

CT Balance of State  
(CT BOS)  
Continuum of Care  
(CoC)  
Steering Committee  
Meeting

February 20, 2026



# Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Announcements
- CoC Competition
- ACT Data Deep Dive
- Break-Outs
- BOS Governance
- CT CAN End Homelessness Updates/Advocacy
- Data Strategy Board Updates
- Partner Announcements & Other Business
- Steering Committee Meeting Schedule



# CT BOS Group Agreements for Meetings

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Developed by Consumer Leadership Involvement Project (CLIP)

- Be present and listen actively
- Choose courage over comfort
- Participate to the fullest of your ability
- Take space, make space
- Assume good intent, but also acknowledge impact
- Challenge ideas, not people
- Use "I" statements
- Recognize emotional tax, extra labor, and burden that Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders (AAPI), Latino/a/x, LGBTQ+, persons with Behavioral Health issues, DV survivors, Veterans and people with lived expertise/experience of homelessness face in some conversations
- Honor the Conflicts of Interest Policy



# Approve January Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

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[DRAFT CT BOS SC Minutes Jan 2026](#)

# Announcements



# Reminder: Post Steering Committee Debrief

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- Anyone who has questions or comments about Steering Committee business can stay on at the end of the monthly zoom meeting.
- As always, questions/comments can also be sent [CTBOSCoC@gmail.com](mailto:CTBOSCoC@gmail.com) or call a team member any time!





## Introduction to BOS 3/18: 10-11:30

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For new Steering Committee members or anyone who wants a refresher on:

- CoC Responsibilities
- Overview of the Homeless Response System
- Key Partners
- CT BOS Governance

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 871 1255 5670

Passcode: 902466

646-876-9923



# 2026 CT BOS Renewal Evaluation

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2/27/26:

- Deadline for providers to make data changes and refresh data in RED
- Final day to submit late BOS Participant Surveys (lateness penalty applies)

3/16/26 10-11:30am RED  
launch webinar



# HMIS Verification of Homelessness

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- [Homeless Verification \(Simplified & Detail\) Training 01/15/26](#) (Slides)
- [CTHMIS - Homeless Verification \(Detail/Simplified View\)](#) (Documentation)
- [CT HMIS Homeless Verification Form Overview 1/15/26](#) - Webinar (Recording)

(Also available on cthmis.com – see PSH/Street Outreach pages)

For questions or assistance create a ticket by emailing [hmis@nutmegit.com](mailto:hmis@nutmegit.com)

Note for PSH providers: Time spent in Transitional Housing does not count towards Chronic or Dedicated plus homelessness [except in limited circumstances.](#)



# CoC Competition

# 24/25 NOFO Project Applications/Priority Listing – SUBMITTED!

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- Yes, another NOFO.
  - Required by court in case HUD ordered to non-competitively renew projects.
- Submission of Project Applications was required for:
  - Renewal Projects not awarded in 2024
  - New Projects created thru Reallocation
    - BOS had 9 projects in these categories.
- Ranking Motion was passed by the SC
  - Ultimately no ranking required by HUD - no instructions issued.
- Project Applications and Priority Listing submitted on 2/6/26!



# Updates on FY26 Federal Budget



On 2/3/26, the fiscal year (FY) 2026 appropriation for Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) programs was signed into law.

- \$4.417B for HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants (HAG), including CoC program
  - More than \$300 million increase from the FY2025 Full-Year Continuing Resolution.
  - Likely be a gap between amount available and amount needed to cover renewals
- Requires HUD set Tier 1 funding in **FY2026 CoC** Competition at not less than 60% of Annual Renewal Demand
  - At a minimum 60% of the funding CoCs need to renew existing projects ending in 2027 will be protected
- Requires HUD to publish the **FY2026 NOFO** by June and make awards by December 1, 2026.



# FY26 Budget Implications for FY25 Renewals

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HUD has not conducted the FY2025 CoC Competition. FY2026 appropriations law renews CoC grants expiring in Calendar Year 2025 on a rolling basis\*:

- HUD must immediately renew all grants that expire in quarter 1 of calendar year 2026 (1/1-3/31)
- If HUD does not conclude the FY2025 CoC Competition and announce awards:
  - prior to April 1, 2026, must renew grants that expire in quarter 2 of Calendar Year 2026 (4/1 – 6/30)
  - prior to July 1, 2026, must renew grants that expire in Quarters 3 and 4 of Calendar Year 2026 (7/1 -12/31)

\*All renewals are 12-month terms



# FY 2025 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

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# Updates on FY25 CoC Competition Lawsuits

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- Two lawsuits in progress regarding rescission of 2-year NOFO and replacement with FY 2025 NOFO
- Court decision anticipated late February
- HUD has 60 days to file an appeal & intends to proceed with FY25 NOFO issued on 12/19/25 if allowed by court
- Renewal timetable (see slide #13) will change funding available and deadlines from 12/19/25 NOFO are moot.
- HUD will need to release an updated NOFO if allowed to proceed.

# Overview - Revised 2025 NOFO

(Issued 12/19/2025)

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Aggressive timeline likely due to Congressional deadlines.

Change: Permanent Housing (PH) renewals capped at 30% of Annual Renewal Demand (ARD)

- PH includes PSH, RRH and Joint TH RRH
- Revised NOFO applies PH cap to renewals only (**not new projects**)
- Steering Committee decided already: retain as many PSH units as possible
- NOFO revision doesn't change total amount CoC can retain in PH renewals.
- But it makes funds available for new PH projects (?!?)



# Revised 2025 NOFO (2)

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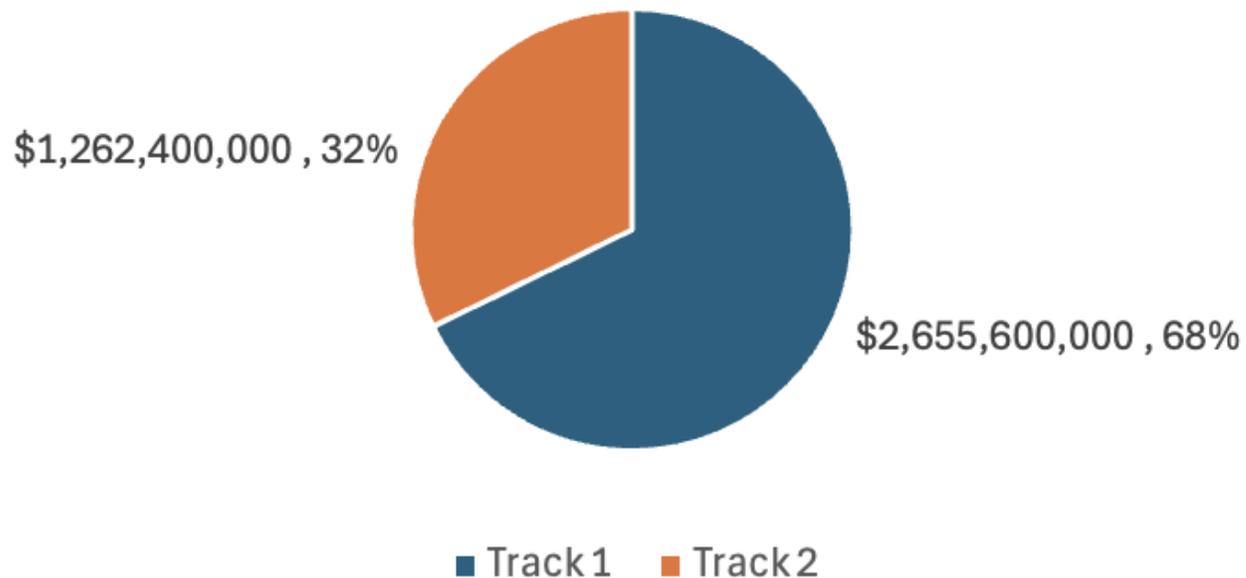
Significant change in the competition:

- ✓ Two application tracks:
  1. Track 1 (*Normal Track*)
    - \$2.66B nationally = approx. 2/3 of total
    - All project applications except new PH
  2. Track 2 (*Extended Track*)
    - \$1.26B nationally = approx. 1/3 of total
    - New PH applications only – can only serve households with a disability (no restrictions on disability type)
- ✓ Tracks ranked separately

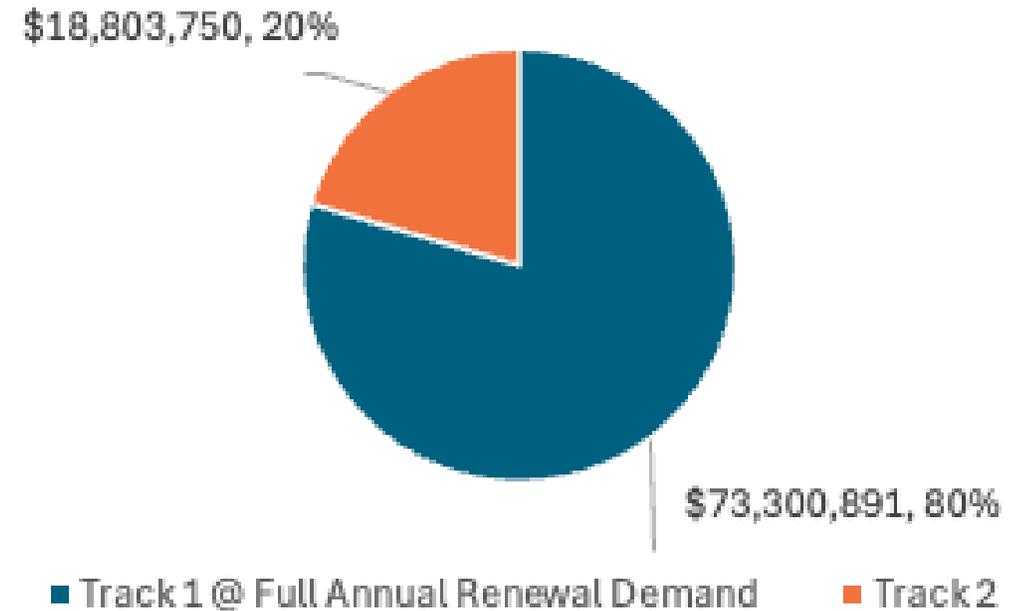


# Amount of funding available nationally vs. Amount CT BOS would be required to apply for if all renewals were either retained as their current component type or transitioned to TH:

### National Funds Available



### CT BOS Funds Available



# Discussion: Possible Guiding Principles for CoC Competition Track Decisions – Discuss Today –Vote to Follow

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**General Principle:** Align CT BOS Track 1 and Track 2 application amounts with national percentages set aside for each track

## **Track 1 Ordering**

1. Previously determined renewal PSH units retained as PSH
  - (adjusted as necessary and in accordance with CT BOS PH retention Guiding Principles to reflect any changes in the NOFO and/or CT BOS projects non-competitively renewed)
2. SSO with Services/Admin/HMIS funding for retained PSH units
  - (previously decided: services will use a model where services follow eligible CoC participants across projects – H2H model)



[DRAFT Guiding Principles for FY2025 CoC Competition Track Decisions](#)

# Possible Guiding Principles for FY2025 CoC Competition Track Decisions (2)

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## Track 1 Ordering (continued)

3. Renewal system infrastructure projects (Planning, HMIS, CAN and DV SSO Grants)
4. Renewal SSO Street Outreach
5. YHDP grants (YHDP Youth Navigators, Crisis Housing, RRH transitioning to TH)
6. RRH projects with 30% or more of units designated for families transitioned to TH (both CoC and DV) families are less likely to include a person with a disability.
7. Prioritize for remainder: PSH renewals transitioning to TH in order based on original renewal score



# Possible Guiding Principles for FY2025 CoC Competition Track Decisions (3)

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## Track 2 Ordering

1. All reallocation funding resulting from renewal projects that will not fit in Track One  
(i.e., renewal RRH with less than 30% of units designated for families, and lower scoring PSH renewals)
  2. All DV & CoC Bonus funds for new PH for people with disabilities
- ✓ DMHAS will be the applicant for new PSH project(s)
  - ✓ DOH will be the applicant for a new RRH project(s)
    - ✓ Funds to be competitively awarded to subrecipients after HUD announces awards
  - ✓ Adopting these principles means no new money is available new TH, HMIS, SSO-CE, or Street Outreach)



# Policy on Prohibiting “Drug Enablement”

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## **10 CoC Application Bonus Points for responding “yes”:**

- All **CoC housing projects** will not:
  - operate drug injection sites or “safe consumption sites,”
  - knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia on or off 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.”

**Proposal:** Adopt a motion requiring CoC funded housing projects to comply with these terms

**Discussed at January Steering Committee Meeting.**

**Survey Conducted**

**Vote needed**



# Results from Provider “Drug Enablement” Survey



- 36 responses
- Overwhelmingly, no issues reported at agency or project level
- Coming Soon: FAQ responding to provider questions

12/19/26 NOFO excerpts:

- *“Awards made under this NOFO will not be used to fund, promote, encourage, subsidize or facilitate the use of illicit drugs.”*
- *“This NOFO...prohibits **recipients** from distributing drug paraphernalia or permitting the use and distribution of fatal, illicit drugs on their properties.”*
- Project applicant must certify: *“The project applicant will not operate illegal drug injection sites or “safe consumption sites” in violation of 21 u.s.c. 856.”*



Vote today?

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# Who Can Vote?

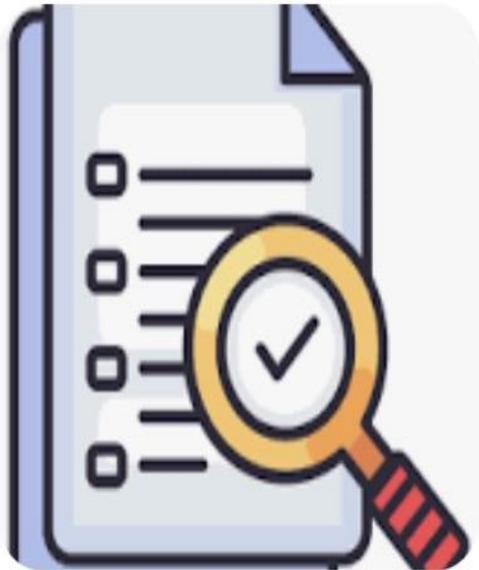
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- Community Reps: Melissa Dzierlatka, Theresa Miles, Cami Hawkins, Ernest Saunders, Aleena Durant, Tracy Samuel, Ramon Garcia, Kelvin McCullough
- CT Department of Labor: Robert Bongiolatti or Heriberto Cajigas
- CT Department of Social Services: Cassandra Norfleet-Johnson or Theresa Rivera
- CT Department of Correction: Joy Zavarella
- CT Department of Children and Families: Kim Somaroo-Rodriguez or William Seals
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: Maureen Pasko or Jen Moriarty
- Partnership for Strong Communities: Danielle Hublely or Carline Charmelus
- Public Health Representative: Maria Lorenzo

# Verifying Immigration Status for DMHAS/DOH Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

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DMHAS/DOH are required to verify immigration status for **their** PSH projects.

- Verification is required through Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) – a U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) data system.
- DMHAS/DOH staff input information into SAVE.
- SAVE confirms whether self-attested eligible immigration status matches DHS records.

# Verifying Immigration Status

## Non-profit responsibilities

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- Non-profits are not required to verify immigration status for any CoC-funded service.
- If DMHAS or DOH informs a non-profit of an ineligibility finding, the non-profit must deny or terminate PSH housing/services.
  - ✓ DMHAS/DOH/non-profit collaborate to identify any available alternative assistance.
- **For DMHAS/DOH PSH**, non-profit subrecipients and service providers gather documents for government submission into SAVE.
- Inform applicants/participants of how information will be/could be used.
- Help to assess the potential risks and benefits of providing documentation.

# Verifying Immigration Status – Next Steps

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- Updates to PSH Requirements and Operations Guide
- Declaration and Consent to Verification of Legal Status and Identity Form (PSH)
- Awaiting guidance from Field Office (PSH)
- Awaiting outcome of NY v. DOJ
  - Currently DMHAS/DOH not required to verify immigration status for CoC projects other than PSH



# CT BOS Governance Charter Proposals

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DISCUSS TODAY AND VOTE AT  
THE MARCH STEERING  
COMMITTEE MEETING

# Governance Proposal: Youth Action Board(YAB) Representation on the Steering Committee

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## Proposal:

- Add one temporary seat to the Steering Committee to enable YAB representation until a new CLIP slate is approved (estimated timeline: Jan 2027)
- Moving forward from then the CLIP slate will include a YAB representative as one of the two CT BOS Steering Committee Youth Reps





## Governance Proposal: Education Sector Representative to the Steering Committee

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Proposal:

- Add one Educational Sector Rep to the Steering Committee in addition to CT State Department of Education

(Louis Tallerita, CT State Department of Education, has stepped down )

# Governance Proposal: Alternates

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Proposal: The following types of organizations with seats designated on the Steering Committee may opt to name an alternative representative in addition to a primary representative:

- Government agencies
- Nonprofit intermediaries/advocates
- Public health
- Elected officials
- Law enforcement
- Business community.



Alternatives may cast votes in the absence of the primary representative with each organization entitled to a single vote.



## Vote Today on Steering Committee Nominations

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### Elected Officials:

- Arunan Arulampalam, Mayor of Hartford
- Laurie Sweet, CT State Representative

### Law Enforcement:

- Jasmine Sanders, Sergeant, New Haven Police Department

### Business Community:

- Russ Cormier, Nutmeg

# Discussions

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- Introduce yourself, your role, and how long you have been attending Steering Committee meetings
- Discussion for today:
  - What were the most compelling data presented?
  - What are steps we can take at BOS to address any disparities?
- Please share suggestions in the chat or email to [ctboscoc@gmail.com](mailto:ctboscoc@gmail.com)



## CT CAN End Homelessness Updates/Advocacy

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# Data Strategy Board Updates

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# Partner Announcements

# Other Business?

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# Upcoming CT BOS SC Meetings



Meetings are from 11:00-12:30 unless otherwise noted

- March 20, 2026
- April 17, 2026
- May 15, 2026-  
Semi-annual (11-1)
- June 12, 2026
- July 17, 2026; 11-12:30
- Aug 21, 2026; 11-12:30
- Sept 18, 2026; 11-12:30
- Oct 16, 2026; 11-12:30
- Nov 20, 2026; 11-12:30
- Dec 18, 2026; 11-12:30

## Zoom Info for all SC meetings:

- [Meeting link](#)
- Meeting ID: 956 4487 8479
- Password: 414595
- Call-in number: 646-876-9923

# CT BOS Team (Housing Innovations)

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CT BOS CoC

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Walk in  
peace

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