**CoC** – Continuum of Care. For our CoC, (St. Louis County CoC) this includes organizations within the county’s geographical area that house people facing homelessness. More information from HUD: Responsibilities of a CoC include operating the CoC, designating and operating an HMIS, planning for the CoC (including coordinating the implementation of a housing and service system within its geographic area that meets the needs of the individuals and families who experience homelessness there), and designing and implementing the process associated with applying for CoC Program funds.

**Culturally-Responsive** - Cultural responsiveness enables individuals and organizations to respond respectfully and effectively to people of all cultures and other diversity factors in a manner that recognizes, affirms, and values their worth. Being culturally responsive requires having the ability to understand cultural differences, recognize potential biases, and look beyond differences to work productively with children, families, and communities whose cultural contexts are different from one’s own. Source: Child Welfare information Gateway

**Culturally-Specific** - Culturally specific services are services developed by and for a specific community – particularly those that have been traditionally marginalized and/or underserved. Providers and recipients share in the intersections and interactions of identities. Source: DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence

**Culturally-Specific Health and Wellness Interventions** - An example is the use of sacred medicines for smudge, although this differs across cultures. All cultural interventions require a level of cultural competency that is in compliance with the culture of the people on that land. Source: Honoring Our Strengths: Culture as Intervention in Addictions Treatment Reference Guide by the National Native Addictions Partnership Foundation

**eLOCCS** - The Line of Credit Control System (LOCCS) is the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) primary grant disbursement system, involving disbursements for most HUD programs. Source: HUD

**e-Snaps** - e-snaps is the electronic Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Application and Grants Management System that HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) uses to support the CoC Program funding application and grant awards process for the CoC Program. Source: HUD

**Evidence-Based Practices** - Evidence-based practice (EBP) is the objective, balanced, and responsible use of current research and the best available data to guide policy and practices. Source: National Institute of Corrections

**Harm Reduction** - Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing negative consequences associated with drug use. Source: National Harm Reduction Coalition

**Housing First** - Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. Source: National Alliance to End Homelessness

**HUD** - The Department of Housing and Urban Development is the Federal agency responsible for national policy and programs that address America's housing needs, that improve and develop the Nation's communities, and enforce fair housing laws. Source: HUD

**MOU** - A memorandum of understanding (MOU) is a document that describes the broad outlines of an agreement that two or more parties have reached. Source: Investopedia by Will Kenton, Reviewed by Thomas Brock, Fact Checked by Suzanne Kvilhaug

**NOFO** – For the purposes of this application, the grant itself will be referred to as “The NOFO”. The Notice of Funding Opportunity is the means by which HUD announces its annual grant opportunities. More information from HUD: Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants support the development of comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plans which focus on directing resources to address three core goals: Housing, People and Neighborhood.

**Person-Centered** - A person-led approach is where the person is supported to lead their own care and treated as a person first. The focus is on the person and what they can do, not their condition or disability. Support should focus on achieving the person’s aspirations and be tailored to their needs and unique circumstances. Source: NSW Government: NSW Health

**Racial Disparities** - Racial disparity refers to the imbalances and incongruities between the treatment of racial groups, including economic status, income, housing options, societal treatment, safety, and myriad other aspects of life and society. Contemporary and past discrimination in the U.S., and globally, has profoundly impacted the inequalities seen in society today. Source: Howard University School of Law

**Racial Equity** - Racial equity is achieved when race no longer factors into or determines one’s socioeconomic outcomes. It is when everyone has what they need to thrive, no matter where they live or how they identify. [Equity is different from equality](https://unitedwaynca.org/blog/equity-vs-equality/). Equality serves everyone the same, regardless of need. Equity, on the other hand, achieves fairness by meeting people where they are and serving them differently depending on their needs to achieve equitable outcomes. Source: Holly Martinez from United Way

**Trauma-Informed** - Trauma-informed care seeks to: Realize the widespread impact of trauma and understand paths for recovery; Recognize the signs and symptoms of trauma in patients, families, and staff; Integrate knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices; and. Actively avoid re-traumatization. Source: Trauma-Informed Care Implementation Resource Center

**Unsheltered Homelessness** – HUD definition: An unsheltered homeless person resides in a place not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings (on the street).