



## Continuum of Care (CoC) 2015 Funding Round

### CoC Funds

The CoC program provides funding to house literally homeless households in Permanent Housing, both Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), and Rapid Re-housing (RRH); or in Transitional Housing. Funds may also be used for Supportive Service Only projects (Coordinated Entry System), Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Administration. Award of CoC funds is determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through a competitive procurement process and based on the Tacoma/Lakewood/Pierce County CoC priority ranking of projects.

The HUD Notice of Funding Availability released by HUD September 18, 2015 requires that the Pierce County, as the Collaborative Applicant, rank all projects in two tiers. In Tier 1, HUD requires that 85% of the guaranteed annual renewal demand be allocated to projects that are of highest priority for the CoC. Tier 2 includes the balance of 15% of the annual renewal demand plus the amount of bonus funding available to the CoC. HUD may fund Tier 2 projects based on the CoC Planning Application score and availability of funding. HUD affords the CoC the opportunity to create new permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless or rapid re-housing for literally homeless households through the permanent housing bonus.

#### CoC Application Evaluation Committee Members:

- Colin Deforrest, City of Tacoma
- Deborah Howell, WorkForce Central
- Marilee Hill-Anderson, Sumner School District
- Ellie Ottey, Pierce County Housing Authority

#### Program Staff

- Jeff Rodgers, Homeless Program Supervisor
- Rae Anne Giron, Program Specialist 3
- Anne Marie Edmunds, Program Specialist 3

### CoC Funding Availability

Pierce County Community Connections released three separate funding opportunities in the last six months: the CoC funding opportunity released on June 3, 2015; the Homeless Housing Program funding opportunity released on August 14, 2015; and the Coordinated Entry System funding opportunity released on September 9, 2015. Taken all together, these three funding opportunities are designed to create a homeless response system in which the experience of homelessness is rare, brief and one time.

Contracts awarded funding through the CoC funding opportunity will cover a one year period of performance based on the renewal project start date, which varies in calendar year 2016. The table below shows the total funds available:

Total Available for Renewal	Tier 1 Allocation (Guaranteed Annual renewal Demand)	Tier 2 Allocation
\$3,169,218	\$2,693,835 (85% of Total Available)	\$975,766 (Difference between Total Available and Tier 1 + BONUS)

Applications submitted to HUD for the CoC Program Competition will be evaluated by HUD based, in part, on the extent to which projects further the achievement of HUD’s goals as articulated in HUD’s Strategic Plan and the *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness (FSP)*:

1. Reducing length of stay;
2. Ending chronic homelessness through increasing permanent housing specifically for chronically homeless;
3. Targeting permanent supportive housing vacancies for chronically homeless individuals;
4. Utilization of Housing First model for rapid housing placement and stabilization;
5. Ending family homelessness through referral from street or shelter to rapid re-housing; and
6. Maximizing use of mainstream resources where possible to focus HUD funds on housing related costs.

The process for awarding CoC funds is governed by the HUD CoC Interim Rule and the HUD CoC NOFA.

## Application Review

Pierce County received 27 eligible applications requesting \$3,836,844 in CoC funding. There were 24 applications for existing projects (renewals) and three new applications: one rapid re-housing project; one rapid re-housing for youth and young adults; and one permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals. Applications were ranked based on the following local scoring criteria:

Criteria	Points
Population Served	15
Housing	15
Supportive Services	5
Accessing Permanent Housing	10
Self Sufficiency	10
Performance	20
Cost Effectiveness	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>
*Domestic Violence Programs were not rated for Data Management as they are not required to submit data through HMIS at this time. Total points for DV programs is 70 (minus 10 points for data management)	

The Application Evaluation Committee (AEC) was comprised of City of Tacoma and community members with expertise in homeless services. In addition to the AEC prioritizing and ranking projects based on the criteria above, County staff evaluated performance and outcome criteria, including a) completeness of the application; b) quality of the data entered into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS); c) whether the program met or exceeded contracted outcomes; and d) timely utilization of funds.

The combined scores of the committee and staff resulted in a ranking of the proposals as follows:

- The AEC prioritized and placed 17 of the 27 projects submitted in Tier 1.
  - Out of the seventeen 17 projects prioritized in Tier 1, 16 are renewal projects and one is a new rapid re-housing project being funded through reallocation.

- The 17<sup>th</sup> project listed in Tier 1 is the Pierce County HMIS Project and did not compete with the field of housing applicants.
- The 18<sup>th</sup> project listed in Tier 1 straddles the Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding line. HUD will conditionally select the project up to the amount of funding that falls within Tier 1. HUD may fund the Tier 2 portion of the project based on the CoC score and the availability of funding.
- The AEC prioritized 10 projects into Tier 2.
  - The top two projects listed are recommended for Bonus funding. The first listed project, Discover House is for scattered site permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless and the second priority project, REACH Housing 4 Success is a rapid re-housing project for literally homeless unaccompanied youth and young adults.
  - Of the 10 projects prioritized in Tier 2, six are transitional housing projects, two are rapid re-housing projects and two are permanent supportive housing projects.
    - Two of the projects prioritized into Tier 2 are recommended to have renewal funding reduced due to project performance and inability to spend funds allocated.



## CoC Prioritization Recommendations

The CoC application to HUD will reflect the AEC recommendation that the projects be prioritized as follows:

TIER 1						
Rank/ Rating	Application Type	Agency	Program	Service Type	# units	Total Proposed Request
1	Renewal	Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare	Spanaway Commons	PSH	16	\$98,042
2	Renewal	Share and Care House	Independent Housing Opportunity	PSH	10	\$35,680
3	Renewal	South Sound Outreach	Pierce County Rapid Rehousing	RRH	8	\$64,285
4	NEW	Associated Ministries of Tacoma-Pierce County	Family Permanent Housing	RRH	9	\$97,727
5	Renewal	Catholic Community Services of Western Washington	Nativity House	PSH	50	\$177,665
6	Renewal	Metropolitan Development Council	Housing First	PSH	42	\$537,485
7	Renewal	Helping Hand House	Rural Bright Futures	PSH	8	\$51,515
8	Renewal	Metropolitan Development Council	Campbell Court	PSH	10	\$65,656
9	Renewal	Helping Hand House	Bright Futures	RRH	22	\$239,877
10	Renewal	Metropolitan Development Council	Randall Townsend	PSH	35	\$74,763
11	Renewal	Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare	Sponsor Based Rental Assistance	PSH	21	\$174,569
12	Renewal	Catholic Community Services of Western Washington	Bridges Village	PSH	10	\$35,197
13	Renewal	Metropolitan Development Council	A Place for Us	PSH	26	\$171,455
14	Renewal	Exodus Housing	Safe Choices	RRH	20	\$185,269
15	Renewal	Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare	Collaborative Housing	PSH	67	\$557,433
16	Renewal	Pierce County Affordable Housing Association	Manresa Apartments	PSH	4	\$37,429
17	HMIS Renewal	Pierce County Community Connections	HMIS	HMIS	N/A	\$63,261
18	Renewal	The Rescue Mission	Tyler Square I	TH	12	\$34,593
<b>Tier 1 Total</b>						<b>\$2,701,901</b>



TIER 2						
Rank/ Rating	Application Type	Agency	Program	Service Type	# units	Total Proposed Request
19	BONUS	Share and Care House	Discover Independence	PSH	28	\$313,500
20	BONUS	Tacoma Community House	REACH Housing 4 Success	RRH	20	\$186,883
21	Renewal	LASA	CHANGES	RRH	11	\$86,650
22	Renewal	The Rescue Mission	Tyler Square II	TH	15	\$60,741
23	Renewal	Metropolitan Development Council	Pacific Courtyard	TH	18	\$54,935
24	Renewal	LASA	CHOICES	TH	4	\$24,609
25	Renewal	LASA	ALASKA	TH	3	\$25,094
26	Renewal	Step by Step	Homes Transitional Housing	TH	10	\$86,846
27	Renewal	Metropolitan Development Council	Avenue Apartments	TH	15	\$67,173
28	Renewal	AIDS Housing Association of Tacoma	Project Open Door	PSH	8	\$61,269
<b>Tier 2 Total</b>						<b>\$967,700</b>
<b>Total Tier 1 &amp; Tier 2 Combined</b>						<b>\$3,669,601</b>

