Federal Grant Recipient
Monthly Call

September 2023
Today’s Agenda

- CoC Program Updates
- CoC & ESG Written Standards
- Unsheltered Special NOFO
- Homelink Lead Update
- HMIS Lead Agency Update
- CoC Governance Updates
- Government Shutdown Implications
CoC Program Updates

• Announcement from HUD Local Field Office 9/26/23:
  • The Federal Audit Clearinghouse will transition from the U.S. Census Bureau to the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) on October 1, 2023.
  • All submissions will need to be made through the new FAC hosted by GSA, including all single audits for entities with 2023 FYE dates.
  • Click here to access/bookmark the future GSA FAC site, and get updates about the transition.
CoC Program Updates

• CoC NOFO Competition
  • Consolidated Application due 9/28/2023
  • Thank you to our project applicants for submitting high-quality applications!

• Updated Site Visit Schedule Reminder
  • Bi-annual site visits – Late Fall and Spring
  • Fall site visits will include NOFO debrief information, policy and procedure reviews (including grievance policy), CoC MOU execution, etc.
  • Spring site visits will include Housing First evaluations
  • We will reach out soon to schedule fall site visits
CoC Program Updates

• Updated Grant Spending Procedure Reminder
  • No longer required to submit eLOCCS spending tracking documents
  • We will be updating our forms and will let you know this fall if you will be required to submit proof of draws

• Update: New CoC Project – The Salvation Army RRH DV
  Bonus starts 11/1/2023

• Welcome Stephanie Escobar as SARAH’s new Technical Assistance Specialist! Continue to email Chelsey – we will inform you when to transition to emailing Stephanie
CoC & ESG Written Standards

• Grievance Appeal Policy
  • For grievances that need to be appealed to the CoC
  • Agency appeal – Page 6 of Written Standards
  • Client appeal – Page 11 of Written Standards

• NSPIRE (National Standards for Physical Inspection of Real Estate)
  • Updates to HUD’s housing quality standards
  • Updated implementation date: October 1, 2024
  • HUD will be releasing additional guidance in the upcoming months to assist CoC & ESG projects with compliance.
Unsheltered Special NOFO

• As a reminder, this grant was awarded to our community in April and will bring in new permanent housing and street outreach/housing navigation resources. This includes expanded SSI/SSDI, Outreach, and Access to Recovery (SOAR) case managers.

• Estimated start date for these new projects is 11/1/2023 – 1/1/2024.

• Eligibility – people with histories of unsheltered homelessness.
Homelink Lead Updates

• New Policy for Clients Affiliated with the Battered Women’s and Children’s Shelter
  • To protect the anonymity of survivors, HMIS users should not enter any information that would link a client to the Battered Women’s Shelter.
  • SARAH is conducting checks in HMIS and will reach out to users who need to update enrollment data.
  • Please be sure to update a client’s address each time you complete the entry workflow.
  • Click here to read the full policy.
Homelink Lead Updates

• New Policy for Clients Affiliated with the Battered Women’s and Children’s Shelter
  • To protect the anonymity of survivors, HMIS users should not enter any information that would link a client to the Battered Women’s Shelter.
  • SARAH is conducting checks in HMIS and will reach out to users who need to update enrollment data.
  • Please be sure to update a client’s address each time you complete the entry workflow.
  • Click here to read the full policy.
Homelink Lead Updates

• Self-Declaration for Housing Status of Youth Form
  • Implemented June 2023
  • Standard process for YHDP housing providers to document a youth and young adult’s self-declaration of homeless status to ensure that eligible clients are being admitted into housing projects.
  • The form is to be completed by the housing provider at intake.
  • Skilled Assessors and YHDP providers have been trained on how to use this form, which can be accessed here.
Homelink Lead Updates

• Training Framework Update
  • As a reminder, SARAH is leading the development of a Training Framework for community partners to have access to standardized training materials
  • Today is the last ad-hoc meeting.
  • The framework will be presented to the Homeless Response System Advisory Committee in October
HMIS Lead Agency Updates

• HMIS updating to the 2024 HUD HMIS Data Standards on Saturday, September 30th at 8 pm.
• We expect the system to be down for about 2 hours that night.
• The HMIS team will be monitoring tickets on Sunday, October 1st from 6 am – 6 pm to ensure there are no major issues.
• HMIS users will receive news and warnings of any major issues via mass email.
CoC Governance Updates

• Homeless Response System Advisory Committee
  • September meeting agenda:
    • TBRA Bridge Projects (coming online 10/1/2023)
    • Homelink Prevention updates
    • Phase 2 of the Resource Placement Index
  • Next meeting is October 11, 2023, from 10 – 11:30 am

• HMIS and Data Advisory Committee
  • September meeting agenda:
    • HMIS Lead Monitoring
    • 2024 HMIS Strategic Plan
    • PIT Count Methodology
  • Next meeting is October 25, 2023, from 10:30 – 11:30 am
CoC Governance Updates

• CoC Membership Council Advisory Board Meeting
  • September agenda:
    • Discussion of 2024 Point-in-Time Count activities of the Council
    • Recommendation of 2 new members: Communities Under the Bridge and Center for Health Care Services
  • Next virtual Community Collaboration Call is October 25, 2023, at 9:30 am
  • Next full council meeting is November 28, 2023, from 2:30 – 4:00 pm
• Email AzhaliaRamirez@sarahomeless.org to be added or removed to any distribution lists
Government Shutdown Implications

• Congress has a deadline to enact a spending bill through the appropriations process by September 30th.

• This could impact TANF, food assistance, and rental assistance

• Click here for more information from the National Alliance to End Homelessness

---

HOMELINESS DOESN’T SHUT DOWN WHEN THE GOVERNMENT DOES

Top tips for federally-funded organizations to ensure the least amount of potential impact on people experiencing homelessness.

- Confirm access to e-snaps and eLOCCS for all who need it.
- Review any grant-associated deadlines (not associated with the CoC competition).
- Be patient with federal offices if they are slow to respond.
- Check in with program participants and come up with a plan for how to support them in accessing public benefits.
Resources

- Federal Grant Recipient Monthly Call Recordings and Slides (posted the following week & sent out via email)
- September 2023 CoC Newsletter
- Homelink Helpful Resources One-Pager
- CoC and ESG Virtual Binders
- CoC and ESG Written Standards
- Housing Voucher information
Technical Assistance

- CoC, YHDP, Special NOFO
  - Chelsey Viger, chelseyviger@sarahomeless.org

- Homelink
  - Crystal Santibanez, crystalsantibanez@sarahomeless.org

- HMIS
  - HMIS Help Desk, hmis@havenforhope.samanage.com

- Local HUD Field Office
  - CPD_GeneralCorr-SAT@hud.gov
Subscriptions

- CoC Newsletter
- Homelink Happenings Newsletter
- HMIS Newsletter
- HUD SNAPS Distribution List – Funding Competitions
- HUD SNAPS Distribution List – Program Information
- HUD Exchange