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| Map  Description automatically generated | **Arizona Balance of State Continuum of Care (AZBOSCOC)****Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) as****United Funding Agency and Collaborative Applicant****LCEH Request for Information (RFI)** |

**The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program (24 CFR part 578) is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, states, Indian Tribes or tribally designated housing entities (as defined in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) (TDHEs)), and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.**

**To this end, the purpose of this document is to gather information from Local Continuums/Coalitions to End Homelessness (LCEH) that will be used to complete the narrative portion of the 2021 AZBOSCOC Collaborative Application for the HUD CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). This document is a requirement of the LCEH Lead Agency Planning Contract and is included in the quarterly report.**

**We understand that this document is lengthy. Please remember its context--$5 million + is at stake to fund housing projects for persons experiencing homelessness in the AZBOSCOC. The LCEH input ensures that the collaborative application questions receive well informed answers. The NOFO is a competitive process among 400+ Continua of Care throughout the United States.**

**There will be time on the October 12, 2021 AZBOSCOC LCEH Quarterly Meeting for questions about the RFI. The due date for the RFI is October 14, 2021 by 5:00 pm. Upload the RFI in the original Word Document format through the ADOH Special Needs Portal to submit. Rename the file with the LCEH County. This is the same portal you use to upload the quarterly report and request for payment. The portal can be found here.** [**https://housing.az.gov/portals/document-upload-portals/special-needs-portal**](https://housing.az.gov/portals/document-upload-portals/special-needs-portal)

**The LCEH answers to the following questions helps us enhance our responses to the Collaborative Application narrative. For reference, the question template from the HUD CoC collaborative application was attached with this document and can be found at this link** [**https://housing.az.gov/fy21-continuum-care-competition**](https://housing.az.gov/fy21-continuum-care-competition)**.**

**It is encouraged that the answers to these questions be developed at an LCEH meeting if one is scheduled prior to the due date or by establishing a representative workgroup that meets once or twice to develop responses. Responses can be in bullet form or simple, straightforward narrative. If your LCEH does not have information to answer the question—indicate information not available and move to the next question.**

**Please call or email Candee Stanton if you have any questions. Phone Number: 602.881.6606; EMAIL:** **candee.stanton@gmail.com**

**Local Continuum/Coalition to End Homelessness (LCEH)**

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

**Note: for the purposes of this document—households means both individuals and families**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of LCEH** | **Contact Name** |
| **Contact Phone Number** | **Contact EMAIL** |
| **Date Completed** | **County** |

**LCEH MEMBERSHIP**

**1. Please complete the table below. We had attempted to gather this information through the quarterly reports, but in the collaborative application, HUD added additional components related to voting and participation in coordinated entry. Put an “x” in each column where applicable—**

|  | **Organization/Person** | **Participated in LCEH Meetings** | **Voted, Including Electing of LCEH Board Members** | **Participated in LCEH's Coordinated Entry System** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1.** | **Affordable Housing Developer(s)** |  |  |  |
| **2.** | **Agencies serving survivors of human trafficking** |  |  |  |
| **3.** | **CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement Jurisdiction** |  |  |  |
| **4.** | **CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers** |  |  |  |
| **5.** | **Coc-Funded Youth Homeless Organizations** |  |  |  |
| **6.** | **Disability Advocates** |  |  |  |
| **7.** | **Disability Service Organizations** |  |  |  |
| **8.** | **Domestic Violence Advocates** |  |  |  |
| **9.** | **EMS/Crisis Response Team(s)** |  |  |  |
| **10.** | **Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons** |  |  |  |
| **11.** | **Hospital(s)** |  |  |  |
| **12.** | **Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)** |  |  |  |
| **13.** | **Law Enforcement** |  |  |  |
| **14.** | **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Advocates** |  |  |  |
| **15.** | **LGBT Service Organizations** |  |  |  |
| **16.** | **Local Government Staff/Officials** |  |  |  |
| **17.** | **Local Jail(s)** |  |  |  |
| **18.** | **Mental Health Service Organizations** |  |  |  |
| **19.** | **Mental Illness Advocates** |  |  |  |
| **20.** | **Non-CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organizations** |  |  |  |
| **21.** | **Non-CoC-Funded Victim Service Providers** |  |  |  |
| **22.** | **Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color** |  |  |  |
| **23.** | **Organizations led by and serving LGBT persons** |  |  |  |
| **24.** | **Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities** |  |  |  |
| **25.** | **Other homeless subpopulation advocates** |  |  |  |
| **26.** | **Public Housing Authorities** |  |  |  |
| **27.** | **School Administrators/Homeless Liaisons** |  |  |  |
| **28.** | **Street Outreach Team(s)** |  |  |  |
| **29.** | **Substance Abuse Advocates** |  |  |  |
| **30.** | **Substance Abuse Service Organizations** |  |  |  |
| **31.** | **Youth Advocates** |  |  |  |
| **32.** | **Youth Service Providers** |  |  |  |
| **33.** | Other  |  |  |  |

**2. What strategies does the LCEH use to recruit new members? (e.g., regular emails, personal contact)**

**3. How often does the LCEH recruit new members? (annually, quarterly, monthly)**

**4. What strategies does the LCEH use to communicate with individuals with disabilities, including the availability of accessible electronic formats? Does the format you use for virtual meetings include a captioning function?**

**5. What strategies does the LCEH use to outreach to persons currently experiencing homelessness or persons with lived experience and encourage them to join the LCEH?**

**6. What strategies does the LCEH use to engage with organizations serving culturally specific communities (e.g., African Americans, Latinos/Hispanic, faith-based, LGBTQ+, persons with disabilities) to enhance the equity of the LCEH?**

**7. Provide one or two examples where an idea was discussed in a LCEH meeting(s) that later resulted in a change or enhancement in process to prevent homelessness or help households move quickly out of homelessness.**

**8. Check all the types of organizations that the LCEH coordinates/collaborates with related to planning services and activities related to the continuum of services and operations of current AZBOSCOC RRH/PSH projects that are a part of the LCEH.**

|  | **Entities or Organizations Your LCEH Coordinates with for Planning or Operations of Projects** | **Coordinates with Planning or Operations of Projects** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1.** | **Funding Collaboratives** |  |
| **2.** | **Head Start Program** |  |
| **3.** | **Housing and services programs funded through Local Government** |  |
| **4.** | **Housing and services programs funded through other Federal Resources (non-LCEH)** |  |
| **5.** | **Housing and services programs funded through private entities, including Foundations** |  |
| **6.** | **Housing and services programs funded through State Government** |  |
| **7.** | **Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** |  |
| **8.** | **Housing and services programs funded through U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)** |  |
| **9.** | **Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)** |  |
| **10.** | **Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs) (Tribal Organizations)** |  |
| **11.** | **Organizations led by and serving Black, Brown, Indigenous and other People of Color** |  |
| **12.** | **Organizations led by and serving LGBT persons** |  |
| **13.** | **Organizations led by and serving people with disabilities** |  |
| **14.** | **Private Foundations** |  |
| **15.** | **Public Housing Authorities** |  |
| **16.** | **Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)** |  |
| **17.** | **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)** |  |
|  | **Other:(limit 50 characters)** |  |

**9. Collaboration related to children and youth—Provide an example about how the LCEH collaborates with the following:**

**9a. Youth Education Providers**

**9b. Local Education Agencies—e.g. school districts and other school systems**

**9c. Are there any formal relationships (e.g. written agreement, MOU) either between the LCEH and youth education providers or between agencies in the LCEH and youth education providers.**

**10. What strategies does the LCEH and/or member agencies use to work with education systems to ensure that individuals and families experiencing homelessness are informed about services and their eligibility?**

**11. Does the LCEH or any LCEH member agencies have written/formal agreements with the following? Indicate if it is an MOU or other Formal agreement and what agencies have these agreements.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Childhood focused Service Providers** | **MOU/MOA** | **Other Formal Agreement** | **Name of Agency(ies) that has the agreement** |
| **1.** | **Birth to 3 years** |  |  |  |
| **2.** | **Child Care and Development Fund** |  |  |  |
| **3.** | **Early Childhood Providers** |  |  |  |
| **4.** | **Early Head Start** |  |  |  |
| **5.** | **Federal Home Visiting Program–(including Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home and Visiting or MIECHV)** |  |  |  |
| **6.** | **Head Start** |  |  |  |
| **7.** | **Healthy Start** |  |  |  |
| **8.** | **Public Pre-K** |  |  |  |
| **9.** | **Tribal Home Visiting Program** |  |  |  |
|  | **Other** |  |  |
| **10.** |  |  |  |  |

**12. There is a deliverable requirement for the LCEH Planning Contracts, that the LCEH Lead—makes efforts to coordinate/facilitate/inform the membership about training/workshop opportunities. Did the LCEH coordinate/facilitate/arrange or inform the memberships about training opportunities related to the following topics (specifically related to best practices to serve survivors of domestic violence)?**

**12a. Trauma informed/Trauma lens**

**12b. Victim Centered**

**12c. Safety and Planning Protocols including emergency safety plans for survivors**

**13. If training opportunities occurred—what was the frequency? (e.g., monthly, quarterly, yearly)**

**14. Did the LCEH arrange/facilitate/inform about workshops related to HUD’s Equal Access to Housing regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity? (Refer to the Equal Access Final Rule link below)** [**https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/1991/equal-access-to-housing-final-rule/**](https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/1991/equal-access-to-housing-final-rule/)

**15. Based on the LCEH’s interaction with the PHA in the county (not applicable in La Paz) related to the EHV MOU, were there discussions generally about whether the PHA has written priorities for a homeless admission preference, specifically related to Housing Choice Vouchers. Was the LCEH coordinated entry policy revised to reflect the new relationship with the PHA?**

**16. How does LCEH facilitate outreach (including street outreach) to identify and engage with individuals experiencing homelessness. Examples could include engagement events, engagement at congregate meal locations, partnering with health fair events, Veteran Stand Downs, working with forest rangers. According to a list received in late 2020, there are street outreach activities in**

[ ] **Pinal**

[ ] **Flagstaff/Coconino**

[ ] **Mohave**

[ ] **Yavapai**

[ ] **Yuma,**

[ ] **La Paz**

[ ] **Cochise**

[ ] **Apache and Navajo.**

**If you are one of these counties, confirm that you have street outreach by checking the box.**

**16a. Provide a brief summary of how street outreach coordinates with the LCEH continuum of services. (focus should be on referral, assessment, case conferencing, meetings)**

**17. What actions have the LCEH taken to reduce the criminalization (through policies, practices, regulations, local standards) of homelessness in your communities? Address each of the following:**

**17a. Engage/educate local policymakers**

**17b. Engage/educate law enforcement**

**17c. Engage/educate local businesses**

**17d. Implemented community-wide plans to address criminalization**

**17e. Other**

**18. Does the LCEH set aside meeting time for agencies to provide information concerning programs? Specifically indicate whether updates have been provided in the meeting about mainstream resources including Food Stamps, SSI, TANF, or substance abuse programs.**

**19. How does the LCEH’s coordinated entry and case conferencing system, in addition to the use of the VI-SPDAT, ensure that people most in need are a priority and receive assistance in a timely manner? How does case conferencing ensure that a variety of information is considered in addition to VI-SPDAT scores?**

**20. What is the LCEH’s status related to Social Justice/Racial Equity Initiative? Does the LCEH have any initial findings that the LCEH is planning to address in the LCEH 2022 Strategic Action Plan?**

**21. Please answer yes or no to these questions if the LCEH has completed the analysis of local data and there are preliminary findings—mark no—if the data analysis has not been completed.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Yes or No** |
| **1.** | **People of different races or ethnicities are more likely to receive homeless assistance.** |  |
| **2.** | **People of different races or ethnicities are less likely to receive homeless assistance.** |  |
| **3.** | **People of different races or ethnicities are more likely to receive a positive outcome from homeless assistance.** |  |
| **4.** | **People of different races or ethnicities are less likely to receive a positive outcome from homeless assistance.** |  |
| **5.** | **There are no racial or ethnic disparities in the provision or outcome of homeless assistance.** |  |
| **6.** | **The results are inconclusive for racial or ethnic disparities in the provision or outcome of homeless assistance.** |  |

**22. Please answer yes or no if the LCEH including member organizations is/has implemented any of the following strategies.**

|  |  | **Yes or No** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1.** | **The LCEH’s board and decision making bodies are representative of the population served in the LCEH.** |  |
| **2.** | **The LCEH has identified steps it will take to help the LCEH board and decision making bodies better reflect the population served in the LCEH.** |  |
| **3.** | **The LCEH is expanding outreach in geographic areas with higher concentrations of underrepresented groups.** |  |
| **4.** | **The LCEH has communication, such as flyers, websites, or other materials, inclusive of underrepresented groups.** |  |
| **5.** | **The LCEH is training staff working in the homeless services sector to better understand racism and the intersection of racism and homelessness.** |  |
| **6.** | **The LCEH is establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of different races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector.** |  |
| **7.** | **The LCEH has staff, committees, or other resources charged with analyzing and addressing racial disparities related to homelessness.** |  |
| **8.** | **The LCEH is educating organizations, stakeholders, boards of directors for local and national nonprofit organizations working on homelessness on the topic of creating greater racial and ethnic diversity.** |  |
| **9.** | **The LCEH reviewed coordinated entry processes to understand their impact on people of different races and ethnicities experiencing homelessness.** |  |
| **10.** | **The LCEH is collecting data to better understand the pattern of program use for people of different races and ethnicities in its homeless services system.** |  |
| **11.** | **The LCEH is conducting additional research to understand the scope and needs of different races or ethnicities experiencing homelessness.** |  |
|  | **Other:(limit 500 characters)** |  |
| **12.** |  |  |

**23. Please answer the following questions about LCEH members who are persons with lived experience. We know that the LCEHs have not been in existence for seven years so please answer as best you can. Indicate unknown as applicable.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Level of Active Participation** | **Number of People with Lived Experience Within the Last 7 Years or Current Program Participant** | **Number of People with Lived Experience Coming from Unsheltered Situations** |
| **1.** | **Included and provide input that is incorporated in the local planning process.** |  |  |
| **2.** | **Review and recommend revisions to local policies addressing homelessness related to coordinated entry, services, and housing.** |  |  |
| **3.** | **Participate on LCEH committees, subcommittees, or workgroups.** |  |  |
| **4.** | **Included in the decision making processes related to addressing homelessness.** |  |  |

**24. This question is under the category of volunteerism and community service. Based on LCEH activities—answer yes or no if this strategy is taking place.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Yes or No** |
| **1.** | **The LCEH informs provider organization staff about training on connecting program participants and people experiencing homelessness with education and job training opportunities.** |  |
| **2.** | **The LCEH informs provider organization staff about training on facilitating informal employment opportunities for program participants and people experiencing homelessness (e.g., babysitting, housekeeping, food delivery, data entry).** |  |
| **3.** | **The LCEH works with organizations to create volunteer opportunities for program participants.** |  |
| **4.** | **The LCEH works with community organizations to create opportunities for civic participation for people experiencing homelessness (e.g., townhall forums, meeting with public officials).** |  |
| **5.** | **Provider organizations within the LCEH have incentives for employment and/or volunteerism.** |  |
| **6.** | **Other:(limit 500 characters)** |  |
|  |  |  |

**25. The collaborative application asks several questions about what the response has been to COVID-19. Provide responses to the following questions—indicate no information if the LCEH is not aware of any activities in the particular area. The focus of the response should include unsheltered situations, emergency shelters, and transitional housing (if applicable)**

**25a. How were safety protocols implemented to address immediate needs of people who were experiencing unsheltered homelessness, in congregate shelters, or other housing programs. Provide the names of the agencies involved and specific examples of implementation activities.**

**25b. Has the LCEH and/or its member organizations discussed strategies to improve readiness for future public health emergencies.**

**25c. How is the LCEH and/or its member agencies coordinating with mainstream health systems to decrease the spread of COVID-19 and ensure safety measure were implemented (e.g. social distancing, handwashing, use of masks)? Include the name of the health systems (e.g. hospital, health network, county public health, ADHS, etc.).**

**25d. Describe how the LCEH facilitated information distribution about COVID-19 including topics such as safety measures, changes in local restrictions, and vaccine implementation.**

**25e. Describe how the LCEH and/or its member agencies identified eligible individuals and families experiencing homelessness for COVID-19 vaccination based on local protocols.**

**25f. Did the LCEH’s communities experience an increase in domestic violence incidents? If yes, did the LCEH implement any strategies to address that increase of persons that experienced domestic violence?**

**25g. What changes did the LCEH make to coordinated entry protocols related to the rapid onset and continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic?**

**26. The following questions are about how the LCEH has reviewed its System Performance Measures (SPMs) and what actions have taken place to positively impact the situations addressed by the measure. Data for this question may come from the Solari dashboard. Here is the link if the LCEH has not had the opportunity to review SPM at the LCEH level. (Note this is the same link that was provided to the LCEHs early in the summer).**

[**https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/hmisaz/viz/BOS-SystemPerformanceMeasures/CountyComparison**](https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/hmisaz/viz/BOS-SystemPerformanceMeasures/CountyComparison)

**This link provides guidance about the SPM including how performance can be impacted and enhanced.**

[**https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/system-performance-measures/#guidance**](https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/system-performance-measures/#guidance)

**This link is an introduction to the SPM**

[**https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3894/system-performance-measures-introductory-guide/**](https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3894/system-performance-measures-introductory-guide/)

**26a. First time homeless—what risk factors does the LCEH use to identify persons becoming homeless for the first time?**

**26b. How are households at risk of homelessness identified?**

**26c. Reduce the length of time households are homeless—What strategies is the LCEH implementing to reduce the length of time households remain homeless?**

**26d. How does the LCEH identify households with the longest length of time homeless?**

**26e. What strategies is the LCEH and/or member agencies implementing that will increase the rate that households residing in emergency shelters, transitional housing (if applicable in your LCEH communities), and rapid housing exit to permanent housing destination?**

**26f. What strategies are the LCEH and/or member agencies using to ensure that households in permanent housing projects retain that permanent housing or exit to other permanent housing destinations?**

**27. Describe how the LCEH is collaborating with health care and behavioral health care networks. There is a potential of bonus points related to the collaborative application if there are any current or proposed projects that include AZBOSCOC rental assistance housing units leveraged with rental assistance housing units paid through by a health care/behavioral health care network. If there are any projects where housing units are being leveraged between multiple funding sources, provide a brief description.**