

# **MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HOMELESS TRUST REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA) FOR INCLUSION IN THE FY 2026 USHUD CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM COMPETITION NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO)**

The Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust, hereinafter referred to as the Continuum of Care (CoC), is soliciting proposals for new and renewal projects as part of our response to the FY 2026 U.S. HUD Continuum of Care Program Competition, hereinafter referred to as the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

## **HUD CoC**

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program (24 CFR part 578) is a national competition between geographic areas designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness. The funding is designed to quickly rehouse homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs and programs funded with State or local resources; and to optimize self-sufficiency among homeless individuals and families.

The NOFO funds the renewal of existing CoC grants, including DV Renewal projects and projects originally funded under the Special NOFO to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness, and the competitive renewal or replacement of existing YHDP grants that are expiring in Calendar Year 2027. This NOFO also provides funding for new projects, including those created with DV Bonus, CoC Bonus, and the reallocation of existing renewal projects.

**A PRE-APPLICATION WORKSHOP FOR INTERESTED RESPONDENTS WILL BE HELD at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, June 22, 2026, via Microsoft Teams.**

**Please read the solicitation carefully and in its entirety. Attendance to the Pre-Application Workshop is strongly recommended.** Visit [Join the meeting now](#) or join the Meeting by dialing 1-(786) 628-2782 and use passcode 221092173#. We recommend downloading the Microsoft Teams mobile or desktop application before attending.

We invite non-profit organizations, states, local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments, Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHE) to review this RFA; as well as for-profit organizations interested performing property management responsibilities as described in Section II.

The deadline for submission of responses to this application is 11:59 p.m. EST on Monday, July 27, 2026. Please refer to the Homeless Trust website for instructions on compiling and submitting your response(s) to this solicitation.

Funding being sought as part of this solicitation is contingent on respondents being selected by a Selection Committee appointed by the Miami-Dade County Mayor. Funding for the CoC program is contingent on U.S. HUD awarding funding to the Miami-Dade community. Applications will only be received via Monday.com and must be submitted by the deadline in this RFA in order to be considered. **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE TO THE 11:59 P.M. DEADLINE** on Monday, July 27, 2026. The Project Budget Detail ATTACHMENT 5 (Microsoft Excel document) must remain in its original format (do not convert to PDF). Respondents who convert these documents to PDF will be subject to a loss of points. Application can be saved as draft while you are working on your submission, but respondents must Submit them on or before the deadline. The County in no way will be responsible for delays caused by technical difficulties or any other occurrence. Proposals may not be emailed, mailed, hand delivered or faxed.

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THIS PROPOSAL IS SUBJECT TO THE CONE OF SILENCE, ORDINANCE 98-106.

*Please contact the Homeless Trust if the Request for Application document is required in an alternative format or language. Miami-Dade County is not liable for any cost incurred by the applicant in responding to the Request for Applications, and we reserve the right to modify or amend the application deadline schedule if it is deemed necessary or in the interest of Miami-Dade County. Miami-Dade County also reserves the right to accept or reject any and all applications, to waive technicalities or irregularities, and to accept applications that are in the best interest of Miami-Dade County. Miami-Dade County provides equal access and opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race or disability.*

## **I. ELIGIBILITY**

Eligible Applicants include State and County governments, City or township governments, Special district governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), Public Housing Authorities/Indian Housing Authorities, Native American tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments), and Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, including institutions of higher education.

Faith-based organizations may apply on the same basis as any other organization. HUD does not engage in any unlawful and improper conduct, policies, or practices that target faith-based organizations.

Individuals are NOT eligible applicants. For-profit entities are invited to apply only for the Verde Gardens property management component outlined in Section II.

To be eligible for funding under the FY 2026 Continuum of Care NOFO, project applicants must meet all statutory and regulatory requirements in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, (42 U.S.C. 11381–11389) (the Act) and the CoC Program Rule found in 24 CFR part 578 (the Rule). For more information on Applicant eligibility see Section V.A.1 of the HUD NOFO. Project applicants can obtain a copy of the Act and the Rule on [HUD's website](#) or by contacting the NOFO Information Center at 1-800-483-8929. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, as well as individuals with speech or communication disabilities may visit <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/telecommunications-relay-service-trs> for more information on how to make an accessible telephone call to HUD.

Projects funded through this NOFO must have the following eligibility criteria for program participants:

- Participants must meet the definition of homeless listed under the definition of "homeless" in 24 CFR 578.3 and include the definition of "homeless" under section 103(b) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
- All projects must participate in coordinated entry, and the selection of program participants must be consistent with the CoC's coordinated entry process.
- As provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2025, youth aged 24 and under must not be required to provide third-party documentation that they meet the homeless definition in 24 CFR 578.3 or section 103(b) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act as a condition for receiving services funded under this NOFO. Additionally, any youth-serving provider funded under this NOFO may serve unaccompanied youth aged 24 and under or families headed by youth aged 24 and under who are living in unsafe situations. HUD interprets "youth-serving provider" as a private nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to provide services to youth aged 24 and under and families headed by youth aged 24 and under. HUD interprets "living in unsafe situations" as having an unsafe primary nighttime residence and no safe alternative to that residence. These youth-related requirements supersede any conflicting requirements under the Rule.

Project applications must leverage mainstream resources to promote participant self-sufficiency through (1) robust healthcare inclusive of behavioral health, (2) childcare for households with children, (3) supportive employment, and (4) expedited access to SSI, Medicaid, Medicare and SNAP.

[24 CFR 578.73](#) of the Rule requires that recipients must **match all grant funds, except for leasing funds, with no less than 25 percent of funds or in-kind contributions from other sources**. Respondents have two required attachments to show match, Attachment 13 and they are required to submit a second attachment which includes match commitment letter(s) generated by their match sources.

If you expect to charge [indirect costs](#) to the award, submit the Indirect Cost Rate Certification form (HUD-426) with your application.

## **II. DESCRIPTION OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

**All respondents are subject to the timeline in section IV.**

As referenced by HUD in their national 2026 NOFO, the goals and objectives of this funding opportunity are:

FY 2026 CoC Program NOFO Goals and Objectives

Our federal partners are taking a new approach to addressing homelessness in their FY 2026 NOFO. HUD asserts that a "Housing First" approach to homelessness has failed to deliver on the CoC Program's primary goal: to end homelessness. The NOFO clarifies that since the Housing First policy was first mandated by HUD in 2013: Literal homelessness (on the street, in emergency shelters, or in transitional housing) has increased 27%, Chronic homelessness has increased 80.5%, and Unsheltered homelessness has increased 36.1% despite the fact that, since 2013 taxpayer funded "permanent housing" beds have increased 150.9% and CoC spending has increased 111%. HUD is restoring the CoC program to its original goals of reducing homelessness by focusing on meaningful outcomes, expanding competition, prioritizing treatment, economic independence, and emphasizing law and order. The solicitation is looking for proposals that will create innovation and yield these outcomes:

### 1. Improving Outcomes.

The NOFO incentivizes optimizing self-sufficiency, reducing homelessness, and minimizing the trauma caused to communities by homelessness. HUD is committed to supporting meaningful, sustained reductions in homelessness and increases in self-sufficiency rather than measuring outputs such as the number of beds created or filled.

The NOFO focuses on reductions in unsheltered homelessness and encampments. Applicants are required to demonstrate their ability to effectively reduce homelessness and increase self-sufficiency, increase employment income over government assistance, and promote treatment and recovery.

This NOFO allows CoCs to reallocate, expand, and transition grants. This competition is encouraging us to continue to fund and partner with faith-based providers and improve the overall performance of the CoC. The NOFO also makes a significant investment in Transitional Housing and Supportive Service Only projects to ensure that those who can recover and achieve self-sufficiency have the support to do so.

### 2. Creating Competition to Improve Innovation and Accountability.

The Continuum of Care Program NOFO is designed to promote competition. "Competition drives outcomes, effectiveness, innovation, and accountability. Consistent with the FY26 appropriation bill, HUD is setting Tier 1 at 60% and competing 40% of CoC ARD based on merit between geographic areas. Increased competition brings the CoC Program back to its original intent as a competitive program, not an entitlement program or block grant."

### 3. Restoring Balance to the Continuum of Care.

The CoC program has four project components for all CoCs: Permanent Housing, Transitional Housing, Supportive Service Only, and HMIS. This NOFO provides opportunities to restore a healthy balance of CoC-funded projects to further community-wide efforts to reduce homelessness. In their NOFO, HUD points to the trend and disparities between Permanent Housing and Transitional Housing: "In 2024, 88% of the CoC national award went to Permanent Housing, and only 1% supported transitional housing projects." By investing in Transitional Housing and Supportive Service Only projects, HUD intends to restore the "continuum" to the

Continuum of Care Program to help able-bodied people move to self-sufficiency. In their NOFO HUD suggests that only individuals who are likely to never be able to return to the workforce: over 62 years old, physically disabled, developmentally disabled, should be prioritized for Permanent Supportive Housing. Further the NOFO highlights that many individuals with disabilities, including impairment due to substance abuse, are able to recover and regain self-sufficiency and deserve every opportunity to receive treatment and services to help them do so.

#### 4. Prioritizing Treatment and Recovery as a Means to Self-Sufficiency.

This NOFO provides communities opportunities to invest in treatment services and recovery housing and ensures that recipients do not distribute drug paraphernalia or knowingly permit the use and distribution of fatal, illicit drugs on their properties. This is not a requirement that projects condition assistance on sobriety or treatment, although both are allowable under 24 CFR 578. CoCs are encouraged to prioritize projects that provide the treatment and services people need to recover and regain self-sufficiency including on-site behavioral health treatment, robust wraparound supportive services, and participation requirements. This NOFO devotes resources to Transitional Housing programs and Supportive Service Only projects with the goal of improving health and long-term economic independence for homeless individuals and families. The NOFO encourages investment in treatment-focused beds, recovery housing, and partnership with community behavioral healthcare providers, drug courts, and other addiction and severe mental illness treatment providers. HUD encourages applicants to utilize the full array of mainstream programs and local and private resources to provide housing and healthcare needed to maintain safe and stable housing.

#### 5. Promoting Economic Self-Sufficiency.

One of the primary purposes of the CoC Program, as outlined in 42 U.S.C. § 11381, is to optimize self-sufficiency. The NOFO rewards applications who demonstrate a partnership with workforce development centers, employers, childcare, and other supportive service providers to increase employment and employment income for program participants. The NOFO calls out one way to advance both recovery and self-sufficiency through supportive service participation requirements. HUD is looking for well-designed supportive service participation requirements that provide structure and accountability for program participants to meet their unique goals and needs. In accordance with 24 CFR 578.75(h), HUD encourages supportive service agreements that meet individual needs and advance individual progress towards self-sufficiency and independent living goals set forth in 42 U.S.C. 11386a(b)(1)(F).

#### 6. Advancing Public Safety for All.

The NOFO highlights that safety and security for all members of the public, especially those living on the streets and in encampments, is essential to promoting a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness and minimizing trauma to individuals, families, and communities. The NOFO suggests CoCs should cooperate with law enforcement to advance public safety for the entire community impacted by homelessness. HUD encourages CoCs to assist in preventing and minimizing the trauma associated with living on the streets or in encampments, especially for women and youth that are the victims of sexual assault and trafficking. The NOFO recognizes that first responders are critical partners in engaging people into treatment and services and protecting public order and vulnerable homeless individuals. First responders and law enforcement are often the first to encounter our most vulnerable members of society and should be aware of the available services to triage individuals into safe and appropriate services, ideally alongside non-law enforcement service providers in the Continuum of Care. The NOFO asks CoCs to work with law enforcement, first responders, and their state and local governments to reduce encampments, public camping, and public drug use in order to address barriers to maintaining housing and increasing self-sufficiency.

#### 7. Minimizing Trauma for Vulnerable Populations.

The NOFO highlights that one of the purposes of the CoC program is to minimize the trauma associated with homelessness 42 U.S.C. § 11381(2). CoCs are encouraged to seek providers that provide trauma informed care and ensure participant safety in programs.

#### 8. Expanding Access Based on Merit, and Not Ideology.

HUD is committed to providing an equal opportunity to every applicant, recipient, and program participant free from discrimination. Part of this commitment is recognizing the role faith-based providers play in each community. Through their NOFO, HUD will ensure that faith-based organizations can participate in the CoC program and

operate consistent with their sincerely held religious beliefs, recognizing all relevant protections provided by subsection c of HUD's Equal Participation Rule, 24 CFR § 5.109, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, and the First Amendment. HUD is committed to promoting equal access to CoC programs for homeless individuals and program participants regardless of their race or other protected status. This NOFO prohibits the use of federal funds for any type of preferences under the guise of "diversity, equity, and inclusion."

Through this solicitation Miami-Dade is prioritizing innovative projects that provide treatment and services focused on recovery, allowing program participants to regain self-sufficiency, including on-site behavioral health treatment, and robust wraparound supportive services that increase employment and employment income over government assistance, utilizing the full array of mainstream programs and local and private resources (e.g. workforce development centers, employers, childcare, and other supportive service providers) to provide housing and healthcare needed to maintain safe and stable housing while imposing participation requirements.

## **WHAT CAN YOU APPLY FOR**

### **New Projects**

This solicitation will emphasize the reallocation of existing Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), Rapid Re-housing (RRH) and joint component Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-housing (TH: RRH) programs to create the following new project types with prioritization for creating a robust supply of Transitional Housing (TH), Street Outreach (SO) and stand-alone Supportive Services Only (SSO) to align with the new federal priorities.

All new and renewal projects with the exception of CE and SSO projects must impose service participation requirements. The application will require PSH, RRH and TH applicants to attach their service participation requirements for approval by the Homeless Trust. Service participation requirements must align with the applicable HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and receive approval from the Homeless Trust. For Transitional Housing (TH) programs, participants are required to engage in a minimum of 20 hours of supportive services per week. Participants who are employed may count verified work hours toward meeting this requirement on an hour-for-hour basis. Service participation requirements do not apply to program participants who are 62 years old or older, those who are handicap per 24 CFR 8.3, or people with developmental disabilities.

Service participation requirements for Transitional Housing (TH), Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), and Domestic Violence Rapid Re-Housing (DV RRH) programs must include the following components: (1) Case Management: Participants are required to engage in ongoing case management services. A meeting between the participant and the assigned case manager must occur at least once per month. (2) Housing Stability Plan (HSP): Participants must complete a Housing Stability Plan (HSP) at program intake. The HSP must be reviewed and updated according to the schedule established in the plan and, at a minimum quarterly for TH participants, and annually for PSH participants. (3) Financial Assessment: Participants must complete a Financial Assessment at intake. The assessment must be updated at least annually, including in preparation for lease renewal when applicable. (4) Life Skills Participation: Participants must engage in life skills activities that support the goals identified in their Housing Stability Plan. Additional life skills activities may be required when participant needs or challenges are identified during program participation. Examples include, but are not limited to budgeting and financial management classes for participants experiencing late rent or utility payments; time management training for participants who frequently miss appointments; household management education following failed unit inspections; and other skill-building activities designed to support long-term housing stability and self-sufficiency.

New project types include:

- Transitional Housing (TH) programs with the goal of improving health and long-term economic independence for people who are experiencing homelessness. Goals of this competition: (1) create no less than 310 units of Transitional Housing; (2) create at least one project dedicated to sober

housing; and (3) create one project dedicated to serve families.

Applicants may choose to operate and maintain one of two properties in Homestead owned by the Homeless Trust: (1) A 39-unit property designed to serve families with minor children with one-, two-, and four-bedroom apartments with approximately 162 Beds. (2) Five cottages designed to serve 28 individuals with a total of three, 3-bedroom and two, 4-bedroom units. The Homeless Trust will provide F&B match funding to the CoC budget for capital repair costs. TH can also be proposed using properties under the control of the applicant or a scattered site approach that's uses master leasing. TH Standards of Care do not account for TH programs using Rental Assistance as a budget line item. Respondents seeking to use Rental Assistance instead of Leasing and Operations to fund the TH component must request written permission from the Homeless Trust. TH is encouraged to use a shared housing approach. For example, two (2) unrelated people can share a one- or two-bedroom unit. We are trying to reduce the number of contracts we create through the competitive process; therefore we will only allow one TH program created through reallocation and one new CoC, YHDP or DV TH program application per agency. Applicant's choosing to utilize one or both TH locations in Homestead will be allowed to submit separate, additional applications for those two sites. YHDP PH and DV Bonus PH (PSH, RRH and joint TH: RRH) projects will be required to reallocate or transition to TH.

- TH proposal criteria:
  - Describe that the project will provide and/or how you will partner with other organizations to provide eligible supportive services that are necessary to assist program participants to obtain and maintain housing.
  - The applicant has prior experience operating transitional housing or other projects that have successfully helped homeless individuals and families exit homelessness within 24 months.
  - The applicant has previously operated or currently operates transitional housing or another homelessness project, or has a plan in place to ensure, that at least 50 percent of participants exit to permanent housing within 24 months and at least 50 percent of participants exit with employment income as reflected in HMIS or another data system used by the applicant.
  - The project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, employment programs, Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP.
  - Demonstrate that the proposed project will require program participants to take part in supportive services (e.g. case management, employment training, substance use treatment, etc.) in line with 24 CFR 578.75(h) by attaching a supportive service agreement (contract, occupancy agreement, lease, or equivalent).
  - Demonstrate that the proposed project will provide 20 hours per week of customized services for each participant (e.g. case management, employment training, substance use treatment, etc.). The 20 hours per week may be reduced proportionately for participants who are employed. The 20 hours per week does not apply to participants over age 62 or who have a physical disability/impairment or a developmental disability (24 CFR 582.5).
  - Demonstrate the average cost per household served for the project is reasonable, consistent with 2 CFR 200.404.
- Bonus points will be awarded to new TH project applications using a single-site model who are reallocating existing PH, and joint component projects.

- Coordinated Entry for Youth or DV.

The core components of a Youth Coordinated Entry System are:

- Accessible and Well Advertised Entry Points: Youth can connect via specialized, safe, and welcoming locations, such as youth-specific drop-in centers, shelters, or school counselors, often with after-hours access. The youth Coordinated Entry System is easily available and

reachable for all young persons within the CoC's geographic area who are seeking homelessness assistance. The system must also be accessible for young persons with disabilities within the CoC's geographic area. There must be a strategy for advertising that is designed specifically to reach households experiencing homelessness with the highest needs.

- Youth-Specific Assessment: The collection of HMIS assessments is presented to youth utilizing a "youth voice" in design.
- Prioritization for Vulnerability: Housing options are not "first-come, first-served." Instead, they are prioritized for the most vulnerable or high-need youth, ensuring those with the highest risks are served first.
- Rapid Referral to Services: The system immediately connects youth to appropriate interventions, such as transitional housing, rapid re-housing, host homes, or permanent supportive housing, based on their needs.
- Low Barrier Access: The process aims to remove hurdles, such as requiring parents' consent that hinder youth from accessing services.

#### What Makes It "Youth-Focused"?

- Lived Experience Informed: Programs often incorporate insights from youth who have previously experienced homelessness to create trauma-informed protocols.
- Wraparound Support: Access points connect youth to more than just housing, including job training, education support, counseling, and life skills development.
- Confidentiality & Safety: Data sharing is secure, reducing the need for youth to re-tell their trauma multiple times.
- Collaboration: Different agencies work together to find the best match for the youth rather than acting as independent providers.
- Example of a Youth CE Process:
  - Access: A young person visits a drop-in center or calls a dedicated helpline.
  - Assess: A staff member conducts assessments using trauma-informed, strengths-based assessment skills.
  - Prioritize: The youth's information is entered into the HMIS and is used to rank their need based on vulnerability, such as mental health concerns or pregnancy.
  - Refer: The youth is referred to the most appropriate housing type—like a host home or transitional living program—and receives a personalized service plan.

#### The core components of a DV Coordinated Entry System are:

- Access: must provide a centralized or coordinated process for individuals to access emergency services and housing assistance. For DV survivors, this often includes safe, alternative "virtual" access points (e.g., dedicated hotlines) rather than just physical drop-in centers.
- Assessment: uses a standardized, uniform approach to evaluate each household's immediate housing needs and strengths. For DV survivors, this incorporates a secondary danger/risk screening to determine the appropriate type and level of safety and victim-specific services required.
- Prioritization: Procedures that ensure households with the most severe service needs and highest vulnerability are prioritized for limited housing resources.
- Referral: Direct, efficient referrals to available homeless assistance and mainstream services.
- Confidential Access Points: locations where Survivors can access housing without exposing their location to the general community. The CoC uses the Coordinated Victims Assistance Center (CVAC) or a specialized phone/virtual system rather than open, public walk-in centers.
- No Wrong Door: If a survivor presents to a general homeless shelter, outreach team, or law enforcement, protocols mandate they be safely diverted or directly transferred to a

- specialized DV provider.
  - Data Security & VAWA: Victim Service Providers (VSPs) are exempt from entering client-level data into the traditional Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to ensure absolute confidentiality. Instead, they use a comparable database in compliance with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).
  - Trauma-Informed Practices: the assessment process must be designed to avoid re-traumatizing the survivor.
- SSO-Street Outreach (SO) offering specialized behavioral health services or collaboration with law enforcement.
  - SSO-SO proposal criteria:
    - The project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, social, and employment programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP.
    - The project has a strategy for providing supportive services to eligible program participants including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services.
    - Demonstrate that the applicant has a history of partnering with first responders and law enforcement to engage people living in places not meant for human habitation to access emergency shelter, treatment programs, reunification with family, transitional housing or independent living. The applicant must cooperate, assist, and not interfere or impede with law enforcement to enforce local laws such as public camping and public drug use laws.
    - The applicant has experience providing outreach services consistent with the activity description at 24 CFR 578.53(e)(13) and has demonstrated effectiveness at helping people successfully exit from places not meant for human habitation to emergency shelter, treatment programs, transitional housing or permanent housing programs.
    - The services provided are cost-effective consistent with 2 CFR 200.404.
- Standalone SSO programs offering innovation that result in creating housing opportunities for program participants or are deemed essential to promote housing stability. This may include but not limited to supportive employment and job placement, comprehensive behavioral health services, life skills and independent living skills including budgeting and credit counseling, and housing navigation.
  - Only one CoC and one YHDP SSO program application can be received from each sub-recipient
  - Sub-recipients may subcontract with other providers that offer specialized services (e.g. a CHMC may sub with a job developer to provide comprehensive services)
  - Standalone SSO proposal criteria. The application must demonstrate that:
    - The Supportive Services project is necessary to assist people in exiting homelessness and increasing self-sufficiency.
    - Applicants understand the Homeless Trust will conduct an annual assessment of the service needs of the program participants.
    - The proposed project has a strategy for providing supportive services to eligible program participants, including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services.
    - The project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, employment programs, Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP.
    - The services provided are cost-effective consistent with 2 CFR 200.404.

New CoC Permanent Housing projects (PH: RRH and PH: PSH) will not be allowed in this solicitation with exception to the DV Bonus project which can seek RRH.

Transition Grants will be allowed for PSH and RRH programs to create new TH programs. A Transition Grant is an application to fund a new CoC project through the reallocation process to transition an eligible CoC renewal project (including a Special NOFO project or DV Renewal project) from one program component to another eligible component over a 1-year period. The renewal project transitioning to a new component must be fully eliminated through reallocation. Transition grant applications awarded FY 2026 funds must fully transition to the new component by the end of the 1-year grant term and may only apply for renewal in the next CoC Program Competition under the component to which it transitioned. Transition grants cannot consolidate with any other project. YHDP Renewal grants are not eligible to use the transition grant process. Refer to the Transition Grant Guidance provided on our website.

### Renewal Projects

*Renewal programs do not need to complete the full application for funding. The only programs that will be eligible for renewal will be CoC PSH. Renewal projects will be treated as new project applications if including them in Tier 1 is not an option.*

- Renewal Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) will be allowed: Renewal PSH proposals will continue to be DedicatedPLUS. All renewal PSH must agree to imposing service participation requirements.
  - The Homeless Trust is seeking a new project sponsor for Verde Gardens, a 145-unit PSH property for families with minor children. Property management may include a for-profit vendor that will enter into an agreement with the Homeless Trust and the sub-recipient. The property management provider will act as the bridge between property owners and tenants, handling daily operational, financial, and legal tasks. Points will be awarded for experience with managing HUD properties. The primary goal of the property manager is to maximize the property's profitability and maintain its physical condition while minimizing vacancies and ensuring tenant satisfaction. Their core responsibilities can be broken down into five key functions: (1) advertising vacancies to the CoC Housing Coordinator, hosting property tours, and screening prospective renters using CoC standards. Handling move-ins and move-outs, enforcing lease agreements, and managing evictions if necessary. Serving as the main point of contact, handling complaints, and fostering a positive living environment. (2) coordinating regular maintenance (like landscaping or common area cleaning) to preserve the property's value. Fielding tenant maintenance requests, troubleshooting issues, and dispatching vetted contractors or repair vendors. Conducting periodic property walkthroughs to spot problems early and address potential hazards. Performing unit inspections at move-in and move-out. (3) Financial administration including managing payment systems and chasing down late fees. Creating operational budgets, managing property expenses, and providing detailed financial reports to the CoC. (4) Ensuring the property adheres to all housing regulations, building codes, and safety requirements. Properly holding and refunding security deposits according to regional laws. Creating and maintaining an account to hold rent collections. Using funds from rent collections for property enhancements as approved by the CoC. (5) Hiring and supervising on-site staff or third-party vendors for specialized jobs. Ensuring that all hired help completes work on time and to the standard expected by the CoC.

Verde Gardens has a F&B match and 35 Project Based Vouchers (PBV) for 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom units with Housing and Community Development, the Miami-Dade Public Housing Agency. Capital costs at this property are budgeted by the Homeless Trust in consultation with contracted agencies. The FY25 HUD budget for Verde Gardens was \$853,653, including Supportive Services (\$73,193), Operating Costs (\$747,705) and Administrative Costs (\$32,755). The local F&B match is \$1,551,191 including Supportive Services (\$776,592) and capital (\$774,599). A portion of the capital costs (not exceeding \$100,000) are shared with the Farm and Farmer's Market operator. The value of the 35 PBV is estimated to be \$1,277,988. The total budget for Verde Gardens is approximately \$3.7 million.

## Bonus Projects

*New projects that exceed the annual renewal demand will be ranked as Bonus project applications. The categories for Bonus include:*

- DV Bonus
  - Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Projects using:
    - SSO-Coordinated Entry (CES),
    - Rapid Re-housing (RRH), or
    - Transitional Housing (TH) projects.
- CoC Bonus
  - Transitional Housing (TH) programs with the goal of improving health and long-term economic independence for people who are experiencing homelessness, or
  - SSO-Street Outreach (SO) offering specialized behavioral health services and partnerships with law enforcement, or
  - Standalone SSO programs offering supportive employment and job placement, comprehensive behavioral health services, life skills and independent living skills.

This RFA is not seeking Expansion Grants. Providers wishing to expand a grant must seek approval from the Homeless Trust.

Renewal projects with the same applicant may request to consolidate projects that are the same project type.

### *Recap of what is allowed for New and Renewal applications*

Renewal PSH Projects must submit a certification that their project budget matches the budget line items on the Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW).

New Projects: Applicants may only submit one new application for each component except for those applying to use the Homestead properties for Transitional Housing (TH). Those applicants seeking to use the Homestead properties may submit a maximum of three applications for TH (2 Homestead properties + 1 additional TH application):

- one CoC TH new project or transition project application,
- one YHDP replacement or DV new project or transition project TH application,
- one CoC SSO-SO application,
- one CoC SSO application, and
- one YHDP or DV CE new project or transition project application (the CoC will only submit one YHDP or DV CE application).

## Project Selection and Submission

### HUD CoC NOFO

- Projects in all categories will be ranked based on need and points received.
- A performance-based analysis will be conducted, and project applications will be ranked based on their potential impact to the HUD goals and objectives outlined in Section III of this solicitation.
- Tier 1 will include renewal PSH and may include SO projects to the extent possible.
- The Tier 2 ranking strategy will be: (1) New TH projects, (2) New CoC SSO-SO and CE projects, which may include renewal SO projects not ranked in Tier 1, and (3) New SSO projects. This approach is subject to change by the Selection Committee.

**A Letter of Intent (LOI) is required for participation in this RFA for all applicants. Please use the Monday.com link to submit your LOI by noon on Tuesday, June 30, 2026. The LOI is not binding, applicants may choose not to submit a project included in their LOI. The LOI is a separate form from the application form, use this link to complete your LOI:**

<https://forms.monday.com/forms/c20428ceb6edabb5e8230941f99ca679?r=use1>. For coordination with healthcare organizations, sources can include direct contributions from a public or private health insurance provider or the provision of healthcare services by a private or public organization tailored to the project. Eligibility criteria for the project cannot be restricted by the eligibility requirements of the health care service provider. Health care organizations can include substance abuse treatment and recovery providers which must provide services for all program participants who qualify and choose these services.

### **III. APPLICATION CONTENTS**

Applications will ONLY be received via Monday.com using this link: <https://forms.monday.com/forms/71a79631084f378987b827cb6723f6b1?r=use1>. Once you click on the *Begin Here* tab in the application, any progress made can be saved without submitting the application. Use the *Copy link* on the *Save as draft* to save progress on the application. Store the link in a safe place to open the application where you left off. Repeat this function whenever you work on the application until you finalize everything and *submit* the application. For alternative application formats email to [Manuel.Sarria@miamidade.gov](mailto:Manuel.Sarria@miamidade.gov). Additional information is available on the Homeless Trust's [website](#) under the *U.S. HUD Program Competition* tab.

**IMPORTANT: EACH application for which funding is being requested, whether for renewal funding or new funding must be submitted separately.**

If your proposed project is located in an Opportunity Zone, you must submit the certification for opportunity zone preference points form, Attachment 3.

The Project Application.

#### **CoC**

The project application must be completed; do not leave any unanswered questions. Respondents who do not have performance data from HMIS or other comparable system are encouraged to provide projections for performance using the rating criteria. Respondents are encouraged to review Attachment 20, the NOFO RFA Scoresheet to see how their applications will be rated.

**Attachment 5, the Detailed Budget, must be submitted with your response to the application.** For the limited renewal projects allowed in this application, the budget must match the Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW). All respondents are required to use the CoC's budget form. Make sure to provide a detail of the budget items as shown on the application form instructions. This means spelling out why you are requesting a specific dollar amount in each budget line item. An example of this is to list for a position for which you are seeking funding the percentage and number of FTEs, Title of Position(s), and separately highlight the Direct Costs including Fringe Benefits (e.g. 1 FTE Case Manager @ \$60,000 + \$12,000 [20% Fringe] = \$72,000). Also be specific when requesting other items like transportation, by showing how you will be using the funding requests (100 Uber rides at \$25 = \$2,500 OR Lease of a van @ \$489 a month). Every respondent is required to use our form; do not convert to PDF.

Projects may only include eligible costs in program budgets. For a list of eligible costs, visit <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-eligible-activities/coc-eligible-activities-overview/list-of-coc-eligible-activities/>. Applicants are encouraged to read the "Eligible Costs" section of the HUD NOFO starting on the bottom of page 26.

You may have to adjust the budget form for indirect costs; some of you will not be seeking indirect costs, others will request the di minimis rate, while others will have a Federally approved indirect cost rate signed by the cognizant agency. For an explanation of direct vs indirect costs see Attachment 6 Cost Principles: Direct and Indirect Costs. Agencies seeking indirect costs must submit the Indirect Costs in the LOI and the Application.

All new project applicants must submit the Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan (Form

HUD-2991). The form must be obtained by the applicant directly from the entitlement jurisdiction where the project will be located. See the below list of the jurisdictions and their contact information. The Homeless Trust will NOT obtain the Certificates of Consistency for any projects. For projects that are not located in one of the jurisdictions listed below, please seek the Certificate of Consistency from Mary Pacheco or Evelyn Contreras, Miami-Dade Public Housing and Community Development at [mary.pacheco@miamidade.gov](mailto:mary.pacheco@miamidade.gov) or [evelyn.contreras2@miamidade.gov](mailto:evelyn.contreras2@miamidade.gov).

Entitlement Jurisdiction	Point of Contact	Email
Hialeah	Roman Garcia Jr.	<a href="mailto:rog6076@hialeahfl.gov">rog6076@hialeahfl.gov</a>
Miami Gardens	Craig Clay	<a href="mailto:cclay@miamigardens-fl.gov">cclay@miamigardens-fl.gov</a>
Miami Beach	Alba Tarre	<a href="mailto:AlbaTarre@miamibeachfl.gov">AlbaTarre@miamibeachfl.gov</a>
City of Miami	Arthur Noriega	<a href="mailto:anoriega@miamigov.com">anoriega@miamigov.com</a>
Homestead	Carlos M. Perez	<a href="mailto:cperez@cityofhomestead.com">cperez@cityofhomestead.com</a>
North Miami	Theresa Therilus	<a href="mailto:Ttherilus@northmiamifl.gov">Ttherilus@northmiamifl.gov</a>

The Form HUD-2991 must be completed and dated between June 1, 2026, and the RFA due date, and included in response to this application, to be considered meeting threshold requirements.

All respondents are required to submit an APR or similar outcomes report for their applications to obtain full points. This is a provider-generated attachment.

All respondents are required to submit the Match form, Attachment 13, to show their match.

All respondents are required to submit a Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding or Contract for the following:

- To show all match commitments (a match commitment is not required for cash match using fees collected from rent)
- To show all formal referral and service agreements with sub-recipients or partners
- To show all leveraging commitment(s)

All respondents whose application includes activities that require licensing must submit their active license.

All respondents are required to submit an Applicant Assurances Certifications, form 424-B.

All respondents seeking PSH, RRH or TH must submit a copy of the supportive service agreement they will be using for Homeless Trust approval. This may include a contract, occupancy agreement, lease, or equivalent.

**Applicants who did not apply for the FY 24-25 CoC application must submit the following:**

1. Proof of eligibility. This is a provider-generated document showing they are a nonprofit provider, State, Indian Tribes\* or Tribally Designated Housing Entity\* [as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)].
2. List of Board of Directors.
3. Current Independent Audit of Financial Statements to include a State of Financial Position (Balance Sheet), Statement of Activities (Profit & Loss), and any communications demonstrating any findings have been resolved.
4. W-9 form.
5. Miami-Dade County Affidavit, Attachment 9.
6. Previous Contractual Relationships Form, Attachment 10.
7. Certification for a Drug Free Workplace.

\*Any applicant that is a Tribe or TDHE proposing to site a project on a reservation or trust land must include a Tribal resolution or a letter from an official or principal of the Indian Tribe or TDHE, who is authorized to act on behalf of the Indian Tribe or TDHE. Tribes do not need to include a Tribal resolution to site a project

on their own reservation or trust land. A Tribal resolution is the formal manner in which the Tribal government expresses its legislative will in accordance with its organic documents. In the absence of such organic documents, a written expression adopted pursuant to Tribal practices is acceptable.

**Timeline:** The timeline for this RFA process is as follows:

- **Reallocation meetings: June 9, 2026, at 1 p.m.**
- **Pre-application Workshop: June 22, 2026, at 2 p.m.**
- **Deadline to email letters of intent: June 30, 2026, at 1 p.m.**
- **Deadline for any written questions: July 7, 2026, at 1 p.m.**
- **Response to written questions: July 9, 2026, at 2 p.m.**
- **Applications Due: July 27, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.**
- **Responsiveness review: July 28-29, 2026.**
- **Selection Committee Scoring on their own: July 30-August 4, 2026.**
- **Oral presentations: August 5-6, 2026.**
- **Notification to respondents of accepted or rejected applications: August 7, 2026, at 4 p.m.**
- **Deadline for written appeals: August 10, 2026, at 4 p.m.**
- **Homeless Trust Executive Committee: August 11, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.**

Again, please see full RFA details and addenda at <https://www.homelesstrust.org/homeless-trust/providers/home.page> under the U.S. HUD Program Competition tab.

*Miami-Dade County reserves the right to modify this schedule if necessary and in the best interest of the County.*

When considering renewal projects for award; Miami-Dade will review information in expenditure reports, APRs, the local System Performance Dashboard and monitoring reports. The Homeless Trust reserves the right to reduce or reject a project application submitted during the RFA for the following reasons:

- (a) Outstanding obligation to the County or HUD that is in arrears or for which a payment schedule has not been agreed upon.
- (b) Audit finding(s) for which a response is overdue or unsatisfactory.
- (c) History of inadequate financial management accounting practices.
- (d) Evidence of untimely expenditures on prior award.
- (e) History of other major capacity issues that have significantly affected the operation of the project and its performance.
- (f) History of not reimbursing subrecipients for eligible costs in a timely manner, or at least quarterly; and
- (g) History of serving ineligible program participants, expending funds on ineligible costs, or failing to expend funds within statutorily established timeframes.
- (h) Evidence that the project has previously or currently conducts activities that subsidize or facilitate racial preferences or other forms of illegal discrimination or conduct activities that rely on or otherwise use a definition of sex other than as binary in humans.
- (i) Evidence that the project operates drug injection sites or “safe consumption sites,” knowingly distributes drug paraphernalia on or off of property under their control, permits the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control, or conducts any of these activities under the pretext of “harm reduction.”

## **IV. SELECTION PROCESS**

Renewal projects will be rated by staff using the local scoring tool. The CoC will be using reallocation to maximize services, effectively compete in the CoC Program Competition and/or address underperforming projects. The CoC anticipates reallocating over \$44 million dollars of our Annual Renewal Demand to remain competitive in the NOFO. Projects created through voluntary reallocation will be provided bonus points. All new applications received pursuant to this RFA will be reviewed, scored and recommended for funding by

a selection committee appointed by the County Mayor comprised of subject matter experts and County staff with experience in the relevant areas specific to the solicitation. Oral presentations will be scheduled to allow committee members to ask questions about new project applications. Scoring criteria is provided for New HUD projects (Attachment 20). The selection committee recommendations may be subject to negotiation. The Trust has the discretion to negotiate a best and final offer for budgets, up or down, if additional or less funding is made available as part of the competition. Homeless Trust staff may use the following tools while vetting applicant organizations:

- OMB-designated repositories of governmentwide data, as noted in 2 CFR 200.206(a)
- Other public sources such as newspapers, Inspector General or Government Accountability Office reports or findings, or other complaints that have been proven to have merit
- Financial stability
- Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in 2 CFR part 200
- History of performance. The applicant's record in managing Federal awards, if it is a prior recipient of Federal awards, including timeliness of compliance with applicable reporting requirements, failing to make significant progress in a timely manner, failing to meet planned activities in a timely manner, conformance to the terms and conditions of previous Federal awards, and, if applicable, the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards
- Reports and findings from audits performed under 2 CFR part 200, subpart F—Audit
- Requirements or the reports and findings of any other available audits
- The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities
- Capacity of the applicant, including staffing structures and capabilities
- History of timely completion of activities and receipt and expenditure of promised matching or leveraged funds
- Ability to promote self-sufficiency and economic independence
- Ability to produce positive outcomes and results
- History of subsidizing or facilitating activities that conflict with the purposes of this NOFO.

**PLEASE NOTE: Inclusion in the FY 2026 NOFO for the Homeless Continuum of Care Program Competition Collaborative Application to be submitted to U.S. HUD does not guarantee funding from U.S. HUD. The Collaborative Application submitted by our community will be reviewed by U.S. HUD, which will ultimately decide which projects are funded.**

Please also note that any additional questions that Applicants may have after the workshop(s) have concluded must be submitted in writing to the designated contact person by email. The contact person for all inquiries related to this RFA: Manny Sarria [Manuel.Sarria@miamidade.gov](mailto:Manuel.Sarria@miamidade.gov), who should be emailed together with the Clerk of the Board [clerkbcc@miamidade.gov](mailto:clerkbcc@miamidade.gov).

#### ***CONE OF SILENCE***

Pursuant to Section 2-11.1(t) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, as amended (the "Code"), a "Cone of Silence" is imposed upon each RFA, RFP or RFQ after advertisement and terminates at the time a written recommendation is issued. The Cone of Silence prohibits any communication regarding RFA, RFPs or RFQs between, among others:

- Potential Applicants, service providers, lobbyists or consultants and the County's professional staff including, but not limited to, the County Mayor and the County Mayor's staff, County Commissioners or their respective staffs;
- The County Commissioners or their respective staffs and the County's professional staff including, but not limited to, the County Mayor and the County Mayor's staff; or

- Potential Applicants, service providers, lobbyists or consultants, any member of the County’s professional staff, the Mayor, County Commissioners or their respective staffs and any member of the respective Competitive Selection Committee.

The provisions do not apply to, among other communications:

- Oral communications with the staff of the Vendor Outreach and Support Services Section, the responsible Procurement Contracting Officer (designated as the County’s contact on the face of the Solicitation), provided the communication is limited strictly to matters of process or procedure already contained in the Solicitation document;
- Oral communications at pre-Proposal conferences and oral presentations before Competitive Selection Committees during any duly noticed public meeting, public presentations made to the Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) during any duly noticed public meeting;
- Recorded contract negotiations and contract negotiation strategy sessions; or
- Communications in writing at any time with any County employee, official or member of the Board of County Commissioners unless specifically prohibited by the applicable RFA, RFP or RFQ documents.

When the Cone of Silence is in effect, all potential vendors, service providers, bidders, lobbyists and consultants shall file a copy of any written correspondence concerning the particular RFA, RFP or RFQ with the Clerk of the Board, which shall be made available to any person upon request. The County shall respond in writing (if County deems a response is necessary) and file a copy with the Clerk of the Board, which shall be made available to any person upon request. Written communications may be in the form of e-mail, with a copy to the Clerk of the Board at [clerkbcc@miamidade.gov](mailto:clerkbcc@miamidade.gov).

All requirements of the Cone of Silence policies are applicable to this Solicitation and must be adhered to. Any and all written communications regarding the Solicitation are to be submitted to [Manuel.Sarria@miamidade.gov](mailto:Manuel.Sarria@miamidade.gov) with copies to [clerkbcc@miamidade.gov](mailto:clerkbcc@miamidade.gov), the Clerk of the Board. The Clerk of the Board shall make copies available to any person upon request.

**Threshold Requirements**

Eligible project applicants include nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, instrumentalities of state and local governments, Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHE), but only States, Units of General Local Government, nonprofit organizations, and Public Housing Agencies may administer permanent housing rental assistance.

Eligible applicants must provide proof of their eligibility status (e.g., non-profit documentation).

Applicants must not have any outstanding, unresolved judgments against them for violations of civil rights laws.

Late applications are not eligible for funding.

Project applicants and subrecipients must demonstrate the financial and management capacity and experience to carry out the project as detailed in the project application and the capacity to administer federal funds. Demonstrating capacity may include a description of the applicant and subrecipient experience with similar projects and with successful administration of SHP, S+C, or CoC Program funds or other federal, state, local, or private resources. The CoC will also consider:

- a. Outstanding audit or monitoring findings
- b. Outstanding obligations to the CoC
- c. History of poor financial management
- d. History of low occupancy levels, or lack of experience in administering the project type
- e. Other capacity issues

Project applicants must submit the required certifications specified in this RFA, including but not limited to the Illegal Discrimination, Promoting Self Sufficiency and Utilizing Program Participation Requirements attestation that affirmatively certifies:

- The project applicant will not engage in racial preferences or other forms of illegal discrimination
- The project will partner with workforce development centers and employers to increase employment and employment income for program participants
- Projects serving households with minor children will partner with organizations that offer childcare
- The project will offer on-site behavioral health treatment, robust wraparound supportive services, and participation requirements
- Wraparound supportive services for participants in TH who are between the ages of 18-61 will be provided for 20 hours a week (or reduced proportionately for participants who are employed)
- Service providers will increase employment and employment income for program participants
- The project applicant will not operate drug injection sites or “safe consumption sites,” knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia on or off of property under their control, permit the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control, or conduct any of these activities under the pretext of “harm reduction.”

Respondent organizations must agree not to conduct activities that subsidize or facilitate racial preferences or other forms of illegal discrimination. Respondent organizations must agree not to knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia on or off of property under their control; not to permit the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control; or not to conduct any of these activities under the pretext of “harm reduction.” Miami-Dade reserves the right to verify past performance and evaluate the eligibility of a project application submitted during the CoC Program Competition

The population to be served must meet program eligibility requirements as described in the Act, the Rule, and the applicable section in the HUD NOFO.

Project applicants, with the exception of any victim service provider in accordance with Section 407 of the Act, must agree to participate in a local HMIS system. DV providers must use a system that is able to report on the HUD Universal Data Elements.

Project applicants must have satisfactory capacity, drawdowns, and performance for existing grant(s) funded under the CoC Program, as evidenced by timely reimbursement of subrecipients, regular drawdowns, and timely resolution of any monitoring findings; however, this does not apply to project applicants who have never received a CoC Program funded project.

TH projects must have prior experience operating transitional housing or other projects that have successfully helped homeless individuals and families exit homelessness within 24 months, with at least 50% exiting with Employment Income and at least 50% exiting to Permanent Housing. TH projects will be required to supplement the program with resources from other public or private sources, that include mainstream health, social, SNAP and employment programs; and leveraging Medicare, Medicaid, and expedited SSI applications.

## **V. IMPORTANT INFORMATION ALL APPLICANTS SHOULD KNOW**

The HEARTH Act requires local communities to collaborate on ending homelessness. Additionally, funding to CoC's is allocated through a competitive process, and the score awarded to the Collaborative Application submitted by the Miami-Dade County Continuum of Care will impact the level of funding received for Miami-Dade's Continuum of Care. This compels Collaborative Applicants to focus on U.S. HUD's program priorities, U.S. HUD System Performance Measures and Federal goals, together with strategies to prevent and end homelessness outlined in the Miami-Dade County Community Homeless Plan: Priority Home and

Local Outcome Measures and other policies and procedures established by the Miami-Dade CoC.

All RFA respondents seeking U.S. HUD funding are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the following terms and definitions:

- a. *Consolidated Plan Certification*. The statutory form in which the state or local official certifies that the proposed activities or projects are consistent with the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan and, if the applicant is a state or unit of local government, that the jurisdiction is following its Consolidated Plan.
- b. *Housing Inventory Count (HIC)*. A complete listing of the community's HUD and non-HUD funded beds dedicated to the homeless.
- c. *Project Applicant*. An applicant designated by the CoC to apply for CoC Program funds to carry out activities related to a specific project(s) as defined in 24 CFR 578.3.
- d. *Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) (24 CFR 578.17(b)(2))*. The total amount of all the CoC's projects that will be eligible for renewal in the CoC Program Competition. It is the sum of the annual renewal amounts of all projects within the CoC's geographic area eligible to apply for renewal in the CoC Program Competition, before any required adjustments to funding for leasing, rental assistance, and operating line items based on FMR changes.
- e. *Beds Dedicated to the Chronically Homeless*. The total number of beds in the CoC's geographic area that are dedicated specifically for use by the chronically homeless as reported in the CoC's HIC. For these types of beds, when a participant exits the program, the bed must be filled by another chronically homeless participant, unless there are no chronically homeless persons located within the geographic area.
- f. *DedicatedPLUS*: A DedicatedPLUS project is a permanent supportive housing (PH-PSH) project where the entire project will serve individuals and families where the head of household has a disability and who meet any of the following criteria at project entry (in any order): 1. Experiencing chronic homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 578.31; 2. Residing in a transitional housing project that will be eliminated and meets the definition of chronically homeless in effect at the time in which the individual or family entered the transitional housing project; 3. Residing in a place not meant for human habitation, emergency shelter, or safe haven; but the individuals or families experiencing chronic homelessness as defined at 24 CFR 578.3 had been admitted and enrolled in a permanent housing project within the last year and were unable to maintain a housing placement; 4. Residing in transitional housing funded by a Joint transitional housing (TH) and rapid re-housing (PHRRH) component project and who were experiencing chronic homelessness as defined at 24 CFR 578.3 prior to entering the project; 5. Residing and has resided in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or emergency shelter for at least 12 months in the last three years, but has not done so on four separate occasions; or 6. Receiving assistance through a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)-funded homeless assistance program and met one of the above criteria at initial intake to the VA's homeless assistance system. PSH projects must either serve the chronically homeless or the DedicatedPLUS population.
- g. *Non-Dedicated Permanent Supportive Housing Beds*. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds within a CoC's geographic area that are not currently dedicated specifically for use by the chronically homeless. CoCs and projects must prioritize the chronically homeless in non-dedicated PSH beds as they become available through turnover. This will occur through the coordinated entry process.
- h. *Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN)*. The amount of funds a CoC could receive based upon the geographic areas HUD approves as included in the CoC. To determine the homeless assistance need of a particular jurisdiction, HUD will use the formula set forth 24 CFR 578.17(a). Each year, HUD publishes the PPRN for each jurisdiction. A CoC's PPRN is determined by adding the published PPRN of each jurisdiction located within the HUD-approved CoC geographic area.
- i. *Reallocation*. Reallocation is when a CoC shifts funds in whole or part from existing eligible renewal projects to create one or more eligible new projects without decreasing the CoC's ARD. The Homeless Trust is not seeking new RRH applications in this solicitation.
- j. *Rapid Re-Housing*. Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) means time limited, short to medium-term rental assistance with support services for homeless households. Generally, rental assistance (RA) and support services are designed to enable households to live independently and without a continuing subsidy. Rental assistance may include security deposits and last month's rent, in addition to paying contracted rent. For application purposes, RRH is considered permanent housing. The Homeless Trust

is not seeking new RRH applications in this solicitation.

- k. *Supportive services.* Supportive services offer households the necessary tools to increase income, access necessary resources, and obtain and retain housing. Support services may include medical and behavioral health services, advocacy or case management, supportive employment, and legal assistance. For Transitional Housing programs, this will also include services provided for a minimum amount of time each week, including substance abuse treatment.
- l. *Housing Navigation.* Housing Navigation is a type of case management that is housing focused. Navigators assist program participants to identify an affordable property, complete required housing documents, and link them to resources to assist with other housing resources such as furniture assistance.
- m. *Coordinated Entry.* A process developed to ensure that all people experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access and are quickly identified, assessed for, referred, and connected to housing and assistance based on their strengths and needs.
- n. *Street Outreach.* Essential services related to reaching out to unsheltered homeless individuals and families, connecting them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services, and providing them with urgent, non-facility-based care. These services are funded under the SSO-SO category.
- o. *Transitional Housing.* Designed to provide homeless individuals and families, including unaccompanied youth (under age 25), with the interim stability and support to successfully move to and maintain permanent housing. Transitional housing may be used to cover the costs of up to 24 months of housing with accompanying and required supportive services.
- p. *Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).* A local information technology system used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness.
- q. *eSnaps:* The electronic grants management system managed by HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs.
- r. *SAGE:* U.S. HUD's reporting system for the submission of its Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Annual Performance Report (APR) which became effective April 1, 2017.
- s. *Annual Performance Report:* Used by U.S. HUD to track the progress and accomplishments of projects funded by the Department.
- t. *Grant Inventory Worksheet:* Used to record all grants that are eligible for renewal funding within the CoC's jurisdiction in the FY 2024 Continuum of Care Program (CoC) Competition.
- u. *DV Bonus:* For the purposes of this solicitation, DV Bonus is a short-to medium-term rental assistance project (RRH) with supportive services that is dedicated to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking as defined in paragraph (4) at 24 CFR 578.3; a joint transitional housing/rapid rehousing project; or a DV Coordinated Entry project to better meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness who are survivors.
- v. *Joint TH and PH-RRH:* the Joint TH and PH-RRH component project combines two existing program components—transitional housing and permanent housing-rapid rehousing—in a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. When a program participant is enrolled in a Joint TH and PH-RRH component project, the recipient or subrecipient must be able to provide both components, including the units supported by the transitional housing component and the tenant-based rental assistance and services provided through the PH-RRH component, to all participants. A program participant may choose to receive only the transitional housing unit, or the assistance provided through the PH-RRH component, but the recipient or subrecipient must make both types of assistance available. Additionally, if CoC Program funds are not being requested for both TH and PH-RRH units, the project application must still describe the number of TH and PH-RRH units that will be utilized by the project, if selected for conditional award, and provide details in the project description of how TH and PH-RRH assistance will be provided. The Homeless Trust is not seeking new TH: RRH applications in this solicitation. This project type will not be allowed in this solicitation.
- w. *Expansion:* The process by which a SSO renewal project applicant submits a new project application to expand its current operations by adding units, beds, persons served, services provided to existing program participants, or in the case of HMIS, increase the current HMIS activities within the CoC's geographic area. DV Bonus funds can only be used to expand an existing renewal project if the expansion project is dedicated to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or

stalking who qualify under paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless at 24 CFR 578.3; however, only the new project application for the expansion will be considered for DV Bonus funds. For projects that are expanding their current CoC Program-funded project, project applicants will be required to submit: (1) the SSO renewal project application that will be expanded; and (2) a new project application with the expansion information.

The Homeless Trust is not seeking new expansion applications in this solicitation.

- x. *Homelessness and Human Trafficking: U.S. HUD is clarifying that persons who are fleeing or attempting to flee human trafficking may qualify as homeless under paragraph (4) of the homeless definition at 24 CFR 578.3; and, therefore, the individuals may be eligible for certain forms of homeless assistance under the CoC Program, subject to other restrictions that may apply. U.S. HUD considers human trafficking, including sex trafficking, to be "other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or family member" under paragraph (4) of the definition of homeless at 24 CFR 578.3. HUD will consider an individual or family as homeless under paragraph 4 of the homeless definition under the following circumstances where an individual or family is fleeing or attempting to flee human trafficking that has:*
  - (1) *either taken place within the individuals or family's primary night-time residence.*
  - (2) *made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary night-time residence; and the individual or family has no other residence; or*
  - (3) *the individual or family lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.*
- y. *Transition Grant. A Transition grant is an application to fund a new CoC project through the reallocation process to transition an eligible CoC renewal project (including a Special NOFO project or DV Renewal project) from one program component to another eligible component over a 1-year period. The renewal project transitioning to a new component must be fully eliminated through reallocation. Transition grant applications awarded FY 2026 funds must fully transition to the new component by the end of the 1-year grant term and may only apply for renewal in the next CoC Program Competition under the component to which it transitioned.*
- z. *Self-sufficiency. Consistent with the purposes of the McKinney-Vento Act, 42 U.S.C. § 11381(4), means the ability to meet basic needs, including a place to live, without public or private assistance. This is consistent with dictionary definitions of the term. The Oxford English Dictionary defines self-sufficiency as the "state or condition of not needing or relying on external assistance, support, or aid." Similarly, Merriam-Webster defines self-sufficient as "able to maintain oneself or itself without outside aid: capable of providing for one's own needs."*

**VI. CoC RESPONSE TO U.S.HUD COLLABORATIVE APPLICATION:**

Project applications will be submitted electronically via eSnaps by the Collaborative Applicant. The Collaborative Application will be posted on our website at least 48 hours before the NOFO is due to U.S. HUD. Project applications will be entered and submitted by Homeless Trust staff with assistance from direct grantees. The CoC will be working with provider agencies to accomplish this task outside of the competitive process. None of this work will impact any ranking or competitive processes.

**VII. FAIR MARKET RENTS - U.S. HUD Application:**

The following is a list of the HUD Fair Market Rents (FMRs) anticipated in the U.S. HUD applications (Note: U.S.HUD will adjust these figures to the current FMR upon award.) New project applications must request the FMR for any units to be assisted with rental assistance or leasing.

FY 26	0 BR	1 BR	2 BR	3 BR	4 BR
Fair Market Rent	\$1,828	\$1,995	\$2,436	\$3,127	\$3,613

## **VIII. OUTCOME/PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS**

Program performance and utilization, including occupancy and expenditure rates will be considered in the evaluation of HUD renewal applications based on the most recent APR entered in SAGE and HMIS data (except for Victim Services Providers who must keep a separate database that collects the HUD Universal Data Elements).

New project applications must submit proposed outcome/performance measures as part of the project application that align with the outcomes outlined above in section III. Description of Funding opportunities. Renewal project outcomes will be evaluated as part of the scoring criteria administered by staff.

Maximum points will be awarded for meeting expected performance goals. You may submit an HMIS Annual Progress Reports for similar projects, or outcome reports from another system designed to collect outcome data, as evidence of achievement of HUD priorities (1) exits to Permanent Housing, (2) increase household income, (3) decrease returns to homelessness, and (4) a high data quality combined with timeliness of data entry.

New Applicants/Agencies not participating in HMIS or Victim Service Providers: a record of system performance from an equivalent database that is validated by a third-party payer, and a compelling explanation of the agency's connections to this community which positions them to serve homeless households considering the HUD priorities and achievement of HUD System Performance Measures

1. Rate of persons who exit program into permanent destinations
2. Rate of persons whose employment income increases as a result of program participation,
3. Rate of returns, and
4. Support service participation requirements.

## **IX. OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### **A. INSPECTOR GENERAL**

#### **1) Independent Private Sector Inspector General Review**

Pursuant to Miami-Dade County Administrative Order 3-20 and in connection with any award issued as a result of this RFA, the County has the right to retain the services of an Independent Private Sector Inspector General ("IPSIG"), whenever the County deems it appropriate to do so. Upon written notice from the County, the selected applicant shall make available to the IPSIG retained by the County, all requested records and documentation pertaining to this RFA or any subsequent award, for inspection and copying. The County will be responsible for the payment of these IPSIG services, and under no circumstance shall the applicant's cost/price for this RFA be inclusive of any charges relating to these IPSIG services. The terms of this provision herein, apply to the applicant, its officers, agents, employees and assignees. Nothing contained in this provision shall impair any independent right of the County to conduct, audit or investigate the operations, activities and performance of the selected applicant in connection with this RFA or any contract issued as a result of this RFA. The terms of this provision are neither intended nor shall they be construed to impose any liability on the County by the selected Applicant or third party.

#### **2) Miami-Dade County Inspector General Review**

According to Section 2-1076 of the Code of Miami-Dade County, as amended by Ordinance No. 99-63, Miami-Dade County has established the Office of the Inspector General which may, on a random basis, perform audits on all County contracts, throughout the duration of said contracts, except as otherwise provided below.

**Exception:** The above application of one quarter (1/4) of one percent fee assessment shall not apply to the following contracts: (a) IPSIG contracts; (b) contracts for legal services; (c) contracts for financial advisory services; (d) auditing contracts; (e) facility rentals and lease agreements; (f) concessions and other rental agreements; (g) insurance contracts; (h) revenue-generating contracts; (i) contracts where an IPSIG is assigned at the time the contract is approved by the Commission; (j) professional service agreements under \$1,000; (k) management agreements; (l) small purchase orders as defined in Miami-Dade County

Administrative Order 3-2; (m) federal, state and local government-funded grants; and (n) interlocal agreements. As such, this RFA IS NOT subject to this provision. *Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners may authorize the inclusion of the fee assessment of one-quarter (1/4) of one percent in any exempted contract at the time of award.*

Nothing contained above shall in any way limit the powers of the Inspector General to perform audits on all County contracts including, but not limited to, those contracts specifically exempted above.

#### ***B. INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE***

Provider shall indemnify and hold harmless the County and its officers, employees, agents and instrumentalities from any and all liability, losses or damages, including attorneys' fees and costs of defense, which the County or its officers, employees, agents or instrumentalities may incur as a result of claims, demands, suits, causes of actions or proceedings of any kind or nature arising out of, relating to or resulting from the performance of this Agreement by the Provider or its employees, agents, servants, partners principals or subcontractors. Provider shall pay all claims and losses in connection therewith and shall investigate and defend all claims, suits or actions of any kind or nature in the name of the County, where applicable, including appellate proceedings, and shall pay all costs, judgments, and attorney's fees which may issue thereon. Provider expressly understands and agrees that any insurance protection required by this Agreement or otherwise provided by Provider shall in no way limit the responsibility to indemnify, keep and save harmless and defend the County or its officers, employees, agents and instrumentalities as herein provided.

The vendor shall furnish to the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust, 111 NW 1st Street, Suite 27-310, Miami, Florida 33128, Certificate(s) of Insurance which indicate that insurance coverage has been obtained which meets the requirements as outlined below:

- Worker's Compensation Insurance for all employees of the vendor as required by Florida Statute 440.
- Public Liability Insurance on a comprehensive basis in an amount not less than \$300,000 combined single limit per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. *Miami-Dade County must be shown as an additional insured with respect to this coverage.*
- Automobile Liability Insurance covering all owned, non-owned and hired vehicles used in connection with the work, in an amount not less than \$300,000 combined single limit per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage.

All insurance policies required above shall be issued by companies authorized to do business under the laws of the State of Florida, with the following qualifications:

The company must be rated no less than "B" as to management, and no less than "Class V" as to financial strength, by the latest edition of Best's Insurance Guide, published by A.M. Best Company, Oldwick, New Jersey, or its equivalent, subject to the approval of the County Risk Management Division.

Or

The company must hold a valid Florida Certificate of Authority as shown in the latest "List of All Insurance Companies Authorized or Approved to Do Business in Florida" issued by the State of Florida Department of Insurance and are members of the Florida Guaranty Fund.

Certificates will indicate no modification or change in insurance shall be made without thirty (30) days in advance notice to the certificate holder.

#### ***C. COUNTY OPTIONS***

The County may, at its sole and absolute discretion, reject any and all or parts of any or all Proposals; accept parts of any and all Proposals; further negotiate project scope and fees; postpone or cancel at any time this Solicitation process; or waive any irregularities in this Solicitation or in the Proposals received as a result of this process. In the event that an Applicant wishes to take an exception to any of the terms of

this Solicitation, the Applicant shall clearly indicate the exception in its Proposal. No exception shall be taken where the Solicitation specifically states that exceptions may not be taken. Further, no exception shall be allowed that, in the County's sole discretion, constitutes a material deviation from the requirements of the Solicitation. Proposals taking such exceptions may, in the County's sole discretion, be deemed nonresponsive. The County reserves the right to request and evaluate additional information from any Applicant regarding Applicant's responsibility after the submission deadline as the County deems necessary.

The Applicant's Proposal will be considered a good faith commitment by the Applicant to negotiate a contract with the County, in substantially similar terms to the Proposal offered and, if successful in the process set forth in this Solicitation and subject to its conditions, to enter into a Contract substantially in the terms herein. Applicant Proposal shall be irrevocable until Contract award unless the Proposal is withdrawn. A Proposal may be withdrawn in writing only, addressed to the County contact person for this Solicitation, prior to the Proposal due date and time.

Applicants are hereby notified that all information submitted as part of, or in support of Proposals will be available for public inspection after opening of Proposals, in compliance with Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, (the "Public Record Law")

Any Applicant who, at the time of Proposal submission, is involved in an ongoing bankruptcy as a debtor, or in a reorganization, liquidation, or dissolution proceeding, or if a trustee or receiver has been appointed over all or a substantial portion of the property of the Applicant under federal bankruptcy law or any state insolvency law, may be found non-responsible.

To request a copy of any code section, resolution and/or administrative/implementing order cited in this Solicitation, contact the Clerk of the Board at (305) 375-5126, Monday- Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The submittal of an application by an Applicant will be considered by the County as constituting a firm offer by the Applicant to perform the required services at the stated fees.

#### **D. Sustainable Procurement Practices**

The County is committed to responsible stewardship of resources and to demonstrating leadership in sustainable business practices. Accordingly, the County has adopted sustainability policies which are incorporated into this Solicitation. The County will continue to explore and pursue sustainable procurement, development and business practices that: (a) reduce greenhouse gases; (b) foster and integrate supplier small business opportunities; (c) support safe and fair labor practices and ethical behavior throughout the supply chain, (d) maximize fiscally responsible "high value, high impact" actions, and (e) advocate for advancing a more equitable, inclusive workforce by encouraging vendors doing business with Miami-Dade County to actively recruit Neurodivergent talent and individuals with disabilities for employment opportunities.

#### ***E. APPLICATIONS OPEN TO PUBLIC***

Prospective applicants are hereby notified that all information submitted as part of, or in support of, applications will be available for public inspection in compliance with Chapter 286, Florida Statutes, popularly known as the "Government in the Sunshine Law".

#### ***F. CONTRACTING PROCESS***

Successful Applicants will be required to submit all documents necessary for contract development (e.g. revised budget(s), scope(s) of service, insurance certificates, affidavits, work plan(s), etc.) within two weeks from receipt of written notice of contract award from the County.

#### ***G. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS***

Each application will be reviewed to determine if the application is responsive to the submission requirements outlined in the RFA. A responsive application is one which follows the requirements of the RFA, includes all electronic documentation, is submitted in the format outlined in the RFA, is timely, and has the appropriate signatures as required on the certification page (CoC Applications only). Applicants will

be notified of any technical deficiencies with the proposal via an e-mail sent to the official applicant contact person as shown in the Monday.com application. During the Cure Period Applicants may correct any technical deficiencies identified during staff's technical review of the proposal with the submission of additional documentation as may be required by the County. Changes to narrative elements of the proposal will not be allowed. A deviation from the terms of this RFP may be cured so long as the deviation is immaterial in that it does not provide the Applicant with an unfair competitive advantage. Failure to comply with these requirements may deem your application non-responsive.

#### *H. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/ADDENDA*

Requests for additional information or clarification must be made in writing and received by the County contact person for this RFA no later than the deadline for receipt of questions specified in the RFA timetable. The request must contain the RFA title, Applicant's name, address, phone number and e-mail. The County will issue responses to inquiries and any other corrections or amendments it deems necessary in written addenda issued prior to the Application due date. Applicants should not rely on any representations, statements or explanations other than those made in this RFA or in any written addendum to this RFA. Where there appears to be a conflict between the RFA and any addenda issued, the latest addendum issued shall prevail.

It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure receipt of all addenda. The Applicant should verify with the designated contact persons prior to submitting an application that all addenda have been received. Applicants who obtain copies of the RFA from sources other than the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust risk the potential of not receiving addenda, since their names will not be included on the only list for that particular RFA. Such applicants are solely responsible for those risks.

Any questions, issue, objection or disagreement concerning, generated by, or arising from the published requirements, terms, conditions or processes contained or described in the solicitation document shall be deemed waived by the protester and shall be rejected as a basis for a bid protest unless it was brought by that bidder or Applicant to the attention, in writing, of the contact person of the Homeless Trust, at least two working days (not less than 48 hours) prior to the hour of proposal submission. The purpose of this requirement is to expedite the procurement process by allowing the issuing department the opportunity to consider, and to resolve or clarify in a timely fashion, through the issuance of a remedial solicitation addendum, if appropriate, any such questions, issue, objection or disagreement, but not limited to ambiguities or inconsistencies within the document.

The foregoing notwithstanding, an appeal may not challenge the relative weight of the evaluation criteria, or the formula specified for assigning points therefore contained in the request for applications.

#### *I. Communication with Competitive Selection Committee Members*

Applicants are hereby notified that direct communication regarding this Solicitation, written or otherwise, to individual Competitive Selection Committee (or Review Team) Members or, to the Competitive Selection Committee (or Review Team) as a whole, are expressly prohibited. Any oral communications with Competitive Selection Committee (or Review Team) Members other than as provided in Section 2-11.1 of the Code, are prohibited.

#### *J. Public Entity Crimes*

Pursuant to Paragraph 2(a) of Section 287.133 of the Florida Statutes, a person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a Proposal for a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity; may not submit a Proposal on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; may not submit Proposals on leases of real property to a public entity; may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity; and, may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 of the Florida Statutes for Category Two for a period of thirty-six (36) months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

#### K. Lobbyist Contingency Fees

a) In accordance with Section 2-11.1(s) of the Code, after May 16, 2003, no person may, in whole or in part, pay, give or agree to pay or give a contingency fee to another person. No person may, in whole or in part, receive or agree to receive a contingency fee.

b) A contingency fee is a fee, bonus, commission or non-monetary benefit as compensation which is dependent on or in any way contingent upon the passage, defeat, or modification of: 1) any ordinance, resolution, action or decision of the County Commission; 2) any action, decision or recommendation of the County Mayor or any County board or committee; or 3) any action, decision or recommendation of any County personnel during the time period of the entire decision-making process regarding such action, decision or recommendation which foreseeably will be heard or reviewed by the County Commission or a County board or committee.

#### L. Collusion

In accordance with Section 2-8.1.1 of the Code, where two (2) or more related parties, as defined herein, each submit a Proposal for any contract, such Proposals shall be presumed to be collusive. The foregoing presumption may be rebutted by the presentation of evidence as to the extent of ownership, control and management of such related parties in preparation and submittal of such Proposals. Related parties shall mean Applicant, the principals, corporate officers, and managers of the Applicant; or the spouse, domestic partner, parents, stepparents, siblings, children or stepchildren of a Applicant or the principals, corporate officers and managers thereof which have a direct or indirect ownership interest in another Applicant for the same contract or in which a parent company or the principals thereof of one Applicant have a direct or indirect ownership in another Applicant for the same contract. Proposals found to be collusive shall be rejected. Applicants who have been found to have engaged in collusion may be considered non-responsible, and may be suspended or debarred, and any contract resulting from collusive bidding may be terminated for default.

#### M. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/REQUIREMENTS

The Homeless Trust shall be responsible for preparing and submitting the Collaborative Application to the County Mayor for her review and subsequent submission to HUD. Following the Selection of projects by U.S. HUD (and an appropriate environmental clearance if required), and execution of grant agreements between HUD and the County, the agency will enter into sub-recipient agreements with the County, through the Homeless Trust, for the services and housing proposed. Selected and funded applicants will be required to, at a minimum:

- 1) participate in the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for all beds/units funded through this application.
- 2) provide reports and other documents as may be needed or requested by U.S. HUD.
- 3) participate in required meetings and/or training sessions.
- 4) accept referrals only through the Miami-Dade County homeless Continuum of Care Coordinated Entry standards; and
- 5) provide services in accordance with the Miami-Dade's CoC's "Standards of Care."

#### **X. APPEALS PROCESS**

On May 2, 2023 The Board of County Commissioners ("BCC") adopted by Ordinance (MDC Legislative File No. [230341](#); Agenda Item 7A) an Amendment to Section 2-8.4 of the Miami-Dade County Code ("Code") "Protest Procedures" imposing time limits for an Applicant(protestor) to present any question, issue, objection or disagreement concerning, generated by, or arising from the rankings, scoring or recommendations (collectively "objections") of a selection committee or waive such objections as a basis of protest. A companion item was also adopted to amend I.O. 3-21, Protest Procedures. Link to the adopted [Ord. 23-27](#) and Resolution to amend I.O. 3-21 Protest Procedures [R-428-23](#).

Companion Item. Adopted by the BCC on May 2, 2023, by Resolution (MDC Legislative File No. [230343](#),

Agenda Item 11A) is an amendment to Implementing Order (I.O.) 3-21 relating to Bid Protest Procedures. This Amendment to I.O. 3-21 provides the same language as the prior item above that amended the County Code. This Amendment requires as a condition to filing a protest proceeding based on a selection committee's scoring, rankings or recommendations, that Applicants submit written objections to the County's procurement professionals within five (5) workdays of receiving the Selection Committee Coordinator Report.

After the qualitative appraisal, rating and ranking evaluation, and oral presentations from applicants, the Evaluation/Selection Committee will report its findings as to the relative merits and recommendations to the County Mayor, Chairman, Applicants, and Clerk of the Board.

Respondents seeking appeal will be required to document their rationale for appeal on agency letterhead, signed by an authorized agent within five (5) working days after receiving the Selection Committee Coordinator's report. The written objection must state, with particularity, the basis for the objection with sufficient information for County procurement professionals to promptly evaluate the objections without delay to completion of the procurement process. Note that failure to timely comply will prevent these objections from being used as a basis for a protest under the Code. Appeal letters need to be emailed to the Homeless Trust Executive Director at [Victoria.Mallette@miamidade.gov](mailto:Victoria.Mallette@miamidade.gov), with a copy to the Clerk of Board [clerk.board@miamidade.gov](mailto:clerk.board@miamidade.gov), in compliance with the Cone of Silence provisions in Section 2-11.1 of this Code. Appeals received by the deadline specified in the RFA shall be forwarded to the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust Board or Executive Committee, at their duly noticed public meeting. They will consider the recommendations of the Evaluation/Selection Committee and Trust staff, and shall make a recommendation as to whether or not fund new projects recommended through this RFA process, including, but not limited to, directing Trust staff to negotiate any terms (up to and including requesting a "best and final offer"), in order to secure an agreement that serves the best interests of the County.

The Homeless Trust shall prepare a summary of recommendations including providing rejection notices to respondents that are not selected. Following Board approval, the Trust will submit project grant agreements with selected sub-recipients resulting from this RFA, to the County Mayor or Mayor's Designee who shall, following review and approval by the County Attorney's Office, execute the sub-recipient agreements. Notwithstanding, the final determination and approval of the federal funding is subject to approval by U.S. HUD. Selection through this RFA for inclusion in the Collaborative Application for funding pursuant to the NOFO solicitations for the Homeless Continuum of Care Program Competition does not guarantee funding from U.S. HUD.

Applicants may request information and clarification on the ranking and rating of their proposal no less than 72 hours prior to the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust's Board consideration and approval of renewal and new project recommendations, and rejected projects as outlined in the timeline of this RFA. All questions regarding the evaluation of the proposals will be considered by the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust Board and/or Executive Committee, and their decision shall be final.