

Santa Cruz County Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Scoring Tool

Agency and Project Name: _____

No.	Scoring Criteria	Max Points	Points
A.	Organizational Experience	20	
A1	Experience of Applicant and Sub-recipients – Organization has well-documented experience with federal funding and providing housing and services to especially to unaccompanied YYA experiencing homelessness, but also comparable programs or youth populations. Describes the experience of staff who will provide staff supervision and management of project activities, including how skills and experience of existing organization staff will ensure success of the YHDP projects and support youth choice and authentic youth engagement.	10	
A2	Community Connectedness and Experience Leveraging Other Resources. Demonstrates organizational collaboration with other providers or agencies in the region, as well as knowledge of community partners and resources serving unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness. Documents experience leveraging cash and in-kind resources.	3	
A3	Management Structure and Capacity. Demonstrates logical and effective organization and management structure. Evidence of internal and external coordination and an adequate financial accounting system is clearly documented.	2	
A4	HUD Monitoring/Auditing. There are no unresolved monitoring or audit findings for any HUD grants (CoC and ESG). Where there are unresolved findings, there are adequate reasons why the findings are unresolved and there is well-conceived remediation plan in place to resolve the findings.	5	
B.	Program Design	30	
B1	Program Summary. Description covers the entire scope of the project, including needs to be addressed, population to be served, outreach and eligibility determination, housing and/or supportive services to be provided, linkages with other agencies, outcomes to be achieved, and how project will be accessible and appropriate for YYAs.	No points	
B2	Housing. Where housing is directly provided, the type and location of the housing and the number of beds and/or units to be clearly described and appropriate for the program participants. For all project types, clearly explains how program participants will be assisted to obtain and remain in appropriate housing.	4	
B3	Supportive Services. The type, scale, and location of supportive services are clearly described and accessible to and appropriate for program participants. Strategies to assist program participants to gain independent living skills; to obtain and remain in permanent housing; to access education and increase income through employment and/or benefits; and to maximize their ability to live independently are clearly articulated.	4	
B4	Mainstream Resources. Program has policies and procedures that screen all participants for eligibility for mainstream resources and assist them in accessing mainstream resources, and the specific plan for ensuring youth will be individually assisted to obtain the benefits of the mainstream health, social, and employment programs for which they are eligible to apply meets the needs of the program participants. Youth are assisted to both increase their incomes and live independently using mainstream housing and service programs in a manner that fits their needs.	3	
B5	Youth Involvement and Leadership. Program includes active involvement and leadership by youth in the planning and design of the proposed project. Program has a plan to support active involvement and leadership among youth in the project's implementation, including employment opportunities and youth voice in the staff hiring process.	4	
B6	Housing First Approach. Program demonstrates clear adoption of Housing First principles, including the absence of barriers to entry and service participation requirements, and provision of targeted, intensive supports, including access to intensive, youth-focused case management and services, to ensure housing success.	4	
B7	Populations of Focus. Program clearly will serve vulnerable and often overrepresented young people, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth; pregnant and parenting youth; youth who have had involvement with juvenile	3	

	justice and foster care systems; youth of color; and victims of sexual trafficking and exploitation. The description explains how the project will support ending YYA homelessness across the county and subcultures, and will serve under-served areas of the County, i.e. South County.		
B8	Numbers of YYA to be Served/Outcomes. The number of participants is clearly set forth and is appropriate given the budget and scale of the project. Outcome goals described are clear, appropriate given the population served, and sufficiently challenging (yet realistic). Methods for tracking outcome progress and evaluating program effectiveness are clearly explained.	4	
B9	Waivers. Expected waivers are clearly identified. Proposed waivers will be eligible for renewal under the HUD CoC Program.	3	
C.	Consistency with the Santa Cruz County YHDP Coordinated Community Plan	20	
C1	Consistency with the Coordinated Community Plan Vision and Goals: The program clearly demonstrates consistency with the Coordinated Community Plan, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fills high priority needs and gaps identified in the plan • Accurately reflects the plan’s vision and goals • Clearly identifies how the project will meet specific plan objectives • Clearly identifies the action steps used to meet these objectives • Identifies achievable key results and outcomes • Describes a realistic plan for continuous quality improvement. 	8	
C2	Integration with Planning Pyramid: The program clearly demonstrates integration with the Planning Pyramid, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes safety, social emotional wellbeing, and resilience • Shifts community norms/policies/systems • Utilizes research-informed and innovative practices • Embodies cultural humility/cultural responsiveness • Serves a high-risk subpopulation, i.e., parenting youth, LGBTQ, former foster youth. 	6	
C3	Alignment with Eligible Projects and Key Elements for Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program clearly demonstrates alignment with its selected Eligible Project type • The program clearly demonstrates alignment with the Key Elements for Projects. 	6	
D.	Alignment with US Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) Core Outcomes and HUD Principles	15	
D1	USICH Four Core Outcomes. The program clearly demonstrates alignment with USICH Youth Framework and Four Core Outcomes, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stable housing includes a safe and reliable place to call home; • Permanent connections includes ongoing attachments to families, communities, schools, and other positive social networks; • Education/employment includes high performance in and completion of educational and training activities, especially for younger youth, and starting and maintaining adequate and stable employment, particularly for older youth; • Social-emotional wellbeing includes the development of key competencies, attitudes, and behaviors that equip a young person to succeed across multiple domains of daily life, including school, work, relationships, and community. 	5	
D2	Youth Choice. The program clearly promotes YYA choice in terms of the kind of housing YYA need and the extent and nature of supports and services they access, and promotes presenting alternative options for YYA who avoid programs with barriers like sobriety or abstinence.	5	
D3	Positive Youth Development and Trauma Informed Care. The program fully incorporates the Positive Youth Development (PYD) and Trauma Informed Care (TIC) models in its housing and service delivery.	5	
E.	Implementation Plan	15	
E1	Timeline. Application includes a reasonable and actionable timeline for project implementation, including the hiring of staff, project evaluation, and benchmarks for project outcomes.	4	
E2	Staff Training. Plan describes any training or staff development activities that would be conducted as part of this project, and how this training will ensure that staff are ready to	4	

	meet the needs of unaccompanied YYA experiencing homelessness.		
E3	Budget. The budget provided clear, cost effective, and does not deviate substantially upward from the norm for similar activities in Santa Cruz County. Proposed costs are reasonable, justified, and competitive.	4	
E4	Match. The 25% match requirement is clearly met. The in-kind and/or cash resources used for the match are clearly described.	3	
	TOTAL	100	