

Fresno Madera Continuum of Care

FY2022 CoC Application Score Analysis

OVERVIEW

This document presents an analysis of the score that the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) application earned in the national FY2022 HUD CoC competition. As shown in the analysis below, the FMCoC scored 12.25 points below the median score for the country as a whole, but was still awarded 99.6% of the CoC's 2022 funding request.

For FY2022, the FMCoC **performed well** on a number of key application questions. This includes the narrative sections of “CoC Coordination and Engagement- Inclusive Structure and Participation” as well as “Project Capacity, Review, and Ranking- Local Competition.”

The **areas for improvement focused on the data sections of HMIS and System Performance**, both areas that have been challenges for FMCoC in the past. Due to COVID, in FY2021, HUD de-emphasized the System Performance data scores, offering only 22 total points for this section during the FY2021 NOFO. In FY2021, the FMCoC received 19.25 of the 22 points, accounting for 87.5% of the points available. However, as expected, during the FY2022 NOFO HUD returned to placing importance on System Performance and allotted 59 points in this section. The FMCoC received 31 points of those points, accounting for 52.5% of the points available.

- **The main point loss in the System Performance section was a loss of 13/13 points for the Length of Time Homeless (LOTH) System Performance Measurement (SPM)**, as the FMCoC's median LOTH almost doubled from 554 days to 947 days, which is over 2 ½ years.
- The FMCoC also lost 6/13 points for the **“Exits to Permanent Housing/Retention of Permanent Housing” SPM**, as the percentage of successful exits decreased 13% from 51% in FY2020 to 38% in FY2021. Looking closely at this data, we see that the FMCoC had 665 additional exits for this SPM and only 21 of those whom exited to Permanent Housing (this data is based upon persons in ES, SH, TH, and RRH who exited, plus persons in other PSH/PH projects who exited without moving into housing). That means only 3% of the additional exits were to PH. The partial 7 points obtained for this factor is likely due to the narrative that accompanied the data, along with the fact that the total percentage change in data was not as drastic as the LOTH SPM.

Additional point losses related to data were with RRH beds and bed utilization. As in FY2021, **the FMCoC lost 10/10 points for not increasing Rapid Rehousing beds** during the 2021 Housing Inventory Count (HIC). In reality, the number of RRH beds decreased further. **The FMCoC also lost 3.5/4 points for its bed coverage rates in HMIS. Seventy one percent of the points lost this year were related to data (41.5 of the 58.75 points lost).**

In FY2022 the **“Housing and Health Care Leverage for New Projects” points** were increased to 14 from 10 points in FY2021 and were made part of the main score rather than included as bonus points. The FMCoC was able to submit new project applications that leveraged health care (both the Family Villa PSH Expansion and Project Rise PSH project included health care leverage) but was not able to submit any new project applications that leveraged housing, resulting in a 7 point loss (7/14) in this section.

In general, a higher score on the Collaborative Application translates into a higher chance of receiving funding for projects ranked in Tier 2 and/or DV bonus funding. The weighted mean score is the mean CoC score weighted by Annual Renewal Demand. CoCs that score higher than the weighted mean score were more likely to gain funding relative to their Annual Renewal Demand, while CoCs that scored lower than the weighted mean were more likely to lose money relative to their Annual Renewal Demand. The FMCoC scored 20 points lower than the weighted mean score but received its entire Annual Renewal Demand and some Bonus Funding.

DV Bonus Funds: The FMCoC did not apply for a new Domestic Violence Bonus Funding project during the FY2022 NOFO.

Additionally, the CoC hired neutral facilitators to run the local competition and to provide technical assistance to new and renewal projects throughout the competition. The scoring tools and policies for the competition were reviewed at a public meeting for comments, new project outreach was conducted, and a new project technical assistance workshop was held for the public and all potential new project applicants.

Summary of Full Score

Scoring Category	Maximum Score	Your CoC Score	Comments
1B- Coordination and Engagement- Inclusive Structure and Participation	5	4.75	The FMCoC received a .25 point loss in this section, likely because it responded “no” as to whether some entities participate and vote at CoC meetings and participate in the Coordinated Entry System. These entities included: Indian Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities (Tribal Organizations), local jails, and a State Sexual Assault Coalition.
1C. Coordination and Engagement - Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations	29	23	The FMCoC lost 6 points in this section, likely due to a lack of formal partnerships with Youth Education Providers, SEAs, LEA, and School Districts and due to a lack of a formal Agreement/MOU with Early Childhood Service Providers. This section also contained two new scoring factors: addressing the needs of LGBTQ clients and Anti-Discrimination policy training and compliance evaluation.
1D. Coordination and Engagement - Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, and Other Organizations - Continued	49	36.5	The FMCoC received full points on many parts of this section, including (but not limited to), for Housing First (10/10), Street Outreach (3/3), and Partnerships with Public Health Agencies on Infectious Disease (5/5). The FMCoC lost 12.5 points in this section, including 10 points for not increasing RRH beds on the HIC, 1.5 points in the racial disparities section (5.5/7 points), and 2 points in the Lived Experience section (2/3 points). It’s likely that the Lived Experience point loss came from the FMCoC needing to improve professional development

			and employment opportunities for individuals with lived experience of homelessness and the need for the FMCoC to include persons with lived experience in the NOFO review and rank panel.
1E. Project Capacity, Review, and Ranking-Local Competition	30	29.5	The FMCoC received a full 21 points in this section for the Project Review and Ranking process, for the Scored Project Forms used in the local competition, and for Addressing Severe Barriers during the Review and Ranking Process. It's possible that the .5 point loss was in the "Promoting Racial Equity in the Local Review and Ranking Process" section, as a new scoring factor was added that CoCs need to describe "efforts the CoC made to obtain input and include persons of different races and ethnicities, particularly those over-represented in the local homelessness population, and how that has impacted how the CoC has determined the rating factors used to review project applications."
2A. HMIS Implementation	9	5.5	All 3.5 points lost in this section were lost due to the FMCoC's bed coverage rates. Moving forward, the FMCoC can increase points by expanding the number of providers and beds that are included in the HIC, particularly shelter and PSH beds. Since the FY2022 NOFO the HMIS Lead Agency has worked to integrate HUD-VASH beds into HMIS to improve the PSH bed coverage rate and has worked with local shelters, like the Madera and Fresno Rescue Missions, to get their beds added into HMIS.
2B. PIT Count	5	5	Perfect score.
2C. System Performance	59	31	<p>The CoC lost 28 points in this section, which is its biggest point loss for this section in many years (52.5% of points received). The FMCoC received 84% of the points available in FY2021 and 78% of the points available in FY2019. Continued focus to improve system performance measures can strengthen the FMCoC's score.</p> <p>According to the HUD debrief, the FMCoC lost 13 points for data related to the length of time homeless SPM (0/13 points), 1 point for the reduction in first time homelessness SPM (2/3 points), 6 points for data for the Exits to Permanent Housing/Housing Retention SPM (7/13 points), 1 point for the returns to homelessness SPM (7/8 points), and 2 points for the increased income SPM (5/7 points). The FMCoC's LOTH increased from 554 days to 947 days and the Exits to Permanent Housing SPM decreased 13%.</p>

3A. Coordination with Housing and Health Care	14	7	The FMCoC only submitted new project applications that leveraged healthcare but was not able to submit any new project applications that leveraged housing, resulting in a 7 point loss (7/14) in this section.
Total Points	200	142.25	71% of total points available

Scoring Breakdown – High Priority Application Questions

Scoring Category	Maximum Score	Your CoC Score	Comments
1D: Coordination and Engagement/Coordination with Federal, State, Local, Private, & Other Organizations			
Housing First - Lowering Barriers to Entry and Project Evaluation Evaluation for Housing First Compliance	10	10	Congratulations! Your perfect score on this section reflects the hard work that the FMCoC put in to lower barriers and continue to evaluate and improve projects moving forward.
Street Outreach	3	3	Congratulations on your perfect score in this category!
Rapid Rehousing Beds	10	0	This is one of the primary areas where the FMCoC lost points, as Rapid Rehousing beds decreased from 577 during the 2021 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) to 389 during the 2022 HIC.
Racial Equity and Racial Disparities	7	5.5	The FMCoC lost 1.5 points in this section, likely because it did not answer “yes” to implementing every strategy listed by HUD to address racial disparities. For example, the CoC is not “establishing professional development opportunities to identify and invest in emerging leaders of difference races and ethnicities in the homelessness sector.”
Lived Experience	3	2	The FMCoC lost 1 point in this section, likely due to the FMCoC needing to improve professional development and employment opportunities for individuals with lived experience of homelessness and the need for the FMCoC to include persons with lived experience in the NOFO scoring tool creation and review and rank panel. The FMCoC LEAB was started in August 2022 and has reviewed the 2023 NOFO scoring tools and policies.
1E. Project Review, Ranking, and Selection			
This section looked out how well the CoC used objective criteria and past	21	21	The FMCoC received a perfect score in this area. HUD awarded points based on FMCoC’s use of objective criteria, system performance criteria, and criteria used for rank and review

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performance to review and rank projects based on required attachments.			
2A. HMIS Bed Coverage			
Bed coverage rate using HIC, HMIS, and VSP comparable data bases	4	.5	<p>This is an area with opportunity for improvement for FMCoC. The points that were lost in this category were based on the percentage of Housing Inventory Count beds covered by HMIS.</p> <p>The FMCoC increased its emergency shelter bed coverage rate from 43.7% in FY2021 to 60.5% in FY2022, but it is still below HUD’s target of 85%. The HMIS Lead Agency is working to get emergency shelter providers that are not currently using HMIS to start using HMIS, including both the Madera and Fresno Rescue Missions, so the emergency shelter bed coverage rate should continue to increase.</p> <p>The FY2022 PSH bed coverage rate is at 45.84%, which is well below HUD’s target of 85%. However, the HMIS Lead Agency has been working to integrate the VA’s HUD-VASH beds into HMIS, which should significantly increase the PSH bed coverage rate for FY2023.</p> <p>The FY2022 “Other Permanent Housing” (OPH) bed coverage rate was listed as 4% during FY2022 due to an error related to Emergency Housing Vouchers during the HIC and is actually 100%. This explanation was provided to HUD in the narrative section.</p>
Submission of LSA data	2	2	Submitted LSA data on time
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2C. System Performance			
Reduction in first-time homelessness	3	2	The FMCoC did not reduce first-time homelessness to the extent expected by HUD.
Length of time homeless	13	0	As stated above, the FMCoC’s LOTH almost doubled from 554 days to 947 days. It is important to increase placement of people who are chronically homeless who have high lengths of time homeless. By doing so, you not only will help hard-to-place individuals become more housing

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			stable, but you will also bring down the median and mean numbers for the FMCoC overall. This may mean reducing some “document ready” barriers to housing matching currently in place by CES.
Exits to permanent housing and retentions in permanent housing	13	7	As discussed above, the percentage of successful exits decreased 13% from 51% in FY2020 to 38% in FY2021. Looking closely at this data, the FMCoC had 665 additional exits for this SPM, only 21 of which exited to Permanent Housing (this data is based upon persons in ES, SH, TH, and RRH who exited, plus persons in other PH projects who exited without moving into housing). The partial 7 points obtained for this factor is likely due to the narrative that accompanied the data, along with the fact that the total percentage change in data was not as drastic as the LOTH SPM.
Returns to homelessness	8	7	An almost perfect score. Continuing to explore ways to provide case management and other supportive services for people who are recently housed so that they can develop the skills and resources they need to retain permanent housing may help lead you all to a perfect score in the upcoming years.
Increasing employment cash income and workforce development education and training	7	5	The FMCoC did not increase employment cash income or workforce development and training sufficient to receive a higher score. The 5 points likely came from the narrative.
Total CoC High Priority Questions	110	67	The FMCoC received 67.6% of the total score available for the high priority questions. 85% of the high priority points lost were due to the 10 point loss due to the RRH bed reduction, the 13 point LOTH SPM point loss, and the 3.5 point bed coverage rate point loss.

Context

- Highest Score for any CoC: 188.75
- Lowest Score for any CoC: 53.5
- Median Score for all CoCs: 154.5
- Weighted Mean Score for all CoCs: 162.25

AREAS OF STRENGTH IN FMCoC’S APPLICATION

- Housing First;
- CoC Coordination and Engagement;
- Street outreach;
- Rank and review;

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT FOR NEXT YEAR'S APPLICATION

- Review and compare HIC and PIT counts when initially submitted to allow time to identify and correct any errors;
- Collect, analyze and evaluate data more frequently throughout the year to be able to identify areas in need of improvement in a timely fashion that allows the CoC to remedy the issues before annual NOFO.
 - Reduce length of time homeless – are people really remaining homeless that long, or is this a data issue?
 - Increase successful exits from ES/TH/RRH/PSH
 - Improve HMIS bed coverage rate, including work with VA and faith-based shelters. Utilize the new HUD-VA HOME tool to add HUD-VASH vouchers to HMIS, which will raise the PSH bed coverage rate.
- Engage with tribes and tribal organizations, early childhood providers and/or organizations representing youth/young adults, and LGBTQ+ individuals; and
- Continue to address racial equity and disparities, build upon the initial work engaging more people with lived experience of homelessness in the CoC, and deepen partnerships with housing and health care.