



North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

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Scorecard Committee Meeting #1

March 14, 2023

Attendees: Lori Watts (R01), Trisha Ecklund (R02), Sindy Connell (R03), Teena Willis (R04), Erin Gaskin (R05), Andrea Wiley (R06), Crystal Gwendo (R10)

Staff Present: Jenny Simmons, Brian Alexander

Minutes:

Introductions

Scorecard Committee members and NCCEH staff shared their names, agency, and region served.

Scorecard Committee Role

The Scorecard Committee, plays an essential role in the CoC Program competition. The committee is composed of representatives from Regional Committees, at-large members, and is staffed by NCCEH. The committee meets annually to create new and renewal project application scorecards for the CoC Program Competition.

Members should review FY2022 scorecards. According to the NC Balance of State CoC (NC BoS CoC) Governance Charter, it utilizes subcommittees for feedback on scorecards. The Funding & Performance Subcommittee, RE Subcommittee, and LEAC provide recommendations to the Scorecard Committee focused on incorporating HUD & CoC priorities. The Scorecard Committee makes final recommended scorecards to the Steering Committee, the CoC Governance Board for the CoC, for approval.

CoC Program Competition Overview

The CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) officially opens the competition and defines the rules. The NOFO sets timelines including when applications are officially due, priorities/scoring of the CoC-wide application and thresholds for project applications, final funding allocation based on Annual Renewal Demand and any Bonus funding/tiering, potential projects narrowed from the CoC Program Interim Rule, CoC and project applicant requirements.

The Steering Committee, with recommendations from the Funding & Performance Subcommittee, sets funding priorities for the CoC Program competition annually. These funding priorities have traditionally had four overall priorities for all projects:

- Ensuring essential infrastructure elements are in place, including HMIS and Coordinated Entry
- Ensuring adequate coverage of PSH across the CoC (CoC program funding is the only federal source of funding for PSH)
- Increasing the availability of RRH
- Ensuring CoC Program funding is being used well, including potentially reallocating some funding from projects that have patterns of low spending or poor performance.

Program priorities for each region are based on last year's PIT count & unit availability. The NOFO defines how CoCs must rank & tier projects based on performance and HUD & CoC Priorities. Scorecards help us evaluate projects to complete the ranking process.

The Project Review Committee (PRC) & NCCEH staff review each programmatic project using the approved scorecards. Using data from the scorecards and guidance from the CoC Program Funding Priorities document, the PRC ranks projects in order of performance and priority. HUD requires CoCs to split our eligible funds into two tiers. Tier 1 consists of projects that are relatively safe based on the Federal budget. Tier 2 consists of projects that are at risk. Tier 2 projects are awarded based on the overall CoC Application score compared to other CoCs. The NOFO tells us what percent of our ARD is allowable in Tier 1 (90% - 100% ARD in Tier I in past competitions). This is based on the federal budget. We currently have a continuing resolution and no official federal budget yet.

New Projects are funded through reallocation of existing grants and/or available bonus funding. Renewal Projects and projects funded previously with an operating end date in the next fiscal year. The current Renewal Project inventory is 20 PSH projects, 8 RRH projects, 3 projects not scored (HMIS, SSO-CE, SSO-CE-DV), and 1 not scored or ranked (NC BoS CoC Planning) totaling around \$11.8 million. As of today, the FY2022 CoC Program awards have not yet been announced, so these are projected renewals for the FY2023 competition.

FY2023 CoC Grant Competition Timeline



NC BoS CoC registers the CoC for the competition and sets our geographic boundaries. This registration has been submitted. HUD will do its review of the registration. The Grant Inventory Worksheet records all projects eligible for renewal for the upcoming competition. We anticipate this in April/May. Later in the summer of 2023, HUD releases the NOFO.

NC BoS CoC Scorecard Introduction

The CoC has maintained four goals for CoC Program scorecards:

- 1) Fund organizations that have the capacity to run effective programs;
- 2) Fund projects that reflect the NC BoS CoC's and HUD's priorities;
- 3) Incentivize agencies to be good partners;
- 4) Ensure that funded projects are being good stewards of NC BoS CoC funding and performing to CoC standards.

The CoC creates New and Renewal Scorecards for the competition. New project scorecards focus more on agency capacity and experience in doing the work they purport to do in the application. Renewal project scorecards focus more on grant performance in terms of spending and performance measures. Both New and Renewal Project Scorecards have the same basic standards of program design using Housing First, PSH Key Elements, RRH Performance Benchmarks and Program Standards.

The CoC organizes the scorecards into two parts: Combined Scoring and Staff Scoring. Combined Scoring is performed by NCCEH staff and 1 member of the Project Review Committee. These two scores are averaged. Staff scoring is performed by NCCEH staff only. These items focus on technical questions & performance. All sections are combined to come up with a final score for each application.

Scorecards have traditionally used four measures to evaluate project applications:

- Thresholds
- Standards
- Section minimums
- Points.

Thresholds: Items all applications must meet in order to continue in the competition. For example, new projects must meet the threshold of application deadlines. Also, Housing First for new projects is a threshold.

Standards: Items that all projects/applications should meet. When projects do not meet Standards, further review is "triggered." Instead of points, the PRC scores Standards as either being met, unmet, unmet-documentation not provided, or not applicable. The PRC has traditionally used key standards as part of the ranking process; namely, SAMHSA's PSH Key

Elements, NAEH RRH Performance Benchmarks and Program Standards, Housing First for renewal projects, and Anti-Discrimination Policy adherence for all projects.

Section Minimums: Each section of the Scorecards has a minimum listed. If this is not met, further review is “triggered.” The goal is to ensure all projects meet a basic level of performance in each section of the scorecards.

Points: The CoC uses Scorecard questions scored using points to measure application quality, project performance, incentivize practices and CoC priorities, namely, targeting vulnerable populations, incorporating DEI practices, securing leverage, practice Moving-On, and maintain high data quality. The PRC uses total points after using Thresholds, Standards, & Section Minimums to rank projects to order the final ranking list.

CoC subcommittees provide guidance on scorecards in their areas of expertise. Three CoC subcommittees will provide recommendations to the Scorecard Committee for inclusions and updates: Racial Equity Subcommittee especially focusing on the Equity sections, Lived Expertise Advisory Council, and the Funding & Performance Subcommittee.

Next Steps

Staff will email Scorecard Committee members marked up FY2022 new and renewal scorecards along with the slides from today’s presentation and the recording for review. Members should take some time before the next meeting to review suggested changes. Please write down any questions/feedback for the next meeting.

Meeting #2 – Tuesday, March 21 from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM – We will review draft new and renewal scorecards and provide feedback.

Meeting #3 – Tuesday, March 28 from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM (if needed) – We will finalize suggested changes and vote to recommend scorecards to the NC BoS CoC Steering Committee.

April 4, 2023 Steering Committee Meeting – scorecards will be presented to the NC BoS CoC Steering Committee for final approval.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 21st at 10:30 AM.