

2023 New CoC Applicant Webinar

February 22, 2023

10 AM

Welcome

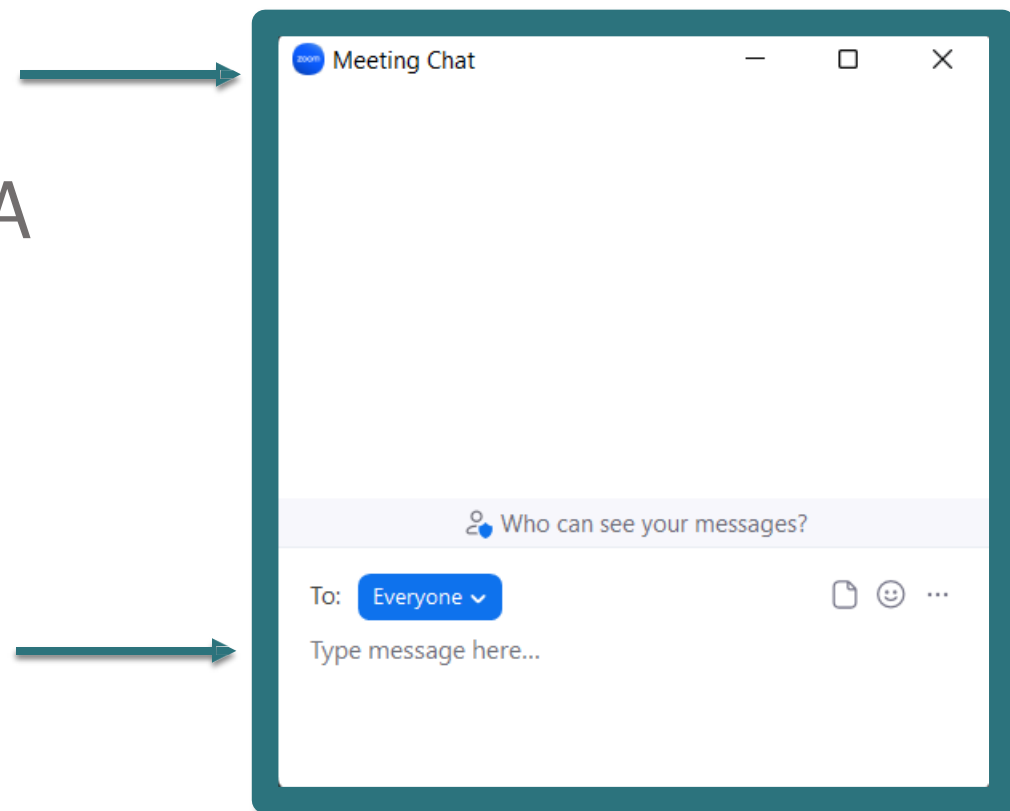
Reminders

Your line is muted.

We will unmute the line during Q&A pauses.

The chat box is available to use anytime.

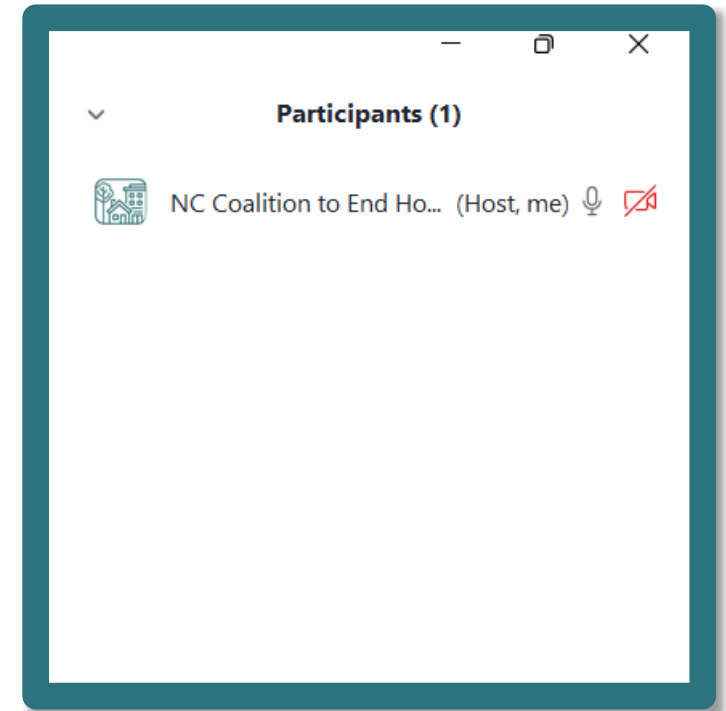
We will be recording today's webinar.



Attendance

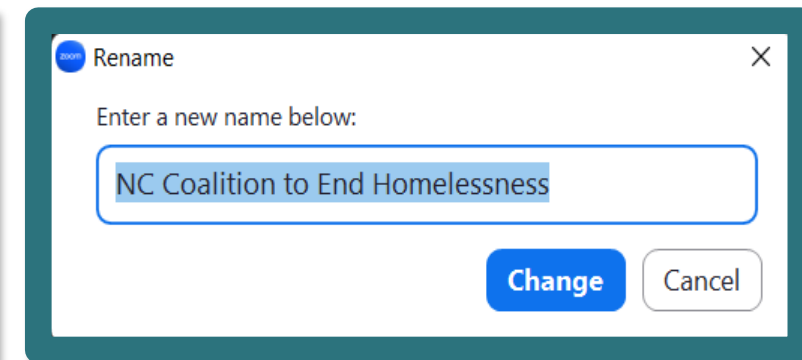
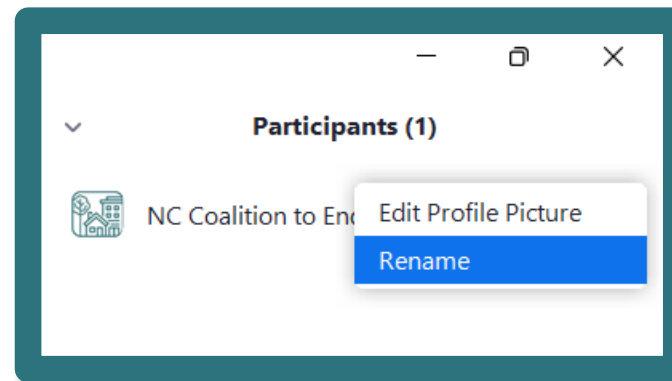
- We will not conduct Roll Call today.
- Participants should enter their full names, so we know who we're talking to today!

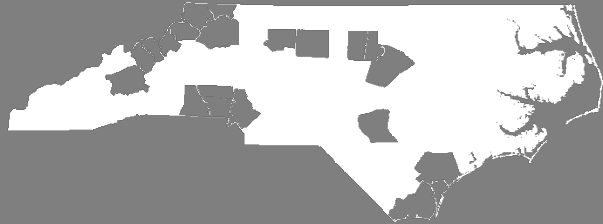
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How to change your screen name:

2



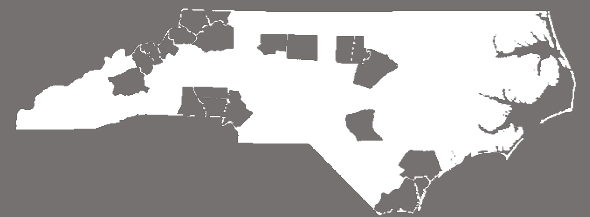


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Agenda



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- CoC Program eligible activities
- Overview of NC BoS CoC application process
- Thresholds for applying
- Standards applicants should meet
- Next steps





CoC Program Eligible Activities

HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and CoC define the activities for which agencies can apply.

The NOFO and NC BoS CoC narrow eligibility



Supportive Services Only (SSO) – CE (renewal and DV Bonus only)



Rapid Rehousing



Permanent Supportive Housing



Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing (DV Bonus only)



The NC BoS CoC sets funding priorities for new CoC projects.

2022 CoC Funding Priorities

- Ensure essential infrastructure elements are in place, including HMIS and coordinated entry
- Ensure adequate coverage of permanent supportive housing across the CoC
- Increase the availability of rapid rehousing
- Ensure CoC funding is being used well, including potentially re-allocating some funding from projects that have patterns of low spending or poor performance

Funding priorities document: <https://bit.ly/3zGF7Rf>



NC BoS CoC Application Overview

Step 1: Intent to Apply will be posted today.

- Agencies interested in applying for CoC Program funds are required to fill out an Intent to Apply form
 - Form will be posted at: <http://www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication/>
 - Intent to Apply open until 2 weeks after NOFO release
 - Staff will schedule a follow up call

Step 2: Read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) once released

- The CoC Program NOFO officially opens the competition and defines the rules. The NOFO sets:
 - Timelines
 - Priorities/Scoring
 - Final Funding Allocation/Tiering
 - Potential projects
 - CoC and project applicant requirements



Step 3: New applicants must meet two deadlines for submitting materials.

- New applicants have two deadlines for which they must submit materials.
 - First deadline: Threshold materials and forms
 - Second deadline: Application and supporting forms
 - Deadlines are a threshold for new applicants!
- Instructions will be released soon after the NOFO is published by HUD. CoC competition materials will be posted at:
<http://www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication/>

Step 4: The Project Review Committee will review and score application materials.

- New project scorecard:
 - General application
 - Program design
 - Scope of services
 - Organizational capacity
 - Project performance
 - Agency's relationship to the community
 - Application deadlines and documentation
- Review the 2022 new project scorecard at: <https://bit.ly/3pajiVp>



Reality check . . .

How long will it take to write the application?

What are the chances of being funded?



Thresholds

Applications must meet thresholds to be included in the final submission.



The NC BoS CoC considers some items so important that they will determine whether an application continues in the competition or not. These are called thresholds.





Housing First

Resources

- National Alliance to End Homelessness Housing First Fact Sheet: <http://bit.ly/3xkIBby>
- USICH Housing First Checklist: <http://bit.ly/2o167a5>





PSH projects must be dedicated for individuals and families experiencing chronic homelessness.





Applicants must already be operating an ESG RRH program in good standing or operating a RRH program with another funding source that adheres to the RRH program standards.





Nonprofit in operation for 3 years



Commit to entering data into HMIS



Fully participate in coordinated entry



Present project to Regional Committee(s)



On-time application and documents

* Not an exhaustive list of thresholds – see the 2022 new project scorecard posted at: <https://bit.ly/3pajiVp>





Standards

Applicants should meet standards set by the NC BoS CoC.



The NC BoS CoC believes some items should be met by all CoC projects. When projects do not meet these items in the application, it triggers further review to gather information. These items are called Standards.





Key Elements of PSH

All new PSH projects must meet 9 Key Elements of PSH

1. Leases or rental agreements do not have any provisions that would not be found in leases held by someone who does not have a disability.
2. Participation in services is *voluntary* and tenants cannot be evicted for rejecting services.
3. House rules, if any, are similar to those found in housing for people who do not have disabilities and do not restrict visitors or otherwise interfere with a life in the community.





Key Elements of PSH

4. Housing is not time limited, and the lease is renewable at tenants' and owners' options.
5. Tenants have choices in the support services that they receive. They are asked about their choices and can choose from a range of services, and different tenants receive different types of services based on their needs and preferences.
6. As needs change over time, tenants can receive more intensive or less intensive support services without losing their homes.





Key Elements of PSH

7. Before moving into permanent housing, tenants are asked about their housing preferences and are offered the same range of choices as are available to others at their income level in the same housing market.
8. Support services promoting recovery are designed to help tenants choose, get, and keep housing. In all forms of PSH, the staff helps tenants establish a household, meet the obligation of tenancy (such as paying rent on time), and get along with neighbors.
9. The provision of housing and the provision of support services are distinct.

SAMHSA's Key Elements of PSH: <http://bit.ly/2AL0m6N>





Rapid Rehousing Benchmarks and Program Standards

All new RRH projects must meet 15 RRH Benchmarks and Program Standards

1. *Core Program Standard: Housing Identification*

- a. Program designates staff whose responsibility is to identify and recruit landlords and encourage them to rent to homeless households served by the program. Staff have the knowledge, skills, and agency resources to: understand landlords' perspectives, understand landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities, and negotiate landlord supports. A program may have dedicated staff for whom this is the primary responsibility. If a program does not have a dedicated staff person who performs this function, case manager job descriptions must include responsibilities including landlord recruitment and negotiation and at least some of the program's case managers must be trained in this specialized skill set to perform the recruitment function effectively.





Rapid Rehousing Benchmarks and Program Standards

1. *Core Program Standard: Housing Identification*
 - b. Program has written policies and procedures for landlord recruitment activities, including screening out potential landlord partners who have a history of poor compliance with their legal responsibilities and fair housing practices.
 - c. Program offers a standard, basic level of support to all landlords who lease to program participants. This support is detailed in a written policy distributed to landlords. Programs can negotiate additional supports, as needed, on a case-by-case basis.
 - d. Program has a written policy requiring staff to explain to participants basic landlord-tenant rights and responsibilities and the requirements of their specific lease.





Rapid Rehousing Benchmarks and Program Standards

2. *Core Program Standard: Rent and Move-In Assistance*

- a. Program staff are trained on regulatory requirements of all RRH funding streams and on the ethical use and application of a program's financial assistance policies, including, but not limited to, initial and ongoing eligibility criteria, program requirements, and assistance maximums. Program has a routine way to onboard new staff and to keep staff regularly updated on changing regulations and/or program policies.
- b. Program has clearly defined policies and procedures for determining the amount of financial assistance provided to a participant, as well as defined and objective standards for when case management and financial assistance should continue and end. Guidelines are flexible enough to respond to the varied and changing needs of program participants with zero income.





Rapid Rehousing Benchmarks and Program Standards

2. *Core Program Standard: Rent and Move-In Assistance*

- c. A progressive approach is used to determine the duration and amount of rental assistance. Financial assistance is not a standard “package” and is flexible enough to adjust to households’ unique needs and resources, especially as participants’ financial circumstances or housing costs change. Policies detailing this progressive approach include clear and fair decision guidelines and processes for reassessment for the continuation and amount of financial assistance. Policies and procedures also detail when and how RRH assistance is used as a bridge to a permanent subsidy or PSH placement.





Rapid Rehousing Benchmarks and Program Standards

3. *Core Program Standard: RRH Case Management and Services*
 - a. Except where dictated by the funder, program participants direct when, where, and how often case management meetings occur. Meetings occur in a participant's home and/or location of the participant's choosing whenever possible.
 - b. When case management and service compliance is not mandated by federal or state regulation, services offered by a program have voluntary participation.
 - c. Program has clearly defined relationships with employment and income programs that it can connect program participants to when appropriate.
 - d. Program has clearly defined policies and objective standards for when case management should continue and end. These guidelines are flexible enough to respond to the varied and changing needs of program participants. In instances where cases are continued outside of these defined policies and objective standards, there is a review and approval process.





Rapid Rehousing Benchmarks and Program Standards

4. *Core Program Standard: Program Philosophy and Design*
 - a. Program staff are trained on the principles of Housing First and oriented to the basic program philosophy of RRH. Program has a routine of onboarding new staff that includes training on Housing First and RRH principles.
 - b. Program has well-defined and written screening processes that use consistent and transparent decision criteria designed to “predict” long-term stability other than willingness to engage the program and work on a self-directed housing plan.
 - c. Eligibility criteria for the program do not include a period of sobriety, a commitment to participation in treatment, or any other criteria designed to “predict” long-term housing stability other than willingness to engage the program and work on a self-directed housing plan.
 - d. Leases for program participants are legally binding, written leases. Leases with additional requirements, such as drug testing or program participation, are not allowed.





Rapid Rehousing Benchmarks and Program Standards

RRH Benchmarks and Program Standards: <http://bit.ly/2EGDWYv>



Other Important Standards



Mission and prior experience



Community Need Statement



Subpopulations



Staff capacity



Coordinated entry knowledge and participation

Other Important Standards



Targeting housing for people with the longest histories of homelessness



75% attendance at Regional Committee meetings



25% Match

* Not an exhaustive list of standards – see the 2022 new scorecard posted at: <https://bit.ly/399ZYQ4>



Next Steps

Next Steps

- Familiarize yourself with CoC competition materials
 - <http://www.ncceh.org/bos/currentcocapplication/>
- Design a best practice program – get started early!
- Submit an Intent to Apply
- Set up esnaps user account
- SAM registration/Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number
- Talk to staff and ask questions

So when will the competition begin?

Wrap Up

Any questions?

Keep in touch

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919.755.4393

