

# Continuum of Care Overview

Presented to the Nashville-Davidson  
County CoC on November 10 2016

A decorative graphic consisting of a solid teal horizontal bar at the top, followed by a white horizontal bar, and then three thin, parallel teal horizontal lines on the right side of the white bar.

# Introduction to HUD TA

- Who we are: Consultants who support communities in their ability to end homelessness
- What we do: Work with all relevant stakeholders as neutral parties to strengthen the CoC

# Purpose of today's community meeting

- To hear from the CoC about how we can strengthen the Nashville CoC
- Your honest feedback is important to informing our work
- Parking lot
- Explain Technical Assistance approach

# Agenda

- Introduction to HEARTH requirements
- Discussion of governance responsibilities
- Community discussion

# HEARTH ACT

# HEARTH Changes

- Defines CoC requirements and responsibilities with focus on coordinating the ENTIRE system
  - Plan for meeting goals for ending and preventing homelessness
  - Focus on SYSTEM performance rather than project performance
  - Increased collaboration with ESG recipients
  - Establishing CoC governance structures
- Funding for CoC planning activities

# Purpose of Continuum of Care

- Promotes community-wide commitment to:
  - Goals for ending homelessness
  - Quickly re-housing homeless individuals and families
  - Effectively utilizing mainstream resources
  - Optimizing consumer self-sufficiency
- CoC serves as a **planning body** to coordinate housing, services, and funding streams

# CoC Responsibilities

- CoC Operation
  - Meetings of full membership and publicly invite new members
  - Adopt written process to select a board
  - Appoint committees or workgroups
  - Develop and update governance charter
  - Establish centralized/coordinated assessment system
  - Develop written standards for providing assistance
  - Evaluate outcomes of projects funded under ESG and CoC program



# CoC Responsibilities

- CoC Planning
  - Coordinated housing and service system
  - Point-in-Time Count
  - Annual gaps analysis of homeless needs and services
  - Information to the Consolidated Plan(s)
  - Consulting with ESG recipients on plan for allocating ESG funds, evaluating performance of ESG recipients/subrecipients

# CoC Responsibilities

- Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)
  - Designate single HMIS and eligible HMIS Lead
  - Ensure HMIS is administered in compliance with HMIS standards
  - Review, revise, and approve a privacy plan, security plan, and data quality plan
  - Ensure consistent participation of recipients/subrecipients

# Preparing an Application for Funds

- When preparing application for funds CoCs must:
  - Design, operate, and follow a collaborative process
  - Approve the submission of applications in response to the NOFA
  - Establish priorities for funding projects
  - Designate collaborative applicant to collect and combine application information and apply for planning funding

QUESTIONS?

# Governance Structure



# CoC Governance

- Must establish a board to act on behalf of the CoC
  - ✓ CoC must adopt and follow a written process to select a board
  - ✓ Must comply with conflict of interest requirements
  - ✓ Must have the following composition:
    - Be representative of the relevant organizations and of projects serving homeless subpopulations
    - Include at least one homeless or formerly homeless individual

# CoC Governance

- Must establish a Governance Charter to be updated annually
  - ✓ Developed in consultation with the collaborative applicant and HMIS lead
  - ✓ Includes policies and procedures to:
    - Comply with CoC requirements
    - Comply with HMIS requirements
    - Code of conduct and recusal process

# Governance & Structure

- The CoC is responsible for carrying out all activities outlined in the interim rule, but may choose to assign the responsibilities to another entity such as the CoC board, another organization, or another CoC work group.
- All roles and responsibilities should be reflected in the governance charter



# CoC Governance Charter

- The CoC must develop and follow a governance charter that details the functions of:
  - The CoC board
  - The CoC's committee structure and roles
  - HMIS Lead staff roles
  - The process for amending the charter

# CoC Governance Charter (continued)

- **Governance charter must be:**
  - Reviewed and updated annually
  - Developed in consultation with the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS lead
- **Governance charter must include:**
  - Structure and plan for carrying out CoC responsibilities
  - Code of conduct
  - Responsibilities designated to entities (Board, Collaborative Applicant, HMIS lead, decision making protocols)

# Required Duties of CoC Boards

- Provide oversight of the CoC Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead
- Ensure the operation of the Continuum of Care and HMIS is in accordance with HUD's Continuum of Care Regulations
- Develop or oversee strategic planning to end homelessness
- Coordinate CoC planning activities to further the implementation efforts of a Plan to End Homelessness
- Develop and/or approve CoC-wide policies

# Optional responsibilities for CoC Boards

- Provide leadership around leveraging and prioritizing the effective use of public and private resources
- Fundraise through activities such as authorization of grant applications; raising and allocating funds; approving sustainability plans
- Facilitate responses to local issues and concerns related to homelessness in the community

# Optional responsibilities for CoC Boards (continued)

- Build community awareness inclusive of the needs of all homeless populations found in the region
- Advocate at the state and local level around issues that support homeless individuals and families
- Lead regional coordination around key areas or issues effecting a broader geographic area within and outside the CoC

# Communities with Strong Governance

- Work collaboratively with all stakeholders
- Have a transparent and understandable governance process
- Active government and nonprofit involvement
- Understand collectively the community strategy for ending homelessness
- Work together to make tough decisions

## Contact Information for TA Team:

- Judy Perlman

617 308 7369 [Judy.Pperlman@cloudburstgroup.com](mailto:Judy.Pperlman@cloudburstgroup.com)