



Activity Summary from CoC Director May 2026 – August 2026

NOFO FY2026 Funding

At the national level, [NAEH](#), as well as a group of states, of which Wisconsin is a part of, took HUD to court to force compliance with the remaining second portion of the awards. The District Court of New Jersey judge sided with the complainants, NAEH and the states. HUD has been slow in releasing funds; however, they are now required to meet weekly with the judge to document they are complying with the ruling. This sounds similar to my last Director's report because we are back into the lawsuit aspect of NOFO season for FY26.

Our local CoC projects have now all received their FY2025 funds. Our funded organizations, HALO, CVI and ICA, received their funds by the end of the first quarter of 2026. HOPES received access to their funding this August.

On June 30, 2026, I attended a HUD Region 5 Transitional Housing Session – a Transitional Housing Fundamentals huddle to provide information regarding the expectations for the FY26 Transitional Housing applications. This session was different than usual as the HUD team did not distribute any materials or record the session for those unable to attend.

The FY26 NOFO was released at the beginning of June 2026, but the project application was not released until mid-July, and the collaborative application was never released. The original deadline for the submission of the collaborative application was August 26, 2026, 8:00 PM Eastern Time. The FY26 NOFO has been voided by the judge and HUD is appealing that decision. We are now in judicial limbo.

In the FY26 NOFO, the two largest items viewed as unlawful were:

- 1) the set aside for Transitional Housing, see page 36 of the HUD FY26 NOFO issued in June. The concern is this would set a precedent for 2027 and 2028 effectively capping permanent housing projects resulting in a loss of housing for +100,000 people in PSH across the country.
- 2) the vague criteria that HUD declared could be used as a way to defund individuals, or types of political or ideological reasons. NAEH attorneys cited that projects potentially facing HUD defunding would most likely be those serving marginalized populations, such as LGBTQ individuals, youth programs, and projects using harm-reduction practices.

As a result of the litigation, it is possible that HUD will not be able to release a new application or even release an updated version of the collaborative application in time to release funding to projects by December 01, 2026, as they claimed in the original NOFO. Agencies are encouraged to examine alternative funding sources and plan for a possible delay in funding as that would take us into or beyond the first quarter of 2027.

We do not have any indication what Congress will do, if anything, should funding not be available. In addition, it is possible that we would be told to fund as renewals which places new applicants/projects out of the competition to receive funding. **Nationally, we are uncertain whether CoC projects will be funded at FY24 levels or the new levels proposed for FY26.**

Local CoC Funding Activities

This involved the review of the national HUD CoC NOFO to understand the requirements of HUD's new focus and types of projects HUD will fund. New in this NOFO, were the funding project focus of Supportive Services Only (SSO) projects not dedicated to Coordinated Entry, Social Services – Street Outreach, and the push to transition [PSH](#) projects to Transitional Housing projects.

There are also restrictions and specific directions on what can and cannot be covered by CoC funds. The following are changes I was required to implement:

- create two local funding applications, one for renewing projects and one for new applicants.
- create and present new material providing HUD requirements to local applicants interested in applying.
- create new material and present at two meetings directly related to informing interested applicants and renewal agencies through the new requirements.
- create a new scoring system to rate the applications that met threshold requirements.

Thank you Gai for assistance creating the new applications and hosting meetings, and Iraida for work on the scoring tool.

Director Partnership Engagement Activities

****** Denotes activities related to Alliance not directly related to CoC

******* Denotes activities related to Alliance and CoC

National level participation

****** Build Initiative Systems in Sync Learning Community (monthly)

June Session: "Solid Foundations: *Strengthening Housing Stability for Children and Families*"

A focus on understanding housing stability through a whole-family lens, learning from innovative community-based approaches, and identifying opportunities for stronger systems alignment across sectors. The role of systems in reducing barriers and promoting long-term family stability. An exploration between housing stability and innovative models and promising practices that support families beyond housing placement

July Session: *Where Home Meets Hope: Strengthening Child Welfare Through Cross-System Collaboration*

The group examined how stronger partnerships across systems can help prevent unnecessary family separation and create pathways toward greater stability and well-being for children, youth, and families. We explored the critical intersection of child welfare and child and family homelessness to understand how stronger partnerships across systems can help prevent unnecessary family separation and create pathways toward greater stability and well-being for children, youth, and families.

August Session: "Sync In and Sync Out!"

This final gathering was an opportunity to celebrate the group's progress, reflect on the journey, share tangible next steps, and inspire one another as the formal Learning Community to a close. The group will be continuing the work beyond Systems in Sync through our [Prenatal to 3 group](#).

National Association of Continuum of Care Leaders

The NACCL has incorporated and will begin holding national meetings to select their official board members. The Alliance has pledged to become members and are waiting for their request to submit the dues.

****** Council on Federal Financial Assistance Workshop

The "Simpler Grants.gov" team shared highlights from the newest features and functionalities, including new ways to collaborate with your organization on saved opportunities, improvements to the application experience, and exciting budget form prototypes. The team shared user research insights, and showed feedback received from open-source contributions, the Co-Design Group, and the broader grants community on future development.

******* National Alliance to End Homelessness

******* *Alliance Strategy and Impact Biweekly Meetings*

The NAEH has created six virtual state-level cohorts to facilitate engagement with the Alliance team and engage in regional peer learning opportunities. We have been meeting as a Region 5 cohort which contains representatives from 6-10 states and have been formed based on common characteristics of Congressional lawmakers in these areas. I am participating in this process. The most recent activity focuses on the lawsuit and FY26 NOFO Please read the update written in the NOFO section at the top of this report.

******* *Monthly Alliance Advocacy Workshop*

Continued meetings designed to understand how to reach out to elected officials at all levels to support the work of addressing homelessness beyond governments' unyielding attempts at maintaining the status quo and promoting self-interest projects over proven strategies.

State level participation

Ending Homelessness Through State and CoC Partnerships (EHSCP)

I was co-presenter with other WI CoC's at CHA/CHIP – SHA/SHIP Community of Practice roundtable with local and Tribal health departments on the issue of homelessness in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Interagency Council on Homelessness (WI-ICH)

The Council is actively working to understand HUD's proposed budget cuts and the impact on Wisconsin. We have met as a Council to report activity across the state by the various state departments.

**** Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction: Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY)**

I was a team reviewer of selected statewide applications for Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Innovation Grants

**** Wisconsin Prenatal-3 Homelessness Workgroup**

I am a Core Team Organizing Member. The group is working to organize statewide strategies and participate in the Systems in Sync Learning Community that meets monthly. The organizing groups are the Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Board, WI Department of Children and Families, Cooperative Educational Service Agency 5, WI Office of Children's Mental Health, United Way Wisconsin, and the Homelessness & Housing Alliance of Racine Co. (represented by me). Our purpose is to bring together professionals across Wisconsin who are dedicated to supporting families experiencing homelessness with children from prenatal to age three and discuss possibilities for sustaining the momentum of our collaboration beyond grant funding.

**** United Health Care Community & State Wisconsin Community Advisory Committee Semi-annual Meeting**

The semiannual meeting served as a collaborative forum to share perspectives, elevate community voices, and strengthen partnerships that improve health outcomes. community leaders, partners, and stakeholders. Participants provided insight, guidance, and feedback on services and priority health issues impacting Medicaid members and Wisconsin communities.

County level participation

**** Racine County Health Poverty Workgroup: Housing/Evictions**

This is a workgroup led by the County Public Health Department in connection with the Racine County Public Health: Community Health Improvement Plan 2022-2027 (CHIP). We have not met since winter of 2025.

**** Burlington Library**

Met with Burlington Library Director and Burlington Transitional Living Center to discuss homelessness in the area around the library and how we can work together to disburse resources throughout the area. Discussion focused on resources and ways to connect the community to various resources available for individuals at risk of or currently experiencing homelessness.

Meetings

- CoC check-ins with WI-ICH, DEHCR, HUD
- Collaboration with the other three WI CoCs
- DHS and CoC check-in on [1915\(i\)](#)
- Ending Homelessness through State-CoC Partnerships (EHSCP) bi-weekly
- WI-ICH workgroup and Council meetings
- Racine CoC Rating, Ranking & Evaluation committee

Acronyms and abbreviations

1915(i) Medicaid Housing Support Services <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/bulletins/3c6d30b>

Build Initiative <https://buildinitiative.org/>

CHA – *Community health assessment*, The CHA refers to a state, Tribal, local, or territorial health assessment that identifies critical health needs and other issues through data collection and analysis. <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lh-depts/chip.htm>

CHIP – *Community Health Improvement Plan* <https://crchd.com/community-improvement-plan>

COFFA – *Council on Federal Financial Assistance*. <https://www.councils.gov/coffa/> Established by the [Office of Management and Budget \(OMB\)](#) in August 2023, this interagency leadership body oversees, coordinates, and improves the management and transparency of federal grants and financial assistance

DEHCR – *Division of Energy, Housing and Community Relations (under WI Department of Administration)* <https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/AboutDOA/DEHCRMainPage.aspx>

EHH – *The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP), and Housing Assistance Program (HAP) are collectively referred to as the EHH Program. Administered under DEHCR* <https://energyandhousing.wi.gov/Pages/AgencyResources/ehh-program.aspx>

HUD – *Housing and Urban Development*

NAEH – *National Alliance to End Homelessness* <https://endhomelessness.org/>

NOFO – *Notice of Funding Opportunity*

PSH – *Permanent Supportive Housing*

SHA – *State health assessment* <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03169-2025.pdf>

SHIP – *State health improvement plan* <https://www.shiphelp.org/ships/wisconsin/>

TH – *Transitional Housing*