NC Balance of State CoC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2024

Regional Leads Present: Lori Watts, Emily Lowery, Amber Brafford, Pamela Hinton, Erin Gaskin, Jai Baker, Kerry Bashaw, Emily Locklear, Shawanda Barnes, Crystal Gwendo, Kisha Darden, Lynne James, Brian Fike

At-Large Members Present: Karen Carroll, Melissa Hewitt, Angela Harper King, Jackie Lucas, Lisa Phillips, Erin Joy Crossfield, Brooks Ann McKinney, Cassandra Rowe, Joseph Chilton

SC Members Absent:

Interested Parties Present: Laurie Stewart, Bonnie Harper, Sade Craine, Chris Parker, Melissa McKeown, Kim Crawford, Alyce Knaflich, Kristin Dunn, Charlene Elliott, Monica Frizzell, Tammy Gray, Daisy Butzer, Lakitra Claude, Danny Jordan, Teena Willis, Michael Absher, Kim Hemphill, Evelyn Campbell, Bre Griffin, Kristine Wiles, Kecia Robinson, Tonya Gray, Leonard Tillery, Amy Modlin, Cory Bragg, Laurenn Singleton, Cortney Kosiak, Elspeth Oliver, Emily Edmunds, Tara Peele, Robert Hudson, Michele Welsh

NCCEH Staff Present: Brian Alexander, Laurel Benfield, Allie Card, Andrea Carey, Adriana Diaz, Mira Sanderson, Jenny Simmons, Debra Susie, Ashley VonHatten

FY2024 CoC Program Competition Update

	Due Date
Posted FY2024 CoC Application	October 16th
Submitted FY2024 CoC Application	October 18th
Final Project Applications due to HUD	October 30th by 8 PM

Thank you to all of the project applicants, Scorecard & Project Review Committee members, Steering Committee volunteers, & CoC staff for getting the application submitted well in advance of HUD's published deadline.

CY2025 ESG Program

The NC ESG Office has concluded the CY2025 ESG Program Competition.

- Awards have been announced.

- The NC ESG Office is working on contracts.
- The NC ESG Office is working with NCCEH to contract all of the funding available to the NC BoS CoC in this competition: $2,479,531

CY2025 ESG Program Awardees:

NC BoS CoC Region	Calendar Year 2025 ESG Program Grantees
BoS - R01	Blue Ridge Community Health Services
BoS - R01	HERE in Jackson County
BoS - R01	REACH of Macon County
BoS - R02	Blue Ridge Community Health Services
BoS - R02	The Haven of Transylvania County
BoS - R03	Mission Ministries Alliance
BoS - R03	Dulatown Outreach Center
BoS - R04	Diakonos, Inc.
BoS - R04	ECHO Ministry, Inc. dba The Ark
BoS - R04	The Greater Mt. Airy Min. of Hospitality dba The Shepherd's House
BoS - R05	Davidson County First Hope Ministries
BoS - R05	Davidson Medical Ministries
BOS - R05	Family Services of Davidson County, Inc
BOS - R05	Family Crisis Council of Rowan, Inc.
BOS - R05	Homes of Hope
BOS - R05	Rowan Helping Ministries
BoS - R05	Union County Community Shelter

NC BoS CoC Region	Calendar Year 2025 ESG Program Grantees
BoS - R06	Central Pines Regional Council
BoS - R06	Allied Churches of Alamance County
BoS - R07	Friend to Friend
BoS - R07	Haven in Lee County
BoS - R07	Johnston Lee Harnett Community Action, Inc
BoS - R07	Sexual Assault Family Emergency of Harnett County, Inc (SAFE of Harnett)
BoS - R08	Robeson County Committee on DV dba Southeastern Family Violence Center
BoS - R09	Hand Up Ministries
BoS - R09	Centre for Homeownership & Economic Development Corporation
BoS - R10	Greene Lamp Community Action
BoS - R10	Wilson County Interfaith Services dba Hope Station
BoS - R11	River City Community Development Corporation
BoS - R12	Center for Family Violence Prevention
BoS - R12	County of Pitt
BoS – R12	Open Door Community Center
BoS - R13	Carteret County DV Program
BoS - R13	Onslow Community Outreach

There is a mandatory webinar for all CY2025 ESG Program Awardees on Thursday, November 14th from 2 – 3:30 PM. Registration is required: https://www.ncceh.org/events/1710/.

The NC ESG Office has asked the NC BoS CoC to run another ESG Program competitive process in Region 6 as the RRH provider was not awarded a contract.

- Region 6: $117,233 available for Housing Stability projects:
    - Rapid Rehousing (RRH),
    - Homelessness Prevention (HP) – only allowed if a RRH project application is also submitted to serve the entire region, and
    - Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) or comparable database for Victim Service Providers

CY2025 ESG Program Competitive Process in Region 6:

Activity	Date
Issue request for applications	Tuesday, November 5th
Applications due to NC BoS CoC at NCCEH	Tuesday, November 19th by 12 PM (12 Noon)
Steering Committee – Consider PRC recommendation	Tuesday, December 3rd
Appeals due	Thursday, December 5th by 12 PM (12 Noon)
Steering Committee to consider appeals, if needed	Tuesday, December 17th at 10:30 AM
Applications due to NC ESG Office	Friday, December 20th by 12 PM (12 Noon)

CoC Builds Application Recommendation

HUD released a new funding opportunity for construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation in a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) called CoC Builds on July 19th.

HUD will select project applications to fund:

- New PSH specifically for people experiencing homelessness which must include capital costs budgeted for new construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation; &
- Up to 20% of an award for CoC Program eligible activities & costs associated with the new PSH project & no more than 10% for admin costs

The NC Balance of State CoC may submit (1) project up to $7.5 million.

CoC staff developed a scorecard based on CoC Builds NOFO thresholds & requirements to review submitted applications.

- New scorecard with Staff Scoring & Combined Scoring sections, including a combination of thresholds, standards, & points
- Staff & all PRC members used the Combined Scoring section to evaluate submitted applications.
- Staff used the Staff Scoring section to evaluate the required elements in the NOFO.
- Combined Scoring section scores averaged (points) & added to Staff Section scoring for a total score.

The CoC received one project application from the City of Greenville by the deadline with a budget of $1.3 million.

Staff & PRC evaluations highlighted multiple deficiencies & recommend the application with conditions:

Condition	Requirement
Targeted Units	All (16) targeted units should be dedicated only to people experiencing homelessness with disabling conditions.
Services	The applicant needs to describe services that align with PSH. The subrecipient needs to have a formal partnership with an MOU with a PSH provider that will provide intensive services to households in targeted units.
Income Requirements	Remove income requirements for households entering targeted units.
Financial Assistance	Find non-CoC Program funding to pay for ongoing rent & utility payments for households moving into targeted units.
Criminal background, credit, & landlord reference checks	Remove criminal background, credit, & landlord reference checks from the Resident Selection Plan for households moving into targeted units unless required by a funding source.

Condition	Requirement
Budget Detail/Eligibility	Provide the detailed budget using form HUD-424-CBW. The $1.3 million request needs to be for construction of new PSH units.
Coordinated entry	The project must fill targeted units prioritized through Region 12's by-name list. The CE section should be updated to reflect the CoC's CE process & remove all language about accepting referrals from outside agencies.
RE/AFFH	Include narratives that explicitly address the information required in the CoC Builds NOFO on Advancing Racial Equity, Promoting Racial Equity, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing, & Affirmative Marketing & Outreach.
Statement of Need	Update the statement of need to include more detailed data from multiple sources to demonstrate the need for (16) targeted PSH units

Condition	Requirement
Operating reserves/ongoing maintenance	Update the narratives on operating reserve & ongoing maintenance to address all questions asked in Rating Factor D: Property Maintenance including information on the regular process to determine needs, the frequency & types of inspections to take place, the source of funds for ongoing maintenance and for replacement costs.
VAWA compliance	Update the Resident Selection Plan to show compliance with the VAWA Reauthorization Act from 2022 & remove documentation requirements for households reporting violence to align with the CoC's VAWA Emergency Transfer Plan.
Application package	Update the full application to follow the outline of narratives & rating factors required in the CoC Builds NOFO. Answer all of the questions in the narrative & rating factor section. Only include required attachments.

Lynne James asked if there had been any conversation with the applicant. Brian responded that the NC BoS CoC cannot discuss the application with the applicant during the competition. After the Steering Committee makes its recommendation, staff will notify the applicant and outline the conditions to them. In its current iteration, the application would be thrown out due to threshold so unless the issues are fixed it is not a viable application.

Erin Joy Crossfield asked if it was a realistic possibility the NC BoS CoC would not be able to submit any application to HUD, and $7.5m will be left on the table. She also asked what the likelihood was that the CoC would win the $7.5m if it submitted an immaculate application?

Brian responded that it is realistic the NC BoS CoC would not submit an application as only one application was received and that doesn't currently meet threshold. Only if the applicant updates application can it even be considered. Brian noted CoC Builds is a very competitive process with only 25 awards being given nationally.

Karen Carroll asked if the City of Greensboro was offered any training to apply for funding, and if so did they attend those opportunities.

Brian answered that the NC BoS CoC did hold a webinar after the NOFO dropped, posted instructions on the NCCEH website, and did answer questions from the applicant during the submission process.

Kerry Bashaw asked since five organizations submitted letters of intent, if the NC BoS CoC could contact them to get more applications submitted. Brian responded that would not be possible due to competition timeline.

Karen motioned to approve the City of Greenville CoC Builds application for submission contingent on updating the project application with the recommended conditions. Jackie Lucas seconded the motion. Kerry Bashaw voted nay. The motion was passed.

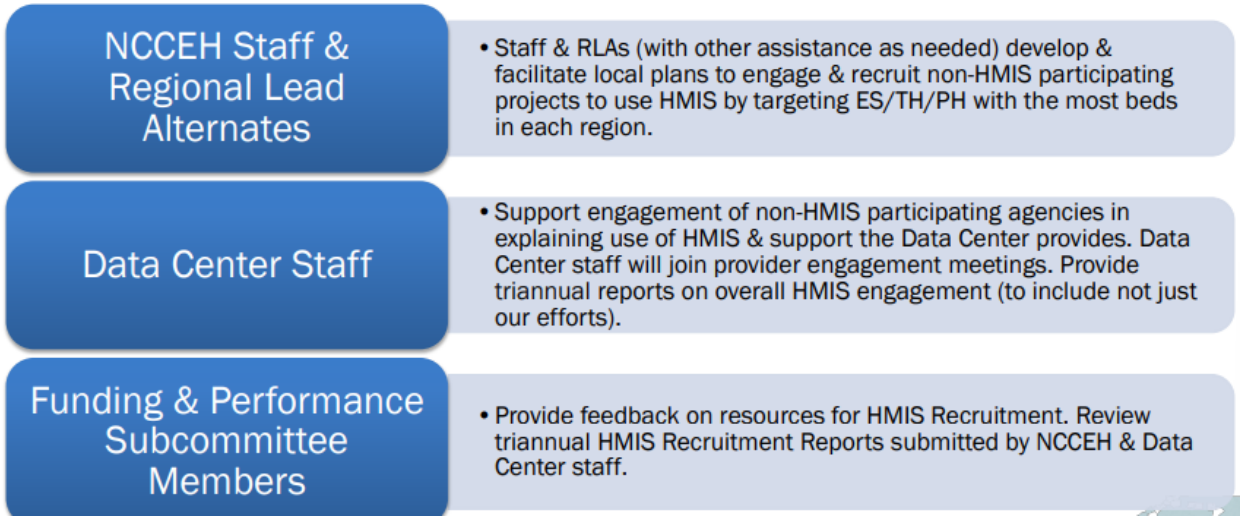
Funding & Performance Subcommittee HMIS Bed Coverage 2025

HUD's Benchmark for CoC's HMIS Bed Coverage is 85%. HMIS Bed Coverage (year-round) as reported in our CoC Application:

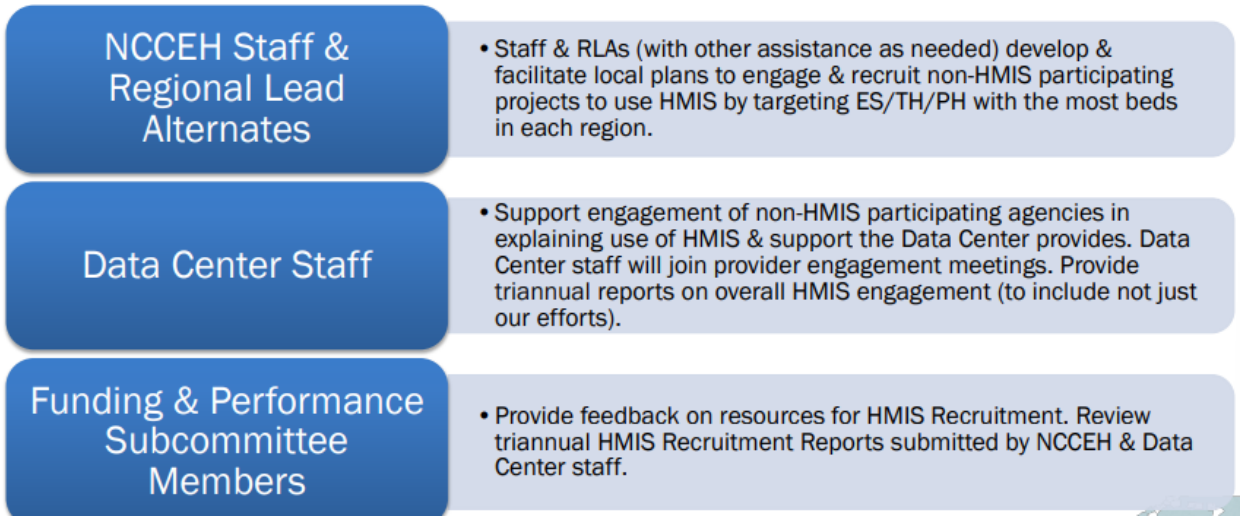
Project Type	Adjusted Total Year-Round, Current Non-VSP Beds [Column F of HDX Report]	Adjusted Total Year-Round, Current VSP Beds [Column K of HDX Report]	Total Year-Round, Current, HMIS Beds and VSP Beds in an HMIS Comparable Database [Column M of HDX Report]	HMIS and Comparable Database Coverage Rate [Column O of HDX Report]
1. Emergency Shelter (ES) beds	1,898	612	1,888	75.22%
2. Safe Haven (SH) beds	0	0	0	0.00%
3. Transitional Housing (TH) beds	402	25	215	50.35%
4. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) beds	490	102	592	100.00%
5. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds	1,712	0	1,284	75.00%
6. Other Permanent Housing (OPH) beds	100	0	0	0.00%

- The NC BoS CoC will increase HMIS bed coverage to 85% by December 31, 2025.
- The NC BoS CoC will recruit at least (5) of the largest ES/TH/PH projects to join HMIS by December 31, 2025.

Revised Roles & Responsibilities for New Strategy to Achieve 85% bed coverage in HMIS:



Timeline:



2025 PIT/HIC Planning

Point-in-Time & Housing Inventory Counts:

- One night counts each year on the last Wednesday of January:
  - January 29, 2025
- Important community data for funding, stakeholders, & governance
  - Deep data: covers HMIS & non-HMIS projects
  - Consistent data: completed every year
  - Consequential data: used by HUD, ESG Office, & others to determine funding for regions

Who & What Is Counted?

- Unsheltered people
- Sheltered people in emergency shelter (ES) or transitional housing (TH) beds
- Permanently housed people in rapid rehousing (RRH), permanent supportive housing (PSH), or dedicated other permanent housing (OPH) beds/vouchers
    - Only moved-in

NCCEH staff receive data in different ways & then review, de-duplicate, & aggregate for HUD:

Who?	Enter into HMIS?	Don't Enter into HMIS?
Unsheltered People	Use HMIS CE data entry	Coordinate with UAC
Sheltered (ES +TH) People	Use HMIS reports	Counting Us App
Permanently Housed (RRH + PSH) People	Use HMIS reports!	Counting Us App
Other Permanently Housing (OPH like HCV vouchers)	N/A	Coordinate with Allie

Preparation is beginning! If you have questions about:

Type of Count	Contact
Unsheltered Count	CE Leads and Unsheltered Access Coordinators
Non-HMIS Sheltered/Permanent Housing Count	Your NCCEH PIT/HIC contact • Not sure who? Email BoS@ncceh.org
HMIS Sheltered/Permanent Housing Count	Data Center HelpDesk
OPH Count for PHAs	Allie from CoC team is the HCV contact

More information will be coming soon.

Back@Home Helene Updates

Back@Home-Helene is launching with HUD Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (RUSH) and Emergency Rental Assistance 2 (ERA2) funds:

- RUSH: HUD awarded $3M of RUSH funding to North Carolina to address Hurricane Helene disaster recovery efforts. Funds are for households:
    - Who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness,
    - Who have been residing in the disaster area, AND
    - Have needs that are not served or fully met by other Federal disaster relief programs

- ERA2: COVID-era ERA2 funds from the US Treasury being administered by the NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency have been reallocated to increase resources for Back@Home Helene rehousing efforts.

Back@Home Helene will serve hardest hit counties:

- Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, Yancey

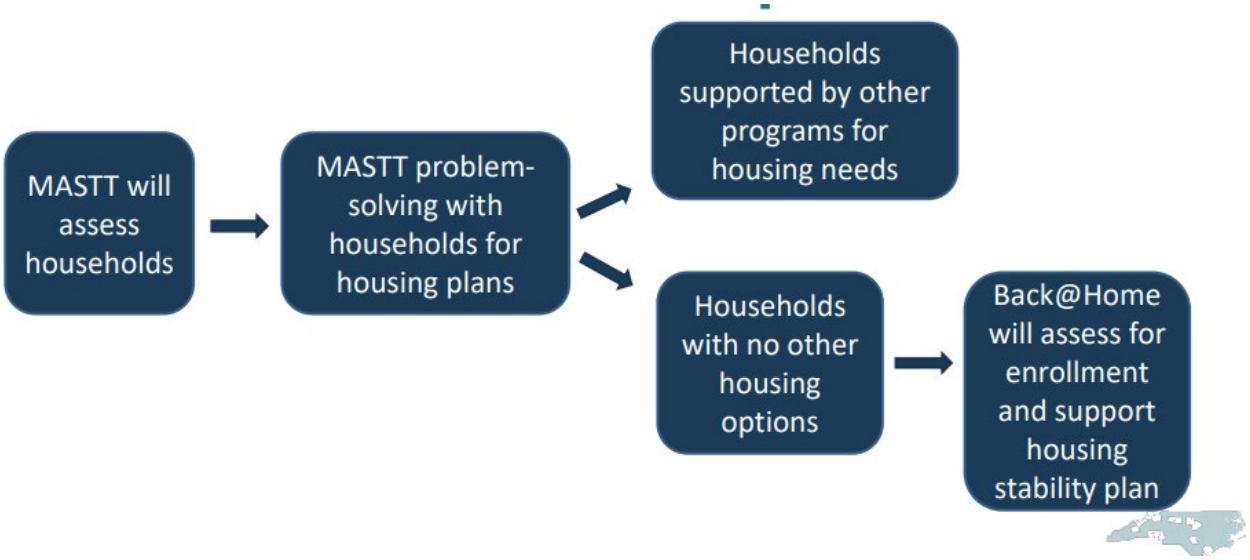
This chart shows the assistance provided by Back@Home alongside the partner responsible for providing assistance:

Cost Category	HSS Providers	Housing Collaborative
Housing Stabilization Services		
Housing Stabilization Case Management	✓	
Outreach	✓	
System Navigation	✓	
Housing Navigation	✓	✓
Financial Assistance		
Unit Access		✓
Move-In	✓	
Rent and Utility		✓

Pathways for referrals to Back@Home-Helene:

- As of Saturday, 10/26/24: MAST Teams in Disaster Shelters
- Future: CoC coordinated entry & NC Disaster Case Management (more information will be released soon)

Back@Home-Helene will support MASTT with households who have no other options.



HSS Providers, Service Areas, and Shelters:

Housing Stabilization Services (HSS) Provider	Counties	Shelters
HERE in Jackson	Clay, Haywood, Jackson, Madison, Macon	• Haywood County Armory
Partners Health Management	Burke, Catawba, Gaston, Cleveland, Lincoln	
Thrive	Henderson, Polk, Rutherford, Transylvania	• Transylvania County Recreation Center
Vaya Health	Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Caldwell, McDowell, Mitchell, Watauga, Wilkes, Yancey	• WNC Ag Center Expo Building • AB Technical Community College • Blue Ridge Elementary • Golds Gym • Kellina Lane Shelter • Mitchell County Relief Center

Additional HSS Providers may be added Back@Home-Helene as the State identifies ability to do so

Upcoming meetings & reminders

- **2024 ESG Grantees Webinar,** *Thursday, November 14, 2 – 3:30 P.M.*
  Register at**:** https://www.ncceh.org/events/1710/

- **Racial Equity Subcommittee,** *Wednesday, November 20, 11:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.*
  Join Zoom Meeting
  Meeting ID: 832 6483 8597

- **Local Leadership Response Call,** *Wednesday, November 20, 1 – 2 pm*
  Join Zoom Meeting
  Meeting ID: 837 9246 1651

- **Funding & Performance Subcommittee,** *Thursday, November 21, 2 – 3 P.M.*

Join Google Meeting
Or dial: (US) +1 929-249-4814
PIN: 256 826 060#

- **Coordinated Entry Council,** *Monday, December 2, 10 – 11:30 A.M.*
  Join Zoom Meeting
  Meeting ID: 848 4039 7905

Next Steering Committee meetings:

Tuesday, December 3 at 10:30 A.M.