

**Mississippi Balance of State CoC  
Special NOFO Ranking Committee Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

10:00 am

**TIME AND PLACE**

The Mississippi Balance of State CoC Special NOFO Ranking Committee was called to order at 10:00am. 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, and MS Balance of State CoC Director.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Hannah Maharrey, CoC Director called the meeting to order.

**PRESENT**

Governing Council Members: Colleen Hartfield, Marcus Gary (Proxy for Rebecca Nelson), Karley Williams (Proxy for Robbie Brown), Chantel Maye, Jonathan Swain (Proxy for Dr. Collin Billingsley), Jason Spencer, Hannah Maharrey – CoC Director.

**AGENDA**

**I. Special NOFO PROJECT APPLICATION TIMELINE AND DUE DATES**

- a) Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 - Special NOFO MSBOS Funding Competition Announcement
- b) Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 - Special NOFO Letters of Intent Due
- c) Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - Special NOFO Project Applications Due in eSNAPS
- d) Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 - Special NOFO Rank and Review
- e) Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 - Notify applicants of rejection, reduction, acceptance, and ranking of Special NOFO projects
- f) Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - Special NOFO CoC Application due to HUD

**II. POLICY PRIORITIES**

- a. HUD Policy Priorities per Special NOFO for Unsheltered Homelessness and Rural Set Aside.
  - 1. Unsheltered Homelessness.
  - 2. Unsheltered Homelessness and Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs in Rural Areas.

3. Providing Assistance on Tribal Lands.
4. Involving a Broad Array of Stakeholders in the CoC's Efforts to Reduce Homelessness.
5. Advancing Equity.
6. Use a Housing First Approach.

### **III. FUNDING PRIORITIES**

- a. Unsheltered Competition
  1. CoCs may apply for amount to up to their FY2022 PPRN
  2. Maximum Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside Amount - \$6,800,402
- b. Rural Set Aside Competition
  1. CoCs May apply for an amount up to 150% of FY2022 PPRN of the rural areas in geographic area
  2. Maximum Rural Set Aside Amount - \$8,734,584

### **IV. RATING FACTORS**

- a. The committee will rank, and fund projects based on a scoring tool created with the following data points:
  1. Project Eligibility Threshold
    1. Category was measured using the outline included in Special NOFO
  2. Project Quality Threshold – individualized for each project type (RRH, PSH, TH-RRH, SSO)
    1. Category was measured using the outline included in Special NOFO
  3. System Performance Measure
    1. Length of Stay in Homelessness
    2. Exits to Permanent Housing
    3. Returns to Homelessness
    4. New or Increased Earned or Unearned Income
    5. Serve High Need Populations
    6. Coordinated Entry Participation
  4. Target Population as identified by CoC Needs
  5. Project Type as identified by CoC Needs
  6. Project Service Area as identified by CoC Needs
- b. A separate scoring tool was created for both Unsheltered and Rural Set Aside Competitions with point weighing adjusted for the unique priorities and requirements for each competition.

### **V. STRATEGY**

- a. With the CoC Coordinator and Collaborative Applicant, the Ranking Committee made the decision to use the CoC-developed scoring tool. The tool helps the CoC 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.

- b. The Unsheltered Homelessness Scoring Criteria can be viewed here: <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/All-Projects-Criteria-FY2022-Unsheltered-Project-Scoring-Tool.pdf>
- c. The Rural Set Aside Scoring Criteria can be viewed here: <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/All-Projects-Criteria-FY2022-Rural-Project-Scoring-Tool.pdf>
- d. The CoC Competition Process can be viewed in full here: <https://msbos.org/ranking-review/>

## **VI. UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS COMPETITION RANKING**

- a. PROJECT THRESHOLD
  - 1. Before rating could take place, the committee reviewed the projects that were submitted for funding in the Unsheltered Homelessness competition.
- b. PROJECTS WITHIN THRESHOLD:
  - a. AIDS Services Coalition - ASC Homeless Investment Strategy - TH-RRH - Hattiesburg, Lamar, and Forrest County
  - b. Bolivar County Community Action Agency - BCCAA Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside Project - RRH - Delta and Northeast
  - c. Mississippi United to End Homelessness - 401 Housing Program - PSH - Lamar and Forrest County
  - d. SAFE, Inc. - S.A.F.E. Housing First Unsheltered Homelessness Project - TH-RRH - Lee County, Northeast
- b. RATINGS SUMMARIES
  - 1. All eligible projects were inserted into the Unsheltered Homelessness scoring tool.
  - 2. The summary of scoring can be viewed here: <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FY22-MS-501-Rating-Results.pdf>
  - 3. Scores:
    - a. MUTEH – PSH – 60
    - b. ASC – TH-RRH – 57
    - c. BCCAA – RRH – 55
    - d. SAFE – TH-RR – 53
- c. RANKINGS SUMMARIES
  - 1. All scored projects were prioritized based on Committee Priorities.
  - 2. To view the final rankings as chosen by the Ranking Committee, see the link for Funding & Ranking Analysis:
    - 1. <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/2022-Special-NOFO-CoC-Application-Rankings-2.pdf>
  - 3. UNSHELTERED NOFO PROJECT RANKING:
    - 1. MUTEH, Inc
      - a. Component Type: PH (PSH)

- b. Coverage Area: Lamar and Forrest County
- c. Requested Amount: \$886,624
- d. Amount Ranked: \$1,746,151
- 2. AIDS Services Coalition
  - a. Component Type: TH-RRH
  - b. Coverage Area: Lamar and Forrest County
  - c. Requested Amount: \$1,800,040
  - d. Amount Ranked: \$ 2,000,000
- 3. Bolivar County Community Action Agency
  - a. Component Type: PH (RRH)
  - b. Coverage Area: Delta and Northeast
  - c. Amount Ranked: \$1,054,251
- 4. SAFE, Inc.
  - a. Component Type: PH (PSH)
  - b. Coverage Area: Lee County, Northeast
  - c. Requested Amount: \$3,955,635
  - d. Amount Ranked: \$ 2,000,000

d. RANKING NOTES

Three projects were had their requested amounts either reduced or increased based on CoC service needs and to meet the maximum funding amount determined by HUD.

- 5. MUTEH – PSH was increased by \$859,527
- 6. ASC – TH-RRH was increased by \$199,960
- 7. SAFE Inc – TH-RRH was reduced by \$1,955,635

Rank and Review Committee Jason Spencer made a motion to accept the Unsheltered Homelessness ranking results as written above, it was seconded by Marcus Gary. The motion was carried

**VII. RURAL SET ASIDE COMPETITION RANKING**

a. PROJECT THRESHOLD

- 1. Before rating could take place, the committee reviewed the projects that were submitted for funding in the Rural Set Aside competition.

b. UNSUCCESSFUL THRESHOLD REVIEW:

- a. Reviving the Youth – TH-RRH - \$73,730 - TH-RRH - Leflore County. Application did not meet threshold requirements
  - 1. Lack of Agency Capacity
  - 2. Unrealistic budget
  - 3. Lack of Supportive Services
  - 4. Project was rejected and did not proceed to ranking.
- 2. Community Development Inc. – TH-RRH: \$19,820,617 - Jones and Greene County. Application did not meet threshold requirements
  - 1. Unrealistic budget

2. Doesn't meet needs of MS BoS CoC
  3. Project was rejected and did not proceed to ranking
- c. PROJECTS WITHIN THRESHOLD:
- b. AIDS Services Coalition - ASC Rural Connections - SSO - Mental Health and Addiction Services - CoC-Wide
  - c. Bolivar County Community Action Agency - BCCAA Rural Set-Aside Project - RRH - Northeast and Delta
  - d. Mississippi United to End Homelessness - Portal Housing Program - TH-RRH - CoC-Wide
  - e. Mississippi United to End Homelessness - Elevation Housing Program - PSH - CoC-Wide
  - f. SAFE, Inc. - S.A.F.E. Housing First Rural Set Aside Project - TH- RRH - Northeast and Delta
- c. RATINGS SUMMARIES
1. All eligible projects were inserted into the Rural Set Aside scoring tool.
  2. The summary of scoring can be viewed here:  
<https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/FY22-MS-501-Rating-Results-1.pdf>
  3. Scores:
    - a. MUTEH – PSH – 81
    - b. ASC – SSO – 76
    - c. MUTEH – TH-RRH - 76
    - d. SAFE – TH-RRH - 64
    - e. BCCAA – RRH - 61
- d. RANKINGS SUMMARIES
1. All scored projects were prioritized based on Committee Priorities.
  2. To view the final rankings as chosen by the Ranking Committee, see the link for Funding & Ranking Analysis:
    1. <https://msbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/2022-Special-NOFO-CoC-Application-Rankings-2.pdf>
  3. RURAL NOFO PROJECT RANKING:
    1. AIDS Services Coalition
      - a. Component Type: SSO
      - b. Coverage Area: CoC-wide
      - c. Amount Ranked: \$1,070,205
    2. MUTEH, INC
      - a. Component Type: PSH
      - b. Coverage Area: CoC-wide
      - c. Amount Ranked: \$ 2,942,008
    3. MUTEH, INC
      - a. Component Type: TH-RRH
      - b. Coverage Area: CoC-wide
      - c. Amount Ranked: \$ 2,527,532
    4. Bolivar County Community Action Agency

- a. Component Type: PH (RRH)
  - b. Coverage Area: Delta and Northeast
  - c. Amount Ranked: \$1,054,251
- 5. SAFE, Inc
  - a. Component Type: TH-RRH
  - b. Coverage Area: Delta and Northeast
  - c. Requested Amount: \$6,265,897
  - d. Amount Ranked: \$ 1,140,588
- d. RANKING NOTES
  - i. One project had their requested reduced in order to meet the Rural Set Aside Maximum amount
    - 1. SAFE - TH-RRH – was reduced from the requested amount of \$6,265.897 to \$1,140,588
  - ii. ASC - SSO project was moved to top of ranking due to the Rural Set Aside Rank and Review’s commitment to improving client outcomes in rural area such as returns to homeless and access to supportive services that a SSO project would address.
  - iii. BCCAA - RRH was moved up from bottom of ranking due to the Rural Set Aside Rank and Review Committee’s prioritizing RRH over TH-RRH

Rural Set Aside Rank and Review Committee Jason Spencer made a motion to accept the Rural Set Aside ranking results as written above, it was seconded by Jonathan Swain. The motion was carried.

**VIII. 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/>.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.