



## FY 22 HUD Unsheltered Homelessness New Project Local Application

### Background

The purpose of this Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness (Special NOFO) is to target efforts to reduce unsheltered homelessness, particularly in communities with very high levels of unsheltered homelessness and homelessness in rural areas. Through this Special NOFO, HUD will award funding to communities to implement coordinated approaches -- grounded in Housing First and public health principles -- to reduce the prevalence of unsheltered homelessness, and improve services engagement, health outcomes, and housing stability among highly vulnerable unsheltered individuals and families. HUD expects applicant communities to partner with health and housing agencies to leverage mainstream housing and healthcare resources. Under this special NOFO HUD will fund projects in these components:

1. Permanent Housing, including:
  - a. Permanent Supportive Housing
  - b. Rapid-Rehousing
  - c. Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing
  
2. Supportive Services Only, including:
  - a. Coordinated Entry
  - b. Street Outreach
  - c. Other Supportive Services
  
3. HMIS

If HUD awards funds, the maximum amount available to Kalamazoo County is \$1,955,606. This amount is for the Unsheltered Homelessness set aside only; no projects may apply under the rural set aside.

### Target Population

Category 1 subset, Unsheltered individuals, and families, meaning those with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

#### ***Participant Eligibility:***

Projects funded through this NOFO must have the following eligibility criteria for program participants: 1. meet the criteria of paragraph (1) of the definition of homeless at [24 CFR 578.3](#), except that persons coming from transitional housing must have originally come from places not meant for human habitation, emergency shelters, safe havens, or institutions where they resided for 90 days or less and originally came from places not meant for human



habitation, safe havens, or emergency shelters; or 2. meet the criteria of paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless at 578.3.

## Instructions

For **each new project submitted**, please answer the questions in their entirety. Do not leave any questions unanswered. If the question is not applicable to your organization, please briefly state the reason. Unanswered questions or questions not answered in their entirety may impact affect funding decisions.

Please type your responses. Written submissions may impact funding decisions.

All project applications must be submitted via e-snaps (detailed instructions attached). Please submit this supplemental application in PDF format.

Please submit your completed application to CoC Director, Patrese Griffin, at [p.griffin@uwscmi.org](mailto:p.griffin@uwscmi.org). The **deadline** to submit applications is **Tuesday September 20, 2022, at 4pm**. The CoC Director will send you an email to confirm receipt by the stated deadline. The email response you receive only confirms receipt of the sent documents, it does not indicate a thorough review has been completed.

### **The CoC is especially interested in projects that address the following:**

- Projects that authentically consider the needs expressed by unhoused residents within our community and is reflected in their program
- Equity
- Projects with project components focused on maintenance of permanent housing destinations

## CoC Threshold Questions

*Please answer the following questions to confirm that the project meets CoC Threshold requirements. These questions must be answered by applicants regardless of project type:*

1. What is the target map area in which your project will serve? Will your project be made available to all qualifying households in Kalamazoo County?
2. Do you plan to fully participate in Coordinated Entry for this project? For projects operated by non-victim service providers that provide permanent housing, this requires that 100% of project entries are drawn from Kalamazoo County's Coordinated Entry system.



3. Does this proposed project utilize a Housing First approach and/or Low Barrier Implementation?
4. What CoC committees/workgroups does your organization participate in? (Check all that apply)
  - Allocations and Accountability Team
  - Board of Directors
  - Data Team
  - Outreach Group
  - Shelter Group
  - Systems of Care Committee
  - Veterans By Name List Meetings
  - Other:
5. Date of last organizational audit/financial review:
  - a. Were there any findings? Please describe.
6. Please check the box that indicates the project type for which you are seeking funding:
  - Permanent Supportive Housing
  - Rapid Re-housing Housing
  - Joint Transitional Housing/ Rapid Rehousing
  - Supportive Services Only - Coordinated Entry
  - Supportive Services Only - Street Outreach
  - Supportive Services Only - Other

### CoC Rating Questions

*Please answer the following questions to help the Allocations and Accountability team rate and rank your project application. These questions must be answered by applicants regardless of project type:*

### Experience Factors

1. Describe the experience of your organization and sub-recipients (if any) in working with the proposed population and in providing housing or services similar to that proposed in the application.
2. Describe your organization's experience with utilizing a Housing First approach. Please include any information about preconditions for project entry, including whether you allow entry regardless of past substance abuse, income, criminal records



(with exceptions of restrictions imposed by federal, state, or local law or ordinance), marital status, familiar status, self-disclosed or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

3. Describe the projects:
  - a. Eligibility criteria
  - b. Process for accepting new clients
  - c. Process and criteria for exiting clients
  - d. Process to address situations that may jeopardize housing or project assistance

### Design of Housing and Supportive Services Factors

1. Please describe the needs of the clients proposed to be served by this project and describe how the type, scale, and location of the housing and/or services proposed fits these needs:
  - a. Describe how clients will be assisted in obtaining mainstream benefits to help meet their needs.
  - b. Describe how clients will be assisted in rapidly securing and maintaining permanent housing that is safe, accessible, affordable, and acceptable to their needs.
  - c. Describe how clients will be assisted to increase and/income and to maximize their ability to live independently.
2. According to information in the recent County Housing Plan, unhoused residents surveyed indicated that a lack of funds to support housing costs and pre-rental programs to improve their likelihood of being selected for housing by a landlord posed to be the greatest barrier. How might your project address these barriers?
  - a. What partners will you collaborate with to address these barriers?
3. Please describe the metrics you will use to measure the performance of this project, including information describing the extent to which these performance measures are objective, measurable, trackable, and meet or exceed any established HUD benchmarks.

## Financial Factors

1. Please attach your organization's most recent financial audit. Did this audit:

a. Find no exceptions to standard practices

Yes

No

b. Identify the agency as "low risk"

Yes

No

c. Indicated no findings

Yes

No

## Equity Factors

Data from the Homeless Management Information System shows that nearly 60% of individuals who experience homelessness in Kalamazoo County identify as Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), with the majority (nearly 57%) identifying as Black or African American. Only 40% of homeless individuals identify as white. When compared to county-wide statistics showing that approximately 80% of residents identify as white while about 11% identify as Black, this disparity becomes even more pronounced.

While a slightly smaller proportion of individuals in unsheltered individuals may identify as BIPOC compared to individuals in sheltered situations, we continue to see significant racial disparities in our unsheltered homeless population. Over the past three unsheltered Point-in-Time Counts (2022, 2020, and 2019), the percentage of total unsheltered individuals identifying as Black ranged from 28% to nearly 50% - still significantly more than county demographics. It is likely that many more households who identify as BIPOC are residing in unsheltered situations but are not engaging with our homeless service system through the annual Point-in-Time Count or through the receipt of services captured in our HMIS. The Kalamazoo County Continuum of Care is seeking to fund projects committed to addressing these racial disparities.



1. Does your organization meet the following definition of a BIPOC-led organization?

**BIPOC led organization:** An organization in which at least 50% of the board of directors identifies as BIPOC and/or at least 50% of senior leadership staff identify as BIPOC.

Yes

No

2. Does your organization meet the following definition of a grassroots organization?

**Grassroots organization:** An organization headquartered in the local community where it provides services; at least 50% of senior leadership and 50% the organization is made up of and led by citizens advocating a community led and driven cause to spur change at local, national, or international levels, with a budget below \$1 million in average annual operating budget.

Yes

No

3. Does your organization have underrepresented individuals (BIPOC, LGBTQ+, persons with disabilities, etc.) in managerial and leadership positions?

Yes

No

4. Please describe any efforts your organization is undertaking to increase representation within your management and leadership.

5. How many people with lived expertise in homelessness serve on your Board of Directors?

- a. If there are currently no members serving on the board with lived experiences of homelessness, please share any steps you have taken or plan to take to appoint this representation.

6. Describe your strategy for targeting outreach efforts to inform households with marginalized identities such as s Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), persons with disabilities, and LGBTQIA+, of the program opportunities and enroll them in the program.

- a. How does your strategy consider accessibility of program information?

- b. How will your program coordinate with BIPOC-led and grassroots organizations within core neighborhoods and areas with concentrations of unsheltered homelessness to help reach BIPOC households? If your program



will not coordinate with BIPOC-led and grassroots organizations, please share the reasons why and any barriers your organization faces when forging these partnerships.

7. Describe how your services foster inclusivity for underrepresented individuals, (BIPOC, LGBTQ+, persons with disabilities, etc.) factoring the intersectionality that may occur within individuals.
8. Do you have a relational process for receiving feedback from people with lived experience? Please describe.
  - a. Does your organization center the experiences and feedback of Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), people with disabilities, and individuals who identify as LGBTQ+?
  - b. How is the feedback of the marginalized identities listed above reflected in your organizational policies, program policies, and service delivery system?
9. Describe any recent efforts to review internal policies and procedures with an equity lens, including a description of significant findings.
  - a. Based on these findings, describe your plan for developing and implementing equitable policies that do not impose undue barriers.
10. Describe your organization's plan to review participant outcomes for this proposed project with an equity lens, including disaggregation of data by race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability status, and/or age, as well as your plan to review whether programmatic changes are needed and make those changes.
  - a. If your organization has already implemented the above plan, describe any programmatic changes identified as needed to increase equity in program participant outcomes and your plan to implement those changes.



Please answer the questions in the section below based on the new application project type.

## Permanent Housing (PH) – Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

1. As sometimes seen with individuals who have been unhoused, substance use may pose a barrier to the success of an individual as they seek to obtain housing and maintain that housing.
  - a. How does your project plan to assist individuals with substance use disorders as they scale the continuum of use and sobriety?
  - b. Post program participation, how will your project equip participants to maintain their social supports to help them on their journey?
2. What supports will this project provide to clients who wish to reunify with children not currently living in the household? What, if any, mainstream service systems will the organization partner with to deliver these supports?
3. In a calendar year, what is your average utilization rate for similar existing permanent housing projects, based on the units proposed in your funding application?

*Note: For CoC-funded HMIS projects, this information is calculated based on Point-in-Time Utilization on the last Wednesday of January, April, July and October, and can be found in your latest HUD APR submission. Data for all projects can be averaged.*

*For projects that have not received HUD funding, this information can be calculated by comparing the total number of households proposed to be served in the funding application for the project(s)/the maximum number of households who can be served at a single point in time and comparing that to the total number of households that were served at a single point in time on a quarterly basis.*

*If your agency has no history of providing similar permanent housing projects, please answer N/A.*





If you have performance data for permanent housing projects operated by your agency, please answer the following questions (*Note: If your agency uses HMIS, please contact the HMIS Systems Administrator if you need assistance calculating these metrics*):

4. What percentage of clients in permanent housing projects operated by your agency exited to or remained in permanent housing over the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021)?
5. What percentage of individuals who exited from permanent housing projects operated by your agency return to homelessness within 12 months of exit?
6. What percentage of individuals who remained in permanent housing projects operated by your agency during the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021) increased their total income?
7. What percentage of individuals who exited permanent housing projects during the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021) increased their total income?

### Permanent Housing (PH) – Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

1. As sometimes seen with individuals who have been unhoused, substance use may pose a barrier to the success of an individual as they seek to obtain housing and maintain that housing.
  - a. How does your project plan to assist individuals with substance use disorders as they scale the continuum of use and sobriety?
  - b. Post program participation, how will your project equip participants to maintain their social supports to help them on their journey?
2. What supports will this project provide to clients who wish to reunify with children not currently living in the household? What, if any, mainstream service systems will the organization partner with to deliver these supports?

If you have performance data for rapid rehousing projects operated by your agency, please answer the following questions (*Note: If your agency uses HMIS, please contact the HMIS Systems Administrator if you need assistance calculating these metrics*):

3. What percentage of exits from rapid re-housing projects operated by your agency were to permanent destinations over the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021)?



4. What percentage of individuals who exited from rapid re-housing projects operated by your agency return to homelessness within 12 months of exit?
5. What percentage of individuals who remained in rapid re-housing projects operated by your agency during the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021) increased their total income?
6. What percentage of individuals who exited rapid re-housing projects during the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021) increased their total income?

### Joint Transitional Housing (TH) and Permanent Housing (PH) – Rapid Re- Housing (RRH)

During the Fall of 2021, information gathered from unhoused residents residing in encampments within Kalamazoo County indicated the following three barriers are most commonly faced when accessing housing and sheltering services within our Homeless Response System

- Separation of household members,
  - Rigidity in Sheltering Rules,
  - and Separation from pets.
1. Separation of household members: Individuals report the separation of their partner in sheltering and transitional housing programs create great distress. As an individual experiencing a traumatic episode of homelessness, it is important to be able to have internal supports as well as external.
    - a. Will the transitional housing component of your project separate household members? How will your project address these concerns?
  2. Rigid Rules and Regulations: Individuals residing in unsheltered locations stated rigidity and lack autonomy regarding entry and exit times within shelter options posed a major barrier to their efficacy. Individuals may need to work, go to the store, or engage in other necessary activities outside of “shelter hours.”
    - a. Within boundaries of state and federal regulations, how might your project create equitable policies for participants that allow them to maintain autonomy and access the services provided by the project?



- b. Individuals adjusting to shared and communal spaces and may need assistance as they orient. Please share what your conduct model is for program participants. What actions must occur for a participant to be dismissed from occupying the project and program components?
    - c. Given the difficulties an individual who has experienced trauma might face, how does your conduct policy demonstrate a restorative model?
  3. Resident of the encampments throughout Kalamazoo have likened their pets to family members and shared their fears, anxiety and resolve about separating from their pets. Due to this reason, unsheltered residents have often declined to utilize available pet foster services.
    - a. Please describe your project's approach to addressing this issue.
    - b. If your project does not accommodate pets, please explain why, including what barriers you face and what supports could help overcome these barriers.
    - c. For project participants who identify their pets to be support or service animals, will your project provide any support in obtaining the documentation an individual needs to legitimately claim their animal as a support or service animal? Please describe.
  4. As sometimes seen with individuals who have been unhoused, substance use may pose a barrier to the success of an individual as they seek to obtain housing and maintain that housing.
    - a. How does your project plan to assist individuals with substance use disorders as they scale the continuum of use and sobriety?
    - b. Post program participation, how might your project equip participants to maintain their social supports to help them on their journey?
  5. What supports will this project provide to clients who wish to reunify with children not currently living in the household? What, if any, mainstream service systems will the organization partner with to deliver these supports?
  6. In a calendar year, what is your average utilization rate for similar existing *transitional housing* projects, based on the units available at the transitional housing sites. proposed in your funding application?

*Note: For HMIS projects, this information is calculated based on Point-in-Time Utilization on the last Wednesday of January, April, July and October, and can be*



*found by running an APR or CAPER report in ServicePoint. Data for each quarter and all projects can be averaged.*

*For projects that are not in HMIS, this information can be calculated by comparing the total number of individuals or households served on a single night each quarter to the total number of beds or units available. Information for each quarter can be averaged.*

*If your agency has no history of providing transitional housing but has provided emergency shelter, please include utilization information for your emergency shelter project(s) and indicate this in your response. If your agency has no history of providing transitional housing or emergency shelter, please answer N/A.*

If you have performance data for transitional housing or rapid re-housing projects operated by your agency, please answer the following questions (*Note: If your agency uses HMIS, please contact the HMIS Systems Administrator if you need assistance calculating these metrics*):

7. On average, how many days do participants stay in transitional housing projects operated by your agency over the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021)?
8. What percentage of exits from rapid re-housing projects operated by your agency were to permanent destinations over the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021)?
9. What percentage of individuals who exited from rapid re-housing projects operated by your agency return to homelessness within 12 months of exit?
10. What percentage of individuals who remained in rapid re-housing projects operated by your agency during the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021) increased their total income?
11. What percentage of individuals who exited rapid re-housing projects during the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021) increased their total income?

### Supportive Services Only (SSO) – Coordinated Entry (CE)

1. How will the proposed project supplement or improve Kalamazoo's existing Coordinated Entry system?

Supportive Services Only (SSO) – Non-Coordinated Entry (SSO-Street Outreach and SSO-Other)

1. As sometimes seen with individuals who have been unhoused, substance use may pose a barrier to the success of an individual as they seek to obtain housing and maintain that housing.
  - a. How does your project plan to assist individuals with substance use disorders as they scale the continuum of use and sobriety?
  - b. Post program participation, how might your project equip participants to maintain their social supports to help them on their journey?
2. What supports will this project provide to clients who wish to reunify with children not currently living in the household? What, if any, mainstream service systems will the organization partner with to deliver these supports?

For street outreach projects: If you have performance data for street outreach projects operated by your agency, please answer the following questions (*Note: If your agency uses HMIS, please contact the HMIS Systems Administrator if you need assistance calculating these metrics*):

3. What percentage of exits from street outreach projects operated by your agency were to permanent destinations or shelter over the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021)?
4. What percentage of individuals who exited from street outreach projects operated by your agency return to homelessness within 12 months of exit?
5. What percentage of individuals who remained in street outreach projects operated by your agency during the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021) increased their total income?



6. What percentage of individuals who exited street outreach projects during the last full HUD fiscal year (October 1, 2020, to September 30, 2021) increased their total income?