

# Rensselaer County Homeless Services Collaborative

## New/DV Bonus Project RFP 2021 (Reallocation, New Bonus, and/or DV Bonus Projects)

Application may not exceed four (4) pages

Is this proposal seeking funds under the DV Bonus?  Yes  No  
(note: DV Bonus funds may only support PH-RRH, Joint TH and PH-RRH,)

**Please check the box of the project type you are applying for:**

- Permanent Supportive Housing that is either DedicatedPLUS OR has 100% of beds dedicated to persons experiencing chronic homelessness.
- Permanent Housing-Rapid Rehousing
- Joint TH and PH-RRH (project must be housing first)
- HMIS (HMIS Lead Only)
- Support Services Only-Coordinated Entry Project (Only applies to the currently funded CE project)

**Please check the box to signify whether the project being applied for is a:**

- New Project
- Expansion Project

1. Applicant/Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Agency Point of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Proposed Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Is the applicant a current member of the Rensselaer County Homeless Services Collaborative (RCHSC) Continuum of Care (CoC)?  Yes - 10 pts  No - 0 pts
  - a. If no, what is the agency's current involvement with the RCHSC CoC?
5. Is the agency applying as a current CoC funded grantee?  Yes - 5 pts  No - 10 pts
  - a. If yes, are there any unresolved monitoring or audit findings from HUD or the CoC?  
 Yes - 0 pts  No - 3 pts
6. Is your agency an active participant in the RCHSC Coordinated Entry program?  
 Yes - 5 pts  No - 0 pts
  - a. If no, is your agency willing to become an active participant in the RCHSC Coordinated Entry program?  
 Yes - 2 pts  No - 0 pts
7.
  - a. (New/Reallocated Projects Only)
    - i. Is your agency an active participant in the HMIS System?  
 Yes - 3 pts  No - 0 pts
    - ii. If no, is your agency willing and able to become an active participant in the HMIS System?  
 Yes - 3 pts  No - 0 pts
  - b. (DV Bonus Projects Only)
    - i. Does your agency currently report in a DV system that is comparable to the HMIS system?  
 Yes - 3 pts  No - 0 pts

ii. If not, how will you implement a comparable HMIS system for this project, for reporting purposes?

3 pts if agency details how comparable HMIS system implementation will be accomplished.

8. a. **(DV Bonus Projects Only)** Please provide a detailed description of the agency’s experience in administering projects dedicated to serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. Please specify the name of current or past programs and note the funding sources. 0-10 pts

- 3 points for past experience serving a domestic violence survivor population
- 3 points for 4 or more years serving a domestic violence survivor population
- 3 points for serving more than 25 households in a calendar year
- 1 point for listing funding sources

b. **(All Other Projects)** Please provide a detailed description of the agency’s experience in administering projects dedicated to serving an underserved population. Please specify the name of current or past programs, and note the funding sources. 0-10 pts

- 3 points for past experience serving the homeless population
- 3 points for 4 or more years serving any underserved population
- 3 points for serving more than 25 households in a calendar year
- 1 point for listing funding sources

9. Please provide a *description* AND 12 month *budget* that address the entire scope of your project. 0 - 20 pts

ACTIVITY	CoC FUNDS REQUESTED	NOTES
A. Rental Assistance	\$	
B. Support Services	\$	
1. Salaries	\$	
2. Benefits	\$	
3. Other	\$	
C. Operating	\$	
D. Admin	\$	
E. Total Project Costs	\$	
MATCH	AMOUNT	SOURCE
F. 25% Match Requirement	\$	

**HMIS projects only:**

- 10 points for demonstrating that your project currently provides essential HMIS services to the RCHSC
- 5 points for detailing how current resources are insufficient to cover costs
- 5 points for including a detailed budget by line item

**All other projects:**

- 1 point if the number of units/beds/persons to be served is clearly stated
- 2 points if a target population is clearly stated
- 2 points if an outreach plan is included
- 2 points if a detailed budget by line item is included
- 3 points if the budget specifies at least 80% of requested funding is dedicated to a housing program OR costs related to a CE system
- 5 points if the project is designed to meet the needs of vulnerable individuals (including victims of domestic violence, youth, persons experiencing chronic homelessness) by using trauma-informed or victim-centered approaches
- 5 points if the narrative details how the project will implement the Housing First model

10. Will the project be able to start within 12 months? Yes - 10 pts No - 0 pts

11. Please describe how the need for this project within this geographic area was identified. Please note where in the **Ten Year Plan/Addendum to the Ten Year Plan** it points to this gap in service, and using the most recent HMIS Annual Report (or DV equivalent) note the population in need of this service.

0-5 pts

- 2.5 points for referencing a gap in service within the Ten-Year Plan/Addendum to the Ten Year Plan
- 2.5 points for relating the project's target population to the most recent HMIS annual report (or DV equivalent)

12. Document cash or in-kind sources of match that will allow the program to meet HUD's 25% match requirement. 0-10 pts

- 10 points if full requirements are met with unconditional funding source(s)/firm commitment(s).
- 5 points if full match requirements are met with grant(s) applied for but not yet announced, funding source(s) conditional on anything other than receipt of CoC funds, or soft commitment(s).
- 0 points if no match or insufficient match is documented.

13. The CoC prioritizes a Housing First model. Please indicate with a check mark whether the proposed project agrees with the following Housing First criteria. Please note that you must agree with both criteria in order to meet the Housing First definition and receive full points. 0-20 pts

**(HMIS projects refer to section c.; all other projects refer to a. and b.)**

a. Will the project ensure that participants are not screened out based on the following items?

Agree  Disagree

- i. Having too little or no income
- ii. Active or history of substance abuse
- iii. Having a criminal record with exceptions for state-mandated restrictions
- iv. History of domestic violence (e.g., lack of a protective order, period of separation from abuser, or law enforcement involvement)

**AND**

b. Will the project ensure that participants are not terminated from the program for the following reasons?

Agree  Disagree

- i. Failure to participate in supportive services
- ii. Failure to make progress on a service plan
- iii. Loss of income or failure to improve income
- iv. Being a victim of domestic violence
- v. Any other activity not covered in a lease agreement typically found in the project's geographic area.

**OR**

c. 20 points if your project provides essential HMIS services to the community (HMIS projects only).

14. Did your agency voluntarily reallocate funds?  Yes – 2 pts  No – 0 pts

15. Both HUD and the local community prioritize projects that provide healthcare services to program participants. Does your project (or will your project by the time of CoC Application submission) have a written commitment with a health care organization that ensures the value of assistance being provided is at least:

- In the case of a substance abuse treatment or recovery provider, will provide access to treatment or recovery services for all program participants who qualify and choose those services, OR
- An amount that is equivalent to 25 percent of the funding being requested for the project will be covered by the healthcare organization?

Value of the commitment and dates of services must be included in the written commitment.

Yes – 10 points No – 0 points

N/A for applications for Coordinated Entry and HMIS (these questions will be weighted.)

16. Both HUD and the local community prioritize projects that incorporate PSH or RRH units using funds other than CoC or ESG (e.g. ESSHI, NYSSHP, private sources such as CDPHP.) Will your project expand upon an awarded or existing PSH or RRH project not funded through CoC or ESG?

Yes – 10 points No – 0 points

N/A for applications for Coordinated Entry and HMIS (these questions will be weighted.)

Please note: projects must attach letters of commitment, contracts, or other formal written documents that demonstrate the number of subsidies or units being provided to support the project, exemplifying the existing resources provide for at least 25% of the units proposed for the expanded project.

17. Does your agency have a policy focused on ensuring equitable services and program outcomes across participants of all races and ethnicities? Please attach your agency's policy.

Yes – 5 points No – 0 points

18. How will the agency ensure program participants have the resources they need to prevent transmission of COVID-19? (0-3 points)

1 point if the agency has/will have a partnership with a healthcare agency that provides regular health screenings

1 point if the agency will provide PPE/sanitation supplies to staff/program participants as needed

1 point if the agency describes how it will build COVID-19 vaccine confidence

N/A for applications for Coordinated Entry and HMIS; these questions will be weighted.

19. Please detail the steps your agency takes to ensure the safety of program participants. (0-5 points)

- 1 point if agency uses de-identified aggregate data from a comparable database.
- points if agency has safety, planning, and confidentiality protocols in place for DV project participants.
- points if agency uses a trauma-informed, victim-centered approach to their project.

(DV Projects Only)