

TX-503 Austin/Travis County CoC

Project Application

FY22 Special NOFO Competition

The application materials are worth 100% of the overall score of 100 points. If applicable, community ranking priorities and cost effectiveness will be considered in the final ranking in addition to the scoring.

New Project Application: Total Score Summary	
Local Application	MAXIMUM POINTS: 40
<i>e-snaps</i> Application	MAXIMUM POINTS: 60
MAXIMUM TOTAL: 100 points	

Local Application

MAXIMUM POINTS	SCORING SECTION
1. <i>e-snaps</i> Application	
P/F	1.1 <i>e-snaps</i> application attached
P/F	1.2 <i>e-snaps</i> application completed
2. CoC Policies & Standards	
P/F	2.1 CoC Program Expectations
5	2.2 Housing First
5	2.3 Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities
3. Proposed Project	
5	3.1 Project Description
5	3.2 Performance Evaluation
5	3.3 Mainstream Benefits
10	3.4 Meeting Needs of Unsheltered Clients
5	3.5 Project Staffing Plan
40	TOTAL SCORE

Local Application Question and Scoring Criteria

1. <i>e-snaps</i> Application	
<p style="text-align: center;">1.1 <i>e-snaps</i> Application Attached</p> <p><i>Copy of e-snaps application for the proposed project is attached in Google Forms or submitted via email.</i></p> <p>Required Attachment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>e-snaps</i> application 	<p>PASS – Copy of <i>e-snaps</i> application for the proposed project is attached in Google Forms or sent via email.</p> <p>FAIL – No attachment is included in Google Forms or via email by application deadline.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">1.2 <i>e-snaps</i> Application Complete</p> <p><i>e-snaps application is complete with all required items.</i></p>	<p>PASS – <i>e-snaps</i> application is complete.</p> <p>PASS W/ FINDINGS – Provides description of cause and or there is some concern that the project application is not complete and needs revisions before submitting.</p> <p>FAIL – Information provided confirms that project is <u>not</u> eligible and/or will <u>not</u> be accepted by HUD due to missing or inaccurate information in <i>e-snaps</i> application.</p>
2. CoC Policies & Standards	
<p style="text-align: center;">2.1 CoC Program Expectations</p> <p><i>Please review and complete the CoC Program Expectations Form. Is the acknowledgement form attached?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Yes, completed form is attached</i> • <i>Other</i> <p><i>Attach a signed copy that acknowledges the program will have sufficient internal controls to meet the expectations the grant start date.</i></p>	<p>PASS – Copy of CoC Program Expectations is attached in Google Forms or sent via email.</p> <p>FAIL – No attachment is included in Google Forms or via email by application deadline.</p>

2.2 Housing First

Please describe plans or strategies in place for implementing Housing First at your agency, and how you will demonstrate performance in providing low-barrier and culturally responsive services to individuals and families who have experienced unsheltered homelessness. (300-word limit).

Scoring Criteria:

See the [TX-503 Austin/Travis County Written Standards for Program Delivery](#) for a detailed description of how Housing First practice can be applied to each step of service delivery.

The Austin/Travis County CoC has adopted the Housing First approach throughout our system. Services are targeted and prioritized for the most vulnerable people in our community and are offered without conditions. Within the Housing First model, barriers to accessing and maintaining housing and services are reduced or eliminated to ensure those who need the resources most have access to them. Housing First is a homeless services approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness, and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach aims to eliminate the system barriers that prevent people from accessing their right to housing. Housing First can be contrasted with older models, like Housing Ready, that focus on addressing other issues (e.g., substance abuse, increasing income) prior to placing a person in housing. Additionally, Housing First is based on the idea that participant choice is valuable in housing selection and supportive service participation, and that exercising the right to choose will likely make a client more successful in remaining housed and improving their quality of life. Services should be culturally appropriate. Personal barriers, such as non-adherence to a medication regimen or substance abuse, are addressed using collaborative approaches, like motivational interviewing.

5 points – Agency implements all elements of Housing First as described in the TX-503 Austin/Travis County Written Standards for Program Delivery, including centering participant choice and providing culturally responsive, low-barrier services.

4 points – Agency implements some elements of Housing First as described in the TX-503 Austin/Travis County Written Standards for Program Delivery, including culturally responsive *and* low-barrier services.

3 points – Agency implements some elements of Housing First as described in the TX-503 Austin/Travis County Written Standards for Program Delivery, including low-barrier services.

2 points – Agency implements some elements of Housing First as described in the TX-503 Austin/Travis County Written Standards for Program Delivery, *and* services have some barriers for eligibility (e.g., sobriety, income

	<p>requirements).</p> <p>1 point – Agency does not implement Housing First <i>and</i> has a clear plan to implement Housing First.</p> <p>0 points – Agency does not implement Housing First and does not provide a clear plan to implement Housing First.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2.3 Addressing Racial and Ethnic Disparities</p> <p><i>Describe how your agency demonstrates efforts to identify and reduce racial and ethnic disparities within your agency.</i></p> <p>Scoring Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear and effective planning process, including goals, key people, collaborators, and their roles • Evaluation process in place to determine effectiveness of strategies at addressing racial and ethnic disparities • Timeline is mentioned as a planning/implementation tool 	<p>5 points – Agency clearly demonstrates significant efforts to identify and reduce racial and ethnic disparities among clients served, agency practices, hiring and retention, and program outcomes; <i>and</i> description includes timeline <i>and</i> evaluation strategies.</p> <p>4 points - Agency clearly demonstrates significant efforts to identify and reduce racial and ethnic disparities among their clients; agency practices, hiring and retention, and program outcomes; <i>and</i> description includes timeline <i>or</i> evaluation strategies.</p> <p>3 points – Agency demonstrates some efforts to identify and</p>

	<p>reduce racial and ethnic disparities among their clients; agency practices, hiring and retention, and program outcomes; <i>and</i> description does not timeline <i>and</i> does not include evaluation strategies.</p> <p>2 points – Agency demonstrates minimal efforts to identify and reduce racial and ethnic disparities among their clients, agency practices, hiring and retention, and/or program outcomes; <i>and</i> has a plan to increase efforts.</p> <p>1 point - Agency demonstrates minimal efforts to identify and reduce racial and ethnic disparities among their clients, agency practices, hiring and retention, and/or program outcomes.</p> <p>0 points – Agency demonstrates no efforts.</p>
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3. Proposed Project

<p style="text-align: center;">3.1 CoC Project Description</p> <p><i>Please provide a description of the proposed project. (500-word limit). The description must be consistent with other parts of this application and identify:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The target population including the total number of clients (single adults and/or families with children) to be served when the project is at full capacity.</i> 	<p>5 points – All sections of the question have been fully answered <i>and</i> proposed project description and expected outcomes clearly align with Community Funding Priorities <i>and</i></p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Number and type of units (e.g., scattered site or single site)</i> • <i>The specific services that will be provided</i> • <i>Expected outcomes</i> • <i>Coordination with partners – please describe any partnerships or leverage used to expand service packages including capital funding, healthcare, housing vouchers, and/or housing subsidies</i> • <i>Project timeline – when units are expected to be online and leased-up</i> • <i>Cost per client for full-service package (including all services and rental assistance)</i> 	<p>competitive cost is demonstrated per client for full service package.</p> <p>4 points – All sections of the question have been fully answered <i>and</i> the proposed project description and expected outcomes clearly align with Community Funding Priorities.</p> <p>3 points – All sections of the question have been fully answered <i>and</i> the proposed project description and expected outcomes <i>somewhat</i> align with Community Funding Priorities.</p> <p>2 points – All sections of the question have been fully answered <i>and</i> the proposed project description does not align with Community Funding Priorities.</p> <p>1 point – Most of the sections of the question have been fully answered <i>and</i> the proposed project description does not align with Community Funding Priorities.</p> <p>0 points – Incomplete answer.</p>

3.2 Performance Evaluation

Please describe any plans or policies for collecting and applying data on program performance to improve services. The description must include how client feedback will be used to inform improvements to service delivery and program operations, and how you will conduct ongoing evaluation of improvement efforts. (500-word limit).

Scoring Criteria:

- Different types of data collection are described (e.g., project performance, client feedback, employee evaluations, third-party evaluations, continuous quality improvement (CQI), etc.)
- Clear description of data-informed performance evaluation including outcome metrics for proposed projects
- Client feedback is specifically mentioned as a mechanism for performance evaluation and decision-making
- Data will be used to ensure cost-effectiveness of program spending

5 points – All criteria clearly described with examples.

4 points – Applicant utilizes or plans to utilize multiple types of data *including* client feedback to inform performance evaluation and to track spending; *and* client feedback is **not** specifically mentioned as a mechanism for decision-making.

3 points – Applicant utilizes or plans to utilize multiple types of data to inform performance evaluation, make decisions, and track spending *and* does **not** mention client feedback as part of data collection.

2 points – Applicant utilizes or plans to utilize one additional type of data aside from Quarterly Performance Scorecards to inform performance evaluation, make decisions, and track spending *and* does **not** mention client feedback as part of data collection.

1 point – Applicant utilizes or plans to utilize Quarterly Performance

	<p>Scorecards to inform performance evaluation, make decisions, and track spending <i>and</i> does not mention client feedback as part of data collection.</p> <p>0 points – Applicant does not currently collect data to inform performance evaluation, make decisions, and track spending; <i>and</i> applicant does not have a clear plan for collecting and utilizing data.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">3.2 Mainstream Benefits</p> <p><i>Please describe your specific plan for ensuring program participants will be individually assisted to obtain the benefits of mainstream health, social, and employment programs for which they are eligible to apply, and which meet their needs. (300-word limit).</i></p> <p>Scoring Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated staff working on connecting clients to mainstream benefits that clients are eligible to apply for and which meet their needs • Mainstream benefits named include: SNAPs, TANF, MAP, SSI/SSDI, childcare, workforce, government identification documents, substance use recovery programs, transportation • Regular training opportunities provided on any changes to application processes or eligibility criteria for mainstream benefits programs • Agency promotes SOAR certification among program staff, including dedicated SOAR-certified staff member(s) 	<p>5 points – All criteria met.</p> <p>4 points – Majority of criteria met, including SOAR-certified staff member dedicated to connecting clients to mainstream benefits; <i>and</i> applicant names SNAPs and MAP.</p> <p>3 points – Majority of criteria met, including SOAR-certified staff member dedicated to connecting clients to mainstream benefits.</p> <p>2 points – Less than 50% of criteria met, <i>and</i> agency has a SOAR-certified staff member.</p> <p>1 point – Less than 50% of criteria met, <i>and</i> agency does not have a SOAR-</p>

	<p>certified staff member.</p> <p>0 points – No criteria are met</p>
<p align="center">3.4 Meeting Needs of Unsheltered Clients</p> <p><i>How will your organization support the unique needs of formerly unsheltered individuals who experienced chronic homelessness including those who have not traditionally engaged with supportive services, in transitioning into and sustaining permanent housing? Please describe any policies, programs, strategies, and/or methods of service delivery. (500-word limit).</i></p> <p>Scoring Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear plans laid out that include strategies and methods of service delivery specifically designed to meet the unique needs of formerly unsheltered individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness and have not traditionally engaged with supportive services. • Policies in place to create individualized service plans that center client choice and utilize best practice, such as motivational interviewing and trauma-informed practice. • Staff is trained and provided with resources to support policy and program implementation to support the unique needs of formerly unsheltered individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness and have not traditionally engaged with supportive services. • Plans include peer support staff and hiring of additional direct-service and management-level staff with lived experience of homelessness. 	<p>10 points – All criteria met.</p> <p>8 points – Clear plans laid out which include policies and training for staff, hiring peer support <i>and</i> other staff with lived experience, <i>and</i> there is mention of best practices.</p> <p>6 points – Plans laid out which include mention of best practices and training for staff.</p> <p>4 points – Some plan is in place which includes some mention of best practices and training.</p> <p>2 points – Best practices and staff training is mentioned, but no plan is laid out and no policies have been put in place.</p> <p>0 points – Question is not fully answered, <i>or</i> organization does not have a plan for specifically supporting the unique needs of formerly unsheltered individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness and have not traditionally engaged with supportive services.</p>
<p align="center">3.5 Project Staffing Plan</p> <p><i>Provide an overview of the staffing plan using the attached Project Staffing Plan. This information should match project details provided</i></p>	<p>5 points – Meets all criteria.</p>

throughout the application, including information listed in e-snaps.

Scoring Criteria:

- Roles and relevant experience of working team members are clearly outlined.
- Staffing plan includes peer support specialists or other dedicated staff to provide peer mentorship/coaching/support.
- Proposed project team is diverse and includes a variety of relevant expertise that will benefit the proposed project.
- Proposed team indicates a sufficient quantity of staff and diversity of staff specializations to operate a component efficiently.

4 points – Meets $\frac{3}{4}$ of criteria, *including* peer support roles.

3 points – Meets $\frac{3}{4}$ of criteria, *not* including peer support roles.

2 points – Meets 50% of criteria, *or* partially meets all criteria.

1 point – Roles and relevant experience of working team members are clearly outlined; no other criteria met.

0 points – Does not meet criteria.