MA-505 New Bedford Continuum of Care
2023 Continuum of Care Competition

DRAFT

Consolidated Application

For the New Bedford CoC

This document constitutes part 1 of a 2-part application to the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's 2023 CoC Competition

COC (HSPN Membership) Vote to Accept or Reject Draft will be conducted at the September HSPN Meeting, Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 10AM

Voting will be conducted during the virtual online meeting.

This is the MA-505 DRAFT Consolidated Application materials; this and all competition materials are available at the www.nbhspn.com website.

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-505 - New Bedford CoC

1A-2. Collaborative Applicant Name: City of New Bedford

1A-3. CoC Designation: CA

1A-4. HMIS Lead: City of New Bedford

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:

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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**	Yes	Yes	No
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)**	Yes	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**	Yes	Yes	Yes
29.	**State Domestic Violence Coalition**	Nonexistent	No	No
30.	**State Sexual Assault Coalition**	Nonexistent	No	No
31.	**Youth Advocates**	Yes	Yes	Yes
32.	**Youth Homeless Organizations**	Yes	No	No
33.	**Youth Service Providers**	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Other: (limit 50 characters)			
34.	FAITH COMMUNITY (ICCGNB)	Yes	Yes	Yes
35.	UNITED WAY	Yes	Yes	Yes

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 invitation process soliciting new members annually is communicated in multiple ways. First, a notice is placed on the CoC's website inviting and encouraging new members. The website post reinforces the welcoming of renewal members and those identifying as part of historically marginalized communities. Secondly, email connects membership opportunities with a range of community groups including the City's Diversity Council, the LGBTQ+ Network, immigration stakeholders and advocates, seniors and disabled populations. Additional invitations are made through social media including Facebook and Twitter. CoC members are also asked to bring someone new to CoC meetings to ensure inclusion of a broad, diverse and expanding membership. In its invitation outreach, it is made clear that membership is always FREE, and therefore available to all.
2.The CoC relies on its relationship with local disability providers (e.g.SouthCoast Independent Living) in ensuring effective communication with individuals with disabilities. Additionally, all materials published online and as part of CoC mailings, outreach and administration is made available in electronic formats, specifically PDFs.
3.Invitations to organizations serving culturally specific communities experiencing homelessness in this CoC are regularly made through direct contact. Given the small size of the New Bedford CoC, it is fortunate that the primary organizations serving such populations in this geographic area including the Immigrants Assistance Center (serving all populations), the CEDC (primarily serving Guatemalan, Cape Verdean, detained persons and individuals not in legal immigration status) and the SouthCoast LGBTQ+ Network, are all long term and active members of this CoC. Direct outreach is also made on an ongoing basis to agency representatives, housing advocates, homeless advocates, street outreach teams and emergency shelters requesting their assistance year-round in inviting folks they serve/know to join the HSPN to ensure those with lived experience are well-represented and fully engaged within the CoC.

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 small size of MA-505 CoC lends itself to enjoying tight community connections. This has helped facilitate a deep familiarity btwn those invested in/engaged with, preventing/ending homelessness. Additionally, the CoC recognizes the value in culling wide diversity in its approaches to ending homelessness + actively solicits/engages/relies on opinions from across the city. Solicitations via email blasts, web, social media postings and reg. participation in a broad range of community efforts ensures the inclusion of homelessness in local discussions while engaging others to share insights. Such efforts are routinely made to strengthen those relationships/perspectives/voices. Whether its unsheltered attending a CoC meeting, a business committing financial + human capital to ending homelessness or others, the CoC's meetings and its org model have always been rooted in the breadth of its collective voice.

2.At the core of the CoC's operation is its ability to outreach into the community/ensure a diverse and engaged public participation effort. The CoC communicates info during public meetings to better understand public ideas/concerns. In so doing the CoC first ensures a level playing field + always takes time to ensure clear explanatory components. The CoC is always open to the public; all CoC mtgs encourage participation. CoC-centric discussions (i.e.planning/strategic efforts) and broader community initiatives (i.e. annual Action Plan process, development of the Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments process) are foundational to the NB CoC. Similarly, the CoC regularly engages in forums relevant to vulnerable populations and homelessness; such forums involve public participation, all of which are aired on cable to ensure wide community reach. Similarly, CoC events like speaking engagements on local radio where callers raise concerns and questions have dramatically helped inform the CoC.
3.The CoC ensures effective communication with individuals with disabilities through its RFP process by placing the RFP on the City's ADA compliant/screen-reader compatible website.
4.The CoC relies on information it gathers in forums, recognizing equitable community-driven all ideas are valuable while ensuring the process to get there is authentic. One such example arose out of the public HOME-ARP public meetings where many people engaged in constructive dialogue that recently resulted in the city issuing its first RFP for non-congregate shelter.

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**
4.	**ensured effective communication and access for persons with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats.**

(limit 2,500 characters)

1.The CoC announced the opening of the local NOFO competition, availability of its RFP, deadline date for submissions and its acceptance of project proposals on 08.01.2023 via posts on the City of New Bedford's website (https://www.newbedford- ma.gov/housing community-development/) and the CoC's own website(www.nbhspn.com). The notice of availability including the deadline date was also sent to the local NAACP Chapter, the City's Diversity Commission and local LGBTQ+ network. Postings were also made on social media. All postings clearly stated "the CoC strongly encourages those from tribal organizations as well as those who work with historically marginalized communities to apply for this funding. This competition is open to all eligible applicants; one need not have previously applied to participate and submit an application."
2. Information about how project applicants must submit their project applications was included throughout the RFP including specific information regarding project applications within the Application Requirements section. This information was also separately published on the www.nbhspn.com website on 08.01.2022. Once ranked, project applicants are individually provided with specific guidance and instruction as to submission of their project information via esnaps.
3. Information about how the CoC determines which project applications it would submit to HUD was provided throughout the RFP including specific information within the RFP's Appendix B "CoC Application Selection Process, Scoring, Ranking and Reallocation Process 2023." This information included detail as to how CoC determinations were made and included information regarding scoring and an appeal process.
4.The CoC ensured effective communication with individuals with disabilities through the RFP process by placing the RFP on the City's website which is ADA compliant and is screen-reader compatible.

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)**	Nonexistent
9.	**Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)**	Nonexistent
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**	Yes
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.	UNITED WAY, FAITH COMMUNITY (ICC GNB)	Yes

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 NB CoC connects with ESG subrecipients on an ongoing basis through the CoC's collaborative applicant, the city's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) that's also responsible for ESG funding for the City (an entitlement community). All ESG program subrecipients are involved in planning and allocating ESG funding by virtue of their roles sitting on the CoC. Because it's a small CoC, each agency receiving funds also sits as a member of the CoC and the majority of ESG program directors serve on the CoC's Executive Board. Additionally, the OHCD is both ESG recipient and CoC Collaborative Applicant. The CoC's Performance Review Committee (PRC) evaluates project performance and recommends allocation of all ESG funds. Also, the CoC's Strategic Plan includes strategies related to the allocation of ESG funding (initiatives focused on homeless prevention/rapid rehousing/street outreach/shelter). In these ways there's a clear connection between the CoC, the OHCD as ESG recipient, ESG subrecipients and the CoC's planning/allocation of funds.
2. The CoC participates quarterly in evaluating/reporting on ESG subrecipient performance in two ways: (a) through the OHCD's monitoring of all projects and (b) through its PRC (whose mbrs aren't part of orgs receiving any CoC/ESG $). All ESG decisions are reviewed/approved/recommended by the PRC; all ESG programs are monitored by the OHCD. The efficacy of these progs, evidenced through data reports presented to the CoC during mbr meetings is valuable in ensuring a collective understanding re importance each ESG program plays as a contributor to the CoC's system-based performance.
3.OHCD staff who oversee PIT/HIC efforts from organizing to collecting/processing data/entering into HDX are the same staff who oversee/develop Action Plans and ConPlan for NB so there's no delivery gap/issue in ensuring all CoC data is wholly and expeditiously provided to the ConPlan jurisdiction.
4. OHCD staff prepares draft and final versions of all planning docs for the ConPlan jurisdiction including Consolidated Plans, (the most recent being 2020-2024). From conducting focus groups/engaging providers to conducting public mtgs/writing the ConPlan, OHCD staff are on the forefront of ensuring seamless integration of accurate/timely CoC data into the ConPlan.

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.	No

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 New Bedford CoC works in partnership with a range of youth education providers including the McKinney Vento Local Education Agency and local school district (only one district within the CoC). Specifically, the CoC collaborates with (a) multiple youth education providers that are active CoC members and (b) the LEA/McKinney Vento Liaison who is elected by the CoC membership to the CoC's Exec Committee and provides written and verbal reporting to the CoC each month and (c) with the New Bedford Public Schools (NBPS) District. The CoC formerly partners with the LEAs through a signed agreement on an annual basis. In addition, the CoC's governance, through its adopted By-Laws, specifies that there is a reserved seat for a representative of the New Bedford Public Schools.
The Immediate Past CoC Chair recently concluded his term as a publicly elected member of the NB School Committee. The NBPS School Registrar and LEA recently rolled off as the elected vice-chair of the CoC. The NBPS liaison now sits on the CoC Executive Committee and routinely presents statistical information and trending analysis of students being connected with supports/services.

In addition, the CoC formerly partners with (a) two local colleges to ensure access/outreach to those experiencing homelessness or on the precipice of homelessness (outreach for which is particularly robust during the months leading up to the PIT Count/MA state PIT), and (b) The NBPS' Family Resource Ctr who provides assistance to families with school age children facing or experiencing homelessness.

The CoC also collaborates with the SEA through the LEA/NBPS School Registrar who recently completed her term as the CoC's elected Vice-Chair. The CoC actively participates in Southeastern Regional McKinney Vento Partnership meetings conducted by the NBPS as well as broader area regional McKinney Vento meetings which bring together all McKinney Vento liaisons from surrounding schools/districts adjoining the geography of the CoC, regional meetings at which CoC leadership have regularly presented and contributed.

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)

The New Bedford CoC, acting through its lead/Collaborative Applicant, the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD), requires that all ESG and CoC project applicants be able to clearly demonstrate that they are informing all families/youth experiencing homelessness as to their eligibility for McKinney-Vento education services. CoC applicants must demonstrate and document how they are considering the educational needs of children when families are placed in emergency shelter or any transitional housing and, to the maximum extent practicable, demonstrate they are placing families with children as close as possible to their schools of origin so as not to disrupt the children's education.

All project applicants must be able to demonstrate that their programs are establishing policies and practices that are consistent with, and do not restrict the exercise of, rights provided by the education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Act, and other laws relating to the provision of educational and related services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Project applicants funded through ESG or CoC must be able to demonstrate that they have designated a staff person to ensure that children are enrolled in school and connected to the appropriate services within the community, including early childhood programs such as Head Start, Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and McKinney-Vento education services. The OHCD serves as the grantee for both ESG and CoC funding; as such, it compels agencies to abide by these policies/protocols and reinforces them through subrecipient agreements and monitoring of projects.

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	Yes
2.	**Child Care and Development Fund**	No	Yes
3.	**Early Childhood Providers**	Yes	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**	No	Yes
9.	**Tribal Home Visiting Program**	No	No
	Other (limit 150 characters)		
10.			

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**	No
2.	**state sexual assault coalitions**	No
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 regularly collaborates with the VSP within the CoC's geography in ensuring that appropriate procedures/protocols for working with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, trafficking, and sexual assault are incorporated into its Operational Standards. Such CoC-wide policies were initially developed with reliance on statewide resources from Jane Doe Inc. (MA Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence) and Mass Legal Help; they are published and incorporated into the "Continuum of Care Operational Standards City of New Bedford" as amended. These Standards include CoC-wide policies addressing victims of domestic violence and their families specific to non-discrimination because of any history of domestic violence, receipt of the benefits afforded under the Fair Housing Act, the protections under VAWA regulations as they relate to ESG and CoC program funded homeless assistance programs, the CoC's participant choice and subpopulation inclusion under its person-centered model, policies that direct that no organization shall have services that isolate/segregate victims of domestic violence based upon actual or perceived gender identify, confidentiality, the use of comparable data bases rather than HMIS, prioritization for victims of domestic violence and their families, and the effect of the HUD definition of homelessness as relates to domestic violence, etc.

2. The CoC is vigilant in its efforts to ensure all housing and services provided in the CoC are trauma-informed and can meet the needs of survivors. The agency providing the CoC's Coordinated Entry System (CES) receive mandated annual training from DV experts focusing on best practices in working with folks who may be survivors in a trauma-informed manner while ensuring they are able to access appropriate resources/safety planning. The CES has frequent contact with the local domestic violence service provider (GNBWC) to maintain open communication and ask specific questions about interaction with survivors presenting to the CES team. The GNBWC provides ongoing technical assistance and supervision addressing survivor protocols through the CES. The local certified provider of domestic violence services (Women's Center) provides an annual training during regular CoC meetings so non-victim service providers and all CoC area project staff are updated on all relevant Fed/State/Local laws 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 local Victims Service Provider (VSP-NB Women's Center) provides annual trainings for CoC project staff in addition to specialized training elements throughout the year. The VSP's Ed/Outreach Coordinator has historically presented the information during the actual CoC mtg but this year outside of that meeting as part of an ongoing CoC Resource | Training Series. The presentation focuses on an overview of the local VSP, its portfolio of supports, shelter and housing options and the means of accessing them. This training geared toward non-victim service providers also ensures all CoC members and project staff are updated on relevant Fed/State/Local laws. Training includes the prevalence of domestic violence survivors among those experiencing homelessness, barriers faced by those hhlds and prevention/safety. The DV Services Counselor is the VSP's project staff providing more detailed trainings, setting up an understanding of approaches used by the VSP around best practices including development of a safety plan that's victim-centered and is delivered in a trauma-informed environment. Training topics include safety planning for survivors of domestic violence that's clear on the importance of known risk/any lethality indicators that may be present. The VSP's training includes safety planning/addressing crisis intervention basics and current evidence-based best practices particularly given today's challenges around the persistence of the pandemic and diminished personal resources.

2. Procedure/protocols for working with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, trafficking, and sexual assault are all a part of the New Bedford CoC's Coordinated Entry System (CES) triage/intake process. Specifically, Catholic Social Services, the agency currently providing the CoC's CES, ensures training is offered to the CES team focusing on best practices in working with survivors of domestic violence/sexual predation in a trauma informed manner while making sure they're able to access the appropriate resources for safety planning. The CES has frequent contact with the local VPS maintaining open communication and asking questions specific to their interaction with survivors presenting to the CES team. The CoC's CES staff are mandated to participate in annual trainings offered by the VSP and are provided ongoing technical assistance and supervision that addresses survivor protocols through the CES process.

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. Given the small size of the New Bedford CoC, the New Bedford Women's Center--the CoC's only local Victims Service Provider (VSP)--and the CoC's Coordinated Entry System (CES) staff work together in ensuring meaningful and effective safety planning protocols. The referral process from CE assessment to accessing services provided by NBWC and/or the statewide SAFELINK, is seamless, largely because these entities interact so frequently on a 1-1 basis. Given this interaction, process improvements are an ongoing dialogue between staff, and needed adjustments to safety planning protocols are made quickly and effectively. As written, the CES' written standards and protocols ensure that those seeking services for Domestic Violence/Dating Violence/Sexual Assault/Human Trafficking/Stalking receive immediate assistance to ensure safety during their housing crisis and precipitating trauma. When any household calls the Coordinated Entry System they are asked if they are fleeing domestic violence/human trafficking. If they are, they're rapidly offered safety planning assistance. This assistance is offered through immediate connection to the VSP. Additional services are offered through SAFELINK that also provides safety planning services and connection to domestic violence/human trafficking resources throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. All interaction between the CES and VSP is rooted in their annual safety planning training.

2. During the referral process, the confidentiality of the household is prioritized, as the New Bedford CoC, recognizes that this is an essential part of keeping those fleeing domestic violence/human trafficking safe. The CoC also abides by a written Personally Identifiable Information (PII) protocol that is a part of all funded agency subrecipient agreements. No mention of the situation is made within the New Bedford's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), but instead the household is referred discreetly and confidentially offline to the VSP or SAFELINK for safety planning and services. Additionally, when CES staff are engaging with households fleeing domestic violence/human trafficking, they offer support through a non-judgmental approach to ensure survivors are not re-traumatized, and that they both feel and are, safe discussing and being referred to the local service providers and that their needs are met. The CES Team and the VSP require written releases to facilitate any sharing of client info between agencies.

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. Since January 2019, the CoC's only Victim Service Provider (VSP) has used EmpowerDB for its comparable data base and the New Bedford CoC has utilized CaseWorthy (CW) as its HMIS vendor. The City's Office of Housing and Community Development—OHCD, both in its role as HMIS lead and CoC/ESG recipient, reviewed data from its VSP have been collected and the resulting challenges. By using CW's data platform, the OHCD can take de-identified aggregate .csv files from the local domestic violence provider (of which there is just one within the CoC) and utilize it when looking at aggregated system wide data. Because the DV aggregated data aligns with HMIS data, the system provides robust and ongoing representation of the domestic violence survivor/dating violence/sexual assault and stalking cohorts thereby ensuring strategically placed initiatives can be developed. Data outside the traditional HMIS is also collected/used to inform/assess needs related to these cohorts from a long list of additional sources including: data collected from a CDBG funded DV advocate embedded within the NBPD, anecdotal data from the VSP, police and court, folks that work within multiple systems on behalf of their clients who identify as part of this cohort, other human service providers trained to work with survivors in general but not at the more intensive level typically associated with VSPs those who may find themselves in a position of being confided in or turned to for advice/referrals, data from community gatherings, public forums, outreach through surveys, data collected by community services throughout the city/CoC, CES data, PIT/HIC Count annual data collections, LGBTQ+ Allies' data and others not in the aforementioned groups.

2. De-identified aggregate data collected from the VSP is reviewed by OHCD staff on a quarterly basis. This data arises from the DV Shelters in the CoC and help the CoC better understand the complexities faced by survivors, particularly insofar as their lengths of stay in shelter are most often longer terms than that of other shelters since survivors often come with a greater complexity of issues and trauma. However, the CoC is now moving toward a quarterly meeting with all providers in the CoC during which a range of de-identified data from all projects will help inform greater strategic thinking and pragmatic solutions/action steps to inform and improve how the CoC is ensuring rapid safe housing solutions for survivors (and all project participants

** **

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. New Bedford's CoC adopted an Emergency Transfer Plan Policies & Procedures in September 2022 which is based on the Model Emergency Transfer Plan for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Federal agency that oversees the CoC program and ensures its compliance with VAWA (Form HUD-5381).

2. To request an emergency transfer (ET), the project tenant would notify the housing provider's management office and submits a written request for a transfer to another available unit. (The housing provider will provide reasonable accommodations to this policy for individuals with disabilities). The tenant's written request for an emergency transfer should include either:(a) A statement expressing that the tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant were to remain in the same dwelling unit assisted under HP's program; OR (b) a statement that the tenant was a sexual assault victim and that the sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period preceding the tenant's request for an emergency transfer.

3. In response to an ET request, the CoC housing provider works internally to relocate the project tenant within the same program or a comparable unit that may fall under another program of the provider. If this cannot be done for lack of appropriate housing, the housing provider must contact the Continuum's Coordinated Entry System (CES) to determine the availability of another unit within the CoC that will appropriately accommodate the needs of the tenant/tenant's family safety. The CES also connects with the NB Women's Center (sole VSP in the CoC) to ensure survivors aren't re-traumatized and safety planning/execution remains paramount throughout and that the process follows a trauma-informed, victim centered model prioritizing safety/confidentiality/client choice to id appropriate housing/supports. Both the CES and NB Women's Center teams follow a supportive, non-judgmental approach to ensure safety, choice and efficiency in transferring the individual/family.

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. The New Bedford CoC ensures survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking have access to all the same housing and services available within the CoC's geographic area and does so in a number of ways (in no particular order): (a) Although the New Bedford Coordinated Entry System (CES) carefully assesses all callers seeking housing/supports to determine whether they are fleeing domestic violence et al or are, in any way, in need of safety planning, etc., they do so to ensure appropriate safety measures can be offered to the client. Doing so does not, however, preclude any person so identified as being otherwise eligible for any kind of CoC and/or housing/services, rather, it is an inclusive rather than exclusive intake. Survivors so identified are eligible for, and offered all of, the same opportunities provided to non-survivors. (b) All CoC and ESG providers are made aware of their obligations under the Federal Fair Housing Act and under VAWA, all of which is reinforced and memorialized through the CoC's Operational Standards (Rev. June 2019). (c) All CoC and ESG subrecipient agreements between the City of New Bedford and the organization explicitly speak to the subrecipient agency's responsibility in establishing and maintaining written policies and procedures regarding domestic violence and the availability of their housing to all survivors.

2. The leadership of the CoC, working closely with the New Bedford Women's Center (the CoCs only Victim Service Provider), recognize that there are any number of roadblocks that do and can present in compromising its ability to ensure safe housing and service support to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking. As part of its annual retreat and ongoing strategic planning process, the presence and potential for such barriers are identified and discussed to ensure mitigating policies and/or actions are enacted before they present in a project participant's CoC journey.

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. The CoC regularly collaborates with the (one) VSP within the CoC's geography in ensuring that survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, trafficking, and sexual assault with a range of lived experience are incorporated into the Continuum's development and revisions to its policies and programs including the CoC's own Operational Standards. Additionally, CoC-wide policies were initially developed with reliance on statewide resources from Jane Doe Inc. (MA Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence) and Mass Legal Help; they are published and incorporated into the "Continuum of Care Operational Standards City of New Bedford" as amended. These Standards include CoC - wide policies addressing victims of domestic violence and their families specific to non-discrimination because of any history of domestic violence, receipt of the benefits afforded under the Fair Housing Act, the protections under VAWA regulations as they relate to ESG and CoC program funded homeless assistance programs, the CoC's participant choice and subpopulation inclusion under its person-centered model, policies that direct that no organization shall have services that isolate/segregate victims of domestic violence based upon actual or perceived gender identify, confidentiality, the use of comparable data bases rather than HMIS, prioritization for victims of domestic violence and their families, and the effect of the HUD definition of homelessness as relates to domestic violence, etc.

2. The CoC is intentional in ensuring all housing and services in the CoC are trauma-informed and can meet the complex and unique needs of all survivors. The agency providing the CoC's Coordinated Entry System (CES) receive mandated annual training from DV experts focusing on best practices in working with folks who may be survivors in a trauma-informed manner while ensuring they are able to access appropriate resources/safety planning. The CES has frequent contact with the local VSP to maintain open communication and ask specific questions about interaction with survivors presenting to the CES team. The VSP provides ongoing technical assistance and supervision addressing survivor protocols through the CES. The local certified provider of domestic violence services (Women's Center) provides an annual training during regular CoC meetings so non-victim service providers and all CoC area project staff are updated on all relevant Fed/State/Local laws and best practices.

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)?**	Yes

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 New Bedford CoC previously adopted its inaugural CoC-wide Anti-Discrimination Policy (ADP) based on stakeholder feedback. Part of the impetus behind the initial adoption was to meet the CoC's strategic objective of disseminating accurate, legally based info/legal citations in a user-friendly format. To ensure its ADP are updated when/as necessary, the CoC annually reviews it in several steps: (a)CoC lead staff collaborates with SouthCoast LGBTQ+ Network members, representatives from the City's Diversity Commission, local disability advocates and to the extent possible, willing stakeholders, to better understand the efficacy of the policy and the extent to which any challenges or barriers that have arisen over the course of the previous year. (b) Any recommended amendments to the policy is presented to the CoC's Executive Committee for its consideration and recommendation followed by (c) vote of the CoC membership on any determination of the Executive Committee.

2. CoC lead staff (City OHCD staff), on an annual basis, extends the availability of tech assistance to all CoC and ESG project provider agencies to ensure that these providers develop, maintain and update their own project-level anti-discrimination policies consistent with the CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy. Such project level policies shall include information and language ensuring that LGBTQ+ individuals and families receive supportive services, shelter, and housing free from discrimination. OHCD staff also utilize the CoC's Operational Standards in reinforcing individual agency policy development as those standards include an entire section on Equal Access & Non-Discrimination addressing fair housing, reasonable accommodations, equal access, VAWA and gender equity.

3. CoC lead staff (City OHCD staff) who are also CoC and ESG funding grantee/recipient, are responsible for evaluating each subrecipient agency's compliance with the CoC's anti- discrimination policies. Such review is conducted when traditional desk or onsite monitoring is undertaken and includes a checklist review of whether such a policy exists, whether there is a plan to train new staff, provide the policies during intake process, include a family separation policy and equal access policy, etc.
4. Any demonstrated noncompliance with the CoC's anti-discrimination policies is reviewed on an individual basis at this time; it's anticipated that articulated consequences will be adopted in future revisions.

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?
New Bedford Housing Authority	95%	Yes-Both	No
MA Department of Housing & Community Devt.	12%	No	Yes

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. (a) The New Bedford's CoC is fortunate in having an excellent working relationship with the New Bedford Housing Authority (NBHA), a public housing authority that understands the importance of having an established homeless admission preference and one that ensures it consistently exercises that preference by committing the highest quality services in ensuring safe, stable housing for those coming out of homelessness. To this end and with the support of the CoC, the NBHA has adopted and has for years, maintained a homeless admission preference in both its Public Housing and its HCV programs. As a result, the NBHA annually places large numbers of individuals and families experiencing homelessness into housing through its own housing authority properties and through its Section 8 voucher program (Housing Choice Vouchers-HCV). (b) According to the HUD Crosswalk, the DHCD Housing Authority (recently renamed to the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities) is the second largest voucher holder in the New Bedford CoC. DHCD is a statewide agency in Boston with which the CoC has some contact (particularly in the distribution of EHVs). The state DHCD does have a homeless preference in its Mainstream programs, its VASH program, and its EHV program. Although the CoC has not yet taken intentional steps individually as a CoC to work with DHCD in adopting homeless admission preferences, the New Bedford CoC is part of a statewide collective of CoCs that together, work with DHCD in encouraging such homeless-forward advocacy and actions.

2. Because the CoC does work with the local PHA within its geographic area as noted under (1), this question is not applicable.

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**	Yes
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)**	Yes
2.	**Family Unification Program (FUP)**	No
3.	**Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)**	No
4.	**HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)**	No
5.	**Mainstream Vouchers**	No
6.	**Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) Vouchers**	No
7.	**Public Housing**	No
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.**	

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?	Yes

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?	Yes
	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
MA EOHLC (f/k/a M...

1C-7e.1. List of PHAs with MOUs

Name of PHA: MA EOHLC (f/k/a MA DHCD)

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. One expectation of the New Bedford CoC is that all projects employ a Housing First approach. In ensuring this is true of all new projects, (all renewal projects employ Housing First and are monitored in so doing on an ongoing basis as described further in this response), the CoC's Performance Review Committee (PRC) that reviews and scores all projects looks to ensure that new proposals are not contingent on sobriety, minimum income requirements or unnecessary conditions; that the projects don't reject clients on the basis of financial status/history or behaviors interpreted as an absence of housing readiness; that program goals are authentically tenant-driven and that the program does not require core aspects like participation in services.

2. Factors reviewed by the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) as performance indicators of housing first include, but aren't limited to, reviewing a project's admissions/eligibility criteria, the extent to which case notes capture evidence of a harm reduction approach and transfers and exits out of the program and the precipitating reasons/handling of same.

3. As recipient of the CoC's funding the OHCD is responsible for monitoring all CoC projects on an ongoing basis; in so doing, it conducts monitoring of funded projects, all of whom have committed to a Housing First approach. Evaluation is accomplished (a) via required quarterly reporting of all subrecipients that includes both statistical performance data as well as narrative documentation where the subrecipient has an opportunity to demonstrate/discuss the extent to which they work to prioritize client stabilization and rapid movement into permanent housing. Performance metrics, themselves are reviewed in these quarterly reports to ensure the projects are successfully ensuring rapid sustainability to increase the likelihood of success in quickly moving to permanent settings. (b) On an annual basis, risk monitoring is performed by the OHCD and on-site monitoring visits that include review of client files and program operational details during which OHCD staff look for evidence that projects are, in fact, appropriately reflecting the housing first approach. (c) The NB CoC also sets forth in its Written Standards the importance and primacy of the Housing First approach and sets that as a baseline expectation for all relevant projects. Failure to follow this model are reflected in monitoring concerns.

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. The New Bedford CoC's Street Outreach strategy is a public/private effort following protocols established in 2017 by a coalition of city government and CoC members including key partners from the faith community. The resulting Homeless Emergency Assistance Resource Team (HEART) protocols ensure a compassionate, consistent, and comprehensive outreach approach to effectively address encampments and instances of unsheltered individuals/families living throughout the CoC. The HEART outreach protocols include four strategies—immediate response, ongoing outreach, supportive program capacity building and best practices/innovative approaches—and outreach is conducted on an ongoing basis. In addition to the Mobile Ministries food truck and shelter staff's outreach efforts, the City of New Bedford allocates ESG funding for a Street Outreach position that collaborates with all homeless services providers and the city-wide outreach team's schedule.

2. The CoC's Street Outreach covers 100% of the CoC's entire geographic area.

3. Street outreach is conducted daily. Findings, issues, and concerns are reported and discussed every month at each CoC member meeting.

4. New Bedford's HEART Street Outreach approach is rooted in building trust and forming relationships with encountered individuals and families. Outreach members build trust through use of effective practices, such as motivational interviewing, utilizing an empathetic approach and assisting those encountered with first meeting basic needs. CoC members, Mobile Ministries and shelter and street outreach staff from Steppingstone, Inc. constitute the HEART team. The HEART team works diligently to provide a compassionate, comprehensive response to those living in unsheltered conditions including providing food, medical attention, resources—both immediate and long-term—and rehousing alternatives. The CoC uses this approach to connect with those least likely to enter the homeless service system and request or accept assistance. In this regard the outreach strategy includes monthly triage at CoC meetings and Community Crisis Intervention Team meetings. Additionally, the Sister Rose Soup Kitchen partners with the local hospital to connect hard to reach individuals with pressing med. needs in a confidential safe setting.

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	Yes
2.	Engaged/educated law enforcement	Yes	Yes
3.	Engaged/educated local business leaders	Yes	Yes
4.	Implemented community wide plans	Yes	Yes
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.l.	

		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	79	88

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)	
	Medicare and Medicaid Trainings	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. The CoC regularly updates its membership on mainstream resource availability in multiple ways: (a) by providing trainings during CoC meetings and by sending out to its listserve (CoC membership) HUD/other resource updates including updates from MEDICAID, MA Health, SAMSHA, HHS, Benefits.gov, the VA, etc. as the information is released. (b) by including a mainstream resource discussion and/or distribution of available resources, training to access resources at each CoC meeting. (c) by conducting an annual overarching training (held in October each year) to help folks understand access points for food stamps, TANF, mental health, substance use disorders, employment access through the Workforce Investment Board/MA Career Center and similar resources, and (d) by hosting topic-driven resource trainings outside of CoC meetings via zoom such as a DV training being conducted by the CoC's VSP in August of this year as well as additional trainings on accessing Medicare and Medicaid benefits. These methods have proven quite successful because multiple government agencies attend/participate in the CoC's monthly meetings. The CoC lead as the HUD grantee also provides regular tech assistance to all providers (CoC, ESG, etc.) ensuring they are apprised of state and federal mainstream updates, trainings, and benefit changes.

2. The local health care system is well represented within the CoC: the largest hospital/health system's rep sits on the CoC Exec Committee and the local health clinic participates in every single CoC meeting. Because of this contact, projects have great access on a regular basis to health systems. Additionally, the CoC ensures that project staff is actively connecting with the health care organizations within the area both through the work of the City's Office of Housing and Community Development who serves as HUD Grantee and provides both tech assistance and monitoring of the CoC projects, and through the CoC Executive Committee where the Executive Directors of each of the funded project agencies are elected leadership.

3. The CoC has had SOAR presentations at CoC meetings and has actively encouraged projects to ensure multiple staff successfully complete the online SOAR certification. As a result, multiple providers and CoC projects currently have certified SOAR staff in place with impressive successful track records.

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)

Although the CoC has for some time worked to increase its inventory of safe, decent and affordable rental units throughout its geographic area, it was not until the public health crisis of the pandemic that it recognized the absolute need in this CoC for non-congregate shelter (NCS) beds for those experiencing unsheltered homelessness and more recently, specifically for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The need to prevent the spread of COVID and to ensure the greatest level of safety for those going into shelter and those working in shelter highlighted the shortcomings of a traditional congregate model. While many families in shelter in this CoC are placed in independent apartment units, the CoC recognizes that (a) individuals had been left to shelter with others in congregate settings and (b) survivors did not have enough appropriate shelter space providing for safe, independent units with shared kitchen facilities, etc.

With respect to NCS for those living on the streets, over the past few winters the CoC devised a winter cold weather overflow shelter using a motel. Doing so allowed the CoC to ensure that highly vulnerable individuals in need of shelter could benefit from a safe setting trying to access permanent housing options. The motel model, though successful as an NCS solution, came with an enormous price tag both in terms of direct costs and staffing cost, mentally and physically. As a result, the CoC and its lead individual shelter provider convened meetings with a collective of stakeholders (including those with lived experience) to consider a longer term, systemic solution to NCS development. This resulted in the award of a long-term NCS overflow shelter funded through the State.

Given the existing system gaps and resulting need for NCS for survivors--and in light of consultation and public hearing efforts during the development of the City's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, just under a million dollars has been earmarked for non-congregate shelter dollars with an expressed limitation that those funds be used for the DV Qualifying Population (QP). An RFP was issued soliciting proposals for non-congregate shelter limited to this QP in July of 2023 and it is anticipated that the CoC's only Victims Service Provider will be submitting a viable proposal for a new NCS project.

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 NB CoC policy/procedure response to infectious disease outbreaks manifests in multiple ways: (a) addressing public health challenges with the City's Health Dept at regular meetings and via email listserves; (b) connecting government, health and community perspectives in public forums; (c) relying on the expertise of the local hospital (SouthCoast) and local community health center-both of whom are CoC members represented on the CoC Exec Committee; (d) CoC member Seven Hills serving as the State's local rapid testing and vaccination resource and CoC member InterChurch Council publishing weekly vaccination announcements; and (e) improving outcomes among historically marginalized communities and those experiencing homelessness by ensuring critical access at the local level. Additionally, the CoC established a Medically Fragile Emergency Response System (MFERS), led by SouthCoast that's brought together CoC partners to address the growing number of medically fragile community members experiencing homelessness. This population has emerged as one of the most challenging community sectors to serve because of the complexity of their cases. MFERS has created a collaborative crowd-sourcing approach to resource planning/monitoring. This has led to better outcomes, quicker placement and a more effective use of resources. MFERS has led to an outside application to Medicaid to fund 10 new housing units that would better serve medically fragile patients who are experiencing homelessness as a pilot program. Because of these relationships and the role public health takes in the CoC it is poised to rapidly respond to any new infectious disease outbreaks.

2. Armed with the strength of local + state relationships, the CoC works to prevent outbreaks of infectious disease among the most vulnerable and those experiencing homelessness by: distributing hygiene kits for those unsheltered refusing to shift into safe housing in concert with local BOH efforts and educational outreach, changing the PIT Count methodology to reflect the directives of a newly adopted "public health crisis protocol," and holding weekly zoom mtgs specific to housing related issues and health-focused issues to ensure ongoing connectivity and solution building. This work has resulted in a collaborative and expanded outreach model solidifying a preventative posture toward infectious disease outbreaks for underserved communities to and those experiencing homelessness

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. Information Sharing. In equipping its network of providers to prevent or limit infectious disease outbreaks among their program participants, the New Bedford CoC has (a) reinforced ongoing participation with the New Bedford Health Department's regular meetings specifically addressing existing community-wide public health issues including COVID-19's persistent emerging variants, (b) relied on infectious disease information from the CDC and has (c) supported member agencies like Seven Hills (under state contract with the state's DPH providing testing and vaccinations) by conducting regular and robust outreach as to the availability of vaccines and information to ensure providers—particularly the CoC's street outreach team and its local shelters—are receiving current information on the availability of health alerts and resources in a timely manner.

2. Facilitated Communication. One positive consequence of the New Bedford CoC's small size is its ability to directly link providers to resources. As an example, in working with the City of New Bedford's Health Department, the CoC, and by extension its street outreach, shelter and housing providers, have enjoyed direct access to the latest information available as to prevention efforts, infection rates, prevalence by community and those most vulnerable within the city as well as best practices for ensuring a minimization of increased infection rates by affected cohorts and based on Health Department and CDC data. Similarly, through its lead organization—the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD)—the CoC has been able to ensure technical assistance gets directly to its ESG-funded subrecipient street outreach, shelter and housing programs in a timely and comprehensive way. These examples of facilitated communication coupled with information sharing has helped the local provider network evolve into a far more connected repository of resources and resource- sharing particularly to historically marginalized populations at the neighborhood-by-neighborhood level.

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. The New Bedford Coordinated Entry System (NBCES or CES) covers 100% of the CoC geographic area, which is the City of New Bedford.

2. At present, the NBCES uses a standardized assessment process to ensure those most vulnerable and with the longest periods of homelessness are, according to the CoC's "Order of Priorities" as articulated in the continuum's written standards. Although the CoC previously relied on the VI-SPDAT/SPDAT, it has recently come to understand of the flaws and bias inherent in the use of this tool and diligently worked in creating a new prioritization tool that seeks to eliminate implicit and explicit bias harmful to marginalized communities. This new assessment tool, CHAT (Comprehensive Housing Assessment Tool) was centered on the input of those with lived experience and relies heavily on conversational intake methodology. In so doing the CoC is hopeful that the pilot of CHAT will result in an improved and more equitable coordinated entry system that better assesses need and establishes priorities free from an unfair predisposition. (NOTE: The NBCES utilizes a central phone line that provides both live interaction with CES case managers as well as recorded information with options and alternatives and an ability to leave a message during off hours.)

3. New Bedford's CES was initiated several years ago and is ripe for the updates described to ensure equity. Going forward, not only will the updated system establish a regular means for receiving community feedback throughout the year, but it will actively outreach to ensure broad representation. Outreach will be made to participating organizations and projects within the CoC as well as into the community to solicit feedback as to the system itself, improvements that can be made and what additional opportunities those who are most vulnerable and those who may be reticent in seeking out such services would like and from which they would derive a benefit. Similarly, input from past system users as well as potential/current users of the NBCES will be sought.

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. New Bedford's Coordinated Entry System (NBCES) relies on several resources to ensure it is reaching those least likely to apply for homeless assistance: (a) through its Street Outreach team in the course of its work with unsheltered populations to connect them with the NBCES for housing/services; (b) through MA Health Insurance where families/individuals are often triggered for MA Health's new "Flex Services" Plan which in turn, works with the NBCES in ensuring households obtain assistance through the CoC or apply as part of their braided service delivery to obtain housing security as quickly as possible; (c) through CoC members like PACE (community action organization) and Coastline (elderly services) that connect with vulnerable populations often outside of traditional resource networks and for whom the NBCES can provide rapid assistance with diversion, prevention, emergency services and ancillary support.

2. Although the NBCES had been using the VI-SPDAT as its prioritization tool, the CoC adopted, and the NBCES has implemented, a new Comprehensive Housing Assessment Tool (CHAT) on June 1, 2023. This new tool came to fruition when the CoC recognized the previous tool's inherent racial bias. So as to more equitably reflect marginalized populations and refine its efforts at equity-driven assessment and prioritization, the NBCES is piloting CHAT with an eye toward better understanding the extent to which the tool is truly helping the CoC prioritize those most in need of assistance.

3. Because of limitations in housing inventory, the NBCES has, throughout its existence, had to maintain a waiting list for PH/PSH options. As vacancies in PSH arise, prioritized households are offered the opportunity for housing that is available. It is made clear to the household that it is their choice in determining/accepting the available housing just as it is the household's option as to what, if any services, they will subscribe. All persons going through the NBCES are afforded the opportunity for self-determination in housing and assistance for which they are eligible.

4. Access is paramount to the NBCES. It is always exploring opportunities to improve and streamline to ensure those accessing/in need of the services of coordinated entry are presented with a multi-lingual, uncomplicated, clear approach either in person or by phone.

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. Section 3.1 of the NB CoC's adopted Coordinated Entry Operating Standards establishes the expectation of a widely advertised system in a "manner that ensures all people have fair and equal access to the Coordinated Entry System" and provides eight specific strategies in support of that effort. Such strategies include-but are not limited to the requirement that New Bedford's Coordinated Entry (NBCE) and provider agencies "affirmatively market housing and supportive services to eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, familial status, disability, actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identify, marital status or who are least likely to apply in the absence of special outreach." Similarly, the strategies speak to ensuring access for differing populations/subpopulations within the CoC who are participating in any aspect of Coordinated Entry services/resources including those experiencing chronic homelessness, survivors of domestic violence, veterans and youth and addresses the production and distribution of multi-language information in targeted venues to reach those persons experiencing homelessness within the CoC's geographic area.

2. Section 2.0 of the NBCE Operating Standards articulates the CoC's policy for informing program participants of their rights and remedies available under federal, state and local fair housing and civil rights laws and describes the nondiscrimination policy for the system including a directive that "all participants in the coordinated entry system shall be informed of the ability to file a nondiscrimination complaint in accordance with the HUD Coordinated Entry Notice Section II.B.12.g." The process form for filing such a complaint is provided in the appendix of the Operating Standards, themselves. The correlating procedure upholding the policy includes a requirement that each project participating in the NBCE post/make publicly available the NBCE notice provided in three languages within Appendix R of the Operating Standards.

3. There have been no reports of any conditions or actions that impede fair housing choice for current or prospective program participants to the jurisdiction responsible for certifying consistency with the Consolidated Plan (City of New Bedford).

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.**	08/01/2022

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 CoC annually analyzes racial disparities present in the provision and/or outcomes of homeless assistance and takes multiple steps toward improving racial equity throughout its system. The process for doing so includes (a) use of HMIS data to compare percentage of persons in marginalized communities receiving housing/services with the percentage of persons similarly served identifying as White, and to look at the rate at which persons in marginalized cohorts either engaged with street outreach or in shelter move into permanent housing when compared with those identifying as White and (b) use of local data to produce a more formal Racial Disparity Study to align CoC actions toward improving equity performance that includes prog specific demographics + broader info including the extent to which differing cohorts are experiencing poverty and/or are housing burdened. With HUD planning $$ the CoC contracted Racial Equity Partners (REP) to further support this work. In a forthcoming Racial Equity Assessment report, REP is identifying patterns across past Racial Disparity Studies + examining Stella-P data. Beyond drawing on existing admin/PIT data, the needs assessment included an online survey, focus groups (including people using services) and stakeholder interviews to explore potential service needs/gaps in the provision of homelessness assistance for people of color.

2. Disparities revealed include Black individs constitute only 7% of the CoC's population but represent 27% of people experiencing homelessness (2023 PIT Count) with varying disparities among other cohorts. Though these numbers don't reflect racial disparities in access/outcomes, they're a starting point for the CoC's attention to racial inequities highlighting the importance of assessing the system to ensure its not exacerbating inequities but instead helps address them. Understanding of racial disparities in providing homelessness assistance is also informed by the survey, focus groups, and interviews conducted with REP. Analysis of feedback from people with current or past experience of homelessness, frontline service providers, and organizational leaders suggests several broad areas where CoC can improve homelessness assistance in order to help advance racial equity: outreach + communication to Black, Cape Verdean + Latino people, increased support in navigating Coord. Entry referrals, pathways toward other forms of housing assistance and increased translation/linguistic inclusion.

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.**	Yes
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 NB CoC has already taken several concrete steps to address disparities identified in the provision and outcomes of homeless assistance: (a) Increased the production and distribution of Spanish and Portuguese “StreetSheets” providing a list of all resources within the CoC and (b) Created a new Coordinated Entry Assessment Tool arising out of both the concerns members of the community articulated about the existing VI-SPDAT tool, itself, and national research recognizing the tool’s racial bias. (The New Bedford Coordinated Entry System replaced the VI-SPDAT with a new tool—the CoC’s “Comprehensive Housing Assessment Tool” or “CHAT” on June 1, 2023. The CHAT was the product of a three-CoC series of meetings over 5 months that included a diverse committee that centralized the expertise of those members with lived experience. The CHAT is in a pilot period after which the CoC will review its impact and the extent to which it is meeting/failed to meet the CoC’s objectives.) Going forward the CoC has planned additional steps including: (a) Thanks to HUD Planning dollars, the CoC has retained the Racial Equity Partnership as consultant to developing an in-depth assessment of ongoing needs and gaps leading to an action plan. It is anticipated that this action plan, (targeted for completion September 2023) will help the CoC engage in focused work to address the root causes of racial inequity looking at “internal operations, structural partnerships and the essential services being provided to people who are unhoused.” The CoC looks forward to the development of this assessment and action plan to serve as an important guide in addressing known disparities and evolving patterns with an eye toward instituting corrective actions. The work undertaken by the Racial Equity Partnership has, to date, been extraordinarily thoughtful and thorough, defined by an inclusive and engaging process of stakeholders and providers. (b) Convening of a workforce/career center training that provides racial equity related insight and information.

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. MEASURES. The NB CoC employs several measures to track progress on preventing and eliminating disparities in the provision/outcomes of homeless assistance. (a) Each year, the CoC produces a Racial Disparities Analysis Summary Report to examine whether there are racial disparities in people's risk of experiencing homelessness within the CoC. The Analysis compares the racial demographics of those experiencing homelessness to the racial demographics of the total population. (b) Race and ethnicity data are reviewed to determine correlation with system entry and exits and it is used to understand the relationship of race and ethnicity with length of stays, increases in earned income and mainstream benefits by (CoC) program. One example of this data use is the examination of access to housing type by race and ethnicity (an example which has revealed significant disparities in the numbers of those who are Hispanic in shelters as compared with those moving out of shelter to more permanent solutions). (c) Importantly, the CoC is in the midst of its work with Racial Equity Partners in developing a Racial Equity Action Plan that will include specific strategies with measurable outcomes in order to track progress on the goals that are prioritized in the plan. This work will conclude in the Fall of 2023. (d) Work is also underway between the CoC and its HMIS vendor in an effort to improve its coordinated entry system data collection which is currently lacking. The intent is to be able to better understand existing racial and ethnic disparities. In addition to an overall understanding, this effort will particularly relate to preventative referrals and successful project referrals (and ultimately positive outcomes from homeless assistance).

2. TOOLS. In conducting its annual Racial Disparities Analysis Summary Report, review of program measures, and development of its forthcoming Racial Equity Action Plan the CoC relies on a combination of tools including its HMIS, coordinated entry system, system performance measures and Stella-P race/ ethnicity disaggregation tools https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5787/coc-analysis-tool-race-and-ethnicity/ along with traditional data sets from the U.S. Census and the local Consolidated Plan.

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 New Bedford CoC relies on its member organizations/agencies/individuals who have developed trusted relationships within the community to ensure the voices of individuals with lived experience is heard and incorporated into CoC work. From its street outreach team that, itself, includes those with lived experience, to the targeted outreach conducted into the community engaging those with lived experience, the CoC membership actively works to recruit, involve and invest in those who are experiencing homelessness, whether unsheltered, currently in shelter, or previously unhoused. Examples include: (a) In conducting its PIT Count the CoC relies heavily on its street outreach team, those operating shelter and an outreach mobile ministry, all of whom enjoy a long-held respect amongst the unsheltered population which opens the door for important conversations. (b) Regular interaction and the development of trust between parties has helped establish an authentic dialogue that allows the ideas and suggestions of those currently experiencing varying degrees of housing instability to manifest into policy changes, systemic improvements, and an overarching awareness of experience of which those working in the field may be otherwise unaware. (c) The CoC's individual emergency shelters work with residents in identifying ways to get them involved and connect with the understanding that their views are critical for programming and system improvements. (d) Resulting from previous lived experience input it received, the CoC's Executive Committee is currently considering the development of a Lived Experience Committee and/or the appointment of a person to the Executive Committee with current or recent (within 7 years) lived experience.

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.**	61	15
2.	**Participate on CoC committees, subcommittees, or workgroups.**	10	10
3.	**Included in the development or revision of your CoC's local competition rating factors.**	0	1
4.	**Included in the development or revision of your CoC's coordinated entry process.**	3	5

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)

Members of the New Bedford CoC provide professional development and employment opportunities to those with lived experience of homelessness. Such opportunities take several forms both through CoC funded projects, but also through other CoC member organizations. Such examples include: (a) professional development and job training through the new Project Recovery program, a Department of Labor funded grant providing training and development to those with current/past lived experiences of homelessness. (b) employment opportunities through organizations like CoC member, Works 4 U, Inc. whose mission is to end homelessness through employment; (c) professional training for positions in the Recovery Field (such as Recovery Coach, Peer Navigator, Outreach Workers, Kitchen and Maintenance Staff). (d) direct employment services offered through CoC members like PAACA and High Point who employ those with the lived experience of homelessness for office, maintenance, outreach transportation workers, cooks, housekeeping, and recovery specialist positions; (NOTE: once employed by High Point, these workers have access to classes that provide educational hours and prepare individuals for the LADC exam); (e) computer navigation training with students from UMass; (f) commercial kitchen experience including serving others experiencing homelessness (g) enrollment in a Recovery Coach Academy with

scholarships to build skills for employment as a recovery coach, an effort of CoC member Steppingstone, and (h) CoC member/CoC Executive Committee member, MassHire Greater New Bedford Workforce Board that provides job training for specific trades, workshops like resume building, career guidance and interview assistance in addition to job listings. The GNB Workforce Board's Career Center also provides training as to its resources on a periodic basis during CoC meetings to ensure clarity about how those with lived experience can immediately connect to these important resources. In addition to these examples, several of the CoC's member organizations encourage hiring people with lived experience and recognize that while formal pathways in so doing do not necessarily exist, this gap and the importance of formalizing such a structure/process reveals an excellent opportunity for the CoC moving forward. The online training programs offered through the New Bedford CoC online learning calendar has been well utilized by the entire community.

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 FEEDBACK:(a) t hosts the largest annual (fall) resource fair (NB Connect) w/60+ programs from across the region who serve the needs of people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. As part of this crowd sourcing outreach event, participants are honored for their time with gift cards/other commty gifts to share their perspective on services/their experience in the CoC; (b) through feedback collected on a one-on-one basis + via a survey during the NB Connect event to determine needs and identify solutions; (c) through the CoC's street outreach team who regularly collects data about needs of those unsheltered within the CoC; (d) the CoC's Performance Review Committee + its Racial Equity Committee have both held interviews with stakeholders and program participants of CoC services incorporating that feedback into the CoC's workplan and (e) through a winter resource event that coincides with the annual point in time count.

2. COC/ESG FEEDBACK: (a) from those receiving prog. assistance via CoC or ESG projects (several CoC programs include people with lived experience on their respective agency's Board of Directors + one has reps on its Board elected by program clients to act on their behalf); (b) from input from those experiencing homelessness/who have received assist. through CoC or ESG progs by regularly using surveys and conducting in-person meetings with program participants; (c) from a pre/post participant survey to better understand the extent to which programs are hitting the mark or where they may be falling short. Many of the programs aggregate also share such data on an annual and semi-annual basis with the CoC.
3.CoC RESPONSE: (a) incorporating feedback into CoC strategies and individ prog modifications to better respond to barriers people face accessing hsg/services which the CoC (or programs) may not already be aware; (b) modifying prog design to better accommodate needs by ensuring what is being offered is relevant and useful to the pop being served, one example being the introduction of referrals to job training programs, re-entry programs, health/wellness programs + vaccination programs; (c) as a result of client feedback, the CoC annually develops/publishes a popular "StreetSheet" in three languages providing a detailed list of resources, food pantries, phone numbers and contact names (additional feedback has led to targeted outreaches to ensure wider distribution and reach to the CoC's most vulnerable populations.

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 New Bedford CoC's Collaborative Applicant was central to the development and authorship of the local govt's first-ever Housing Plan (Building New Bedford: Policies to Ensure Attainable Housing for All in a Thriving New Bedford) released by the Mayor in March of this year. The development of this plan necessitated multiple conversations with the leadership and membership of the CoC over several weeks whose participation and input was instrumental in the formation of three of the six policy priorities within the plan, those focusing on supports for those experiencing housing instability and homelessness, the review of policies and recommended zoning changes and regional leadership. Each of these policies sets in motion meaningful strategic actions that will improve the conditions and capacity of those seeking to develop affordable housing. In the past 12 months the CoC has also been at the forefront of discussions around potential zoning/land use changes to permit more housing development through the HOME Group (Housing Options, Momentum & Equity), created by the CoC's current Chairperson and a City Councilor. This group brings together not only CoC members but also city residents, government officials, landlords, developers, and community organizations outside of the CoC's membership.

2. In its approach to reduce regulatory barriers to housing development within the City (NOTE: The City constitutes the entire geography of the CoC) (a)the CoC's own leadership has attended one-on-one conversations with City Councilors and the Mayor and has appeared in public meetings before the newly created City Council Committee on Affordable Housing & Homelessness to discuss barriers that exist and measures that could be taken to mitigate those barriers; (b) the CoC has the privilege of having active and monthly participation from Congressman Keating's Office (U.S. House 9th) who provide important legislative context for discussion about regulatory barriers, and who, in collaboration with the HOME Group, hosted the HUD Administrator from the Northeast Region in a housing summit attended by stakeholders including people experiencing homelessness which generated a great interest + energy to create solutions to improve access to housing for area residents; (c) the CoC's Collaborative Applicant is spearheaded by an AICP professionally certified planner who previously served as the City Planner and is well-suited to exacting clarity and progress on land-use barriers.

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.**	09/01/2023
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.**	09/01/2023

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.**	No
5.	**Used data from comparable databases to score projects submitted by victim service providers.**	Yes
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.**	Yes

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)?**	100
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. The New Bedford CoC's evaluation/scoring criteria for projects includes consideration of severity of needs and vulnerabilities and relies on the use of detailed scoring sheets devised to reflect data, narrative and for renewals, past performance. The CoC analyzed data for each project application and considered ability to successfully house program participants in PSH despite vulnerabilities. It did so by (a) reviewing the proposal submitted (the NB CoC issues an RFP and requires proposals be completed outside of esnaps to allow a more robust telling in narrative and data as to the program's operation, its strengths, and challenges. Proposals must include details as to the population being served, the existing community need, and the extent to which the population may be unique because of whom their project serves.), (b) analyzing the most recent APR (renewals, only), (c) reviewing a detailed report from the City staff responsible for project monitoring and (d) reviewing the current inventory of housing within the CoC in support of target cohort. Because this CoC is so small, all projects proposed in this round largely support a similar cohort, (dual-diagnosed serious mental illness/substance use disorders) as this is the CoC's overwhelming and underserved need.

2.The NB CoC has begun analyzing its data to understand how long it takes to move/house people in permanent housing and has recently found that while disparities do exist for differing race and ethnicities, significant disparities have not been identified that would suggest they exist for those with particular needs/vulnerabilities.

3. The CoC prioritizes projects serving chronically homeless individs/families with the longest histories of homelessness, disabilities and most severe service needs. Of these, survivors of domestic violence/sexual assault/trafficking and/or stalking, along with veterans, families and unaccompanied youth have the highest priority. Individuals and families with higher barriers to housing and higher service needs who are waiting to obtain another permanent housing subsidy are prioritized over others in considering RRH projects for those at risk of homelessness.

4. Though willing, the CoC didn't need to give particular consideration to any proposed project since all projects in this round were renewals, all follow the Housing First model and all receive program participants through coordinated entry (which itself prioritizes based on vulnerabilities).

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's approach in the 2023 Local Competition for review/ranking of new/renewal projects including the determination of rating factors used was approved by the CoC's Exec Committee, the membership of which includes persons of different races, marginalized communities and life experiences. In establishing rating factors, the CoC solicited input from diverse individuals in the CoC, doing so as it established performance evaluation standards for projects against which the CoC's Performance Review Committee (PRC) measures achievement. The vote to adopt these stds/corresponding rating factors included a significant number of individuals self-identifying as Black and others as Latinx. These two cohorts account for those experiencing a disparate number of incidences of homelessness and were well-represented in discussions preceding and vote to establish rating factors and the evaluation of projects using those factors. The input provided in developing rating factors broadened + improved upon the narrative questions asked renewal and new applications and the scoring metrics corresponding to those elements.

2. Persons over-represented in the CoC's pop experiencing or threatened with homelessness were significant contributors in the review/selection/ranking process. The CoC's PRC who reviews applications and produces a draft slate of ranked projects included the immediate past Chair of the HSPN Racial Equity Committee and a mbr of the CoC Exec Committee. Also, members of the PRC included a person of color and a person self-identifying as Latina, both of whom were directly involved with the scoring, selection and ranking of projects. The complete membership of the HSPN responsible for the final vote of the selection/ranking of projects reflects the coc's population diversity experiencing homelessness.

3. Scoring of new/renewal apps included points specific to how racial equity was made a part of programming and the extent to which agencies made efforts to obtain input and include historically marginalized populations when identifying any barriers to participation. Follow up questions dependent on initial responses further sought info to better understand barriers, examples + specific plans. This year also included an in-person component where all applicants were each invited to present information about their programs and respond to questions posed by the PRC. Doing so gave the PRC their first chance to discuss racial equity issues at a program level.

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 process and the CoC's Reallocation Plan.2023 is a printed document posted on the continuum's website and discussed with the continuum membership. The CoC's written reallocation process is to determine whether an existing project has performed well and if it should be considered for reallocation. The HSPN develops annual performance standards for all programs and the review of performance through quarterly and annual performance reports is integral to the evaluation process. The City's OHCD staff monitors all programs

and assists the CoC's Performance Review Committee (PRC) comprehensively assess agency capacity and ability to meet performance measure goals and objectives. In particular, projects found to be poorly performing, unable to spend down their funding over multiple years and were duplicative of other projects performing to a higher degree scored the lowest given the established scoring criteria.

2. In this funding round, the CoC identified two PSH renewal projects (Portico and Prism) that fell short of achieving financial spending expectations which has resulted in an increasingly high rate of recaptured funding over successive years. Additionally, both projects were found to be, to a degree, duplicative of other, more successful CoC PSH projects.

3. In its ranking, the CoC voted to reallocate 15% of the existing funding for both PSH renewal projects in its local competition this year resulting in a total reallocation amount of $128,605 across both projects.

4. Not applicable

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

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?**	Yes
3.	**Did your CoC inform applicants why your CoC rejected or reduced their project application(s) submitted for funding during its local competition?**	Yes

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.**	08/18/2023

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.	08/18/2023

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

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.**	09/18/2023

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.	

	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.	09/18/2023

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

2A-2.	**HMIS Implementation Coverage Area.**	
	Not Scored–For Information Only	

	Select from dropdown menu your CoC's HMIS coverage area.	Single CoC

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.	04/25/2023

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 City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) is the HMIS Lead and also monitors the New Bedford Women's Center (NBWC), the city's only domestic violence housing/service provider and ESG-funded subrecipient. The NBWC is "the" DV provider within the CoC and operates two shelters for survivors. As an Emergency Shelter Grant subrecipient and Victims Service Provider (VSP), the NBWC is required to report program performance using a HUD-Approved HMIS-comparable database reflecting the latest HMIS data elements or standards and able to produce a CSV file for reporting purposes. All clients served at the VSP's two domestic violence shelters are entered into the EmpowerDB, the secure HMIS-comparable system that is used by the local VSP in order to maintain client confidentiality while complying with HUD guidelines. The agency is able to enter client data into the HMIS system on a real-time basis and provide a HUD- required CSV excel file that is used for aggregated annual reporting, system performance and other required HUD reporting purposes without extraction of any personally identifying information (PII). The SAGE CAPER report submitted by the agency meets all the required HMIS data elements. Although the VSP is in the process of searching for a new HMIS data vendor who will satisfy all HUD requirements, the existing HMIS vendor has agreed to continue maintaining the system according to the most recently released data element/standards until a new vendor is in place. The OHCD monitors the NBWC and in turn, their ongoing use of a comparable database.

2. The New Bedford CoC's only DV housing and service provider is using a HUD-compliant comparable database that is compliant with the FY2022 HMIS Data Standards.

3. The New Bedford CoC's HMIS (CaseWorthy) is compliant with the 2022 HMIS Data Standards.

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	244	36	235	112.98%
2. Safe Haven (SH) beds	0	0	0	
3. Transitional Housing (TH) beds	123	42	77	95.06%
4. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	88	0	82	93.18%
5. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	350	0	267	76.29%
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:
1.	**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**
2.	**how your CoC will implement the steps described to increase bed coverage to at least 85 percent.**

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. BELOW 85%: The CoC had two project types with a bed coverage rate less than the 85% threshold on the 2023 HIC: (a) Transitional Housing (TH). The New Bedford CoC has 6 TH projects on its 2023 HIC, only three of which provide HMIS data to the CoC. Two of the six projects are through the CoC's veterans programming for which it does not receive any ESG or CoC funding and instead, utilizes a different veteran-specific data entry platform unrelated to HMIS. A third project is a DV project whose 42 beds were not part of the calculation of HMIS year-round bed coverage. Had the DV beds been counted the chart would reflect the true year-round bed coverage rate of 96.74% (110 TH Beds/123 Total TH Beds in the HIC); (b) Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). As a small CoC, there are only 6 projects listed on the HIC as PSH, all of which participate in HMIS. Unfortunately, an error made by the CoC when entering HIC information into HUD HDX resulted in identifying several permanent housing projects that should have been categorized as OPH and not PSH as they were. Had the CoC correctly entered this data, it would have reflected the correct 100% bed coverage for the PSH project type.

2. IMPLEMENTATION: Given the discussion presented in response to the prior question, the New Bedford CoC believes that it has, in fact, achieved 96% for TH beds and 100% for PSH beds already. The CoC will take additional steps to correct its HUD HDX data error in mislabeling projects as PSH and will continue working with the veterans programming to capture their data in a format compatible with HUD HMIS standards.

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?	No

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

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.	04/25/2023

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. The NB CoC engaged unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations in the NB CoC's PIT count planning process when the count methodology was last revised. The New Bedford CoC did so by building consensus amount unaccompanied youth and CoC organizations serving youth. The decision to continue utilizing the adopted/revised methodology was by a vote of the entire CoC at the recommendation of the Executive Committee.
2. The CoC worked with unaccompanied youth and youth serving organizations to select locations where homeless youth would be most likely to be identified prior to executing the recent 2023 PIT Count. The PIT Count team, in collaboration with local liaisons and/or other school officials, notified families and homeless youth about the scheduled PIT Count/survey and the potential benefits of participation and provided a transparent process for obtaining parental consent for students facing homelessness. This was undertaken in the days leading up to the event, when outreach held pop-ups to provide youth and family-friendly information about how/where/when to participate in the count, and incentives were given out for participation.
3. No youth experiencing homelessness were used as counters during the New Bedford CoC's most recent unsheltered PIT count. (Given the size of the CoC both in numbers and in land area, the daily outreach through the entire CoC by the Street Outreach Team, and the absence of any willing unaccompanied youth (very small group from which to solicit interest), no youth were utilized in 2023.

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. Not applicable. The CoC made no changes to the sheltered count methodology, implementation or data quality changes between 2022 and 2023. The annual sheltered Point In Time Count was conducted on Wednesday-Thursday, January 25-26, 2023 and was undertaken in a manner entirely consistent with the previous year as the 2022 count was deemed successful in a number of respects. All sheltered information is collected via the CoC's HMIS so as such data collection is to a degree, a perfunctory process, no special accommodations were necessary.

2. Similarly, the annual unsheltered PIT count implementation did not change from the 2022 PIT count as the methodology, originally adopted at the outset of the public health crisis, was deemed to be quite successful. As such, the CoC's most significant change from what it had historically done and what it began doing during the pandemic—and now beyond—is to rely exclusively on the existing Street Outreach Team in conducting its unsheltered count rather than the use of volunteers and the convening of a simultaneous resource event to serve and to incentivize participation. Given the use of a mobile data collection system since 2020, its prospective use again in 2023 and the success of the PIT Count, itself over the past few years, neither methodology nor data quality changes were felt necessary.

3. No changes were found to exist in data as a result of the conduct of the PIT Count being undertaken as noted. The count was found to be easier, more comprehensive and exhibited a higher confidence level.

4. Not Applicable. There were no changes between 2022 and 2023 unsheltered PIT Counts.

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's process in identifying risk factors begins with Coordinated Entry and its existing Street Outreach team; each are charged with reviewing actual circumstances individuals/families are experiencing prior to and when becoming homeless for the first time. The process includes evaluating PIT risk factors that have historically revealed a prevalence of mental health and/or substance use disorders among those becoming homeless for the first time. The CoC also uses ongoing monitoring of ESG/CoC projects by the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) for important insight into trending of personal challenges (mental health, sub. abuse, etc.) and systemic issues like those resulting from barriers to housing (landlords not allowing those with poor credit, the number of rentals now over FMR, the impact of immigration/migration within the city and the low inventory of vacant housing). Additionally, the CoC's HMIS and its newly piloted assessment tool for Coord Entry has improved the ability to gather data including demographics and vulnerability information. This reveals greater detail as to what folks are experiencing, the nature of their crisis and what they need to prevent their homelessness. Additionally, if someone has experienced homelessness elsewhere in the county, data from one of two other CoC's sharing the HMIS database with this CoC can provide important information about how and why people are becoming homeless locally.

2. The CoC's strategy begins with dynamic targeting of prevention efforts that more often than not falls to the Coordinated Entry System. Other strategies include a Homeless Emergency Assistance Response Team (HEART) that provides immediate response/innovation in addressing encampments, a community hospital Account Care Org (ACO) team of health workers engaging/supporting "high utilizers" of hospital ER services, most often those at risk of homelessness, active participation in the City's Community Crisis Intervention Team and the CoC's annual NB Connect resource event, providing housing, services, etc.

3. The City's OHCD (grantee, HMIS lead and collaborative applicant) is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce numbers of those becoming homeless for the first time.

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;**

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 the length of time individuals/persons in families remain homeless is rooted in the understanding that barriers presented by a stagnant shelter/housing pipeline result in longer experiences in homelessness. Given this, the current strategy includes: (a) Focus on prevention; HP assistance is offered via several ESG projects and diversion through the CoC's Coordinated Entry System (CES)—NOTE: The CoC is monitoring impacts the loss of CDBG-CV and ESG-CV prevention dollars now has on those efforts; (b) Adherence to the CoC's Move On Strategy and reliance upon the CoC's two ESG RRH projects to help mobilize folks interested in moving and requiring less supports to quickly get into PH; (c) Triaged work identifying personal barriers that preclude individs/families from housing stability and providing targeted interventions and supports to them to more quickly and efficiently move them out of homelessness;
(d) Continued effort addressing system barriers including the recognition of institutionalized/systemic racism, honing of equity-based opportunities and institution of a "Director's Council" providing a standing opportunity for a Lived Experience council to guide CoC policy and decision-making; (e) Inventory expansion to include increasing the #units in private housing dedicated to persons transitioning from homelessness; (f) PSH project support for those actively working with private landlords and exploring development of a property owner engagement initiative and a possible property owner mitigation fund; (g) Ongoing guidance and training to ensure the continuation of successful program efficiencies.

2. The CoC relies on its Street Outreach, CES and HMIS to identify those experiencing homelessness for the longest lengths of time. Use of the CES' prioritization assessment and a careful review of chronic homelessness are two ways the CoC ensures those with the longest periods in crisis are prioritized for housing as quickly as possible. The lack of readily available housing stock and longer tenancies for those who are in PSH programs have challenged the CoC in keeping pace with increasing demand. A reconstituted by-name list will also help identify and work with those experiencing homelessness in order to more rapidly stabilize and rehouse them.

3.The City's OHCD (grantee, HMIS lead and collaborative applicant) is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to reduce the length of time homeless for all.

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.The CoC strategy to increase the rate at which individuals/families exit to PH destinations is fivefold: (a) Effective use of the CoC's coordinated entry system—the CoC will continue to ensure all projects have staff fully trained on undertaking its prioritization assessment/referring participants to coordinated entry to gain entry to permanent housing (b) Leveraging mainstream supportive services for those exiting to independent permanent housing (c) Providing technical support to review data and examine trends/patterns including quarterly reporting to detect issues as they arise (d) Helping individs reconnect with their extended family for additional support (e) Increasing the number of PSH units to fill the needs of homeless individs/families including the use of reallocation which added new PSH units allowing for quicker shelter exits (f) Increased reliance on CSPECH, Flex Services and other non-HUD resources for additional supportive services as folks transition to PH.

2.The CoC has enjoyed success in the extent to which individs/families in PSH projects are able to attain/retain PH. PSH projects are monitored by the CoC to ensure services being provided focus on stability, retention and self-sufficiency in multiple ways: (a) By seeking out additional funds to increase staff and services in their programs in order to better serve participants allowing for more focused attention on services (eg job search/training) and stabilization (engaging participants to increase likelihood of maintaining PH), (b) Partnering w/local educational/vocational resources providing participants with long term strategies for success in PH, (c) Cultivating formal/informal employment opportunities to ensure sustainable earned income, (d) Pursuing trainings like SOAR to assist participants with increasing cash benefit income, (e) Providing solutions/mediating landlord/tenant disputes to ensure tenants remain in their unit and focusing on landlord relationships to enhance communication/increase retention in PH and prevent eviction, and (f) Engaging partnerships with local agencies provide community case mgt. & recovery coaching to support participants exiting to PH and (g) Increasing reliance on CSPECH, Flex Services and other non-HUD resources for additional supportive services as folks transition to PH.

3.The CoC's Executive Committee is responsible for overseeing the CoC's strategy to increase the rate that individuals and families exit to or retain permanent hsg.

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 CoC's strategy to identify individuals/persons in families who return to homelessness begins with (a) the CoC's historic emphasis on stability in permanent housing and (b) its identification of those returning to homelessness as documented in its coordinated entry and homeless management information systems whether they be individuals or families. The strategy includes (c) an updated assessment of those returning to homelessness, (d) placement in housing as rapidly as possible, and (e) supports and resources to ensure that conditions that precipitated the return to homelessness are mitigated to the greatest extent possible. Following these strategies the CoC works to quickly identify those who are returning to homelessness while quickly ensuring long term, sustainable success in their permanent housing tenancy going forward.

2. To proactively reduce the rate of additional returns to homelessness, the CoC strategically: (a) works to increase focus on/resources for prevention; (b) ensures training opportunities around the Housing First to reinforce the need for supports and not just housing to maximize stabilization, (c) supports a robust Street Outreach effort that includes case management and comprehensive service provision and (d) undertakes outreach and engagement efforts to draw people to community education sessions, RAFT and other funding opportunities to reinforce existing community resources. A final piece of its strategic approach is the CoC's restructuring of its coordinated entry system and its CoC meetings, providing for more intensive diversionary efforts and new relationship-building opportunities between stakeholders and providers.

3. With the ongoing administrative support of the city's Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), the CoC's Executive Committee has responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the CoC's strategy for overseeing the way in which the CoC reduces the rate of individuals' and families' returns 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. The CoC's strategy to access employment cash sources includes: (a) providing overarching training to the CoC about employment resources within the CoC, (b) reinforcing direct connectivity between housing staff in PSH projects with the local Workforce Investment Board (WIB), (c) providing guidance to CoC programs to instill the value that communicating the importance of increasing employment income in order to sustain housing and stability over the long term (to program participants), (d) offering technical assistance to case managers to help them reinforce job skills, employment acumen and their program participant's value as an employee, and (e) providing clarity/connection to local educational/training resources—including disability/vocational assistance—to help improve worker skills.

2. The New Bedford CoC recognizes the value of collaboration between itself and local workforce systems and maintains a well-established relationship with the local WIB (MassHire) whose Asst Director is a member of the CoC's Executive Committee and who actively participates in the CoC including participation in the CoC's Performance Review Committee. Within the past 12 months the CoC convened a meeting featuring a MassHire staff presentation on employment in a post-pandemic environment. Such relationships are valued as an important aspect of the CoC's ability to connect those experiencing homelessness with the local employment network.

3. The CoC's Supportive Services Committee has responsibility for ensuring the CoC's strategy for increasing jobs and income from employment.

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.**

(limit 2,500 characters)

1. The CoC's strategy to access non-employment cash income stems from three primary barriers, consistent with HUD's "Strategies for Improving Homeless People's Access to Mainstream Benefits and Services" publication. (a) The CoC recognizes mainstream structural barriers like the absence of private transportation and limited public transit within the area and in response holds the "NB Connect" event each year. This is a large one-day resource-based event that connects sheltered/unsheltered persons directly with multiple mainstream resources all under one roof. An additional resource-based event has also been introduced around the Point In Time Count to ensure access for all in the winter months. Both events include distribution of free bus passes along with a variety of other practical resources. (b) Capacity barriers arise because of inadequate local resources. To address this, the CoC actively works with local and state agencies (such as the MA Executive Office of Elder Affairs) to provide education and training about access to mainstream resources (such as recent training sessions explaining access to health care options such as MassHealth and Medicare). (c) Eligibility barriers in this CoC have given rise to a third strategy, that being, challenges faced by many experiencing homelessness who have no ID and are therefore precluded from some mainstream services/benefits. Securing IDs, working with the MA Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV), raising funds to pay for the IDs and provide connective access to the RMV so that IDs can be obtained has become an important strategy that paves the way for someone to successfully access/increase their non-employment cash income. These CoC strategies to increase access to non-employment cash sources is part of each PSH's onboarding process and woven into case management efforts to assist project participants increase income. Increasing access through the establishment of successful events, education, communication, connection with outside resources, fundraising for a broader reach and direct services on a client-by-client basis all play an important role in the overall CoC strategy to access such resources.

2. The CoC's Supportive Services Committee is responsible for ensuring the CoC's strategy for increasing 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?	Yes

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?	Yes

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
GREEN LIGHT PROJECT	PH-PSH	4	Both
STEP UP RAPID REH...	PH-RRH	9	Both

3A-3. List of Projects.

1. What is the name of the new project?	GREEN LIGHT PROJECT
2. Enter the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):	ZPMBC8CMGF74
3. Select the new project type:	PH-PSH
4. Enter the rank number of the project on your CoC's Priority Listing:	4
5. Select the type of leverage:	Both

3A-3. List of Projects.

1. What is the name of the new project?	STEP UP RAPID REHOUSING
2. Enter the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):	VS45N4FMZ4X5
3. Select the new project type:	PH-RRH
4. Enter the rank number of the project on your CoC's Priority Listing:	9
5. Select the type of leverage:	Both

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)

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)

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 HOMELESS...	09/15/2023
1C-7. PHA Moving On Preference	No	1C-7 PHA MOVING O...	09/15/2023
1D-11a. Letter Signed by Working Group	Yes	1D-11a lETTER SIG...	09/15/2023
1D-2a. Housing First Evaluation	Yes	1D-2A HOUSING FIR...	09/15/2023
1E-1. Web Posting of Local Competition Deadline	Yes	1E-1 WEB POSTING ...	09/15/2023
1E-2. Local Competition Scoring Tool	Yes	1E-2 LOCAL COMPET...	09/15/2023
1E-2a. Scored Forms for One Project	Yes	1E-2a SCORED FORM...	09/15/2023
1E-5. Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced	Yes	1E-5 NOTIFICATION...	09/15/2023
1E-5a. Notification of Projects Accepted	Yes	1E-5a NOTIFICATIO...	09/15/2023
1E-5b. Local Competition Selection Results	Yes	1E-5b LOCAL COMPE...	09/15/2023
1E-5c. Web Posting–CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	1E-5c WEB POSTING...	09/15/2023

1E-5d. Notification of CoC-Approved Consolidated Application	Yes	1E-5d NOTIFICATIO...	09/15/2023
2A-6. HUD's Homeless Data Exchange (HDX) Competition Report	Yes	2A-6 HUD'S HOMELE...	09/15/2023
3A-1a. Housing Leveraging Commitments	No	3A-1 HOUSING LEVE...	09/18/2023
3A-2a. Healthcare Formal Agreements	No	3A-2 HEALTHCARE F...	09/18/2023
3C-2. Project List for Other Federal Statutes	No	3C-2 PROJECT LIST...	09/15/2023
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: 3A-1 HOUSING LEVERAGING COMMITMENTS

Attachment Details

Document Description: 3A-2 HEALTHCARE FORMAL AGREEMENTS

Attachment Details

Document Description: 3C-2 PROJECT LIST FOR OTHER FEDERAL STATUTES

Attachment Details

Document Description:

Submission Summary

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

Page	Last Updated
1A. CoC Identification	07/27/2023
1B. Inclusive Structure	09/09/2023
1C. Coordination and Engagement	09/09/2023
1D. Coordination and Engagement Cont'd	09/09/2023
1E. Project Review/Ranking	09/09/2023
2A. HMIS Implementation	09/09/2023
2B. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count	09/11/2023
2C. System Performance	09/18/2023
3A. Coordination with Housing and Healthcare	09/18/2023
3B. Rehabilitation/New Construction Costs	09/18/2023
3C. Serving Homeless Under Other Federal Statutes	09/18/2023

4A. DV Bonus Project Applicants	09/18/2023
4B. Attachments Screen	09/18/2023
Submission Summary	No Input Required

Attachment 1C-7

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

PHA Homeless Preference

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

☐ The **New Bedford PHA Homeless Preference Document** in the form of a letter explaining its preferences for those experiencing homelessness.

☐ The **MA Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities' PHA Homeless Preference Document** in the form of a letter explaining its preferences for those experiencing homelessness.

1. New Bedford PHA Homeless Preference Document #1.

NEW BEDFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY

Post Office Box 2081
New Bedford, Massachusetts 02741

Steven A. Beauregard
Executive Director

CENTRAL OFFICE:
128 UNION STREET
SUITE 400
TEL. :508-997-4829
FAX: 508-997-4808
TDD: 508-997-4874

August 28, 2023

Jennifer Clarke AICP
Deputy Director, Community Development
City of New Bedford
133 William St.
New Bedford, MA 02740

Re: Continuum of Care

Dear Ms. Clarke,

The New Bedford Housing Authority (NBHA) is pleased to assist the City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care (COC) in the development of its annual application for COC funding and offers this letter as a means of memorializing both the preferences employed by the NBHA and its effect in ensuring housing for the homeless over the past fiscal year, as well as the ongoing relationship between our two entities.

The NBHA is committed to providing the highest quality service in order to ensure safe, stable housing for those coming out of homelessness. Annually NBHA places many individuals and families coming out of homelessness into housing though its preferences as follows:

*Family Preferences for the Section 8 Voucher Choice Program vouchers:
- Priority 1 =
  (a)Displacement due to disaster such as flood, fire or natural disaster.
  (b) Court ordered no-fault eviction
  (c) Displacement by Domestic Violence
  (d) Avoidance of reprisal/witness protection
  (e) Victim of hate crime
  (f) Condemnation of Home
  (g) Inaccessibility of dwelling unit (Disabled ONLY)
  (h) Homelessness
  (i)Paying over 50% of gross income for rent and utilities

These preferences were changed to try to help those most in need. What the Housing Authority has found is that applicants that are most in need are either unwilling or unable to comply with the verification requirements to determine their eligibility or that their circumstances changed, and they no longer qualify for these priorities. In addition, many applicants are unable to pass the CORI check and screening requirements of the program, which then disqualifies them.

During the past year one hundred eighty-seven (187) vouchers were issued to homeless individuals or families that were verified to be Priority 1, which included 13 VASH vouchers for Homeless veterans. Out of those one hundred eighty-seven (187) vouchers, one hundred thirty-seven (137) applicants have leased up, eight (8) applicants are still searching for apartments with a voucher, thirty-five (35) applicants have allowed their voucher to expire, and two (2) took their vouchers elsewhere. There are currently 5,685 applicants waiting for a voucher as of this writing.

For State-aided public housing the following priorities and preferences have remained the same:

1) Homeless and displaced by natural forces such as fire, flood, hurricane.
2) Homeless and displaced by public action, such as urban renewal or eminent domain.
3) Homeless and displaced by enforcement of Minimum Housing Standards
4) Emergency Case plan which includes domestic violence, medical emergencies and those without housing due to no fault of their own.
   a) Local Preference
   b) Veteran Preference

Within our State portfolio, the NBHA is required to place residents using the state's CHAMP system. Due to the pandemic and the use of the mandatory CHAMP system, the waitlist has grown from 5,551 applicants in 2019 to 32,867 applicants today from all over the area. Out of the seventy-one (71) State housing placements that NBHA made from August 1, 2022 to August 1, 2023, 95.8% were for homeless individuals/families due to one of the above conditions, including four (4) homeless veterans. These priorities and preferences help those in greatest need first.

Finally, the NBHA celebrates the long history of collaboration between NBHA and the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) in its role as lead administrative agent for the City's COC. The NBHA continues to commit to this relationship in order to ensure a strong relationship with shared goals which actively ensure consistency, transparency and success in housing the homeless in the City of New Bedford.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,
-S-
Cheryl Souza
Policy Administrator
New Bedford Housing Authority

2. MA Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities (MA EOHLC)

PHA Homeless Preference Document #1.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HOUSING & LIVABLE COMMUNITIES
Maura T. Healey, Governor ◆ Kimberley Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor ◆ Edward M. Augustus, Jr., Secretary

September 5, 2023

Jennifer Clarke AICP
Deputy Director, Community Development
City of New Bedford
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Re: Continuum of Care Application

Dear Ms. Clarke:

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities' (EOHLC) Division of Rental Assistance is pleased to offer this letter in support the City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care (CoC) in the development of its annual application for CoC funding.

EOHLC is committed to providing the highest quality service in order to ensure safe, stable housing for families and individuals coming out of homelessness. In our federal rental assistance programs, we serve households coming out of homelessness directly through our robust Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program, Emergency Housing Voucher program, and Stability Voucher program, and we provide a homelessness preference (including a Moving On preference) in our Mainstream Voucher programs. In FY2022, EOHLC admitted 1,550 families to its federal programs. Of those, 183 (11.8%) were homeless at admission.

EOHLC and New Bedford's CoC have an established working relationship together, especially recently in partnership to administer the Emergency Housing Vouchers. EOHLC continues to commit to this relationship in order to ensure a strong relationship with shared goals which actively ensure consistency, transparency, and success in housing the homeless in the City of New Bedford.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at marysa.mclean@mass.gov or (617) 620-0065.

Very truly yours,

Maryssa Schneider McLean
Deputy Director, EOHLC Division of Rental Assistance

Attachment 1C-7

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

PHA Moving On Preference

NOTES:

- ☐ The New Bedford CoC has memorialized those elements of its own **Moving On Strategy** germane to its work and strategic vision. The resulting document, approved by a vote of the CoC membership in 2019, remains in effect and is provided here. Please note that the Vice-Chair of the CoC at the time of adoption was a member of the New Bedford Housing Authority's senior leadership team.
- ☐ Separate from this Moving On document is the priority list developed in concert with the roll out of Emergency Housing Vouchers. The resulting **prioritization list for EHVs** further reinforces the CoC's coordinated work with the local Housing Authority in moving people on. That document is similarly included within this attachment.
- ☐ The **MA Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities' PHA Moving On Preference Document** in the form of a letter explaining its preferences for those experiencing homelessness.

Homeless Service Provider Network :: HSPN
New Bedford Continuum of Care

Moving On Strategy

The New Bedford Continuum of Care (CoC), acting through the Homeless Service Provider Network (HSPN), hereby establishes and memorializes its Moving On Strategy.

Purpose.

Affordability, availability of suitable housing and a combination thereof have been identified by the CoC as a primary issue preventing current supportive housing tenants who are no longer in need of intensive services from moving out of their permanent supportive housing units (PSH) and into either a public housing authority (PHA) unit or other affordable housing unit independent of supportive services.

This strategy exists for the purpose of providing guidance as to how CoC projects can move current CoC Program participants who no longer require intensive services, from CoC Program funded-PSH beds to other housing assistance programs (including, but not limited to, Housing Choice Vouchers and Public Housing) in order to free up CoC Program funded-PSH beds to be used for persons experiencing homelessness.

Public Housing Authorities

As described by the Corporation for Supportive Housing's CSH Moving On Toolkit, "Under PIH Notice 2013-15 (HA), PHAs may create set-asides of units and/or vouchers for either people exiting homelessness or people referred by providers as being ready to move on from supportive housing. Through this mechanism, the CoC and its supportive housing providers may partner with the New Bedford Public Housing Authority (NBHA) to make public housing units and tenant-based Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV, or Section 8) available through the use of preferences in their local administrative plans for people who have achieved stability in supportive housing and no longer require the same level of support.

Affordable Housing Owners

In addition to the NBHA, "HUD also funds a variety of deeply subsidized units through the Multi-family division, which can be owned and operated by either PHAs or private owners. These include primarily the Project Based Section 8 (general population), Section 202 (elderly—such as the Coastline project, "Carriage House at Acushnet Heights"), and Section 811 (persons with disabilities) programs and combinations of Sections 202/811 projects (as is the case with Melville Towers). Such units frequently offer some level of services and are experienced in dealing with special needs tenants. Multifamily owners can create set-asides of units for either people exiting homelessness or people referred by providers as being ready to move on from supportive housing. As vouchers and public housing units are usually a scarce resource, programs may also look to the largest current production program for new affordable units - Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) – to create Moving On units. LIHTC developments must typically meet stringent quality and location requirements to obtain competitive funding, so they may be appealing from a tenant choice perspective. Prioritization of LIHTC resources is accomplished through the state Qualified Allocation plan, which accepts public comment on a regular basis.

In order to ensure that those individuals and families who previously experienced homelessness and who have successfully lived in CoC PSH projects but no longer require intensive supportive services have viable

alternatives to where they can move on from PSH into permanent housing, the HSPN seeks to actively collaborate with housing providers so noted here.

Strategic Steps

In its efforts to enact its CoC-wide Move On Strategy, the CoC will, to the best of its ability through its PSH programs:

- Identify households in permanent supportive housing (PSH) that no longer require intensive supportive services and demonstrate the ability to live stably and maintain housing.
- Ask such households if they are willing to move on (the household must retain choice and must be willing to move on; this is voluntary).
- Confirm that willing households meet any housing screening criteria in order to move on.
- Ensure that willing households in need rental subsidies move into housing with a rental subsidy available to them.
- Continue supporting the New Bedford Housing Authority's homeless preference for households to increase the possibility of willing households receiving a rental subsidy through housing choice vouchers;
- Work collaboratively with mainstream affordable housing resources including those financed with LIHTC.
- Provide flexible financial assistance to cover costs related to moving expenses, security deposits, first/last month's rent, etc. as may be needed to ensure tenancy.
- Work to develop a source of landlord mitigation funds (by individual agency and/or collaboratively as a CoC) to offset potential problems including excessive damage to units or unpaid rent.
- Provide case management to assist clients who have moved on with income re-certifications and/or application paperwork to support continued housing stability.
- Offer home-based case management for three months to help ensure a successful transition out of PSH into permanent housing.

This strategy may be amended or revised at any time by a vote of the HSPN Executive Committee. This document was reviewed and accepted by a vote of the HSPN Executive Committee on September 19, 2019.

New Bedford Emergency Housing Voucher Prioritization Plan

July 26.2021

The New Bedford Continuum of Care (MA-505) is a U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) recognized Continuum of Care (CoC) that wholly encompasses the City of New Bedford, Massachusetts. Within this CoC exists 7 Emergency Solutions Grant projects as well as multiple CoC-funded programs that include five permanent supportive housing projects, one rapid re-housing project and coordinated entry. Combined, these programs provide critical housing and supportive services for New Bedford families and individuals experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness.

Although these programs continued operations throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for housing and support for the most vulnerable of New Bedford's population, whether for rental subsidies alone or combined with supportive services, continued to increase, not unlike the increasing demand seen across the nation. Concurrent with this has been a renewed recognition of the persistent disparities that exist across the country in providing such resources to marginalized people including black, indigenous, people of color (BIPOC) populations, those who are of Hispanic descent and those within the LGBTQ+ community. As a result of the confluence of these factors, the federal American Rescue Plan of 2021 included funding and provisions for an Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program that necessitates the collaborative efforts and operation of the local housing authorities and continuums of care.

"…the need for housing and support for the most vulnerable of New Bedford's population, whether for rental subsidies alone or combined with supportive services, continued to increase, not unlike the increasing demand seen across the nation."

An allocation of 25 EHVs was made to the New Bedford Housing Authority as part of this action and an additional 34 vouchers has been awarded through the MA Department of Housing & Community Development (MA DHCD) for a total of 59 EHVs in New Bedford. Having received vouchers through both a local and state housing authority, the New Bedford CoC is positioned to prioritize both sets of vouchers in order to reflect the unique needs of the New Bedford community, specifically.

Prior to developing its prioritization strategy, New Bedford first considered factors explicitly affecting the movement of persons in crisis through its continuum and beyond. Although its permanent supportive housing (PSH) units provide 231 units of housing for individuals and families, the continuum recognized that the high

utilization rate of 104%[1]--one which reveals a system exceeding its capacity—means that there is little to no opportunity to move others in crisis into permanent stable housing. Moreover the continuum acknowledged that in moving increasingly stable persons out of PSH program units and into other subsidized housing, the CoC potentially increases its supply of available PSH units for others with heightened vulnerabilities and needs.

Because PSH units are intended to serve those most vulnerable, it is considered beneficial to the CoC system to assist in creating opportunities for clients to move on to less "supportive" housing as they are willing and able. Likewise, as it was anecdotally understood that many of those in PSH programs struggle with stable income to sustain a market rate unit they effectively remain in PSH only for the benefit of the rental subsidy, the availability of a housing voucher could provide the impetus needed to "unclog" the CoC housing pipeline and free up additional units for occupancy.

Given this, the continuum acknowledged that whenever the opportunity presents itself for a PSH household to "move on" to other stable permanent housing thereby freeing up the unit for a new household coming out of crisis, this opportunity should be acted upon as appropriate and possible. In so doing, the household moving out of PSH can benefit from a rental subsidy and a more vulnerable household with higher needs can benefit from the PSH unit. EHVs have been embraced as an important tool toward this end.

Adjacent to the need for increased housing and rental assistance and arising from a national reawakening as to disparities experienced by historically marginalized populations, the New Bedford CoC examined its own data to better understand the presence of racial disparities in its homeless housing and support system.

Using the CoC Racial Equity Analysis Tool[2] it becomes clear that there may be an unconscious bias in serving Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) households experiencing homelessness as well and those identifying as LGBTQ+. By way of example, although just 6% of those in the general New Bedford population identify as Black, those identifying as Black experience homelessness at a rate of 27% (individuals) and 35% (families). Similarly, while just 20% of the general population in the city is represented by those who are Hispanic, 40% of families

"…arising from a national reawakening as to disparities experienced by historically marginalized populations, the New Bedford CoC examined its own data to better understand the presence of racial disparities in its homeless housing and support system."

[1] The 104% utilization rate was measured during the 2021 Point In Time Count in January 2021 at which time 241 persons were counted in housing that typically provides 231 beds.

[2] Version 2.1 downloadable spreadsheet for MA-505 (New Bedford CoC) at: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5787/coc-analysis-tool-race-and-ethnicity/.

experiencing homelessness in the city are Hispanic. These simple statistics immediately reveal a significant and disproportionate ratio between general population and those experiencing homelessness by race and ethnicity in New Bedford.[3]

From this data, the CoC is concerned with the extent to which it is disproportionally housing those who identify as white over those who identify as BIPOC and/or Hispanic as well as those identifying as LGBTQ+. While this is not seen as intentional it necessitates action to ensure the disparity is diminished and eliminated.

In light of its finding as to the need for additional housing and mitigation of any systemic or institutionalized barriers in serving marginalized populations, and given the availability of new Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs), the New Bedford CoC will prioritize the following households (providing they otherwise meet qualifying eligibility) for use of the EHVs:

Priority	Cohort
1	Those New Bedford residents identifying as part of a BIPOC and/or LGBTQ+ community who are ready/willing/able to successfully move on from PSH or HomeBASE (exiting the program) but who continue to need a housing subsidy to remain stably housed.
2	Those New Bedford residents who are ready/willing/able to successfully move on from PSH or HomeBASE (by exiting the program) but who continue to need a housing subsidy to remain stably housed.
3	Those New Bedford residents identifying as part of a BIPOC and/or LGBTQ+ community and currently receiving Rapid Rehousing funds (either through ESG or CoC sources) and can show they need a voucher to maintain housing.
4	Those New Bedford residents who are receiving Rapid Rehousing funds (either through ESG or CoC sources) and can show they need a voucher to maintain housing.
5	Those New Bedford residents who identify as BIPOC and/or LGBTQ+ in the community, are currently in a housing crisis and can show they need a voucher to maintain housing.

Priority list continues on the following page.

> “…the CoC is concerned with the extent to which it is disproportionately housing those who identify as white over those who identify as BIPOC and/or Hispanic as well as those identifying as LGBTQ+…”

[3] While national statistics show that over 5% of the population identifies as LGBTQ+ and .6% of the population identifies as transgender, the CoC has not asked this question throughout any measurable intake either in outreach or placement. Both of these populations are underserved throughout the continuum and are significantly more affected by housing crisis, which, during the recent pandemic, has been magnified as these households are at greater risk and therefore at a heightened risk of COVID-19.

Priority	Cohort
6	Those either recently released from a correctional institution or who have a history of incarceration and only need a voucher to maintain housing.
7	Those New Bedford residents on the existing Coordinated Entry waiting list.
8	All other qualifying and eligible households.

Prepared by the Office of Housing & Community Development,
Patrick J. Sullivan, Director
on behalf of the
City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care,
Homeless Service Provider Network (HSPN)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HOUSING & LIVABLE COMMUNITIES
Maura T. Healey, Governor ◆ Kimberley Driscoll, Lieutenant Governor ◆ Edward M. Augustus, Jr., Secretary

September 5, 2023

Jennifer Clarke AICP
Deputy Director, Community Development
City of New Bedford
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Re: Continuum of Care Application

Dear Ms. Clarke:

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities' (EOHLC) Division of Rental Assistance is pleased to offer this letter in support the City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care (CoC) in the development of its annual application for CoC funding.

EOHLC is committed to providing the highest quality service in order to ensure safe, stable housing for families and individuals coming out of homelessness. In our federal rental assistance programs, we serve households coming out of homelessness directly through our robust Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program, Emergency Housing Voucher program, and Stability Voucher program, and we provide a homelessness preference (including a Moving On preference) in our Mainstream Voucher programs. In FY2022, EOHLC admitted 1,550 families to its federal programs. Of those, 183 (11.8%) were homeless at admission.

EOHLC and New Bedford's CoC have an established working relationship together, especially recently in partnership to administer the Emergency Housing Vouchers. EOHLC continues to commit to this relationship in order to ensure a strong relationship with shared goals which actively ensure consistency, transparency, and success in housing the homeless in the City of New Bedford.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at maryssa.mclean@mass.gov or (617) 620-0065.

Very truly yours,

Maryssa Schneider McLean
Deputy Director, EOHLC Division of Rental Assistance

Attachment 1D-2a

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Housing First Evaluation

NOTE:

The City of New Bedford's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD), Collaborative Applicant for the New Bedford CoC, is the grantee responsible for the monitoring of all CoC projects. In its capacity both as grantee and on behalf of the CoC, it developed the Housing First Evaluation that constitutes this attachment.

Please note that this Housing First Evaluation form has been provided to every CoC PSH project as well as the ESG projects funded within the CoC. In this way projects are encouraged to ensure that their respective teams are reviewing and evaluating the efficacy of their housing first efforts on an ongoing basis in addition to the City's OHCD using it for monitoring purposes.

Checklist for Adherence to Housing First Approach

Checklist for reviewing adherence to a Housing First approach in the provision of housing and supportive services.

Project reviewed: Stepping Stone - Welcome Home **Date of Review:** 4/14/2023 **Reviewer:** Joseph Maia

YES	NO	ACCEPTABLE or REQUIRES TECH ASSIST.	Checklist Questions:	Notes
X		Acceptable	Does the CoC project adhere to a Housing First Approach?	Program fully adheres to the Housing First approach.
	X	Acceptable	Is eligibility for the housing project contingent in any way on one's sobriety or minimum income requirements?	No barriers to entry observed including sobriety and/or income. Clients assisted had substance use and income issues.
	X	Acceptable	Does the project reject any individuals or households on the basis of any financial status or history?	Program does not screen out or reject clients based on financial status or history.
	X	Acceptable	Does the project's admissions/eligibility criteria include any criteria that would be considered unneeded within a housing first approach?	Program does not have any admission/eligibility policies counter to housing first.
	X	Acceptable	Does the project reject any individuals or households on the basis of any behaviors that are interpreted as an absence of housing readiness?	Program does not reject clients based on past behavior. Some client have behavioral issues tied to mental health and substance use disorders.
X		Acceptable	Are program goals authentically tenant driven?	Program includes formally homeless person w/ lived experience on board. Consumer driven.
	X	Acceptable	Is participation in services a requirement of the program?	Participation in programs & services not required. Client driven. Develop ISP to meet unique needs.
X		Acceptable	Do case notes reinforce the program as supporting the client in the context of the housing first approach?	Case notes and ISP notes reflected support notion of housing first.
X		Acceptable	Do transfer requests and/or exits out of the program reflect precipitating reasons/handling of same consistent with housing first?	According to HMIS and client records, no clients were exited from program due to precipitating reasons.
X		Acceptable	Does the project's required quarterly reporting include any performance data or narrative documentation where the subrecipient has demonstrated/discussed the extent to which they work to prioritize client stabilization and rapid movement into permanent housing?	Program submits quarterly reports to OHCD. related to performance measures (HMIS) Including housing stability, cash income and non-cash mainstream resources.

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Attachment 1D-2a

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

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OFFICE USE ONLY:

Attachment 1E-1

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

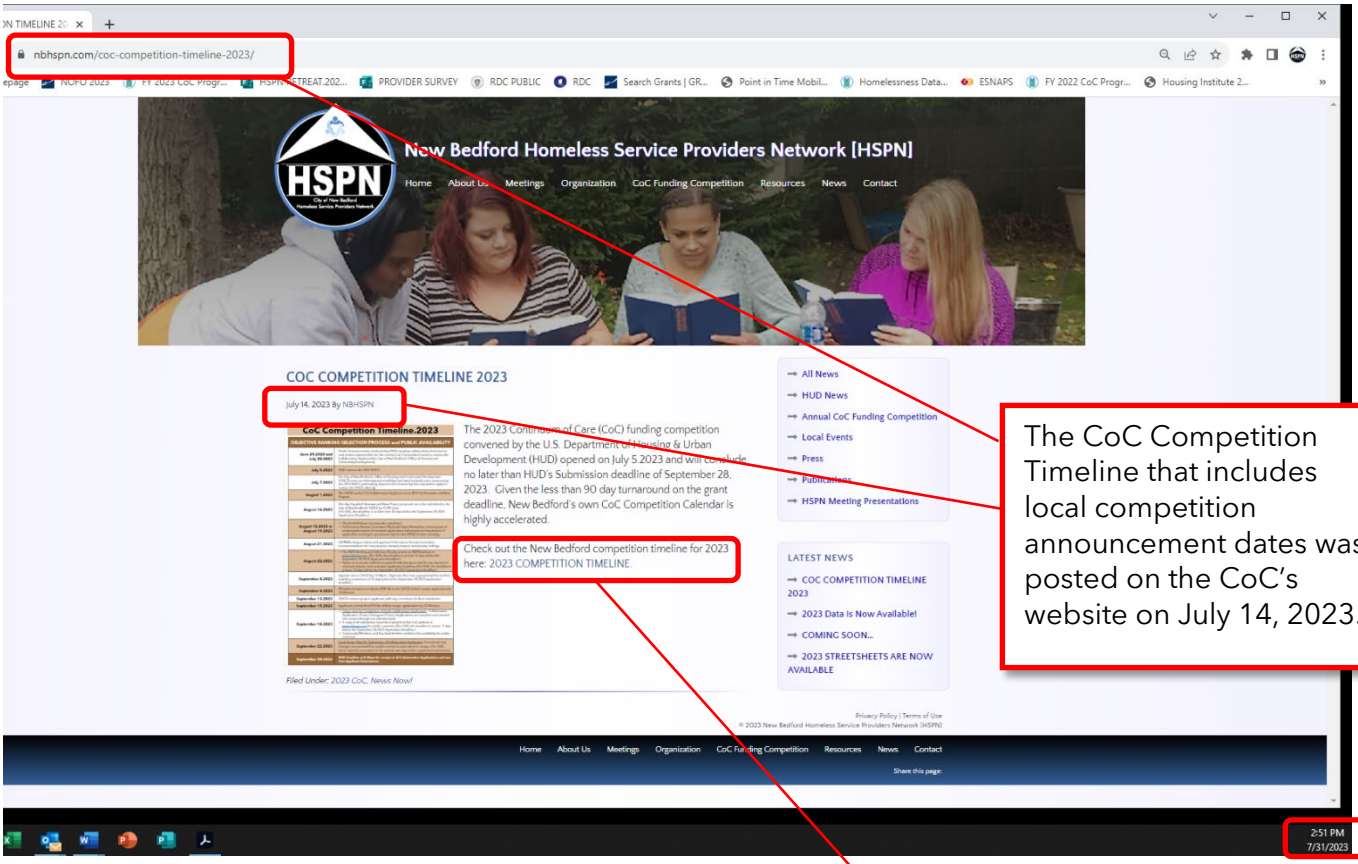
Web Posting of Local Competition Deadline

NOTE:

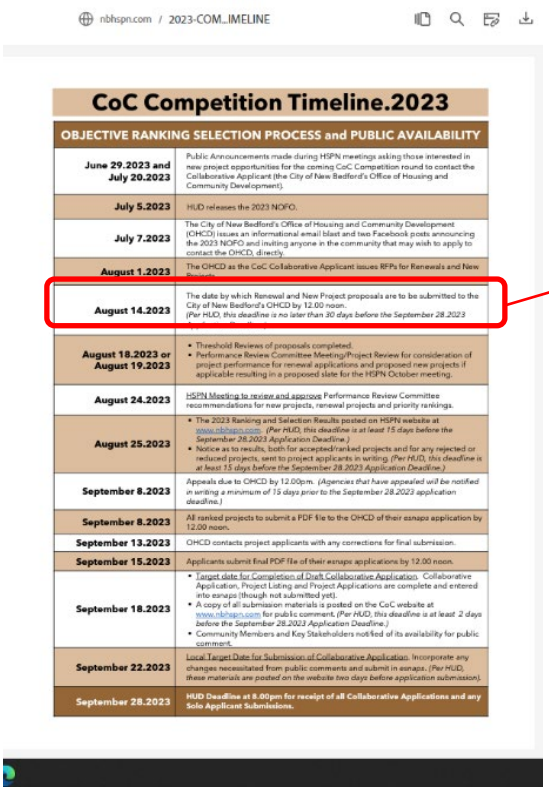
In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

☐ **Evidence of Postings for Local Competition Deadline.** Screenshots of posting the RFP in multiple locations (CoC website, Collaborative Applicant website, Facebook, Twitter, Email listserve). In all these locations, the complete RFP with due date for project applications is provided via link. All such postings were made on or before August 1, 2023 and noted the local competition deadline as being August 14, 2023. All deadlines were in compliance with the NOFO requirements.

1. **Website posting showing local competition timeframe**
   Posted July 14, 2023 at https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-timeline-2023/



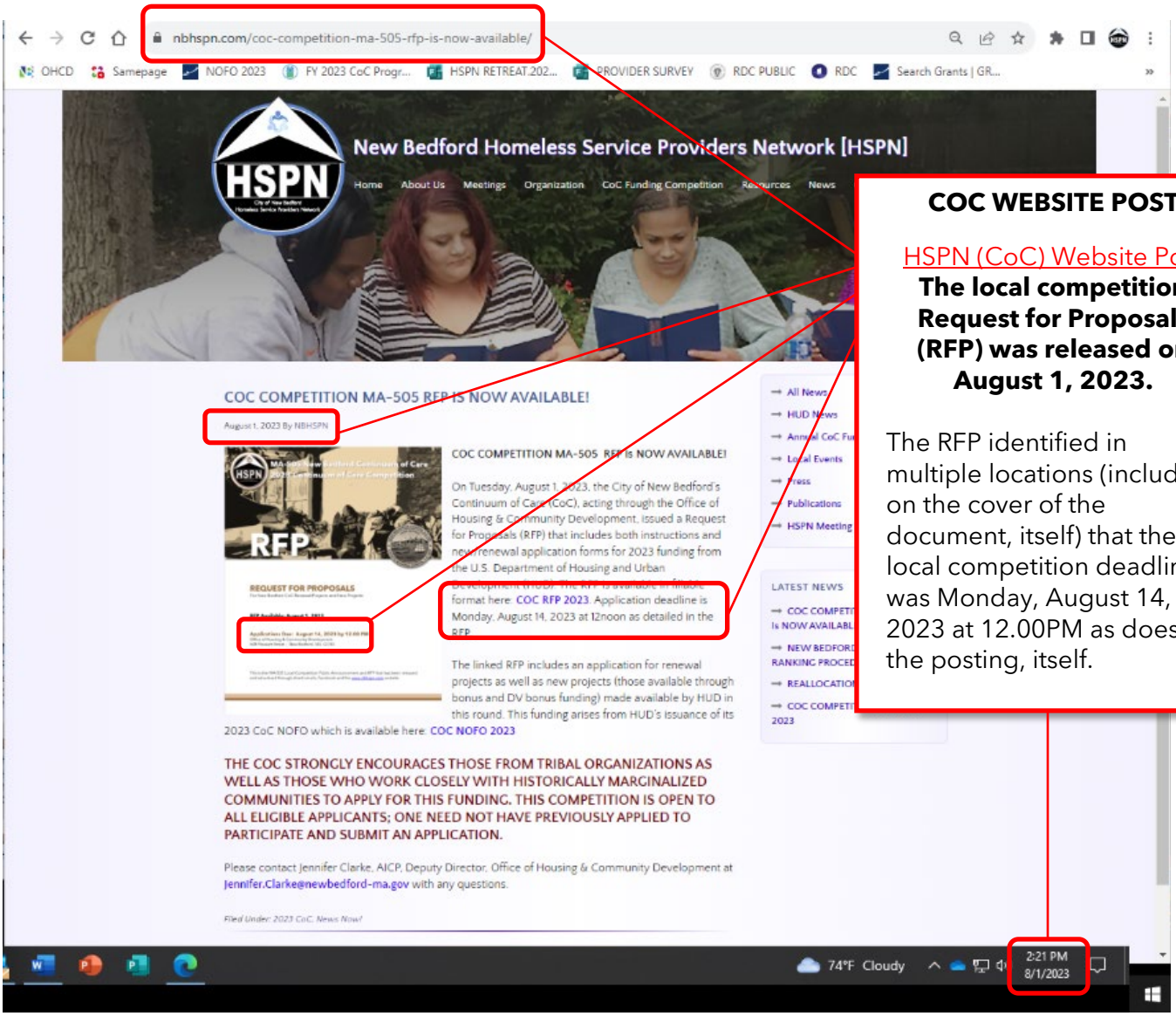
The CoC Competition Timeline that includes local competition announcement dates was posted on the CoC's website on July 14, 2023.



The embedded link leads to a larger version of the local competition timeline so that one can see the August 14, 2023 deadline for the receipt of renewal and new project proposals.

2. The CoC's Website (nbhspn.com) posting showing release of local competition material (RFP)

Posted August 1, 2023 at https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-ma-505-rfp-is-now-available/



COC WEBSITE POST

HSPN (CoC) Website Post

The local competition Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on August 1, 2023.

The RFP identified in multiple locations (including on the cover of the document, itself) that the local competition deadline was Monday, August 14, 2023 at 12.00PM as does the posting, itself.

3. City (Collaborative Applicant) Website posting showing release of local competition material (RFP)

Posted August 1, 2023 at https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-is-now-open-2/
City of New Bedford – Office of Housing & Community Development (Collaborative Applicant) website

CITY WEBSITE POST

City of New Bedford Website Post

The local competition Request for Proposals (RFP) was posted on the City website on August 1, 2023.

In addition to the RFP, the web posting also advertised that the local competition deadline was Monday, August 22, 2022 at 12.00PM.

4. Facebook posting showing August 1, 2023 release of local competition material (RFP)

Homeless Service Provider's Network-HSPN

August 1, 2023

COC COMPETITION NOW UNDERWAY!

OVERVIEW
The City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care (MA-505 CoC), its "Homeless Service Provider's Network" (HSPN), acting through the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) has released its 2023 Request for Proposals (RFP) that includes both instructions and an application for funding from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). The link to the RFP is provided here and can be accessed through the HSPN website at www.nbhspn.com. Deadline for proposals is Monday, August 14, 2023 at noon.

This is an OPEN COMPETITION! The CoC strongly encourages those from tribal organizations as well as those who work closely with historically marginalized communities to apply for this funding. This competition is open to ALL eligible applicants; one need not have previously applied to participate and submit an application.

FUNDING
The New Bedford CoC expects to be awarded $2,019,330 in this funding round in addition to funding for new projects. Available funding anticipated consists of renewal projects, new projects through a permanent housing bonus and new projects through a Domestic Violence Bonus. Additional funds may also be available through the reallocation process as determined by the CoC's Performance Review Committee/HSPN.

The RFP is now available online at https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-ma-505-rfp-is-now-available/. Questions concerning this notice may be directed to Jennifer Clarke, AICP, Deputy Director, OHCD, via email at Jennifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

nbhspn.com
New Bedford Homeless Service Providers Network [HSPN]

FACEBOOK POST

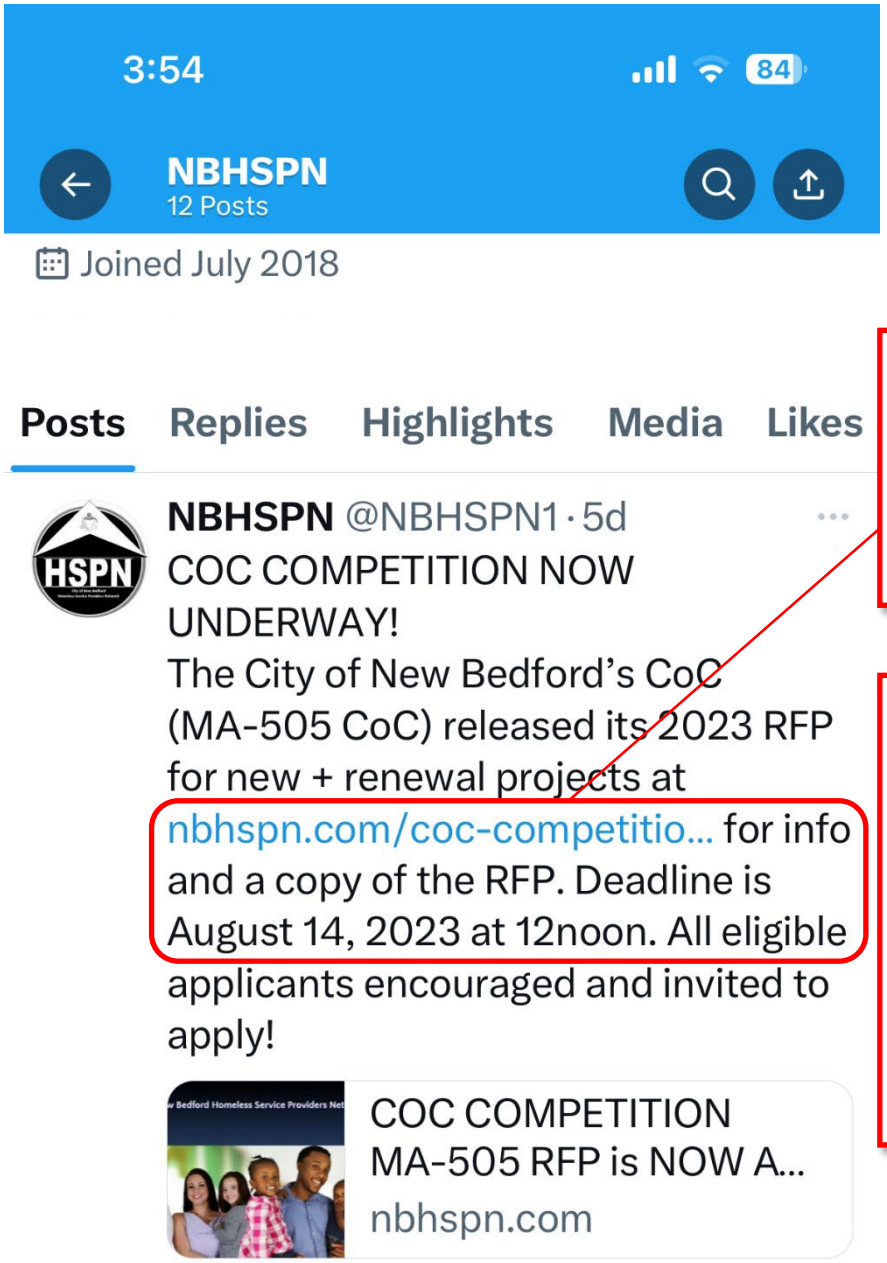
HSPN Facebook Page

The local competition Request for Proposals (RFP) was released on August 1, 2023; the post included the proposal deadline date of August 14, 2023.

The August 14, 2023 deadline information was also included throughout the RFP made available via this link.

PLEASE NOTE: The Collaborative Applicant understands that Facebook, Twitter/X postings do not constitute appropriate evidence for posting in the CoC Competition as it is a platform necessitating an account. This page is presented for the benefit of the local community, only.

5. Twitter posting August 1, 2023 showing the release of local competition material (RFP)



The tweet referenced the RFP, provided a link and identified the August 14, 2023 deadline information and included a link to the RFP.

TWITTER POST

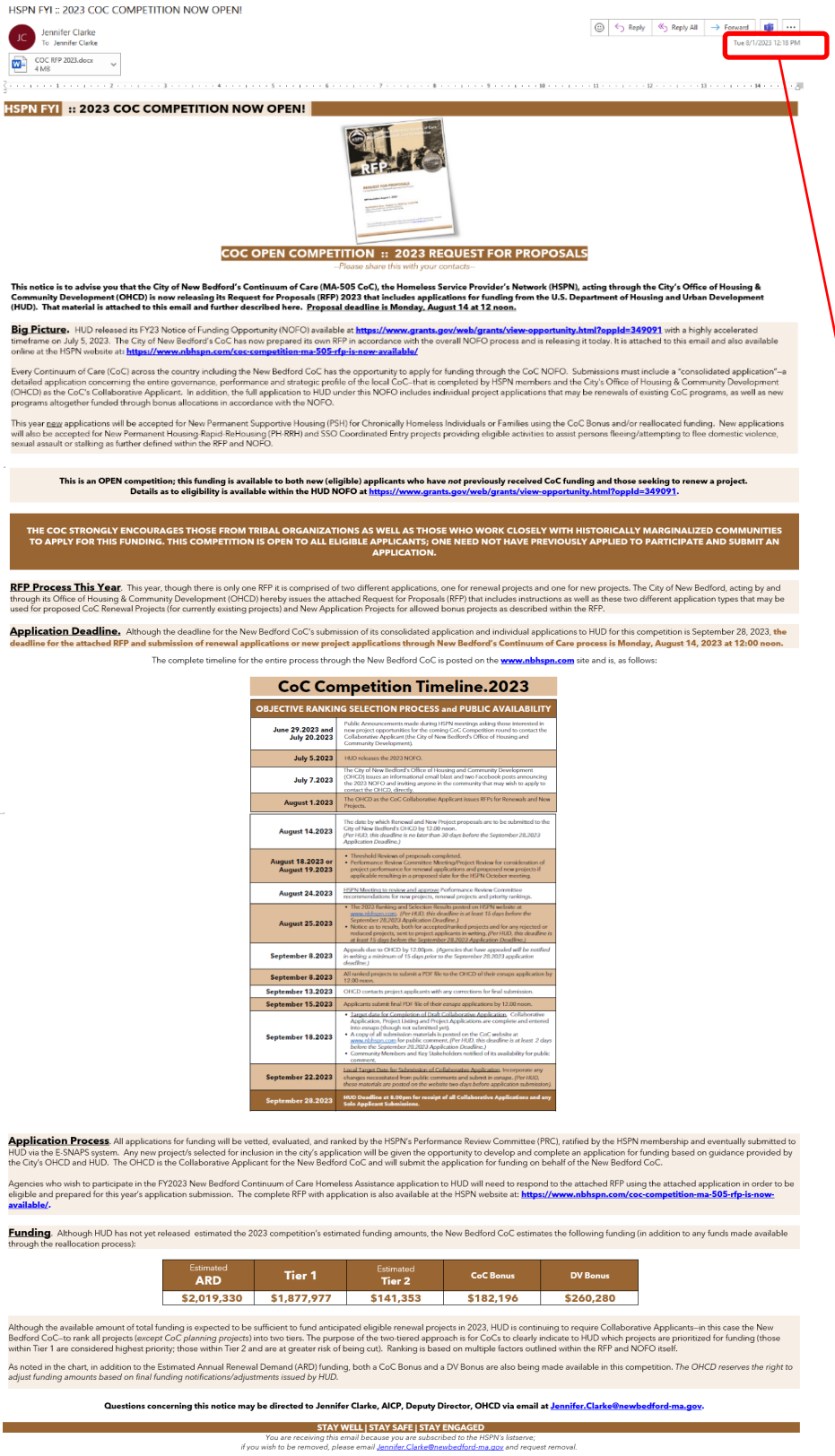
HSPN Twitter Account

The local competition Request for Proposals (RFP) was posted on the HSPN (CoC's) Twitter Account on August 1, 2023.

PLEASE NOTE: The Collaborative Applicant understands that Facebook, Twitter/X postings do not constitute appropriate evidence for posting in the CoC Competition as it is a platform necessitating an account. This page is presented for the benefit of the local community, only.

6. Public Posting of availability of the RFP via Direct Mailing through CoC Listserve (300+)

Tuesday, August 1, 2023



HSPN FYI :: 2023 COC COMPETITION NOW OPEN!

Jennifer Clarke
To: Jennifer Clarke

COC RFP 2023.docx
4 MB

Reply | Reply All | Forward

Tue 8/1/2023 12:18 PM

HSPN FYI :: 2023 COC COMPETITION NOW OPEN!

COC OPEN COMPETITION :: 2023 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

--Please share this with your contacts--

This notice is to advise you that the City of New Bedford's Continuum of Care (MA-505 CoC), the Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN), acting through the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) is now releasing its Request for Proposals (RFP) 2023 that includes applications for funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). That material is attached to this email and further described here. Proposal deadline is Monday, August 14 at 12 noon.

Big Picture. HUD released its FY23 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) available at https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=349091 with a highly accelerated timeframe on July 5, 2023. The City of New Bedford's CoC has now prepared its own RFP in accordance with the overall NOFO process and is releasing it today. It is attached to this email and also available online at the HSPN website at: https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-ma-505-rfp-is-now-available/

Every Continuum of Care (CoC) across the country including the New Bedford CoC has the opportunity to apply for funding through the CoC NOFO. Submissions must include a "consolidated application"–a detailed application concerning the entire governance, performance and strategic profile of the local CoC– that is completed by HSPN members and the City's Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) as the CoC's Collaborative Applicant. In addition, the full application to HUD under this NOFO includes individual project applications that may be renewals of existing CoC programs, as well as new programs altogether funded through bonus allocations in accordance with the NOFO.

This year new applications will be accepted for New Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for Chronically Homeless Individuals or Families using the CoC Bonus and/or reallocated funding. New applications will also be accepted for New Permanent Housing-Rapid-ReHousing (PH-RRH) and SSO Coordinated Entry projects providing eligible activities to assist persons fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking as further defined within the RFP and NOFO.

This is an OPEN competition; this funding is available to both new (eligible) applicants who have *not* previously received CoC funding and those seeking to renew a project. Details as to eligibility is available within the HUD NOFO at https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=349091.

THE COC STRONGLY ENCOURAGES THOSE FROM TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS THOSE WHO WORK CLOSELY WITH HISTORICALLY MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES TO APPLY FOR THIS FUNDING. THIS COMPETITION IS OPEN TO ALL ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS; ONE NEED NOT HAVE PREVIOUSLY APPLIED TO PARTICIPATE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION.

RFP Process This Year. This year, though there is only one RFP it is comprised of two different applications, one for renewal projects and one for new projects. The City of New Bedford, acting by and through its Office of Housing & Community Development (OHCD) hereby issues the attached Request for Proposals (RFP) that includes instructions as well as these two different application types that may be used for proposed CoC Renewal Projects (for currently existing projects) and New Application Projects for allowed bonus projects as described within the RFP.

Application Deadline. Although the deadline for the New Bedford CoC's submission of its consolidated application and individual applications to HUD for this competition is September 28, 2023, **the deadline for the attached RFP and submission of renewal applications or new project applications through New Bedford's Continuum of Care process is Monday, August 14, 2023 at 12:00 noon.**

The complete timeline for the entire process through the New Bedford CoC is posted on the www.nbhspn.com site and is, as follows:

CoC Competition Timeline.2023

OBJECTIVE RANKING SELECTION PROCESS and PUBLIC AVAILABILITY	
June 29.2023 and July 20.2023	Public Announcements made during HSPN meetings asking those interested in new project opportunities for the coming CoC Competition round to contact the Collaborative Applicant (the City of New Bedford's Office of Housing and Community Development).
July 5.2023	HUD releases the 2023 NOFO.
July 7.2023	The City of New Bedford's Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD) issues an informational email blast and two Facebook posts announcing the 2023 NOFO and inviting anyone in the community that may wish to apply to contact the OHCD, directly.
August 1.2023	The OHCD as the CoC Collaborative Applicant issues RFPs for Renewals and New Projects.
August 14.2023	The date by which Renewal and New Project proposals are to be submitted to the City of New Bedford's OHCD by 12.00 noon. *(Per HUD, this deadline is no later than 30 days before the September 28,2023 Application Deadline.)*
August 18.2023 or August 19.2023	• Threshold Reviews of proposals completed. • Performance Review Committee Meeting/Project Review for consideration of project performance for renewal applications and proposed new projects if applicable resulting in a proposed slate for the HSPN October meeting.
August 24.2023	HSPN Meeting to review and approve: Performance Review Committee recommendations for new projects, renewal projects and priority rankings.
August 25.2023	• The 2023 Ranking and Selection Results posted on HSPN website at www.nbhspn.com. *(Per HUD, this deadline is at least 15 days before the September 28,2023 Application Deadline.)* • Notice as to results, both for accepted/ranked projects and for any rejected or reduced projects, sent to project applicants in writing. *(Per HUD, this deadline is at least 15 days before the September 28,2023 Application Deadline.)*
September 8.2023	Appeals due to OHCD by 12.00pm. *(Agencies that have appealed will be notified in writing a minimum of 15 days prior to the September 28,2023 application deadline.)*
September 8.2023	All ranked projects to submit a PDF file to the OHCD of their ensaps application by 12.00 noon.
September 13.2023	OHCD contacts project applicants with any corrections for final submission.
September 15.2023	Applicants submit final PDF file of their ensaps applications by 12.00 noon.
September 18.2023	• Target date for Completion of Draft Collaborative Application. Collaborative Application, Project Listing and Project Applications are complete and entered into ensaps (though not submitted yet). • A copy of all submission materials is posted on the CoC website at www.nbhspn.com for public comment. *(Per HUD, this deadline is at least 2 days before the September 28,2023 Application Deadline.)* • Community Members and Key Stakeholders notified of its availability for public comment.
September 22.2023	Local Target Date for Submission of Collaborative Application. Incorporate any changes necessitated from public comments and submit in ensaps. *(Per HUD, these materials are posted on the website two days before application submission).*
September 28.2023	**HUD Deadline at 8.00pm for receipt of all Collaborative Applications and any Sole Applicant Submissions.**

Application Process. All applications for funding will be vetted, evaluated, and ranked by the HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC), ratified by the HSPN membership and eventually submitted to HUD via the E-SNAPS system. Any new project/s selected for inclusion in the city's application will be given the opportunity to develop and complete an application for funding based on guidance provided by the City's OHCD and HUD. The OHCD is the Collaborative Applicant for the New Bedford CoC and will submit the application for funding on behalf of the New Bedford CoC.

Agencies who wish to participate in the FY2023 New Bedford Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance application to HUD will need to respond to the attached RFP using the attached application in order to be eligible and prepared for this year's application submission. The complete RFP with application is also available at the HSPN website at: **https://www.nbhspn.com/coc-competition-ma-505-rfp-is-now-available/.**

Funding. Although HUD has not yet released estimated the 2023 competition's estimated funding amounts, the New Bedford CoC estimates the following funding (in addition to any funds made available through the reallocation process):

Estimated ARD	Tier 1	Estimated Tier 2	CoC Bonus	DV Bonus
$2,019,330	$1,877,977	$141,353	$182,196	$260,280

Although the available amount of total funding is expected to be sufficient to fund anticipated eligible renewal projects in 2023, HUD is continuing to require Collaborative Applicants–in this case the New Bedford CoC–to rank all projects (*except CoC planning projects*) into two tiers. The purpose of the two-tiered approach is for CoCs to clearly indicate to HUD which projects are prioritized for funding (those within Tier 1 are considered highest priority; those within Tier 2 and are at greater risk of being cut). Ranking is based on multiple factors outlined within the RFP and NOFO itself.

As noted in the chart, in addition to the Estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) funding, both a CoC Bonus and a DV Bonus are also being made available in this competition. *The OHCD reserves the right to adjust funding amounts based on final funding notifications/adjustments issued by HUD.*

Questions concerning this notice may be directed to Jennifer Clarke, AICP, Deputy Director, OHCD via email at Jennifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

STAY WELL | STAY SAFE | STAY ENGAGED

You are receiving this email because you are subscribed to the HSPN's listserve; if you wish to be removed, please email Jennifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov and request removal.

PUBLIC EMAIL

A detailed email was sent Tuesday, August 1, 2023 regarding the local competition and release of the Request for Proposals (RFP). This was distributed to the more than 300 persons and organizations on the HSPN's (CoC's) listserve. Included were additional community listserves that also sent out the RFP to their networks.

The mailing discussed the RFP's deadline, CoC Competition timeline and that this was an OPEN competition and emphasized new participation.

PLEASE NOTE: The Collaborative Applicant understands that listserve mailings do not constitute appropriate evidence for posting in the CoC Competition as it is a platform necessitating an account. This page is presented for the benefit of the local community, only.

Attachment 1E-2

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Local Competition Scoring Tool

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

- ☐ **Scored Forms for One Project.** Attached is a copy of the Score Sheets consisting of two parts. The initial scoring is a threshold review while the second part is the project score sheet.

CoC FY23 Application Threshold Review

AGENCY NAME:	
PROJECT NAME:	

Threshold Requirements. To be eligible for consideration as an applicant for funding described in the NOFO and this year's RFP, all projects must first successfully pass a review of threshold requirements. The OHCD will perform a threshold review of all submitted projects, both new and renewals.

Threshold Criteria

For new projects:	**Criteria met?**
Evidence that the project will improve the CoC's system performance.	
Demonstrated financial and management capacity and experience to carry out the project including documentation of having served HUD-eligible individuals/families experiencing homelessness during the previous calendar year.	
Proposal is for an eligible activity for eligible homeless population pursuant to HUD requirements	
Eligibility as contractor for federal funds per https://www.sam.gov/, UEI, current tax-exempt status as verified by IRS 501(c)3 designation letter and must not owe overdue tax debts as documented on IRS 990 submission to the IRS.	
Must not propose to use HUD funds to supplant current funding	
Must identify matching funds prior to application submission	
Must agree to participate in the CoCs HMIS (or comparable data base if DV project) and coordinated entry	
Must provide copy of Code of Conduct (or confirmed submission per NOFO)	
Must provide a complete application by the deadline including submission of all required certifications specified	
For renewal projects:	
Must be meeting plans and goals established in the initial application,	
Must demonstrate all timeliness standards, including standards for the expenditure of grant funds,	
Demonstration of positive performance in assisting program participants to achieve and maintain independent living and records of success.	
Must be a current and active participant in the CoC's HMIS and its coordinated entry system	
Must provide a complete application by the deadline including submission of all required certifications specified	
For all projects:	
Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed project fills an existing gap within the CoC and/or that it propels the CoC forward toward improving its system performance and meeting its goal of ending homelessness.	
If for housing, project proposes to serve 100% Chronically Homeless individuals and families;	

Application demonstrates a plan for rapid implementation/seamless continuation of the program.	
Evidence of coordination with housing and healthcare consistent with the NOFO (*see VII B.6 in NOFO for details*)	
Evidence of racial equity and the promotion of meaningful involvement of those with lived experience in program administration.	

IMPORTANT! When considering renewal projects for award, HUD—and by extension the New Bedford CoC through both the OHCD and the PRC--will review information in the Line of Credit Control System (LOCCS), Annual Performance Reports (APRs), information provided from/for the local HUD/CPD Field Office that includes monitoring reports and audit reports as applicable, performance achievements on prior grants, and will also assess projects on the following criteria using a pass/fail basis:

HUD/New Bedford CoC reserves the right to reduce or reject a funding request from the project applicant for the areas where subrecipient has failed to meet the following criteria:

YES	NO	PASS/FAIL	
			Applicants demonstrate that the proposed project fills an existing gap within the CoC and/or that it propels the CoC forward toward improving its system performance and meeting its goal of ending homelessness.
			The project applicant's performance is consistent with plans and goals established in the initial application as amended;
			Project applicants demonstrates all timeliness standards for grants being renewed, including that the standards for the expenditure of grant funds have been met;
			The project applicant's performance in assisting program participants to achieve and maintain independent living and record of success, (HMIS dedicated projects are not required to meet this standard)
			There is evidence that a project applicant has been unwilling to accept technical assistance, has a history of inadequate financial accounting practices,
			Evidence project mismanagement, has a drastic reduction in the population served,
			Has made program changes without prior OHCD/HUD approval or Has lost a project site.
			Outstanding obligation to HUD in arrears or for which a payment schedule has not been agreed upon
			Audit finding(s) for which a response is overdue or unsatisfactory;
			History of inadequate financial management accounting practices;
			Evidence of untimely expenditures on prior award;
			History of other major capacity issues that have significantly impacted the operation of the project and its performance
			Timeliness in seeking reimbursements for eligible costs (a project applicant as meeting this standard if it has drawn down grant funds at least once per month).
			History of serving ineligible persons, expending funds on ineligible costs, or failing to expend funds within statutorily established timeframes.

HUD requires the CoC to rank all projects applying for grant funds. To ensure that the CoC has the opportunity to prioritize its projects locally in the event that HUD is not able to fund all renewals, HUD requires CoCs to rank projects within 2 tiers, similar to NOFOs issued over the past several years.

See Appendix B of the RFP for the scoring criteria used for the competitive review of new and renewal projects.

CoC FY23 PROJECT SCORE SHEET
Renewals

AGENCY NAME:	
PROJECT NAME:	

BED / UNIT COMPOSITION

Program Year	Program Type	Beds	Units	Families	Individuals

BUDGET SUMMARY

Total Fund Requested	Leasing	Supportive Services	Operations	Admin	Match

CLIENTS SERVED PROFILE

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

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

DATA STANDARDS/NARRATIVES

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	% ACHIEVED	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED[1]
1. Housing Stability Persons residing in permanent housing exited to another form of a permanent housing destination. **Goal 85%** 10 Max Points	Based on Q1 & Q23c *The % of persons who exited to permanent housing destinations as of the end of the operating year.*			
2. Returns to Homelessness Persons exiting permanent housing will not return to homelessness (Including Transitional Housing) **Goal <10%** 10 Max Points	Based on Q1 &Q23c *The % of persons in the PSH program returning to homelessness shall be less than 10%.*			
3. Earned Income– Stayers Adult stayers will increase earned income (employment income). **Goal 10%** 5 Max Points	Based on Q19a1 *The % of persons ages 18 or older staying in the program who increased their income (employment income) as of the latest annual assessment.*			
4. Non-Employment Cash Income- Stayers Adult stayers will increase non-employment cash income (mainstream resources). **Goal 40%** 5 Max Points	Based on Q19a1 *The % of persons ages 18 or older staying in the program who increased their non-employment cash income (mainstream resources) as of the latest annual assessment.*			
5. Earned Income-Leavers- Adult leavers will increase earned income (employment income). **Goal: 20%** 5 Max Points	Based on Q19a2 *The % of persons ages 18 or older leaving the program who increased their income (employment income) by program exit.*			
6. Non-Employment Cash Income-Leavers- Adult leavers will increase non-employment cash income (mainstream resources). **Goal: 50%** 5 Max Points	Based on Q19a2 *The % of persons ages 18 or older leaving the program who increased their non-employment cash income (mainstream resources) by program exit.*			

[1] NOTE: Point values for individual questions are presented in Appendix B of the RFP, "Scoring Criteria" for Renewal Projects.

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	% ACHIEVED	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED
Utilization Rate - Beds Program operates at full capacity, with low vacancy rate, and quickly fill vacancies. **Goal: 90%** 15 Max Points	Based on Q8b *Average quarterly utilization rate during the operating year.*			
Data Quality - Agency's thoroughness in ensuring all data is collected and entered into HMIS. **Goal = No Omissions** 10 Max Points	Based on Data Quality Report (Q2, 3, 4, 5)			
Chronic Homeless Persons - Persons who are chronically homeless by household **Goal = 100%** 15 Max Points	Based on APR Q26b The # of chronically homeless persons divided by the total number of persons served.			
Fiscal Management - Complete and timely drawdown of funds. **Goal = 100% Drawdown** 10 Max Points	Based on HUD LOCS FY20 Allocation Amount			
TOTAL DATA POINTS AWARDED			90 Max Points Possible:	

NARRATIVE REVIEW

Annual Performance Report Analysis

Financial Analysis

ADDITIONAL EVALUATION NARATIVE CRITERIA QUESTIONS	COMMENTS
Agency Experience and Capacity. Applicants demonstrating extensive experience in administering HUD or other federal funds and providing the proposed service and/or serving the proposed population and demonstrating that the project will fill an existing gap within the CoC and/or propels it toward improving its system performance and meeting its goal of ending homelessness. 2.5 Max Points	
Fiscal Management. Applicants must demonstrate history of financial stability, including prompt expenditure of program funds, and no outstanding audit or HUD monitoring findings. 2.5 Max Points	
Threshold for All Projects. Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed project fills an existing gap within the CoC and/or that it propels the CoC forward toward improving its system performance and meeting its goal of ending homelessness. 2.5 Max Points	
Housing First: Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the Permanent Supportive Housing Bonus project will follow a Housing First model/low barrier approach. 1 Max Point	
Mainstream Services: Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the project is fully leveraging mainstream resources for supportive services. .5 Max Points	

Low Barrier: Projects must demonstrate low barriers to program admission and flexible participation policies designed to retain program participants. .5 Max Points	
Consistency of Program: Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the project's performance is consistent against plans and goals established in the application. .5 Max Points	

TOTAL ADDITIONAL EVALUATION POINTS AWARDED	10 Max Points Possible:	

GRAND TOTAL POINTS AWARDED	100 Max Points Possible:	

Attachment 1E-2a

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Scored Forms for One Project

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

☐ **Scored Forms for One Project.** Attached is a copy of the score sheets for the CoC's renewal PSH project, "Portico." The initial scoring is a threshold review while the second part is the project score sheet. Together they constituted the scored form for one project.

The attached, typed version (*for legibility*) reflects scoring for this project that resulted in a total score of 71.5 (*see last page*) reflecting both data points (65) and additional evaluation criteria (6.5). The result for this project was a ranking as eighth/ninth (split between tiers) by the New Bedford CoC and a funding level reduced by 15%.

CoC FY23 Application Threshold Review

AGENCY NAME:	Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fall River, Inc.
PROJECT NAME:	Portico

Threshold Requirements. To be eligible for consideration as an applicant for funding described in the NOFO and this year's RFP, all projects must first successfully pass a review of threshold requirements. The OHCD will perform a threshold review of all submitted projects, both new and renewals.

Threshold Criteria

For new projects:	**Criteria met?**
Evidence that the project will improve the CoC's system performance.	N/A
Demonstrated financial and management capacity and experience to carry out the project including documentation of having served HUD-eligible individuals/families experiencing homelessness during the previous calendar year.	N/A
Proposal is for an eligible activity for eligible homeless population pursuant to HUD requirements	N/A
Eligibility as contractor for federal funds per https://www.sam.gov/, UEI, current tax-exempt status as verified by IRS 501(c)3 designation letter and must not owe overdue tax debts as documented on IRS 990 submission to the IRS.	N/A
Must not propose to use HUD funds to supplant current funding	N/A
Must identify matching funds prior to application submission	N/A
Must agree to participate in the CoCs HMIS (or comparable data base if DV project) and coordinated entry	N/A
Must provide copy of Code of Conduct (or confirmed submission per NOFO)	N/A
Must provide a complete application by the deadline including submission of all required certifications specified	N/A
For renewal projects:	
Must be meeting plans and goals established in the initial application,	X
Must demonstrate all timeliness standards, including standards for the expenditure of grant funds,	X
Demonstration of positive performance in assisting program participants to achieve and maintain independent living and records of success.	X
Must be a current and active participant in the CoC's HMIS and its coordinated entry system	X
Must provide a complete application by the deadline including submission of all required certifications specified	X
For all projects:	
Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed project fills an existing gap within the CoC and/or that it propels the CoC forward toward improving its system performance and meeting its goal of ending homelessness.	X

If for housing, project proposes to serve 100% Chronically Homeless individuals and families;	X
Application demonstrates a plan for rapid implementation/seamless continuation of the program.	X
Evidence of coordination with housing and healthcare consistent with the NOFO (*see VII B.6 in NOFO for details*)	X
Evidence of racial equity and the promotion of meaningful involvement of those with lived experience in program administration.	X

IMPORTANT! When considering renewal projects for award, HUD—and by extension the New Bedford CoC through both the OHCD and the PRC--will review information in the Line of Credit Control System (LOCCS), Annual Performance Reports (APRs), information provided from/for the local HUD/CPD Field Office that includes monitoring reports and audit reports as applicable, performance achievements on prior grants, and will also assess projects on the following criteria using a pass/fail basis:

YES	NO	PASS/FAIL	
X		PASS	Applicants demonstrate that the proposed project fills an existing gap within the CoC and/or that it propels the CoC forward toward improving its system performance and meeting its goal of ending homelessness. *(Yes, but to an extent, duplicative)*
X		PASS	The project applicant's performance is consistent with plans and goals established in the initial application as amended;
	X	FAIL	Project applicants demonstrates all timeliness standards for grants being renewed, including that the standards for the expenditure of grant funds have been met;
X		PASS	The project applicant's performance in assisting program participants to achieve and maintain independent living and record of success, (HMIS dedicated projects are not required to meet this standard)
	X	PASS	There is evidence that a project applicant has been unwilling to accept technical assistance, has a history of inadequate financial accounting practices,
	X	PASS	Evidence project mismanagement, has a drastic reduction in the population served,
	X	PASS	Has made program changes without prior OHCD/HUD approval or Has lost a project site.
	X	PASS	Outstanding obligation to HUD in arrears or for which a payment schedule has not been agreed upon
	X	PASS	Audit finding(s) for which a response is overdue or unsatisfactory;
	X	PASS	History of inadequate financial management accounting practices;
X		FAIL	Evidence of untimely expenditures on prior award;
X		FAIL	History of other major capacity issues that have significantly impacted the operation of the project and its performance
	X	FAIL	Timeliness in seeking reimbursements for eligible costs (a project applicant as meeting this standard if it has drawn down grant funds at least once per month).
X		FAIL	History of serving ineligible persons, expending funds on ineligible costs, or failing to expend funds within statutorily established timeframes.

HUD/New Bedford CoC reserves the right to reduce or reject a funding request from the project applicant for the areas where subrecipient has failed to meet the following criteria:

HUD requires the CoC to rank all projects applying for grant funds. To ensure that the CoC has the opportunity to prioritize its projects locally in the event that HUD is not able to fund all renewals, HUD requires CoCs to rank projects within 2 tiers, similar to NOFOs issued over the past several years.

See Appendix B of the RFP for the scoring criteria used for the competitive review of new and renewal projects.

CoC FY23 PROJECT SCORE SHEET
Renewals

AGENCY NAME:	**Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fall River, Inc.**
PROJECT NAME:	**Portico**

BED / UNIT COMPOSITION

Program Year	Program Type	Beds	Units	Families	Individuals
September 1, 2024 – August 30, 2025	PSH	123	46	X	

BUDGET SUMMARY

Total Fund Requested	Leasing	Supportive Services	Operations	Admin	Match
$725,211	$551,543	$93,489	$26,444	$53,735	$43,417

CLIENTS SERVED PROFILE

Total Persons	Total Adults	Total Children	Total Households	Total Leavers	Total Stayers	Total Chronic Homeless
128	62	66	38	37	91	67

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Portico is the largest of the New Bedford CoC projects. It is a scattered site Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program that has been in existence since 2013. It is designed to serve families experiencing chronic homelessness with the highest need as scored on the SPDAT through coordinated entry. Portico uses a Housing First Model of service delivery focusing on getting families into housing then offering supportive services through case management in order to help the family stabilize over the long term. Connection to mainstream resources and development of life skills are critical in ensuring the family can thrive going forward.

DATA STANDARDS/NARRATIVES

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	% ACHIEVED	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED[1]
1. Housing Stability Persons residing in permanent housing exited to another form of a permanent housing destination. **Goal 85%** 10 Max Points	Based on Q1 & Q23c *The % of persons who exited to permanent housing destinations as of the end of the operating year.*	97%	Goal Achieved – 36 persons exited to permanent destinations. 1 person exited to an institutional setting.	**10**
2. Returns to Homelessness Persons exiting permanent housing will not return to homelessness (Including Transitional Housing) **Goal <10%** 10 Max Points	Based on Q1 &Q23c *The % of persons in the PSH program returning to homelessness shall be less than 10%.*	0%	Goal Achieved – 0 persons exited to homelessness.	**10**
3. Earned Income– Stayers Adult stayers will increase earned income (employment income). **Goal 10%** 5 Max Points	Based on Q19a1 *The % of persons ages 18 or older staying in the program who increased their income (employment income) as of the latest annual assessment.*	25%	Goal Achieved – 10 out of 40 persons gained or increased earned income for adult stayers.	**5**
4. Non-Employment Cash Income- Stayers Adult stayers will increase non-employment cash income (mainstream resources). **Goal 40%** 5 Max Points	Based on Q19a1 *The % of persons ages 18 or older staying in the program who increased their non-employment cash income (mainstream resources) as of the latest annual assessment.*	43%	Goal Achieved – 17 out of 40 persons gained or increased non-employment cash income for adult stayers.	**5**
5. Earned Income-Leavers- Adult leavers will increase earned income (employment income). **Goal: 20%** 5 Max Points	Based on Q19a2 *The % of persons ages 18 or older leaving the program who increased their income (employment income) by program exit.*	13%	Goal Not Achieved – 2 out of 16 persons failed to gain or increase earned income for adult leavers.	**3**
6. Non-Employment Cash Income-Leavers- Adult leavers will increase non-employment cash income (mainstream resources). **Goal: 50%** 5 Max Points	Based on Q19a2 *The % of persons ages 18 or older leaving the program who increased their non-employment cash income (mainstream resources) by program exit.*	31%	Goal Not Achieved – 5 out of 16 persons failed to gain or increase non-employment cash income for adult leavers.	**3**

[1] NOTE: Point values for individual questions are presented in Appendix B of the RFP, "Scoring Criteria" for Renewal Projects.

GOALS	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	% ACHIEVED	COMMENTS	POINTS AWARDED
Utilization Rate - Beds Program operates at full capacity, with low vacancy rate, and quickly fill vacancies. **Goal: 90%** 15 Max Points	Based on Q8b *Average quarterly utilization rate during the operating year.*	90%	Goal Achieved – Program operates at full capacity with low vacancy rates.	**15**
Data Quality - Agency's thoroughness in ensuring all data is collected and entered into HMIS. **Goal = No Omissions** 10 Max Points	Based on Data Quality Report (Q2, 3, 4, 5)	7%	Goal Not Achieved – Program had DQ errors associated with: Income & Sources at Annual (7%).	**6**
Chronic Homeless Persons - Persons who are chronically homeless by household **Goal = 100%** 15 Max Points	Based on APR Q26b The # of chronically homeless persons divided by the total number of persons served.	50%	Goal Not Achieved – Out of 38 household, only 19 were chronically homeless.	**8**
Fiscal Management - Complete and timely drawdown of funds. **Goal = 100% Drawdown** 10 Max Points	Based on HUD LOCS FY20 Allocation Amount	81%	Goal Not Achieved – Allocation $672,667. Program returned $125,890: $67,841 (Leasing); $37,255 (SS); $20,793 (AD).	**0**
TOTAL DATA POINTS AWARDED			90 Max Points Possible:	**65**

NARRATIVE REVIEW

Annual Performance Report Analysis

- Program met its anticipated outputs relative to numbers served.
- Submission: In FY20, the APR was submitted on time and within the 90-day HUD requirement.
- Of the 8 performance standards for PSH projects–the subrecipient achieved 5 of 8 goals. Program fell short of achieving the remaining 3 goals.

Financial Analysis

- Reimbursement requests have not been submitted timely and are late. This is mainly due to failure to obtain proper backup documentation for leasing and agency signoffs. Requests are usually submitted after the required submission period. In terms of documentation, all reimbursements are usually complete.
- Since reimbursements were submitted late, it became difficult for OHCD staff to properly project future balances. OHCD staff requested that reimbursements be submitted on a monthly instead of quarterly basis to better evaluate the project's financial performance.
- In FY20, the program had a final balance of $125,890 remaining while in FY19, they had a balance of $74,890 and FY18 $50,046. Previously (FY16-17) all funds had been drawn down.

- In FY20, the program is projected to return approximately, $116,356. This represents the second year in a row that the program returned over $100k.
- During the last competition, this program was placed in Tier 2 due to performance/returning funds.
- Like previous years, their financial issues are due to staff turnover (supportive services) and leasing. The program continues to have challenges with hiring and retaining case managers. Also, they have challenges with finding affordable units that meet housing quality standards.
- The program currently has one case manager that is being shared with the Prism Program.
- Another reason why the program returned funds in FY20 was due to admin. The program supervisor was covering multiple positions within the agency including the case manager and admin roles. As a result, the agency was unable to drawdown the admin and supportive services funds. In FY20, the program returned $37,255 (supportive services) and $20,793 (admin).
- These are the same issues or conditions impacting the program this program year.

ADDITIONAL EVALUATION NARATIVE CRITERIA QUESTIONS	COMMENTS
Agency Experience and Capacity. Applicants demonstrating extensive experience in administering HUD or other federal funds and providing the proposed service and/or serving the proposed population and demonstrating that the project will fill an existing gap within the CoC and/or propels it toward improving its system performance and meeting its goal of ending homelessness. 2.5 Max Points	Agency has extensive history administering HUD based programs. However, they continue to experience serious staffing related challenges that is impacting programs and services. **(1)**
Fiscal Management. Applicants must demonstrate history of financial stability, including prompt expenditure of program funds, and no outstanding audit or HUD monitoring findings. 2.5 Max Points	The applicant has some serious financial management issues and has returned funds for all three CoC funded programs. Many of these financial issues are directly related to staffing challenges or vacancies. **(1)**
Threshold for All Projects. Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed project fills an existing gap within the CoC and/or that it propels the CoC forward toward improving its system performance and meeting its goal of ending homelessness. 2.5 Max Points	Applicant met threshold requirements. **(2.5)**
Project Quality.	
Housing First: Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the Permanent Supportive Housing Bonus project will follow a Housing First model/low barrier approach. 1 Max Point	Applicant described how they would follow the Housing First model and how to address any barriers. (1)
Mainstream Services: Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the project is fully leveraging mainstream resources for supportive services. .5 Max Points	Applicant demonstrated history and extent of obtaining mainstream resources to clients. (.5)
Low Barrier: Projects must demonstrate low barriers to program admission and flexible participation policies designed to retain program participants. .5 Max Points	Applicant is required to follow HUD's low barrier for entry requirement. (.5)

Consistency of Program: Applicants will be evaluated to the extent to which the project's performance is consistent against plans and goals established in the application. .5 Max Points	Applicant's project performance is consistent with plans and goals established in the previous renewal applications. (0)

TOTAL ADDITIONAL EVALUATION POINTS AWARDED	10 Max Points Possible:	**6.5**

GRAND TOTAL POINTS AWARDED	100 Max Points Possible:	**71.5**

Attachment 1E-5

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Notification of Projects Rejected - Reduced

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment addresses:

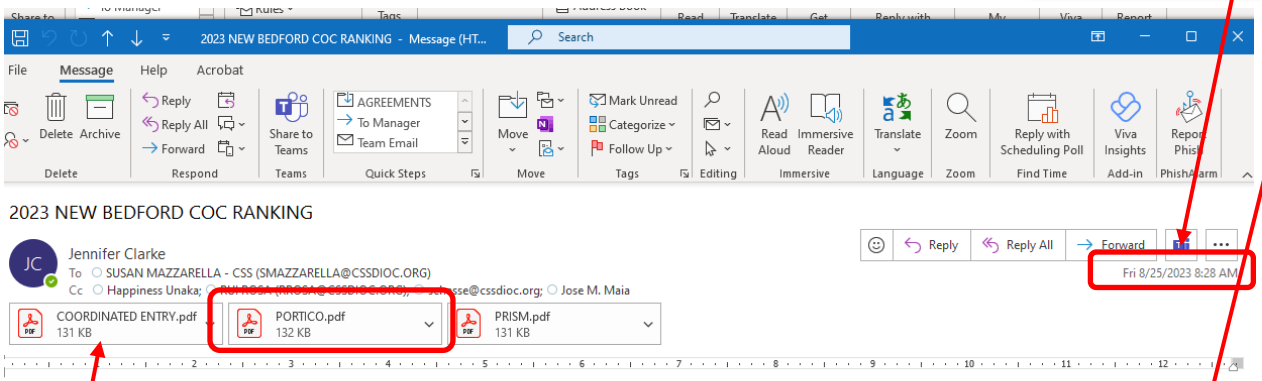
☐ **Notification of Projects Rejected-Reduced.** The New Bedford CoC did not reject any projects in the 2023 Competition. It did, however, reduce and reallocate funds from two projects (Portico and Prism).

Email/Correspondence. The New Bedford CoC notified both reduced projects regarding the reduction as well as their ranking, scoring and subsequent funding amount on August 25.2023. It did so by sending a letter to the project applicant (it is the same project applicant for both reduced projects) attached to an email on that date.

Email/Correspondence.

Email and attached letters for each reduced project evidencing notification:

Evidence of email and letter being sent on August 25.2023.



CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES :: COORDINATED ENTRY, PRISM & PORTICO

Good morning, Susan...

Attached please find correspondence formally advising you of the ranking of your CoC project as voted upon by the New Bedford HSPN yesterday.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure timely submissions of all CoC competition materials going forward. To that end, your agency will be hearing from our office shortly with respect to completing your esnaps applications.

Congratulations and please let me know of any questions you may have regarding the attached. Have a great weekend.

Jen

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director, City of New Bedford
Office of Housing and Community Development
608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 02740
508.979.1500 | email: jennifer.clarke@newbedford-ma.gov

Correspondence attached to email.

Joshua Amaral
DIRECTOR

City of New Bedford
Office of Housing & Community Development
608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

August 25, 2023

Susan Mazzarella, M.A., L.S.W.
Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Charities f/k/a Catholic Social Services
1600 Bay Street
P.O. Box M/So. Station
Fall River, MA 02724

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC RENEWAL
PORTICO

Dear Ms. Mazzarella:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was accepted and ranked at the August Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting on Thursday, August 24, 2023.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2023 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 71.5 was such that the PORTICO project ranked as eighth overall in the CoC's ranking vote. Given the Tiered system and financing limitations of Tier 1, the PORTICO project will straddle Tiers 1 and 2.

Although the proposal was accepted, the HSPN voted to reallocate $108,782 (15%) of the project's funding to other projects within the CoC competition that were deemed higher performing and/or important in fulfilling needed housing and services within the CoC. As a result, CSS' proposed renewal project totaling $616,429 will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project where $510,812 will be included in Tier 1 while the project balance of $105,617 will be in Tier 2.

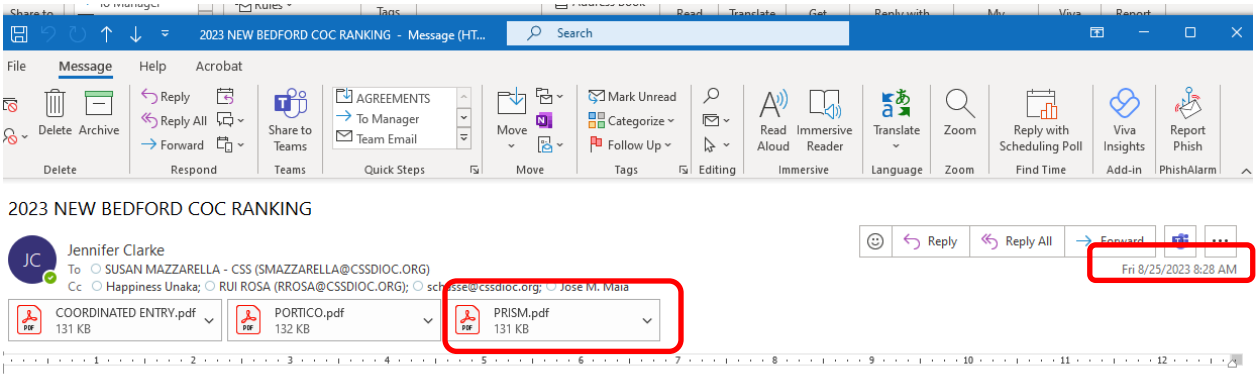
Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at Jennnifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov. .

Respectfully,

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director

NOTE: This project applicant submitted three applications in the local competition, one of which was accepted and received additional funding through reallocation, and <u>two remaining PSH projects that were reduced through reallocation.</u>. Although each project received a separate letter (above and in the Accepted Attachment), all were attached the single email shown here.

REDUCED PROJECT: PORTICO (RENEWAL)



2023 NEW BEDFORD COC RANKING

Jennifer Clarke
To SUSAN MAZZARELLA - CSS (SMAZZARELLA@CSSDIOC.ORG)
Cc Happiness Unaka; RUI ROSA (RROSA@CSSDIOC.ORG); Jose M. Maia

Reply | Reply All | Forward

Fri 8/25/2023 8:28 AM

COORDINATED ENTRY.pdf 131 KB
PORTICO.pdf 132 KB
PRISM.pdf 131 KB

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES :: COORDINATED ENTRY, PRISM & PORTICO

Good morning, Susan...

Attached please find correspondence formally advising you of the ranking of your CoC project as voted upon by the New Bedford HSPN yesterday.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure timely submissions of all CoC competition materials going forward. To that end, your agency will be hearing from our office shortly with respect to completing your esnaps applications.

Congratulations and please let me know of any questions you may have regarding the attached. Have a great weekend.

Jen

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director, City of New Bedfo
Office of Housing and Community
608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford,
508.979.1500 | email: Jennifer.Cl

City of New Bedford
Office of Housing & Community Development
608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

Joshua Amaral
DIRECTOR

August 25, 2023

Susan Mazzarella, M.A., L.S.W.
Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Charities f/k/a Catholic Social Services
1600 Bay Street
P.O. Box M/So. Station
Fall River, MA 02724

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC RENEWAL
PRISM

Dear Ms. Mazzarella:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was accepted and ranked at the August Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting on Thursday, August 24, 2023.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2023 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 64.5 was such that the PRISM project ranked as eleventh overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

Although the proposal was accepted, the HSPN voted to reallocate $19,823 (15%) of the project's funding to other projects within the CoC competition that were deemed higher performing and/or important in fulfilling needed housing and services within the CoC. As a result, the proposed renewal project will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a renewal project in Tier 2 at an amount of $112,332.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at Jennnifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov. .

Respectfully,

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director

REDUCED PROJECT: PRISM (RENEWAL)

Attachment 1E-5a

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Notification of Projects Accepted

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

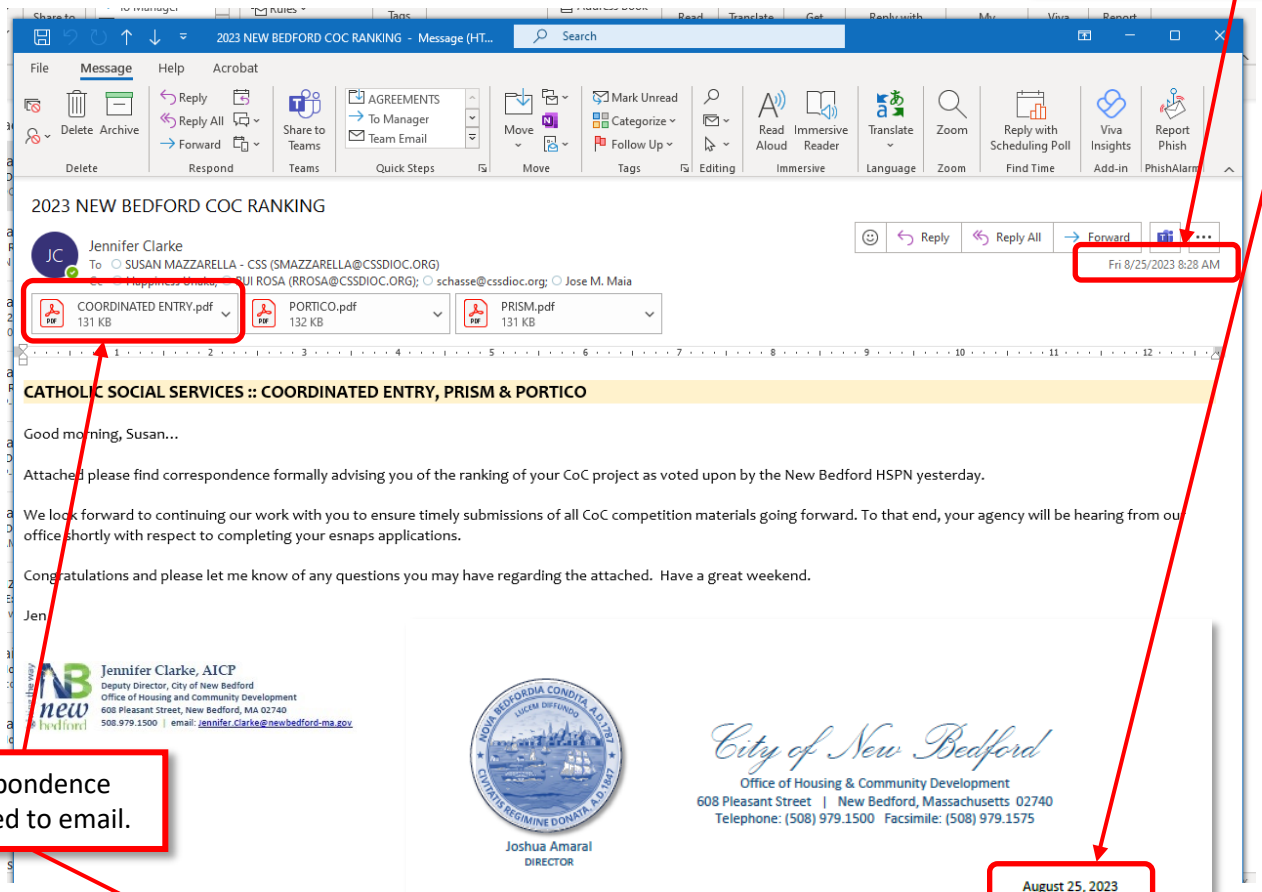
☐ **Evidence of Notifications made for Projects Accepted prior to September 13.2023** *(15 days prior to September 28.2023 NOFO application deadline)***.**

Email/Correspondence. The New Bedford CoC notified all accepted projects of their acceptance, ranking and scoring on August 25.2023. It did so by sending a letter to each project applicant attached to an email on that date.

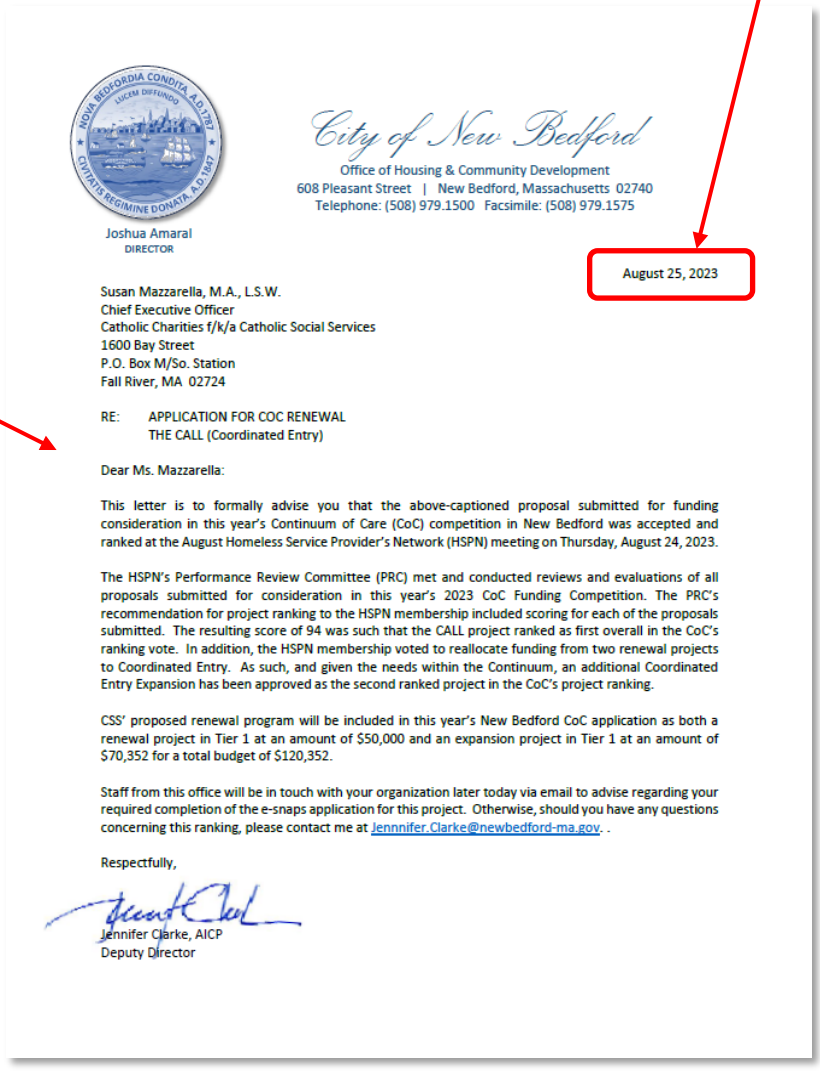
Email/Correspondence.

Email and attached letters for each accepted project evidencing notification:

Evidence of email and letter being sent on August 25.2023.



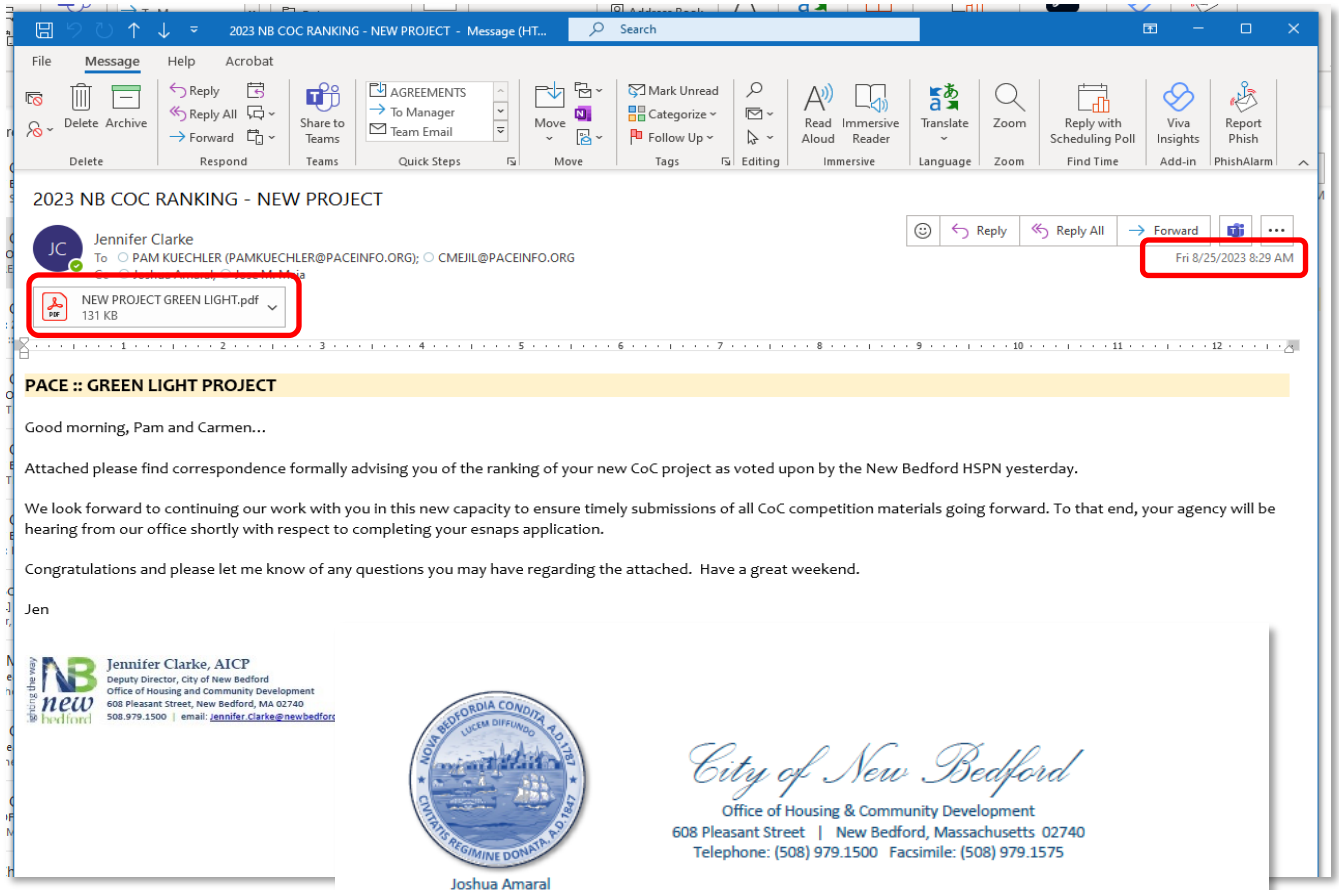
Correspondence attached to email.



NOTE: This particular project applicant submitted three applications in the local competition, one of which was accepted and received additional funding through reallocation, and two remaining PSH projects that were reduced through reallocation.. Although each project received a separate letter (above and in the Reduced/Reallocated Attachment), all were attached to a single email.

ACCEPTED PROJECT: THE CALL COORD ENTRY (RENEWAL)

PLEASE NOTE:
Each of the following pages provides the same pattern of documentation for all accepted projects.



2023 NB COC RANKING - NEW PROJECT - Message (HT...

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2023 NB COC RANKING - NEW PROJECT

Jennifer Clarke

To PAM KUECHLER (PAMKUECHLER@PACEINFO.ORG); CMEJIL@PACEINFO.ORG

Reply Reply All Forward

Fri 8/25/2023 8:29 AM

NEW PROJECT GREEN LIGHT.pdf 131 KB

PACE :: GREEN LIGHT PROJECT

Good morning, Pam and Carmen...

Attached please find correspondence formally advising you of the ranking of your new CoC project as voted upon by the New Bedford HSPN yesterday.

We look forward to continuing our work with you in this new capacity to ensure timely submissions of all CoC competition materials going forward. To that end, your agency will be hearing from our office shortly with respect to completing your esnaps application.

Congratulations and please let me know of any questions you may have regarding the attached. Have a great weekend.

Jen

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director, City of New Bedford
Office of Housing and Community Development
608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 02740
508.979.1500 | email: jennifer.clarke@newbedford

Joshua Amaral
DIRECTOR

City of New Bedford
Office of Housing & Community Development
608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

August 25, 2023

Pam Kuechler
Executive Director
PACE
166 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC NEW PROJECT
GREEN LIGHT

Dear Ms. Kuechler:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned new proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was accepted and ranked at the August Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting on Thursday, August 24, 2023.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2023 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 92 was such that the Green Light project ranked as fourth overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

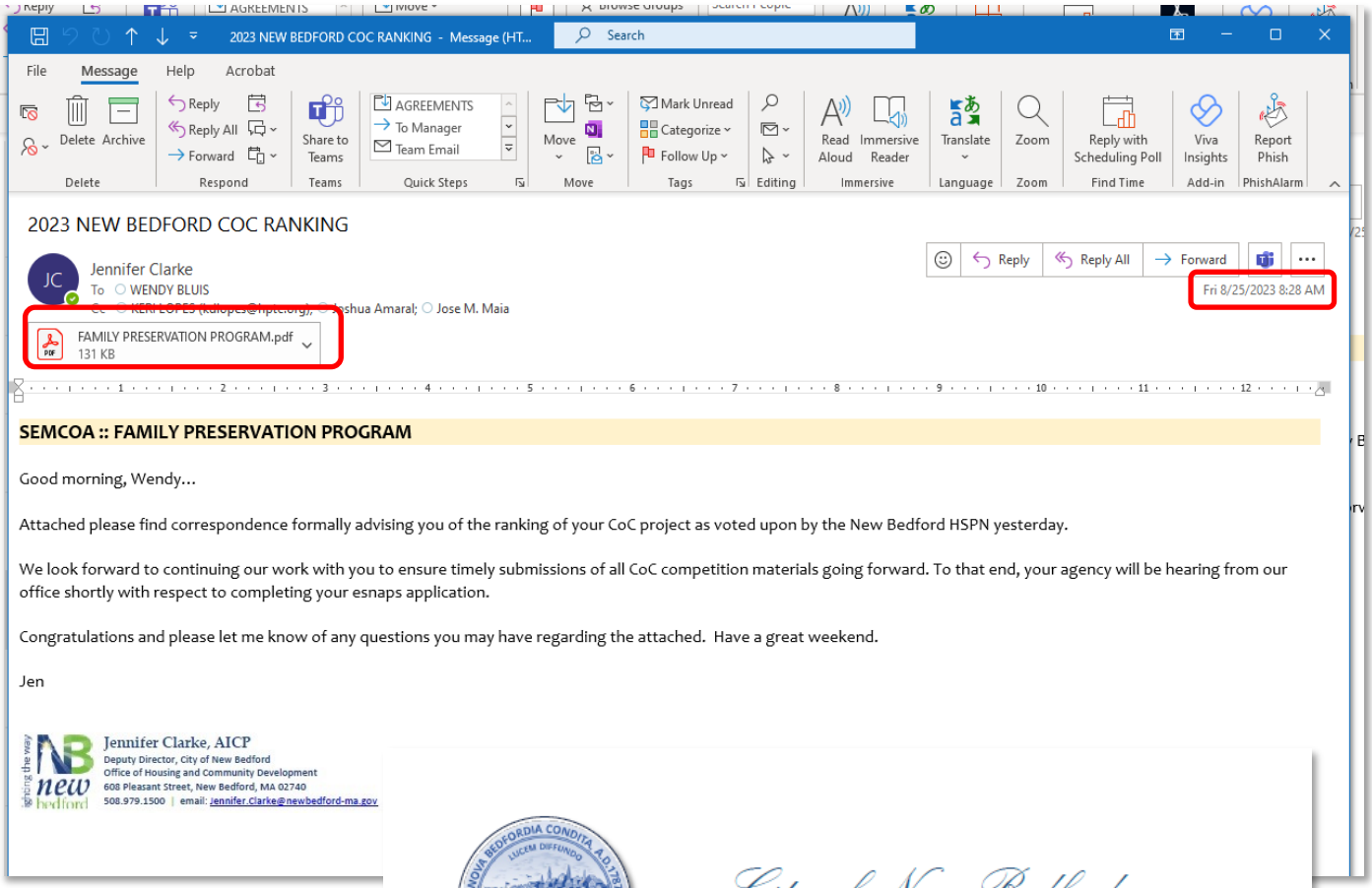
As a result, PACE's proposed renewal project will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project in Tier 1 at an amount of $134,849.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at Jennnifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director

ACCEPTED PROJECT: GREEN LIGHT (NEW)



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2023 NEW BEDFORD COC RANKING

JC Jennifer Clarke

To WENDY BLUIS

Cc KERI LOPES (klopes@hpteforg); Joshua Amaral; Jose M. Maia

FAMILY PRESERVATION PROGRAM.pdf 131 KB

Reply Reply All Forward

Fri 8/25/2023 8:28 AM

SEMCOA :: FAMILY PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Good morning, Wendy...

Attached please find correspondence formally advising you of the ranking of your CoC project as voted upon by the New Bedford HSPN yesterday.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure timely submissions of all CoC competition materials going forward. To that end, your agency will be hearing from our office shortly with respect to completing your esnaps application.

Congratulations and please let me know of any questions you may have regarding the attached. Have a great weekend.

Jen

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director, City of New Bedford
Office of Housing and Community Development
608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 02740
508.979.1500 | email: Jennifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov

Joshua Amaral
DIRECTOR

City of New Bedford
Office of Housing & Community Development
608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

August 25, 2023

Wendy Bluis, Program Director
SEMCOA, Inc.
72 Kilburn Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC NEW EXPANSION PROJECT
FAMILY PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Dear Ms. Bluis:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was accepted and ranked at the August Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting on Thursday, August 24, 2023.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2023 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 91 was such that the Family Preservation Project ranked as fifth overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

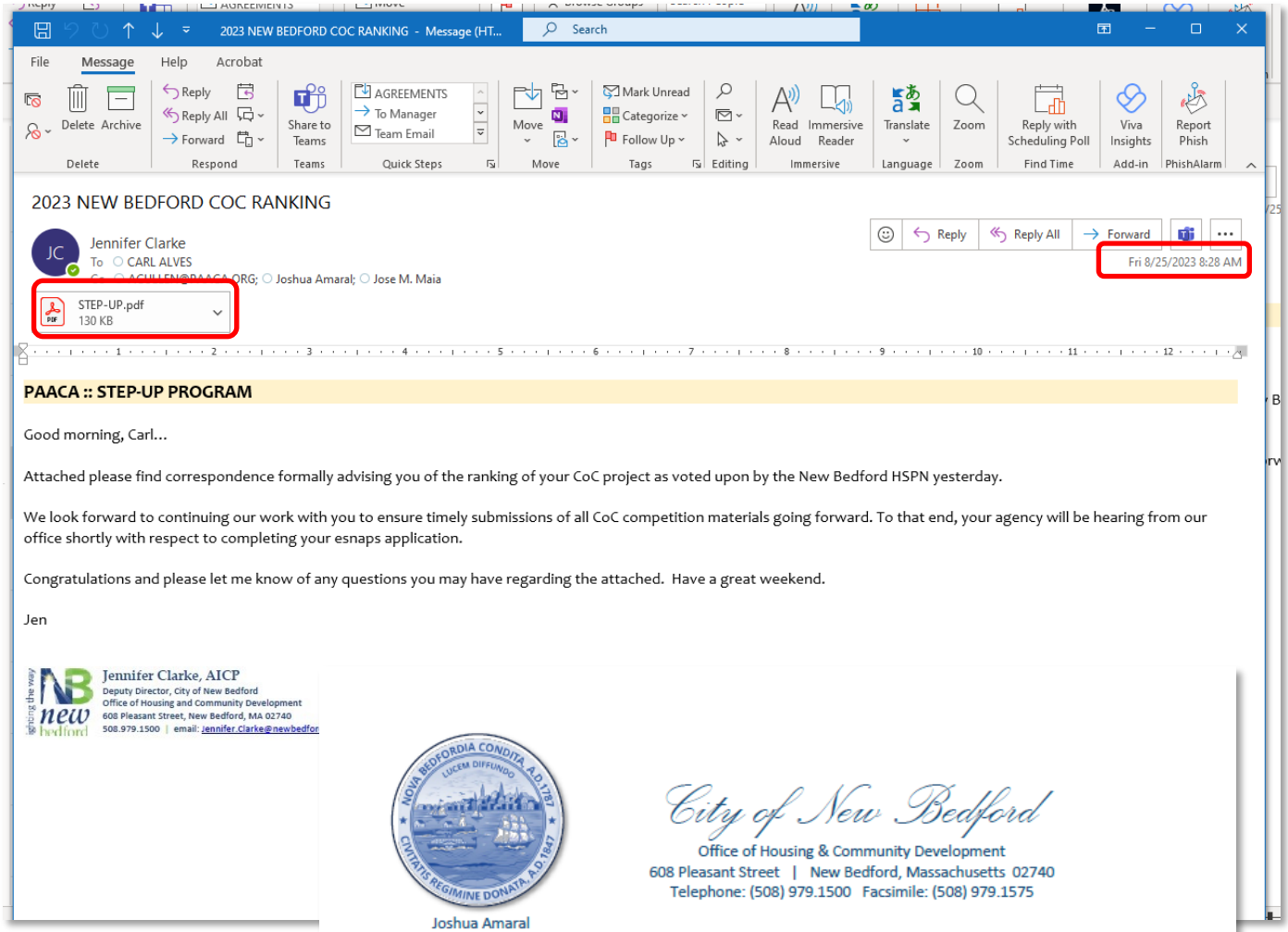
As a result, SEMCOA's proposed renewal program will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project in Tier 1 at an amount of $411,708.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at Jennnifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director

ACCEPTED PROJECT: FAMILY PRESERV PROG (RENEWAL)



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2023 NEW BEDFORD COC RANKING

JC Jennifer Clarke

To CARL ALVES

Cc ACULLEN@PAACA.ORG; Joshua Amaral; Jose M. Maia

Reply Reply All Forward

Fri 8/25/2023 8:28 AM

STEP-UP.pdf 130 KB

PAACA :: STEP-UP PROGRAM

Good morning, Carl...

Attached please find correspondence formally advising you of the ranking of your CoC project as voted upon by the New Bedford HSPN yesterday.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure timely submissions of all CoC competition materials going forward. To that end, your agency will be hearing from our office shortly with respect to completing your esnaps application.

Congratulations and please let me know of any questions you may have regarding the attached. Have a great weekend.

Jen

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director, City of New Bedford
Office of Housing and Community Development
608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 02740
508.979.1500 | email: jennifer.clarke@newbedfor

City of New Bedford

Office of Housing & Community Development
608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

Joshua Amaral
DIRECTOR

August 25, 2023

Carl J. Alves
Executive Director
PAACA, Inc.
360 Coggeshall Street
New Bedford, MA 02746

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC RENEWAL
STEP UP

Dear Mr. Alves:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was accepted and ranked at the August Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting on Thursday, August 24, 2023.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2023 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 88 was such that the Step-Up project ranked as sixth overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

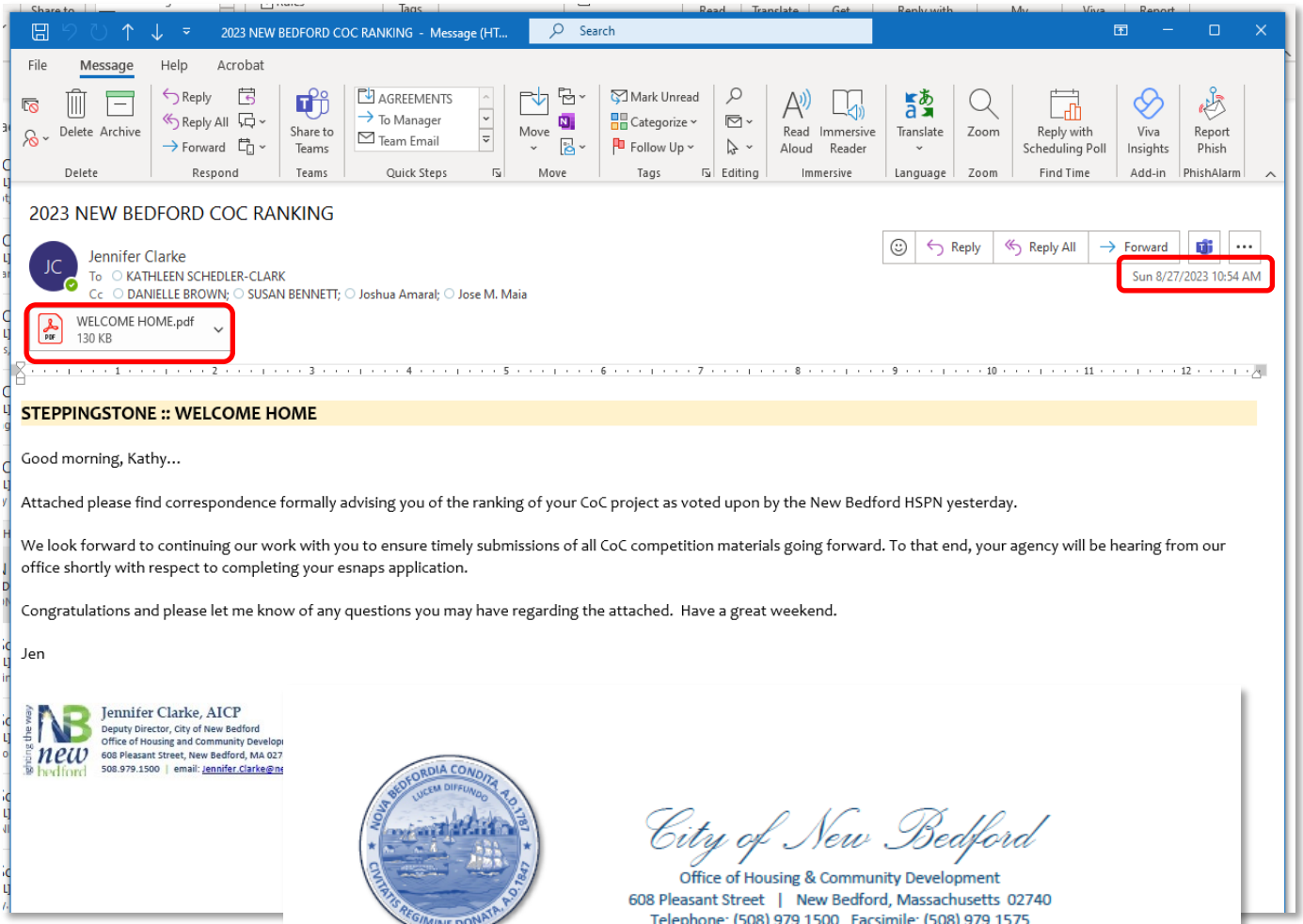
As a result, PAACA's proposed renewal project will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project in Tier 1 at an amount of $316,917.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at Jennnifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director

ACCEPTED PROJECT:STEP UP (RENEWAL)



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2023 NEW BEDFORD COC RANKING

JC Jennifer Clarke

To KATHLEEN SCHEDLER-CLARK

Cc DANIELLE BROWN; SUSAN BENNETT; Joshua Amaral; Jose M. Maia

Reply Reply All Forward

Sun 8/27/2023 10:54 AM

WELCOME HOME.pdf 130 KB

STEPPINGSTONE :: WELCOME HOME

Good morning, Kathy...

Attached please find correspondence formally advising you of the ranking of your CoC project as voted upon by the New Bedford HSPN yesterday.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure timely submissions of all CoC competition materials going forward. To that end, your agency will be hearing from our office shortly with respect to completing your esnaps application.

Congratulations and please let me know of any questions you may have regarding the attached. Have a great weekend.

Jen

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director, City of New Bedford
Office of Housing and Community Develop
608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 027
508.979.1500 | email: Jennifer.Clarke@ne

Joshua Amaral
DIRECTOR

City of New Bedford
Office of Housing & Community Development
608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

August 25, 2023

Kathleen Schedler-Clark, Executive Director
Steppingstone, Inc.
522 North Main Street
Fall River, MA 02720-3509

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC RENEWAL
WELCOME HOME

Dear Ms. Schedler-Clark:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was accepted and ranked at the August Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting on Thursday, August 24, 2023.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2023 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 82 was such that the Welcome Home Project ranked as seventh overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

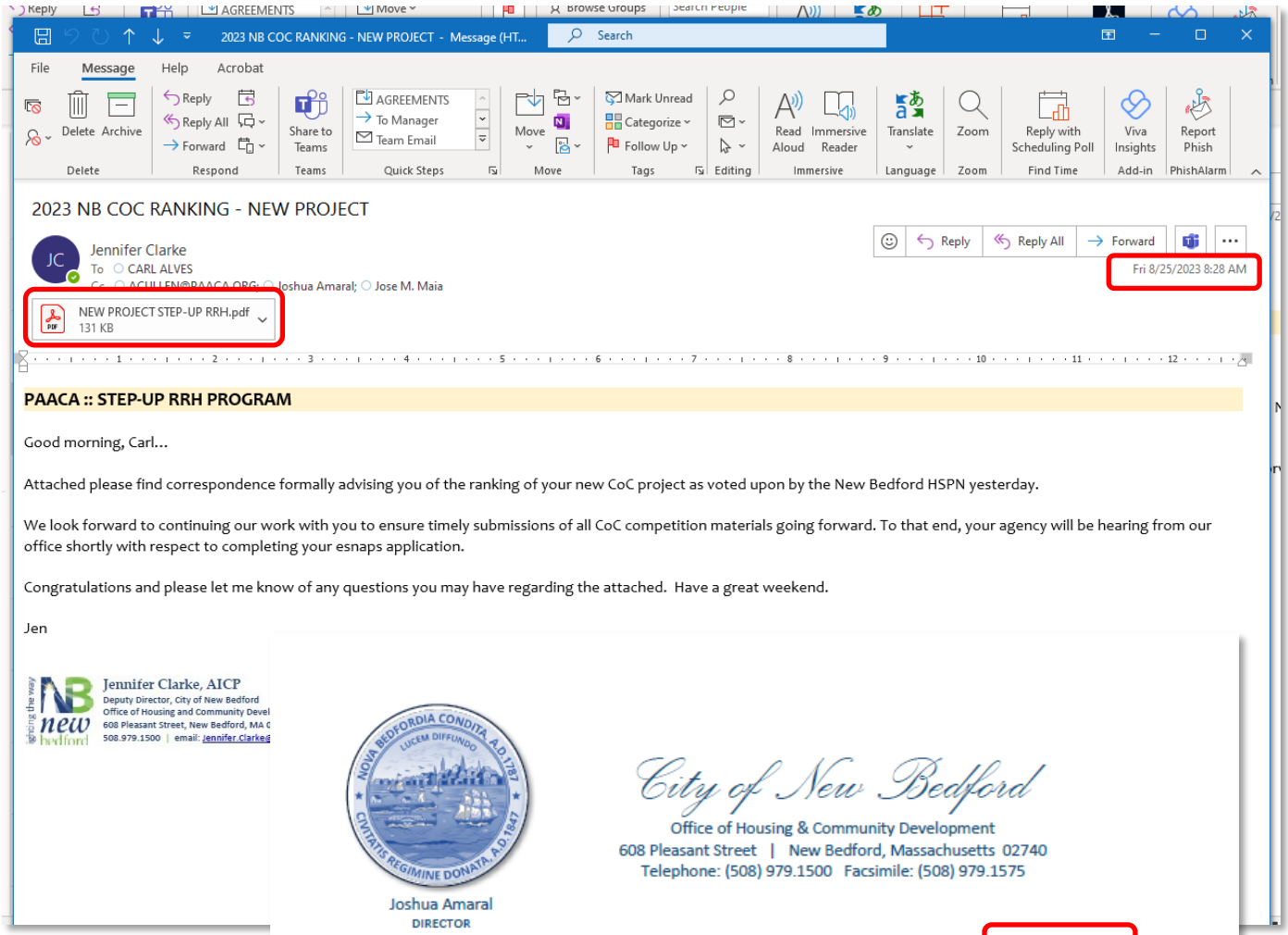
As a result, Steppingstone's proposed renewal program will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project in Tier 1 at an amount of $308,815.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at Jennnifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director

ACCEPTED PROJECT: WELCOME HOME (RENEWAL)



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2023 NB COC RANKING - NEW PROJECT

Jennifer Clarke
To CARL ALVES
Cc ACULLEN@PAACA.ORG; Joshua Amaral; Jose M. Maia

Reply Reply All Forward

Fri 8/25/2023 8:28 AM

NEW PROJECT STEP-UP RRH.pdf
131 KB

PAACA :: STEP-UP RRH PROGRAM

Good morning, Carl...

Attached please find correspondence formally advising you of the ranking of your new CoC project as voted upon by the New Bedford HSPN yesterday.

We look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure timely submissions of all CoC competition materials going forward. To that end, your agency will be hearing from our office shortly with respect to completing your esnaps application.

Congratulations and please let me know of any questions you may have regarding the attached. Have a great weekend.

Jen

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director, City of New Bedford
Office of Housing and Community Devel
608 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA
508.979.1500 | email: Jennifer.Clarke@

Joshua Amaral
DIRECTOR

City of New Bedford
Office of Housing & Community Development
608 Pleasant Street | New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740
Telephone: (508) 979.1500 Facsimile: (508) 979.1575

August 25, 2023

Carl J. Alves
Executive Director
PAACA, Inc.
360 Coggeshall Street
New Bedford, MA 02746

RE: APPLICATION FOR COC NEW PROJECT
STEP UP RAPID REHOUSING

Dear Mr. Alves:

This letter is to formally advise you that the above-captioned new proposal submitted for funding consideration in this year's Continuum of Care (CoC) competition in New Bedford was accepted and ranked at the August Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) meeting on Thursday, August 24, 2023.

The HSPN's Performance Review Committee (PRC) met and conducted reviews and evaluations of all proposals submitted for consideration in this year's 2023 CoC Funding Competition. The PRC's recommendation for project ranking to the HSPN membership included scoring for each of the proposals submitted. The resulting score of 70 was such that the Step-Up project ranked as tenth overall in the CoC's ranking vote.

As a result, PAACA's proposed renewal project will be included in this year's New Bedford CoC application as a project in Tier 2 at an amount of $105,600.

Staff from this office will be in touch with your organization later today via email to advise regarding your required completion of the e-snaps application for this project. Otherwise, should you have any questions concerning this ranking, please contact me at Jennnifer.Clarke@newbedford-ma.gov.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Clarke, AICP
Deputy Director

ACCEPTED PROJECT: STEP UP RRH (NEW)

Attachment 1 E-5b

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Local Competition Selection Results

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

- ☐ **Evidence of Postings of Local Competition Selection Results for All Projects.** Screenshot of website posting of the results of the New Bedford CoC's voted rank and funding of project selection at its August 24, 2023 meeting. Results were posted online immediately following the meeting/vote.

- ☐ **Close up screenshot of the published ranking results sheet, itself.** The attachment includes project names, project scores, project accepted or rejected status (no projects were rejected), project ranking, requested funding amounts and reallocated funds.

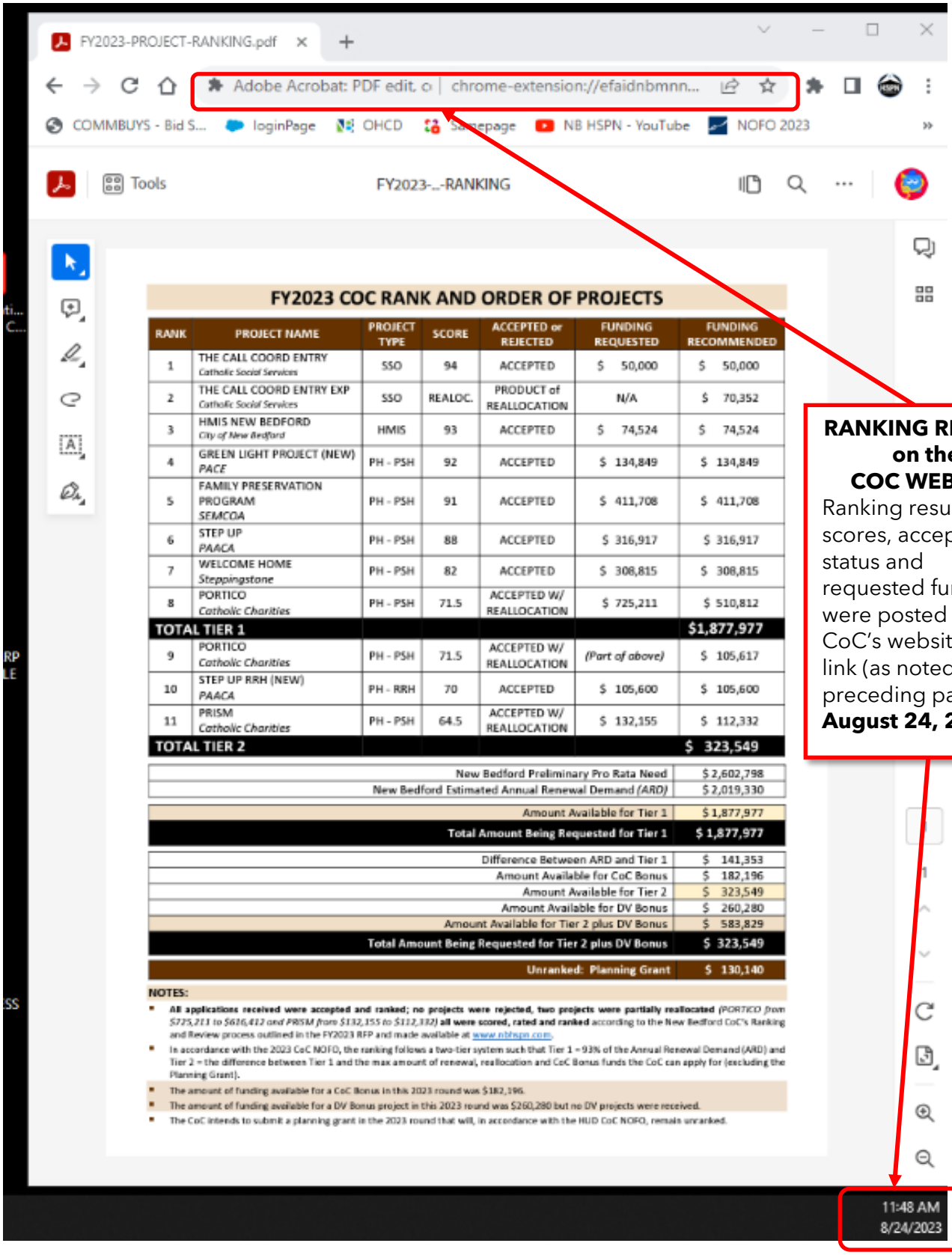
1. **A screenshot of the ranking results posted on the CoC's website**
   Located at: https://www.nbhspn.com/2022-ranking-of-coc-proposals/

The 2023 Ranking of CoC Proposals was posted online at the CoC's website on August 24, 2023, immediately following the vote of the CoC and notification to all parties.

The 2023 Final Project Ranking Results linked here and with the image above are shown on the following page of this attachment.

2. Screenshot of the published Final Project Ranking results

Posted August 24, 2023 at:
https://www.nbhspn.com/nbhspn/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/FY2023-PROJECT-RANKING.pdf
(*Note: this was posted as an Adobe Acrobat extension page*).



FY2023 COC RANK AND ORDER OF PROJECTS

RANK	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT TYPE	SCORE	ACCEPTED or REJECTED	FUNDING REQUESTED	FUNDING RECOMMENDED
1	THE CALL COORD ENTRY *Catholic Social Services*	SSO	94	ACCEPTED	$ 50,000	$ 50,000
2	THE CALL COORD ENTRY EXP *Catholic Social Services*	SSO	REALOC.	PRODUCT of REALLOCATION	N/A	$ 70,352
3	HMIS NEW BEDFORD *City of New Bedford*	HMIS	93	ACCEPTED	$ 74,524	$ 74,524
4	GREEN LIGHT PROJECT (NEW) *PACE*	PH - PSH	92	ACCEPTED	$ 134,849	$ 134,849
5	FAMILY PRESERVATION PROGRAM *SEMCOA*	PH - PSH	91	ACCEPTED	$ 411,708	$ 411,708
6	STEP UP *PAACA*	PH - PSH	88	ACCEPTED	$ 316,917	$ 316,917
7	WELCOME HOME *Steppingstone*	PH - PSH	82	ACCEPTED	$ 308,815	$ 308,815
8	PORTICO *Catholic Charities*	PH - PSH	71.5	ACCEPTED W/ REALLOCATION	$ 725,211	$ 510,812
TOTAL TIER 1						**$1,877,977**
9	PORTICO *Catholic Charities*	PH - PSH	71.5	ACCEPTED W/ REALLOCATION	*(Part of above)*	$ 105,617
10	STEP UP RRH (NEW) *PAACA*	PH - RRH	70	ACCEPTED	$ 105,600	$ 105,600
11	PRISM *Catholic Charities*	PH - PSH	64.5	ACCEPTED W/ REALLOCATION	$ 132,155	$ 112,332
TOTAL TIER 2						**$ 323,549**

New Bedford Preliminary Pro Rata Need	$ 2,602,798
New Bedford Estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)	$ 2,019,330
Amount Available for Tier 1	$ 1,877,977
Total Amount Being Requested for Tier 1	**$ 1,877,977**
Difference Between ARD and Tier 1	$ 141,353
Amount Available for CoC Bonus	$ 182,196
Amount Available for Tier 2	$ 323,549
Amount Available for DV Bonus	$ 260,280
Amount Available for Tier 2 plus DV Bonus	$ 583,829
Total Amount Being Requested for Tier 2 plus DV Bonus	**$ 323,549**
Unranked: Planning Grant	**$ 130,140**

NOTES:

- **All applications received were accepted and ranked; no projects were rejected, two projects were partially reallocated** (*PORTICO from $725,211 to $616,412 and PRISM from $132,155 to $112,332*) **all were scored, rated and ranked** according to the New Bedford CoC's Ranking and Review process outlined in the FY2023 RFP and made available at www.nbhspn.com.
- In accordance with the 2023 CoC NOFO, the ranking follows a two-tier system such that Tier 1 = 93% of the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) and Tier 2 = the difference between Tier 1 and the max amount of renewal, reallocation and CoC Bonus funds the CoC can apply for (excluding the Planning Grant).
- The amount of funding available for a CoC Bonus in this 2023 round was $182,196.
- The amount of funding available for a DV Bonus project in this 2023 round was $260,280 but no DV projects were received.
- The CoC intends to submit a planning grant in the 2023 round that will, in accordance with the HUD CoC NOFO, remain unranked.

RANKING RESULTS on the COC WEBSITE
Ranking results with scores, accepted status and requested funding were posted on the CoC's website as a link (as noted on the preceding page) on **August 24, 2023.**

Attachment 1E-5c

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Web Posting - CoC Approved Consolidated Application

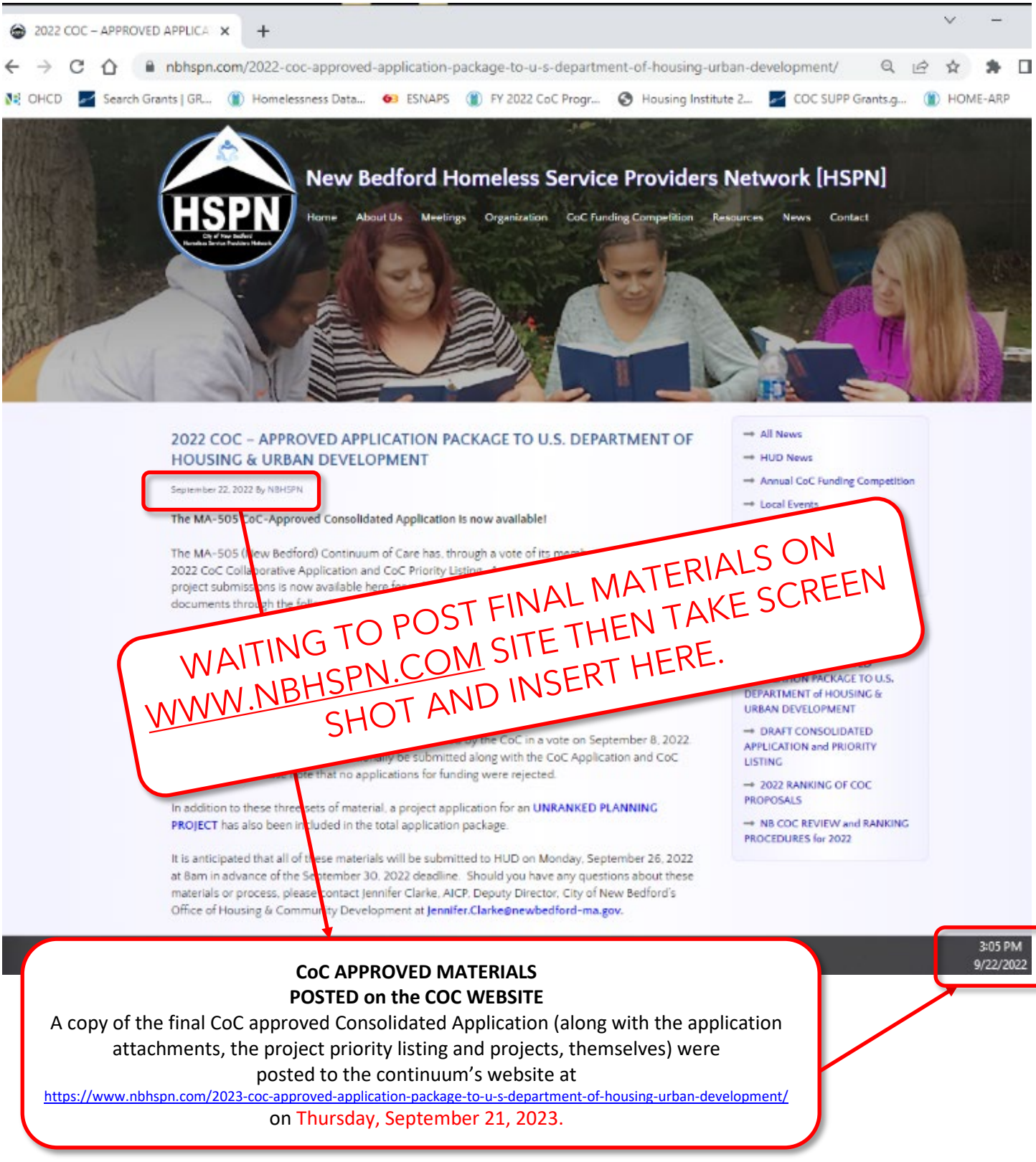
NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

☐ **The Web Posting**. The New Bedford CoC posted its CoC-Approved Consolidated Application and Priority Listing on September 21, 2023 on its www.nbhspn.com website as evidenced by the attached.

NOTE: The Draft version of this CoC Application will not have the referenced evidence as it has not yet been voted upon and finalized. Once the CoC votes on the material and assuming it is approved, this attachment will be updated to reflect the final version.

The CoC's Website: The following is a screenshot of the website posting of the CoC Approved Consolidated Application and Priority Listing.
https://www.nbhspn.com/2023-consolidated-coc-application/



CoC APPROVED MATERIALS
POSTED on the COC WEBSITE

A copy of the final CoC approved Consolidated Application (along with the application attachments, the project priority listing and projects, themselves) were posted to the continuum's website at
https://www.nbhspn.com/2023-coc-approved-application-package-to-u-s-department-of-housing-urban-development/
on Thursday, September 21, 2023.

Attachment 1E-5d

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Notification of CoC - Approved Consolidated Application

NOTE:

In accordance with the NOFO, this attachment includes:

☐ **Evidence of Notification of Posting of the CoC-Approved Consolidated Application.** Attached are screenshots demonstrating the notification of posting via multiple sources via:

1. Listserve Emailing sent to all project applicants and key stakeholders along with the broader CoC membership and community leaders.
2. Facebook Posting on the CoC's Facebook page.

All postings of this notification were made on September 21, 2023 and included confirmation that the CoC had approved of the Consolidated Application. (This date follows NOFO requirements that all application materials to be submitted to HUD no later than September 26, 2023).

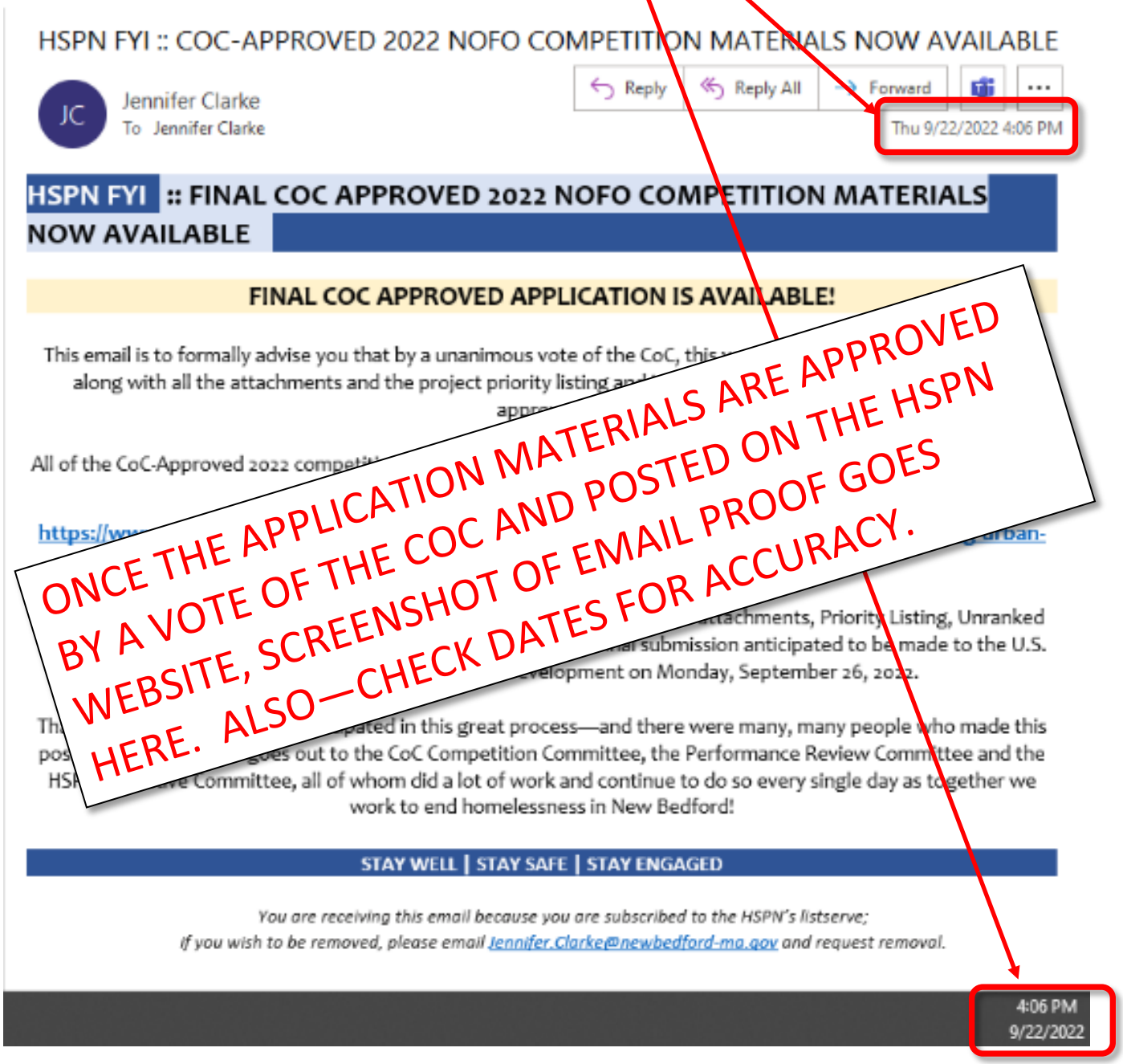
NOTE: The Draft version of this CoC Application will not have the referenced evidence as it has not yet been voted upon and finalized. Once the CoC votes on the material and assuming it is approved, this attachment will be updated to reflect the final version.

1. **Evidence of a <u>Listserve email</u>**

   This screenshot demonstrates that all project applicants and key stakeholders along with the broader CoC membership and community leaders were alerted as to the availability of the FINAL CoC Approved version of the Consolidated Application and Priority Listing posted on the CoC's website.

   The email was sent on Thursday, September 21, 2023 to the CoC's listserve reaching (*blind copied for privacy*) a significant number given the small CoC size, overall.

   The mailing list was blind copied for privacy and was distributed widely reaching an estimated 500 people, a significant number given the very small CoC size, overall.



2. **A <u>Facebook Posting</u> on the CoC's Facebook Page.**
   Notice as to the availability of the CoC-Approved Consolidated Application and materials was made on the CoC's (HSPN) Facebook page on September 21, 2023 at 4:29 EST.

Attachment 2A-6

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

CoC FY2023 HDX Competition Report

2023 HDX Competition Report

PIT Count Data for MA-505 - New Bedford CoC

Total Population PIT Count Data

	2020 PIT	2021 PIT *	2022 PIT	2023 PIT
Total Sheltered and Unsheltered Count	**398**	**372**	**370**	**373**
Emergency Shelter Total	278	267	219	227
Safe Haven Total	0	0	0	0
Transitional Housing Total	72	62	90	79
Total Sheltered Count	**350**	**329**	**309**	**306**
Total Unsheltered Count	**48**	**43**	**61**	**67**

Chronically Homeless PIT Counts

	2020 PIT	2021 PIT *	2022 PIT	2023 PIT
Total Sheltered and Unsheltered Count of Chronically Homeless Persons	**46**	**54**	**48**	**69**
Sheltered Count of Chronically Homeless Persons	33	44	26	34
Unsheltered Count of Chronically Homeless Persons	13	10	22	35

2023 HDX Competition Report

PIT Count Data for MA-505 - New Bedford 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	**66**	**63**	**58**	**46**
Sheltered Count of Homeless Households with Children	66	63	58	46
Unsheltered Count of Homeless Households with Children	0	0	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	**50**	**39**	**23**	**35**	**36**
Sheltered Count of Homeless Veterans	50	38	23	35	36
Unsheltered Count of Homeless Veterans	0	1	0	0	0

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

2023 HDX Competition Report

HIC Data for MA-505 - New Bedford 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	244	199	208	95.67%	36	36	100.00%	235	96.31%
SH Beds	0	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	0	NA
TH Beds	123	35	81	43.21%	42	42	100.00%	77	62.60%
RRH Beds	88	82	88	93.18%	0	0	NA	82	93.18%
PSH Beds	350	267	350	76.29%	0	0	NA	267	76.29%
OPH Beds	0	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	0	NA
Total Beds	805	583	727	80.19%	78	78	100.00%	661	82.11%

2023 HDX Competition Report

HIC Data for MA-505 - New Bedford CoC

2023 HDX Competition Report

HIC Data for MA-505 - New Bedford 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	234	242	246	267

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	72	37	23	20

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	172	115	79	88

2023 HDX Competition Report

HIC Data for MA-505 - New Bedford CoC

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - Performance Measurement Module (Sys PM)

Summary Report for MA-505 - New Bedford 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	736	679	176	175	156	-19	89	88	82	-6
1.2 Persons in ES, SH, and TH	775	691	197	194	181	-13	91	91	94	3

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")	778	726	587	582	551	-31	365	349	297	-52
1.2 Persons in ES, SH, TH, and PH (prior to "housing move in")	817	738	599	594	570	-24	378	365	323	-42

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	5	55	0	1	2%	0	1	2%	0	2	4%	4	7%
Exit was from ES	193	148	10	2	1%	2	6	4%	6	3	2%	11	7%
Exit was from TH	21	5	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	1	1	20%	1	20%
Exit was from SH	2	0	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	
Exit was from PH	69	54	1	1	2%	0	1	2%	6	0	0%	2	4%
TOTAL Returns to Homelessness	290	262	11	4	2%	2	8	3%	13	6	2%	18	7%

Measure 3: Number of Homeless Persons

Metric 3.1 – Change in PIT Counts

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	372	370	-2
Emergency Shelter Total	267	219	-48
Safe Haven Total	0	0	0
Transitional Housing Total	62	90	28
Total Sheltered Count	329	309	-20
Unsheltered Count	43	61	18

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	779	775	691	-84
Emergency Shelter Total	726	727	679	-48
Safe Haven Total	9	9	0	-9
Transitional Housing Total	50	45	20	-25

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)	118	108	109	1
Number of adults with increased earned income	19	18	22	4
Percentage of adults who increased earned income	16%	17%	20%	3%

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)	118	108	109	1
Number of adults with increased non-employment cash income	57	51	38	-13
Percentage of adults who increased non-employment cash income	48%	47%	35%	-12%

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)	118	108	109	1
Number of adults with increased total income	64	59	53	-6
Percentage of adults who increased total income	54%	55%	49%	-6%

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)	54	52	34	-18
Number of adults who exited with increased earned income	11	11	7	-4
Percentage of adults who increased earned income	20%	21%	21%	0%

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)	54	52	34	-18
Number of adults who exited with increased non-employment cash income	20	19	14	-5
Percentage of adults who increased non-employment cash income	37%	37%	41%	4%

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)	54	52	34	-18
Number of adults who exited with increased total income	29	28	18	-10
Percentage of adults who increased total income	54%	54%	53%	-1%

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.	557	558	533	-25
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.	156	160	142	-18
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)	401	398	391	-7

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.	642	648	592	-56
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.	193	202	165	-37
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.)	449	446	427	-19

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	58	32	-26
Of persons above, those who exited to temporary & some institutional destinations	27	28	15	-13
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	20	20	12	-8
% Successful exits	84%	83%	84%	1%

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	549	543	489	-54
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	250	247	167	-80
% Successful exits	46%	45%	34%	-11%

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	225	212	194	-18
Of persons above, those who remained in applicable PH projects and those who exited to permanent housing destinations	222	205	177	-28
% Successful exits/retention	99%	97%	91%	-6%

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - SysPM Data Quality

MA-505 - New Bedford 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	282	275	245	71	72	81	302	297	329	172	115	79			
2. Number of HMIS Beds	273	266	245	23	24	35	242	242	246	157	83	72			
3. HMIS Participation Rate from HIC (%)	96.81	96.73	100.00	32.39	33.33	43.21	80.13	81.48	74.77	91.28	72.17	91.14			
4. Unduplicated Persons Served (HMIS)	636	673	644	166	107	49	280	260	244	63	82	69	27	147	138
5. Total Leavers (HMIS)	461	522	448	111	86	20	37	31	46	47	65	63	16	95	65
6. Destination of Don't Know, Refused, or Missing (HMIS)	26	75	29	2	3	2	1	0	2	8	7	7	3	22	6
7. Destination Error Rate (%)	5.64	14.37	6.47	1.80	3.49	10.00	2.70	0.00	4.35	17.02	10.77	11.11	18.75	23.16	9.23

2023 HDX Competition Report

FY2022 - SysPM Data Quality

2023 HDX Competition Report

Submission and Count Dates for MA-505 - New Bedford 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	4/25/2023	Yes
2023 HIC Count Submittal Date	4/25/2023	Yes
2022 System PM Submittal Date	2/16/2023	Yes

Attachment 3A-1

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Housing Leveraging Commitment

NOTE:
Two New Projects are being proposed.
Housing Leveraging Commitments for each constitute this attachment.

1. New Project: Green Light – Housing Leveraging Commitment

COUTO PROPERTIES

24 Ernest St
New Bedford, MA 02745

September 15, 2023

To : Carmen Mejil, Director of Housing Opportunity Center
308 Cottage St., New Bedford, MA 02740

Re: Green Light Project

Dear Ms. Mejil,

We are very excited to collaborate on your new project Green Light!

We can commit to leasing the 2BR and 3 BR units. Currently our 2BR units go for $1450 and a 3BR unit would typically be leases for $1700(market rate) but will allow the leases to be instead consistent with the FMR therefore resulting in a leveraged of an estimated amount $15,972.00 in funds over the year term of the grant/lease.

We look forward to working with you on this new project. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Regards,

Michelle Lima

Phone
508-509-4414

Email
michelle@coutoconstruction.com

Michelle Lima
Property Manager

2. New Project: Step Up RRH – Housing Leveraging Commitment

PAACA

Positive Action Against Chemical Addiction, Incorporated
360 Coggeshall Street, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02746
PO Box 6730, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02742
Adult Services 508.997.9051 ♦ Youth Services 508.979.1580 ♦ Fax 508.991.6233 ♦ Web www.paaca.org
A United Way Agency

SUBSTANCE ABUSE RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES

- Information & Referral
- Housing Programs
- Transportation Programs
- Employment & Training Services
- Food and Clothing

YOUTH SERVICES

- South Coast Youth Courts
- INSIGHT Youth Services
- Green Brigade
- Annual Youth Summit
- Street Outreach Services
- GED Programs

THE ROAD TO RECOVERY BEGINS WITH THE FIRST STEP.

HELPING PEOPLE FIND RECOVERY SINCE 1983.

September 15, 2023

Joshua Amaral
City of New Bedford - OHCD
608 Pleasant Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

RE: Leverage Letter – StepUp RRH

Dear Mr. Amaral:

Positive Action Against Chemical Addiction, Inc. (PAACA) is pleased to submit a New Rapid Rehousing program application for the Step UP RRH housing program. This is a letter of commitment to provide the health care leverage required for the project at a level of a minimum of 25% of the program's value (Approximately valued at $26,400) per year.

The source of the leverage comes from PAACA's provision of the necessary and industry-standard substance abuse and recovery resources, such as counseling, drug screening, recovery coaching, and referrals for the new program participants who qualify and choose these services.

These services will be available upon the commencement of the program.

Program eligibility will be based on CoC program fair housing requirements and will not be restricted by the participant's failure or refusal to participate in substance and recovery resources.

Sincerely

Carl J. Alves
Executive Director

Attachment 3A-2

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Healthcare Formal Agreements

NOTE:

Two New Projects are being proposed.
Healthcare Formal Agreements for each constitute this attachment.

1. New Project: Green Light – Healthcare Formal Agreement

This page is reserved.
It is anticipated that the final submitted version of this attachment will include a Healthcare Agreement between PACE and the GNB Community Health Center.

This page is reserved.

It is anticipated that the final submitted version of this attachment will include an additional Healthcare Agreement between PACE Housing Opportunity Center and the PACE Health Access Office.

2. New Project: Step Up RRH – Healthcare Formal Agreement

Southcoast Health

July 3, 2023

Massachusetts Executive Office of Health & Human Services
MassHealth Office of Long Term Services & Supports
One Ashburton Place, 11th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

RE: Memorandum of Understanding for 231039 Medical Respite Pilot Program

To Whom It May Concern:

Southcoast Visiting Nurses Association, Inc. (SCVNA), Inc. and Positive Action Against Chemical Addiction, Inc. (PAACA) agree to partner in response to the requirements of RFR 231039 – Medical Respite Pilot Program. Specifically, SCVNA agrees to provide high quality post-acute clinical care according to the National Institute for Medical Respite Care *Standards for Medical Respite Care Programs* at locations operated by PAACA under the Medical Respite Pilot Program. The SCVNA will work closely with the PAACA team to comply with all medical aspects of the proposed program as described in Schedule A of this document.

Sr. Vice President		July 3, 2023
Southcoast Visiting Nurses Association, Inc.	Titl	Date
CE		7/7/23
PAACA, Inc.	Title	Date

Schedule A: Health Agency Partner Roles will assist PAACA in the following areas.

Definition - Healthcare Agency: An agency whose primary purpose is to provide appropriate and cost-effective clinical supports and healthcare to individuals in need of care and able to bill private and public insurers for additional medical and behavioral health services not otherwise covered by the Medical Respite Pilot Grants.

Definition - Medical Respite: Post-hospitalization community-based housing for up to six months for individuals experiencing homelessness that is integrated with clinically oriented rehabilitative services and supports to mitigate risk of acute hospitalization or institutionalization, such as nursing facility care.

A. Clinical program staff will assist the program in various ways including:

1. Assisting with development of program policy and procedures related to clinical matters as well as guidance with the development of general policy.
2. Massachusetts-licensed and appropriately certified staff, if applicable, available daily;
3. A Medical Director to oversee the medical aspects of the program; and
4. 24-hour on-call medical support or a nurse call-line for non-emergency medical issues that are available and accessible to staff and Participants.

B. All on-site staff (either clinical or non-clinical) must have training on Grantee policies and procedures that cover at a minimum:

1. Providing first aid and basic life support services (e.g., provide CPR and use AED, as needed);
2. Communicating to outside emergency assistance;
3. Responding to life-threatening emergencies;
4. Program safety, which shall include at a minimum:
    a. The handling of alcohol, illegal drugs, and unauthorized prescription drugs found on site;
    b. The handling of weapons brought into the Medical Respite program;
    c. Strategies to maximize Participant and staff safety;
    d. Trauma-informed de-escalation;
    e. Appropriate staff responses to threatening behavior or violence; and
    f. A written procedure for managing, reporting, responding to incidents, including Participant falls; and
    g. Proactive approaches to prevent future related incidents.
5. Evaluation and Reporting
    a. Participation in the preparation of evaluation reporting specifications and models;
    b. Participating in evaluation interviews and focus groups to gather qualitative information about the Medical Respite Program and services provided with Grant funding.
6. Ad Hoc Reports. Upon written request by EOHHS, Grantee shall also develop any other ad hoc one-time, periodic, or ongoing reports required by EOHHS to evaluate Grantee's compliance with this contract, or as otherwise may be determined

necessary by EOHHS. Such ad-hoc reports must be provided to EOHHS within a timeframe reasonably related to the request.

7. Qualification Updates/Verifications. Grantee shall submit any additional updates or verifications of qualifications as requested by EOHHS in order to demonstrate its capability to comply with this Contract.

8. Supporting Data and Documentation

    a. Grantee shall provide EOHHS with any data or information as requested by EOHHS to audit or validate any reports Grantee submits in accordance with this Contract.

    b. Grantee shall provide all requested data or documentation in a form and format specified by EOHHS, no later than ninety (90) calendar days after receiving such request.

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Southcoast Health

July 3, 2023

Massachusetts Executive Office of Health & Human Services

MassHealth Office of Long Term Services & Supports

One Ashburton Place, 11th Floor

Boston, MA 02108

RE: Memorandum of Understanding for 231039 Medical Respite Pilot Program

To Whom It May Concern:

Southcoast Hospitals Group, Inc. and Positive Action Against Chemical Addiction, Inc. (PAACA) agree to partner in response to the requirements of RFR 231039 – Medical Respite Pilot Program. Specifically, Southcoast Hospitals Group, Inc. intends to refer qualified patients presenting in its Emergency Centers to the Medical Respite Pilot Program operated by PAACA. The Southcoast Hospital Group, Inc. will work closely with the PAACA team to comply with all medical aspects of the proposed program as described in Schedule A of this document.

DocuSigned by:
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	MD	7/6/2023 | 12:32 PM EDT
Southcoast Hospitals Group, Inc.	Title	Date

	CEO	7/7/23
PAACA, Inc.	Title	Date

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Schedule A: Health Agency Partner Roles will assist PAACA in the following areas.

Definition - Healthcare Agency: An agency whose primary purpose is to provide appropriate and cost-effective clinical supports and healthcare to individuals in need of care and able to bill private and public insurers for additional medical and behavioral health services not otherwise covered by the Medical Respite Pilot Grants.

Definition - Medical Respite: Post-hospitalization community-based housing for up to six months for individuals experiencing homelessness that is integrated with clinically oriented rehabilitative services and supports to mitigate risk of acute hospitalization or institutionalization, such as nursing facility care.

A. Clinical program staff will assist the program in various ways including:

   1. Assisting with development of program policy and procedures related to clinical matters as well as guidance with the development of general policy.
   2. Massachusetts-licensed and appropriately certified staff, if applicable, available daily;
   3. A Medical Director to oversee the medical aspects of the program; and
   4. 24-hour on-call medical support or a nurse call-line for non-emergency medical issues that are available and accessible to staff and Participants.

B. All on-site staff (either clinical or non-clinical) must have training on Grantee policies and procedures that cover at a minimum:

   1. Providing first aid and basic life support services (e.g., provide CPR and use AED, as needed);
   2. Communicating to outside emergency assistance;
   3. Responding to life-threatening emergencies;
   4. Program safety, which shall include at a minimum:
      a. The handling of alcohol, illegal drugs, and unauthorized prescription drugs found on site;
      b. The handling of weapons brought into the Medical Respite program;
      c. Strategies to maximize Participant and staff safety;
      d. Trauma-informed de-escalation;
      e. Appropriate staff responses to threatening behavior or violence; and
      f. A written procedure for managing, reporting, responding to incidents, including Participant falls; and
      g. Proactive approaches to prevent future related incidents.
   5. Evaluation and Reporting
      a. Participation in the preparation of evaluation reporting specifications and models;
      b. Participating in evaluation interviews and focus groups to gather qualitative information about the Medical Respite Program and services provided with Grant funding.

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6. Ad Hoc Reports. Upon written request by EOHHS, Grantee shall also develop any other ad hoc one-time, periodic, or ongoing reports required by EOHHS to evaluate Grantee's compliance with this contract, or as otherwise may be determined necessary by EOHHS. Such ad-hoc reports must be provided to EOHHS within a timeframe reasonably related to the request.
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8. Supporting Data and Documentation
    a. Grantee shall provide EOHHS with any data or information as requested by EOHHS to audit or validate any reports Grantee submits in accordance with this Contract.
    b. Grantee shall provide all requested data or documentation in a form and format specified by EOHHS, no later than ninety (90) calendar days after receiving such request.

Attachment 3C-2

New Bedford Continuum of Care
MA-505

Project List for Other Federal Statutes

NOTE:

This attachment is not applicable.