

TX- 503 CoC NOFA New Applicant Information Session



CREATED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE
ECHO COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
PARTNERSHIPS DEPARTMENT

Welcome!

Please introduce yourself, your agency, and what you're hoping to get from this session in the chat!

Please Chat to Chris Murray for any technical assistance during the presentation.



Who we are!



Andrew Willard
Procurement and Performance
Manager



Maya Beit - Arie
Coalition and Capacity Building
Manager

Learning Objectives



Know definitions of eligible populations

Know eligible activities and where to find more information when building a budget and completing the application.

Understand the project types that are often funded through the CoC Program and where to find written standards to learn more.

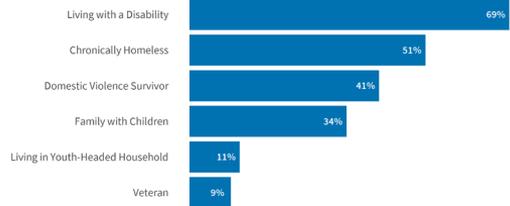
Why is ECHO hosting this?

As the identified Collaborative Applicant by the Austin / Travis County Continuum of Care, ECHO is appointed to complete the CoC NOFA Local Application.

ECHO also procures or collaborates with other funder to procure funding opportunities for other federal funds such as ESG, ESG-CV, and COA Homelessness funding opportunities.

Characteristic	N = 3151
Gender	
Male	1708 (56%)
Female	1317 (43%)
Transgender	15 (0.5%)
Gender non-conforming	2 (<0.1%)
Unknown	109
Age Breakdown	
Under 18	669 (21%)
Between 18 and 24	251 (8.0%)
Over 24	2223 (71%)
Unknown	8

Figure 3. Subpopulation Breakdown, 2021
Percent of People Experiencing Homelessness



Characteristic	N = 3151
Race	
American Indian or Alaska Native	29 (1.0%)
Asian	15 (0.5%)
Black	1079 (37%)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	5 (0.2%)
Two or more races	200 (6.8%)
White	1624 (55%)
Unknown	199
Ethnicity	
Hispanic or Latino	968 (32%)
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	2060 (68%)
Unknown	123

Community Need – PIT FY2021

Service Delivery Philosophy

Housing First

- Housing First is a homeless services approach that **prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness.**

Trauma Informed Care

- A trauma informed approach seeks to resist re-traumatization of clients as well as staff.

Harm Reduction

- Harm Reduction is an approach aimed at **reducing the risks and harmful effects** associated with substance use and/or other behaviors that may result in negative consequences.

What is the CoC Program?

Applicants in a community, including local governments, nonprofit providers, advocates, people experiencing homelessness, and other stakeholders organize into a CoC and submit a joint application to HUD for their project requests. The entire application is scored, and specific projects are funded in the order that they are prioritized by the community in the application.

The Annual Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

The NOFA is released annually and outlines how communities compete for funding for eligible Continuum of Care Program activities:

- Permanent Housing - Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
- Permanent Housing - Rapid Re Housing (RRH)
- Transitional Housing (TH)
- Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Re Housing
- Supportive Services Only (SSO) - e.g., case management, street outreach, education services, child care, mental health, employment assistance, transportation, outpatient health services, food, etc.
- Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS)
- Administrative funding
- Indirect funding

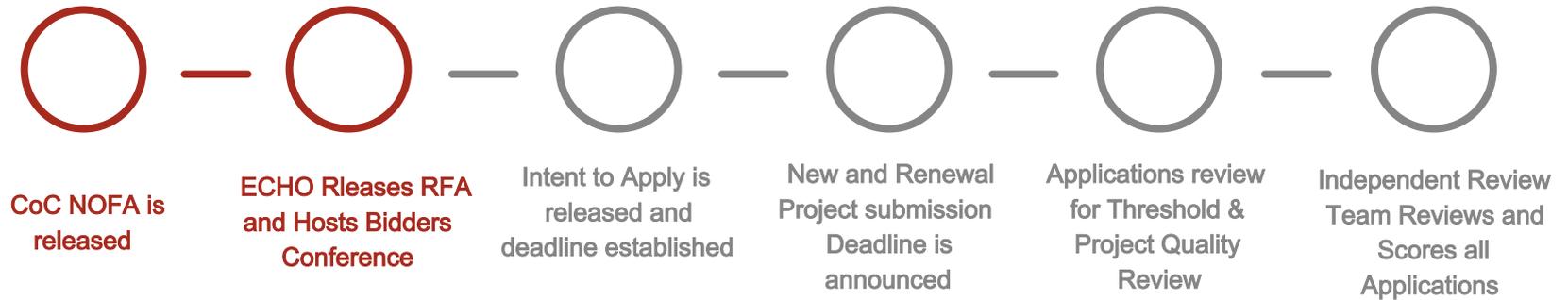
Local
Competition for
CoC NOFA
Funds

ECHO, as the Collaborative Applicant, has been appointed by the Austin / Travis County Continuum of Care to facilitate the submission of the CoC Consolidated Application.

As such, ECHO facilitates the local competition for CoC Program funding, as directed by the NOFA Policies established by the Leadership Council, or its designee

The Priority Listing, which indicates the community priorities for submitted applications, is approved by the Leadership Council

The NOFA Process



Final Scores and Rankings are presented to the Leadership Council or its representative as the Priority Listing for Approval and submitted to HUD along with the Collaborative Application .

Funding Stream



(HUD) Releases the Notice of Funding Availability Each Year (ex. FY19 NOFA July 19, 2019-September 30th, 2019)

Projects selected for award begin negotiation with HUD (ex March 13, 2020)

Recipient Begin Operating New Projects (ex Late 2020)

Leadership Council approves the Independent Review Team, the Funding Priorities, and the Priority Listing, which ranks all applications in funding priority order.

ECHO does not control which projects are funded or how much funding projects receive, nor does it receive the award amount. ECHO is not a passthrough entity for CoC Funding.

Housing First

The Austin / Travis County CoC follows the Housing First (HF) **approach**. Housing First is a homeless services approach that **prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness**. This approach aims to **eliminate the system barriers that prevent people from accessing their right to housing, and to ensure participant choice in housing selection service participation**. Housing First can be contrasted with older models, like Housing Ready, that focus on addressing other issues (e.g. substance abuse, increasing income) prior to placing a person in housing.

Example of Housing First in Admission and Screening

Admission to programs is not contingent on prerequisites such as abstinence from substances, minimum income requirements, health or mental health history, medication adherence, age, criminal justice history, financial history, completion of treatment, participation in services, “housing readiness,” or history or occurrence of victimization, unless required by law or funding source.

Providers try to expedite the admission and documentation process as much as possible; participants may be admitted to programs pending completion of documentation.

In order to ensure accessibility, programs do not require specific appointment times but have flexible intake schedules that ensure access to all households

Trauma Informed Care

A trauma informed approach seeks to resist re-traumatization of clients as well as staff.

- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

- Realize Trauma
- Recognize Trauma
- Respond to Trauma
- Resist re-traumatization

Harm Reduction

Harm Reduction is an important element during the Housing First implementation process and an approach aimed at **reducing the risks and harmful effects** associated with substance use and/or other behaviors that may result in negative consequences. As an intervention, it focuses on helping people who use substances to **better manage their use** and **reduce the harmful consequences** to themselves and others, including actively working to prevent evictions. In conjunction with housing first and supportive housing, using the harm reduction philosophy means that **individuals do not have to be sober to be eligible** to enter housing and are not **evicted solely for a failure to maintain sobriety**.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

A project that offers permanent housing and supportive services to assist persons with a disability (individuals with disabilities or families in which one adult or child has a disability) and long histories of housing instability and homelessness to live independently. Robust service packages are tailored to the unique needs of each household, though service participation is not required.

- Housing First
- Households pay no more than 30% of income towards rent
- Project assist households with housing costs through:
 - Rental Assistance (TBRA);
 - Leasing; or
 - Operating
- Recommended Case Manager to Participant ratio of 1: 13 - 15

Rapid Rehousing (RRH)

The purpose of Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) projects are to move and stabilize homeless individuals and families from sheltered or unsheltered homelessness to permanent housing as quickly as possible.

A permanent housing project that provides housing relocation and stabilization services and short- and/or medium-term rental assistance as necessary to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing

- Client choice; income not required for enrollment
- Households can provide up to 24 months of rental assistance
- Projects should be familiar with and include tenants of Progressive Engagement
- Recommended case management ratio: 1:20 – 25; housing navigation ratio: 1: 10 - 15

Joint Transitional Housing – Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH – RRH)

A project type which allows participants access to both transitional housing and rapid rehousing activities and resources. Recipients maintain Transitional Housing spaces where participants pay 30% of income towards occupancy costs and receive occupancy rights. Recipients assertively assist households with exiting TH portion to permanent housing through Rapid Rehousing assistance.

- Project should include funding for double RRH units for every identified TH unit.
- Participants can only participate in the project for 24 months
- Case manager to

Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry

A project which assists household with accessing the local Coordinated Entry System and Coordination Entry facilitation.

- Nondiscrimination in access to CE system

Administration, Indirect, and HMIS funding

- All project are able to apply to receive HMIS funding and Administration funding as part of project applications.
- Administration funding can be utilized for costs not associated with supportive service delivery. Administration funds cannot exceed 10% of total funding request.
- Indirect costs may be allocated to each eligible activity of a project, so long as the allocation is consistent with the determined indirect cost rate
- Not including HMIS or Administration funding in an application does not exempt possible recipients from data collection or HMIS requirements.

Continuum of Care Components

CoC Component	Typical Population Acuity
PSH	High Acuity Population; participants usually experience long histories of homelessness; Disability a requirement for eligibility; Struggles with long term Housing Stability
RRH	Moderate Acuity Population; participants usually experience recent or frequent short term homelessness; primary struggles with Housing Affordability
Joint TH-RRH	Same as RRH; promising performance data from households fleeing domestic violence; Youth households; and recently incarcerated households
SSO-CE	The general population project aimed at outreaching, assessing, referring, and connecting participants to crisis resources and permanent housing projects

What Else?

- TX- 503 CoC NOFA New Applicant Information Session Part II: CoC Program Eligibility and Requirements for Funding TUESDAY JULY 20th 2:00 – 3:30
- Begin collecting documents and create an Applicant Profile in esnaps
- To request technical assistance and support in preparing for the NOFA, reach out to Maya at Mayabeit-arie@austinecho.org
- Sign up to NOFA@austinecho.org for updates and information

Other community funding opportunities to watch for:

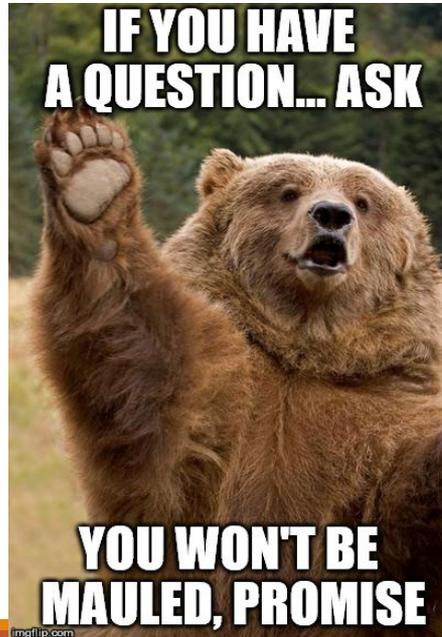
Texas Department of Housing and Community Development (TDHCA) –
<https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/nofa.htm>

City of Austin, Austin Public Health - If you would like to receive notifications of future APH funding opportunities, send your contact information to Natasha Ponczek Shoemake at APHCompetitions@AustinTexas.gov

Documents from previous NOFA Competitions:

<https://www.austinecho.org/leading-system-change/continuum-of-care/>

Questions?



ECHO Contacts

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- Andrew Willard: Performance and Procurement Manager; andrewwillard@austinecho.org
- Christopher Murray: Contracts and Compliance Specialist; christophermurray@austinecho.org