

NYC CoC Newsletter

May 4, 2020

Issue No. 15

NYC Continuum
CoC of Care



We want to thank New York City homeless service providers for all your dedication, commitment, and hard work serving one of the most vulnerable populations in our city.

CoC-Related
Updates

Check out the New COVID-19 Resources
on the NYC CoC Website

Upcoming Virtual NYC CoC Grantee Meeting

Friday, May 29
9:30-11:30 a.m.

[RSVP today!](#)

Please note: this Grantee Meeting will be held **virtually**. There will be **no** in-person attendance. Meeting details will be announced soon.

The New York City Continuum of Care (CoC) is dedicated to keep our providers and the community at-large informed with resources and guidance on COVID-19 and homelessness.

For this reason, we published a **COVID-19 Resource Library** that compiles relevant and up-to-date resources for CoC and HUD grants and contracting, Permanent Supportive Housing providers, HMIS data, budgeting, and more.

Additionally, we created a **COVID-19 Webinars Calendar**, which includes upcoming webinars from national and local stakeholders including the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, NYC Department of Health and Mental Health, the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and more.

Please contact the HUD Field Office or [Martha Kenton](#) on questions related to contract renewals and waiver requests.

NYC CoC COVID-19 Questionnaire

Dear CoC Grantee,

Please complete the questionnaire on your organization's

Job Openings
within the CoC

response efforts during the COVID-19 emergency, including accessing HUD resources and maintaining ongoing contractually obligated operations.

Only one survey is needed per agency/organization, and please submit it by **Thursday, May 7.**

Please don't hesitate to [reach out to the Federal Homeless Policy team](#) if you have any questions.

**The information you provide will be used only for internal planning purposes for the NYC Collaborative Applicant and will not be shared with HUD or publicly disseminated.*

[Complete the Questionnaire here](#)

NYC CoC Provider Frequently Asked Questions related to COVID-19:

We've compiled a list of FAQs related to COVID-19 for our CoC providers. To view the entire list and the NYC CoC COVID-19 page, [please visit our website](#).

Do I still need to submit annual assessments?

HUD has not provided any waivers for annual assessments, therefore at this time, your annual assessment timeline will continue as normal. These assessments can be done with the clients over the phone or via video conferencing to adhere with COVID-19 physical distancing guidelines.

Can I extend the operating year for my 2018 grant to fully spend remaining dollars (i.e.: Extend to Spend)?

Yes. You may extend the operating year of your current grant to fully utilize all awarded funding. The latest extended operating end date allowed for 2018 grants is December 31, 2020. This change **will impact** future renewals by permanently changing the grant's operating start date. For more information please visit the [HUD Exchange](#).

Do I need to update my policies and procedures to reflect emergency changes to our operations?

Yes. HUD has said they will be flexible with providers on changes to their operations if they can show updates were made to the project's policies and procedures (e.g. standard operating procedures).

Can I use CoC funds under Operating, Admin, & Supportive Services to pay for COVID-related costs?

Yes. See [HUD Guidance on using Continuum of Care Program Funds for Infections Disease Preparedness and Response](#) for more information.

When does my newly funded project awarded in the 2019 NOFA need to be up and running?

Jericho Project

Multiple positions offered [view current job listing by clicking here.](#)

Center for Urban Community Services

Multiple positions offered [view current job listings by clicking here.](#)

Sheltering Arms

Multiple positions offered [view current job listing by clicking here.](#)

Urban Resource Institute

Multiple positions offered [view current job listing by clicking here](#)



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COVID-19 response has slowed regular HUD Field Office business, causing delays in contract execution for 2019 new and renewal grants. For new projects awarded in the 2019 NOFA, you are not expected to begin work until your signed contract is in place. Once the contract is signed, the project must commence within 24 months. However, in keeping with the NYC CoC RFP requirements, the CoC expects new projects to be fully up and running within 12 months.



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office Hours Series

HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) invites homeless assistance providers and their partners to participate in weekly Office Hours sessions to discuss COVID-19 planning and response.



COVID-19 Planning & Response for Homeless Assistance Providers Office Hours

- **Every Friday, 2:30 - 4 p.m. EST**
-

Important topics covered during the Office Hours Series in April:

- **Mega Waivers:**

To mitigate the impacts of COVID-19, HUD released Mega Waivers beginning on March 31 for Community Planning and Development (CPD) grant programs including Continuum of Care (CoC), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

Recipients wishing to utilize any of the waivers provided [in the memorandum](#) should notify their local [CPD Director](#), by email, of their intent to utilize a specific waiver flexibility **two days** before they anticipate using the waiver flexibility.

- **CoC Program Expedited COVID-19 Grant Agreement Amendments:**

Recipients who need grant agreement amendments to provide housing, services, or other necessities to support eligible clients can submit an amendment request to HUD. Recipients must remember to maintain documentation in their project files indicating the need for the requested change.

To facilitate this process HUD has created [a guidance page on the HUD Exchange](#) explaining what can be amended, information about change and funding requests, and how to request an expedited grant agreement amendment.

Please note: On the final step to request an expedited

grant agreement amendment, email the form to the [NY Field Office email](#), copying (cc'ing) your CPD Representative and the [NYC CoC](#).

- **Project Performance:**

During the weekly HUD SNAPS Office “Office Hours,” HUD stated that the priority for all providers now must be responding to the COVID-19 emergency and ensuring the safety and welfare of residents and staff. As a result, it is inevitable that regular project performance will likely be affected.

The HUD SNAPS Office asks that providers request APR submission extensions if needed, update their policies and procedures (e.g. standard operating procedures, written standards, etc.) with COVID-19 related changes in practice, and do your best to keep up with necessary client documentation. Please be sure to read HUD COVID-related guidance and request relevant sections of the HUD Mega Waiver referenced above as needed.

To register for upcoming webinars and to view previously recorded webinars and slides, [visit the HUD website](#).

Additional COVID-19 Related Webinars:

National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC):

To view the list of recorded webinars and slides, along with national updates, national guidance, and local and state news, [please visit the NLIHC website](#).

National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH):

[View the recorded webinars, slides, and takeaways from the NAEH on its website](#).

NYC Department of Health and Mental Health (DOHMH):

To view the Weekly Health Provider Webinar series, [please visit the DOHMH website](#).

Point Source Youth (PSY):

[View the toolkits and highlight videos of past webinars on the PSY website](#).

Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH):

To view past recorded webinars, [please visit CSH's website](#).

National Health Care for the Homeless Council (HCH):

[Visit HCH's website to view past recorded webinars](#).

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH):

To view a list of past tools, including webinars, [visit the USICH website](#).

Steps for SSI Recipients to take for economic impact payment:

Below are the steps Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients should take to ensure receipt of the economic impact payment for eligible children, based on guidance from Andrew Saul, the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration (SSA):

- If you receive SSI, you will get your \$1,200 economic impact payment from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) automatically – you don't have to do anything.
- But if you receive SSI, have not filed a tax return, and you have an eligible child, **YOU MUST ACT NOW** to ensure the proper receipt of \$500 per child in addition to your \$1,200 payment.
- **By May 5**, [go to the IRS' Non-Filer web form available](#) at IRS.gov to provide information about your children.
- If you miss the May 5 deadline, please go to IRS.gov for further information.
- Please review [Economic Impact Payments for Social Security and SSI Recipients – Steps to Take and Schedule of Payments](#) for more instructions and information on the SSA website.

For more information on how Social Security continues to serve the public during this critical time, go to ssa.gov/coronavirus.

Send Us Your Feedback!


The NYC CoC is committed to providing useful information to the community. We want to hear from community members like you. Follow us at nychomeless.com and let us know what you think about our messaging. Your feedback makes us better.

Thank you.
NYC CoC

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