

Homeless Services Network of Suwannee Valley

Request for Project Proposals

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to invite applications from eligible applicants for the program and purpose described within the NOFO. FY 2026 Continuum of Care Competition and Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Grants NOFO is a national competition between geographic areas designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, Indian Tribes or Tribally Designated Housing Entities [as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)], and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families, persons experiencing trauma or a lack of safety related to, or fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and homeless youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; promote access to, and effective utilization of, mainstream programs and programs funded with State or local resources; and optimize self-sufficiency among homeless individuals and families. Funding is available in this FY 2026 CoC Program NOFO, including available funding for non-competitive YHDP renewal and replacement expiring grants, and for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Bonus (DV Bonus) projects, described in the NOFO.

Step 1: Request for Inclusion in the CoC Action Plan

United Way of Suwannee Valley, as the lead agency for the Homeless Services Network of Suwannee Valley, has prepared a CoC Action plan. The CoC Action Plan is expected to be a comprehensive, coalition-wide plan of agency efforts in support of those who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. Any agency providing any services to any subpopulation of households which are either homeless or at risk of homelessness should submit their agency projects for inclusion in the HSNSV CoC Action Plan. Most importantly, any agency which anticipates it may apply for project funding through federal or state resources must be included in the coalition's CoC Action Plan. Agencies submitting project proposals are expected to be familiar with funding sources for which they are applying. Agencies' applications for inclusion in the coalition application to HUD must conform to HUD's requirements pursuant to the Federal Register and the Continuum of Care Action Plan adopted by the Homeless Services Network of Suwannee Valley. The CoC Action Plan has been approved by the full coalition. Attached is the NOFO for the Continuum of Care program. Should an agency be interested in applying please see the below.

Step 2: Eligibility

The local eligibility criteria are adopted by HSNSV for the FY 2026 local competition and are intended to align with HUD's FY 2026 CoC Program NOFO. Eligible project applicants may

include nonprofit organizations, state governments, local governments, instrumentalities of state or local governments, Indian Tribes, tribally designated housing entities, and public housing agencies, as permitted by HUD. Individuals, foreign entities, and sole proprietorship organizations are not eligible. Applicants must also satisfy all HUD threshold, quality, eligibility, match, budget, risk review, and submission requirements applicable to the project type and funding category.

- Demonstrate that the applicant is an eligible entity under the FY 2026 HUD CoC Program NOFO. Nonprofit applicants must provide documentation of nonprofit status, such as IRS 501(c)(3) documentation, if applicable.
- Have at least two years of experience as an organization serving homeless individuals
- Have met the active participation requirements listed in Section 9.02 of the HSNSV Policies and Procedures (participated in at least 2/3 of the coalition meetings over the past year and served on at least one other committee – CoC Committee, Data Quality Committee, CE Committee, attending regularly-scheduled meetings)
- Actively participate in HMIS in accordance with the HUD Data Standards, ensuring records are current and universal data elements are recorded to secure accurate, complete, and usable data; and in accordance with the HSNSV HMIS Policies and Procedures. (Victim service providers are prohibited by the Violence Against Women Act of 2005 from entering data into the local HMIS.)
- Actively participate in the Point-in-Time survey. Active participation includes the collection of donations, committee meetings and/or survey collection.
- Assist homeless clients in accessing mainstream programs and include follow up.
- Submit an annual audit or, if the agency is not otherwise required to have an audit, compiled financial statements.
- Participate in Coordinated Entry and become an Access Point.

Participation in the local HSNSV competition does not guarantee HUD funding. All projects selected locally remain subject to HUD review, including threshold review, merit review, risk review, funding availability, eligibility of activities and costs, and compliance with all requirements in the FY 2026 HUD CoC Program NOFO.

Step 3: Project Proposals for Coalition Funding

Submit to United Way of Suwannee Valley, lead agency for the Homeless Services Network of Suwannee Valley, by 5 p.m. on July 16, 2026, in preparation for review at the Review Panel meeting July 20, 2026. Recommendations from the Review Panel will be presented at the Board of the coalition on July 23, 2026. Project proposals must be submitted on the proposal form and in HUD esnaps. Project proposals must address at least one of the Federal Strategic Plan goals and utilize at least one of the HEARTH Act performance measures. Projects must be consistent with the CoC Action Plan, and project proposals must specify the CoC Action Plan goal and performance measure the project addresses. All applications must adhere to the goals and regulations listed in the 2026 HUD CoC NOFO.

Project proposals must be received by 5 p.m. on July 16, 2026. Project proposals must be submitted in HUD e-snaps, as applicable, and electronically to the Collaborative Applicant. Each submission must include the following required application contents and attachments:

- Completed local project proposal form and completed HUD e-snaps project application, as applicable.
- Documentation of applicant eligibility, including nonprofit status documentation if applicable.
- Most current financial audit or, if no audit is required, the most recent IRS Form 990, compiled financial statements, or other financial documentation acceptable to HSNSV.
- Project narrative describing the population to be served, project type, geographic area, need, proposed services, housing approach, supportive services, and alignment with the CoC Action Plan and FY 2026 HUD CoC NOFO goals.
- Detailed project budget, including requested CoC funds, eligible cost categories, administrative costs, indirect costs if applicable, leveraged resources, and explanation of budget reasonableness.
- Match documentation identifying the source, amount, type, eligibility, and availability of required match. Match may be cash or in-kind only if allowable under HUD requirements and must be documented through commitment letters, memoranda of understanding, or other verifiable documentation.
- Performance information, including prior grant performance for renewals, projected outcomes for new projects, system performance contribution, housing stability, income and benefits outcomes, exits to permanent housing, utilization, data quality, and timeliness.
- HMIS participation certification or, for victim service providers, documentation of use of a comparable database consistent with applicable federal requirements.
- Coordinated Entry participation certification and description of how the project will receive, prioritize, and serve referrals through the CoC's Coordinated Entry process.
- Most recent monitoring results, if applicable, and explanation of any unresolved findings, corrective actions, audit concerns, or grant management risks.
- Letters of commitment, memoranda of understanding, or partnership agreements supporting proposed services, match, leveraged resources, referrals, treatment, recovery, employment, education, childcare, transportation, or other supportive services.
- Continuum of Care Project Eligibility: Attestation of Agency Compliance.
- Any additional forms, certifications, assurances, budget materials, narratives, attachments, or documentation required by HUD, HSNSV, or the Collaborative Applicant.

Match Requirement: Applicants must identify and document all required match consistent with HUD's FY 2026 CoC Program NOFO and applicable CoC Program regulations. Match commitments must be project-specific, eligible, verifiable, available during the grant term, and not counted as match for any other federally funded project unless expressly permitted.

Applications that do not document required match may be deemed incomplete or nonresponsive.

Funding Categories and Project Types: Applicants must identify whether the proposal is a renewal, new project, expansion, reallocation, transition grant, CoC Bonus, DV Bonus, YHDP renewal or replacement, HMIS, planning, supportive services only, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, coordinated entry, or other HUD-eligible project type.

The proposal must explain how the project meets the applicable HUD requirements for that funding category.

Project proposals must be submitted electronically to suzanne@unitedwsv.org

Please note, applications that are late or incomplete, will NOT be considered.

Step 4: Presentation of Project Proposals to the Coalition

Detailed Ranking and Scoring Criteria: The Review Panel will use a 100-point scoring framework to evaluate eligible applications. Projects must first pass threshold review, including applicant eligibility, timely submission, completeness, HUD-eligible activities and costs, required match documentation, HMIS or comparable database participation, Coordinated Entry participation, financial capacity, and absence of unresolved compliance concerns that would prevent award. Projects that do not pass threshold review may be rejected and not ranked.

Scoring Category	Points	Review Considerations
HUD NOFO Alignment and Eligible Project Design	15	Consistency with FY 2026 HUD CoC NOFO goals, eligible activities, eligible populations, project type requirements, CoC Action Plan priorities, and local system needs.
Performance and Outcomes	20	For renewals, prior performance on housing stability, exits to permanent housing, income and benefits, utilization, timeliness, spending, drawdowns, and grant compliance. For new projects, reasonableness of projected outcomes and evidence supporting the proposed approach.
System Performance and Community Impact	15	Contribution to reducing homelessness, improving flow through the homeless response system, serving high-need populations, supporting Coordinated Entry, addressing documented gaps, and improving overall CoC performance.
Financial Capacity, Budget Reasonableness, and Match	15	Budget accuracy, eligible costs, cost effectiveness, match documentation, leveraged resources, financial controls, audit results, grant management capacity, and ability to administer federal funds.
Data Quality, HMIS, and Reporting Capacity	10	HMIS or comparable database participation, data completeness, timeliness, accuracy, reporting capacity, PIT participation, and compliance with HUD data standards and HSNSV HMIS policies.
Coordinated Entry and Local Participation	10	Participation in Coordinated Entry, access point responsibilities, coalition meeting participation, committee participation, collaboration with partners, and compliance with HSNSV policies and procedures.
Supportive Services, Self-	10	Strength of services that support housing stability,

Sufficiency, Recovery, Employment, and Mainstream Benefits		treatment or recovery access where appropriate, employment, education, childcare, transportation, mainstream benefits, public safety, and long-term self-sufficiency.
Organizational Experience, Compliance, and Risk	5	Experience serving people experiencing homelessness, monitoring history, unresolved findings, corrective actions, staff capacity, board oversight, and overall risk to successful project implementation.

The Review Panel may also consider HUD funding priorities, local competition requirements, project component type, renewal performance, reallocation opportunities, transition grant proposals, DV Bonus requirements, YHDP requirements, and whether a project strengthens the CoC's consolidated application. Final ranking recommendations will be based on score, threshold eligibility, HUD requirements, funding category, strategic value to the CoC, and the need to submit the strongest possible consolidated application.

Renewal projects may be reduced, reallocated, ranked lower, or not recommended if they demonstrate poor performance, low utilization, repeated underspending, unresolved monitoring findings, weak data quality, inability to document match, lack of participation in Coordinated Entry or HMIS, or failure to comply with HUD or HSNSV requirements. New projects will be evaluated on need, feasibility, applicant capacity, budget reasonableness, match, partnerships, service design, and alignment with HUD and CoC priorities.

Summary of the 100-Point Ranking Framework: The scoring framework totals 100 points and is used to compare eligible project applications in a consistent and documented manner. Before scoring, each application must pass threshold review. Threshold review confirms that the application was submitted on time, is complete, proposes eligible activities and costs, identifies required match, demonstrates applicant eligibility and capacity, and meets HMIS, Coordinated Entry, and compliance expectations. Applications that pass threshold review are scored across eight categories: HUD NOFO alignment and project design; performance and outcomes; system performance and community impact; financial capacity, budget reasonableness, and match; data quality and HMIS reporting; Coordinated Entry and local participation; supportive services and self-sufficiency; and organizational experience, compliance, and risk. Scores should reflect the strength of the evidence provided in the application, not reviewer assumptions or information outside the submitted materials.

How Scores Should Be Used: The numerical score helps establish a preliminary rank order; however, the final ranking recommendation may also consider HUD funding rules, project component type, renewal obligations, reallocation decisions, bonus funding requirements, YHDP requirements, project feasibility, and the overall competitiveness of the CoC consolidated application. Reviewers should document any reason a project is recommended for reduced funding, lower ranking, reallocation, conditional approval, or rejection.

Attachment A: Rank and Review Scoring Form

Applicant Name	
Project Name	
Project Type/Funding Category	
Renewal, New, Expansion, Reallocation, Transition, Bonus, DV Bonus, YHDP, HMIS, Planning, or Other	
Reviewer Name	
Date Reviewed	

Reviewer Instructions: Reviewers must complete the threshold checklist before assigning points. If a project does not pass threshold review, the reviewer should mark the application as not eligible for scoring unless the Review Panel determines that a curable deficiency may be corrected within the local competition timeline. Reviewers must score only the information submitted with the application and required attachments. Reviewers should not rely on personal knowledge, assumptions, undocumented past experience, or verbal statements that are not included in the application record. Each score should be supported by brief comments explaining the evidence reviewed, strengths, concerns, missing documentation, risk factors, and the reason for any point deductions. Reviewers with an actual or perceived conflict of interest must disclose the conflict and recuse themselves from scoring, discussion, ranking, and voting for the affected application.

Threshold Review Checklist:

Threshold Requirement	Yes	No	Comments
Application submitted by the local deadline.			
Applicant is an eligible entity under HUD and local competition requirements.			
Application is complete and includes required local and HUD materials.			
Project activities and costs appear eligible for the proposed funding category.			
Required match is identified and documented.			
Applicant demonstrates financial and administrative capacity to manage federal funds.			
Applicant participates in HMIS or uses a comparable database if applicable.			
Applicant participates in Coordinated Entry and local CoC requirements.			
No unresolved compliance, monitoring, audit, or risk concerns prevent award.			
Threshold Determination: Pass or Fail			

100-Point Score Sheet:

Scoring Category	Maximum Points	Reviewer Score	Reviewer Comments
HUD NOFO Alignment and Eligible Project Design	15		
Performance and Outcomes	20		
System Performance and Community Impact	15		
Financial Capacity, Budget Reasonableness, and Match	15		
Data Quality, HMIS, and Reporting Capacity	10		
Coordinated Entry and Local Participation	10		
Supportive Services, Self-Sufficiency, Recovery, Employment, and Mainstream Benefits	10		
Organizational Experience, Compliance, and Risk	5		

Total Score	100		
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Examples for Applying Scoring Criteria:

Scoring Category	Strong Score Example	Partial Score Example	Low or No Score Example
HUD NOFO Alignment and Eligible Project Design	The project clearly identifies the eligible project type, eligible population, eligible costs, HUD funding category, local need, and how the design aligns with the FY 2026 HUD CoC NOFO and CoC Action Plan.	The project is generally eligible but does not fully explain the funding category, target population, local need, or connection to HUD and CoC priorities.	The project design is unclear, appears inconsistent with HUD requirements, lacks a defined eligible population, or includes activities or costs that may be ineligible.
Performance and Outcomes	A renewal project demonstrates strong housing stability, spending, utilization, data quality, and outcome performance; or a new project provides realistic projected outcomes supported by evidence and experience.	The project shows mixed performance, limited outcome detail, moderate underspending, or projected outcomes that are reasonable but not well supported.	The project has poor performance, low utilization, repeated underspending, weak outcomes, missing performance data, or unsupported projected outcomes.
System Performance and Community Impact	The project addresses a documented local gap, serves high-need households, improves system flow, reduces homelessness, and strengthens the CoC consolidated application.	The project addresses a need but provides limited evidence of system impact or does not clearly explain how it will improve CoC performance.	The project does not address a documented need, duplicates existing resources without justification, or has little demonstrated impact on the homeless response system.
Financial Capacity, Budget Reasonableness, and Match	The budget is complete, eligible, reasonable, cost-effective, supported by documentation, and includes clear, verifiable match commitments.	The budget is mostly complete but has minor unclear costs, limited budget narrative, incomplete leverage detail, or match documentation that needs clarification.	The budget is incomplete, includes questionable or ineligible costs, lacks cost justification, or does not document required match.
Data Quality, HMIS, and Reporting Capacity	The applicant demonstrates timely, accurate, and complete HMIS or comparable	The applicant participates in HMIS or a comparable database but has	The applicant does not participate as required, has significant unresolved data

	database participation, strong reporting capacity, and compliance with HUD data standards and local HMIS policies.	minor data quality issues, limited reporting detail, or inconsistent timeliness.	quality problems, or lacks capacity to meet reporting requirements.
Coordinated Entry and Local Participation	The applicant actively participates in Coordinated Entry, accepts referrals, attends required meetings, participates in committees, and complies with HSNSV policies and procedures.	The applicant participates in some local processes but has inconsistent meeting attendance, limited committee involvement, or unclear Coordinated Entry procedures.	The applicant does not participate in Coordinated Entry, does not meet local participation expectations, or does not demonstrate collaboration with the CoC.
Supportive Services, Self-Sufficiency, Recovery, Employment, and Mainstream Benefits	The project provides or connects participants to appropriate services that support housing stability, income, benefits, employment, education, treatment or recovery access where appropriate, and long-term self-sufficiency.	The project includes supportive services but lacks detail about service intensity, referral pathways, follow-up, or how services will improve housing stability and income outcomes.	The project provides little or no service strategy, does not connect participants to mainstream benefits or employment resources, or lacks meaningful housing stability supports.
Organizational Experience, Compliance, and Risk	The applicant has relevant experience, adequate staffing, strong governance, clean or resolved monitoring/audit history, and low implementation risk.	The applicant has relevant experience but some staffing, monitoring, audit, governance, or implementation concerns that appear manageable.	The applicant has limited experience, unresolved findings, weak controls, inadequate staffing, audit concerns, or significant risk to successful implementation.

Suggested Point Ranges: As a general guide, reviewers may award 90-100 percent of the available category points for a strong response with complete documentation and low risk; 50-89 percent for a response that is generally adequate but has gaps, limited documentation, mixed performance, or moderate risk; and 0-49 percent for a weak, incomplete, unsupported, ineligible, or high-risk response. Reviewers should use professional judgment and document the reason for each score.

Scoring Guidance: Reviewers should award full points when the application fully addresses the category, provides complete supporting documentation, demonstrates strong HUD and CoC alignment, and presents minimal implementation risk. Reviewers should award partial points when the application addresses the category but has gaps, limited documentation, weaker outcomes, unclear budget detail, or moderate risk. Reviewers should award few or no points when the application does not address the category, lacks required documentation, proposes

ineligible or unclear activities, or presents significant performance, compliance, financial, or implementation concerns.

Final Review Panel Recommendation:

Recommendation	Mark One	Comments
Recommend for inclusion in HUD CoC application.		
Recommend with conditions or required corrections.		
Do not recommend for inclusion.		
Recommend reduced funding, reallocation, or lower ranking.		
Recommended Rank		
Recommended Funding Amount		
Reviewer Signature		

Project proposals will be reviewed for inclusion in the HUD 2026 NOFO process and presented to the Review Panel for threshold review, scoring, ranking, and funding recommendations. The Review Panel will present its recommendations for project acceptance or rejection, rank order, and funding level at the July 23, 2026 Board meeting of the coalition. The coalition will vote on eligible projects to be included in the HUD CoC application and on the ranking recommendations from the Review Panel. Any agency representatives, including but not limited to employees, board members, volunteers, contractors, or other individuals with a conflict of interest related to an application under consideration, will recuse themselves from the review, ranking, recommendation, and voting process. Applicants will receive written notification on July 24, 2026 as to whether their agency project will be invited for inclusion in the relevant funding application, whether the project was accepted or rejected, and the project’s rank if applicable.

The appeals process previously adopted by HSNSV and currently in place will be followed.

All Project Applications must be submitted to United Way of Suwannee Valley, as the Collaborative Applicant, pursuant to the requirements specified in the HUD CoC Program NOFO.

Agencies submitting project proposals must be prepared to discuss their project with the full coalition membership, which constitutes the governing body, at its meeting on July 20, 2026. Failure to have a representative qualified to present the project will result in the application not being reviewed.

As part of the Homeless Services Network of Suwannee Valley effort to align with the HUD Continuum of Care expectations, site visits are conducted at those agencies which are approved for HUD funding.

**Step 5:
Voting**

Projects to be included in the applications submitted by United Way of Suwannee Valley on behalf of the Homeless Services Network of Suwannee Valley will be determined at a regularly-scheduled or duly-noticed meeting of the homeless coalition.

Voting will be conducted in accordance with the HSNSV Policies and Procedures.

HUD CoC Program NOFO project applications, including new, renewal, expansion, transition, reallocation, CoC Bonus, DV Bonus, YHDP, HMIS, planning, and other eligible project applications, are due in HUD e-snaps and to the Collaborative Applicant by July 16, 2026. Projects will be reviewed and ranked by the Review Panel July 20-23, 2026. Applicants will be notified of project acceptance or rejection, rank, and recommended funding level by July 24, 2026, and results will be posted on the HSNSV website in accordance with local competition and HUD requirements.