

Form Name: IA-BOS CoC Renewal Application
Submission Time: June 7, 2019 5:03 pm
Browser: IE 11.0 / Windows 7
IP Address: 208.87.237.201
Unique ID: 510873407
Location:

2019 Iowa Balance of State (IA-501) Continuum of Care (CoC) Grantee Renewal Application

APPLICANT NAME AND INFORMATION

Organization Name: City of Dubuque Housing & Community Development Department

Renewal Project Name: Phoenix Housing Special Needs Assistance

Project Name(s) as appearing in HMIS/DVIMS: Phoenix Housing Special Needs Assistance

Grant Identifier: IA0061L7D011606

Project Type: Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

Projected number of clients to be served in renewal grant period: 30

Anticipated Renewal Amount: 84739.00

Verify current registration in federal System for Award Management: Yes

DUNS #: 148218832

Counties Served by Project: Dubuque

Address of Administrative Office: 350 W 6th Street Ste 312
Dubuque, IA 52001

Primary Contact Name: Alexis Steger

Primary Contact Phone: (563) 690-6072

Primary Contact Email: asteger@cityofdubuque.org

Secondary Contact Name: Teresa Bassler

Secondary Contact Phone: (563) 690-6096

Secondary Contact Email: tbassler@cityofdubuque.org

THRESHOLD ASSURANCES

Having too little or no income: NOT a Barrier

Having a criminal record with exceptions for state, and/or federal restrictions: NOT a Barrier

Fleeing domestic violence (e.g., lack of a protective order, period of separation from abuser, or law enforcement involvement): NOT a Barrier

Having (or not having) a previous address within Iowa: NOT a Barrier

Failure to comply with HUD's 2016 Gender Identity Rule: NOT a Barrier
(<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/1991/equal-access-to-housing-final-rule/>)

Failure to comply with Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity Requirements including assuring non-discrimination on the basis of age, race, creed, color, national origin, religion, sex/gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and familial status and disability. NOT a Barrier

Attach project Policies & Procedures to verify barrier statuses selected above: https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/3367170/74759947/510873407/74759947_section_4_-_eligibility_of_phoenix_housing_admin_plan.docx

CONTINUUM OF CARE PARTICIPATION

1. a. What percentage of your clients served do you feel were referred through coordinated entry? Explain your response.

All homeless programming operated by East Central Development Corporation (ECDC) and the City of Dubuque utilize the Prioritization List through Coordinated Entry to fill vacant spots to ensure those who present the greatest need are being served first and given opportunity for stable housing. 100% of participants in ECDC's PSH program have come directly from the Prioritization List since going live May 14, 2018.

1. b. Describe timeline/progress of Coordinated Entry in your region. Explain your project's participation in Coordinated Entry and the steps taken to support the Coordinated Entry process in the project's region.

The City of Dubuque's project sponsor for the permanent supportive housing program, Phoenix Housing Special Needs Assistance, is East Central Development Corporation (ECDC). ECDC has taken one of three lead roles with the development of Coordinated Entry in the Eastern Iowa Region of Dubuque, Delaware, Clinton and Jackson Counties. ECDC houses one of two homeless hotline access points to cover Dubuque and Delaware County. The access point hotlines went live May 14, 2018 and started the prioritization list for housing services for those who are literally homeless. The Eastern Iowa Region holds weekly pull calls (every Thursday at 2pm) to assess the overall region's combined list which includes the Domestic Violence list. At the Thursday meetings, providers call into a conference call-in number and go over the list and fill vacant spots in programming for multiple providers.

2. Since January 2018, have representatives of your project attended at least three bimonthly meetings of the Iowa Council on Homelessness? Note that anyone can participate in Council meetings even if not a voting member. Posted meeting minutes must be available to verify attendance.

Teresa Bassler 5.18.2018, 7.20.2018, 1.18.2019
Cate Richter 3.20.2018
Amanda Hohmann 1.19.2018, 7.20.2018, 9.21.2018, 11.16.2018, 1.18.2019

3. a. Describe professional development opportunities (conferences, meeting, trainings, webinars, etc.) related to Homelessness in which representatives of your project have participated within the last 12 months.

Amanda Hohmann, Ryan Feller, Cate Richter & Teresa Bassler attended the 2018 HUD IA/NE Peer to Peer Homelessness Symposium June 12-14, 2018 in Des Moines, IA.
Alexis Steger, Cate Richter & Teresa Bassler attended the 2018 Housing Iowa Conference September 4-7, 2018 in Des Moines, IA.
Amanda Hohmann completed a 36-hour training on Motivational Interviewing for Change. This training was done through University of Wisconsin Madison and took place in September, October and November of 2018.
Amanda Hohmann & Holly McPherson attended a 2-hour safety training conducted by local law enforcement. This training specifically went over home visit safety, awareness of surroundings in community environments, and self-defense. Completed May 2019 in Dubuque, IA.
Amanda Hohmann, Ryan Feller & Holly McPherson attended 2 hours of training done by the local Drug Task Force. Completed June 2018 in Dubuque, IA.

3. b. From the mentioned above, list the top three (3) most useful experiences and describe how your project implemented information gained from them?

Motivational Interviewing for Change - Strengthens motivational interviewing skills when working with clients on goal setting and working towards positive changes.

Safety Training for home visits - Staff feel more confident in awareness of surroundings and planning ahead when meeting with clients in their home.

Drug and Safety Training - Education on signs and symptoms of when someone is under the influence, warning signs of usage in the home and safety measure to consider when coming in contact with an unknown substance. This has helped case workers know their environment as well as being able to provide more appropriate support for clients.

4. a. In the past year, describe your agency's activities/engagement/involvement with one or more local Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) about implementing a homeless admission preference in their written policies for the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) or Public Housing programs:

City of Dubuque is the PHA for Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program. Selection from the waiting list for a voucher is based on a lottery system only. City of Dubuque does not have any preferences in their policy. The Assisted Housing Supervisor will consult with management, PHA's participants and board members on whether or not a homeless preference should be implemented in PHA's policy.

4. a. Please attach documentation to verify, such as an email chain or meeting notes.

https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/3367170/74770101/510873407/74770101_homeless_preference.pdf

**4. b. In the past year, describe your agency's activities/engagement/involvement with local affordable housing providers (e.g. multifamily assisted housing owners, PHAs, Low Income Housing Tax Credit developments, or local low-income housing programs) about implementing a Move On strategy (Informational resource:
<https://www.csh.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Moving-On-Chapter-6-Final.pdf>)**

There has been local conversations regarding the Moving On Strategy. On June 20, 2019, ECDC will host an informational lunch and learn on the Moving On Strategy for the three PHA's in the Eastern Iowa Coordinated Entry Region. This luncheon will help the local PHAs better understand the journey that a chronically homeless person goes through in reaching out to coordinating entry access point which leads to Permanent Supporting Housing and begin the conversation of creating a seamless transition into the Housing Choice Voucher program.

The PHAs who have been invited are the City of Dubuque, Eastern Iowa Regional Housing Authority and the City of Clinton. All have confirmed that a representative will attend. The COC grantees who will be in attendance are the YWCA of Clinton and ECDC (project sponsor).

4. b. Please attach documentation to verify, such as an email chain or meeting notes.

https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/3367170/74770192/510873407/74770192_moving_on.pdf

5. In the past year , to what extent has your agency taken steps locally to educate communities on the issues of homelessness: (e.g. decriminalization of homelessness engaging local policymakers, law enforcement, or business leaders; implementing community plan)?

ECDC staff was contacted by the Dubuque County Attorney who was working with local law enforcement to develop a Wrap Around service for those who commit simple offenses but end up spending more time in jail or correctional facility due to lack of support, housing, resources, etc. On February 13, 2018, staff from various agencies met with 15 lawyers and 2 District Associate Court Judges to provide education on services provided to those who are reentering from jail or corrections. ECDC's goal was to provide information on accessing coordinated entry and developing a plan for stable housing.

ECDC staff utilize the City of Dubuque's Housing Commission as the board that oversees the PSH program. Staff report to the Commission quarterly on stats and updates regarding the program and population served. Staff has provided information regarding the Housing First Model, Coordinated Entry and programming available to meet the needs of the very low income population who are homeless.

6. In the past year, to what extent has your agency taken steps locally to prevent the discharge of persons from local systems of care (foster care, health care, mental health care, correctional facilities) into homelessness?

Staff has provided local law enforcement and hospitals with the Coordinated Entry (CE) Access Point Hotline cards and fliers and have received several calls to obtain information regarding the process as well as connecting clients to the prioritization list. Throughout 2018, staff participated in educational sessions through the Eastern Iowa CE Region to help others understand CE and the benefits. Local law enforcement, mental health providers and hospitals have been invited and attended.

The local Homeless Advisory Coalition that is held in the City of Dubuque has law enforcement and health care services who attend regularly to stay connected with services.

7. a. Did your agency participate in the street (unsheltered) count in counties served by your project and how?

ECDC staff, Amanda Hohmann, co-coordinates the Eastern Iowa CE Region's point in time count with the specific focus being Dubuque and Delaware Counties by working closely with law enforcement and other providers to locate individuals who are sleeping outside. Amanda develops a schedule of which areas will be covered by which providers to ensure most if not all of Dubuque and Delaware Counties are searched. The Eastern Iowa Region completed the required point in time count which was done in July, 2018 and February 2019 (rescheduled due to weather).

7. b. Did your agency submit the PIT/HIC information for your projects by the set submission deadline? If not, why?

ECDC staff completed and was able to submit necessary data by the deadline for the permanent supportive housing program as well as the street count. ECDC staff assisted with data entry for programs in Dubuque and Delaware counties who are not required to report to HMIS and was late with two organizations due to data being submitted to ECDC late. This was completed once the late data had been submitted.

8. List at least one representative of your project participate in the April 2019 Annual Meeting of Iowa Balance of State CoC Grantees. Describe any special participation your agency performed in regards to the meeting.

Teresa Bassler (City of Dubuque), Amanda Hohmann and Holly McPherson (ECDC) participated in the April 2019 Annual Meeting of Iowa BoS CoC Grantees to obtain information for the upcoming renewal application.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

9. a. Has this project completed it's first grant full grant cycle? (i.e. 1st year renewal with end date after application date?)

Yes

9. b. Project grant year end-date completed:

Jun 30, 2018

9. c. Grant amount:

78691.00

9. d. Total funds expended:

78691.00

9. e. Funds remaining (unexpended funds):

0.00

9. f. Unexpended funds % (unexpended funds/grant amount):

0.00

APR Sage Submission Requirement (days)

90

APR Deadline in SAGE:

Sep 28, 2018

10. a. Date APR submitted to HUD in SAGE:

Sep 21, 2018

10. b. Did your project meet the 90-day requirement?

Yes

11. a. Has HUD monitored the project within the past two years?

No

12. a. Failure to participate in supportive services and/or failure to make progress on a service plan:

No

12. b. Loss of income or failure to improve income:

No

12. c. Active substance abuse:

No

12. d. Any other activity not covered in a lease agreement typically found in the project's geographic area: No

12. e. Ensure that every effort is made to help participants transition to other housing options when continuation in this project is jeopardized or about to expire? Yes

12. f. Attach the project's written termination policy. The effective date must be evident on the policy. https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/3367170/74776944/510873407/74776944_section_15_termination.pdf

13. a. Transportation assistance is provided to clients to attend mainstream benefit appointments, employment training, or jobs. True

13. b. At least semi-annual follow-ups are attempted with participants after project exit to ensure that mainstream benefits are received and renewed (and for RRH projects, to verify that housing stability is maintained) for a period of X years. True

13. c. Annual interim reviews with current clients are being completed with 30 days of anniversary date to check on client well-being and update all relevant data including: income, disability status, health care, etc. True

13. d. Project participants have access to SSI/SSDI technical assistance provided by the applicant, a sub-recipient, or partner agency. True

14. Did the number of clients served by your project achieve or exceed your estimated levels of service when you last applied/renewed this grant? Explain, success/difficulties.

In FY18, 53% of adults increased their income compared to 60% of adults for FY19. This is beneficial as it allows the program to utilize program funds to assist more households.

Health services support value has doubled from last fiscal year which indicates our participants are utilizing these services for their basic healthcare needs and mental health wellness.

One of our participants has expressed an interest to transition to the Housing Choice Voucher program. He is aware of his past barriers and understands his needs to maintain his permanent housing. However, due to his limited income he will need some subsidy to assist him with housing.

PROJECT PERFORMANCE/EVALUATION

Attach "2019 BOS CoC Renewal Application Report" from HMIS/DVIMS

https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/3367170/74778606/510873407/74778606_2019_bos_coc_renewal_application_report_1.pdf

23. PSH: Chronic population served in project?

In July 2016, there were 11 households in the program and chronic homelessness status was not prioritized. Of those 11 households, only 1 was defined as chronically homeless. In 2017-2018, staff increased participation by adding 4 more households and had committed to prioritizing those who were chronically homeless. Due to 10 of our current households who were not chronically homeless when they didn't need to be prioritized as at admission, our overall percentage is low. All new households added to Phoenix Housing as of 2017-2018 meet the chronically homeless definition.

BONUS QUESTION

***Bonus - Describe any specific services provided by your project specifically for youth/mental health/substance abuse:**

Staff works very closely to identify the needs of program participants. From initial intake through monthly contact with participants, staff makes many referrals and connect program participants with services; whether they are or are not related to substance abuse and/or mental health. In addition, staff maintains a very good relationship with local providers, so they can ensure the participants are followed up with and getting the help they want and/or need.

ECDC's case manager is currently SOAR certified to provide assistance to clients who are interested in applying for SSDI. SOAR support can expedite the SSDI process for individuals who are homeless to receive benefits quicker.
