

## **SNOFO HMIS Project- Executive Summary**

The following summary outlines how ICA has been using the SNOFO HMIS funding to support the expanded functioning of the Coordinated Entry project in the Balance of State in the absence of an operational programmatic SNOFO project, explaining how the creation of the HMIS Coordinated Entry Coordinator role aligns with the expectations laid out in the original SNOFO Request for Proposals, the submitted eSNAPS application, and the Local Rank and Review submission.

### **Special NOFO – Rural Setaside**

The [Special NOFO](#) prioritized capacity building efforts in rural geographies and encouraged CoCs to strengthen infrastructure in underserved rural regions. The SNOFO emphasized that HMIS funding could be used to expand Coordinated Entry functionality, including staff time, licenses, training, and tools needed to support rural implementation. While the emphasis was on supporting rural geographies, this requires investment in the overall infrastructure of the Coordinated Entry system as a whole, and the grant requires that the CoC review its performance at the entire CoC level rather than at the project level.

In line with these priorities, the HMIS CE Coordinator's role was designed to support system-wide infrastructure that spans multiple geographies, supporting providers that serve both rural and urban populations with the goal of dismantling resource barriers by acting as a bridge between urban resources and rural resource deficient areas. This is reflected in our staffing model, which includes funding for 1.32 FTE HMIS staff:

- Dedicated CE Coordinator (0.8 FTE)
- Support from System Administrators for BoS Regions
- Support from HMIS Helpdesk Specialist

The CE HMIS Coordinator is intentionally only funded through SNOFO for 80% of their time in order to allow for greater flexibility when working with urban coverage areas, and this team-based approach allows for consistent coverage and flexibility, particularly in areas that are new to CE or HMIS participation.

### **eSNAPS Application**

The eSNAPS application detailed how the HMIS planned support the work of expanding access to Coordinated Entry under the SNOFO. The HMIS serves the entirety of the geographical coverage area of the CoC, including those areas the CoC has identified as being structurally disadvantaged, and the narrative emphasized integrating rural communities into the CE System, onboarding new agencies and ensuring access to HMIS, tools, and training across the CoC's geographic coverage area.

To support these goals, the application proposed adding 30 HMIS user licenses and expanding staff for the anticipated growth in the CE system. These licenses have been in reserve, awaiting the start of the programmatic components, and ICA can begin allocating them at the direction of the CoC once the SNOFO RFP has concluded and we have determined the number of license that will specifically need to be set aside to support the agencies that will directly operate the Rural Setaside Coordinated Entry projects. The remaining licenses will then be available for CoC use until the end of the usage period, March 31, 2028.

While waiting for the SNOFO programmatic components to come online, we have worked to meet our obligations to support expanded Coordinated Entry Access by onboarding new access points and by providing CE data entry support, CE specific training, and data quality monitoring for CE-participating agencies, including those with rural county coverage. This application additionally categorizes HMIS as a non-direct service project whose role is to support the system as a whole. The CE Coordinator is providing this support by offering training, technical assistance, data corrections and help with CES workflow, working with providers that operate in both rural and urban service areas to remove geographic barriers and enhance cross-county collaboration.

#### **Local Rank and Review Application**

The Rank and Review application additionally clarified how the HMIS project would function under Rural Set-Aside funding, stating that HMIS services would be provided to all 101 counties under this project, while also committing to working with the CoC to identify county and regional specific data collection and reporting needs for the 89 counties specifically funded under the SNOFO. The application committed to providing technical assistance, regional data work, and support for agency level needs across the entire CoC to ensure the CES is functioning equitably across both underserved and rural areas.

#### **Conclusion**

The SNOFO, eSNAPS Application and Local Rank & Review Application all emphasize the provision of system wide infrastructure support, capacity building and enhanced support for providers under the HMIS project. Our current staffing model, scope of work and activities are aligned with these expectations, and our team has implemented these commitments with a focus on collaboration, flexibility and equitable access across the CoC's geography, including the counties deemed rural by HUD. This alignment reflects both the letter and spirit of the CoC's Rural Set Aside strategy and continues to build a stronger Coordinated Entry System across the BoS's underserved areas.