acAhment A. Terms and Definitions

RFP Attachment C: Terms and Definitions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Acronym/ Terms** | **Definition** |
|  |  |
| BIPOC | Black, Indigenous, People of Color |
| CCP | Coordinated Community Plan to prevent and end youth homelessness |
| CES | The Coordinated Entry System is a powerful piece of a community’s housing crisis response system as it ensures that people at risk of or experiencing homelessness can readily access and navigate housing assistance– no matter where in the community they first seek help. It is designed so that households are prioritized for and matched with the appropriate intervention as quickly as possible based on their vulnerability and severity of needs. Overall, CE aims to standardize the access, assessment, prioritization, and referral process across all agency providers in a community in order  to quickly and successfully provide assistance. |
| Chronic Homelessness | an unaccompanied person experiencing homelessness with a disabling condition who  has been homeless for a year or more OR has had at least 4 episodes of homelessness in the past three years. |
| CoC | A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals. |
| CoC Lead Agency | Agency that is designated to carry out the activities of the CoC or grant including fiscal and compliance activities. The Lead Agency is tasked by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) with developing a systemic response to homelessness, and to increase capacity and improve rapid re-housing (RRH) practices  and performance. |
| Couch surfing/Doubled Up | Having one or more adults in addition to the head of household and spouse or partner, such as an adult child living at home, two related or unrelated families residing together, or a parent living with an adult child. |
| Coordinated Access | A process through which individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness are provided access to housing and support services. |
| DFPS | The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) works with communities to promote safe and healthy families and protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. |
| Diversion Program | Is “an intervention designed to immediately address the needs of someone who has just lost their housing and become homeless. Diversion is a client-driven approach; its goal is to help the person or household find safe alternative housing immediately, rather than entering shelter or experiencing unsheltered homelessness. It is intended to ensure that the homelessness experience is as brief as possible, to prevent  unsheltered homelessness, and to avert stays in shelter. |
| ES | Emergency shelter means any facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide a temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless and which does not require occupants to sign leases or occupancy  agreements. |
| ESG | Emergency Solutions Grant is a grant program which provides individuals experiencing homelessness with basic shelter and essential supportive services. Eligible activities include funding for essential services, operations, and homeless prevention activities  to emergency shelters, transitional housing, and day/night shelters. |
| HIC | Housing Inventory Count is a Point In Time inventory of provider programs within the CoC that provide beds and units dedicated  to serve persons experiencing homelessness |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| HMIS | Homeless Management Information System, an information technology system used  to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and people at risk of homelessness. |
| Host Home | A private home associated with a host home program that volunteers to host youth in need of temporary housing. Host homes offer youth a safe alternative to shelters on either a short- or long-term basis and are paired with supportive services provided by  a service agency. |
| Housing First | A homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness, and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues. Additionally, Housing First is based on the theory that client choice is valuable in housing selection and supportive service participation, and that exercising that choice is likely to make a person more  successful in remaining housed and improving their life. |
| HUD | [United States Department of] Housing and Urban Development. |
| HUD Homelessness, Category 1, Literal Homelessness | Individuals and families who live in a place not meant for human habitation (including the streets or in their car), emergency shelter, transitional housing, and hotels paid for by a government or charitable organization. |
| HUD Homelessness, Category 2, Imminent Risk of Homelessness | Individuals or families who will lose their primary nighttime residence within 14 days and have no other resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing. |
| HUD Homelessness, Category 3, Homeless Under Other Statutes | Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not meet any of the other categories but are homeless under other federal statutes, have not had a lease and have moved two or more times in the past 60 days  and can be expected to remain unstable due to special needs or barriers. |
| HUD Homelessness, Category 4, Fleeing Domestic Violence | Individuals or families who are fleeing or attempting to flee their housing or the place they are staying because of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions related to violence that has taken place in the house or has made them afraid to return to the house, including trading sex for housing, trafficking, physical abuse, violence (or perceived threat of violence) because of the youth’s sexual orientation, and who lack resources or support  networks to maintain or obtain permanent housing. |
| LGBTQIA+ | Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual |
| Sexual Orientation | A person’s sexual identity stated in relation to the gender to which they are attracted; the fact of being heterosexual, homosexual, or bisexual. |
| Transgender | The term transgender refers to people whose gender identity (the sense of gender that every person knows inside) or gender expression is different from their sex at  birth. |
| Lived Expertise | A core value of this plan is Youth Voice. We believe that people with lived experience in homelessness provide invaluable expertise and that this input should be prioritized. |
| Motivational Interviewing | A clinical approach that helps people with mental health and substance use disorders and other chronic conditions make positive behavioral changes to support better  health. |
| NOFA | Notice of Funding Availability |
| NOFO | Notice of Funding Opportunity |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PIT | Point-in-Time Count is a nationwide count of sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness on a single date  in January |
| Pregnant or Parenting Youth | Individuals who are age 24 years or younger who are pregnant or who are the parents or legal guardians of one or more children who are present with or sleeping in the same place as that youth parent, and where there is no person over age 24 years in  the household. |
| PSH | Permanent Supportive Housing, long-term housing with supportive services for homeless individuals with disabilities. |
| PYD | Positive Youth Development, an intentional, prosocial approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances young people’s strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to  build on their leadership strengths. |
| RFP | Request for Proposals |
| RHYA | Runaway and Homeless Youth Act are grants that provide foundational support to address youth and young adult homelessness |
| RRH | Rapid Re-housing, A program model that assists individuals or families who are experiencing homelessness to move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and to achieve stability in that housing through a combination of rental assistance, housing search and supportive services. |
| Shared Housing | Long-term living arrangement between two unrelated people who choose to live together as a way of sharing costs and building a community of support. |
| TA | Technical Assistance |
| TH-RRH | Joint Transitional Housing to Rapid Rehousing. A Joint TH and PH-RRH Component project is a project type that includes two existing program components–TH and PH-  RRH–in a single project to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness. |
| Transition-age Youth | Individuals between age 18 and 24 years. |
| Transitional Housing | Transitional housing (TH) is designed to provide homeless individuals and families with the interim stability and support to successfully move to and maintain permanent housing. Transitional housing may be used to cover the costs of up to 24 months of housing with accompanying supportive services. Program participants must have a lease (or sublease) or occupancy agreement in place when residing in transitional  housing. |
| Trauma-Informed Care | An approach that recognizes the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery; recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and others; responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into  policies, procedures, and practices; and seeks to actively resist re-traumatization. |
| Unaccompanied Youth | Persons who are age 24 years or younger, who are not part of a family with children and who are not accompanied by their parent or guardian during their episode of homelessness. This also includes two or more youth aged 24 years or younger who are  presenting together as a family without children. |
| USICH | United States Interagency Council on Homelessness is an independent federal agency within the US executive branch that leads the implementation of the  federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness |
| YAB | Youth Action Board, a group of youth included in CoC decisions, particularly on policies that relate to preventing and ending youth homelessness. Each YAB member is age 24 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | years or younger and at least two-thirds of the YAB members are homeless or formerly homeless. |
| YHDP | Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program, a HUD initiative to help communities drastically reduce youth homelessness through innovative strategies. |
| Youth | A person who is under the age of 25 years. |
| YYA | Youth and Young Adults |

**HUD Homelessness Categories:**

**Category 1,** Literal Homelessness: Individuals and families who live in a place not meant for human habitation (including the streets or in their car), emergency shelter, transitional housing, and hotels paid for by a government or charitable organization.

**Category 2,** Imminent Risk of Homelessness: Individuals or families who will lose their primary nighttime residence within 14 days and have no other resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

**Category 3,** Homeless Under Other Statutes: Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not meet any of the other categories but are homeless under other federal statutes, have not had a lease, and have moved two or more times in the past 60 days and can be expected to remain unstable due to special needs or barriers.

**Category 4,** Fleeing Domestic Violence: Individuals or families who are fleeing or attempting to flee their housing or the place they are staying because of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions related to violence that has taken place in the house or has made them afraid to return to the house, including trading sex for housing, trafficking, physical abuse, violence (or perceived threat of violence) because of the youth’s sexual orientation, and who lack resources or support networks to maintain or obtain permanent housing.