

Funding Alert from the Domestic Violence & Housing TA Consortium

Information for the Upcoming FY2019 HUD CoC Program Competition

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently announced the funding awards for the FY2018 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Competition and **177 new domestic violence projects** were selected to receive funding for a **total of \$60.9 million!** Of the 177 new projects, 124 will be funded through the DV Bonus, including:

- 59 Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) projects
- 23 Joint TH and PH-RRH Component projects
- 42 SSO/Coordinated Entry projects

This is certainly great news for the DV and housing field and a big congratulations goes out to all of the projects that are being funded. As a follow-up to the awards announcement, HUD has just completed regional debrief calls for the FY2018 competition where they shared pertinent information for the field that the Consortium would like to highlight in this alert.

The FY2019 CoC Program Competition is just around the corner!

HUD is in the process of rolling out the FY2019 HUD CoC Program Competition and the Notice of Funding Application (NOFA) should be released soon. It is anticipated the [FY2019 Program Competition](#) will open around May 1 and will close in late Summer. HUD is looking to announce awards in December 2019.

*If you are interested in applying for a new DV bonus project, **NOW** is the time to start talking with your local CoC!*

\$50 Million Available for the CoC DV Bonus in the FY2019 Program Competition

HUD has confirmed there will be \$50 million available again for **new DV projects** through the DV Bonus (i.e., DV RRH, Joint TH and PH-RRH Component Project, and DV Coordinated Entry). Victim service providers interested in applying 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 FY2019 NOFA. (*See anticipated timeline above.*)
- It is urgent that interested victim service providers start to have internal conversations now about applying for the funds and discussing their ideas with their CoC.
- Local domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking programs and State coalitions are strongly encouraged to work with CoCs to highlight the need for victim-specific housing, coordinated entry, and victim services program efficacy (i.e., successful outcomes).
- Programs that were just awarded funding in February 2018 should apply as a renewal project for the FY2019 HUD CoC NOFA funds to continue your projects.

Similar to last year, it is anticipated that funds will be open to projects that will serve only survivors – which could include organizations that are not primary purpose victim service providers. To maximize

this funding opportunity, 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 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 Bonus funding and build the case for prioritizing these resources for the DV, SA and human trafficking 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 victim-specific housing resources will be allocated. You can find the contact information for CoCs [here](#).
- If your organization is not currently connected with your local CoC, become an active partner. DV, SA and human trafficking organizations can ensure that survivors have access to the community's full range of housing supports and resources, particularly, the new \$50 million DV set aside. By partnering with your local CoC, victim service providers can help ensure that survivors of DV, SA, and human trafficking 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 set aside.
- **For State coalitions:** Share this update with your victim service provider membership and encourage their involvement (along with State coalitions) in their local or regional CoC and to consider these new DV Bonus resources to support survivors in their regions and statewide.

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

- Reach out to the DV and Housing Technical Assistance Consortium for additional TA, training, and strategic planning support. You can [contact](#) the TA Team at the [Safe Housing Partnerships](#) website.
- Visit the Safe Housing Partnerships [website](#) for NOFA updates (including the NOFA release), webinars, policy briefs, and trainings on the upcoming HUD NOFA and also find relevant DV housing first and rapid rehousing research literature to support the DVHF and RRH models.
- Visit the [HUD Exchange](#) for the latest updates and information on the [CoC Program Competition](#) and the upcoming [FY2019 NOFA](#). Link to HUD's [Domestic Violence and Homelessness](#) page for additional information.

Learn More About Housing Options for Survivors including DV RRH and DV Housing First:

The Consortium developed a **FAQ on the Joint Component Project** and you can access it [here](#). Also, 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.
- [Common ground, complementary approaches: adapting the Housing First model for domestic violence survivors](#) written by Dr. Cris Sullivan and Linda Olsen (2017), Housing and Society, DOI: [10.1080/0882746.1323305](#)
- [Rapid Re-Housing: Considerations for Homeless Service Providers Supporting Families Impacted by DV](#) written by Kris Billhardt, National Alliance for Safe Housing (July 2018)
- [FAQ: Coordinated Entry Process: A Resource for DV and SA Victim Service Providers](#) developed by the Consortium TA Team (**in process of being updated*)
- [Coordinated Entry: Confidentiality in Practice](#) created by National Network to End Domestic Violence (2018)

**Note: An update to the FAQ on Coordinated Entry is underway and will be available soon.*

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; voluntary services and survivor choice should shape service design and delivery. Victim service 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 survivor-centered specific recommendations, programs can provide the housing and services needed for DV, SA and human trafficking survivors and their families to achieve successful long-term outcomes of safe and stable housing while also ensuring they can heal from the trauma and abuse. By sharing our knowledge across systems, victim service providers can work together with CoCs to address homelessness stemming from fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking and create avenues of safety for all 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 five national organizations: Collaborative Solutions, the National Alliance for Safe Housing, the National Network to End Domestic Violence, the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center. 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.



Visit SafeHousingPartnerships.org to access a comprehensive collection of online resources and to request technical assistance and support.