

Scoring and Tiering Minutes

Date and Time

Thursday, October 1st, 2015, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Location

Family Willows, 161 S. Beech St, Manchester, NH

Attendees

Susan Howland, Mark Stokes, Mary Sliney, Cathy Kuhn, Rich Doyle, Nicole Clark, Erin Kelly, Vanessa Talasazan

1:00 Meeting begins

11:05 Tiering Process

- I. Mark described the process by which projects are ranked and tiered. Tier 1 projects will be funded first, then funding will be given to Tier 2. Funding for Tier 2 projects has never been a problem in the past and is not anticipated to be an issue this year. The group agreed that projects will be ranked in order based on the score from the scoring tool.
- II. The group agreed to place HMIS as the last project fully in Tier 1.
- III. One project will be in both Tier 1 and Tier 2, so it will straddle both, which is different from previous years, where project would be placed entirely in Tier 2. 85% of Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) will be put in Tier 1, 15% ARD and the permanent housing bonus will be put in Tier 2.
- IV. The permanent housing bonus is ranked lowest. The Harbor Homes reallocation will be put next, the idea being that nobody will be forced into homelessness if not funded.
- V. Applications APR combined with project applications in e-snaps due by **October 20, 2015**. After that, collaborative applicant and MCoC coordinator has 2 weeks to score and notify.

11:15 Housing First

- I. Susan asked about how the scoring tool knows that a project is housing first. In the past, projects were just marked Housing first, but Mark explained that this year you have to check off the individual issues. There are 9 subcategories and you have to select all 9 to get Housing First points.
- II. Vanessa asked if there were a lot in Manchester who didn't select Housing First last year and Mark explained that almost none of the projects last year checked it off because of some issues with the criteria (for example, for FIT the criminal history criteria was problematic). Erin added that one problem she'd run into was that a lot of projects did turn away people not doing the case management because of limited resources.
- III. To get full points for NOFA, at least 75% of all projects must be Housing First and 75% of all projects must be low barrier.
- IV. In terms of the MCoC's scoring tool, the committee looked into changing the Housing First point distribution. Vanessa made the suggestion that we mirror the requirements for Exhibit 2. Cathy suggested that we use 3 pts for Low Barrier and 2 points for Housing First. Committee agreed to use this point distribution.
- V. Susan suggested that the committee seek certification with city planner. Committee felt that Todd Fleming would be a good person to reach out to in order to get this done.

- VI. Mark told committee that he's going to give everyone full points for CoA because he's not sending out queries anymore.

1:30 Ranking Process

- I. Vanessa asked if there was a need for a ranking committee this year.
- II. There is no need for a ranking committee because there was only one application for the permanent housing bonus project and the group agreed to use the scoring tool for renewals.

1:40 General Discussion

- I. Mary asked about how the Collaborative Applicant and MCoC coordinator would know how often an organization draws down funds (projects that draw down more regularly receive more points on scoring tool). Mark answered that we would get this information from APR monitoring. Organizations will not be penalized for not drawing down funds if they are unavailable because of HUD.
- II. Cathy asked the committee if FIT's Transitional Housing, which is vulnerable in Tier 2, could be switched with a PSH in Tier 1? After discussion, the group agreed that this would be acceptable to best preserve funding for the continuum.
- III. Erin sits in on a human trafficking committee. Would be important to include this in the NOFA.
- IV. Vanessa had a question about the planning grant. She wanted to know if continuums that have planning grants always get it each year or if new continuums could apply? Mark explained that everyone could apply each year.
- V. Committee also mentioned that HUD increased leasing, rental assistance and operating funding to match fair market rent.

1:55 Meeting Concludes

Minutes Prepared By

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