying for any of the above, you must consult with the Continuum of Care and the Collaborative Applicant regarding options available prior to completing a new project application, and you must submit a Letter of Intent by the assigned deadline. Please see the **Fall River CoC FY2023 Competition Timeline**.

Funding amounts for FRCoC – MA-515 FY2023

Preliminary Pro Rata Need*	Estimated Annual Renewal Demand	Tier 1 93% ARD	CoC Bonus	DV Bonus	CoC Planning (5%)
\$2,673,069	\$2,040,078	\$1,897,273	\$187,115	\$267,307	\$133,653

Preliminary Pro Rata Need: The HUD-determined formula amount based on the metropolitan cities, urban counties, and other counties claimed by the CoC as part of its geographic area during the CoC Program Registration process (the city of Fall River).

Annual Renewal Demand: The total amount of all the CoC's projects that will be eligible for renewal in the FY 2023 CoC Program Competition, as seen on the GIW.

Final Pro Rata Need: The higher of PPRN or ARD for the Continuum of Care.

Tier 1: 93% of the combined Annual Renewal Demand (ARD).

Continuum of Care Bonus: 7% of its Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN).

Domestic Violence Bonus: 10% of its Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN).

Continuum of Care Planning: 5% of its Final Pro Rata Need (FPRN).

Other Notes:

- HUD and the City of Fall River encourage any eligible applicant to apply that is an organization looking to serve the Fall River homeless population and as defined by HUD:
 - Eligible project applicants (McKinney-Vento Act, 24 CFR 578.15, 24 CFR 5.100) for the CoC Program Competition include nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments, Indian Tribes and TDHE [as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)]. Public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100, are eligible without limitation or exclusion. For-profit entities are ineligible to apply for grants and are prohibited from being subrecipients of CoC Program grant funds.
- HUD does not award grants to individuals.
- HUD encourages Faith-Based Organizations and Indian Tribes/Tribally Designated Housing Entities to apply.
- Projects applying for the DV Bonus are subject to a new (FY2023) DV Bonus selection process. If the project meets HUD-determined criteria, it will be extracted from the ranking process and become a stand-alone project. The CoC is still responsible for ranking it among the other CoC projects for the submission process.
- Planning grant projects are the only projects not subjected to the ranking process.
- The final submission deadline for submission of the Continuum of Care application in e-snaps is September 28, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. with the HUD recommendation that it be submitted 2 days prior. Therefore, Fall River has developed its own timeline to guarantee a smooth process and timely submission. Please see the **Fall River CoC FY2023 Competition Timeline**.
- Please read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (FR-6700-N-25 NOFO) for more detailed information regarding the complete process including definitions, eligibility, HUD requirements and recommendations, project application selection, collaborative application scoring, etc. Please especially note HUD's Strategic Planning Goals and Homeless Policy Priorities starting on page 6.
- If you are interested in joining the Review & Ranking Committee, please contact Mary Camara: mdcamara@fallriverma.org or 508.679.0131. Please note, if you have any affiliation with an agency that is submitting a project application other than previous consumer, you cannot participate in this process. The committee normally meets one time for about 2-3 hours to choose which projects will be submitted and to rank them among the two scoring Tiers which are thresholds for HUD funding decisions.

FY2023 CoC COMPETITION TIMELINE

Fall River MA-515

Submission Deadline	Letter of Intent	Draft Project App - esnaps	Ranking & Review Mtg	Accept/Reject/Reduce Notification	Ideal Public Posting	Ideal App Submission	HUD Deadline
	8/15/2023	8/25/2023	8/28-9/8/2023	9/11/2023	9/19/2023	9/22/2023	9/28/2023

Funding Requests

Project Name	Grant Number	Grant Award	Funds Expended	% Expended	FY2023 Request	2023 PIT # of units	2023 PIT # of beds	Dedicated CH	Priority CH	Youth 18-24	Youth Under 18	Veteran	Subpops	HF
Cornerstone	MA0383L1T152008	540,465.00	402,912.09	74.55%	\$570,411	25	64	64	0	3	0	2	Y,DV,F,V	x
Francis House	MA0417L1T152009	108,197.00	56,967.08	52.65%	\$113,011	4	8	4	4	8	0	0	Y, DV	x
Home First Center	MA0578L1T152105	213,693.00	212,409.61	99.40%	\$213,693	12	12	12	0	0	0	0	---	x
Next Step Home	MA0236L1T152114	538,834.00	524,577.26	97.35%	\$538,834	40	66	66	0	0	0	0	DV, F	x
Stone Residence	MA0238L1T152013	444,281.00	435,132.28	97.94%	\$471,379	22	22	22	0	0	0	2	DV, V	x

Subpopulations: Y=Youth, DV=Victims of Domestic Violence, F=Families w/Children, V=Veterans

CH = Chronically Homeless

Beds in family programs are recorded based on # of beds occupied during PIT Count.

HMIS	MA0323L1T152012	\$32,662	\$19,510	60%	\$32,662
The CALL (SSO-CE)	MA0526L1T152005	\$100,088	\$60,335	60%	\$100,088

Annual Renewal Demand	\$2,040,078
Bonus/Planning Funds	\$0
Tier 1 (93% of ARD + Bonus/Planning)	93%
Tier 2	\$1,897,273
Total Funding Request	\$142,805
	\$2,040,078

No Bonus requests - CoC, DV or Planning
 No consolidations of existing grants
 No reallocations from existing grants to create a new project
 No expansion requests to increase beds or services in an existing grant

HUD's Grant Number Determination Process:

State abbreviation MA Project ID number 0238 App Type L FO Code 1T CoC # 15 FY of App 20 renew 13

DL

Project Rating Tool - System Performance Measures

Exits to Permanent Housing

SPM 7b.1 & 7b.2

percent (%) remain in or move to permanent housing

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
97%	100%	92%	93%	79%
25	25	25	25	25

Minimum	points
90	25

Returns to Homelessness

SPM 2a

percent (%) of participants return to homelessness within 12 months of exit to PH

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
0%	0%	0%	0%	40%
15	15	15	15	0

Maximum	points
15	15

New or Increased Income and Earned Income

Total # of Stayers

27	0	8	32	10
----	---	---	----	----

SPM 4.1

percent (%) new or increased earned income for project stayers

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
19%	0%	0%	6%	0%
1	0	0	0	0

Minimum	points
8	2.5

percent (%) new or increased non-employment income for project stayers

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
41%	0%	63%	69%	40%
1.5	0	2.5	2.5	1.5

Minimum	points
10	2.5

Total # of Leavers

7	1	1	9	11
---	---	---	---	----

SPM4.4

percent (%) new or increased earned income for project leavers

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
0%	100%	0%	0%	18%
0	2.5	0	0	1

Minimum	points
8	2.5

percent (%) new or increased non-employment income for project leavers

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
86%	0%	100%	89%	64%
2	0	2.5	2	1.5

Minimum	points
10	2.5

22

Project Rating Tool - Annual Performance Reports

Higher score = the project lends itself to low barrier/housing first model

Serve High Need Populations

APR - Q5a

TOTAL CLIENTS ENTERING THE PROGRAM DURING APR TERM				
CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
39	5	13	48	29
29	0	0	29	0
68	5	13	77	29

Adults
Children
Total

APR - Q16

percent (%) of participants with zero income at entry (adults only)

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
11	4	2	3	3
28.21%	80.00%	15.38%	6.25%	10.34%

Adults
%

Minimum %	points
80	10

APR - Q13a2

percent (%) of participants with more than one disability type at entry (all)

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
19	2	12	34	29
27.94%	40.00%	92.31%	44.16%	100.00%

All
%

Minimum %	points
75	10

APR - Q15

percent (%) of participants entering project from place not meant for human habitation (adults only)

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
28	5	13	44	28
71.79%	100.00%	100.00%	91.67%	96.55%

Adults
%

Minimum %	points
75	10

44.5 62.5 65 52.5 48

0 10 10 8 9

**Fall River CoC MA-515
FY2023 CoC Application
Score Sheet**

☐ **New**

☐ **Renewal**

Project Type

- ☐ PH-PSH
☐ PH-RRH
☐ SSO
☐ HMIS
☐ Joint TH-RRH

Agency: _____

Project: _____

Bed/Unit Composition

Grant Number	Individual Units	Individual Beds	Family Units	Family Beds	Subpops

Subpops: Y=Youth, DV=Victims of Domestic Violence, V=Veterans

Clients Served

Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Total Households	Total Leavers	Total Stayers	Total Chronic Homeless

Budget Summary

Grant Award	Leasing/Rental	Supportive Services	Operations	Admin	Match

Expenditure Summary

Total Expended	Leasing/Rental	Supportive Services	Operations	Admin	% Expended	Match

Project Description:

System Performance Measures

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	ACHIEVEMENT	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED
Housing Stability Persons remain in or move to permanent housing Goal => 90%	SPM 7b.1 & 7b.2 Exits to or retention of permanent housing			
Returns to Homelessness Persons return to homelessness Goal <= 15%	SPM 2a Exits to permanent housing, then returns to homelessness in 12 months			
New or Increased Earned Income – Stayers Adult stayers obtained or increased employment income Goal => 8%	SPM 4.1 Change in earned (employment) income for adult system stayers			
New or Increased Non-Employment Cash Income – Stayers Adult stayers obtained or increased mainstream resources Goal => 10%	SPM 4.2 Change in non-employment (mainstream resources) income for adult system stayers			
New or Increased Earned Income – Leavers Adult leavers obtained or increased employment income Goal => 8%	SPM 4.4 Change in earned (employment) income for adult system leavers			
New or Increased Non-Employment Cash Income – Leavers Adult leavers obtained or increased mainstream resources Goal => 10%	SPM 4.5 Change in non-employment (mainstream resources) income for adult system leavers			

Project is Low Barrier/Housing First

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	ACHIEVEMENT	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED
Zero Income at Entry Adults only Goal => 80%	APR Q16 Number of Adults with zero income at program entry			
More than One Disability Type at Entry Adults & children Goal => 75%	APR Q13.a Number of physical and mental health conditions at program entry			
Entering Project from Place Not Meant for Human Habitation Adults only Goal => 75%	APR Q15 Living situation prior to program entry			

Project Threshold Requirements

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	ACHIEVEMENT	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED
Utilization Rate Program operates at full capacity, has low vacancy rates, fills vacancies quickly Goal => 90%	APR Q08b Average of quarterly utilization rates of point-in-time count of households			N/A
Data Quality All data is collected and entered into HMIS accurately and on a timely basis Goal = 0%	APR Q06a-f Data quality of all Universal Data Elements			N/A
Fiscal Management Complete, timely drawdowns of funds (at least quarterly) Goal = 100%	HUD LOCCS Based on FY2020 allocation amount (see Expenditure Summary chart above for more details)			N/A

TOTAL POINTS AWARDED	
-----------------------------	--

Summary Review:
System Performance Measures

Project is Low Barrier/Housing First

Project Threshold Requirements

Financial Analysis

**Fall River CoC MA-515
FY2023 CoC Application
Score Sheet**

☐ New

☒ Renewal

Project Type

- ☒ PH-PSH
☐ PH-RRH
☐ SSO
☐ HMIS
☐ Joint TH-RRH

Agency: Steppingstone, Inc.

Project: Next Step Home Program

Bed/Unit Composition

Grant Number	Individual Units	Individual Beds	Family Units	Family Beds	Subpops
MA0236L1T152114	26	26	14	40	DV, F

Subpops: Y=Youth, DV=Victims of Domestic Violence, V=Veterans

Clients Served

Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Total Households	Total Leavers	Total Stayers	Total Chronic Homeless
77	48	29	44	14	63	35

Budget Summary

Grant Award	Leasing/Rental	Supportive Services	Operations	Admin	Match
\$538,834	\$413,592	\$97,416	\$0	\$27,826	\$138,590

Expenditure Summary

Total Expended	Leasing/Rental	Supportive Services	Operations	Admin	% Expended	Match
\$524,578	\$401,534	\$95,218	0	\$27,826	97.35%	\$157,611

Project Description:

Next Step Home Program (NSHP) provides PSH for 40 formerly homeless individuals & families with disabilities in scattered-site housing. Participants work on their individual service plans with their case managers to help work toward/complete their goals and to help participants become self-sufficient. Participants work on getting their GED, career trainings, clearing up old issues/problems and setting up a support system. Case Managers also work with numerous outside agencies to ensure participants are receiving the best possible care/resources. The case management approach has become extremely effective in moving participants no longer needing the supportive services to independent housing, opening up a much needed PSH unit in the community. NSH provides, housing search, housing placement, assistance with landlord and PHA mediation. In addition, the supportive services include housing retention support, preparation for annual Recertification, inspections and Lease signing and apartment search.

System Performance Measures

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	ACHIEVEMENT	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED
Housing Stability Persons remain in or move to permanent housing Goal => 90%	SPM 7b.1 & 7b.2 Exits to or retention of permanent housing	93%	Goal Achieved 66 of 71 Leavers exited to or retained permanent housing	25/25
Returns to Homelessness Persons return to homelessness Goal <= 15%	SPM 2a Exits to permanent housing, then returns to homelessness in 12 months	0%	Goal Achieved 0 of 8 Leavers returned to homelessness within 12 months	15/15
New or Increased Earned Income – Stayers Adult stayers obtained or increased employment income Goal => 8%	SPM 4.1 Change in earned (employment) income for adult system stayers	6%	Goal Not Achieved 2 of 32 Adult Stayers obtained or increased employment income	0/2.5
New or Increased Non-Employment Cash Income – Stayers Adult stayers obtained or increased mainstream resources Goal => 10%	SPM 4.2 Change in non-employment (mainstream resources) income for adult system stayers	69%	Goal Achieved 22 of 32 Adult Stayers obtained or increased non-employment cash income	2.5/2.5
New or Increased Earned Income – Leavers Adult leavers obtained or increased employment income Goal => 8%	SPM 4.4 Change in earned (employment) income for adult system leavers	0%	Goal Not Achieved 0 of 9 Adult Leavers obtained or increased employment income	0/2.5
New or Increased Non-Employment Cash Income – Leavers Adult leavers obtained or increased mainstream resources Goal => 10%	SPM 4.5 Change in non-employment (mainstream resources) income for adult system leavers	89%	Goal Achieved 8 of 9 Adult Leavers obtained or increased non-employment cash income	2.0/2.5

Project is Low Barrier/Housing First

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	ACHIEVEMENT	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED
Zero Income at Entry Adults only Goal => 80%	APR Q16 Number of Adults with zero income at program entry	6.25%	Goal Not Achieved 3 of 48 adults entering has zero income	0/10
More than One Disability Type at Entry Adults & children Goal => 75%	APR Q13.a Number of physical and mental health conditions at program entry	44.16%	Goal Not Achieved 34 of 77 persons entering had at least 2 disability types	0/10
Entering Project from Place Not Meant for Human Habitation Adults only Goal => 75%	APR Q15 Living situation prior to program entry	91.67%	Goal Achieved 44 of 48 adults entered from a place not meant for human habitation	8/10

Project Threshold Requirements

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	ACHIEVEMENT	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED
Utilization Rate Program operates at full capacity, has low vacancy rates, fills vacancies quickly Goal => 90%	APR Q08b Average of quarterly utilization rates of point-in-time count of households	96.88%	Goal Achieved Program operates at near capacity with low vacancy rates	N/A
Data Quality All data is collected and entered into HMIS accurately and on a timely basis Goal = 0%	APR Q06a-f Data quality of all Universal Data Elements	0%	Goal Achieved Program had no Data Quality errors and was entered on a timely basis	N/A
Fiscal Management Complete, timely drawdowns of funds (at least quarterly) Goal = 100%	HUD LOCCS Based on FY2020 allocation amount (see Expenditure Summary chart above for more details)	97.35%	Goal Achieved Although drawdown requests were made on a timely basis, the program receives full rental assistance and charges occupancy fees (see Expenditure Summary chart above for more details)	N/A

TOTAL POINTS AWARDED	52.5/80
-----------------------------	----------------

Summary Review:

System Performance Measures

- Project has exceeded the goals of Housing Stability and New or Increased Non-Employment Income for Stayers and Leavers.
- All program participants are disabled and therefore may not be earning employment income in many cases.

Project is Low Barrier/Housing First

- Entering Project Not Meant for Human Habitation goal reached/exceeded.
- Many participants had income upon entry, and just less than half had only one disability.

Project Threshold Requirements

- This year Project Threshold Requirements were discussed, and all projects achieved them.
- This section was not awarded points this year but still carries weight in the discussion and decision-making for ranking.

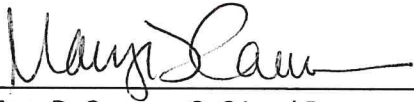
Financial Analysis

- Project made timely drawdowns.
- Project receives Rental Assistance, and participants are charged 30% of their gross adjusted income as occupancy fees, so the Rental Assistance is not completely spent down to zero.

City of Fall River, Massachusetts
MA-515
Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced

September 8, 2023

For the FY2023 Continuum of Care NOFO competition, The Fall River CoC (MA-515) did not reject or reduce any projects during our local CoC Competition. All renewal projects were accepted by the CoC at full funding per the FY2023 GIW. (There were no new projects, no reallocations, no bonus projects, no transition projects, no merged projects.)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary D. Camara", written over a horizontal line.

Mary D. Camara, CoC Lead Representative



**City of Fall River
Massachusetts**
Community Development Agency



buyfallrivernow

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

September 8, 2023

MICHAEL P. DION
Executive Director / CFO

Steppingstone, Inc.
Ms. Kathleen Schedler-Clark, Executive Director
466 North Main Street
Fall River, Massachusetts 02720

Dear Ms. Schedler-Clark:

Thank you for your interest in the Continuum of Care application process for Fiscal Year 2023. The CoC and the City as Collaborative Applicant is pleased to inform you that the following applications for renewals have been accepted:

- Home First Consolidated
- Next Step Home Program
- Stone Residence

The Review & Ranking Committee have reviewed the projects and ranked them under Tiers 1 and 2 for the CoC Priority Listing as follows:

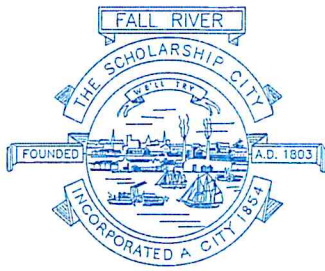
Tier 1		
1	Homeless Management Information System	\$32,662.00
2	The CALL – Fall River Coordinated Entry	\$100,088.00
3	Home First Consolidated	\$213,693.00
4	Francis House	\$113,011.00
5	Next Step Home Program	\$538,834.00
6	Stone Residence	\$471,379.00
7	Cornerstone	\$427,606.00
	93%	\$1,897,273.00
Tier 2		
7	Cornerstone	\$142,805.00
		\$2,040,078.00

The complete memo from the Review and Ranking Committee is also attached and will be available on www.FallRiverHomeless.com.

The decision-making process was a difficult one in these times of intense competition for limited grant dollars. Again, thank you for your interest in our common goal to eradicate homelessness, and looking forward to continue working with you.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Dion
Executive Director/CFO



PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

City of Fall River
Massachusetts
Community Development Agency



buyfallrivernow

MICHAEL P. DION
Executive Director / CFO

September 8, 2023

Catholic Social Services
Ms. Susan Mazzarella, Executive Director
1600 Bay Street
Fall River, Massachusetts 02724

Dear Ms. Mazzarella:

Thank you for your interest in the Continuum of Care application process for Fiscal Year 2023. The CoC and the City as Collaborative Applicant is pleased to inform you that the following applications for renewals have been accepted:

- Cornerstone
- Francis House
- The CALL – Coordinated Entry

The Review & Ranking Committee have reviewed the projects and ranked them under Tiers 1 and 2 for the CoC Priority Listing as follows:

Tier 1		
1	Homeless Management Information System	\$32,662.00
2	The CALL – Fall River Coordinated Entry	\$100,088.00
3	Home First Consolidated	\$213,693.00
4	Francis House	\$113,011.00
5	Next Step Home Program	\$538,834.00
6	Stone Residence	\$471,379.00
7	Cornerstone	\$427,606.00
	93%	\$1,897,273.00
Tier 2		
7	Cornerstone	\$142,805.00
		\$2,040,078.00

The complete memo from the Review and Ranking Committee is also attached and will be available on www.FallRiverHomeless.com.

The decision-making process was a difficult one in these times of intense competition for limited grant dollars. Again, thank you for your interest in our common goal to eradicate homelessness, and looking forward to continue working with you.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Dion
Executive Director/CFO



**City of Fall River
Massachusetts**
Community Development Agency



buyfallrivernow

PAUL E. COOGAN
Mayor

September 8, 2023

MICHAEL P. DION
Executive Director / CFO

Fall River Community Development Agency
Ms. Mary Camara, Coordinator of Homeless Programs
One Government Center
Fall River, Massachusetts 02722

Dear Ms. Camara:

Thank you for your interest in the Continuum of Care application process for Fiscal Year 2023. The CoC and the City as Collaborative Applicant is pleased to inform you that the following applications for renewals have been accepted:

- Homeless Management Information System

The Review & Ranking Committee have reviewed the projects and ranked them under Tiers 1 and 2 for the CoC Priority Listing as follows:

Tier 1		
1	Homeless Management Information System	\$32,662.00
2	The CALL – Fall River Coordinated Entry	\$100,088.00
3	Home First Consolidated	\$213,693.00
4	Francis House	\$113,011.00
5	Next Step Home Program	\$538,834.00
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7	Cornerstone	\$427,606.00
	93%	\$1,897,273.00
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		\$2,040,078.00

The complete memo from the Review and Ranking Committee is also attached and will be available on www.FallRiverHomeless.com.

The decision-making process was a difficult one in these times of intense competition for limited grant dollars. Again, thank you for your interest in our common goal to eradicate homelessness, and looking forward to continue working with you.

Sincerely,


Michael P. Dion
Executive Director/CFO

September 7, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

A subcommittee of Emily Timberlake (Dept of Transitional Assistance – DV Unit), Janet Richardi (United Way), Julie Almond (HealthFirst), Tracy Ibbotson (Steward Health Care), Dan Long (BayCoast Bank), Helena Moranta (BayCoast Bank), Evelyn Ranone (BayCoast Bank) and Albert Araujo (Consumer) met on September 6, 2023, to review and rank the renewal projects that will be part of the Fall River CoC application this year.

After careful thought and consideration, the subcommittee formulated the ranking of the seven (7) programs for the CoC application that you will find below. In reaching this decision, the subcommittee took into consideration the importance of several factors: utilization of contract funds from prior years as well as review of programmatic performance measures. Please note that the performance indicator of percent of participants with zero income entry was not factored due to all projects' performance on this being below the HUD minimum (80%).

The recommendation committee is grateful for the opportunity to be part of the review process and appreciative of the time that the representatives from all projects gave in the meeting with us to explain their respective projects and answer all our questions.

Ranking Recommendations:

1. HMIS	75 Points
2. The Call – Coordinated Entry	75 Points
3. Home First Consolidated	65 Points
4. Francis House	62.5 Points
5. Next Step Home	52.5 Points
6. Stone Residence	48.0 Points
7. Cornerstone	44.5 Points

Thank you for your consideration.

The Ranking and Review Committee

Emily Timberlake (Dept of Transitional Assistance – DV Unit)
Janet Richardi (United Way)
Julie Almond (HealthFirst)
Tracy Ibbotson (Steward Health Care)
Dan Long (BayCoast Bank)
Helena Moranta (BayCoast Bank)
Evelyn Ranone (BayCoast Bank)
Albert Araujo (Consumer)

Funding Requests

Project Name	Grant Number	Grant Award	Funds Expended	% Expended	FY2023 Request	2023 PIT # of units	2023 PIT # of beds	Dedicated CH	Priority CH	Youth 18-24	Youth Under 18	Veteran	Subpops	HF
Cornerstone	MA0383L1T152008	540,465.00	402,912.09	74.55%	\$570,411	25	64	64	0	3	0	2	Y, DV, F, V	x
Francis House	MA0417L1T152009	108,197.00	56,967.08	52.65%	\$113,011	4	8	4	4	8	0	0	Y, DV	x
Home First Center	MA0578L1T152105	213,693.00	212,409.61	99.40%	\$213,693	12	12	12	0	0	0	0	---	x
Next Step Home	MA0236L1T152114	538,834.00	524,577.26	97.35%	\$538,834	40	66	66	0	0	0	0	DV, F	x
Stone Residence	MA0238L1T152013	444,281.00	435,132.28	97.94%	\$471,379	22	22	22	0	0	0	2	DV, V	x

CH = Chronically Homeless

Subpopulations: Y=Youth, DV=Victims of Domestic Violence, F=Families w/Children, V=Veterans
 Beds in family programs are recorded based on # of beds occupied during PIT Count.

HMIS	MA0323L1T152012	\$32,662	\$19,510	60%	\$32,662
The CALL (SSO-CE)	MA0526L1T152005	\$100,088	\$60,335	60%	\$100,088

Annual Renewal Demand	\$2,040,078
Bonus/Planning Funds	\$0
Tier 1 (93% of ARD + Bonus/Planning)	93%
Tier 2	\$1,897,273
Total Funding Request	\$142,805
	\$2,040,078

No Bonus requests - CoC, DV or Planning
 No consolidations of existing grants
 No reallocations from existing grants to create a new project
 No expansion requests to increase beds or services in an existing grant

HUD's Grant Number Determination Process:

State abbreviation MA Project ID number 0238 App Type L FO Code 1T CoC # 15 FY of App 20 renew 13

DL

Project Rating Tool - System Performance Measures

Exits to Permanent Housing

SPM 7b.1 & 7b.2

percent (%) remain in or move to permanent housing

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
97%	100%	92%	93%	79%
25	25	25	25	25

Returns to Homelessness

SPM 2a

percent (%) of participants return to homelessness within 12 months of exit to PH

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
0%	0%	0%	0%	40%
15	15	15	15	0

New or Increased Income and Earned Income

Total # of Stayers

27	0	8	32	10
----	---	---	----	----

SPM 4.1

percent (%) new or increased earned income for project stayers

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
19%	0%	0%	6%	0%
1	0	0	0	0

percent (%) new or increased non-employment income for project stayers

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
41%	0%	63%	69%	40%
1.5	0	2.5	2.5	1.5

Total # of Leavers

7	1	1	9	11
---	---	---	---	----

SPM4.4

percent (%) new or increased earned income for project leavers

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
0%	100%	0%	0%	18%
0	2.5	0	0	1

percent (%) new or increased non-employment income for project leavers

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
86%	0%	100%	89%	64%
2	0	2.5	2	1.5

22

Minimum	points
90	25

Maximum	points
15	15

Minimum	points
8	2.5

Minimum	points
10	2.5

Minimum	points
8	2.5

Minimum	points
10	2.5

Project Rating Tool - Annual Performance Reports

Higher score = the project lends itself to low barrier/housing first model

Serve High Need Populations

APR - Q5a

TOTAL CLIENTS ENTERING THE PROGRAM DURING APR TERM				
CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
39	5	13	48	29
29	0	0	29	0
68	5	13	77	29

Adults
Children
Total

APR - Q16

percent (%) of participants with zero income at entry (adults only)

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
11	4	2	3	3
28.21%	80.00%	15.38%	6.25%	10.34%

Adults
%

Minimum %	points
80	10

APR - Q13a2

percent (%) of participants with more than one disability type at entry (all)

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
19	2	12	34	29
27.94%	40.00%	92.31%	44.16%	100.00%

All
%

Minimum %	points
75	10

APR - Q15

percent (%) of participants entering project from place not meant for human habitation (adults only)

CS	FH	HFC	NSHP	SR
28	5	13	44	28
71.79%	100.00%	100.00%	91.67%	96.55%

Adults
%

Minimum %	points
75	10

0 10 10 8 9
44.5 62.5 65 52.5 48

44.5

2023 HDX Competition Report

PIT Count Data for MA-515 - Fall River CoC

Total Population PIT Count Data

	2020 PIT	2021 PIT *	2022 PIT	2023 PIT
Total Sheltered and Unsheltered Count	357	324	361	433
Emergency Shelter Total	278	223	240	318
Safe Haven Total	0	0	0	0
Transitional Housing Total	20	13	13	19
Total Sheltered Count	298	236	253	337
Total Unsheltered Count	59	88	108	96

Chronically Homeless PIT Counts

	2020 PIT	2021 PIT *	2022 PIT	2023 PIT
Total Sheltered and Unsheltered Count of Chronically Homeless Persons	73	62	113	103
Sheltered Count of Chronically Homeless Persons	28	31	52	50
Unsheltered Count of Chronically Homeless Persons	45	31	61	53

2023 HDX Competition Report

PIT Count Data for MA-515 - Fall River CoC

Homeless Households with Children PIT Counts

	2020 PIT	2021 PIT *	2022 PIT	2023 PIT
Total Sheltered and Unsheltered Count of the Number of Homeless Households with Children	73	62	60	73
Sheltered Count of Homeless Households with Children	72	61	60	73
Unsheltered Count of Homeless Households with Children	1	1	0	0

Homeless Veteran PIT Counts

	2011 PIT	2020 PIT	2021 PIT *	2022 PIT	2023 PIT
Total Sheltered and Unsheltered Count of the Number of Homeless Veterans	6	6	3	12	5
Sheltered Count of Homeless Veterans	3	4	1	4	3
Unsheltered Count of Homeless Veterans	3	2	2	8	2

*For CoCs that did not conduct an unsheltered count in 2021, 2020 data were used.

2023 HDX Competition Report

HIC Data for MA-515 - Fall River CoC

HMIS Bed Coverage Rates

Project Type	Total Year-Round, Current Beds	Total Current, Year-Round, HMIS Beds	Total Year-Round, Current, Non-VSP Beds*	HMIS Bed Coverage Rate for Year-Round Beds	Total Year-Round, Current VSP Beds in an HMIS Comparable Database	Total Year-Round, Current, VSP Beds**	HMIS Comparable Bed Coverage Rate for VSP Beds	Total Current, Year-Round, HMIS Beds and VSP Beds in an HMIS Comparable Database	HMIS and Comparable Database Coverage Rate
ES Beds	264	254	254	100.00%	10	10	100.00%	264	100.00%
SH Beds	0	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	0	NA
TH Beds	24	0	24	0.00%	0	0	NA	0	0.00%
RRH Beds	76	2	76	2.63%	0	0	NA	2	2.63%
PSH Beds	192	172	192	89.58%	0	0	NA	172	89.58%
OPH Beds	0	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	0	NA
Total Beds	556	428	546	78.39%	10	10	100.00%	438	78.78%

2023 HDX Competition Report
HIC Data for MA-515 - Fall River CoC

2023 HDX Competition Report

HIC Data for MA-515 - Fall River CoC

Notes

*For OPH Beds, this does NOT include any beds that are Current, Non-VSP, Non-HMIS, and EHV-funded.

**For OPH Beds, this does NOT include any beds that are Current, VSP, Non-HMIS, and EHV-funded.

In the HIC, "Year-Round Beds" is the sum of "Beds HH w/o Children", "Beds HH w/ Children", and "Beds HH w/ only Children". This does not include Overflow ("O/V Beds") or Seasonal Beds ("Total Seasonal Beds").

In the HIC, Current beds are beds with an "Inventory Type" of "C" and not beds that are Under Development ("Inventory Type" of "U").

PSH Beds Dedicated to Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness

Chronically Homeless Bed Counts	2020 HIC	2021 HIC	2022 HIC	2023 HIC
Number of CoC Program and non-CoC Program funded PSH beds dedicated for use by chronically homeless persons identified on the HIC	158	156	156	156

Rapid Rehousing (RRH) Units Dedicated to Persons in Household with Children

Households with Children	2020 HIC	2021 HIC	2022 HIC	2023 HIC
RRH units available to serve families on the HIC	59	35	32	30

Rapid Rehousing Beds Dedicated to All Persons

All Household Types	2020 HIC	2021 HIC	2022 HIC	2023 HIC
RRH beds available to serve all populations on the HIC	189	109	94	76

2023 HDX Competition Report
HIC Data for MA-515 - Fall River CoC

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - Performance Measurement Module (Sys PM)

Summary Report for MA-515 - Fall River CoC

Measure 1: Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless

This measures the number of clients active in the report date range across ES, SH (Metric 1.1) and then ES, SH and TH (Metric 1.2) along with their average and median length of time homeless. This includes time homeless during the report date range as well as prior to the report start date, going back no further than October, 1, 2012.

Metric 1.1: Change in the average and median length of time persons are homeless in ES and SH projects.

Metric 1.2: Change in the average and median length of time persons are homeless in ES, SH, and TH projects.

a. This measure is of the client's entry, exit, and bed night dates strictly as entered in the HMIS system.

	Universe (Persons)		Average LOT Homeless (bed nights)				Median LOT Homeless (bed nights)			
	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
1.1 Persons in ES and SH	606	607	213	209	210	1	121	120	142	22
1.2 Persons in ES, SH, and TH	606	607	213	209	210	1	121	120	142	22

b. This measure is based on data element 3.17.

This measure includes data from each client's Living Situation (Data Standards element 3.917) response as well as time spent in permanent housing projects between Project Start and Housing Move-In. This information is added to the client's entry date, effectively extending the client's entry date backward in time. This "adjusted entry date" is then used in the calculations just as if it were the client's actual entry date.

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - Performance Measurement Module (Sys PM)

	Universe (Persons)		Average LOT Homeless (bed nights)				Median LOT Homeless (bed nights)			
	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
1.1 Persons in ES, SH, and PH (prior to "housing move in")	615	631	558	551	539	-12	346	334	312	-22
1.2 Persons in ES, SH, TH, and PH (prior to "housing move in")	615	631	558	551	539	-12	346	334	312	-22

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - Performance Measurement Module (Sys PM)

Measure 2: The Extent to which Persons who Exit Homelessness to Permanent Housing Destinations Return to Homelessness

This measures clients who exited SO, ES, TH, SH or PH to a permanent housing destination in the date range two years prior to the report date range. Of those clients, the measure reports on how many of them returned to homelessness as indicated in the HMIS for up to two years after their initial exit.

	Total # of Persons who Exited to a Permanent Housing Destination (2 Years Prior)		Returns to Homelessness in Less than 6 Months			Returns to Homelessness from 6 to 12 Months			Returns to Homelessness from 13 to 24 Months			Number of Returns in 2 Years	
	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	% of Returns	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	% of Returns	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	% of Returns	FY 2022	% of Returns
Exit was from SO	0	0	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	
Exit was from ES	256	204	7	4	2%	4	4	2%	7	8	4%	16	8%
Exit was from TH	0	0	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	
Exit was from SH	0	0	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	
Exit was from PH	51	26	1	2	8%	0	0	0%	0	2	8%	4	15%
TOTAL Returns to Homelessness	307	230	8	6	3%	4	4	2%	7	10	4%	20	9%

Measure 3: Number of Homeless Persons

Metric 3.1 – Change in PIT Counts

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - Performance Measurement Module (Sys PM)

This measures the change in PIT counts of sheltered and unsheltered homeless person as reported on the PIT (not from HMIS).

	January 2021 PIT Count	January 2022 PIT Count	Difference
Universe: Total PIT Count of sheltered and unsheltered persons	324	361	37
Emergency Shelter Total	223	240	17
Safe Haven Total	0	0	0
Transitional Housing Total	13	13	0
Total Sheltered Count	236	253	17
Unsheltered Count	88	108	20

Metric 3.2 – Change in Annual Counts

This measures the change in annual counts of sheltered homeless persons in HMIS.

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Unduplicated Total sheltered homeless persons	599	606	607	1
Emergency Shelter Total	599	606	607	1
Safe Haven Total	0	0	0	0
Transitional Housing Total	0	0	0	0

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - Performance Measurement Module (Sys PM)

Measure 4: Employment and Income Growth for Homeless Persons in CoC Program-funded Projects

Metric 4.1 – Change in earned income for adult system stayers during the reporting period

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Number of adults (system stayers)	87	82	79	-3
Number of adults with increased earned income	8	7	8	1
Percentage of adults who increased earned income	9%	9%	10%	1%

Metric 4.2 – Change in non-employment cash income for adult system stayers during the reporting period

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Number of adults (system stayers)	87	82	79	-3
Number of adults with increased non-employment cash income	59	53	43	-10
Percentage of adults who increased non-employment cash income	68%	65%	54%	-11%

Metric 4.3 – Change in total income for adult system stayers during the reporting period

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Number of adults (system stayers)	87	82	79	-3
Number of adults with increased total income	62	54	47	-7
Percentage of adults who increased total income	71%	66%	59%	-7%

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - Performance Measurement Module (Sys PM)

Metric 4.4 – Change in earned income for adult system leavers

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Number of adults who exited (system leavers)	27	31	25	-6
Number of adults who exited with increased earned income	6	6	3	-3
Percentage of adults who increased earned income	22%	19%	12%	-7%

Metric 4.5 – Change in non-employment cash income for adult system leavers

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Number of adults who exited (system leavers)	27	31	25	-6
Number of adults who exited with increased non-employment cash income	11	14	19	5
Percentage of adults who increased non-employment cash income	41%	45%	76%	31%

Metric 4.6 – Change in total income for adult system leavers

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Number of adults who exited (system leavers)	27	31	25	-6
Number of adults who exited with increased total income	16	19	21	2
Percentage of adults who increased total income	59%	61%	84%	23%

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - Performance Measurement Module (Sys PM)

Measure 5: Number of persons who become homeless for the 1st time

Metric 5.1 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, and TH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Person with entries into ES, SH or TH during the reporting period.	407	414	407	-7
Of persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year.	124	129	128	-1
Of persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH or PH in the previous 24 months. (i.e. Number of persons experiencing homelessness for the first time)	283	285	279	-6

Metric 5.2 – Change in the number of persons entering ES, SH, TH, and PH projects with no prior enrollments in HMIS

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Person with entries into ES, SH, TH or PH during the reporting period.	431	439	441	2
Of persons above, count those who were in ES, SH, TH or any PH within 24 months prior to their entry during the reporting year.	144	149	140	-9
Of persons above, count those who did not have entries in ES, SH, TH or PH in the previous 24 months. (i.e. Number of persons experiencing homelessness for the first time.)	287	290	301	11

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - Performance Measurement Module (Sys PM)

Measure 6: Homeless Prevention and Housing Placement of Persons defined by category 3 of HUD's Homeless Definition in CoC Program-funded Projects

This Measure is not applicable to CoCs in FY2022 (Oct 1, 2021 - Sept 30, 2022) reporting period.

Measure 7: Successful Placement from Street Outreach and Successful Placement in or Retention of Permanent Housing

Metric 7a.1 – Change in exits to permanent housing destinations

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Persons who exit Street Outreach	56	89	40	-49
Of persons above, those who exited to temporary & some institutional destinations	45	69	30	-39
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	4	5	6	1
% Successful exits	88%	83%	90%	7%

Metric 7b.1 – Change in exits to permanent housing destinations

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - Performance Measurement Module (Sys PM)

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Persons in ES, SH, TH and PH-RRH who exited, plus persons in other PH projects who exited without moving into housing	389	403	394	-9
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	196	197	160	-37
% Successful exits	50%	49%	41%	-8%

Metric 7b.2 – Change in exit to or retention of permanent housing

	Submitted FY 2021	Revised FY 2021	FY 2022	Difference
Universe: Persons in all PH projects except PH-RRH	174	174	171	-3
Of persons above, those who remained in applicable PH projects and those who exited to permanent housing destinations	169	167	161	-6
% Successful exits/retention	97%	96%	94%	-2%

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - SysPM Data Quality

MA-515 - Fall River CoC

	All ES, SH			All TH			All PSH, OPH			All RRH			All Street Outreach		
	Submitted FY2020	Submitted FY2021	FY2022	Submitted FY2020	Submitted FY2021	FY2022	Submitted FY2020	Submitted FY2021	FY2022	Submitted FY2020	Submitted FY2021	FY2022	Submitted FY2020	Submitted FY2021	FY2022
1. Number of non-DV Beds on HIC	235	207	223	24	24	24	198	195	191	189	109	94			
2. Number of HMIS Beds	235	207	223	0	0	0	175	172	172	16	3	13			
3. HMIS Participation Rate from HIC (%)	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	88.38	88.21	90.05	8.47	2.75	13.83			
4. Unduplicated Persons Served (HMIS)	638	616	619	0	0	0	192	197	191	27	10	27	0	103	77
5. Total Leavers (HMIS)	430	400	376	0	0	0	22	38	27	24	5	19	0	92	53
6. Destination of Don't Know, Refused, or Missing (HMIS)	29	50	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	23	17
7. Destination Error Rate (%)	6.74	12.50	7.71				0.00	0.00	0.00	4.17	0.00	5.26		25.00	32.08

2023 HDX Competition Report
FY2022 - SysPM Data Quality

2023 HDX Competition Report

Submission and Count Dates for MA-515 - Fall River CoC

Date of PIT Count

	Date	Received HUD Waiver
Date CoC Conducted 2023 PIT Count	1/25/2023	

Report Submission Date in HDX

	Submitted On	Met Deadline
2023 PIT Count Submittal Date	4/12/2023	Yes
2023 HIC Count Submittal Date	4/12/2023	Yes
2022 System PM Submittal Date	2/10/2023	Yes