



## **Endorsement and Project Selection**

### **Notifying the Continuum of Care Plans for New Programs**

The Lowcountry CoC(LCoC) encourages any organization considering developing new programs or services to notify the LCoC of its intentions as soon as possible. By contacting the LCoC early about its ideas for new programs, an organization can determine:

- Whether through the CoC's gaps analysis, the CoC has confirmed that there is a need for the type of program the organization envisions.
- Where there are opportunities available for collaborations that would reduce the costs or increase the benefits of the contemplated program.
- Whether, and under what conditions, the program is likely to be considered a priority for state or federal grants awarded with the CoC's endorsement; and
- Whether, under what conditions, the CoC would endorse the proposed program.

### **Collaborating with the CoC and Partners**

The Lowcountry Coc is responsible for coordinating an effective and efficient system of care for those experiencing homelessness in the Lowcountry. The CoC cannot endorse a new program unless:

- The organization provides timely notice of its plans to create the program and allowed the LCoC the opportunity to provide feedback on those plans.
- The organization demonstrates a willingness to work with the LCoC and its partners to adjust its plans to achieve better outcomes or reduce costs.
- The organization makes a commitment to participate in the Homeless Management Information System and support efforts of the LCoC to meet other requirements of state and federal funding programs.
- The organization has met all threshold requirements.

### **Requesting endorsement**

In seeking funding for a new program, an organization may apply for competitive grants that require the CoC's endorsement, even it has failed to give the CoC timely notice. However, in doing so, the organization should recognize that the CoC will have little to no time to collect additional information and will be unable to help the applicant refine the program proposal to make it a stronger candidate for endorsement.