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| **CO Bos Homelessness Legislation & Funding Opportunities 2022 – Q&A** |
| Attendees: Deanne Witzke -CCH, Shawn Hayes- CCH, Cathy Alderman-CCH, Mark Miller-CCH BoS, Janette Trujillo, Teah Miller – Pueblo County, Karen Bland, Becky Longberg – Chafee Housing Authority, Hebb Lopez – Project Moxie, Kellie Willis, Pinon Project Family Resource Center, Denny Wetmore, HMIS Project Manager for BoS, Tom Abbott – Chafee County Hospitality, Kippi Clausen – Rural Collaborative for Homeless Youth, Abbie Brewer – Hilltop Slope CoC, Joel Berdie, Project Moxie, Maureen Zeimet – Chaffee County Hospitality, Beverly Lampley – GVCO, Lori Goodwin – Garfield County Human Services, Rebecca Mayer – MDHI, Nancy Hyde – CCHI, Maureen Zeimet, Beverly Lampley – GVCO, Maddie Konecny – BoS Catholic Charities, Abbie Brewer – Co Western Slope, Avalon Guarino – Response Admin, Steven Cordova – Total concept, Becky Rippy – Catholic Charities, Glenwood Springs, Evelyn Gorsline-Flamm – Housing Solution, Elizabeth Salkind, Judy McNeilsmith, Cassy Westmoreland, |
| **Introduction – guest t speaker – Rebecca Mayer****Rebecca contracting with CCH to work on BoS collaborative application for the annual NOFO from HUD as well as the Special NOFOs that have come out****Presenter - Cathy Alderman – Chief Communications Officer for CCH she works with legislative systems to make permanent changes** |
| **Person asking question** | **Question/Comment** | **Response** | **Notes** |
| Judy McNeilsmith | What is considered transitional housing? | According to HUD, Transitional Housing (H) provides temporary housing with supportive services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness with the goal of interim stability and support to successfully move to and maintain permanent housing. TH projects can cover housing costs and accompanying supportive services for program participants for up to 24 months. Participants in a TH project must have a signed lease, sublease, or occupancy agreement with the following requirements:-An initial term of at least one month-Automatically renewable upon expiration, except by prior notice by either party-A minimum term of 24 months | Transitional Housing definition link:<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-program-components/transitional-housing/>  |
| Elizabeth Salkind | Any funding to start a resident owned mobile home park?Are there any models of that that that could be replicated without starting from scratch? We have some interested parts/pieces and potentially some land- not sure if it could come together timely | There may not be a restriction, if land identified, or community of folks that ae wiling to maintain ownership, that would be an eligible application to division of housing for those funds-Many presentations of what resident owned communities could look like Land banking is something that was strongly considered and could be an eligible application. Whether you want to use for a mobile home park, or for an actual development of affordable housing, could be an eligible use, especially if you restrict to certain AMI levels and assure long-term affordability | ACTIONCathy will find those presentations of what resident owned communities could look like, and give to Deanne and Shawn to pass out to the group |
| Marion McDonough -  | For a grant that has eligible applicants as ‘nonprofits doing activities the grant dollars support’, can a nonprofit that DOES NOT provide direct services, but would contract out with other nonprofits, qualify to apply? | Are we thinking that an organization that would take in the funds and sub grant it out to other non-profits that would actually deliver the services? Not sure they would not be ineligible- the plan would have to be flushed out.It is ultimately up to the applicant to make that ask to the grant | Example – if CCH said we are assisting our BoS partners by taking these grants in and granting them out. Here is who the partners are that we are going to give the grants to and here is what they are going to achieve with those dollars.May not be ineligible, but possibly the Division of Housing Office of Homeless Initiatives are looking to organizations providing services and housing on the ground, but collaborative applications are encouraged, regional applications are encouraged. So, if that is the most effective way to get the $$ out to the communities, then it would be up to the applicant to make that case to Office of Homeless Imitative and Division of Housing |
| Becky Longberg – Chafee Housing Authority | When would the application and details be posted for the HB22-1377 grant? | Division of Housing, Housing Colorado & Chafee have been doing a statewide tour, where they got feedback on what people want to see in terms of this application process. They are hoping to have a summary of all that information and guidance out in September, may start accepting applications in Oct/Nov – and maybe instead of doing single applications they may be doing a rolling application process. Try to get dollars out on incremental basis, too difficult for $105 million worth of projects to come in the door Oct or Nov. | State of Colo has never made a general fund investment in homelessness, so every dollar that has been spent primarily in Colo - all have been Fed pass through dollarsThese are also Fed Pass Through DollarsGov’s office did allocate $200 million dollars. Recognition that we need investment in homelessness in the state, encouraged about the availability of these funds.Concerned that after 2026 we could have a big cliff effect, because we will be making all these investments, then suddenly will stop. We are thinking about what to do to not have the cliff effect and have ongoing funding support after 2026. One way may be a Statewide Ballot measure to allocate $54 million annually in state funds for homelessness specifically. Or some revenue source pass thru legislation for the next couple yearsIt is critical that we use these dollars, address local community needs and demonstrate how effective it is to invest in homelessness resolution, so we have ongoing support |
| Becky Rippy – Catholic Charities | What is the best way to know what DOH would want us to do? If we each have ideas of how to use the funds, do we each individually or do we have one group in the continuum that each applies- then understand what each group applied | Cathy’s opinion – my understanding that they want each group under CoC. CoC would say to the Office of Homelessness Initiative – this is in line with our priorities and goals, this is the bare minimum they would want from the organization applying for the funds, to be in touch with their CoC and is aligning this application with the priorities set by the CoC.They may say the continuum itself has to identify or be the lead organization and apply for the funds if possible.  | Collaborative and regional applications are going to be given priority.Not to say they will not fund one-off if persuasive and dynamic.To the greatest extent possible there needs to be alignment with the CoC, state’s priority More guidance to come on how they want the applications – either lead organization apply, or one organization apply and subgrant out. Or they may say each should apply and have a letter of support from the CoC.We do not have an exact answer yet. |
| Becky Rippy – Catholic Charities | Should we have talks in groups for applying for funding?Do we decide as a continuum to apply?Example: DV want to apply for funding for a shelter, and others want to apply for housingDo each individual organizations apply, or do we have one group in the continuum that Catholic charities get this? What does DOH want us to do?Do we wait for them to put out a statement of what direction of where they want you to go, then have that collaboration conversation? | Conversations on collaboration should start now.Dream BigEncourage folks at local level – to determine what is needed in our community:Do we want to do a housing project?Do we need more collaborative support?If we do a housing project how many units do, we need?Are we more concerned that we have more people going into homelessness?If we had all the $$ in the world, what do we need to address as a priority?What is needed in our community?How can we come together to deliver that?Do we want to do a development project?Do we have the housing resources then we just need a stronger voucher or supportive services and Transitional housing?If a development – does it need to be 20 units or 200 units, does it need to be targeted to families or individuals?Office of Homeless initiative working out - what to include. It should say each CoC sign off - this is in line with our priorities and goalsOrganization applying for funds has been in touch with their CoC and is aligning this app with CoC Or they may say the lead organization to apply for funds - if possible- The collaborative applications may be given priority, but not to say they will not fund one-off applications – to the greatest extent possibly ask needs to be in alignment with COC and state priorities | The state is going to provide guidance and determine what /where the funds will be If opportunity to submit comments online – Cathy is going to see if the link is available. Encourage folks to say - if a single organization should apply and then share the funds, or if you think all organizations should apply - tell them thatLink to that statewide feedback <https://cdola.colorado.gov/2022-summer-engagement-outreach-division-of-housing?mccid+84a9e98478&mceid=d988bc294ca>  |
| Becky Rippy – Catholic Charities | Do you have a suggestion of who we should be addressing questions about this issue? | Reach out to Zach Shafner (sp?) is helping to coordinate the feedback loop and has been to many meetings |  |
| Shawn Hayes – CCH | talk about different funding sources NOFOHow can we utilize different projects and move them - how the state will fund? | Division of Housing - this is the project we say what we want to get off the ground, they may say we are going to provide $3 mil, but do not tell you where the funds come from, or they split and tell you each funderNOFO federal funds for those needs because they align with this a particular funding sourceIf align with NOFO apply to State – advising this is what we need to address this issue in our community 0r they say we have federal $$ to cover that, or we have some state $$ to support that. The idea is that they are going to fund as many projects that are viable.They have a lot of resources, and each has different requirements  | You could also have a conversation with the state, and they would give a clear statement |
| Mark Miller - CCH | Some of this is very dense and will take some time to digest. If there are updates on any of the funding sources, where is the best place to get those updates? | Hopefully, the presentation links will provide some information and you can search on your own.The department is going to start putting gout guidance in Sept. we will share as soon as we get this information. | They will most likely do presentations on what they learned from the feedback  |
| Becky Rippy – Catholic Charities | Would one grant apply and receive the money then they distribute the dollars to each group? | We do not' know yet - when they issue guidance, that says only organizations with CoC may apply, or they may say, every organization should apply and coordinate with a CoC | If approval from local groups - collaboration or alignment with strategic plans with Fed, state, and COC, if it is something community is supporting the state will support tooState may come up with different guidance but trying to free up or not add restrictive guidelines gives us more autonomy. Dream big - working together and coming up with collaborative plans.  |
| Shawn | Does anyone have any questions on specific projects? |  | Leveraging of resources is part of the new way of thinking’ that is sweeping across many of these processes. When you are dreaming big, think about health care resources, housing resources, housing first philosophy, equity across all areas of our populationIf the different processes to get funds out the door – they will have ongoing stakeholder meetings and presentation on these. Cathy is willing to attend and learn more if helpful. |
| Shawn | Any questions about the big project? | Rippy - it always seems like when we talk to the state about a project -we never a response or a ‘great idea, here’s the funding’. They never say, take this to your group and we will see if there is funding - is this different? | This is different - a state has never had the funds to support a motel or property, or land - this is a preferable use of $$ and the conversation can happen over time. We do think this is differentBecky Longberg - Yes, please more of these information sharing Zooms! We are a ‘young’ Housing Authority and Coc and appreciate help with our learning curve |
| K Bland | How can one apply for these funds?This is a lot of info and short amount of time to do it - we have ideas of how to spend the $$, but timing is overwhelming | Cannot apply until they put the process out - may be coming in the next month or so, may be a rolling application process, instead of applying all at onceEncourage you to think about -what are the greatest needs in our community? unsheltered to transitional housing - do we have the housing resources, or do we need more vouchers for assistance, or are we helping seniors, or DV situation? do we have the resources?If the greatest need is affordable housing with folks that need supportive sources if we have those funds? Think what are the greatest and highest needs? So, when the process comes out, then we can put the greatest needs in the application | aligning with different strategies and COC - we do have a strategic plan for Bal of State CoC - update next Tuesday - will send out update after that We have one from last year - but getting that updated will be helpful - does that align with Fed and State funding sources since NOFs and state $$? |
|  | Does CCH notify us if the application process is open? | Yes, - multiple presentation on use of funds, as soon as we know, we will get that outYes, we will be sending that information out; Cathy to include all these things the NOFO and other funding available | Lamely - heard many conversations on - DOH have been cooperative with us.This is a lot of information - when you get the presentation feel free to reach out to ask - so you have what you need to get your app togetherUpdates and announcements – CO BOS CoC (including CoC Funding Process & Competition information)<https://www.coloradocoalition.org/boscocnews>  |
| Cathy Alderman - CCH | Other things to consider when thinking about what is neededThere are some capacity building grants that are available on the local level. | Plan to mention other opportunities that was not shared – there are some opportunities to help getting staff on ground to do the work, or staff to write grants, for example we'd love to bring in 100 housing vouchers, but we don't have the staff to find the people, there are grants for capacity to support work on grants – think about what infrastructure does your org need to deliver those services?  | Grants available at State and Federal levels |
| Elizabeth Salkin | Delineate those in a clear way? | Cathy - will Identify the state one and Shawn will share the Fed one. One coming down the line - great opportunity for all regions and Balance of state | Beverly Limpey - 44 coming thru another source found - encourage all – in ending homelessness - getting the grants in upping our capacity for MacArthur  |
| Elizabeth Salkin | How about $$ for entry system | Shawn - one of the things state mentioned funding coming around building capacity for units the CoC NOFO have funding for building capacity - a lot of supportive services funding avail - use that as a strategy to bring in addition $$ utilize the NOFO $$ for supportive housing, vouchers, instep , rather than building - look at state and fed funding for building - CoC funding going to be much greater – Strategy could be to use CoC $43 for supportive services or navigation funding.Use the Federal funding through the State to build housing capacity in your communities | The Special Supplemental Unsheltered and Rural Set Asides have Supportive Services Only projects that you can apply for. The SSOO projects can be for outreach staff, CES, Housing Navigation.The special Supplemental NOFO items are posted on the CCH BOS website link belowWhat is the link? |
| Shawn Hayes - CCH | Renewal and new projects for the annual CoC NOFO | Due by 9/30/2022, that is not the Special NOFO TimeLine, which is due 10/20/2022 | Time frame for project application deadline for Special NOFO is 9/20- the final application is due 10/20 due to HUDTimelines are available<https://www.coloradocoalition.org/boscocnews>  |
| Rebecca Mayer  | special funding - do you have to do first part of app like the reg NOFO - CCH does 1st part of NOFO, Project ranking | Before that - section re Bal of State and answer questionsRegister with e-snaps for any new projects not applied for For NOFO renewal - 1st part that CCH does for them - yes similar process - similar questions. | Rebecca MayerRebeccas.mayer80@gmail.com  - CoC application will be completed by team with collaboration from community partnersProject applications for Supplemental NOFO due 9/20/2022 to be submitted in e-snapsA 15-page narrative requirement around community plans - loop in all partnersShawn - be clear - asking whether region is participating regarding the CoC NOFO - think outside the box - think about it – for example outreach - you may already be doing that within your team but not have an official outreach team, however, you may have police finding and referring clients -this service (outreach) could be an outside source that can be used to answer questions. BoS do not always think that they look like what HUD asks.Resources in Rural areas do not look like those in citiesKippi Clausen – Denise and I can provide information on what the CO Rural Collaborative is providing and doing in the BoS in the regions we are in |
| Alice Brewer | If community organization for NOFO - do all organizations have to do e-snap? | If either renewal or new – start sooner than later – ask for help from us or partners – this is time consumingwe may only be org that is applying | <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/6170/esnaps-101-toolkit/>  |
| Cathy Alderman | Comment  | we have a huge opportunity - happy to talk more about the ballot measure – if we keep doing our job well, we may have more funding sources to aid in solving homelessness in our community. It is ok to demand the resources to do our job - stop with the scarcity mentality that we have been forced into for so long. |  |
| Acronyms |  | BoS = Balance of StateCoC = Continuum of CareTH = Transitional HousingSNAPS = Special Needs Assistance Programe-snap = is the electronic CoC Program Applications & Grants Management system that HUD’s Office of Special Needs Assistance Program uses to support the Coc Program funding application and grant awards process for the Coc Program | e-snaps link<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/>  |