

**Mississippi Balance of State CoC  
Ranking Committee Meeting Minutes**  
Thursday September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
10:00 am

**TIME AND PLACE**

The Mississippi Balance of State CoC Ranking Committee was called to order at 9:30 am. The meeting was held at MUTEH Offices-Conference Room (201 W. Capitol St., Suite 800, Jackson, MS 39201).

**ROLL CALL**

All members of the Ranking Committee, MS Balance of State CoC Director, HMIS Lead Representation, Collaborative Applicant, and Guest.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Hannah Maharrey, CoC Director called the meeting to order.

**PRESENT**

Abby Miller (Care Lodge), Myron Hutson (Formerly Homeless Individual), Kim Townsend (City of Hattiesburg), Stephanie Johnson (SAFE, Inc.), Bethany Latham (HMIS Lead Rep), Reginald Glenn (HMIS Lead Rep)

**GUESTS**

Stacey Howard (Grant Application Writer)

**AGENDA**

**I. APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCESS**

- a. All applications (new or renewal) must be submitted in eSnaps by Friday, August 30th, 2019 at 5pm.

**II. APPEAL PROCESS**

- a. Applicants will receive their ranking notifications on or before Friday, September 13th, 2019.
- b. Agencies wishing to appeal must submit their appeal to the Exec. Committee Chair of the CoC Governing Council.
- c. Applicants should note that the committee will not use the appeals process as an opportunity to reconsider funding decisions without a clear explanation or problems with the grant making process. The committee will use this process to address deficiencies with process and procedures only.

**III. COC GOALS**

- a. H. Maharrey and S. Howard reminded the Ranking Committee of the Goals as outlined in the NOFA. See NOFA here:  
<https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/FY-2019-CoC-Program-Competition-NOFA.pdf>
  - 1. The Policy Priorities are details on pp.5-6
- b. Policy Priorities
  - 1. MS Balance of State CoC will follow HUD's policy priorities for the FY2019 Program Competition, currently found in the FY2019 NOFA:

- a. **Ending homelessness for all persons.** To end homelessness, CoCs should identify, engage, and effectively serve all persons experiencing homelessness.
- b. **Creating a systemic response to homelessness.** CoCs should be using system performance measures such as the average length of homeless episodes, rates of return to homelessness, and rates of exit to permanent housing destinations to determine how effectively they are serving people experiencing homelessness.
- c. **Strategically allocating and using resources.** Using cost, performance, and outcome data, CoCs should improve how resources are utilized to end homelessness.
- d. **Use a Housing First approach and Providing Flexibility for Housing First with Service Participation Requirements.** Housing First prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing and does not have participation requirements of preconditions. FY2019 NOFA also provides communities and programs with flexibility, without penalty, to use service participation requirements after people have been stabilized in housing
- e. **Using an Evidence-Based Approach.** CoCs should prioritize projects that employ strong use of data and evidence, including the cost-effectiveness and impact of homelessness programs on positive housing outcomes, recovery, self-sufficiency, and reducing homelessness.
- f. **Increasing employment.** CoCs and CoC-funded projects should work with local employment agencies and employers to prioritize training and employment opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. CoC's should also promote partnerships with public and private organizations that promote employment.

#### IV. FUNDING PRIORITIES

- a. Estimated ARD: \$2,750,174
- b. ARD Tier 1 Funding: \$2,592,935
  1. Last Year: Tier 1 \$2,804,711 (-\$211,776 difference from last year)
- c. Tier 2 Funding: \$157,239 + COC Bonus \$663,169 + DV Bonus \$540,285 = 1,360,693
- d. The Planning Grant is NOT in the same allotment with the Tier 1 Funding (max. = \$162,086)
- e. Total Possible Funding : \$ 4,115,714 (Includes Tier 1, Tier 2, COC and DV Bonus, and Planning Grant)

#### V. RATING FACTORS

- a. The committee will rank and fund projects (reallocated, new, and renewal) based on the following priority order:
  1. Performance Measures: Determined via HUD Rating and Ranking Tool using HMIS info
  2. Performance Measures: Ranked by performance within project type based on CoC adopted standards from most recent APR available and MPRs generated by HMIS (Utilization Rates)
  3. Agency Capacity: Determined by threshold requirements (PIT Count)
  4. Target population as identified by unmet need analysis (PIT Count)

5. Project Service Area
6. The Committee will also consider other priorities during ranking such as:
  - a. The priority of new projects
  - b. The importance of renewal projects

## VI. STRATEGY

- a. During the ranking process the HUD-developed Rating and Ranking Tool was implemented. The Project Rating and Ranking Tool is a tool that can be used by CoCs to evaluate projects and set ranking priorities within the CoC. The tool helps the Co C to create objective, performance-based scoring criteria and selection priorities that are approved by the CoC to determine the extent to which each project addresses HUD’s policy priorities. The CoC will reallocate funds to new projects whenever reallocation can improve outcomes and reduce homelessness, and consider how much each project spends to serve and house an individual or family as compared to other projects serving similar populations. The tool can be viewed here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/project-rating-and-ranking-tool.xlsb>
- b. The tool factors in criteria for multiple project types. The Committee is able to decide which factors should be a factor within the project ranking decision. New Projects will be judged by different criterion than renewal/expansion projects. The tool does not rate HMIS, SSO, or Planning projects. The criteria for each project type are listed below:
  1. PSH: <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FY19-PSH-Rating-Criteria.pdf>
  2. RRH: <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FY19-RRH-Rating-Criteria.pdf>
  3. TH-RRH: <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FY19-TH-RRH-Rating-Criteria.pdf>
- c. After the completion of rating, the tool allows the users to input the appropriate funding details and allows the Committee to rank the projects in both tiers as desired.
- d. The CoC Competition Process can be viewed in full here:
- e. Point System for Ratings: <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FY19-CoC-Competition-Points-System-for-HUD-Ranking-Tool.pdf>

## VII. PROJECT THRESHOLD

- a. Before rating could take place, the committee reviewed the renewal, new and reallocated projects that were submitted for funding in this year’s competition.
- b. **UNSUCCESSFUL THRESHOLD REVIEW:**
  1. There were no applications that failed to meet threshold. Each program application will be considered.
- c. **PROJECTS WITHIN THRESHOLD:**

### RENEWALS APPLICATIONS:

1. **ASC - 121 HAVEN HOUSE:** Submitted a renewal application for their permanent supportive housing project for homeless and chronically homeless individuals who tested positive for HIV or have active AIDS.

2. **ASC – 227 PLACE:** Submitted an application to renew their permanent supportive housing project for chronically and episodically homeless women and women with children, targeting those with mental illness, addiction and/or HIV+ status. This housing is provided at a single location, Heritage Apartments.
3. **ASC – 121 PH(RRH) PROJECT:** Submitted a renewal application for RRH serving the chronically homeless population of the Pine Belt region.
4. **BOLIVAR COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY - CoC RRH:** Applied to renew their Rapid Rehousing program for homeless households with children.
5. **MULTI-COUNTY CSA CoC RRH:** Applied to provide Rapid Rehousing for homeless households with children. This application is a renewal of their previous CoC RRH project.
6. **USM/IDS PROJECT RECOVERY CoC RRH:** Submitted an application to provide Rapid Rehousing for homeless households with children. The application is a renewal of their previous RRH project.
7. **MUTEH CoC RRH:** Submitted an application to provide Rapid Rehousing for homeless families with children. This application is a renewal of their previously obtained CoC RRH program.
8. **RECOVERY HOUSE CoC RRH:** Submitted an application to provide Rapid Rehousing for homeless families with children. This application is a renewal of their RRH program.
9. **MUTEH HMIS I:** Submitted applications to provide HMIS Services for the Balance of State. This application is a renewal.
10. **MUTEH HMIS II:** Submitted applications to provide HMIS Services for the Balance of State. This application is a renewal.

**NEW APPLICATIONS:**

11. **CATHOLIC CHARITIES NATCHEZ CoC RRH (DV BONUS):** Submitted an application to provide Rapid Rehousing for homeless households with children—specifically those experiencing domestic violence. This application is a new application that mimics their previous RRH project. In the FY2018 Competition, Natchez RRH was ranked in Tier 2. Although ranked they were not funded. The project is seeking to re-applying for DV Bonus in this year’s competition.
12. **MUTEH BoS CES (CoC BONUS):** Submitted a new application to further the Coordinated Entry System of the CoC. This will include better regional coverage and full-time staff helping agencies to work the list.

13. **Resilience Development Corporation PSH (CoC BONUS):** Submitted an application to provide PSH for chronically homelessness individuals in Delta Region.
14. **Planning Grant** is NOT in the same allotment with the Tier 1 Funding. (max. = \$162,086). It will not be ranked with eligible projects.

**VIII. RATINGS SUMMARIES**

- a. All eligible projects were inserted into the rating and ranking tool. The criteria for each project type are listed below:
- b. The summary of ratings can be viewed here: <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FY19-Rating-Results.pdf>

**IX. RANKINGS SUMMARIES**

- a. All rated projects--renewal, reallocated, and new—were prioritized based on HUD Priorities, CoC Priorities, Rating Factors, with HMIS will be prioritized within the middle of the ranking.
- b. To view the final rankings for Tier 1 and 2 as chosen by the Ranking Committee, see the link for Funding & Ranking Analysis: <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/FY19-Rating-Results.pdf>

**c. PROJECT RANKING – TIER 1**

**1. MUTEH, INC. – COC RRH**

- a. Project Type: Renewal
- b. Component Type: PH (RRH)
- c. Amount Ranked: \$574,487

**2. BOLIVAR COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY - CoC RRH**

- a. Project Type: Renewal
- b. Component Type: PH (RRH)
- c. Amount Ranked: \$694,405

**3. AIDS SERVICE COALITION – 227 PLACE (GREEN MEADOWS) PSH**

- a. Project Type: Renewal
- b. Component Type: PH
- c. Amount Ranked: \$283,689

**4. MUTEH, INC. – HMIS I**

- a. Project Type: Renewal
- b. Component Type: HMIS
- c. Amount Ranked: \$162,037

**5. MUTEH, INC. – HMIS II**

- a. Project Type: Renewal
- b. Component Type: HMIS
- c. Amount Ranked: \$100,043

**6. RESILIENCE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – COC DELTA  
NEW PROJECT PSH**

- a. Project Type: New
- b. Component Type: PH
- c. Amount Ranked: \$188,979

**7. RECOVERY HOUSE, INC – CoC RRH**

- a. Project Type: Renewal
- b. Component Type: (PH) RRH
- c. Amount Ranked: \$126,400

**8. AIDS SERVICE COALITION – 121 HAVEN HOUSE PSH**

- a. Project Type: Renewal
- b. Component Type: PH
- c. Amount Ranked: \$50,748

**9. MUTEH, INC – BOS COC CES**

- a. Project Type: New
- b. Component Type: SSO-Coordinated Entry
- c. Amount Ranked: \$329,000

**10. CATHOLIC CHARITIES – NATCHEZ COC RAPID REHOUSING**

- a. Project Type: Domestic Violence Bonus (New)
- b. Component Type: TH-RRH
- c. Amount Ranked: \$136,996
- d. **NOTE: This project is partially split between Tier I and II of this ranking**

d. **PROJECT RANKING – TIER 2**

**10. CATHOLIC CHARITIES – NATCHEZ COC RAPID REHOUSING**

- a. Project Type: Domestic Violence Bonus (New)
- b. Component Type: TH-RRH
- c. Amount Ranked: \$136,996
- d. **NOTE: This project is partially split between Tier I and II of this ranking**

**11. USM – INSTITUTE FOR DISABILITY STUDIES – PROJECT  
RECOVERY**

- a. Project Type: Renewal
- b. Component Type: PH (RRH)
- c. Amount Ranked: \$292,499

**12. MULTI-COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCY – PSH RRH**

- a. Project Type: Renewal
- b. Component Type: PH (RRH)
- c. Amount Ranked: \$336,358

**13. AIDS SERVICE COALITION – COC RAPID RENEWAL**

- a. Project Type: Renewal
- b. Component Type: PH (RRH)

c. Amount Ranked: \$62,755

**X. POSTING OF RANKING** – Ranking will be posted on [www.msbos.org](http://www.msbos.org) at the following link: <http://msbos.org/coc-app-rankings/>.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

a. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.