

The attached project ranking list is currently in draft form pending any appeals and final review and approval by the SLC CoC Governance Committee, Heading Home Advisory Committee, on 08/24/2023. There is also a detailed report on your project(s) score(s) and a detailed reallocation report attached to this email.

Narrative & Justification:

For the FY2023 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), HUD is allowing CoCs to put 93 percent of Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) into Tier One in the Ranking & Review Process. No reordering of the FY2023 Project Ranking occurred. The order of this project ranking is based on systems performance measures and scores affiliated with question in the SLC CoC (MN-509) Supplemental Application and Score Tools. All scores were reviewed and approved by the Ranking & Review Committee.

After renewal housing projects were ranked, the CoC's HMIS Grant and SSO-Coordinated Entry grant were placed in Tier One. This action is based on CoC policy objectives to ensure a functioning Coordinated Entry System and a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). All new and bonus project applications were included in the ranking and placed at the bottom of Tier Two/below all renewal projects in the project ranking. This is based on the CoC Ranking & Review policy to prioritize renewal project funding.

SLC CoC's reallocation policy allows the Ranking & Review committee to reallocate a portion of or all of a project's funding to new project(s). Projects with a history of low performance or returned funds are subject to review for reallocation during every NOFO cycle. This year, a total \$181,446 funds were reallocated from 3 renewal projects, CHUM's Rapid Rehousing project, CHUM's St. Francis Project, and Range Mental Health Center's Combined Rental Assistance grant. Projects that were reallocated are encouraged to review the attached detailed report on reallocation attached. \$35,567 of this reallocation funding was designated to the new HMIS expansion project as HMIS funding is a commitment of the CoC and this funding will support long needed systems updates for HMIS. The remaining \$145,879 of reallocation funding was designated to Center City Housing Corporation's new Wadena West project as the highest scoring new project and the only project that adds new beds to the CoC.

After all reallocation and scoring processes, two renewal projects fell partially/fully below Tier Two which means these projects face the potential of funding cuts from HUD. AEOA's Bill's House falls partially in Tier 1 and partially in Tier 2, with \$26,539.53 of the total budget falling in Tier Two. HUD can choose to cut up to that amount from the total budget for Bill's House. Additionally, RMHC's Ivy Manor project falls entirely in Tier Two, putting their entire \$38,056 budget for this project at risk for cuts from HUD.

SLC CoC's local priorities of racial equity, housing first, and consultation with people who have experienced homelessness were all factored into scoring this year. These priorities are consistent with HUD's FY2023 priorities as well. Additionally, SLC CoC adopted the HUD priority of trauma-informed policies and procedures surrounding domestic violence. SLC CoC will continue to offer support on improving these components of our local housing programs. Please see below for how to file a formal appeal with the CoC. Outside of appeals, please feel free to reach out to

the CoC Coordinator for support related to feedback on improvement of policies and systems performance measures for your project(s).

Appeals process:

Although a local appeals process is not required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), our CoC offers a local appeals process. Applicants that can appeal include those applications that: a) are unranked, b) dispute scoring, c) dispute ranking, or d) disagree with the Ranking and Review Committee's decision to reallocate some or all of their funding. Projects wishing to appeal must submit the appeal in writing using the St. Louis County CoC Appeals form, found at the end of the attached Ranking & Review Policy. A signed Appeals Form and any relevant evidence must be submitted for each project being appealed. Email the Appeals form to CoCHomelessPrograms@StLouisCountyMN.gov by the end of the day on 08/21/2023 at the latest. The Appeals Committee reviews appeals and extends an invitation to a brief, in-person session as needed. All agencies filing an appeal must be prepared to rapidly respond to requests from the Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee will inform appealing agencies of its decision and the final decision will be voted on by the CoC governance board meeting (Heading Home Advisory Council), which will host a public meeting to finalize funding recommendations on August 24th, 2023 from 1-3pm via Microsoft Teams.