

Morris County Continuum of Care

P.O. Box 900
Morristown, NJ 07963-0900 Phone:
973-285-6851
Fax: 973-285-6719

<https://hs.morriscountynj.gov/behavioral/community/continuum/>

Executive Committee

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NJ*

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David Scott
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*Jersey Battered Women's
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Rebecca Zydel
Child & Family Resources

To: All Morris County Community Agencies

From: Jeff Bashe, Chair

Re: Morris County Continuum of Care 2017 Notice of Intent

Date: **Monday, May 1, 2017**

The Morris County Continuum of Care, a local planning committee charged with the responsibility of reducing the incidence of homelessness in Morris County, has begun the process for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) 2017 Continuum of Care Application.

In preparation for submission of the CoC application for HUD funding, the Morris County Continuum of Care Executive Committee is now accepting Notices of Intent from all agencies interested in applying for funding to support both **NEW** and **RENEWAL** projects through the Morris County Continuum of Care process. Projects may apply for renewal funding if the program was awarded funds for any CoC Program, SHP or S+C grants in a preceding competition where the program expires in calendar year 2018. Please note, projects that submitted applications in the FY 2016 CoC competition that were not awarded funds in the recent announcement cannot submit a renewal application.

The HUD Continuum of Care program provides funding to programs serving homeless individuals and families in the community. Priority populations are those with the longest histories of homelessness, greatest severity of service needs, and special vulnerabilities, including those experiencing chronically homeless, veterans, unaccompanied youth, families, and survivors of domestic violence. This is in accordance with the federal goals of:

1. Ending Veteran Homelessness – HUD encourages CoCs to prioritize veterans to the extent possible, in existing permanent housing programs with a focus on those veterans not eligible for VA funded housing or services. In addition, CoCs should coordinate with the local VA and VA funded programs to ensure access and opportunities for all homeless veterans,
2. Ending Chronic Homelessness – HUD encourages communities to increase the number of units dedicated and prioritized for the chronically homeless,
3. Ending Family Homelessness – HUD encourages communities to increase availability of rapid re-housing opportunities for homeless families,
4. Ending Youth Homelessness – HUD encourages communities to work closely with youth service providers to identify the unique need of homeless youth and increase resources and programs available to address their housing and service needs.

CoC Lead Agency: Morris County Department of Human Services

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For the FY 2017 CoC Competition, HUD identified the following funding priorities which will inform its evaluation of CoCs and project efforts toward ending homelessness for all populations:

1. Creating a systemic response to homelessness – CoCs should use CoC Program performance measures such as the average length of homeless episodes, rates of return to homelessness, and other factors that determine the effectiveness of serving people experiencing homelessness. Additionally, CoCs should be doing everything they can to create and use an effective Coordinated Entry process, promote participant choice, coordinate homeless assistance and mainstream housing service providers to ensure people experiencing homelessness receive assistance quickly that results in obtaining and maintaining housing, and make the delivery of homeless assistance open, inclusive, and transparent.
2. Strategically allocating and using resources – HUD calls for communities to critically evaluate all funding requests to ensure effective resource allocation. This process must include a comprehensive project review, evaluation of project use of mainstream resources, leveraging additional community-based resources through partnerships, and reviewing the efficacy of transitional housing.
3. Using a Housing First Approach – HUD encourages CoCs and CoC-funded projects to adopt a Housing First Approach which prioritizes getting homeless persons into permanent housing quickly and wrapping the needed services around them. Housing First approaches include low barriers to program entry, removal of barriers for program retention, client centered services based on goals developed by the household, and prioritizing those households who are most in need. A system level Housing First approach should also include use of a centralized/coordinated assessment process and an inclusive decision-making structure for system development.

In accordance with the FY 2017 HUD funding priorities, the Morris County Continuum of Care will entertain NOIs from all **Renewal** programs with contracts ending in calendar year 2018. **New** project proposals may only request funding for the following types of activities:

- Permanent Supportive Housing projects that will primarily serve chronically homeless individuals and/or families, including unaccompanied youth. This may include funding for acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, rental assistance, leasing, services, or operating dollars. Projects may also request up to 7% in administrative funds.
- Rapid Re-Housing for homeless individuals and/or families, including unaccompanied youth. Rapid rehousing projects may serve homeless households who do not have a disabling condition. Programs will need to serve only those living on the streets or in emergency shelter as well as those fleeing domestic violence. Rapid Re-Housing projects may request short-term (1-3 months) or medium-term (3-24 months) rental assistance, service funding and up to 7% in administrative funding.

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- Joint TH and RRH Component projects, which will combine Transitional Housing (TH) and Rapid Rehousing (PH-RRH) into a single project to serve individuals and/or families experiencing homelessness.
- Supportive Services Only Projects for Coordinated Entry. Projects may request supportive services and up to 7% in administrative funding to support communitywide centralized/coordinated assessment process.
- HMIS. Projects may request funding for the costs associated with the HMIS that must be carried out by the CoC HMIS Lead Agency.

For more details on the HUD funding priorities applicants are strongly encouraged to review the FY2016 CoC NOFA and FY2017 CoC Registration Notice which may be found at www.hudexchange.info.

Agencies interested in applying for funding must:

- **attend a mandatory technical assistance meeting on Wednesday, May 10, 2017, 10am, 30 Schuyler Place, 3rd floor, Red Room, Morristown, NJ.**
- **submit a completed Notice of Intent by 4:30 pm, Tuesday, May 30, 2017.**

The Notice of Intent Application Form may be found at the Morris County Department of Human Service's website: <https://hs.morriscountynj.gov>.

Applications may be submitted by mail or in person to the Morris County Department of Human Services, 30 Schuyler Place, 3rd Floor, P.O. Box 900, Morristown, New Jersey 07963-0900 Monday – Friday (excluding holidays).

Agencies submitting a Notice of Intent form will be required to participate in program presentations before the CoC review committee. The project presentation schedule will be announced within two weeks of the release of the 2017 CoC Notice of Funding Available by HUD.

Call Shelia Carter at 973-285-6851 with any questions regarding the 2017 Morris County Notice of Intent process.

CoC Lead Agency: Morris County Department of Human Services