



# Housing Counseling Stakeholder Meeting FY 2016 Notice of Funding Agreement Feedback Webinar

Please call: **(800) 260-0702**

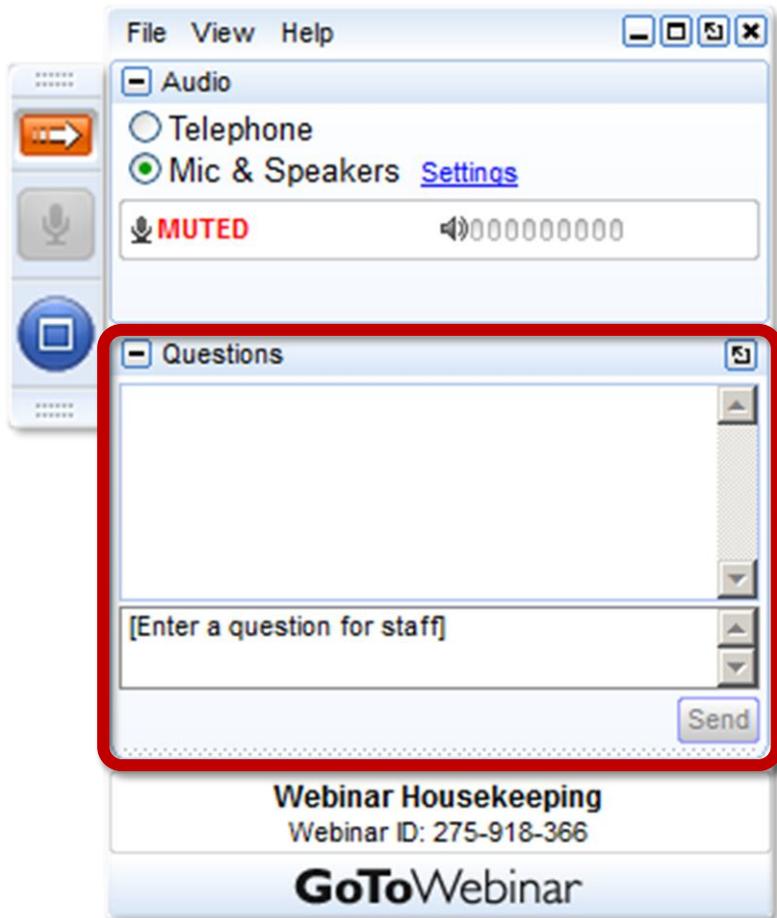
Participant Access Code: **397295**

to join the conference call portion of the webinar

# Webinar Logistics:

- This webinar is being recorded.
- The audio along with the PowerPoint will be available at [www.hudexchange.gov/housingcounseling](http://www.hudexchange.gov/housingcounseling) under “Training Webinar Archives”
- All attendee lines will muted during presentation.
- There will be several polling questions.
- There will be important discussion questions. The operator will give you instructions. You will not have to give your name and agency to participate in the discussions.

# Other Ways to Ask Questions



## Your Participation

Please submit your text questions and comments using the Questions Panel. We will answer some of them during the webinar.

You can also send questions and comments to [housing.counseling@hud.gov](mailto:housing.counseling@hud.gov) with **webinar topic is subject line.**

**Note:** The audio and presentation will be available on OHC's website. Information will be sent out via OHC's LISTSERV

# Please Mute Your Phones During Discussions

- During the discussions, all the phones may be unmuted by the operator.
- It is critical that you mute your phone during these discussions.
  - Most phones have a Mute function so use it.
  - \*6 will also mute and unmute your phone.
- Unmuted phones are a distraction to the discussion.
- Please be courteous to others on the call.

# Brief Survey

- Please complete the brief survey at the end of this session.
- Your responses will help OHC better plan and present our webinars.



# Welcome

## Lorraine Griscavage-Frisbee

Deputy Director

Office of Outreach and Capacity Building

# Agenda

- Purpose of Stakeholder Meetings
- Feedback on:
  - FY 2016 funding process
  - Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) policies

# Stakeholder Meeting Purpose

- Provide the opportunity for communication and interaction
- Evaluate stakeholder input on program policy and procedures
- Share best practices and challenges
- Provide valuable insight for the OHC to help consumers achieve housing goals
- Provide advice to leadership of the department as it relates to housing legislation, regulation, policy development, budget, training, program evaluation and oversight



# FY 2016 Funding Process

**Jamie Spakow**

Housing Program Specialist  
Office of Policy and Grant Administration

# Polling Question #1

What type of organization are you representing?

- A. Intermediary
- B. Multi-State Organization (MSO)
- C. State Housing Finance Agency (SHFA)
- D. Local Housing Counseling Agency (LHCA) – direct grantee
- E. Affiliate or Sub-grantee of an Intermediary/MSO/SHFA

# Polling Question #2

How did/will your organization receive FY 2016 HUD housing counseling funding?

- A. Through the FY 2016-2017 NOFA published February 2016
- B. Through a sub-grant from an Agency that received 2016 NOFA funds through the NOFA
- C. Did not receive FY 2016 funding
- D. Did not apply

# FY 2016 Funding Process Timeline



**Feb 18, 2016**  
Published  
FY16-17 NOFA

**April 4, 2016**  
- Applications  
Due

**June 21, 2016**  
- Announced  
FY16 NOFA  
Awards

**June 30, 2016**  
-Mailed FY 16  
Grant  
Agreements

**July 6, 2016**  
– Provided  
grant  
agreement  
training.

**July 25, 2016**  
– NOFA  
Stakeholder  
Meeting

# Polling Question #3

The FY 2016-2017 NOFA extended the application window to 45 days. Your thoughts on this timeframe?

- A. We would have liked additional application days
- B. We thought the timeframe was just right
- C. The timeframe was too long
- D. N/A – We didn't apply

# Polling Question #4

If you applied, what was your experience with the grants.gov application process? (select all that apply)

- A. We didn't have any issues submitting our application
- B. We experienced issues with DUNS or SAMS registration
- C. We experienced transmission problems and timing out
- D. We applied, but want information on how to see the application that was submitted
- E. We tried to apply but could not complete the process or had missing application materials

# Funding Methodology

HUD's funding methodology for FY16 and FY17 included:

- Base award – based on size and nature of counseling network
- Competitive funding amount – based on application score
- Funding Based on Number of Counselor FTEs
- Funding to Provide Support to a Network
- Funding for Reverse Mortgage Counseling

**Question:** How can HUD do a better job of measuring and rewarding quality of service without relying too heavily on narratives?

# Rating Factors

The FY16-17 NOFA included the following rating factors and point values.

1. Rating Factor 1. Capacity of the Applicant – 31 points
2. Rating Factor 2. Need/ Departmental Policy Priorities – 14 points
3. Rating Factor 3. Soundness of Approach/ Scope of Housing Counseling Services – 41 points
4. Rating Factor 4. Leveraging – 6 points
5. Rating Factor 5. Achieving Results and Program Evaluation – 8 points

## Questions:

- What are your thoughts on the point values?
- Do you think they are weighted properly?

# Grant Agreement and Training

For those who received an FY16 grant

- Was the grant agreement clear?
- If you participated in Grant Agreement Training, was it helpful?
- Are there areas for improvement?



# Notice of Funding Availability Policies

**David Valdez**

Housing Program Specialist  
Office of Policy and Grant Administration

# Polling Question #5

For Intermediaries, MSOs, and SHFAs:

How does your network experience change?

- A. Sub-agencies are added and removed from the network throughout the grant period.
- B. Sub-agencies are added and removed from the network when applying for a HUD grant, but typically are not added/removed during the grant period.
- C. Sub-agencies are rarely added and removed from the network.
- D. My agency was recently approved or hasn't experienced network change yet.

# Polling Question #6

For LHCAs, Affiliates and Sub-grantees:

What are your plans for the next HUD grant cycle?

- A. We apply for funding directly from HUD and plan to continue doing so.
- B. We apply for funding directly from HUD but are considering joining an Intermediary or SHFA network.
- C. We access funding through an Intermediary or SHFA network and plan to continue doing so.
- D. We access funding through an Intermediary or SHFA network but are considering applying for funding directly from HUD.
- E. We do not apply for HUD funding, or do not plan to apply.

# Housing Counseling Networks

## Questions for Parent Agencies:

- Sub-grantee Selection Factors?
- Importance of Network Flexibility?
- Network Expansion – Recent and/or Planned?

## Questions for LHCAs, affiliates, and sub-grantees:

- Application or Affiliation - Decision Factors?
- Change from Grantee to Affiliated Sub-grantee (or vice versa)
  - Talk about the Experience
  - Advantages and Disadvantages?

# Polling Question #7

**HUD Comprehensive Housing Counseling Grants have an 18-month period of performance rather than 12 months.**

**What do you think of this change?**

Select all that apply.

- A. I like the increased flexibility to expend funds over 6 additional months if needed.
- B. I like not having to request an extension to expend funds over a longer period of time.
- C. I feel the need to stretch the money out over the full 18 months.
- D. I find it confusing or need more guidance.
- E. I prefer a 12-month period of performance.

# Period of Performance

## Questions:

- Is the 18-month period of performance helpful?
- Extended period of performance questions or comments?
- Challenges with overlapping periods of performance?
- Is more guidance needed?
  - Which aspect(s)?
  - Preferred format(s)?

# Polling Question #8

**What has been your experience with expending grant funds awarded in the past few years?**

**Select all that apply.**

- A. We have had to return all or part of the award because we were not able to expend all the funding.
- B. We have had to request an extension in order to expend all the funding.
- C. We have not had any problem expending all the funding during the period of performance.

# Expending Grant Funds

## Questions:

- Did you indicate a cap funding amount in your NOFA application? If so:
  - Why did you do so?
  - How did you arrive at your cap funding amount?
- The FY16 CHC NOFA incorporated a grantee's grant expenditure history into NOFA scoring and funding methodology. What do you think of this change?

# Other NOFA Policy Questions

- Should HUD further incorporate 9902 reporting performance in the NOFA? If so, suggestions?
- How could the NOFA better recognize and fund network oversight responsibilities?
- Did you have issues uploading and/or verifying relevant application documents were uploaded to grants.gov?
  - If so, what can HUD do to ensure applicants are able to verify all relevant documents were uploaded?

# Discussion Questions

- What is your overall impression about the Housing Counseling NOFA Application and Grant Award Process?
- What additional suggestions or comments do you have that could further improve this process?



# Concluding Remarks

**David Valdez**

Housing Program Specialist  
Office of Policy and Grant Administration

# Debriefing

- This stakeholder meeting does not replace a HUD debriefing or serve as Housing Counseling Program or Grant Administration Training.
- All applicants are encouraged to request a debriefing. You may do so by sending an email to [housing.counseling@hud.gov](mailto:housing.counseling@hud.gov) with the subject line “Debriefing Request.”

# Closing Discussion

- Evaluation Survey
  - Survey will launch after the webinar

# Conclusion

For housing counseling program information, grant information, training and events, counselor resources and to sign up for our LISTSERV.

[www.hud.gov/housingcounseling](http://www.hud.gov/housingcounseling)

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Questions or comments:

[housing.counseling@hud.gov](mailto:housing.counseling@hud.gov)