

## Grant Application Staff Report

**Date:** June 30, 2026

**To:** Douglas County Board of County Commissioners

**Through:** Douglas J. DeBord, County Manager

**From:** Jennifer L. Eby, AICP, Director of Community Services

**CC:** Melody D’Haillecourt, Community Programs Coordinator  
Tiffany Marsitto, Community Services Supervisor  
Rand M. Clark, CCAP, NCRT, Assistant Director of Community Services

**Subject:** **Grant application for FY2026 Continuum of Care funds in the amount of \$573,750 with a required County contribution of \$191,250 for a project total of \$765,000.**

---

**Board of County Commissioners’ Business Meeting**

**July 14, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m.**

---

### **I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

On June 1, 2026, The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the FY2026 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition and Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). Staff requests authorization by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to apply for this funding opportunity, as required by HUD, through the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) for \$573,750 with a required County contribution of \$191,250 for a project total of \$765,000. This application supports the efforts of the Douglas County Homeless Initiative (DCHI) through the Homeless Engagement, Assistance and Resource Team (HEART).

### **II. REQUEST**

Staff requests the BCC authorize application to the FY2026 CoC NOFO in the amount of \$573,750 with a required County contribution of \$191,250 for a project total of \$765,000.

### **III. BACKGROUND**

The annual CoC grant is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to end homelessness. The FY2026 CoC NOFO directs all federal discretionary funding to focus on ending the crisis of homelessness, prioritizing treatment and recovery, advancing public safety, promoting self-sufficiency through employment opportunities, improving outcomes, and minimizing trauma. The NOFO priorities include improving outcomes by creating competition to improve innovation and accountability, prioritizing treatment and recovery, promoting economic self-sufficiency, and advancing public safety.

The NOFO removes the requirements of “housing first” policies and shifts the focus towards Transitional Housing and supportive services including street outreach, mental health, and substance use disorder services. Project applicants must certify that they will not engage in racial preferences or other forms of illegal discrimination, will not operate “safe consumption sites”, will not participate in any activities under the pretext of “harm reduction”, have experience providing outreach services, have a history of partnering with law enforcement and first responders, and will not interfere with enforcement of public camping and drug use laws.

**IV. DISCUSSION**

HUD released the FY2026 NOFO on June 1, 2026. The period of performance is January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027. MDHI is the HUD appointed collaborative applicant for the Metro Denver area CoC. Approximately \$37,000,000 in total funding will be made available to the Metro Denver CoC through MDHI. Applications are due on July 15, 2026.

Staff recommends requesting funding for Supportive Services Street Outreach (SSO). Funding will support one year of salary and benefits for five HEART Navigators, one supervisor, and operating expenses to strategically assist people who are unhoused and have mental and behavioral health needs in Douglas County.

SSO funding will allow staff to provide targeted assistance to unhoused individuals who are actively participating in services and demonstrating readiness for housing-focused interventions including comprehensive mental and behavioral health. This funding opportunity replaces existing grant funds that are scheduled to expire at the end of 2026.

The NOFO requires a 25% local contribution for all projects. The budget for the project will be as follows:

FY2026 COC NOFO Budget	
<b>Grant Request</b>	
Supportive Services Street Outreach: HEART Salaries and Benefits	\$528,300
Ongoing Operating Costs	\$ 45,450
<b>Required Match</b>	
County Contribution	\$ 191,250
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 765,000</b>

**V. RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Staff recommend the BCC authorize application to the FY2026 CoC NOFO in the amount \$573,750 with a required county contribution of \$191,250 for a project total of \$765,000.

**ATTACHMENTS.....PAGE**  
 FY2026 CoC Application.....3



**Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI)  
FY 2026 CoC Program NOFO  
Request for Proposals (RFP)  
Issued June 16, 2026**

# Table of Contents

## Table of Contents

Section I. Introduction .....	3
FY2026 HUD Goals and Objectives .....	3
Funding and Project Types .....	3
Section II. Submission Instructions and Deadline .....	4
Selection Timeline.....	4
Section III. Threshold Requirements & Eligible Applicants .....	5
Section IV. Contact Information and FY26 CoC Program NOFO Proposal .....	6
I. Organization and Contact Information .....	6
II. Organization & Proposal Information .....	7
Section V. Project Component Details .....	8
Project Type: Permanent Supportive Housing.....	8
Project Type: Rapid Re-housing (PH-RRH) .....	9
Project Type: Transitional Housing (TH) .....	10
Project Type: Supportive Services Only (SSO) .....	10
Application Type: Transition Grants Only.....	11
Application Type: Expansion Projects Only .....	12
Section VI. Certification and Submission .....	13
Section VII. New Project Application Questions .....	14
All Project Types.....	14
Transitional Housing (TH) .....	16
Supportive Services Only (SSO) Standalone.....	19
Supportive Services Only (SSO) Street Outreach.....	20
Permanent Housing: Permanent Supportive Housing (PH-PSH) .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Permanent Housing: Rapid Rehousing (PH-RRH) .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
Section VIII. Summary Budget.....	24

# Section I. Introduction

The Continuum of Care (CoC) for the seven-county Metro Denver region, with the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) serving as the Collaborative Applicant, is accepting proposals for the FY 2026 Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). On February 3, 2026, the President signed H.R. 7148 authorizing the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (Public Law 119-75) which makes approximately \$4,010,000,000 in CoC Program funding available for FY 2026, authorizing homeless services organizations to apply for competitive funding to provide supportive services and housing programs for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

## FY2026 HUD Goals and Objectives

1. Improving Outcomes
2. Creating Competition to Improve Innovation and Accountability
3. Restoring Balance to the Continuum of Care
4. Prioritizing Treatment and Recovery
5. Promoting Economic Self-Sufficiency
6. Advancing Public Safety for All
7. Minimizing Trauma for Vulnerable Populations
8. Expanding Access based on Merit, and not Ideology

## Funding and Project Types

Metro Denver is eligible to apply for approximately \$37 million in the upcoming Continuum of Care (CoC) Program competition. This allocation covers the following eligible activities: transitional housing (TH), permanent housing (PSH and RRH), street outreach, data and HMIS infrastructure, coordinated entry, CoC planning, and standalone supportive services only. Applicants should note a significant change in this year's funding emphasis: there is a new focused emphasis on funding for supportive services only, street outreach and transitional housing projects.

# Section II. Submission Instructions and Deadline

The following components must be included in each proposal and submitted via email to [nofa@mdhi.org](mailto:nofa@mdhi.org) with the subject "Organization Name FY26 CoC Program NOFO Proposal" no later than 5:00pm on July 15, 2026.

## Selection Timeline

HUD FY26 CoC Program NOFO Released	June 1, 2026
MDHI Local RFP Released	June 17, 2026
RFP Submissions Due	July 15, 2026
Follow up questions/Budget and program adjustments (if applicable)	MDHI may request additional information from grantees as needed to make a funding decision. MDHI may ask applicants to make program or budget adjustments prior to a final funding decision.
Notification to Applicants of Final Funding Recommendation	August 11, 2026
All approved applications completed in eSnaps	August 20, 2026
Final Submission to HUD via eSnaps (MDHI and Selected Agencies)	August 24, 2026
HUD Submission Deadline	August 26, 2026
HUD Conditional Awards Announcement	December 1, 2026

## Resources

[HUD CoC Program Website](#)

[MDHI website](#)

To submit technical questions email [cocnofo@hud.gov](mailto:cocnofo@hud.gov)

For questions regarding the local competition, email MDHI at [nofa@mdhi.org](mailto:nofa@mdhi.org)

# Section III. Threshold Requirements & Eligible Applicants

Review the Threshold requirements below and answer yes or no if your organization meets them. If you answer no to any of the questions, your project is not eligible to apply for funding based on HUD's threshold requirements.

Threshold Requirements (Mark X under Yes/No)			
#	Threshold Requirement	Yes	No
1	<b>Active SAM.gov Registration:</b> Entity status is active with no exclusions.	X	
2	<b>Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):</b> Valid 12-character alphanumeric code.	X	
3	<b>100% Coordinated Entry Agreement:</b> Applicant agrees that 100% of project vacancies will be filled exclusively via referrals from the regional Coordinated Entry System (Onehome).	X	
4	<b>HMIS/Comparable Database:</b> Applicant agrees to HMIS or HMIS Comparable Database Participation.	X	
5	<p><b>Match:</b> 4 CFR 578.73 of the Rule requires that recipients must match all grant funds, except for leasing funds, with no less than 25 percent of funds or in-kind contributions from other sources. 24 CFR 578.73.</p> <p>Project applicants that intend to use program income as a match must provide an estimate of how much program income will be used for the match.</p> <p>HUD will not require YHDP Renewal or replacement projects to meet the 25 percent match requirement if the applicant is able to demonstrate it has taken reasonable steps to maximize resources available for youth experiencing homelessness.</p>	X	
6	<b>Racial Discrimination:</b> The project applicant will NOT engage in illegal racial discrimination. This is consistent with the requirements of 2 CFR 200.300(a).	X	
7	<b>Safe Consumption Sites:</b> The project applicant will NOT operate drug injection sites or "safe consumption sites" in violation of 21 U.S.C. 856(a)(1), knowingly permit the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control in violation of 21 U.S.C. 856(a)(2), or knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia in violation of 21 U.S.C. 863.	X	

## Organization Types Allowed to Apply

Organizations are invited to apply if they are an eligible entity type and meet all funding conditions included in the NOFO. HUD will review all applications based on the criteria detailed in Section V of the NOFO. To be eligible for funding, an applicant must be one of the following entity types:

- Governmental Entities: State, County, City/Township, and Special District Governments.
- Tribal Entities: Native American Tribal Governments (Federally recognized) and Tribal Organizations.
- Housing Authorities: Public Housing Authorities/Indian Housing Authorities.
- Nonprofits: Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS (other than institutions of higher education).
- Other: Entities specified in the NOFO's "Additional Information on Eligibility."

## Key Eligibility Notes

- Faith-based organizations may apply on the same basis as any other eligible organization.
- Individuals are ineligible applicants.
- All project applicants must meet all statutory and regulatory requirements in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11381–11389) and the CoC Program Rule (24 CFR part 578).

# Section IV. Contact Information and FY26 CoC Program NOFO Proposal

**Submission Instructions:** Please complete the following form and send as a PDF named as follows: "FY26 CoC Program NOFO Proposal. Organization Name. Project Name" to [nofa@mdhi.org](mailto:nofa@mdhi.org)

*If you are applying for funding for multiple project types, please submit a separate proposal for each project.*

## I. Organization and Contact Information

### A. Organization Information

Field	Response
Agency/Organization Name	Douglas County, CO
Employer Identification Number (EIN)	84-6000761
Unique Entity ID (UEI)	LXESXEA44AH6
Administrative Address	100 Third Street
City, State, Zip	Castle Rock, CO 80104
Phone	303-660-7460
Fax	
Website	<a href="http://www.douglasco.gov">www.douglasco.gov</a>
Department Name	Department of Community Services, Rand Clark
Assistant Director	303-660-7460x4116
Assistant Director Email	<a href="mailto:rclark1@douglasco.gov">rclark1@douglasco.gov</a>

### B. Contact Information

Please list below the names and contact information for those staff who should receive correspondence regarding this proposal in addition to the Executive Director.

Contact Role	Name	Title	Phone	Email
Primary Contact	Steven Dodrill	Community Programs Administrator	303-814-4317	<a href="mailto:sdodrill@douglasco.gov">sdodrill@douglasco.gov</a>
Secondary	Melody	Community	303-814-4380	<a href="mailto:mdhaillecourt@douglas">mdhaillecourt@douglas</a>

Contact	D'Haillecourt	Programs Coordinator		co.gov
---------	---------------	----------------------	--	--------

## II. Organization & Proposal Information

Field	Response
Project Name	Douglas County
Site Address (if different than administrative address)	
Proposal Request (Total Funding Amount)	\$573,750
Total Project Budget	\$765,000
Total Agency Budget	\$191,250

### 1. Is your organization a victim service provider defined in 24 CFR 578.3?

(Victim service provider means a private nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to provide services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. This term includes rape crisis centers, battered women's shelters, domestic violence transitional housing programs, and other programs.)

Yes  No

### 2. Has the subrecipient ever received a federal grant, either directly from a federal agency or through a State/local agency?

Yes  No

### Project Component Type (Select One)

Permanent Supportive Housing

Rapid Rehousing

Transitional Housing

Supportive Services Only

### Application Type

New project application

Transition Grant

Expansion Grant (Skip to "Section V. Project Component Details - Application Type: Expansion Projects Only")

### Target Populations (Select All That Apply)

People experiencing chronic homelessness  Seniors  Veterans  Families with children

Youth (18-24)  Persons living with disabilities  Persons living with mental illness

Persons living with substance use disorder  Fleeing domestic violence  Persons living with HIV/AIDS

N/A – Project serves all subpopulations  Other \_\_\_\_\_

# Section V. Project Component Details

Instructions: Please complete only the subsection corresponding to the Project Component Type you selected in Section IV (e.g., if you selected "Rapid Rehousing," complete only the "Project Type: Rapid Re-housing" subsection). For all housing projects (PSH, RRH, TH), you must provide the total unit/bed counts and break down the expected households by characteristic.

## Project Type: Permanent Supportive Housing

<b>Total Number of Units</b>	<b>Total Number of Beds</b>

Housing Type:

- Clustered apartments     
  Scattered-site apartments     
  Single family homes/townhouses

<b>Household Characteristics</b>	<b>Households with at Least 1 Adult &amp; 1 Child (#)</b>	<b>Adult Households without Children (#)</b>	<b>Total (#)</b>
<b>Persons Over 24</b>			
<b>Persons age 18-24</b>			
<b>Accompanied Children under age of 18</b>			
<b>Total</b>			

## Project Type: Rapid Re-housing (PH-RRH)

Total Number of Units	Total Number of Beds

Housing Type:

Clustered apartments     
  Scattered-site apartments     
  Single family homes/townhouses

Household Characteristics	Households with at Least 1 Adult & 1 Child (#)	Adult Households without Children (#)	Total (#)
Persons Over 24			
Persons age 18-24			
Accompanied Children under age of 18			
<b>Total</b>			

## Project Type: Transitional Housing (TH)

Total Number of Units	Total Number of Beds

Housing Type:

Dormitory  
  Single Room Occupancy  
  Clustered apartments  
  Scattered-site apartments  
  Single family homes/townhouses

Household Characteristics	Households with at Least 1 Adult & 1 Child (#)	Adult Households without Children (#)	Total (#)
Persons Over 24			
Persons age 18-24			
Accompanied Children under age of 18			
<b>Total</b>			

What is the funding source for these units and beds?

CoC  
  ESG  
  Section 8  
  HUD VASH  
  Mixed Funding  
  Other

If Mixed Funding or Other provide details:

## Project Type: Supportive Services Only (SSO)

Services Type:

Supportive Services Only – Standalone  
 Supportive Services Only – Street Outreach

## Application Type: Transition Grants Only

This section should be completed if your organization is submitting a new project application to transition an existing CoC renewal project to a new project component. After completing this section, applicants must also complete **Section VII: All Project Types**, and the applicable **New Project Application** questions for the proposed project type. Lastly, you must also complete the **Summary Budget** in **Section VIII**.

Field	Response
Renewal Project Name (as listed on GIW)	
Renewal Grant Number (as listed on GIW)	

Renewal Project Program Type (Component you are transitioning from):

PSH     RRH     SSO

New Project Program Type (Component you are transitioning to):

TH     SSO – Standalone     SSO – Street Outreach

Please describe in detail how you plan to transition the project from the prior program type to the new program type within one year.

## Application Type: Expansion Projects Only

This section should only be completed if your organization is submitting a new project application to expand an existing CoC renewal project that is also being submitted for renewal funding. **NOTE: Expansion Projects only need to complete Sections III, IV, V and VI.**

Field	Response
Renewal Project Name (as listed on GIW)	
Renewal Grant Number (as listed on GIW)	

### Reason for Requested Increase (Check all that apply):

- Increase the number of homeless persons served.
- Increase the number of units.
- Increase the number of beds.
- Increase the number of or expand supportive services provided.
- Increase the frequency or intensity of supportive services Coordinated entry/access.
- Expansion Project will bring the existing facility up to state or local government health or safety standards.

### Indicate how the project is proposing to "increase the number of homeless persons served."

Current Level of Effort	New Effort (Additional Capacity)
Number of persons served at a point-in-time:	Number of additional persons served at a point in time that this project will provide:
Number of Units:	Number of additional units this project will provide:
Number of Bed:	Number of additional beds this project will provide:

Please describe in detail why you are requesting an increase in funding and how you intend to utilize the funds if awarded.

# Section VI. Certification and Submission

By signing below, the Assistant Director certifies that all information contained within this proposal is true, complete, and accurate, and that the organization commits to complying with all CoC Program requirements, including the execution of required agreements, submission of data to the CoC's HMIS, and participation in the Coordinated Entry system.

Project applicants must certify affirmatively to the following:

- The project applicant will not engage in racial preferences or other forms of illegal discrimination.
- The project applicant will not operate drug injection sites or “safe consumption sites,” knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia on or off of property under their control, permit the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control, or conduct any of these activities under the pretext of “harm reduction.”

Signature of Assistant Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_Rand Clark\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your commitment to ending homelessness in the Metro Denver Continuum of Care. Proposals must be submitted electronically as a single PDF document to [nofa@mdhi.org](mailto:nofa@mdhi.org) no later than 5pm on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

# Section VII. New Project Application Questions

Possible Points across all questions (All Project Types + Specific Project Questions): 100

## All Project Types

Answer the “All Project Types” questions regardless of the type of project you’re applying for. (Possible Total Point – 30)

**Fiscal Controls & Drawdown Capacity (Possible Points – 5):** Provide a brief narrative demonstrating your agency’s capacity to fully utilize grant funds within a strict 12-month operating cycle. What internal fiscal controls, regular billing workflows, and oversight structures are in place to ensure your project maintains a 100% drawdown rate and avoids unspent federal funds? Response (Max 200 words):

Douglas County employs robust oversight and internal control mechanisms to ensure the proper management of grant funds and prevent waste, fraud, or abuse. The County has multiple levels of control to review program eligibility of recipients and the eligibility of expenses before authorizing payments. This includes the designation of spending authority based on role and division of responsibility, which helps to ensure against the misuse of funds. Additionally, the County conducts an annual Single Audit with an outside entity. These practices reflect the County's commitment to maintaining high standards of accountability and transparency in managing grant funds.

Douglas County holds itself accountable through a comprehensive system of self-monitoring and compliance checks. The County has established policies, practices, and procedures to avoid prohibited or unallowable activities. When non-compliance or ineffectiveness is identified, or when complaints are brought forth by participants, staff, or others, the County takes prompt and appropriate action to address the issues. The County has a Title VI administrator who is responsible for responding to any complaints regarding civil rights concerns. This role ensures that all complaints are handled in accordance with federal and state regulations, and that corrective actions are implemented as necessary.

**Federal Grant Management (Possible Points – 10):** Describe your agency's capacity and readiness to successfully administer a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care grant.

Your response should address the following:

- Experience managing federal, state, local, or private grants of similar size and complexity.
- Financial management systems and internal controls used to ensure compliance with federal requirements, including budgeting, invoicing, documentation, and record retention.
- Staffing structure responsible for program management, fiscal oversight, contract compliance, HMIS participation, and reporting.
- Procedures for monitoring project performance, ensuring compliance with HUD regulations, and addressing findings or corrective actions if identified.
- Organizational capacity to meet grant start-up requirements, expend funds timely, and maintain uninterrupted project operations throughout the grant term.
- Training and technical assistance plans for staff who will be responsible for implementing and administering the project.

Applicants should provide specific examples demonstrating organizational readiness rather than general statements of intent. (Max. 350 words):

The County has successfully administered several federal grant awards. The Department of Community Services currently manages multiple state and federal grants including Community Services Block Grant, Federal Transportation Administration 5310 funds, Older American Act funds, Homelessness Resolution Program, Department of Justice Grant, and State Transformational Homeless Response Grant. In the past, the Department has also managed the Community Development Block Grant. Since 2016, the County has utilized and leveraged several grants to support the Douglas County Cares collaborative. This multi-partner collaborative provides supportive services to families and to residents by

providing access to housing through rental assistance. Additionally, through ERA 1 and 2, the County has worked collaboratively with partners to successfully provide over \$12 million in rent assistance and support.

The following policies will help ensure sound fiscal management: Budgets are adopted on an annual basis consistent with Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S) Title 29; Article 1. Every effort will be made to prepare the budget in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Budgets are required, and adopted, for all County governmental and proprietary funds. Vouchers \$25,000 and over require accounting review and the signatures of the Director of Finance and the County Manager. Vouchers \$100,000 and over require accounting review and the signatures of the Director of Finance, the County Manager, and the approval of a County Commissioner. Prior approval at a public business meeting is sufficient evidence of the approval of a County Commissioner. Purchase Orders and changes to purchase orders that are less than \$100,000 are approved by the County Manager. Purchase Orders and changes to purchase orders that are \$100,000 or more are approved by the Board of County Commissioners at a public business meeting. The County undergoes an annual single audit and makes the findings available to the public to hold itself accountable.

**HMIS/Comparable Database Data Quality & Completeness (Possible Points – 5):** Detail your agency's data entry workflows. How will you ensure that Universal Data Elements are entered accurately and within the CoC's mandated data-entry timeline (e.g., within 72 hours of project start/exit)? What internal auditing processes will you use to keep your project's data error rate under 5%? (Max. 200 words)

Homeless Engagement, Assistance and Resource Team (HEART) navigators gather information on those experiencing homelessness in the community through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) within 72 hours of contact. HMIS is utilized regionally by those who provided services to the unhoused to gather demographic data, document services provided, support the development of the By Name List (BNL) for all populations and coordinate with local and regional providers. All HEART members are trained in HMIS to ensure that coordinating with nonprofits and local shelters results in real-time data collection and coordinated efforts. The data recorded in HMIS will be used to report on the achievement of goals through quality data.

Reports are generated monthly by staff from the Department of Community Services and presented to the HEART leadership and the Douglas County Homeless Initiative (DCHI) for review. This data includes the total number of people on the NL on the final day of each month, the median length of stay, the total number of completed Coordinated Entry Assessments, housing outcomes achieved, the number and types of call for service, the quantity and type of service provided, and the outreach activity accomplished by the HEART. This provides leadership with a regular opportunity to give data driven feedback and achieve desired program outcomes.

**Regional Coordination & Policy Compliance (Possible Points – 5):** Confirm your agency's commitment to active participation in regional CoC planning and sub-committees. Additionally, explicitly describe your operational partnerships with local outpatient healthcare, mental health, or substance use recovery programs to provide voluntary, wraparound treatment options. (Max. 200 words):

The HEART maintains strong partnerships with law enforcement agencies across the County to provide a coordinated co-response to community calls and homelessness-related referrals. This collaborative model allows the team to reach more individuals experiencing homelessness, including those who may not otherwise seek assistance.

HEART also participates actively in regional coordination efforts with the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) and neighboring counties. Staff members attend MDHI's Monthly Regional Stakeholder Forum, Outreach Collaborative meetings, and annual conferences to align local strategies with broader regional goals.

In April 2025, Douglas County launched the Coordinated Services Matching (CSM) collaboration, a strategic initiative designed to reduce housing instability by uniting a wide range of community-based partners. The CSM builds on the County's successful joint case management efforts through initiatives such as DC Cares and Pathways. Partner

organizations include local nonprofits, Douglas County Human Services, the Health Department, the Mental Health Collaborative, A/D Works!, Housing Partnership, the VA, Douglas County School District, and a local domestic violence service provider. Together, these partners streamline access to appropriate resources and benefits, ensuring households receive timely, housing-focused support.

Through this collaborative approach, Douglas County became the first Denver Metro municipality to achieve functional zero for veterans experiencing homelessness.

**Housing Retention and Tenancy Success (Possible Points – 5):** Describe the interventions your project will use to maximize housing retention and tenancy success. Include, where applicable, Eviction prevention, Landlord mediation, Financial coaching, Behavioral health supports, Crisis intervention. (Max. 200 words):

Douglas County uses the Colorado Family Support Assessment (CFSA) 2.0 as the primary tool to measure individual and family progress toward self-sufficiency. The CFSA 2.0, validated by the Family Resource Center Association (FRCA), is a strengths-based assessment designed to evaluate functioning across multiple domains, including income, employment, housing stability, education, health, and social connections.

The CFSA 2.0 is administered by trained case managers and is grounded in the nationally recognized Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support. It provides a structured framework to track changes over time, allowing case managers to tailor services to individual needs and monitor progress consistently. The tool uses a five-point scale to assess each domain.

Douglas County also operates a Housing Stability Program (HSP) that assists households with eviction and homeless prevention, offering a critical resource for residents facing housing crises. Douglas County ensures that improvements in health, education, employment, and housing stability are tracked and supported through individualized case planning and coordinated services. Case managers may refer clients to eviction prevention programs, mental health supports, or financial coaching as appropriate. Lastly, HEART utilizes HMIS to document housing placement, income and employment gains, and benefit acquisition.

## Transitional Housing (TH)

The following narrative questions require applicants to fully justify their project's eligibility for the points available in the Transitional Housing scoring section. Only complete this section if you are applying for a TH project type. (Possible Total Points – 70) **Responses must not exceed the stated word limits.**

The next several questions are specific to the FY 26 CoC NOFO. Projects must score a specific number of points in these areas to qualify under HUD's guidelines.

### TH.1. Supportive Services Strategy (Possible Points – 10)

Demonstrate that the project will provide and/or partner with other organizations to provide eligible supportive services that are necessary to assist program participants to obtain and maintain housing (i.e., case management, behavioral healthcare, employment training, etc.) (Max. 200 words):

### TH.2. Prior Successful Project Experience (Possible Points - 5)

Illustrate any prior experience your organization has operating transitional housing or other projects that have successfully helped homeless individuals and families exit homelessness within 24 months or has a plan in place to ensure homeless individuals and families will exit homelessness within 24 months. (Max. 200 words):

### TH.3. Demonstrated Exit Outcomes (Permanent Housing & Income) (Possible Points - 5)

Illustrate if and how you have previously operated or currently operate transitional housing or another homelessness project, or any plans in place to ensure that at least 50 percent of participants exit to a positive destination within 24 months and at least 50 percent of participants exit with employment income as reflected in HMIS or another data system used by the applicant. (Max. 200 words):

#### **TH.4. Leveraging Supplemental Resources (Possible Points - 5)**

Explain how the project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, social, and employment programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP. (Max. 200 words):

#### **TH.5. Service Participation (Possible Points - 10)**

First, describe how the proposed project will:

- assess the service needs of program participants,
- and provide individualized services for program participants during their time in Transitional Housing that will result in at least 20 hours per week of engagement in services, activities or employment for all program participants, except for a program participant over age 62 or who is an individual with handicaps as defined in 24 CFR 8.3 or a with a developmental disability as defined under 24 CFR 578.3 (examples of services or activities include case management, counseling, treatment, volunteering, work therapy, education, job training, community building activities, etc.) Employment may contribute to the 20 hours per week of engagement. The project description provided here does not constitute a reporting or documentation requirement.

Second, describe how the proposed project will create service plans for each program participant that include:

- the services to be provided, when and how often services will be provided, by whom all services will be provided;
- program participant goals, strategies for achieving those goals, and target dates for achievement to focus on improved health and wellness, housing stability, and increased employment income leading to financial stability and self-sufficiency.

(Max. 350 words):

#### **TH.7. Cost Reasonableness Per Household (Possible Points - 5)**

Demonstrate the average cost per household served for the project is reasonable. (Max. 200 words):

*The next questions will assist project scorers in better understanding your programs' design and operation.*

**TH. 8. Exit to Permanent Housing & Independence For your proposed model (e.g., RRH, TH, Joint TH-RRH) (Possible Points – 15):** Further detail your programmatic strategy for moving participants into independent, permanent housing situations that do not rely on long-term federal subsidies. What does your "graduation" or step-down service model look like? (Max. 200 words):

**TH. 9. Minimizing Length of Time Homeless (Possible Points – 10):** Detail your operational plan to minimize the time between a participant's enrollment in your project and their successful placement into a residential unit. What potential

barriers to rapid placement have you identified in the 7-county region, and how will your team mitigate them? (Max. 200 words):

**TH. 10. Vulnerability & Age-Based Intake Preferences (Possible Points – 5):** Does this project intend to utilize HUD's expanded preference allowances to prioritize elderly individuals (ages 55 and older) or individuals with severe, documented disabilities? If so, describe how your program design, physical environment, and community partnerships are uniquely equipped to support the aging-in-place or specific clinical needs of this demographic. (Max. 200 words):

## Supportive Services Only (SSO) Standalone

The following narrative questions require applicants to fully justify their project's eligibility for the points available in the SSO Standalone scoring section. Only complete this section if you are applying for a SSO Standalone project. (Possible Total Points – 70) **Responses must not exceed the stated word limits.**

The next several questions are specific to the FY 26 CoC NOFO. Projects must score a specific amount of points in these areas to qualify under HUD's guidelines.

**SSO.1. Necessity for Exit & Annual Service Assessment (Possible Points – 5):** Provide narrative on how the Supportive Services project is necessary to assist people in exiting homelessness, addressing barriers to stable housing (e.g., substance use disorder, unemployment, childcare, etc.) and increasing self-sufficiency and the Recipient will conduct an annual assessment of the service needs of the program participants. (Max. 200 words):

**SSO.2. Strategy for Unsheltered and Non-Engagers (Possible Points - 10)**

Explain the proposed project's strategy for providing supportive services to eligible program participants, including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services. (Max. 200 words):

**SSO.3. Leveraging Supplemental Resources (Possible Points - 5)**

Explain how the project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, social, and employment programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP. (Max. 200 words):

**SSO.4. Cost-Effective Service Delivery (Possible Points - 5)**

Demonstrate the average cost per household served for the project is reasonable. 2 CFR 200.404. (Max. 200 words):

*The next questions will assist project scorers in better understanding your programs' design and operation.*

**SSO.5. Permanent Housing Placement Strategy (Possible Points - 15):** Describe the specific strategies your project will use to help participants obtain and maintain permanent housing. Include how staff will conduct housing navigation, landlord engagement, housing search assistance, and problem-solving conversations. Explain how you will track housing placement outcomes and evaluate success. (Max. 350 words):

**SSO.6. Income and Employment Growth (Possible Points - 15):** Describe how your project will assist participants in increasing earned income and/or obtaining employment. Include any partnerships with workforce development, public benefits, or educational organizations. (Max. 200 words):

**SSO.7. Housing Stability and Returns to Homelessness (Possible Points – 15):** Describe how your project will support participants after housing placement or service connection to promote long-term housing stability and reduce returns to homelessness. Include any follow-up services, community partnerships, and case management practices. (Max. 200 words):

## Supportive Services Only (SSO) Street Outreach

The following narrative questions require applicants to fully justify their project's eligibility for the points available in the SSO Street Outreach scoring section. Only complete this section if you are applying for a SSO Street Outreach project. (Possible Total Points – 70) **Responses must not exceed the stated word limits.**

The next several questions are specific to the FY 26 CoC NOFO. Projects must score a specific amount of points in these areas to qualify under HUD's guidelines.

### SSO-O.1. Leveraging Supplemental Resources (Possible Points - 5)

Explain how the project will be supplemented with resources from other public or private sources, that may include mainstream health, social, and employment programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, SSI, and SNAP. (Max. 200 words):

Douglas County will provide a cash contribution to meet the 25% match requirement. HEART's co-response teams use a hands-on, barrier-reducing approach to connect unsheltered individuals to mainstream benefits while conducting street outreach. Navigators complete individualized assessments, assist with applications for Medicaid, SNAP, SSI/SSDI, and VA benefits, and help participants gather documentation or obtain identification. They also connect individuals to local nonprofits and faith-based organizations for food, transportation assistance, and other essential resources that support daily stability.

Through this comprehensive approach, HEART Navigators ensure participants can access and maintain the critical benefits and support needed for long-term stability and housing success.

### SSO-O.2. Strategy for Unsheltered and Non-Engagers (Possible Points - 10)

Explain the proposed project's strategy for providing supportive services to eligible program participants including those with histories of unsheltered homelessness and those who do not traditionally engage with supportive services. (Max. 350 words):

HEART Navigators and deputies conduct regular street outreach in high-frequented areas, parks and trails, wooded areas, transit stations, and other locations where unsheltered residents reside. This persistent presence helps build trust with individuals who may have had negative experiences with systems or who are hesitant to enter traditional service environments. The team prioritizes rapport-building, motivational interviewing, and participant-driven goal setting to encourage voluntary engagement.

HEART offers immediate, on-site problem-solving and resource navigation to overcome barriers and promote connections to services that include assistance with obtaining identification, accessing medical and behavioral health services, enrolling in benefits, and connecting to shelter. HEART utilizes weekly case conferencing sessions with behavioral health providers, medical professionals, veteran service agencies, victim services organizations, shelter staff, and local nonprofits for individuals with complex needs to ensure warm handoffs and a seamless continuum of care.

Many individuals with chronic unsheltered homelessness require flexible, long-term support, and HEART maintains that ongoing follow-up, and adjusts service plans as needs change. The team also leverages community partnerships with law enforcement municipalities throughout the county, faith-based organizations, and nonprofit resources to fill gaps and provide assistance that strengthens engagement.

HEART Navigators effectively connect individuals who are disconnected from traditional systems to supportive services through compassionate, person-centered strategies that are necessary for housing stability and improved well-being.

### SSO-O.3. Partnership with First Responders (Possible Points – 5)

Demonstrate that the applicant has a history of, or a plan for, partnering with first responders and law enforcement to engage people living in places not meant for human habitation to access emergency shelter, treatment programs, reunification with family, transitional housing or independent living. The applicant must cooperate and not interfere or impede with the enforcement of local laws such as public camping and public drug use laws and assist/be willing to

assist first responders in their efforts to engage homeless individuals. (Max. 200 words):

Since 2022, Douglas County's HEART has paired civilian navigators with law enforcement to proactively assist unhoused individuals in the community. Co-response teams bring together specialized staff with expertise in mental health and homelessness that provide supportive services using the framework of the Four Cs – Compassion, Code Enforcement, Communication, and Community Services.

Team members build trust through respectful, consistent engagement while recognizing the dignity and unique circumstances of each individual. Teams assess needs, offer mental health and substance use support, food, water, and discuss goals and barriers.

HEART's co-response model balances compassion with public safety. County camping restrictions and municipal ordinances support safe and healthy public spaces. When encampments or safety issues occur, HEART provides outreach, resources and information, and assists people in moving to safer places. This coordinated response emphasizes safety for the community and individuals engaged, ensuring enforcement actions are accompanied by supportive service opportunities.

Deputies assigned to HEART work with local businesses on trespassing laws when unhoused individuals are camping or loitering on private property. These initiatives help achieve performance objectives such as connecting with unsheltered individuals, gathering reliable data, and enhancing outreach coordination to foster accountability and assist people in moving toward permanent housing.

#### **SSO-O.4. Outreach Experience and Effectiveness (Possible Points - 5)**

Explain the applicant's experience providing outreach services, or a plan for providing outreach services, consistent with the activity description at 24 CFR 578.53(e)(13) and has a plan for or has demonstrated effectiveness at helping people successfully exit from places not meant for human habitation to emergency shelter, treatment programs, transitional housing or permanent housing programs. (Max. 200 words):

The Summer 2022 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count was the first full census conducted by HEART and established a reliable baseline of homelessness in Douglas County. That count identified 96 individuals experiencing homelessness, including 33 sheltered and 63 unsheltered: 43 sleeping outdoors and 20 residing in vehicles.

Since 2022, HEART has strengthened coordinated responses with law enforcement, improved data collection, and deepened collaboration with local and regional providers to support housing stability. As a result of these targeted efforts, the 2026 PIT identified 45 individuals experiencing homelessness, representing a 53 percent decrease from 2022. Of these, 23 were sheltered and 22 unsheltered, including 18 sleeping in vehicles and four outdoors.

HEART continued to expand impact through direct engagement in 2025. The program discharged 327 individuals during 2025 with 60 obtaining permanent housing, 79 securing temporary housing, and 76 wanted emergency shelter. The remaining 112 individuals either moved out of the county while still unhoused or were closed due to loss of contact.

HEARTs approach addresses both immediate crises and long-term barriers to stability. Navigators maintain consistent communication with hospitals, mental health providers, and service agencies to coordinate care transitions, reduce duplication, and ensure services are tailored to each participant's unique needs.

#### **SSO-O.5. Cost-Effective Service Delivery (Possible Points - 5)**

Demonstrate the average cost per household served for the project is reasonable. 2 CFR 200.404. (Max. 200 words):

HEART highlights client accountability and works collaboratively with participants to set goals, track progress, and actively engage in the steps needed to achieve housing stability and self-reliance. Emergency hotel vouchers have been strategically used to support 1,448 bed nights since January 2024, providing short-term stability while clients pursue long-term housing solutions. HEART has enrolled 484 individuals into their Emergency Hotel Voucher Program which resulted in 368 households.

HEART connects participants to mental health and substance use treatment, employment services, and other critical supports, helping them take an active role in their own stabilization. In 2025, the program delivered 3,241 services to 333 enrolled individuals, at an annual cost of approximately \$2,051 per participant.

HEART Navigators build on a strong network of nonprofit and faith-based community partners who provide essential support at no additional cost to the program. Through these partnerships, Navigators routinely secure financial assistance to help participants meet basic needs, obtain temporary lodging, access transportation, complete minor vehicle repairs, and address other stabilization needs. This collaborative model ensures that federal funding is used strategically for navigator staffing and housing-focused services, while community partners offer flexible, participant-centered resources that enhance overall program impact.

*The next questions will assist project scorers in better understanding your programs' design and operation.*

**SSO-O.6. Outreach Engagement Strategy (Possible Points – 10):** Describe your approach to engaging individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Include outreach schedules, staffing models, geographic coverage, relationship-building strategies, and methods used to engage individuals who may be reluctant to accept services. (Max. 350 words):

HEART conducts outreach Monday-Sunday between the hours of 6:00a.m.-6:00p.m. to those experiencing homelessness in Douglas County. HEART partners with deputies from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) through a co-response model. They proactively engage unsheltered individuals who are living in encampments, on the streets, and in vehicles while offering critical resources and support to address immediate and long-term needs. The HEART has low-barrier access points, including proactive outreach, phone calls, text messaging, and referrals from faith-based and nonprofit agencies, hospitals, and law enforcement. HEART Navigators use motivational interviewing and trauma-informed care to connect individuals to a broad range of services, including access to public benefits, employment assistance, food, mental health services, transportation, and other basic necessities. Outreach interactions focus on consistent engagement rather than one-time contact, allowing staff to understand each individual's unique circumstances, strengths, and barriers.

All staff are trained in cultural humility and trauma-informed care as this ensures service delivery in a way that respects participants' backgrounds and avoids re-traumatization. Participants are offered incentives including hygiene kits, food boxes, or transportation services to encourage initial engagement, demonstrate responsiveness, and build trust. To ensure that participants are not lost between providers, the county uses weekly CSM meetings to discuss participants and provides housing support through OneHome's Coordinated Entry Assessments, Family Tree's GOALS Emergency Shelter Program, the Douglas County Cares Program, and the Aurora Regional Navigation Campus. When appropriate, HEART may utilize motel vouchers as a temporary intervention while securing stable housing, facilitating family reunification, or connecting individuals to other housing-focused services. Warm handoffs between outreach, case management, and housing services are standard practice. Participant feedback is regularly collected, evaluated, and adjusted to ensure that engagement strategies remain responsive and effective.

DCSO Deputies assigned to HEART provide a balanced and compassionate response by enforcing local code and trespassing laws while prioritizing engagement and support. When unhoused individuals are camping or loitering on private property, deputies work directly with local businesses to address concerns and ensure safety. Staff use "no trespassing" letters as an intervention tool, encouraging hesitant individuals to connect with services and seek safer, more appropriate accommodations.

**SSO-O.7. Pathways to Shelter and Housing (Possible Points – 10):** Describe how your project will connect unsheltered participants to emergency shelter, interim housing, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, or other permanent housing opportunities. Include partnerships and referral workflows that support successful transitions indoors. (Max. 200 words):

In April 2025, Douglas County launched the CSM collaboration, a strategic initiative designed to address housing instability by bringing together a variety of local, community-based partners. This collaboration meets weekly, leveraging

the collective expertise and resources of its members to match needed services and housing solutions to individuals and families experiencing housing instability. CSM partners include local nonprofits, Douglas County Human Services, the Health Department, the Mental Health Collaborative, A/D Works!, DCHP, the VA, Douglas County School District, and a local domestic violence services provider. This collaborative approach expedites access to the appropriate resources and benefits while ensuring that households receive timely, housing-focused support. Through this partnership, Douglas County was the first Denver Metro municipality to achieve functional zero for veterans experiencing homelessness.

CSM uses a By Name List to monitor households facing housing instability. Cases are reviewed and matched to options like emergency shelter, transitional housing via DC Cares, homeless prevention through the Housing Stability Program (HSP), Family Shelter provided in partnership with the GOALS program through Family Tree, DV Safehouse services, and other partner agency programs.

**SSO-O.8. HMIS Outreach Data Quality (Possible Points – 10):** Describe your agency's procedures for documenting outreach contacts, enrollments, referrals, and outcomes in HMIS. Include quality assurance processes used to ensure data accuracy and timeliness. (Max. 200 words):

HEART utilizes HMIS to gather information on those experiencing homelessness in the community. HMIS is used to gather demographic data, support the development of the BNL and coordinate with local and regional services. All HEART team members are trained in HMIS to ensure that coordinating with nonprofits and shelters results in real-time data collection and coordinated efforts.

HEART management works closely and regularly with team members to ensure timely, accurate, and consistent data entry into the HMIS and BNL. This is accomplished through scheduled weekly check-ins, as well as ad hoc discussions throughout the week, to discuss caseloads, focus on complex cases, and to coordinate client support within the team and between community partners.

**SSO-O.9. Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness Through Outreach (Possible Points – 10):** Describe how your project will contribute to reducing unsheltered homelessness within the service area. Include how outreach activities will be coordinated with local governments, shelters, housing providers, and other system partners to create pathways from unsheltered homelessness to housing. (Max. 200 words):

By using the innovative strategies noted throughout the above responses and emphasizing comprehensive, community-based support, HEART has helped reduce homelessness in the county by 53% by comparing the Winter 2022 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count to the 2026 Winter PIT. In the Winter 2022 PIT Count, 29 individuals were sleeping outdoors, compared to just 4 individuals during the Winter 2026 PIT Count. Winter 2026 Survey data indicated that 23 individuals were sheltered and 22 were unsheltered, including 18 sleeping in vehicles and four sleeping outdoors. This significant decrease reflects the effectiveness of HEART's proactive, compassionate outreach approach by consistently connecting people to permanent housing, shelter options, and appropriate services.

Since January 2025, HEART has served 414 individuals, representing 301 households. HEART Navigators have delivered more than 2,955 services and resources and issued 629 emergency hotel vouchers to help participants bridge the gap to safer, more stable housing solutions. Douglas County remains committed to improving the lives of individuals and families experiencing housing instability.

HEART continues to use the co-response model to engage unhoused community members and connect them with community partners and relevant resources to address housing and other needs that promote health, wellness, and stability of all Douglas County Residents.

# Section VIII. Summary Budget

Please complete the funding request for the total term of the project on the dedicated budget form below. The dollar amounts referenced in the narrative must match the final amounts in the budget form.

Eligible Costs	Annual Assistance Requested (Applicant)	Grant Term (Applicant)	Applicant CoC Program Costs Requested
1a. Acquisition			\$0
1b. Rehabilitation			\$0
1c. New Construction			\$0
2a. Leased Units	\$0	1 Year	\$0
2b. Leased Structures	\$0	1 Year	\$0
3. Rental Assistance	\$0	1 Year	\$0
4. Supportive Services	\$0	1 Year	\$528,300
5. Operating	\$0	1 Year	\$45,450
6. HMIS	\$0	1 Year	\$0
7. VAWA	\$0	1 Year	\$0
8. Rural (Only for HUD CoC Program approved rural areas)	\$0	1 Year	\$0
9. Sub-total of CoC Program Costs Requested			\$0
10. Admin (Up to 10% of Sub-total in #9)			\$0
11. HUD funded Sub-total + Admin. Requested			\$0
12. Cash Match			\$191,250
13. In-Kind Match			\$0
14. Total Match			\$0
15. Total Project Budget for this grant, including Match			\$765,000