



Homebase

ADVANCING SOLUTIONS TO HOMELESSNESS

16 September, 2025

Contra Costa County CoC— NOFO Work Group

Today's Agenda

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Logistics

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Revisit Framing
the Conversation

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Brief Review of
Possible Renewal
Project Scoring
Tool Revisions

04

Discuss Possible
Revisions to Policy
Prioritizing High
Performing
Renewal Projects

05

Closing: What's
Next

Zoom Housekeeping

Tips to enhance the experience for you and other attendees

Mute

Please mute your microphone when you are not talking.



Captions

Captions are available (Click "Show Captions")



Questions

Please type your questions in the chat.



Tech Issues

Email contracosta@homebaseccc.org for additional tech support during the webinar.



Introductions



Jamie Schechter, *Homeless Services Chief*

Shelby Ferguson, *Continuum of Care Administrator*

Email: contracostacoc@cchealth.org



Alex Michel, *Senior Policy Analyst*

Mark Mora, *Senior Policy Analyst*

Email: contracosta@homebaseccc.org

Introductions

CoH Members

Name, pronouns, seat,
organization

1. Courtney Pal
2. Dani Jimenez
3. Hope Dixon
4. Nicole Green
5. Sherina (Rina) Criswell
6. Wayne Earl
7. Yahel Moreno

Community Members

Name, pronouns, organization

Revisit Framing the Conversation

What we know right now

Planning ahead

What We Know Right Now

- In 2024, HUD announced that the NOFO was moving to a 2-year cycle (next competition was set for 2026)
- Recently, HUD announced that **a 2025 NOFO is on the horizon**
- We don't know if and when the 2025 NOFO will be released
- There might be a quick turnaround from release to due date
- We expect shifts in CoC funding policies and priorities

Bottom line: this will not be a typical competition year!

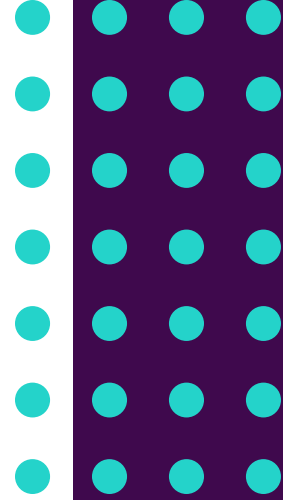
Planning Ahead

- The Work Group will meet every three weeks, potentially through November depending on NOFO release and application deadlines.
- To accommodate an unexpected NOFO, the Work Group will focus on aligning with new HUD priorities and streamlining local scoring tools and policies
 - Revisions will prioritize sustaining and supporting the most community members that we can
- The discussed revisions here may be held until NOFO is released
- Scoring tools and competition policies are revisited every year
- The Funding Committee will convene early in 2026 to plan more strategically for future NOFOs

Brief Review of Possible Renewal Project Scoring Tool Revisions

Revisit Goals for Revisions

Brief Summary of Proposed
Recommendations



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Revisit Goals - Renewal Tool Revisions

We will go factor by factor reviewing the 2024 Renewal Project Scoring Tool with these two goals in mind.

1. Federal Policy Alignment

- Align scoring and application with HUD and NOFO priorities in order to score high and sustain funding in our community

2. Streamlining

- Reduce burden for applicants and simplify the scoring process where possible
- Anticipating a shorter competition timeline than recent years

1) Federal Policy Alignment

- a) Remove threshold questions with language/concepts that conflict with current federal policies:
 - a) Equal Access/Fair Housing
 - b) Housing First
 - c) Public Commitment to Addressing Racial Inequities
- b) Remove Factor 3.D. Racial Equity:
 - a) Strategies to advance racial equity (up to 5 pts)
 - b) Percentage of total staff who are BIPOC (1.5 pts)
 - c) Percentage of management/leadership staff who are BIPOC (1.5 pts)

2) Streamlining

- A. Remove threshold question regarding Program Policies and Procedures (already reviewed during CoC monitoring process)
- B. Pre-populate responses for Factor 1.A. Project Impact (ask applicants if they have updates from previous year's response)
- C. Clarify scoring for 3.A. Data Quality so that projects that full points (8) are given to projects that serve Domestic Violence survivors that are prohibited from entering client-level data into HMIS if they use a comparable database
- D. Clarify points for 5.A. Reallocation Bonus so that specific projects are awarded for reallocating funding, not agencies

Potential Revisions

Factors to keep an eye out when the NOFO is released

- As of now, there is no indication that these are not in alignment with federal priorities but we can revisit once the NOFO is released
 - **Threshold Question #9 Involving People with Lived Experience in Program Development**
 - **Factor 3.C Lived Experience Engagement**

Possible Revisions to Policy Prioritizing High Performing Renewal Projects

Review Existing Policy

2024 Competition Results

Discuss Proposed Revision

Review Existing Policy

- Panel considers: the 3 measures below, any extenuating circumstances, and/or any adverse impact to underserved populations should a project not be funded
 - Measure 1 - Score of 90% or more in Housing Stability (2A)
 - Measure 2 - Score of 80% or more in Utilization Rate (4A)
 - Measure 3 - Score of 20% or less in Unspent Grant Funds (4B)

Policy - 2024 Competition Results

2024 competition results for renewals

- 16 renewal projects, 12 of 16 scored (4 unscored)
- Policy applied to 12 of 12 scored projects
 - 2 projects were in Tier 2, 1 of which was straddle
 - 3 projects did not meet all 3 measures but had extenuating circumstances

Takeaway: renewal projects are high-performing and/or have extenuating circumstances

Prioritizing Renewal Projects

Recommendation:

Given the uncertainty and unexpected nature of 2025 competition and the fact that renewal projects are largely high performing, **revise policy so that new projects cannot be ranked above a renewal project**

What's Next

Tentative Timeline

9/30 Meeting Preview

General NOFO Updates (as needed)

Tentative Timeline

Meeting #	Meeting	Topics
Meeting #1	August 19, 2025 12pm – 2pm	Overview of CoC NOFO competition Discuss revisions to Renewal Scoring Tool
Meeting #2	September 16, 12:30 – 2:30pm	Overview of possible revisions to Renewal Scoring Tool Possible Revisions to Policy Prioritizing High Performing Renewal Projects
Meeting #3	September 30, 2025 12pm – 2pm	Discuss revisions to New Scoring Tool (as needed) Finalize recommended revisions (if time permits) NOTE: this meeting may be moved to IN-PERSON
Meeting #4	October 21, 12:30 – 2:30pm	TBD, If needed NOTE: this meeting may be moved to IN-PERSON
Meeting #5	TBD	If needed

9/30 Meeting Preview

Focus on New Project Scoring Tool

- Context - in previous years:
 - Funding has been available for renewal projects AND new projects
 - New Project Funding for projects serving:
 - People Experiencing Homelessness under HUD definition (CoC Bonus)
 - People Fleeing Domestic Violence (DV) under HUD definition (DV Bonus)

NOTE: until the NOFO is released, we don't know whether there will be funding available for NEW projects