

**New Orleans-Jefferson Parish-Kenner
Homeless Continuum of Care Inclusive Participation Policy**

Adopted Sept. 9, 2016 by CoC Governing Council

OPEN INVITATION

The Continuum of Care shall invite all interested organizations, agencies and individuals, particularly homeless youth providers, victim service providers, and early childhood providers, in New Orleans, Jefferson Parish and Kenner, to participate in the homeless Continuum of Care.

This invitation is made as follows:

- 1) An open invitation is posted on the CoC website page
- 2) An invitation is advertised at least twice a year in general circulation newspapers and any publications serving important subpopulations as specified by the Governing Council
- 3) An invitation is posted monthly on social media
- 4) An invitation is orally announced at each monthly meeting of the Continuum of Care
- 5) The CoC Community Outreach Committee, appointed by the CoC Chair, meets at least twice a year to identify agencies and organizations serving the homeless or which provide services needed by the homeless that are not regularly attending monthly CoC meetings. The Committee will pay special attention to homeless youth providers, victim service providers, and organizations serving racial and ethnic minority groups and special needs populations. The Committee devises a strategy to recruit these agencies and organizations to participate in the CoC.
- 6) A written invitation is mailed and/or emailed at least twice a year to a broad-based, inclusive list of organizations and agencies inviting them to participate in the CoC, and asking that a CoC representative be invited to speak at an upcoming meeting to their membership to invite participation.

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FROM ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED CoC FUNDING

The CoC Evaluation and Project Selection Committee strongly encourages proposals from organizations that have not previously received CoC funding. At least once per year, Requests for Proposals shall explicitly prioritize agencies that have not previously received CoC funding, unless the need for extensive experience for a particular RFP makes previous CoC funding a necessity. All RFPs state that organizations that are not currently receiving CoC funding are strongly encouraged to apply.