



# HEARTH TRAINING



# CONNECTING BALTIMORE LEADERSHIP WITH HUD REQUIREMENTS

- The purpose of this presentation is to:
  - Introduce the role of HUD TA
  - Clarify federal requirements
  - Discuss Baltimore's Governance Structure

# HUD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Priority Communities Initiative
- Flexible and customized support for the CoC to strengthen the homeless serving system
- Focus areas have included
  - Financial Management
  - Monitoring
  - Internal Systems
  - HMIS
- Present work focuses on
  - CoC Governance
  - HMIS

# HEARTH ACT

- Codifies into law the CoC planning process with focus on more effectively coordinating the ENTIRE system
  - CoC responsible for meeting goals for ending and preventing homelessness
  - Focus on SYSTEM performance rather than project performance
  - Increased collaboration with ESG recipients
- Formalizes responsibilities of a Continuum of Care
- Funding for CoC planning activities

# WHAT IS THE CONTINUUM OF CARE

- At its simplest, a Continuum of Care are representatives of relevant organizations within a geographic area to carry out the responsibilities of
  - Ending homelessness
  - Quickly re-housing homeless individuals and families
  - Effective utilization of mainstream resources
  - Optimizing consumer self-sufficiency

# HUD EXPECTATIONS OF THE CONTINUUM OF CARE

- Promote community-wide planning and implementation
- Coordinate providers, State and Local Government to re-house homeless
- Leverage mainstream resources

## **HUD funding contingent upon:**

- Competitive score of CoC
- Demonstrated performance against targets
- Transparent governance structure

Through the NOFA, Continuums of Care scoring and consequently their awards are directly tied to the development, proliferation and accomplishments outlined in a ten year plan.

- Under the HEARTH Act, the Continuum of Care must “generate local strategies to prevent and end homelessness” and HUD “strongly encourages the creation of State Interagency Councils on Homelessness and the formulation of jurisdictional 10-year plans to end homelessness” Sections 1002 (a)(2), 1004 (e)(6).

# HEARTH GOVERNANCE REQUIREMENTS

- **Must establish a board to act on behalf of the CoC**
  - CoC must adopt and follow a written process to select a board
  - Must comply with conflict of interest requirements
  - Must be representative of relevant organizations and projects serving homeless subpopulations
  - Must include at least one homeless or formerly homeless individual
  
- **Must establish a Governance Charter to be updated annually**
  - Developed in consultation with the collaborative applicant and HMIS lead
  - Includes policies and procedures to:
    - Comply with CoC requirements
    - Comply with HMIS requirements
    - Code of conduct and recusal process

# COC GOVERNANCE CHARTER

- The governance charter should outline all the roles and responsibilities assigned by the CoC to the Board or to any committees, subcommittees or workgroups and the process for reviewing and amending the charter
- It is important for the CoC to clearly establish the roles and responsibilities of the Collaborative Applicant (MOHS) and the CoC Board and its subcommittees to ensure that duties are clear and transparent

# REQUIRED COC ACTIVITIES

## Operation

- Hold meetings of the full membership
- Issue Public invitation for new members
- Establish written process to select a CoC board to act on behalf of the CoC
- Appoint additional committees, subcommittees, or work groups
- Develop and follow a governance charter and code of conduct/recusal process updated annually
- Establish performance targets, monitor performance, evaluate outcomes, and take action against poor performers.
- Establish and operate a coordinated assessment system
- Establish and consistently follow written standards for providing CoC assistance

## Planning

- Coordinating and implementing a housing and service system to meet the needs of the homeless population and subpopulations within its geographic area.
- PIT Count
- Annual Gaps Analysis
- Consolidated Plan Information
- Collaboration with ESG Recipient

# REQUIRED COC ACTIVITIES

## HMIS

- Designating a single HMIS for its geographic area.
- Designating a single eligible applicant to serve as the HMIS lead to manage the HMIS.
- Ensuring that the HMIS is administered in compliance with requirements prescribed by HUD.
- Reviewing, revising, and approving an HMIS privacy plan, security plan, and data quality plan.
- Ensuring the consistent participation of recipients and subrecipients in the HMIS.

## Funding

- Prepare and oversee the development and submission of an annual application for CoC program funds
- Set Funding Priorities
- Oversee Collaborative Applicant NOFA Process
- Designate Collaborative Applicant
- Designate Unified Funding Agency (When Applicable)

# GOVERNANCE & STRUCTURE

- The CoC is responsible for carrying out all activities outlined in the interim rule, but may choose to assign the responsibilities to another entity such as the CoC board, another organization, or another CoC work group.
- In order for the CoC board to carry out activities, the CoC must assign responsibilities to the board
- All roles and responsibilities should be reflected in the governance charter

# COC GOVERNANCE CHARTER

**The CoC must develop and follow a governance charter**

**that details the functions of:**

- the CoC board
- the CoC's committee structure and roles
- HMIS Lead
- staff roles
- the process for amending the charter

**Governance charter must be:**

- Reviewed and updated annually
- Developed in consultation with the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS lead

**Governance charter must include:**

- Structure and plan for carrying out CoC responsibilities
- Code of conduct
- Responsibilities designated to entities (Board, Collaborative Applicant, HMIS lead, decision making protocols)

# REQUIRED DUTIES OF COC BOARDS

- Approve selection of the CoC Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead
- Provide oversight of the CoC Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead
- Ensure the operation of the Continuum of Care and HMIS is in accordance with HUD's Continuum of Care Regulations
- Develop or oversee strategic planning to end homelessness
- Coordinate CoC planning activities to further the implementation efforts of a Plan to End Homelessness
- Develop and/or approve CoC-wide policies

# NEW SCORING CRITERIA (2015 NOFA)

- System Right Sizing-HUD is challenging communities to go through a thoughtful and data driven process for reallocating and reorganizing supportive service & transitional housing
- Housing First Approach for your entire system
- System Performance Measurement
- Leveraging Mainstream Resources-
- Leveraging private resources
- Progress towards ending homelessness
- Meeting federal goals for ending homelessness

# MEETING HUD POLICY PRIORITIES-COMMUNITY EXAMPLES

- 100% Housing First Approach
- Aligning federal dollars across the CoC and in bonus projects
- Implementing creative strategies for re-organizing HUD portfolio
- Developing common benchmarks for funding across private and public funding streams
- Quantitative performance metrics to support decision making