To: LA CoC Board and LAHSA Commission

From: Ian Costello, Manager, Outcomes

Date: August 9, 2017

CC: Sarah Mahin, Director, Policy and Planning Department
    Chris Callandrillo, Director, Programs Department
    Peter Lynn, Executive Director

Re: Review and Approve Recommendations for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Priority List Ranking Strategy

Recommendation

Approve the recommendation to prioritize CoC Program Projects in the following order:

1. Continuum-Wide Activities (HMIS, Coordinated Assessment, Planning), Projects Exempt from Evaluation (renewing projects without an APR in the report period, reclassified projects, projects that have changed operator or undergone a similar, substantial programmatic change)
2. Permanent Supportive Housing Renewal Projects (by evaluation score)
3. Rapid Re-housing Renewal Projects (by evaluation score)
4. Transitional Housing Renewal Projects (by evaluation score)
5. Transitional-Age Youth (TAY) population priority for expansion, new, or DedicatedPlus projects (approximately $5 million)
6. Expansion PSH projects for families and individuals
7. New PSH projects for families and individuals
8. DedicatedPLUS projects for individuals and families

Background and Justification

Each year HUD updates its funding priorities and communicates the order in which eligible projects will be selected for funding, based upon ranking tier and project type.

HUD will continue the Tier 1/Tier 2 approach to project selection. For the LA Continuum of Care, we have implemented approaches that have put the CoC in a more competitive position for funding, which has resulted in high scoring CoC Program applications and increased federal funding year over year. Since the CoC ranking process was implemented in the 2012 application, the LA CoC total annual award has increased 35%.
Measure H has created a unique opportunity for the Continuum this year. The programs funded through the quarter-cent sales tax include rapid re-housing, housing and services for youth, and enhanced services for permanent supportive housing projects. Measure H funding provides a level of flexibility and scalability far exceeding HUD CoC Program. In this year’s application, the LA CoC is continuing to focus federal reallocation and bonus funding toward durable, long-term permanent supportive housing subsidies.

As the most recent point-in-time count demonstrates, temporary housing and rapid-re-housing subsidies need to have the agility and flexibility to meet a demand that can fluctuate drastically from year to year. In the 2017 application, CoC funding for transitional housing programs serving transition age youth will be reallocated to fund additional permanent supportive housing projects. The transitional housing projects will continue to be funded through Measure H, ensuring a continuity of service and expansion of eligible participants and activities. To ensure COC Program funds continue to provide housing and services to this vulnerable population, new permanent supportive housing project proposals for transition age youth are recommended at a higher priority in this year’s application. The prioritization of these proposals and additional proposals for new permanent supportive housing are prioritized in alignment with the CoC Program New Projects - Request for Proposals.