

Kent Homelessness Coalition
Grand Rapids/Wyoming/Kent County Continuum of Care – MI 506

FY2026 CoC Program Competition – Local Ranking Policy

i. Background:

Annually, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) holds a national competition for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Funds through the CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). This competition procures funds into the Grand Rapid/Wyoming/Kent County area to provide housing and services to individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness.

During the Program Competition, New Projects may be created through reallocation and/or eligible bonus funding. Through reallocation or bonus funding, applicants may apply to operate New Projects or expand Renewal Projects as defined by the annual NOFO.

The Grand Rapids/Wyoming/Kent County Continuum of Care (CoC) – MI 506 will competitively rank projects based on projects' improvement of system performance. The CoC seeks to facilitate a coordinated, equitable, and outcome-oriented community process for the solicitation, review, ranking, and selection of project applications, and a process by which renewal projects are reviewed for performance and compliance with 24 CFR 578.

ii. Review

All projects submitted to the Continuum of Care will be thoroughly reviewed at the local level. Deficient project applications prolong the review process for HUD, which results in delayed funding announcements, lost funding for CoCs due to rejected projects, and delays in funds to house and assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness. CoCs are expected to closely review information provided in each project application to ensure:

1. All proposed program participants will be eligible for the program component type selected;
2. The information provided in the project application and proposed activities are eligible and consistent with program requirements in 24 CFR part 578;
3. Each project narrative is fully responsive to the question being asked and that it meets all the criteria for that question as required by this NOFO;
4. The data provided in various parts of the project application are consistent; and,
5. All required attachments correspond to the list of attachments in *e-snaps* and contain accurate and complete information.

To ensure that all projects submitted to HUD for funding consideration are of a high quality, CoC staff will complete a Threshold and Project Quality review of all project applications.

iii. Scoring

The CoC Board appoints a Funding Review Committee to review and objectively score all Renewal and New Project applications. Scoring is the process of using subjective, objective, and performance-based criteria to evaluate the effectiveness of Renewal Projects and New Projects in reducing and ending homelessness. Scoring is conducted by the Funding Review Committee (FRC) after the Project Applications have been reviewed for Threshold and Project Quality by CoC staff.

Independent review and scoring of project applications must be performed with individuals who are independent of CoC-funded programs, projects, or agencies. FRC members must disclose any conflicts of interest. FRC ensures the highest level of objectivity when it comes to the scoring of project applications for CoC Program funding.

iv. Ranking Policy

During the CoC Program NOFO, HUD uses a Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding selection process. Each year, HUD will establish each CoC's Tier 1 and Tier 2 amounts based on the total amount of funds requested by eligible Renewal Project applications on the Renewal Project Listing combined with the eligible Renewal Project amount(s) that were reallocated as listed on the reallocation forms in the CoC Priority Listing. Project applications in Tier 1 will be conditionally selected from the highest scoring CoC to the lowest scoring CoC, provided the project applications pass both project eligibility and project quality threshold review, and if applicable, project renewal threshold. Any type of New or Renewal Project application can be placed in Tier 1, except CoC Planning. Tier 2 is the difference between Tier 1 and the maximum amount of renewal, reallocation, and CoC Bonus funds that a CoC can apply for, but does not include CoC planning projects, or projects selected with DV Bonus funds. Project applications placed in Tier 2 will be assessed for project eligibility and project quality threshold requirements, and if applicable, project renewal threshold requirements. Funding will be determined using the CoC Application score as well as the factors listed in the NOFO.

The Grand Rapids/Wyoming/Kent County CoC will rank all projects that have passed Threshold and Project Quality Review by CoC staff and scoring by the FRC on the Priority Listing in the following order of priority for FY26. Projects within each priority category will be ranked in descending order by project score to nearest tenth of a decimal.

- 1) All infrastructure projects.
- 2) All renewal permanent supportive housing projects that are not being reallocated.
- 3) Youth Housing Demonstration Program (YHDP) Supportive Services Only (SSO) projects.
- 4) Renewal family dedicated rapid rehousing projects.
- 5) Transitional housing projects that have been reallocated from DV Bonus projects or YHDP.
- 6) New transitional housing projects.
- 7) New supportive services only projects.

viii. Ranking Procedure

Funding Review Committee, in coordination with CoC Staff, will then populate the Priority Listing using the Ranking Policy above. The Priority Listing will be provided to Steering Council for approval prior to submission during the CoC Program Competition.