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ADVANCING SOLUTIONS TO HOMELESSNESS

17 March, 2026

## Contra Costa County CoC: Funding Committee NOFO Work Group

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# Today's Agenda

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- Welcome & Introductions
- Funding Committee Overview
- NOFO Competition Background
- 2025 NOFO Competition Recap
- Approach to 2026 NOFO Competition
- Closing & Next Steps

# Webinar Housekeeping

Tips to enhance the experience for you and other attendees

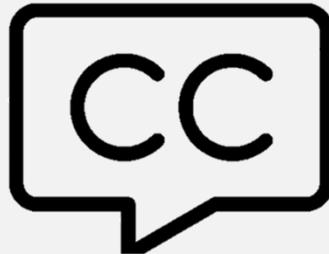
## Mute

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## Captions

Captions are available (Click "Show Captions")



## Questions

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# Staff Introductions



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# Introductions

## CoH Members

**Name, pronouns, Council seat,  
organization**

1. Courtney Pal
2. Dani Jimenez
3. Jared Murti
4. Juno Hedrick
5. Nicole Green
6. Sherina (Rina) Criswell
7. Wayne Earl

## Community Members

**Name, pronouns, organization**

# Funding Committee Overview

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Committee Purpose

Committee Schedule

# Funding Committee Overview

## Committee Purpose

- Directing the community input process for federal and state funding streams as needed
- Primary focus is the Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

## NOFO Work Group

- Work group of the Funding Committee that meets annually to revise scoring tools and policies for the CoC NOFO competition

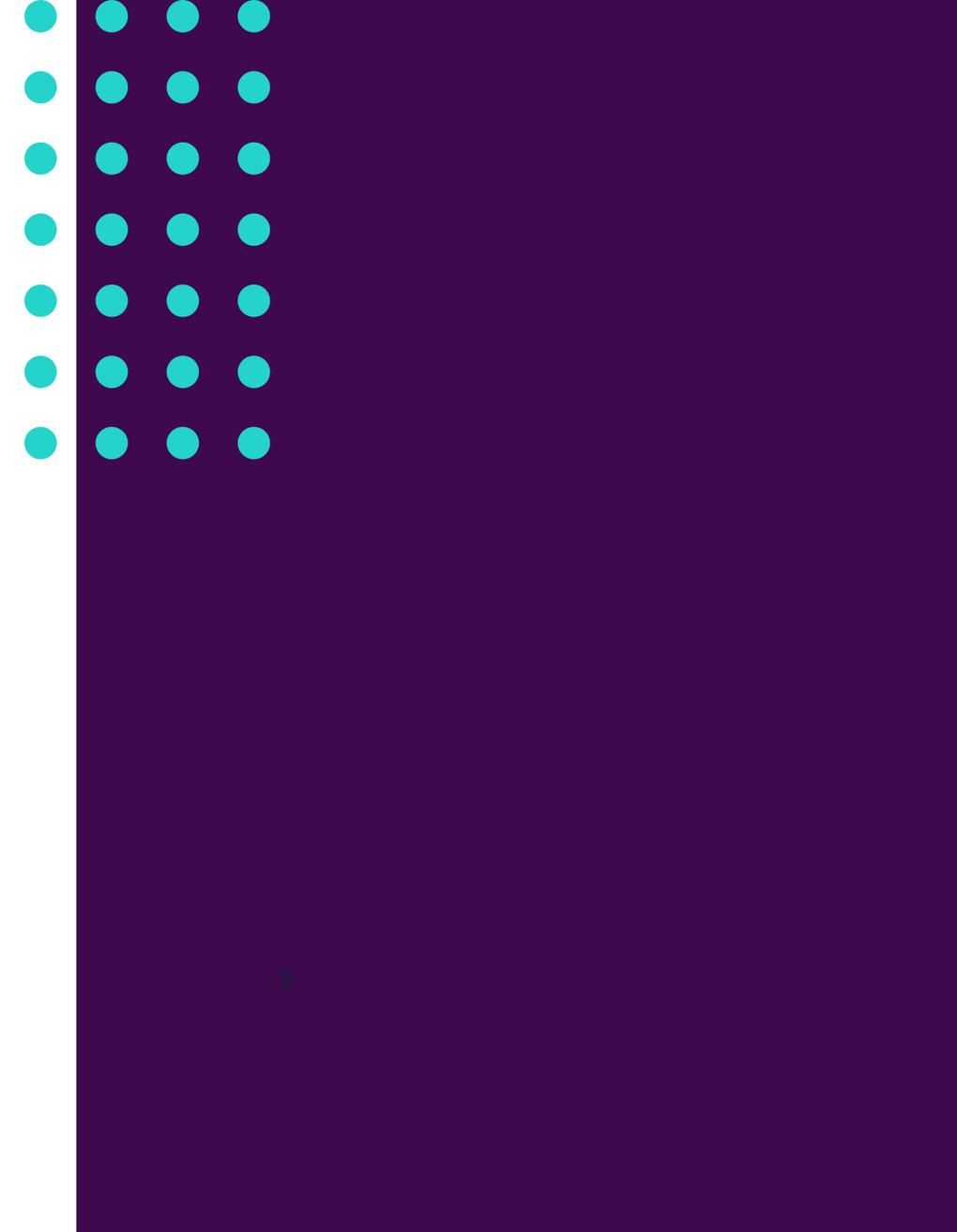
# Funding Committee

## Tentative Schedule

- Tue, 3/17, 2:30-4:30pm - virtual
- Tue, 4/28, 2:30-4:30pm - virtual
- Tue, 5/19, 2:30-4:30pm - possibly in-person, but TBD
- Tue, 6/16, 2:30-4:30pm - possibly in-person, but TBD

Note - Once the 2026 CoC NOFO is released (expected by 6/1) the Funding Committee may need to be quickly convened for 1-3 meetings

# CoC NOFO Background



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CoC Program Basics

CoC Competition Process

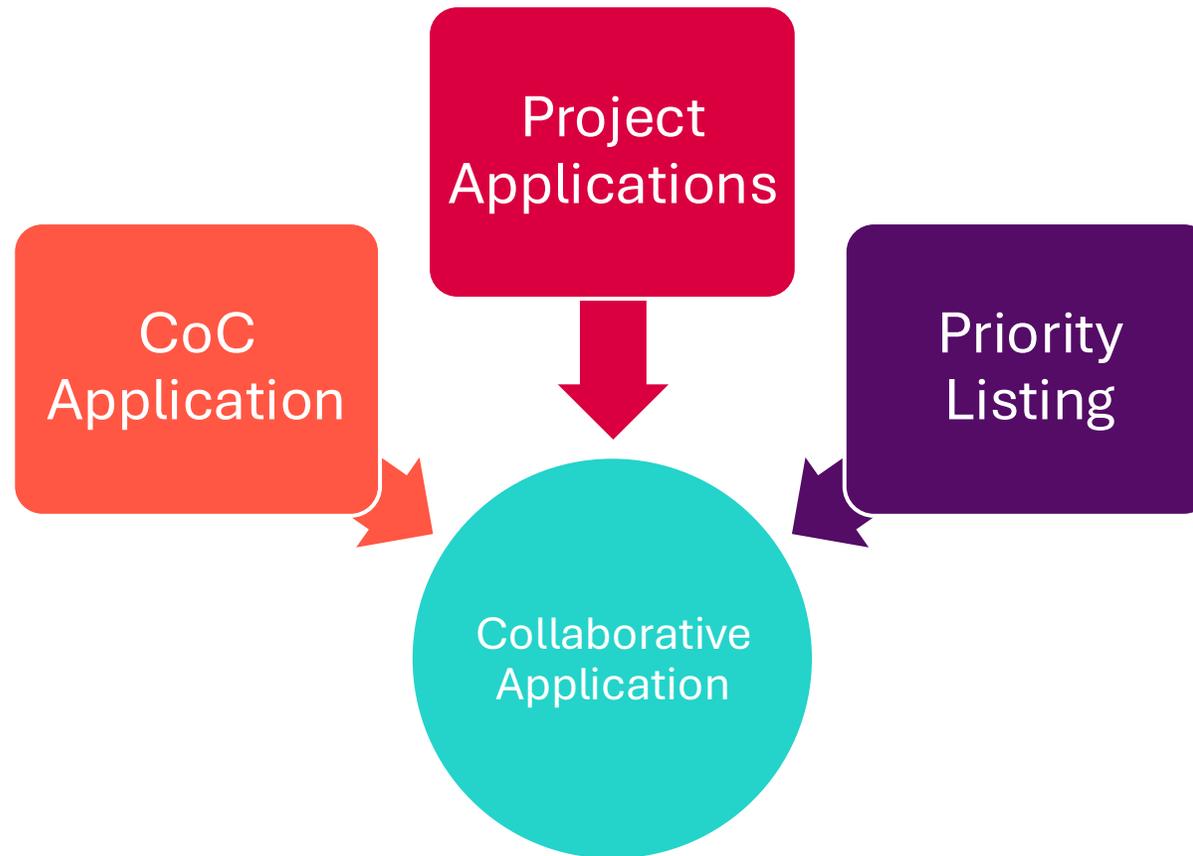
# CoC Program Basics

## Program Basics

- Federal funding dedicated to ending homelessness
- Funding administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
  - 2-year grants (as of 2024) but may be back to 1-year
  - Announced through Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) typically released between July and September
- Funding distributed to local providers who participate in a Continuum of Care (e.g., Contra Costa County CoC)

# CoC Competition Process

## Collaborative Application



# CoC Competition Process

## Two-Part Selection Process

### Part 1: Local Competition

- a. The CoC creates a local process adhering to HUD and CoC NOFO requirements and priorities
- b. Agencies submit applications per locally developed scoring tools
- c. Local applications are “reviewed & ranked” by a scoring panel

### Part 2: National Competition

- a. The CoC submits the Collaborative Application to HUD
- b. HUD decides what to fund
- c. The CoC’s Priority Listing is key!

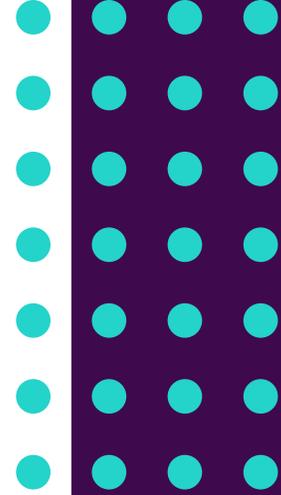
# CoC Competition Process

## The Local Process

1. Funding Committee recommends revisions to competition scoring tools and policies
2. Council on Homelessness reviews and approves recommendations
3. Provider agencies prepare and submit their project applications
4. Review and Rank panel reviews applications and creates “priority listing” of projects
5. Collaborative applications are submitted to HUD

# 2025 NOFO Competition Recap

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# 2025 was NOT a Routine Year

- **July 2024** – HUD announced that CoC NOFO was moving to a 2-year cycle (next NOFO would be 2026)
- **Nov 13, 2025** – HUD unexpectedly released FY 2025 CoC NOFO
- **Dec 8, 2025** – HUD withdrew FY 2025 CoC NOFO (due to ongoing litigation)
- **Dec 12, 2025** – Contra Costa CoC paused the local competition
- **Dec 19, 2025** – HUD released v.2 of FY 2025 CoC NOFO, but was blocked from implementing it due to preliminary injunction
- **Jan 8-9, 2026** – HUD re-issued the two-year [FY 2024 – 2025 CoC NOFO](#) (from July 2024)
- **Feb 6, 2026** – Contra Costa CoC submitted package of renewal and projects per re-released FY 2024 – 2025 CoC NOFO

# Two-Year FY 2024-2025 CoC NOFO

- Timeline:
  - Originally issued July 2024
  - HUD re-issued January 2026
- January re-release focused renewing existing CoC grants non-competitively
- A very limited amount of reallocated funds were made available to new projects
- Per Contra Costa CoC policy developed by Funding Committee:
  - Eligible new projects were limited to Coordinated Entry (CE) and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) projects
  - Eligible applicants were limited to H3 as current operator of CE/HMIS projects
- Contra Costa CoC submitted package of renewal and new projects on 2/6/26

# FY 2025 CoC NOFO

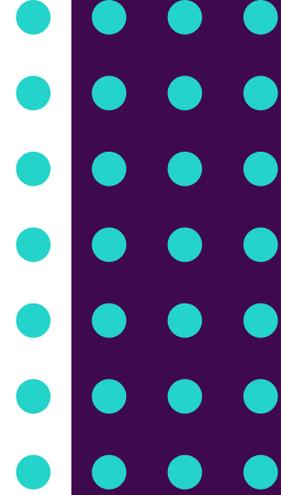
- Timeline:
  - Originally released on 12/13/25
  - Withdrawn on 12/8/25
  - Contra Costa CoC paused local competition indefinitely on 12/12/25
  - Re-released with changes on 12/19/25 (but was blocked from being implemented due to preliminary injunction)
- Included significant program changes: 30% cap on funding for permanent housing, service participation requirements, new eligible project types, etc.
- On 2/27/26 HUD filed an emergency motion with the court requesting that the preliminary injunction (from Dec. 2025) be dissolved so HUD can issue a new FY 2025 CoC NOFO to make awards for grants expiring in Quarters 3 and 4
- HUD's motion was denied on 2/27, HUD filed an appeal on 3/2

# 2025 Process for 30% Permanent Housing (PH) Cap

- Once the NOFO was released, H3 (Collaborative Applicant) held discussions as a group and individually with renewal providers to develop a community strategy for renewals
  - Prioritized preserving permanent supportive housing
  - Brainstormed strategies for projects who could fully reallocate funding
  - Assessed projects that could convert to Transitional Housing
  - Prioritized projects that had economies of scale and could continue operating with a 25% or more reduction in funding
  - Committed to supporting providers in identifying alternative housing resources for all participants in programs facing a loss of funding.
- All CoC projects have high rates of housing retention and generally perform well, making these decisions even more challenging

# Approach to 2026 CoC NOFO

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# What We Know

- Highlights from the FY 2026 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agendas (THUD) Appropriations for Homeless Assistance Grants:
  - The lowest HUD can set Tier 1 at is 60% of Annual Renewal Demand (it was 30% in the FY 2025 CoC NOFO which was unprecedented)
  - HUD is required to publish the FY 2026 NOFO by June 1, 2026 with awards made by December 1, 2026

# What We Expect (1 of 2)

- **Limited funding for permanent housing (PH) projects, including Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)**
  - Prior to 2025, the CoC program had been primarily focused on PH
  - V. 1 of 2025 CoC NOFO capped PH (renewal & new) at 30% of ARD
  - V. 2 of 2025 CoC NOFO capped renewal PH at 30% of ARD, no cap on new PH
- **New eligible project types**
  - Prior to 2025, the primary eligible project types in Contra Costa were PSH, RRH, Coordinated Entry (CE), and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
  - The 2025 CoC NOFO included new eligible project types: Transitional Housing (TH), Supportive Services Only (SSO), and Street Outreach

# What We Expect (2 of 2)

- **New program requirements and emphases**
  - Prior to 2025, the CoC NOFO competition prioritized projects that were low-barrier, accessible, and that advanced racial equity
  - The 2025 CoC NOFO included changes such as requiring service participation and that projects **not** conduct activities that facilitate racial preferences, use a definition of sex other than as binary in human, or operate certain programming under “harm reduction”

# What We Don't Know

- What other requirements or changes HUD will make to the CoC program (besides what was in the 2025 CoC NOFO)
- When HUD will release the 2026 CoC NOFO
- How much time communities will have for the competition

# So, What Do We Do?

- Take heed of the changes introduced with the 2025 CoC NOFO
- Utilize the time leading up to June to prepare
- Plan for different scenarios, particularly the most potentially challenging ones
- Be ready to quickly make additional changes once the 2026 CoC NOFO is released

# Possible Scenarios (1 of 2)

## **Scenario 1: Similar to pre-2025 CoC NOFO competitions**

- Tier 1 would equal at least 90% of your Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)
- At least 10% of renewal project funding would fall into Tier 2 (at higher risk).
- No funding cap on PH.
- Bottom line: least challenging scenario, very unlikely

## **Scenario 2: Similar to pre-2025 CoC NOFO competitions but Tier 1 at 60% of ARD**

- Tier 1 would equal 60% of ARD per minimum required by FY 2026 THUD Bill
- At least 40% of renewals would fall into Tier 2 — a larger share at risk.
- No funding cap on PH.
- Bottom line: moderately challenging scenario, unlikely

# Possible Scenarios (2 of 2)

## **Scenario 3: Similar to the amended FY 2025 NOFO (version 2)**

- Tier 1 would equal 60% of ARD per minimum required by FY 2026 THUD Bill
- At least 40% of renewals would fall into Tier 2 — a larger share at risk.
- Renewal PH (renewal and new) capped at 30% of ARD, no cap on new PH

Bottom line: challenging scenario, very possible

## **Scenario 4: Similar to the withdrawn FY 2025 NOFO (version 1)**

- Tier 1 would equal 60% of ARD per minimum required by FY 2026 THUD Bill
- At least 40% of renewals would fall into Tier 2 — a larger share at risk.
- PH (renewal and new) capped at 30% of ARD.

Bottom line: most challenging scenario, very possible

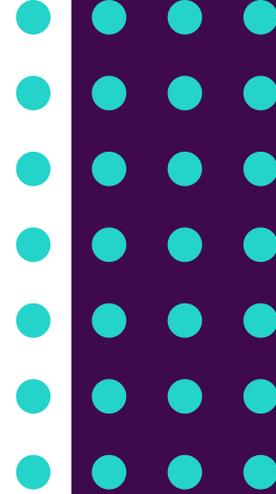
# 2026 Recommended Approach

- Prepare for all 4 scenarios at the same time, but spend more time addressing the most challenging scenarios
- We will use conditional language to allow flexibility for potential scenarios
- Over the next 3 meetings, we will focus on each of these competition components one at a time:
  - **Competition policies** – This can cover how projects are prioritized regardless of their application scores, criteria for appealing decisions, and the application process.
  - **Renewal scoring tool** – This is the rubric for scoring renewal projects.
  - **New scoring tool(s)** – This is the rubric for scoring new projects. There may be multiple tools developed per new project type.

***Note: HUD could release a 2026 CoC NOFO that is completely different than the 4 aforementioned scenarios, and we may have to pivot!***

# Next Steps

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# Funding Committee

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