

# SNAPS Special NOFO: Addressing Equity

*(Sent out via SNAPS listserv on 8/15/2022)*

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the [Continuum of Care Supplemental to Address Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness \(Special NOFO\)](#). This is a first-of-its-kind opportunity to address unsheltered homelessness and homeless encampments including funds set aside specifically to address homelessness in rural communities.

To support communities in developing their plans to address rural and unsheltered homelessness, HUD is highlighting existing Technical Assistance (TA) and other resources through a series of listserv messages. Today's message focuses on Advancing Equity in homelessness response systems.

Two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, HUD remains focused on promoting equity and inclusion through the programs we fund to prevent and end homelessness. Black, Indigenous, and all people of color as well as individuals who identify as LGBTQIA+ and individuals with disabilities are substantially overrepresented in the homeless population across the country. HUD's efforts are aligned with the Administration's [Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities through the Federal Government](#). As stated in the Executive Order, "because advancing equity requires a systematic approach to embedding fairness in decision-making processes, executive departments and agencies (agencies) must recognize and work to redress inequities in their policies and programs that serve as barriers to equal opportunity."

Going forward, we encourage CoCs to pursue a vision and mission that explicitly embeds equity in the operation of your homelessness system. Understanding the disparities in outcomes of individuals and families that go through your homelessness system should inform changes in policies, assessment tools and process, and prioritization practices to create more equitable outcomes.

The SNAPS team looks forward to working with you all to continue addressing racism and disparities in our homelessness response system with the goal of ending homelessness for all.

*Use the links below to review equity related resources:*

- [Disease Risks and Homelessness - HUD Exchange](#)
- [Racial Equity - HUD Exchange](#)
  - Rehousing Activation and Racial Equity (Part 1): Equity as a Foundation
  - Data & Equity: Using the Data You Have
  - Advancing Racial Equity through CE Assessment and Prioritization
  - Equity Driven Changes to Coordinated Entry Prioritization
  - Prevention to Promote Equity
  - Increasing Equity through Procurement
  - [Racial Equity Tool](#)
  - [Stella P](#)

