
WESTERN PA COC FY2020 COC SCORING WEBINAR



**PRESENTED BY: DMA - DIANA T. MYERS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
OCTOBER 9, 2020
- FOR THE PA WESTERN PA CONTINUUM OF CARE
- UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE PA DEPT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

WEBINAR AGENDA

- NOFA Updates
- Why Renewal Scoring?
- How does the CoC decide what criteria to use to score projects?
- Renewal Scoring Criteria
 - Brief overview of all criteria
 - New criteria
- Renewal Scoring Process -- **NEW info for 2020!**
 - Process for submitting Required Information
 - Timeline
 - Appeals
- Questions

NOFA UPDATES

- No word from HUD on NOFA timeline
- HUD has said there may be an abbreviated NOFA process. This could mean:
 - HUD automatically renews all projects (projects may submit their information in esnaps) but no full CoC application and no new projects OR
 - CoC's must rank renewals (and projects submit information in esnaps) but no full CoC application and no new projects OR
 - Some combination of the above OR
 - Something else completely different
- However, per the CoC regulations HUD requires CoCs to evaluate project performance. Therefore the CoC will still be scoring CoC projects based on the renewal scoring criteria.



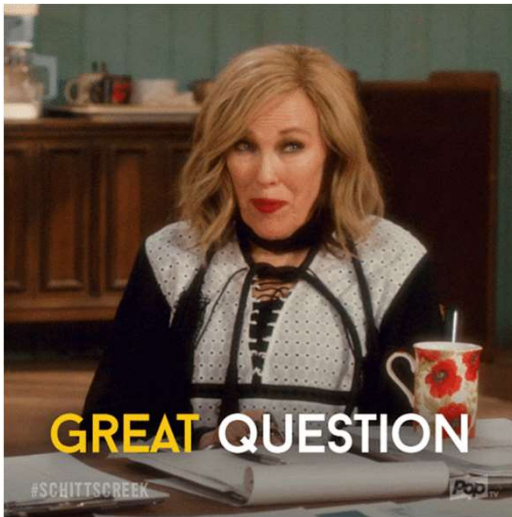
WHY DOES THE COC SCORE AND RANK GRANTEES DURING THE ANNUAL COC NOFA COMPETITION PROCESS?

WHY SCORE & RANK PROJECTS?

- **HUD Requirement. CoCs are charged with:**
 - Using objective criteria to review and rank projects
 - Reviewing performance of projects and implementing a standard process for reallocating funding from lower performing projects to create new high performing projects
 - Funding projects that are effectively serving people experiencing homelessness and that help improve the overall function of the system
 - Funding projects that meet needs within the system

WHY SCORE & RANK PROJECTS?

- **The CoC Strives to Make Data-Driven Funding Decisions**
 - Is the project still meeting a need within the CoC?
 - Is the project effectively serving participants?
 - Each project's individual performance impacts the CoC's overall System Performance Measures, which impact the overall amount of funding the CoC receives from HUD (*more on that later*)
 - Is the project effectively using their funds?
 - Are project staff fully participating as members of the CoC?



HOW DOES THE COC DECIDE WHAT CRITERIA TO USE TO SCORE PROJECTS?

PROCESS FOR DECIDING RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA

- HUD requires CoCs to include certain criteria as part of their scoring/ranking process, including:
 - Criteria for evaluating severity of needs
 - For projects who serve participants with high vulnerability/high severity of needs, are you taking this into consideration in some way during the scoring process?
 - Performance related criteria
 - Examples: exits to permanent housing, increases in income, returns to homelessness
 - Criteria for evaluating victim service providers
 - Method for evaluating DV providers utilizing data generated from a comparable database and evaluated domestic violence projects based on the degree they improve safety for the population they serve.
- Funding Committee is made up of non-conflicted representatives
 - Non-conflicted = their organization/program does not receive CoC funding
- Funding Committee reviews and updates the scoring criteria, and Non-Conflicted Members of CoC Board approve/finalize the criteria

PROCESS FOR DECIDING RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA

- Funding Committee reviews project performance from the previous year to set scoring thresholds for each criteria
 - May decide to raise or lower point thresholds based on previous years performance
- Funding Committee may also decide to add new criteria (e.g. to respond to HUD requirements or NOFA requirements or to reflect the work the CoC is doing)



RENEWAL PROJECT SCORING CRITERIA





FY20 RENEWAL SCORING

- CoC's FY20 Scoring Criteria Areas:
 - Performance= 41 points
 - Monitoring= 27 points
 - HUD Priorities= 23 points
 - CoC Participation= 9 points
 - Up to 4.5 bonus points
- CoC's FY20 Renewal Scoring Period:
 - January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019



PERFORMANCE

41 POINTS

WHY DOES THE COC SCORE PROJECTS BASED ON PERFORMANCE CRITERIA?

- HUD wants CoC's to use objective criteria to score and rank projects, including factors related to improving system performance (e.g., exits to permanent housing destinations, length of time homeless, increasing income)
- CoC's must show that they actively review performance of existing CoC Program-funded projects and have a standard process for reallocating funding from lower performing projects to create new high performing projects.
- HUD measures whether CoCs are performing well as an overall system through HUD's CoC System Performance Measures. **Individual project performance directly contributes to the overall system performance.**
- ***The CoC's System Performance Measures directly impact the amount of funding the CoC receives***
 - If the CoC has positive performance outcomes, the CoC will likely receive increased funding from year to year. If the CoC has negative performance outcomes, the CoC is at risk of losing funding or not receiving funding increases.

WHAT ARE THE HUD SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASURES (SPM)?

Length of Time Homeless: The length of time individuals and families experience homelessness.

Returns to Homelessness: The extent to which individuals and families who leave homelessness experience additional episodes of homelessness.

Number of homeless persons: Overall reduction in the number of homeless individuals and families. This includes reducing homelessness for subpopulations (e.g. veterans, families, chronically homeless)

Employment and income growth for homeless individuals and families: Includes earned income, non-employment cash income, and total income. Unlike other SPMs, only CoC-funded projects contribute to this measure.

First Time Homelessness: Success at reducing the number of individuals and families who become homeless for the first time

Permanent Housing Placement/Retention: Successful housing placement to or retention in a permanent housing destination

RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA: PERFORMANCE

- Housing Stability – 12 points for RRH/TH-RRH and PSH; 10 points for TH/SSO
 - Exits to Permanent Housing (RRH/TH-RRH/TH/SSO)
 - Exits to Permanent Housing/Retention in Permanent Housing (PSH)
- Returns to Homelessness – 2 points
 - Low points value due to low HMIS participation of shelters in the CoC
 - N/A for DV providers
- Projects Dedicated to DV survivors – 2 points
- Length of Stay/Average (TH and SSO Only) – 2 points
- Length of Stay/Longer than 12 months (TH and SSO Only)
 - Not scored in 2020

RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA: PERFORMANCE

- Length of Time between Project Start Date and Housing Move in Date
 - Not scored in 2020
- Income Growth/Increase in TOTAL Income – 12 points
- Connecting Participants to Mainstream Benefits – 4 points
- Participants Connected to Health Insurance – 2 points
- High Quality Data Entry – 7.5 points points
 - Note: Grantees will not be penalized for “Clients Don’t Know/Clients Refused” related to Personally Identifiable Information for clients fleeing DV who do not want to disclose this information due to confidentiality concerns
 - Different metrics than last year
- Timeliness of HMIS Data Entry – 1.5 points
 - Looks at timeliness of project entry record and exit record input (within 10 days)



MONITORING

27 POINTS FOR PSH/RRH/TH-RRH/TH
19 POINTS FOR SSO

RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA: MONITORING

- Project Participant Eligibility – 2 points
 - % of heads of households whose prior living situation was literally homeless or fleeing DV
- Unit Utilization Rate – 8 points
 - Average utilization rate over 4 points in time (Note: SSO projects not scored on this criteria)
 - **New for 2020 scoring:** For projects under 10 units, will use a 3-year average if the project is under 90% utilization.
- Drawdown Rates – 3 points
 - Quarterly drawdowns
- Funds Expended – 8 points
 - % of grant funds expended

RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA: MONITORING

- Timely APR Submission – 2 points
- Cost effectiveness – 4 points (2 points each of the factors below)
 - Cost per household served- Average cost per household served compared to average of other projects. Points awarded in quartiles. SSO/TH/RRH projects ranked together. PSH projects ranked together.
 - Cost per exit to permanent housing destination- Average cost per exit to permanent housing. Points awarded in quartiles. SSO/TH/RRH projects ranked together. PSH projects ranked together.
- HUD Monitoring
 - 5 points deducted if HUD monitoring findings not resolved



HUD PRIORITIES

23 POINTS

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RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA: HUD PRIORITIES

Severity of Need - Why does the CoC score criteria related to severity of need?

- HUD requirement -- For projects who serve participants with high vulnerability/high severity of needs, are you taking this into consideration in some way during the scoring process?
- Projects who serve participants with high severity of needs may struggle in other areas (e.g. increasing income, exits to permanent housing) as a result of serving participants with high severity of need. These criteria are intended to factor that into the scoring.

RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA: HUD PRIORITIES

- Severity of Need/Health Conditions – 2 points
 - % of adult participants with 1+ physical and/or mental health condition(s)
 - Similar to criteria that has been scored in the past, but tweaked how it is calculated
- Severity of Need/Zero Income at Entry – 2 points
 - % of adult participants with zero income at program entry
- Severity of Need/Chronically Homeless – 2 points
 - % of chronically homeless households at entry
 - Similar to criteria that has been scored in the past, but tweaked how it is calculated
- Severity of Need/Unsheltered – 2 points (New in 2020)
 - % of adult participants coming from unsheltered locations at entry
- Severity of Need/Domestic Violence – 2 points (New in 2020)
 - % of adult participants with history of DV

RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA: HUD PRIORITIES

- Severity of Need (continued) - Projects are not intended to receive all points in all areas of the renewal scoring criteria. Criteria are intended to allow for a balanced evaluation of the project. For example:
 - Project A serves many participant with high service needs/severity of need. Project A lost a few points related to increasing income and exits to permanent housing. However, Project A adds points in Severity of Need related to Health Conditions, Zero Income at Entry, and Unsheltered.
 - Project B serves participants with less intense service needs. Project B scores well in areas related to increasing income, exits to permanent housing, and cost per household. However, Project B receives few points related to Severity of Need related to Health Conditions, Zero Income at Entry, and Domestic Violence history.

RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA: HUD PRIORITIES

- Project Type – 3 points
- Housing First Approach – 10 points
 - Org responds affirmatively to questions on Housing First questionnaire to receive points
- BONUS: HUD Housing First Assessment Tool – 4 points (New in 2020)
 - Agency completes HUD Housing First Assessment Tool for project – 2 points
 - Agency completes the HF Assessment Tool Follow Up Form – 2 points
 - **Note:** Agency does not receive bonus points based on the results of the assessment, but receives points for going through the process of assessing their program for alignment with housing first principles



COC PARTICIPATION

9 POINTS

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RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA: COC PARTICIPATION

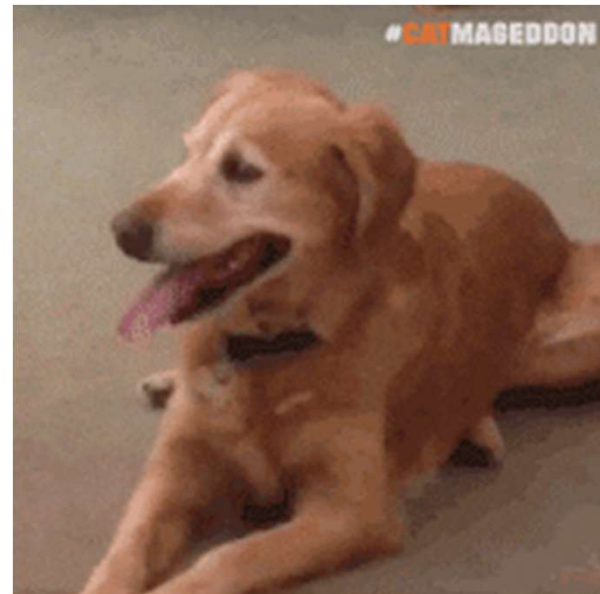
- CoC Meeting Attendance – 2 points
- RHAB Meetings -2 points
 - Attendance at 50% of all RHAB meetings in 2019
 - N/A if NW Region and not a member of the RHAB
- County LHOT or housing coalition meetings
 - Attendance at 75% of all county LHOT/housing coalition meetings
 - 4 points for NW non-RHAB members; 2 points all others
- CoC Training Events – 3 points

RENEWAL SCORING CRITERIA: COC PARTICIPATION

- Coordinated Entry Participation – Not Scored in 2020
- BONUS – Full HMIS Participation – 0.5 points
 - HMIS participation among homeless assistance programs (not receiving ESG, CoC, SSVF, PATH, RHY funding) operated by your organization, or partnering with another organization/program to enter their data into HMIS
- Late Submission (Penalty) if required CoC Renewal Scoring Documents are submitted after deadline – 2 points penalty (New in 2020)

QUESTIONS

- Questions so far?





RENEWAL SCORING PROCESS

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PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING REQUIRED INFORMATION



IMPORTANT!!

There are some changes to the process for submitting renewal scoring information to the CoC this year.

PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING REQUIRED INFORMATION

What is the same?

- Renewal summary form submitted via Survey Gizmo
 - Upload documentation from eLOCCS, documentation that APR was submitted on time, and answer questions related to unit utilization, Housing First, HUD Monitoring, RHAB participation, training participation, and DV services (if applicable)
 - **Note:** SSO-CE (Coordinated Entry) projects will submit an abbreviated version of the Renewal Summary Form survey, which asks for eLOCCS and APR information.
 - A few new questions in the Renewal Summary Form survey (e.g. Housing First Bonus)

PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING REQUIRED INFORMATION

What is different?

- The PA HMIS upgrade to ClientTrack 19 has resulted in the discontinuation of various reports and customizations previously available in ClientTrack 15. **The Renewal Scoring Calculator** used over the last several years to assist in the CoC's renewal scoring process **has been DISCONTINUED.**
- **APR Data Submitted via Survey Gizmo:** This year agencies will submit project-level APR data into Survey Gizmo and submit a copy of the APR data report used to fill out the survey.
 - The submission of APR data into Survey Gizmo is a **NEW STEP** in the process this year.
 - CoC agencies will have a limited time to submit this data.
 - All agencies, particularly those with multiple projects, are encouraged to **begin as soon as the survey tool is released** to ensure that the submission deadline is met.
 - Note: SSO-CE projects are **NOT** required to submit APR data via Survey Gizmo.

PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING REQUIRED INFORMATION

What is different?

- **Grantees have been asked to review/clean up their data in advance of scoring.** There will be only one version of the outcomes/scoring report. There will **NOT** be multiple iterations of the Scoring Calculator released (as has been the process in prior years) because the Scoring Calculator tool is no longer available to the CoC.
- Upon release of the preliminary outcomes and scoring report, the window for submitting appeals of the outcomes and scoring will be open.

PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING REQUIRED INFORMATION

DMA will provide a video walk-through of the Renewal Summary Form and APR Data Collection Survey for grantees who want more details/guidance on completing the surveys.

DATA INPUT: Please input data from the corresponding APR tables into the fields below.

In this section, please refer to the APR you have run for the project. If you are unsure of which APR question or table to use or which field to enter, please [click here to refer to the APR Table Examples](#).

17. Q.5a: Report Validation Table *

	# Persons
Total Number of Persons Served	<input type="text"/>
Number of Adults (Age 18 or Over)	<input type="text"/>
Number of Leavers	<input type="text"/>
Number of Adult Leavers	<input type="text"/>
Number of Stayers	<input type="text"/>
Number of Adult Stayers	<input type="text"/>
Number of Youth Under Age 25	<input type="text"/>
Number of Adult Heads of Household	<input type="text"/>

APPEALS

- Renewal scoring results will be circulated to all CoC-funded grantees.
- If an error on the Renewal Scoring Sheet is identified, DMA will work to resolve that error directly or with the Funding Committee as needed.
- If a grantee is not satisfied with the outcome of an issue raised, the grantee may opt to submit an appeal. Appeals will be submitted via Survey Gizmo. Grantees should provide as much detail and documentation as possible to support their appeal. All appeals will be discussed, deliberated and decided by the Funding Committee.

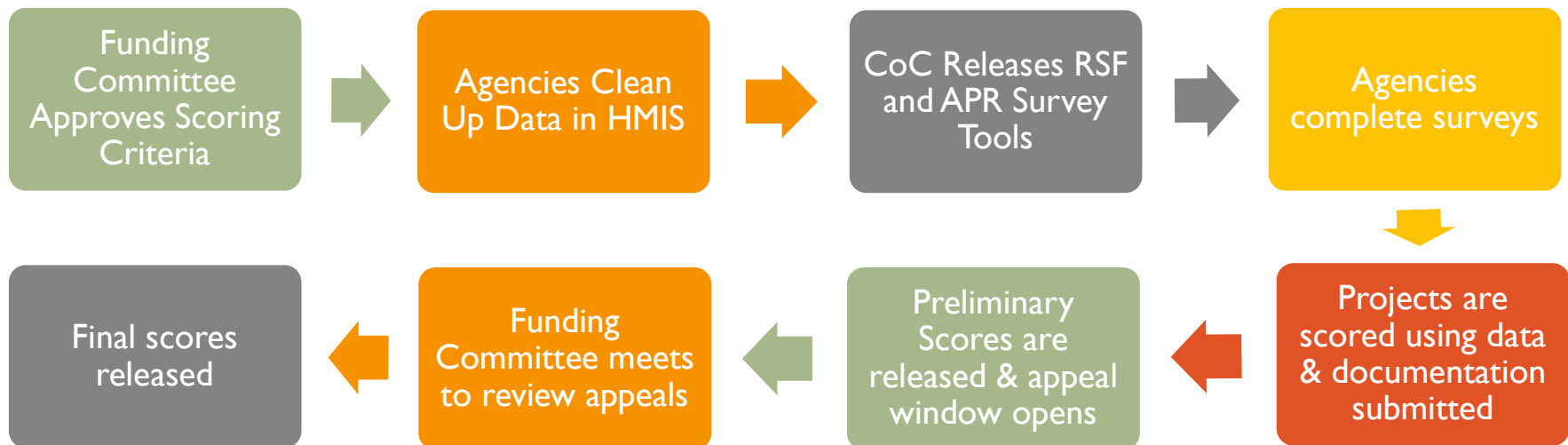
APPEALS

- Examples of appeals with good documentation
 - Project A submitted their APR late due to an HMIS issue. Project A submits clear documentation including: 1) correspondence with HMIS team showing attempts to resolve the issue, 2) correspondence with HUD Field Office to inform them of the issue, and 3) correspondence with CoC about this issue.
 - Project B has two participants who have been in the project for 10+ years. The rules for project eligibility were different at the time when these participants were enrolled in the program, which resulted in the project losing points related to Participant Eligibility. The project submitted the following documentation: 1) proof of participants' enrollment date, 2) proof of participants' living situation at enrollment, 3) HUD guidance re: enrollment eligibility at date of participants enrollment.

APPEALS

- Examples of appeals with weak or no documentation
 - General complaints about criteria but no specific documentation of why your project should be granted an appeal. Example: “It is hard to increase income for our clients.”
 - “We are a small program and are penalized more harshly on this criteria”, but no documentation related to the specific clients this applies to.

SUMMARY OF 2020 SCORING PROCESS



TIMELINE

- **October 9th (LATER TODAY)** – Renewal Summary Form and APR Data Collection Surveys launch
 - Look out for an email from the CoC email address (westerncoc@pennsylvaniacoc.org) with detailed information
- **October 30th** - Renewal Summary Form and APR Data Collection Surveys DUE
- **November 13th**– DMA release renewal preliminary project scores (note: this timeline subject to change)
- **November 13th-20th** – Grantees may submit appeals related to renewal project scores (note: this timeline subject to change)
- **December 4th**– Final renewal project scores released

NOTE: If HUD releases the NOFA during this timeline, this timeline may need to be adjusted or moved up. The CoC will communicate any changes related to the timeline as soon as possible upon release of a NOFA.

HAPPY COC SCORING!

To help us ensure a smooth CoC scoring process please:

- Promptly and carefully read all emails from the CoC
- Follow instructions
- Ask questions well in advance of deadlines
- Meet all deadlines
- If you have questions, send them to westerncoc@pennsylvaniacoc.org.
- You can also call DMA at 215-576-1558 and leave a message and someone from the team will call you back.
- Please do NOT wait until the last minute to review materials, submit surveys and/or resolve problems/questions.



Q&A

USE THE CHAT TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS?

- Diana T. Myers and Associates, Consultant for the Western PA CoC
 - westerncoc@pennsylvaniacoc.org
 - DMA staff you may hear from during this process:
 - Leigh Howard
 - Christy Rubenstein
 - Jessica Sones
 - Ciarra Karnes
 - Fern Cutler
 - Helen Kelly