



Governor
Philip Murphy

Acting Commissioner
Kimberly Holmes

OFFICE OF HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION:
HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION PILOT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - FY24

RFP Due Completed in SAGE: No later than 11:59pm on 9/29/2023

I. Name of the grant program

HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION PILOT - FY24

II. DCA contact information

Michael Callahan, Director, OHP, Michael.Callahan@dca.nj.gov
Tina McGill, Lead Programs Manager, OHP, Tina.McGill@dca.nj.gov
Anthony Cassetta, Lead Contracts Administrator, OHP, Anthony.Cassetta@dca.nj.gov
Yakini Blandford, Program Manager: Diversion, IHPS, & R/S Outreach, OHP, Yakini.Blandford@dca.nj.gov

III. Purpose of the grant program

To provide:

1. Homelessness diversion assistance to households in imminent risk of homelessness or households that can be rapidly exited from homelessness in identified counties (see below).

IV. RFP Due Date

RFP Due Completed in SAGE: No later than 11:59pm on 9/29/2023

Award Notification Date: On or about 10/21/2023

V. Available & types funding

This RFP utilizes state appropriated special-purpose and homelessness prevention funding.

<i>Total OHP Funds:</i>	<i>\$4,930,000.00</i>
Total Funds Available for this RFP	\$ 4,930,000.00

VI. Maximum amount of award

The maximum amount awarded to a single program in a region is \$230,000.00.

Applicants may apply for more than one region and are encouraged to align regional selection with services provided in the state’s 16 Continua-of-Care.

OHP: HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION PILOT - FY24 - RFP

Awards will be distributed using the following matrix:

Project Type: HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION		
County	Per Program Award Amount Maximum	# of programs to be awarded
ATLANTIC	\$230,000	1
BURLINGTON	\$230,000	1
CAMDEN	\$230,000	1
CUMBERLAND	\$230,000	1
ESSEX	\$230,000	3
HUDSON	\$230,000	2
MERCER	\$230,000	1
MIDDLESEX	\$230,000	2
MONMOUTH	\$230,000	1
MORRIS	\$230,000	1
OCEAN	\$230,000	1
PASSAIC	\$230,000	1
SALEM	\$230,000	1
SUSSEX	\$230,000	1
UNION	\$230,000	2
WARREN	\$230,000	1
Total # of programs:		21

VII. Eligible entities

Nonprofit organizations and municipalities servicing Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Salem, Sussex, Union, and Warren counties that have at least three (3) years of experience successfully administering

and operating homelessness prevention, street outreach, homelessness diversion, and/or rapid re-housing programs.

Agencies selected must service the entire county and agencies may collaborate together to provide diversion services (with an executed memorandum of understanding [MOU] outlining the collaboration or partnership). However, in partnership or collaborative Homelessness Diversion projects, no more than one agency may be selected as the lead agency in a for a collaborative award and the maximum grant awarded will not exceed the chart above.

Lastly, all applicants must demonstrate:

1. Existing homelessness prevention and/or diversion programs and demonstrable experience in serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness and imminently homeless families.

- a. When speaking to an agency's experience, both the integration of diversion principles and the incorporation of no/low-barrier services into the agency's portfolio must be clearly articulated with collateral data speaking to the tangible outcomes and impact of services.

This includes statistics regarding the number of individuals and families served, the percentage of those who were able to transition to stable housing, and the length of time in which they were able to achieve this.

Moreover, it is crucial that the agency can provide evidence of the efficiency and effectiveness of their services, such as demonstrating lower rates of recidivism into homelessness, increases in self-sufficiency among clients, and improvements in overall wellbeing.

The collateral data should also include testimonials or case studies that illustrate successful prevention or diversion stories, underlining the agency's ability to help those in need.

2. A diverse compilation of resources and partnerships to support and assist households that are homeless and at risk of homelessness exit those situations and circumstances.

- a. An agency's application should demonstrate a diverse compilation of resources and partnerships. Acceptable examples are found below:
 1. **Resource Inventory:** Clearly catalogue and describe the range of resources that the agency has available for persons experiencing homelessness and those at risk of homelessness. This could include direct services such as emergency shelter and food, case management, job training, mental health

OHP: HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION PILOT - FY24 - RFP

counseling, other OHP programs, or substance abuse treatment. The inventory should also include indirect resources like connections to affordable housing, educational programs, healthcare facilities, and legal aid. The more comprehensive and diversified the resource inventory, the better equipped the agency is to handle various cases of homelessness.

2. **Partnership Network:** Provide evidence of partnerships that the agency has formed with other organizations in the community, whether they are governmental, non-profit, or private entities. This can be through formal memoranda of understanding, joint programs, shared funding or co-hosted events.
 3. **Success Stories:** Showcase success stories that have resulted from the use of these resources and partnerships. This might involve detailing case studies of individuals or families who were able to exit homelessness with the agency's assistance, highlighting how the agency's resources and partnerships were instrumental in their transition.
 4. **Outcomes Data:** Demonstrate with data the effectiveness of the agency's resources and partnerships. This could involve statistics on the number of people served, the rate of successful housing placements, improvements in employment status, reductions in recidivism, etc. The data should be presented in a way that is transparent and easy to understand.
 5. **Feedback from Clients and Partners:** Include feedback or testimonials from clients who have benefitted from these resources and partnerships, as well as from partners who have collaborated with the agency. This will provide a first-hand account of the agency's work and its impact.
 6. **Innovative Solutions:** Detail any innovative or unique solutions that have been developed through these resources and partnerships. This could involve cutting-edge programs, unique partnerships, or novel resources that the agency has put into place to address homelessness. This demonstrates the agency's commitment to continuous improvement and creative problem-solving.
3. **The willingness and capacity to partner with local and county law enforcement, the service area's correspondent Continuum-of-Care (CoC), public services (e.g., libraries), and regional and local health care providers.**
- a. Agencies should demonstrate this will and capacity through executed MOU/MOA/Letters of Support.
 - b. All agencies applying for funding through this program must be active members of their correspondent CoC.
4. **Commitment to Housing First:**

OHP: HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION PILOT - FY24 - RFP

a. Housing First is an approach to quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry, which include but are not limited to:

1. Ensuring low-barrier, easily accessible assistance to all people, including, but not limited to, people with no income or income history, and people with active substance abuse or mental health issues;
2. Helping participants quickly identify and resolve barriers to obtaining and maintaining housing;
3. Seeking to quickly resolve the housing crisis before focusing on other non-housing related services;
4. Allowing participants to choose the services and housing that meets their needs, within practical and funding limitations;
5. Connecting participants to appropriate support and services available in the community that foster long-term housing stability.

b. Agencies must demonstrate commitment to the above outlined principles either via memorandum or board resolution and provide proof of same.

5. Commitment to the Inclusion of & Incorporation of Feedback from Persons with Lived Experience & Expertise (PWLEE):

a. OHP is committed to incorporating the perspectives and insights of persons with lived experience and expertise (PWLEE) of homelessness and housing instability in feedback and program evaluation processes.

1. OHP regularly receives this feedback through the DCA Statewide PWLEE Advisory Board, which meets on a monthly basis with OHP and a quarterly basis with DHCR and DCA leadership.

b. As this feedback is critical to promoting inclusion, equity, diversity, and access in the homelessness prevention and services ecosystem (HPSE), all OHP grantees must affirm and provide proof of organizational alignment with (or the good faith effort of development of alignment with) the following key principles for ensuring the inclusion of PWLEE in feedback in their programs and organization:

1. Centering the voices of PWLEE: PWLEE have a unique perspective on the experience of homelessness and offer valuable insights into the challenges and barriers they face. It is essential to center their voices in feedback processes to ensure that their experiences and needs are accurately represented.
2. Creation of a safe and supportive environment: PWLEE may have experienced trauma or marginalization related to their experiences of homelessness. It is important to create a safe and supportive

OHP: HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION PILOT - FY24 - RFP

environment for them to share their feedback, where they feel heard and respected.

3. Using inclusive language and communication: Feedback processes should use language and communication that is inclusive and accessible to all. This includes using plain language, avoiding jargon or technical terms, and ensuring that all communication is available in formats that are accessible to individuals with disabilities.

4. Providing opportunities for meaningful engagement: PWLEE should have opportunities to provide feedback in ways that are meaningful and accessible to them. This may include one-on-one conversations, focus groups, surveys, or other methods of engagement that suit their preferences and needs.

5. Recognition of power imbalances: Power imbalances can and often do exist between PWLEE and those collecting feedback, which can lead to a lack of representation or influence. It is important to recognize and address these imbalances to ensure that the perspectives and experiences of PWLEE are fully represented and considered in feedback processes.

c. Applicants for OHP funding are required to document affirmation of the principles through supplementary materials submitted as addenda to their application.

Acceptable materials indicating affirmation include, but are not limited to:

1. Centering PWLEE Voices: This could be proven through agency protocols highlighting how PWLEE's perspectives are prioritized, or instances where their insights have influenced changes in the program.

2. Creating Safe Environments: Evidence of this could include policies or guidelines about creating respectful and supportive spaces for PWLEE, and possibly testimonials from PWLEE on their experience participating in feedback processes.

3. Inclusive Language and Communication: Applicants may share their guidelines or examples of accessible, jargon-free communication materials, including different formats for individuals with disabilities.

4. Opportunities for Meaningful Engagement: This could be shown through the variety of feedback methods employed to suit different

preferences and needs of PWLEE, and how this feedback has been utilized by applicant.

5. Recognition of Power Imbalances: Applicant could provide evidence of their strategies to identify and address power imbalances, such as policies for equitable treatment, or practices promoting shared decision-making.

6. Active Pursuit of Inclusion, Equity, Diversity, and Access: Applicant may share the organization's policies, training programs, and examples of actions taken to uphold these values.

7. Evidence of Good Faith Effort: For organizations still developing alignment with these principles, they should provide a detailed plan showcasing their understanding of these principles and their steps towards incorporating them. This can include timelines, measurable goals, and designated personnel responsible for each step.

VIII. Ineligible entities

1. Entities listed on the DCA list of High-Risk grantees and, as applicable, the current audit submission is not overdue.
2. Entities listed on the State Debarment list, located at www.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/treas/revenue/debarch.pl

IX. Target populations

Households experiencing homelessness and households at imminent risk of becoming homeless (see definitions in sub-section 2, below).

1. Income Limitations & Assets

For the purposes of homelessness diversion services and flex funding, **there is not a rigid income cap for providing services**. However, OHP/DCA expects that most households receiving services will have incomes at or below 120% of AMI.

Similarly, while OHP/DCA expects all diversion providers to screen applicants for liquid assets (e.g., cash, bonds, equities, or other securities) to assist in preventing homelessness during housing stabilization planning, unavailability of assets and/or illiquidity due to identity theft, domestic violence, death of a family member, pending legal action, or other challenge/encumbrance approved in writing by OHP, should not be a barrier to assistance to divert an otherwise eligible household from homelessness.

In situations where there is a “reasonable prospect of repayment” of assistance, as defined in NJAC § 5:41-2.3 Levels of assistance, flex funding assistance shall be provided as a loan using the process set forth in NJAC § 5:41.

2. Definitions of ‘at-risk of homelessness’ and ‘homelessness’

Awardees will document that all project participants who receive homelessness diversion assistance either:

- (1) meet at least one of the HUD categorical criteria of ‘at-risk of homelessness’ or ‘homeless’ [(1), (2), (3), or (4) of in CFR 24 § 576.2 & 578.3].

AND/OR

- (2) are a person that:

- (I) Does not have sufficient resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition in 24 CFR 576.2; or

- (I) Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for homelessness diversion assistance; or

- (II) Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship; or

- (III) Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance; or

- (IV) Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost of the hotel or motel stay is not paid by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals; or

- (V) Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 persons reside per room, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau; or

- (VI) Is exiting a publicly funded institution, or system of care (such as a health-care facility, a mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program or institution); or

- (VII) Is living in a housing situation where a member of the housing is trading sex for housing; or

(VIII) Is being trafficked; or

(IX) Is leaving or have left their permanent residence because of emotional, financial, or physical abuse or threats of abuse and have no safe, alternative housing; or

(X) Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness and will likely enter into unsheltered homelessness without diversionary services and assistance.

3. Immigration status

In alignment with HUD ESG services, OHP-funded homelessness diversion projects, assistance, and services are not restricted by immigration status as they are necessary for the protection of life and safety of persons.

X. Eligible Activities

This program provides assistance through the following two homelessness diversion activity components:

Component 1: Homelessness Diversion Services

Homelessness diversion is a conflict resolution technique and rapidly delivered case management approach to a household's housing crisis.

This project component is intended to add additional project assistance capacity to divert households initially engaged (but either ineligible or inappropriate for service) Diversion services will help households identify safe and appropriate housing options, and to expedite the household's selection of those options, so that the household's risk of imminent homelessness or recent experience of homelessness is **rare, brief in duration, and non-recurring.**

If diversion intervention cannot prevent a household's episode of homelessness (e.g., an unsustainable rent payment) or ensure the household's rapid exit (meaning ~14 days) from homelessness, *diversion may not be the most appropriate intervention and projects should leverage alternative components and/or referrals to assist (e.g., HPRP, RRH, SSO, ICMS, or other program).*

Lastly, diversion should not be a barrier to shelter or waitlists for housing. Diversion intervention is intended to assist people in avoiding shelter if possible or to return immediately to housing. Similarly, diversion activities should align with housing and sustainment of housing needs only, encouraging creative and collaborative problem solving, and affording the maximum agency possible to households to be partners in their exit from a housing crisis.

Component 2: Flexible Funding

Services in this component consist of diversion housing stabilization assistance and direct client assistance. Specific requirements and eligible costs include:

1. Diversion Housing Stabilization Assistance:

- i. Rental Assistance
- ii. Utility Assistance (when not eligible for LIHEAP, USF, or other DCA/State programs)
- iii. Rental & Utility Arrears
- iv. Deposits (Rent, Utility, Pet, etc.)
- v. Income Stabilization (items and costs related to increasing household income [e.g., purchase of a set of steel-toed work boots or non-slip shoes, car repair costs, temporary childcare assistance to maintain employment]).
- vi. Household Goods
- vii. Moving Costs
- viii. Other Costs that can be demonstrably linked to the stabilization of housing (following the co-created housing stabilization plan) and the household's homelessness exit/prevention.
- ix. Other Costs allowable and articulated in OHP PPB #23-01.

2. Direct Client Assistance (not to exceed \$50.00 in cash value)

XI. Ineligible activities

Activities not specifically approved through this application or subsequently approved in writing by DCA.

XII. Grant term

November 1, 2023 - October 31, 2024

XIII. Application process - Narrative

The proposal must be submitted electronically via SAGE. All applicants must submit in SAGE a written narrative that describes the following:

1. Agency's mission, staff capacity, experience (to include outcomes) in homeless services, diversion principles, rental assistance/supportive services, and financial management/grant operations.
2. Identification of project type and service area.

OHP: HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION PILOT - FY24 - RFP

3. Contact information for executive team and project personnel.
4. Data Collection and Management Processes
5. Identification and qualifications of staff that will participate in the project and in the administration of the grant.
6. Consultant listing
7. Proposed Project Budget (see examples, below).

Example Budget: Diversion Services Project	
Total Award: \$230,000	
<i>Category</i>	<i>Amount (\$)</i>
Administration (10%)	\$23,000.00
<i>Personnel</i>	
Salaries/Wages	
Fringe	
<i>Operating</i>	
Audit	
Other	
Program (90%)	\$207,000.00
<i>Direct Expenses</i>	
Staff salary (1 FTE)	\$65,000.00
Fringe (capped at 40%)	\$26,000.00
<i>Operational Expenses</i>	
Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00
Diversion: Flexible Funds	\$109,000.00
Diversion: Direct Client Assistance	\$5,000.00
NJ HMIS	\$1,000.00
Total	\$230,000.00
<i>Remaining</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>

XIV. Application process - Required attachments

1. Certification regarding debarment and suspension.
2. Certification regarding lobbying.
3. Staff resumes, to include the applicant's executive team.
4. Job descriptions of positions created via project.
5. Resolution from the applicant's Board of Trustees.
6. Letter of Support from the County/Regional Continuum-of-Care (CoC):
 - a. This letter must include a description of the applicant's participation in CoC processes and programs (to include Coordinated Entry [if applicable]).
 - b. This letter must also certify the applicant's participation in PIT Count activities.
7. Materials outlined in Section VII of this document:
 - a. Agency Experience with Collateral Data
 - b. Resources Listing
 - c. MOU/MOAs for Partnerships
 - d. Affirmation of Housing First
 - e. PWLEE Inclusion and Activities
8. Process map of project (from initial client contact through discharge/follow-up) that is inclusive of and aligned with CoC processes.
9. Marketing plan that will be used to socialize program to community stakeholders.
 - a. Slide deck/PowerPoint
10. Executed application cover page.

XV. Reporting and monitoring requirements

1. Bi-monthly peer-to-peer meetings (via Teams)
2. Quarterly leadership meetings (via Teams)
3. Quarterly reporting via SAGE
4. Semi-annual site visitation/file review
5. Recording encounter and case note data no later than 24 hours post-encounter in AWARDS.

XVI. Training requirements

Each grantee agrees that staff will participate in all mandatory training and meetings according to a schedule provided by the Office of Homelessness Prevention (see below). Training and meetings are to increase understanding of integrated services delivery and its interplay with other aspects of case management and as part of a larger housing problem-solving approach to preventing homelessness that is person-centered and affirming of Housing First principles.

OHP: HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION PILOT - FY24 - RFP

Direct staff, Supervisors and Leadership staff must agree to the following mandatory training participation as part of this program:

1. Harm reduction
2. Landlord collaborations
3. Housing First
4. Eviction Prevention & Housing Rights
5. Reporting, including the use of the Homelessness Management Information System database (HMIS), also known as AWARDS, report building, and uploading options through NJ HMFA.
6. Racial equity
7. Trauma-Informed Service Delivery
8. Project Service Delivery Coaching & Peer-to-Peers
9. Persons with Lived Experience and Expertise (PWLEE) feedback sessions

In addition, the entity must participate in and make presentations to various audiences during required training and meetings according to the schedule designated by the Office of Homelessness Prevention. The entity must also work in collaboration with other DCA grantees to achieve this initiative's objectives.

XVII. Grantee performance expectations & requirements

1. Project is operationalized and running no later than 30 days post award notification.
2. Project's corresponding CoC executive body is made aware of award and project no later than 24 hours after notice.
3. Presentation and referral process is socialized to CoC's general body at the first available meeting post operationalization of the project and at on-going CoC and public meetings regarding housing vulnerability and homelessness.
4. Attendance at all training and OHP peer-to-peer activities.
5. Project staff meaningfully participate in NJ Counts (PIT Count).
6. Maintenance of 95% data quality in AWARDS (to include discharge destination/outcome capture).
7. Any changes in participant status or circumstances are updated in NJ HMIS no later than 24 hours of notice.
8. All service costs and payments made on behalf of or to participants are updated in NJ HMIS no later than 24 hours post-disbursement.
9. **For all projects:**
 - a. 80% of project households maintaining housing 3 months post-discharge
 - b. 75% of diverted households remain diverted 6 months post-discharge.

XVIII. Threshold requirements

Only applications that meet all the following threshold requirements will be scored; **applications missing any documents identified in numbers 7-12 will be provided 5 days to upload same.**

1. Minimum of three years of experience in providing homelessness prevention and housing services such as financial assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services to the target population.
2. Attend a mandatory technical assistance workshop.
3. Be an active participant in the local Continuum of Care.
4. Be an active participant in NJ HMIS.
5. Agree to attend a HMIS training workshop.
6. Submit the last 3 years of audits [to include statement cash flows [or equivalent]] and latest IRS Form 990.
 - a. Applicant’s submissions **must demonstrably show** that they have sufficient cash flows to sustain staff and effectively administer the grant.
7. Submit Bylaws.
8. Submit Articles of Incorporation.
9. Submit staff resumes and current organizational chart.
10. Submit verification of current SAM registration.
11. Complete all certification sheets.
12. Submission of all required attachments in Section XIV.

XIX. Scoring Rubric

Section	Point Value
<p>Section 1: Organizational Capacity and Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission alignment with RFP goals (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission focuses on serving those experiencing or at-risk of homelessness (2 points) • Mission emphasizes rapid resolution of housing crises (2 points) • Mission aligns with principles of diversion and Housing First (1 point) • Staff capacity and capabilities (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient staff roles/positions for project implementation (2 points) • Staff have relevant capabilities and qualifications (2 points) • Staff retention rate/turnover metrics (1 point) • Years of experience in homeless services (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 years of experience (2 points) • 4-5 years of experience (3 points) • 5+ years of experience (5 points) 	<p>25 Points</p>

OHP: HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION PILOT - FY24 - RFP

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience with diversion principles and practices (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describes experience implementing diversion techniques (2 points) • Provides data/outcomes demonstrating diversion program efficacy (2 points) • Discusses incorporation of no/low-barrier approaches (1 point) • Experience providing rental assistance and supportive services (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of rental assistance and supportive services provided (2 points) • Data on households served through these interventions (2 points) • Examples of successful housing placements/stabilization (1 point) 	
<p>Section 2: Proposed Approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly defined project type and service area (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicates project type (diversion services and/or flexible funding) (2 points) • Specifies county/counties that will be served (3 points) • Detailed project process map (10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step-by-step description of service delivery process (4 points) • Roles and hand-offs between staff and partners clearly defined (3 points) • Process aligns with HUD definitions and eligibility criteria (3 points) • Qualifications of project staff (10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resumes demonstrate capabilities matched to assigned roles (5 points) • Key positions filled with qualified candidates (5 points) • Data collection, management, and reporting processes (10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methods for timely and accurate data collection described (5 points) • Process for recording data in HMIS/AWARDS explained (2 points) • Capacity for generating required reports demonstrated (3 points) • Partnerships with CoC, healthcare, and other entities (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strength of partnership with CoC evidenced through MOU and/or letter of support (2 points) • Additional partnerships documented through MOUs/letters of support (2 points) • Leverages partnerships for client referrals and resources (1 point) • Marketing/outreach plan (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets relevant stakeholders for program awareness (2 points) 	<p>50 Points</p>

OHP: HOMELESSNESS DIVERSION PILOT - FY24 - RFP

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses appropriate communication channels and materials (2 points) • Promotes program alignment with Coordinated Entry (1 point) • Reasonable and allowable budget (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs limited to eligible expenses (2 points) • Budget aligned with program design (2 points) • Leverages other resources where possible (1 point) 	
<p>Section 3: Commitment to Best Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embraces Housing First principles (10 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation of board resolution/policy adopting Housing First (3 points) • Low barriers, client-driven approach described in application (4 points) • Willingness to accept clients regardless of income, assets, household composition, etc. (3 points) • Centers voice of those with lived expertise (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies/process for including lived expertise feedback (2 points) • Examples of incorporating feedback provided (2 points) • Lived expertise inclusion in organizational leadership (1 point) • Pursues diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and access (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies for equitable treatment of clients (2 points) • Staff training on implicit bias, cultural competence, etc. (2 points) • Accessibility of program and materials to disabilities (1 point) • Participates in HMIS, PIT, and other COC activities (5 points) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirms HMIS participation and training requirements met (2 points) • Demonstrates PIT Count participation (2 points) • Actively engages in COC meetings and coordinates with partners (1 point) 	25 Points
<p>Section 4: Threshold Requirements (Pass/Fail)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets all threshold criteria listed in RFP 	Application is Eligible/Ineligible
<p>Section 5: Overall Proposal Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-written, easy to understand, thorough, and compelling overall proposal (10 bonus points) 	Max 10-point bonus
Total Points (Max): 110	