



Homeless Action Network of Detroit

2010 HUD Continuum of Care Application Process and Timeline Renewal & New Project Applications

The Homeless Action Network of Detroit (HAND) is responsible for leading and managing the decision-making and application process for the 2010 HUD Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Funding application. HUD requires that Continuum of Care (CoC) develop a process to determine whether projects up for renewal are (1) performing satisfactorily and (2) effectively addressing the needs for which they were designed. The CoC is also responsible for managing the application process for projects seeking new HUD funding.

This packet contains information about the process that will be used for the 2010 funding round. Currently funded HUD SHP and S+C projects that will expire during calendar year 2011 must request renewal funding in the 2010 funding process. Organizations seeking new HUD funding must also submit an application during this process.

The information presented here has been developed before the release of HUD's Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). Therefore, the information presented here is subject to change depending upon the content of the NOFA.

All information and materials may also be found on HAND's website at www.handetroit.org, on the "Funding" page.

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2009 Continuum of Care Score

HAND received notice in early July that the two new projects that had been submitted for funding to HUD were funded. These projects are:

- NSO Supportive Housing Program (PSH): \$964,719
- Cass Community Social Services Cass Apartments (PSH): \$933,448

Even though we know these projects have been funded, we still do not have our CoC score. This score would tell us areas in which we need to improve. Even though these scores have not yet been received, we are moving forward with our application process.

2010 Timeline

The Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance NOFA from HUD has not been released; it is anticipated to be released in July. Therefore, the following dates and submission deadlines below are subject to change upon the release of the NOFA and the due date of the Exhibit 1 submission. Depending upon the due date of Exhibit 1, the timeline below may be shortened. Changes in dates will be communicated via email.

Please note there are separate submission deadlines for renewal and new projects.

Renewal Project Timeline	New Project Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 9: CoC Homeless Assistance Grants meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 9: CoC Homeless Assistance Grants meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July (anticipated): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HUD NOFA released ○ Additional details from HUD on 2009 application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July (anticipated): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HUD NOFA released ○ Additional details from HUD on 2009 application
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 30: Renewal project applications due by 5:00 PM 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 20: Initial review/scoring complete 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 27: Applicants informed of initial project score and appeals process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 27: New project applications due by 5:00 PM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Permanent Housing Bonus Projects ○ Reallocated Funding Projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early – Mid September: Appeals process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid September: Review, scoring complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late September/Early October: Final renewal project scores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late September: Final new project selection
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October: e-SNAPS submissions (Exhibit 2s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October: e-SNAPS submissions (Exhibit 2s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late October: Applications due to HUD (HAND submits via e-SNAPS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late October: Applications due to HUD (HAND submits via e-SNAPS)

Renewal Project Funding

Renewal funding is not automatic. Renewal projects must demonstrate effectiveness in achieving identified program goals. Currently funded HUD SHP and S+C projects that will expire during calendar year 2011 must request renewal funding in the 2010 funding process. HAND's process for evaluation of renewal projects, including the scoring components are outlined below.

Renewal Project Scoring Overview

All renewal projects will be scored based upon the following components. There are a total of 43 points and 3 bonus points possible.

Scoring Component		Points Possible
#1	Program Performance Includes: Project Capacity (5) Leaving with Income (5) Project-specific Performance (10)	20
#2	Financial Performance	10
#3	HMIS Participation	5
#4	Consumer Satisfaction	5
#5	CoC Participation	3
	Total Points Possible	43
#6	BONUS: Self Sufficiency Matrix	3 Bonus Pts.

Threshold: All Projects must score at least 26 points (60% of 43) to be renewed for funding.

Comparison of 2008, 2009, and 2010 Scoring

	Criteria	2008 Points	2009 Points	2010 Points	
#1	Project Capacity	5	5	5	No change
#2	HMIS Participation	3	5	5	Increase in points in '10
#3	Financial Performance	5	5	10	Increase in points in '10
#4	Application Completeness	2			Removed after 2008
#5	Increase Income (Changed to Leaving w/Income in 2009 & 2010)	5	5	5	No change
#6	Project-specific performance	10	10	10	No change
#7	Project leveraging	10	10	0	Removed for 2010; leveraging only calculated on new projects (per HUD)
#8	Consumer satisfaction	3	3	5	Increase in points in 2010
#9	Housing vs. Services	2	10	0	Removed for 2010; housing emphasis only calculated on new projects (per HUD)
#10	CoC Participation (Bonus in 2008; Required in 2009 & 2010)	3 (Bonus)	3	3	No change from 2009 & 2010
#11	Bonus: Self Sufficiency Matrix (2009 & 2010 Only)		3	3	No change from 2009 & 2010
	Total Possible	45 + 3	56 + 3	43 + 3	

Note About 2009 Renewal Project Scoring

During the application process that took place in 2009, HAND scored renewal projects given the above scoring criteria. HAND's Board of Directors had made the decision that renewal projects needed to have scored at least 60% of the points possible in order to be renewed for funding in 2009. Projects that didn't meet that threshold would not have been renewed, and those funds would have been reallocated to a different project. During the application process last summer, however, HAND learned from HUD that the option to reallocate funds was not available to CoCs in the 2009

application and that CoCs did not need to rank their renewal projects. With this new instruction, the scoring and ranking for renewal projects became a moot point.

Therefore, all renewal projects were automatically renewed, regardless of their score. Projects did receive notification from HAND in mid-June 2010 what their project score would have been for the 2009 competition, had we been able to actually implement the scoring criteria.

For this upcoming application round, HAND will again be implementing the scoring threshold. We have received notice from HUD that the CoC does have the ability this year to reallocate funds from low-performing projects to different projects.

Project Ranking

HAND is not required to rank renewal projects in the 2010 competition. Renewal projects are being scored for the purposes of identifying those projects not meeting the threshold score set by HAND.

Renewal Project Scoring Details

Component #1: Program Performance 20 Points

There are a total of 20 of points possible for program performance. Performance will be evaluated and scored using data from the program's most recently submitted APR for the last-completed contract year. Projects will be scored on the following criteria:

All Projects

Program Capacity (5 pts)

Program capacity scored based on information reported on Part I, questions 1,2 and 3 of the APR
Capacity will be scored based on the following formula:

- 95-100% capacity: 5 points
- 85-94% capacity: 4 points
- 75-84% capacity: 3 points
- 65-74% capacity: 2 points
- 55-64% capacity: 1 point
- below 55% capacity: 0 points

Leaving with Income

Applicants will be scored based on the percentage of people that leave the program with no income or other financial resources (includes employment income, benefits such as SSI/SSDI, TANF, etc.). Information will be taken from questions 2c (# of people who left program) and 11d (incomes sources at exit) of the APR.

The *lower* the percentage of people leaving with no income, the *higher* the score.

- 0-10 % : 5 points
- 11-20%: 4 points
- 21-30%: 3 points
- 31-40%: 2 points
- 41-50%: 1 point
- Above 51%: 0 points

Project-Specific Components

Permanent Housing (PH) Projects

Projects will be scored on the percentage of participants who remain in PH projects for more than 6 months. This information will be gathered from question 12(a) and 12(b) of the APR.

- 71-100% : 10 points
- 65-70%: 5 points
- Below 64%: 0 points

Transitional Housing (TH) Projects

Projects will be scored on the percentage of participants who exit the program into permanent housing. This information will be gathered from question 14 on the APR.

- 62 -100% : 10 points
- 56 -61%: 5 points
- Below 56%: 0 points

Support Service Only (SSO) Projects:

SSO projects will be scored on *one* of the following criteria, based on the population served by the project. It is up to the project to identify which criterion (A, B, or C) is appropriate to their project. SSO projects that are unclear on which criterion to use should contact HAND staff for assistance.

Criterion A: For projects in which 100% of participants have already been placed into permanent housing at the time of enrollment in the program.

Percentage of people who remained in permanent housing for 6 months or more

- 71-100% : 10 points
- 65-70%: 5 points
- Below 64%: 0 points

Criterion B: For projects in which 100% of participants enter the program before being placed into permanent housing.

Percentage of people who were placed into permanent housing

- 62 -100% : 10 points
- 56 -61%: 5 points
- Below 56%: 0 points

Criterion C: For projects that serve a mix of participants – some of which have already been placed into permanent housing at the time of enrollment, and some of which are awaiting placement in permanent housing at time of enrollment.

1) Of those participants already in permanent housing when enrolled in the program, the percentage who remained in permanent housing for 6 months or more.

- 71-100% : 5 points
- 65-70%: 3 points
- Below 64%: 0 points

2) Of those participants who were not in permanent housing at the time of enrollment in the program, the percentage who were placed into permanent housing

- 62 -100% : 5 points
- 56 -61%: 3 points
- Below 56%: 0 points

Component #2: Financial Performance

10 Points

Financial performance will be monitored and scored based on the extent to which each project has expensed its annual budgeted HUD grant during its most recently completed project year. This information will be requested from HUD based on the financial information recorded on LOCCS.

Scoring will be based on the following formula:

- 95-100% grant funding expensed: 10 points
- 85-94% grant funding expensed: 8 points
- 75-84% grant funding expensed: 6 points
- 65-74% grant funding expensed: 4 points
- 55-64% grant funding expensed: 2 point
- below 55% grant funding expensed: 0 points

Component #3: HMIS Participation

5 Points

Projects will be scored based on the project's participation in HMIS. The score will be based on the following indicators:

- Submit an HMIS ServicePoint APR for the same timeframe as your most recently submitted APR to HUD: 1 point
 - This will allow HAND to compare the data on the APR submitted to HUD with the data that has been entered into HMIS
- Attended majority of Agency Administrator meetings during June 2009 - present: 1 point
- 90% of clients who have been entered into HMIS have an associated program entry: 1 point
- 90% of clients who have been entered into HMIS completed entry for all required Universal Data Elements (UDEs): 2 points

Component #4: Consumer Satisfaction

5 Points

Projects will be scored on their submission of the following items:

- Brief narrative statement of how the agency collects participant feedback and satisfaction: 2 points
- Brief narrative of the results of the agency or program's most recent consumer satisfaction survey: 2 points
- A copy of the instrument used to collect participant feedback (ex – survey tool, consumer questionnaire, etc.): 1 point

Component #5: Continuum of Care Participation

3 Points

A maximum of 3 points are available for an agency's participation in the Continuum of Care meetings during the time period of July 2009 to May 2010 (6 meetings total), based on the following scale:

- Organization represented at 5 or more meetings: 3 points
- Organization represented at 3 - 4 meetings: 2 points
- Organization represented at 2 meetings: 1 point
- Organization represented at 1 or fewer meetings: 0 points

Component #6: Self-Sufficiency Matrix

3 Bonus Points

A maximum of 3 bonus points are available for an agency's participation using the Self Sufficiency Matrix based on the following scale:

- Organization uses Self Sufficiency Matrix as part of assessment: 3 bonus points
- Organization is trained to use the Self Sufficiency Matrix: 2 bonus points
- Organization has not received training on the Self Sufficiency Matrix: 0 bonus points

Renewal Project Threshold Score

In 2010, HAND will be implementing a scoring threshold for all renewal projects. All renewal projects must score at least 26 points (60% of 43) to be renewed for funding.

Projects that score less than 26 points, after Bonus Points are factored in, will not be funded. These dollars will be reallocated competitively to a new project (details below).

How Bonus Points Can Help

Example: A project scores 24 out of 43 points for criteria #1 - #5 above. This project did not meet the scoring threshold and would not be eligible to be renewed. However, this project received the 3 bonus points for the Self-Sufficiency Matrix. The project's score is now 27, which means it does pass threshold and would be submitted for renewal.

Follow-Up Technical Assistance

Projects that score less than 26 out of 43 points, but end up scoring at least 26 points when the bonus points are factored in (as in the example given above) will be prioritized for follow-up technical assistance.

Educational Assurances

Applicants applying for renewal project funding will be required to answer two questions related to how the project ensures school-aged children staying in the program are enrolled in school and connected to educational services.

The answers given in these questions are not scored by HAND, nor will any response given influence the overall scoring of the project application. The information is being requested because the CoC is required to respond to these questions in the Exhibit 1. It is anticipated that HAND will compile all answers into one composite answer. See the renewal project application packet for details on these questions.

New Project Funding

HAND will be accepting applications for new projects in 2010. There are two sources of funds for these projects:

- Permanent Housing Bonus Funding
 - Formerly called Samaritan Bonus Initiative
 - Amount Available = \$1.9 million
- Reallocated Project Funding
 - Funds made available for new projects from renewal projects not meeting threshold
 - Amount Available = To Be Determined

New Project Funding: Permanent Housing Bonus

HAND will be accepting applications for new projects, under the “Permanent Housing Bonus” (formerly known as “Samaritan Initiative Bonus”). This new project must meet the following criteria in order to be considered for funding:

- Be a Permanent Supportive Housing project (SHP-PH or Shelter + Care)
- Serve chronically homeless individuals or chronically homeless families
- Project applicant must have been providing services to the homeless for at least one year
- Applicant must be actively using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Applicants must be a member of HAND
- A representative of the organization must have attended the workshop on July 9, 2010

Supportive Housing Program Permanent Housing projects (SHP-PH) must:

- Be a two or three year project
- Project requests must be a minimum of \$450,000 and a maximum of \$1,900,000
- A maximum of 20% of the amount requested may be used for supportive services
- A maximum of 5% of the amount requested may be used for administrative purposes

Shelter + Care projects must:

- Be for 5 years
- Project requests must be a minimum of \$450,000 and a maximum of \$1,900,000

Eligibility Information

In addition to the criteria identified above, the following table details eligible applicants and activities for Supportive Housing Program Permanent Housing (SHP-PH) and Shelter + Care (S+C):

Element	Supportive Housing Program Permanent Housing (SHP-PH)	Shelter + Care (S+C)
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States • Units of general local government • Special purpose units of government (eg, PHA) • Private nonprofit organizations • Community Mental Health Centers that are public nonprofit organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States • Units of general local government • PHAs
Eligible Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition • Rehabilitation • New construction • Leasing • Operating Costs • Supportive Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental Assistance
Eligible Populations Served by Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronically homeless individuals • Chronically homeless families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronically homeless • Chronically homeless families

Target Populations

HUD allows all populations to be served through the Permanent Housing Bonus project. However, HAND is more narrowly defining the target populations for this project. For this project, eligible target populations include:

- Chronically homeless individuals AND/OR
- Chronically homeless families

HUD currently defines a chronically homeless person as: “an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more OR who has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years”. HUD defines the term “homeless” as “a person sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g. living on the streets, for example) OR living in a homeless emergency shelter.”

HUD’s definition for chronically homeless at this time *does not* include families – only unaccompanied individuals. For the purposes of serving people in the Permanent Housing Bonus project, “chronically homeless families” refers to families in which the head of household meets the criteria for being chronically homeless (ie, long periods of homelessness and a disability).

New Project Funding: Reallocated Project

A smaller pool of funding for new projects may be available through the funds that are reallocated from projects that do not meet the funding threshold. New project(s) will be awarded from this pool based on a competitive process.

The total amount of funds available in this pool will not be known until the renewal project review and scoring process is complete. HAND anticipates there will be approximately \$100,000 – \$400,000 available for these new project(s). It is also possible that all renewal projects will meet the scoring threshold, and that there will be no funds available for a new Reallocated Project.

Organizations interested in applying for the Reallocated Project funding must meet the following eligibility criteria in order to be considered for funding:

- Project must be a Permanent Supportive Housing project (SHP-PH or Shelter + Care)
- Project applicant must have been providing services to the homeless for at least one year
- Serve chronically homeless individuals or chronically homeless families
- Applicants must be a member of HAND
- Applicant must commit to using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- A representative of the organization must have attended the workshop on July 9, 2010

Supportive Housing Program Permanent Housing projects (SHP-PH) must:

- Be a two or three year project
- A maximum of 20% of the amount requested may be used for supportive services
- A maximum of 5% of the amount requested may be used for administrative purposes
- Request must be between \$100,000 - \$400,000

Shelter + Care projects must:

- Be for 5 years
- Request must be between \$100,000 - \$400,000

Currently Funded SHP or S+C Projects

Projects currently receiving SHP-PH or S+C funds are encouraged to apply for Reallocated Project funding to expand their current project. Please note that any expansion of a current project would need to propose to add new activities or expand existing activities. HAND is considering prioritizing high-performing renewal projects for this new project funding.

Eligibility Information

In addition to the criteria identified above, the following table details eligible applicants and activities for Supportive Housing Program Permanent Housing (SHP-PH) and Shelter + Care (S+C):

Element	Supportive Housing Program Permanent Housing (SHP-PH)	Shelter + Care (S+C)
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States • Units of general local government • Special purpose units of government (eg, PHA) • Private nonprofit organizations • Community Mental Health Centers that are public nonprofit organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States • Units of general local government • PHAs
Eligible Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition • Rehabilitation • New construction • Leasing • Operating Costs • Supportive Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental Assistance
Eligible Populations Served by Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronically homeless individuals • Chronically homeless families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chronically homeless • Chronically homeless families

Target Populations

HUD allows all populations to be served through the Permanent Housing Bonus project. However, HAND is more narrowly defining the target populations for this project. For this project, eligible target populations include:

- Chronically homeless individuals AND/OR
- Chronically homeless families

HUD currently defines a chronically homeless person as: “an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more OR who has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years”. HUD defines the term “homeless” as “a person sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g. living on the streets, for example) OR living in a homeless emergency shelter.”

HUD’s definition for chronically homeless at this time *does not* include families – only unaccompanied individuals. For the purposes of serving people in the Permanent Housing Bonus project, “chronically

homeless families” refers to families in which the head of household meets the criteria for being chronically homeless (ie, long periods of homelessness and a disability).

Project Scoring and Selection

HAND’s project review committee will review and score the applications based on the components below. HAND’s Board of Directors will make the final decision on which new project(s) will be submitted to HUD. HAND reserves the right to submit more than one project depending on the quality and number of proposals submitted.

Both Permanent Housing Bonus projects and Reallocated Projects will be scored based upon the following components. There are a total of 100 points possible. Details on these components are found in the “New Project Application” packet.

Scoring Component	Points Possible
Overall Quality of Project Design	15
Capacity/Experience of Project Sponsor, Staff, Key Personnel	15
Past Organizational or Project Outcomes	15
Project Budget	20
Project Leveraging	20
Consumer Satisfaction Narrative	3
Required Attachment(s)	2
Housing Emphasis (new for 2010)	10
<i>Total Points Possible</i>	<i>100</i>

Project Scoring Threshold

All new projects must score at least 70 points in order to be considered for funding.

Project Leveraging Scoring Details

Projects will be scored based on written project leveraging commitments in comparison to amount of HUD funding requested.

Leveraging as percentage of HUD funding requested	Points
200%	20
101 – 199%	15
100%	10
76 – 99%	5
75% or less	0

Example: A project is requesting \$200,000 in HUD funding. This project would earn the following points depending on how much they report leveraging:

If leverage was...	Points would be...
\$400,000	20
\$202,000 - \$398,000	15
\$200,000	10
\$152,000 - \$198,000	5
\$150,000 or less	0

Housing to Services Scoring Details

New projects will be scored based upon the ratio of dollars in their budget that are for housing-based activities to those that are supportive services. “Housing” activities includes the budget items of acquisition, new construction, rehabilitation, leasing assistance, and operations. “Service” activities include the budget item of supportive services. Administrative dollars are excluded from these calculations.

- 60% or more of budget in housing activities: 10 points
- 31% to 59% of budget in housing activities: 5 points
- 30% or less of budget in housing activities: 0 points

New Project Selection

New projects will be prioritized in rank order, from highest to lowest score. Funding will be allocated to the highest-ranked new project and working down the list until all funds are allocated. The number of new project(s) funded, and the amount awarded, will depend upon the amount of funding available as a result renewal project scoring.

Funds will first be allocated from the Permanent Housing Bonus pool of funds. Any funds that are available from the Reallocated Project funds will then be allocated. HAND is considering prioritizing for the Reallocated Project high-performing renewal projects.

Funds from the pool of Reallocated dollars may not be paired with funds requested through the Permanent Housing Bonus project. An applicant may apply for both the Permanent Housing Bonus funds and the Reallocated funds; however, these need to be two separate, distinct projects.

HAND’s Board of Directors will reserve the right to make decisions on which project(s) should receive funding and/or the amount awarded based upon recommendations of the Project Review committee and/or the HAND Board of Directors.

Understanding SHP and S+C

For greater details on the Supportive Housing Program (SHP) and Shelter Plus Care (S+C), you are encouraged to visit HUD's Homeless Resource Exchange website at: www.hudhre.info. From there under Quick Links, click on "Overview of HUD Homeless and Housing Programs", and you will see "CoC Programs".

There are several different components to the Supportive Housing Program:

- Permanent Housing (PH)
- Transitional Housing (TH)
- Supportive Services Only (SSO)
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

However, new project applications are only being considered for the Permanent Housing component of SHP.

Information is also given for the Shelter Plus Care Program. Please note, however, that non-profit organizations may not apply directly for the S+C program. The only eligible applicants for S+C programs are States, local units of government, or Public Housing Authorities.

Appeals Process

An appeals process will be available for renewal projects.

- All appeals will be reviewed by a group established by HAND staff and Project Review Committee. Members of the Appeals Committee will not have any projects that receive HUD McKinney-Vento funding.
- Appeals must to be submitted in writing. Address all appeals to the Appeals Committee and submit the following details: the issue being appealed, the argument for overturning the score, and evidence to support the argument. Please ensure that your appeal is concise and included appropriate detail to process the review. Changes made to the program after application will not be considered.
- Deadlines and additional details for the appeals process will be outlined later this summer, once notice is given on the decisions of the Project Review Committee.
- All decisions made by the Appeals Committee will be final.

Electronic Submission: e-SNAPS

As in previous years, all Exhibit 2 project applications will eventually be entered into e-SNAPS. In order for your organization to prepare for submission in e-SNAPS, you are strongly encouraged to review the document provided by HUD titled “eSNAPS Project Applicants: Getting Started.” This document is available for download from the HUDHRE.info site through the following means:

- Go to <http://esnaps.hudhre.info/> (note there is no “www” in this URL)
- Click on “Project Applicant Training”
- Click on “For Returning Applicants”
- Click “Print” to download and print the PDF file (10 pages)

Within this document you will find information about how to:

- Obtain a DUNS number if your organization doesn’t already have one
- Ensure your organization’s registration with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) is up to date
- Change in e-SNAPS Authorized Representative

It is important that you take the time to review the items in this document now, as there are some items (such as changing the Authorized Representative in e-SNAPS) that take time to complete if changes are needed.

HUD will distribute key information related to the Continuum of Care application process via the HUD Homeless Assistance LISTSERV. You are strongly encouraged to sign up for the LISTSERV at www.hudhre.info.

Material Delivery

All applications and material should be delivered to HAND to the Housing Resource Center (HRC) located at:

1600 Porter
Detroit, MI 48216

Applications may also be mailed to:
P.O. Box 3238
Highland Park, MI 48203

NOTE: If applications are mailed, applicants are responsible for ensuring the application arrives by the deadline (not just postmarked).

Emailed or faxed application packets will not be accepted.

Application deadlines are given in the application packets.

HEARTH Act & Future Implications

In May 2009, President Obama signed into law the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act. The HEARTH Act is the first significant re-authorization of the McKinney-Vento Act in over 20 years. The HEARTH Act has not yet been fully implemented; HUD expects that the changes coming with the implementation of HEARTH will not be seen until the 2011 funding competition.

In order to prepare for the full implementation of HEARTH, there are several items that providers should be aware of:

- There will be an increased focus on project performance
- Communities that are able to demonstrate their ability to reduce homelessness and quickly re-housing people will be eligible for additional funds
- The process by which agencies apply for funding through HAND may look different in the coming years

Details on all of these items, and what it means for providers, will be expanded upon in the coming months. In the meantime, agencies are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the HEARTH Act. There is a great deal of information available on the following websites:

- HUD's Homeless Resource Exchange: www.hudhre.info
- National Alliance to End Homelessness: www.endhomelessness.org

Contact Information

If you have questions or need further information please contact Amanda Sternberg at asternberg@swsol.org or (313) 963-6601 ext. 4115 or Tasha Gray at tgray@swsol.org or (313) 963-6601 x4152.