



JUNE 2015 UPDATE

HUD HOMELESS PROJECT AWARDS 2014 COMPETITION

The Continuum of Care provides funding for transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and supportive services for homeless persons. In the 2014 HUD competition, continuums were allowed to submit applications for new permanent housing and rapid rehousing projects using funds re-allocated from existing projects. HUD also set aside \$40 million nationally to create new dedicated permanent supportive housing to serve the chronically homeless called bonus projects. Each CoC could submit only one bonus project. Priority was given to areas determined by HUD to be high need.

The amount for all projects except the bonus in the 2014 competition was based on the annual renewal demand calculated on the HUD approved Grants Inventory Worksheet. The DuPage amount approved was \$3,878,399. In addition, an amount of \$ 48,480 was available for a Planning grant.

All Continuums had to rank their projects using a two tier system. Although the available amount of funding was expected to be sufficient to fund renewal projects in this 2014 competition, HUD continued to require all CoCs to rank all projects in two tiers. The tiers are financial thresholds. Tier 1 is the annual renewal demand less 2%. Tier 2 is the remaining renewal demand plus the amount approved for planning. The bonus projects were excluded from tiering as this was a national competition.

HUD announced all projects for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Continuum of Care on 1/26/15. All DuPage renewal projects in Tier One and Tier Two were fully funded. PSH renewal projects received extra funds for leasing and operating expenses. The Planning grant was fully funded. The total funds awarded in Tier One and Two for DuPage Continuum was **\$4,157,738**. The bonus project submitted was not funded based on HUD's assessment of need.

The following tables detail the 2014 DuPage Continuum awards in both Tiers One and Two.

2015 DUPAGE HUD CONTINUUM of CARE PROJECTS - April 2015						
	RENEWALS	PROJECT NAME	Description	Amount	Term	Type
1	Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet	DuPage Daybreak	Transitional Housing renewal for homeless families – 11 units	\$ 220,349	1 year	Renewal TH
2	Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet	First Light	Permanent Supportive Housing for 5 chronically homeless families in 5 units.	\$ 110,959	1 year	Renewal PSH

DUPAGE HOMELESS CONTINUUM JUNE 2015

3	Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet	Partners In Housing	Permanent Supportive Housing for 14 chronically homeless persons and 13 homeless families with disabilities.	\$ 466,971	1 year	Renewal PSH
4	Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet	SHIFT- New Hope	Permanent Supportive Housing for 22 homeless families with multiple disabilities in 22 units.	\$ 903,723	1 year	Renewal PSH
5	DuPage Community Services Dept.	HMIS	HMIS dedicated renewal project.	\$ 154,556	1 year	Renewal HMIS
6	DuPage County Health Dept.	Homecomings	Permanent Supportive Housing for 4 chronically homeless individuals in 4 units	\$ 57,150	1 year	Renewal PSH
7	DuPage County Health Dept.	Housing Intensive Services	21 individual units and 3 family units for homeless persons.	\$ 288,503	1 year	Renewal PH – rent assistance
8	DuPage County Health Dept.	MISA/CAP	Permanent Supportive Hsng for 49 mentally ill individuals in 21 apartment units	\$ 622,079	1 year	Renewal PSH
9	DuPage County Health Dept.	SAIL	Permanent Supportive Housing for 10 chronic mentally ill persons in 5 units.	\$ 60,194	1 year	Renewal PSH
10	DuPage P.A.D.S., Inc.	Carol's Place /Crossroads	Permanent Supportive Housing for in 38 one bedroom and 4 two bedroom units for chronically homeless individuals and families.	\$ 703,669	1 year	Renewal PSH
11	DuPage PADS, Inc.	New Horizons	Permanent Supportive Housing for 4 chronically homeless persons in 4 scattered units.	\$ 56,010	1 year	Renewal PSH
12	DuPage PADS, Inc.	Stepping Stones	Permanent Supp Housing for 7 homeless families in 7 units.	\$ 135,589	1 year	Renewal PSH
13	360 Youth Services	Youth In Transition	Transitional housing for 10 males ages 18-24 in 5 units.	\$ 206,183	1 year	Renewal TH
14	DuPage PADS, Inc.	Foundations	4 one bedroom units of PSH for chronically homeless individuals to serve clients in their shelter program.	\$61,912	1 year	Re-allocated PSH from Bridge
15	Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans	Freedom Harbor	4 units of PSH for 4 chronically homeless veterans both male and female. 4 one bedroom.	\$61,411	1 year	Re-allocated PSH from Bridge
			ANNUAL RENEWAL AMOUNT	\$4,109,258		
	NEW PROJECTS					

16	DuPage County Community Services	Planning	Services to coordinate the CoC activities	\$48,480	1 year	New planning grant
			TOTAL AWARD AMOUNT	\$4,157,738.		
	BONUS PROJECT	NOT FUNDED				
17	DuPage PADS	VISIONS – BONUS PROJECT IF ALLOWED	12 one bedroom units for chronically homeless males and females	\$ 195,744	1 year	Bonus project

**NOTICE OF FUND AVAILABILITY AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
HUD 2014 SUPERNOFA HOMELESS APPLICATION PROCESS**

The DuPage Homeless Continuum has completed the application and selection process for HUD's 2015 Continuum of Care funding.

A Notice of Fund Availability and call for projects was issued to all Continuum members on January 7, 2015. While the amount of funds available had not been announced, last year the DuPage Continuum had an annual renewal amount of approximately \$4 million.

Project applications were accepted or rejected to be part of the CoC Consolidated Application. All projects accepted by the CoC were ranked in a two Tier process. The two tiered approach indicates the CoC priorities for funding in the event that total funding is not available.

All renewal projects were eligible to apply for funding. Agencies could also submit new projects for consideration through re-allocation. Reallocation is a process whereby a CoC reallocates funds in whole or in part from one or more renewal projects to create one or more new projects. Agencies could also submit for a new bonus project. The only types of new projects that could be submitted for funding consideration are for new permanent supportive housing for the chronically homeless and rapid re-housing for homeless households with children.

Initial verbal presentations of new proposed projects or revisions to renewals were held at the Needs Assessment Committee meeting on January 22, 2015.

Written Business Plans of all new and renewal projects were reviewed by the Needs Assessment Committee at their meeting on March 12, 2015. All renewal projects submitted were approved to move forward including one bonus project.

The Grants Funding committee reviewed the projects on April 14, 2015 and completed scoring using the Ranking Criteria on May 11, 2015. Final funding recommendations were made to the Leadership committee on May 20, 2015.

All renewal projects were recommended as submitted. There were no re-allocated projects. One new bonus project was submitted by DuPage PADS which would provide 12 one bedroom units for chronically homeless individuals. These projects will be submitted in the 2015 HUD CoC Consolidated application.

2015 RANKING CRITERIA

The project ranking criteria that are used to evaluate CDBG and HUD funded projects are reviewed annually by the Grants Funding Committee. Changes in 2015 included updating HUD goals to match national standards and the Hearth Act priorities. The 2015 Ranking Criteria is currently under review by several committees and available to any interested parties. To receive it, please contact Peg White Lijewski at plijewski@wideopenwest.com (Changes to the 2015 Ranking Criteria for the next competition are under consideration now).

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS

DuPage County will receive \$280,160 in 2015 ESG funds. Allocations are \$134,000 in the emergency shelter category, which includes shelter operation, street outreach and essential services for homeless persons; \$63,156 for HMIS, \$21,012 for administration, and \$61,992 for rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention (both financial assistance and services). Additionally, the DuPage Continuum will receive \$326,147 from the State ESG funds in 2015.

These funds have had a meaningful impact on homelessness and housing stability for participating households. The goals are: preventing people from homelessness; diverting people who are applying for shelter into other housing; and helping people who become homeless to quickly return to permanent housing. Eligible households include persons who are literally homeless and persons with extremely low incomes who lack resources for housing and who would be homeless *but for this assistance*. The DuPage County Continuum targets households that have a demonstrated housing crisis, that meet one or more risk factors, and that are likely to remain stably housed after this assistance.

STATE OF ILLINOIS HOMELESS PREVENTION FUNDING FY 16

The DuPage County Homeless Continuum recognizes that prevention is the first strategic step in addressing homelessness and is well documented as the most cost effective strategy for ending homelessness. A coordinated system for distribution of homeless prevention funding to qualifying households, using a small network of agencies throughout DuPage County, has developed over time. All homeless service providers in the County may access these funds for eligible clients. See www.dupagehomeless.org/HomelessPrevention to obtain the list of agencies providing funds by geographic areas. The Homeless Prevention Providers Network group meets regularly and has a joint strategy and coordinated procedures for client accountability and the disbursement of homeless prevention funds.

On February 1, 2015, the CoC was notified of the FY16 IL Dept of Human Services application process. The amounts to be used were the last modified FY 15 levels, with the stipulation that these were subject to change by the General Assembly in the ongoing state budget revisions. This amount was \$236,580. At this time, there is no final state budget. The Leadership Committee approved that this year's funds be allocated using the same percentage allocations as last year to the same agencies. Leadership approved ranking them from highest to lowest in terms of funding amounts. There was appropriate performance and expenditures from these agencies. Funding allocations for FY16 that were submitted in the state application are:

IL Homeless Prevention Funding	2012 Allocation	2012 revised	2013	2013 revised	2014 initial	2015	2016
People's Resource Center	48,558	29,540	29,540	74,782	74,782	74,782	74,782
DuPage Community Services	43,711	26,592	26,592	67,319	67,319	67,319	67,319
Catholic Charities	43,021	26,319	26,185	66,627	66,627	66,627	66,627
Outreach Community Ministries	18,070	11,002	11,002	27,852	27,852	27,852	27,852
Total	153,360	93,453	93,319	236,580	236,580	236,580	236,580

Note: All reductions in funds were due to state funding cutbacks and this was no reflection on performance.

ONE NIGHT COUNT OF HOMELESS PERSONS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires Continuums to complete a sheltered and unsheltered point-in-time (PIT) count at least every two years during the last ten days of January. In 2015 both a sheltered and unsheltered count was required and was conducted on January 28, 2015. Nationally, this homeless count is used as the primary data source for federal agencies to understand homeless trends and track progress against goals and objectives. Additionally, the Congressionally-mandated Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) is prepared using PIT and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data.

HUD asks for information about households without children, households with minor children, and households of only children – unaccompanied and under 18) In addition, information must be collected on veterans, youth ages 18-25 and the chronically homeless. In 2015:

- CoCs were required to report race, ethnicity, and gender data for all persons counted as well as the age groups under age 18, age 18 to 24, and over age 24).
- Both parenting youth and unaccompanied youth were required to be reported.
- CoCs were required to report population data for veteran households, including family households.
- Chronically homeless individuals; chronically homeless families; and chronically homeless veterans were reported.
- Report on the number of sheltered and unsheltered persons in each of the following subpopulation categories: severely mentally ill; chronic substance abuse; and persons with HIV/AIDS.

SHELTERED - In 2015, the total number of sheltered homeless persons increased 2.7% from 625 to 642.

- 204 persons in emergency shelter which decreased 5.5% from 216.*

- 438 persons in transitional housing which increased 7% from 409. 111 households which increased 12% from 99. **
- 50 sheltered persons were chronically homeless which is a 24% decrease from 68. All were individuals –no families.
- Sheltered veterans increased 25% from 16 to 20, including 3 veteran households with children.
- There were 80 youth in shelter or transitional housing on that night which is a 5% increase from 76.

UNSHeltered – In 2015, the total unsheltered population increased 3% (1 person) from 29 persons in 2013 to 30 persons in 2015. It has decreased from 108 persons in 2009 and 33 persons in 2011. A comparison by town is also available.

- Only 13% of unsheltered persons (4 of 30) were chronically homeless which is a decrease from 17% in 2013 and 45% in 2011.
- The number of chronically homeless unsheltered persons decreased 20% from 5 persons to 4 in 2015. It has decreased from 15 persons in 2011.
- There was one unsheltered veteran who was not chronic.
- There was one youth aged 18-24 who was not chronic.

For more complete information please see the most recent Homeless Populations Charts under Homeless Demographics at www.dupagehomeless.org

The 2015 Point In Time homeless populations data as well as the Housing Inventory bed count is entered directly into the HUD Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX) web site – <http://hudhdx.info/>. As in years past, the 2015 Housing Inventory data is based on bed capacity data on the same day as the One Night Count in January.

DUPAGE CONTINUUM ANNUAL SNAPSHOT

The Annual Snapshot on Ending and Preventing Homelessness in DuPage County was completed the leadership of Ms. Carol Simler, Chair of the Community Outreach Committee. This report provides a profile of homelessness in DuPage for a twelve month period from July 2013 through June 2014 (Fiscal Year 2014).

Lisa Snipes, vice chair, presented the Snapshot to all DuPage County Board members on April 28, 2015. In our last fiscal year ending June 30, 2014: 1,396 men, women, and children stayed in an emergency shelter in this county or accessed emergency shelter services but did not stay overnight. There were 329 children were under the age of 18 compared to 333 previously and 128 children were under the age of 5 compared to 127 previously. These are children without their own bedrooms, whose housing instability may have long term implications for their well-being, education and development. There were 71 veterans in our shelters. The numbers reported do not include persons who live doubled up or in other living situations, or those in Transitional Housing. The number is only those who were in a shelter or accessed emergency shelter services. In FY14, over \$1,000,000 in funds were distributed to prevent imminent homelessness and re-house those who became homeless. The need for homeless prevention funds continues to outpace resources with only 28% of requests being fulfilled.

To view the 2014 Annual Snapshot, click on
<http://www.dupagehomeless.org/AnnualReportCard.asp>

HEARTH ACT UPDATES

CONTINUUM OF CARE (COC) PROGRAM

On May 20, 2009, President Obama signed the [Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing \(HEARTH\) Act of 2009](#). The HEARTH Act amends and reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act with substantial changes, including consolidating HUD's competitive grant programs and changing HUD's definition of homelessness and chronic homelessness. Additional information can be found at the CoC program page on the HUD Exchange.

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/hearth-act/>

FINANCIAL UPDATE

On December 26, 2014, 2 CFR part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Final Guidance*, went into effect and applies to the CoC Program beginning with the FY 2015 CoC Program Competition. HUD will publish conforming rule changes for the CoC Program and will provide notification of these changes when they are made. These changes will update the interim rule at 24 CFR part 578 to revise the sections that refer to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars and HUD regulations in 24 CFR parts 84 and 85, as well as to reflect the provisions of 2 CFR part 200 that are not applicable because they are inconsistent with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act or because OMB has given an exception to specific requirements. HUD issued a notice on February 26, 2015, *Transition to 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Final Guidance* (the Transition Notice), to identify and explain significant changes made in 2 CFR part 200, and provide transition guidance and links to additional resource materials for HUD and its program stakeholders and other recipients of Federal financial assistance from HUD. Collaborative Applicants and project applicants should review and become familiar with both 2 CFR part 200 and the Transition Notice.

DUPAGE HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS)

As of October 2014, DuPage and Suburban Cook Counties entered into a merged HMIS database system under the name of Northeast Illinois HMIS. The shared database offers opportunity for regional reporting, data sharing, and additional system support.

The database receives support through the following System Administrators from Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County: Peggy Troyer, Jeremy Heyboer, and Lynn Suchwalko, and from DuPage County: Julie Tremberth and Tyler Rosensteel. As of April 2015, Julie Tremberth has taken on the lead role for DuPage HMIS as an Information and Systems Coordinator.

The DuPage HMIS System Administrators will continue the mission at the local and regional levels to provide visionary data leadership by providing an effective and usable case management tool, and by collecting and analyzing client and program-level data to report on the extent and nature of homelessness.

DuPage has 130 users collecting data for 15 agencies throughout DuPage County, for an estimated 100 programs. End User training is available on a monthly basis, with report training occurring quarterly, and a required annual re-certification training in the Fall. The format of the End User training has been updated to encourage current users to return for a full or half-day of refresher training as needed.

Last September, all DuPage users completed an in-person or webinar based re-certification training that covered the 2014 HMIS Standards, which were implemented in our system by October 2014. With our transition to the new Data Standards, there was much to be addressed regarding data entry and reporting.

In early Spring 2015, we recommended that programs utilize the Annual Performance Report (APR) for both data quality and program reporting, while the System Administrators and the database Vendor dedicated much time to updating reports to align with the new Data Standards. We are hopeful that many agencies will find this approach to be most helpful in obtaining additional program data. Additional reporting advances for DuPage include the successful submission of the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR), and a first time HMIS generated Occupancy Rate report.

Since September 2014, we have managed **550** help desk requests, with the top request continuously being related to report support, which typically requires **1+ hour** of support/request. The average number of requests managed/month is **46**. In April 2015, we managed **69**.

Since September 2014, we offered **24** training events (End User, Refresher, Re-Certification, and Report Viewer), which were attended by a duplicated count of **253** participants. Trainings varied from webinar to in-person formats.

Finally, we welcome the following new programs to HMIS:

- 360 Youth Services Runaway Homeless Youth (RHY)
- DuPage PADS - Employment Housing
- Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans - Captain Kevin C. Landeck Freedom Commissary
- Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans - Employment Program

If additional programs are interested in participating in our database, please visit our website at, www.dupageco.org/HMIS, and contact the DuPage HMIS Help Desk at, HMIS@dupageco.org or 630-407-6397.

MAINSTREAM BENEFITS & TRAINING INFORMATION

Making the Connection Training

Navigating public benefit programs is often frustrating, due to the different eligibility rules and complex application processes. Understanding more about benefit programs (including topics such as who can qualify and how to solve problems) helps case managers and other advocates provide more effective and targeted assistance to people in need. The focus of

the Making the Connection training programs is to improve advocacy for the people served through increased knowledge of these complex programs.

The Making the Connection training series is currently organized into three (3) full-day classroom training sessions:

Introduction to Public Benefits

This course will provide a comprehensive introduction to public benefits beginning with a review of citizenship rules and eligibility requirements for a variety of public benefit programs. It will explore cash benefits available through Social Security, Veterans Administration and state of Illinois. The course will also provide an overview of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance .Program and other food benefit programs.

Objectives

- Understand rules relative to citizenship status
- Define “qualified non-citizen” for accessing public benefits
- Understand basic eligibility rules of core mainstream cash and food benefit programs
- Differentiate between Social Security programs
- Describe difference between VA Compensation and VA Pension cash benefits
- Discuss eligibility for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program
- Describe Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in terms of eligibility, application process and benefits

Medicaid and the Marketplace for Non-Navigators

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) was designed to expand options for health coverage for Americans. This program will provide a detailed overview of the Medicaid program, which is a health insurance program for low-income individuals and families jointly run by states and the federal government. This course will explain the recently created Health Insurance Marketplace, including the application process, eligibility for subsidies and plan selection.

Objectives

- Discuss Medicaid eligibility requirements
- Understand various Medicaid programs
- Discuss purpose and structure of Health Insurance Marketplace
- Identify eligibility requirements for financial subsidies through Marketplace
- Explain difference between Advance Premium Tax Credit and Cost-Sharing Reductions
- Examine impact of tax filing status on income eligibility for Medicaid and Marketplace
- Understand application process for Medicaid and Marketplace

Navigating Benefits for Persons with Disabilities

The application process for disability benefits is complicated and difficult to navigate. This course will review best practices for navigating this process. The course will discuss a number of programs related to disability. The program will cover the Social Security disability application process as well as Medicaid Aid to the Aged, Blind and Disabled (AABD).

Objectives

- Learn how to navigate the Medicaid and Social Security disability application process
- Understand how disability determinations are made

- Learn how to compile a better disability report, increasing the odds of approval on first application
- Effectively explain the Medicaid Spenddown program
- Know the basics of the impact work has on disability benefits
- Discuss the impact of ACA on long-term care, waiver services and disability application process
- Discuss client options for Marketplace coverage as opposed to AABD Spenddown

Please go to www.dupagefederation.org for training schedules, relevant registration links, and any general information in relation to Making the Connection Illinois.

Introduction to Cultural Competency Training

This presentation provides a basic overview of cultural competency terms and concepts and increases awareness of best practices for working with a culturally diverse constituency. The presentation will discuss demographics and populations specific to the local region,

Objectives

- Discuss eligibility requirements and application process for Medicare, Medicaid and the Marketplace
- Understand the various Medicaid programs
- Discuss various Parts of Medicare, including original Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and Prescript. Coverage
- Discuss Medigap policies (Supplemental Plans) and how it works with other insurance
- Discuss the purpose and structure of the Health Insurance Marketplace, including financial subsidies
- Examine how tax filing status impacts income eligibility for Medicaid and the Marketplace

For further information, contact Kristin Hartsaw at khartsaw@dupagefederation.org

SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Training Series

The application process for SSI/SSDI (Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Income) is complicated and difficult to navigate. For people who are homeless or who are returning to the community from institutions (jails, prisons or hospitals), access to these programs can be extremely challenging. Approval on initial application for people who are homeless and who have no one to assist them is *about 10-15 percent*. For those who have a mental illness, substance use issues, or co-occurring disorders that impair cognition, the application process is even more difficult – yet accessing these benefits is often a critical first step in recovery. SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) is an approach that helps states increase access to mainstream benefits for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness through strategic planning, training and technical assistance. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funds the SOAR Technical Assistance (TA) Center. Additional information about SOAR may be found here: <http://prainc.com/soar/>

For more information about local trainings and efforts, contact Kathryn Nelson at knelson@dupagefederation.org

For a complete 2015-16 training schedule along with registration information, please go to www.dupagefederation.org. You will find for training schedules, relevant registration links, and any general information in relation to Making the Connection Illinois.

THE HELPER

A quick desk reference guide to agencies in DuPage County providing specific services such as child care, advocacy, employment, etc. The HELPER is available to view and download from the Continuum website. – www.dupagehomeless.org
Benefits Updates/The HELPER

WEBSITE UPDATE

www.dupagehomeless.org

If you have suggestions on enhancements to the site or additional information, please contact plijewski@wideopenwest.com We welcome your input!

The Leadership Committee thanks Eileen Clark, retired Associate Professor of Computer Science at Benedictine University who is doing a wonderful job on keeping the site updated.

MEETING CALENDAR

A calendar of all Continuum committee meetings for the period from July 2015 through July 2016 is available on www.dupagehomeless.org under Continuum Overview after June 2015. If you would like to add the web-based calendar to your outlook calendar, use the following iCAL address:

<https://www.google.com/calendar/ical/dupagecoc%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics>

DUPAGE CONTINUUM LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2015

Leader	Mary Keating Director DuPage County Community Services	630 -407-6457 407-6501 Fax Mary.Keating@dupageco.org
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HMIS	Amy Palumbo	630-495-8008 x 2109

DUPAGE HOMELESS CONTINUUM JUNE 2015

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	AT LARGE MEMBERS	
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