April 28, 2017

Performance Scoring

All applications for new and renewal projects are reviewed for threshold to ensure compliance with the HEARTH Act, the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and the local CoC Request for Applications. Any new or renewal project not meeting the threshold requirements are not considered for funding.

Renewals

The NYC CCOC Steering Committee annually reviews the evaluation scoring standards for renewal projects in advance of the annual NOFA using the following process:

- Previous years Evaluation standards are reviewed by the Evaluation Committee to determine if changes are necessary in any category.
- Agreed upon updates to the standards are shared with the Steering Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting, and distributed by email.
- At the next following Steering Committee meeting, stakeholder input is discussed regarding the previously presented standards.
- The Steering Committee makes adjustments to the standards and adopts the final standards.

Scoring standards adopted use provider provided survey responses, APR and HMIS data to evaluate the degree to which projects improve the CoC's system performance. Department of Social Services (DSS) analyzes performance, compliance, and consumer satisfaction data and prepares scoring reports. Applicants may submit an appeals request to the Appeals Committee, which is appointed by the Steering Committee, and reviews and approves or denies requests for scoring adjustments. Providers are notified of the Committee's decisions and final scores are posted on the website. Parties with conflicts of interest are disallowed from participation on the Grievance Committee.

New Project Applications

Annually, the CoC reviews and adopts a New Project RFP for selection of bonus and reallocation projects. DHS posts the approved RFP to its website and widely distributes via email. The Steering Committee appoints a review committee of voting members and/or subject matter experts to review, rate and rank new project applications. Parties with conflicts of interest are disallowed from participation on the review committee. All new projects are subject to the scoring outlined in the local RFP and new project scoring criteria, which evaluate the degree to which the proposed project design will improve the CoC's system performance. The review committee scores each application accordingly and has the discretion to select one or more applications for the amount available for new projects. The committee also may give the CoC consultants direction to work with applicants to make adjustments to strengthen applications and ensure the applications included in the final submission to HUD meet the most critical gaps identified by the CoC. The CoC provides technical assistance to all applicants to ensure that the process is accessible to any applicant, including those that have not previously received funding.

Ranking

HUD requires Collaborative Applicants to rank all projects in two tiers. Tier 1 is defined by HUD in the NOFA as a percent of the CoC's Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) approved by HUD on the final HUD-approved Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW). Tier 1 projects are traditionally protected from HUD cuts. Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the CoC's ARD plus any amount available for the permanent housing bonus as described in the HUD NOFA. Tier 2 projects have to compete nationally for funding.

Projects are ranked competitively based on renewal project evaluation scores and new project RFP scores, as determined by an independent scoring committee. Both the renewal evaluation and new project RFP scoring methodologies prioritize projects that improve system performance.

The CoC determined that an SSO project for Coordinated Entry is critical to CoC efforts to improve system performance by ensuring that scarce resources are efficiently and strategically allocated, including ensuring that people who have been homeless the longest and who have the most intensive service needs receive priority access to permanent supportive housing. It was also determined that continued investment in Permanent Housing is critical to improve system performance and end homelessness within the CoC and renewal PH projects were ranked above other housing types competitively in an order based on their comparative success at improving system performance as determined by their score on the CoC's annual project evaluation. This approach was discussed at length during the August 5th Special Steering Committee meeting and was adopted by roll call vote.