

Maine Continuum of Care (MCoC)

Request for Proposals for Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Projects

October 8, 2015

The Maine Continuum of Care (MCoC) announces their annual solicitation for New Project Proposals for the 2015 HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Program.

This year, the FY2015 HUD CoC Notice of Funding availability has indicated that there is a **new** Permanent Housing Bonus. HUD has said that CoCs may create new projects through the permanent housing bonus up to 15 percent of the CoC's FPRN for the following types of new projects:

1. CoCs may create new permanent supportive housing projects that will serve 100 percent chronically homeless families and individuals, and
2. CoCs may create new rapid re-housing projects that will serve homeless individuals and families coming directly from the streets or emergency shelters, and includes persons fleeing domestic violence situations and other persons meeting the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless.

The MCoC anticipates having up to \$1,173,547.50 available for the Permanent Housing Bonus Projects. MaineHousing will allocate up to that same amount to be used to meet HUD's dollar for dollar local Match funding requirement for qualified proposals seeking development capital for new construction or acquisition and rehabilitation of so called "bricks and mortar" Permanent Housing projects. In addition to the match funding, MaineHousing has also agreed to provide project-based Section 8 Housing Choice vouchers, subject to resource availability, for successful projects that meet both MaineHousing and HUD requirements for project-based Section 8 rental assistance. Additional conditions of MaineHousing funding will be detailed in future program guidelines. In addition, all project applicants must be able to provide 25% match (unless it is a bricks and mortar project described above) and 150% in leveraging.

For FY2015, CoCs may submit project applications to create one or more Permanent Housing Bonus projects, which are new permanent supportive housing projects that serve 100% chronically homeless individuals and families, or new rapid re-housing projects. For the Permanent Supportive Housing, a permanent supportive housing bed that is dedicated specifically for use by chronically homeless individuals and families within a CoC's geographic area, as reported in the CoC's Housing Inventory Count (HIC). When a program participant exits the project, the bed must be filled by another chronically homeless participant unless there are no chronically homeless persons located within the CoC's geographic area. This concept only applies to permanent supportive housing projects.

Eligible project applicants for the CoC Program Competition are nonprofit organizations, States, local governments, and instrumentalities of State and local governments, and public housing agencies, as such term is defined in 24 CFR 5.100, without limitation or exclusion. For-profit entities are not eligible to apply for grants or to be subrecipients of grant funds.

MCoC is a collaboration of service providers, advocates, and community members working to end homelessness in Maine. The purpose of the Homeless Assistance Program is to reduce homelessness by assisting individuals and families who are homeless to move to permanent housing. More information about the Continuum process and application is available at <https://www.hudexchange.info/e-snaps/fy-2015-coc-program-nofa-coc-program-competition/>.

The **Deadline for submission to MCoC is October 20, 2015 at 4:00 pm in e-snaps**. Your incomplete application or inability to provide ALL required information will result in your project's application being rejected and not included in the MCoC submission to HUD. Project applicants are expected to become active members of MCoC and take part in the year-round work of meeting the requirements of the HUD Continuum of Care program, including participation in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), as required.

Applicant agencies must be able to demonstrate the capacity and development experience to fulfill HUD and MCoC requirements.

If you wish to apply, would like more information about this Request for Proposals, or about MCoC, please contact: Paula Paladino, MaineHousing Manager in the Homeless Initiatives at ppaladino@mainehousing.org. More information will be issued in the coming days – Stay Tuned!

Please forward to anyone you think might be interested in applying for this opportunity.