SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Housing for Health
PARTNERSHIP

Santa Cruz County CoC Objective Rating/Scoring Criteria – 100 Points Possible

The following objective rating and scoring criteria are aligned with the priorities of *Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz: A Strategic Framework for Addressing Homelessness in Santa Cruz County and the HUD 2023 CoC NOFO*. They were developed by the H4HP for use by the H4HP Board in rating and ranking new and renewal proposals for CoC and YHDP funds. Each Local Project Proposal will be scored using the following publicly announced objective criteria. The H4HP Board will use the scores to help determine whether each proposal is approved (or rejected), its rank order, and whether it is placed in Tier 1 or Tier 2 (if applicable) or is selected for the CoC bonus or DV bonus (if applicable). Each scoring criterion relates to a particular question in the Local Project Proposal Form (new and renewal).

1. Housing/Project Type (10 points possible)
    10 points, including –
        (a) Renewal projects of the following types:
            9 points for:
            a. PSH serving 100% chronically homeless persons with emphasis on the longest histories of homelessness and most severe needs
            b. PSH serving 100% DedicatedPLUS project type with emphasis on the longest histories of homelessness and most severe
            1 point for:
            Renewal PSH projects serving CH or DedicatedPLUS populations that specifically identify immigrants and/or persons with justice system involvement as an allowable client subpopulation
            10 points for:
            c. RRH for homeless individuals or families, including unaccompanied youth
            d. Joint TH and RRH projects
            e. CE projects
            f. HMIS projects
            g. YHDP projects.
        (b) New projects of the following types proposing to use funds reallocated (including voluntary or transitional reallocations) from renewals and/or CoC bonus funds:
            9 points for:
            a. PSH with rental assistance serving 100% chronically homeless persons with emphasis on the longest histories of homelessness and most severe needs
            b. PSH with rental assistance serving 100% DedicatedPLUS project type with emphasis on the longest histories of homelessness and most severe needs
            1 point for:
            New PSH projects serving CH or DedicatedPLUS populations that specifically identify immigrants and/or persons with justice system involvement as an allowable client subpopulation
            10 points for:
            c. Joint TH and RRH projects
            d. RRH for homeless individuals or families, including unaccompanied youth

e. Expansion of CE or HMIS to the extent justified by unmet operational costs for these programs, or to improve program or administrative efficiency
f. YHDP replacement projects.

10 points for:
(c) New DV bonus projects of the following types:
a. RRH projects that must follow a Housing First approach
b. Joint TH and RRH projects that must follow a Housing First approach
c. CE project to meet the needs of DV survivors.

5 points for:
(a) Renewal projects of the following types:
a. PSH projects that are not dedicated 100% to chronically homeless persons with the longest histories of homelessness and most severe needs or are not DedicatedPLUS projects.
(b) New projects of the following types proposing to use funds reallocated from renewals or CoC bonus funds:
a. PSH projects that are not dedicated 100% to chronically homeless persons or DedicatedPLUS population with the longest histories of homelessness and most severe needs.

0 points for:
– All other projects.

2. Population Served - Addresses Chronic Homeless, Youth, or DV Population(s) (10 points possible)
All CES and HMIS projects will automatically get 10 points.
a. Points will be for the percentage of clients to be served who are homeless under HUD's definition of chronically homeless as follows:

10 points – 100% served are chronically homeless
7.5 points – 70-99%
5 points – 50-69%
2.5 points – 25-49%
1 point – 1-24%
0 points – 0%.

Or
b. Points will be for the percentage of clients to be served who are domestic violence (DV) survivors under HUD's definition:

10 points – 100% served are DV survivors (note – DV bonus projects must be 100%)
7.5 points – 70-99%
5 points – 50-69%
2.5 points – 25-49%
1 point – 1-24%
0 points – 0%.

Or
c. 10 points for all YHDP renewal and replacement projects which serve 100% clients who are youth experiencing homelessness under HUD's definition.

3. Performance Measures (Renewals Only) or Program Design (New Projects Only) (20 points possible)
HMIS projects and first-year projects without a full year of HMIS data will automatically get 15 points. YHDP renewal and replacement projects will receive 16 points if they completely answer the YHDP renewal or replacement questions as appropriate.

3A. <u>For CoC Renewal Housing Projects Only</u>: Please provide the performance metric information requested from HMIS-generated data for the year from *July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023* (or comparable database for victim service providers) relating to these questions:

3A1. Housing Stability: (7 points)

- For PSH, did you meet the standard in helping leavers and stayers combined retain permanent housing for 7 months or more? HUD and CoC Performance Standard **– at least 90%**
- For transitional housing and RRH, did you meet the standard in helping leavers find and move into permanent housing? HUD and CoC Performance Standard **– at least 90%**

3A2. Income: (5 points - 2.5 pts. per question)

- For all projects except HMIS, did you meet the standard in helping leavers and stayers combined maintain or increase income from employment AND non-cash benefits from mainstream sources? CoC Performance Standard **– at least 75%**
- For all projects except HMIS, did you meet the standard in helping ADULT leavers and stayers combined maintain or increase income from employment ONLY? CoC Performance Standard **– at least 25%**

3A3. Non-Cash Mainstream Benefits: (2 points)

- For all projects except HMIS, did you meet the standard in helping leavers and stayers combined maintain or increase at least one source of non-cash benefits? CoC Performance Standard **– at least 50%**

3A4. Program Occupancy (bed utilization): (2 points)

- For all projects except HMIS, did you meet the standard in ensuring that average program occupancy met CoC standard. CoC Performance Standard **– at least 90% for the year**

3A5. Returns to Homelessness: (2 points)

- For all projects except HMIS, did you meet the standard in ensuring that leavers did not exit to non-permanent destinations (e.g., shelters, transitional housing, hotels, motels, and the streets)? CoC Performance Standard **– no more than 20%**

3A6. Length of Stay: (2 points)

- For PSH only, did you meet the standard by <u>increasing</u> the annual average LOS in permanent housing for leavers and stayers combined? **– higher LOS average than previous APR year**
- For TH and RRH only, did you meet the standard by <u>decreasing</u> the annual average LOS in TH or RRH for leavers? **– lower LOS average than previous APR year**

3A7. Victim Service Providers only - Safety: (not scored this year):

- *Please propose at least one relevant measure of the degree of participant safety that you will commit to using in the future.*

3B. <u>For YHDP Renewal Projects Only</u>: Please briefly describe:

3B1. The project you are operating;

3B2. The needs identified in the Santa Cruz County YHDP Coordinated Community Plan that this project was designed to meet;

3B3. The project's current level of success in meeting the needs identified in the Santa Cruz County YHDP Coordinated Community Plan;

3B4. The *qualitative* outcomes of the project;

3B5. The best practices (e.g., positive youth development) used by the project

3B6. Any challenges faced in maintaining the project.

3A. For New CoC Housing Projects Only: Please briefly identify:
3A1. Your program goals to be measured annually in the HUD Annual Performance Report (APR);
3A2. Where your homeless participants will come from;
3A3. Your outreach plan to bring participants in;
3A4. The types and frequency of services participants will receive;
3A5. How participants will be helped to obtain and remain in permanent housing;
3A6. How participants will be helped to increase their employment and income and live independently;
3A7. Victim Service Providers only – Is the plan to increase the **safety** of project participants appropriate and feasible? And
3A8. Victim Service Providers only – Does the application clearly describe a feasible plan to implement a Housing First strategy?

3B. For New Coordinated Entry Projects Only: Please briefly identify:
3B1. The geographic accessibility of the proposed system for all persons within the CoC's geographic area who are seeking information regarding homeless assistance;
3B2. The strategy for advertising the project that is designed specifically to reach homeless persons with the highest barriers within the CoC's geographic area;
3B3. The standardized assessment process proposed (or the process to choose a standardized assessment system);
3B4. Whether/how the system will ensure that program participants are directed to the appropriate housing and services to fit their needs; and
3B5. The strategy for implement a trauma-informed, client-centered approach.

3C. For YHDP Replacement Projects Only: Please briefly identify:
3C1. A brief description of the scope of the project and how it differs from the previous YHDP project
3C2. The NOFO exceptions the YHDP replacement project is requesting (e.g., housing change from RRH model to host homes)
3C3. The reason why the YHDP project is being replaced with a YHDP Replacement project
3C4. The waivers/special activities, if any, you plan to include in the replacement project
3C5. Best practices to be implemented (e.g., positive youth development or trauma-informed care)
3C6. Numerical client outcomes to be achieved
3C7. How the project will meet the goals established in our YHDP Coordinated Community Plan.

4. Program Effectiveness (20 points possible)
CES and HMIS projects will automatically get 15 points.
4A. Coordinated entry participation (10 points)
Minimum percent of new clients since 1/1/22 from CES referral, or for a new project, commits to taking from CES referral:
    10 points – 95% - 100% from CES referral
    8 points – 90% - 94%
    6 points – 85% - 89%
    4 points – 80% - 84%
    2 points – 75% - 79%
    1 point – 70% - 74%
    0 points – below 70%.

4B. Housing First fidelity assessment (10 points possible)
Serving People with the Highest Barriers to Housing (6 points):

To what extent does your project embrace the following Housing First approaches?
1. Does the project prioritize client selection based on duration of homelessness and vulnerability?
2. Does the project accept all clients regardless of substance use history, or current use?
3. Does the project accept clients who are diagnosed with, or show symptoms of, a mental illness?
4. Does the project accept clients regardless of criminal history?
5. Does the project accept clients regardless of income or financial resources?
6. Does the project use a harm-reduction model for drugs and/or alcohol use?

Each "yes" response receives 1 point; each "no" response receives 0 points.

Removing Barriers to Housing (4 points)
To what extent does your project eliminate the following barriers to housing?
1. No minimum income
2. No required current employment
3. No required state issued photo id
4. Need not show sobriety (drugs or alcohol)
5. OK to have symptoms of mental illness
6. Need not have transportation
7. No required specific disabling condition (e.g., MH, SA, HIV/AIDS)
8. Need not show use medication.

Each "yes" response receives 1 point; each "no" response receives 0 points.

5. Financial and Cost Effectiveness (10 points possible)
5A. Housing vs. service funding (5 points renewal, 10 points new)
HMIS, CES, and YHDP SSO projects will automatically get 4 points (renewals) or 8 points (new or YHDP replacement).
Percentage of *program* funding (not including admin) proposed to be used on housing activities (acquisition, construction, rehab, and housing operations) vs. percentage funding used on non-housing activities (supportive services, services-only operations, and HMIS).

    5 points renewal 10 points new – 90% - 100% housing activities
    4 points renewal 8 points new – 80% - 89%
    3 points renewal 6 points new – 70% - 79%
    2 points renewal 4 points new – 60% - 69%
    1 point renewal 2 points new – 50% - 99%
    0 points – below 50%.

5B. Renewals only: Drawdown completeness in the most recently completed program year (5 points)
Percentage of overall HUD grant actually drawn down in the most recent completed program year.

    5 points – 100% of budgeted funds successfully drawn down
    4 points – 98% - 99%
    3 points – 96% - 97%
    2 points – 94% - 95%
    1 point – 92% - 93%
    0 points – below 92%.

6. Agency Experience/Capacity (10 points possible)
6A. Agency Experience: Years of experience in implementing the proposed program or similar program types (e.g., RRH or PSH) (10 points)
    10 points – 8+ years

8 points – 5 to 7 years
6 points – 4 to 6 years
4 points – 2 to 3 years
2 points – 1 to 2 years
0 points – below 1 year.

6B. Capacity Issues: Points will be deducted if in the past year (7/1/22-present): (1) the program a. had a CoC risk assessment, b. agency answered "no" to any risk indicator, and c. agency has not identified any actions taken to correct risk issue(s) identified, (2) the agency has unresolved HUD monitoring findings in CoC programs, or (3) the agency has been late in submitting a CoC APR. (10-point deduction possible)
3 points deduction – no action taken to correct risk issue(s)
4 points deduction – unresolved findings
3 points deduction – late APR.

7. Mainstream Resources (7 points possible)

Please check each strategy your program uses to help clients access federal mainstream benefits, including Medicaid; State Children's Health Insurance Program; TANF (CalWORKS); Food Stamps; SSI; Workforce Investment Act; *Employment Income*; Welfare to Work Grant Programs; and Veterans Health Care. Points will be allocated as follows:
7 points – 7 - 8 strategies used
5 points – 5 - 6 strategies used
3 point – 3 - 4 strategies used
2 points – 2 strategies used
1 point – 1 strategy used
0 points – 0 strategies used.

8. Equity Factors (10 points possible)

Check each factor below that your agency has implemented or commits to implement within one year. Agency leadership, governance, and policies:
1 point - Agency has individuals representing BIPOC in managerial and leadership positions
1 point - Agency has individuals representing LGBTQ+ in managerial and leadership positions
1 point - Agency board of directors includes representation from more than one person with lived experience
1 point - Agency has relational process for receiving and incorporating feedback from persons with lived experience
1 point - Agency has reviewed internal policies and procedures with an equity lens and has a plan for developing and implementing equitable policies that do not impose undue barriers.
1 point – Agency has provided at least one staff training since 7/1/22 on enhancing equity for BIPOC and/or LGBTQ+.
Program participant outcomes:
1 point - Agency has reviewed program participant outcomes with an equity lens, including the disaggregation of data by race, ethnicity, gender identity, and/or age
1 point - Agency has identified programmatic changes needed to make program participant outcomes more equitable for overrepresented races or ethnicities and developed a plan to make those changes
1 point - Agency has identified programmatic changes needed to make program participant outcomes more equitable for LGBTQ+ persons and developed a plan to make those changes

1 point - Agency is working with HMIS lead to develop a schedule for reviewing HMIS data with disaggregation by race, ethnicity, gender identity, and or/age.

10. Community Collaboration and Participation (3 points possible) *Sub-scores will be determined by H4H staff based upon appropriate H4HP and documentation for the period from July 1, 2022, to the present time.*

Does the applicant agency participate in Housing for Health Partnership activities mandated by HUD, as follows?
1. H4HP general membership meeting participation: 2 points possible
    a. 0 points: Agency attends 0% to 50% of H4HP general membership meetings.
    b. 1 point: Agency attends 51% to 74% of H4HP general membership meetings.
    c. 2 points: Agency attends 75% to 100% of H4HP general membership meetings.
2. HMIS participation: 1 point possible
    a. 0 point: Has data in HMIS for less than 100% of agency housing programs listed in the 2023 homeless housing inventory (HIC)
    b. 1 point: Has data in HMIS for all (100%) of housing programs listed in the 2023 HIC.

No question/response on the applications *(staff have already totaled these points for you using relevant data on the applicant's H4HP and HMIS participation)*