

## Funding Alert from the National Network to End Domestic Violence and the Domestic Violence and Housing Technical Assistance Consortium

### \$50 Million in Continuum of Care Rapid Rehousing (RRH) Funding for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice for Funding Availability (NOFA) will be released shortly and it will include the new \$50 million DV rapid rehousing funding from the FY18 Omnibus federal spending bill. *In order to meet victims' needs for survivor-centered safe housing, it is imperative that victim service providers be prepared for the forthcoming \$50 million CoC rapid rehousing (RRH) funding stream for victims of domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.*

The \$50 million in victim-specific RRH will be distributed via the CoC program competition process and victim service providers must work with their CoC to secure the resources.

*What you need to know:*

- The process will move quickly once the NOFA is released and CoCs are already in the process of considering funding decisions prior to the release of the FY18 NOFA.
- Interested victim service providers should start to have internal conversations now about applying for the funds and discussing their ideas with their CoC.
- DV programs and State coalitions are strongly encouraged to work with CoCs to highlight the need for DV-specific housing and DV programs' efficacy (successful outcomes).

It is anticipated that the funds will be open to projects that will serve 100% survivors – which could include organizations that are not primary purpose victim service providers. To maximize this funding opportunity, DV/victim service providers are strongly encouraged to pursue the funds and to engage with the CoC to ensure the funding is used in victim-centered ways.

[Safe Housing Partnerships](#) will have additional information once the NOFA is released. In the meantime, here are some suggestions from the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) on specific next steps and connecting with your local CoC.

#### Next Steps:

- Contact your CoC immediately to express your interest in applying for the DV rapid rehousing funding and build the case for prioritizing these resources for the DV survivors you are serving at your organization. If your program is not interested in applying and your CoC is pursuing these funds, offer your expertise and voice. This is critical in shaping the criteria and how these DV specific housing resources will be allocated. You can find the contact information for CoC leads [here](#).

- If your organization is not currently connected with your local CoC, become an active partner in your local CoC. DV/victim service providers can ensure that survivors have access to the community's full range of housing supports and resources, particularly, the new \$50 million DV funding. As full partners in your local CoC, DV/victim service providers can help ensure that survivors have a voice at the table and can share information on the housing barriers and challenges facing survivors, as well as the need to address survivor safety and confidentiality in all aspects of the CoC's approach to the new DV funding stream.
- **For State coalitions:** Share this update with your victim service provider membership and encourage their involvement (along with state coalitions) in their local CoC and Balance of State (BoS) and to consider these new DV rapid rehousing resources to support DV survivors in their regions and statewide.

### Request TA and Keep Apprised of the Latest Resources and NOFA Updates:

- Reach out to the NNEDV and/or the DV and Housing Technical Assistance Consortium for additional technical assistance, training, and strategic planning support. You can [contact](#) the TA Team at the [Safe Housing Partnership](#) website.
- Visit the Safe Housing Partnership [website](#) for NOFA updates (including the NOFA release), webinars, policy briefs, and trainings on the upcoming HUD NOFA and also on find relevant DV housing first and rapid rehousing research literature to support the DVHF and RRH models for inclusion in the HUD CoC program competition applications.
- Visit the [HUD Exchange](#) for the latest updates and information on the [CoC Program Competition and FY18 NOFA](#).

### Learn More About DV RRH and DV Housing First

Victim service providers -- especially those new to rapid rehousing -- can learn more about RRH principles from the [Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#) (WSCADV) Housing First [toolkit](#) that describes the key components of DV Housing First (DVHF). Additional resources include:

- National Alliance for Safe Housing (NASH) previously recorded [webinar](#) on Innovative Practices, featuring DVHF, RRH and flexible funding presented by WSCADV and NASH.
- [Evaluation of Lifewire's DV Rapid Re-Housing Project](#), a recent study (April 2018) on DV RRH and the LifeWire program out of Bellevue, Washington by Dr. Cris Sullivan at Michigan State University.

While a DV rapid rehousing program must adhere to the parameters set forth in HUD regulations, there is flexibility within those parameters to ensure housing and services are delivered in a trauma-informed and survivor-centered way; centering DV voluntary services and survivor choice should shape service design and delivery. DV programs may have to advocate in the CoC to demonstrate why survivors' needs in RRH are unique and how DV rapid rehousing is different than other RRH programs.

By implementing these DV specific recommendations, programs can provide the housing and services needed for DV survivors and their children to achieve the successful long-term outcomes of:

- Safe and stable housing,
- Healing from trauma and abuse,
- Education, training, childcare, health care and employment, and
- Health and social-emotional well-being and creating community connections after the isolation of abuse.

By sharing our knowledge across systems, we can continue to develop these programs in collaboration with CoCs. Together, communities can work to address homelessness stemming from fleeing domestic violence and create avenues for safety for DV survivors.

## Domestic Violence and Housing Technical Assistance Consortium

The Consortium, launched in 2015, provides training, technical assistance, and resource development at the critical intersection of homelessness and domestic violence and sexual assault. Funded by a partnership between the U.S. Department of Justice, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Consortium supports a TA Team of four national organizations: Collaborative Solutions, the National Alliance for Safe Housing, the National Network to End Domestic Violence, and the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence. The Consortium works collaboratively to improve policies and practices that strengthen efforts to build safe and supportive housing options for domestic and sexual violence survivors.



**Questions?** The Consortium TA Team is available to provide individualized technical assistance and training to communities interested in expanding the array of safe housing options for domestic and sexual violence survivors. We can also provide support to domestic and sexual violence advocates, homelessness and housing providers, and other allied partners interested in building stronger community collaborations.



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Visit [SafeHousingPartnerships.org](https://SafeHousingPartnerships.org) to access a comprehensive collection of online resources and to request technical assistance and support.