

SACRAMENTO CONTINUUM OF CARE

EVALUATING PROJECTS SUBMITTED BY VICTIM SERVICES PROVIDERS

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Sacramento Continuum of Care is **committed to fully including** projects submitted by Victim Service Providers (VSPs) on an equal basis in the local competition for HUD CoC NOFA funding. The CoC will provide support as necessary to ensure that VSPs have access to all of the tools, data, and assistance they need in order to compete fairly, and that VSPs are not disadvantaged in any way by their need to protect the privacy and safety of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and/or sex trafficking.

SPECIFIC METHOD FOR EVALUATING VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Sacramento Continuum of Care will use the following **specific method for evaluating projects submitted by victim service providers**:

- 1) Victim service providers will be encouraged to track client-level data throughout the year in a database that is comparable to HMIS. The data must be segregated from HMIS so that it is not inadvertently disclosed to unauthorized personnel, but the underlying tracking system should be as similar as possible to HMIS.
- 2) Victim service providers will be asked to generate an Annual Performance Report (APR) or an APR-like report using the client-level data in their comparable database. If the VSP's software is not able to automatically create such a report, then the VSP will be assisted to tabulate its records so as to manually create a report on project-level outcomes.
- 3) The VSP's APR or APR-like report will be submitted to the neutral facilitator of the local competition (e.g., HomeBase) after being carefully stripped of any client-level data or other potentially identifiable personal information.
- 4) The neutral facilitator will use the VSP's project-level data to help the independent Review and Rank Panel evaluate the performance of the VSP's on most of the same performance measures as ordinary CoC housing projects, such as placement in permanent housing, ability to maintain or increase client income and benefits, ability to spend down the full amount of the CoC grant, and compliance with all applicable regulations. In addition, the Review and Rank Panel will award **additional credit to domestic violence service providers based on the degree to which they improve safety** for the populations they serve.

IMPROVING SAFETY FOR THE POPULATIONS BEING SERVED

The Sacramento Continuum of Care will award additional credit in the local competition based on the degree to which projects focused on serving victims of

domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and/or sex trafficking are able to **improve safety for the populations they serve**. For renewal housing projects, this additional credit will be included in the project's quality of services scoring factor. For new housing projects applying for Domestic Violence Bonus Funding, the additional credit will be included in the form of an alternate scoring category that recognizes the ways in which serving the needs of domestic violence survivors can reflect the CoC's prioritization goals. Similarly, for agencies applying for Domestic Violence Bonus Funding for a new Coordinated Entry project, the additional credit will be included in the form of an alternate scoring category that asks the provider to explain how their new coordinated entry project will help the community better meet the needs of domestic violence survivors, including the need for safety during assessment and referral.

VOTING RIGHTS

The Sacramento Continuum of Care encourages victim service providers to join and participate in meetings of the Continuum of Care. **Victim service providers who join the CoC will receive the same voting rights as all other members.** The CoC will conduct outreach as needed to ensure that there is always at least one victim service provider who is a voting member of the CoC.

ANNUAL TRAINING

The Sacramento Continuum of Care provides annual training to CoC providers and to operators of Coordinated Entry projects addressing best practices in serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. All victim service providers who are members of the CoC will be invited to contribute to these trainings and offer the benefit of their personal experience in serving these vulnerable populations so that the CoC as a whole can learn from their experience.

DE-IDENTIFIED AGGREGATE DATA

The Sacramento Continuum of Care uses de-identified aggregate data from comparable databases to assess project-level performance, identify gaps in coverage for domestic violence survivors in the community, assess the specialized needs related to domestic violence and homelessness, and prepare to better meet those needs. Technical assistance is always available to victim service providers to help them:

- Collect client-level data that is responsive to the community's targets
- De-identify client-level data to protect client privacy and safety
- Aggregate de-identified data so that it becomes project-level data
- Ensure that project-level data is incorporated into system performance measures and other community-wide "dashboards" or indicators
- Engage in strategy discussions about how data from victim service providers can best be used to end homelessness among domestic violence survivors.

COORDINATED ASSESSMENT POLICIES

As detailed in the CoC's Coordinated Entry policies, the Sacramento Continuum of Care includes a full array of safety, planning, and confidentiality protocols in its Coordinated Assessment system. These protocols were developed in collaboration with the CoC's victim service providers with the goal of maximizing both access and safety.