

## People With Lived Expertise Consultant Policy

For the purposes of this policy, People with Lived Expertise (PLE) shall be defined as someone who is currently homeless or has been homeless within the last 7 years.

Central CoC will involve people with lived expertise to be included in all steps of the CoCs policymaking, programming, and services from initial planning to implementation and evaluation and monitoring in order to:

- participate and provide input that is incorporated into the local planning process;
- review and recommend revisions to CoC policies and procedures addressing homelessness related to Coordinated Entry, services, and housing;
- actively participate in CoC committees, subcommittees, and workgroups; as well as advisors to the CoC Governing Board;
- be instrumental in decision-making processes related to addressing homelessness; and
- be included in the development, or revision, of the local competition rating factors.

Deliberate efforts will be made to ensure that the consultant represent the geographic area and demographics of the full CoC, including under-represented populations, in order to provide policies, procedures, and services that are diverse, equitable, consistent, and inclusive of all populations.

A stipend will be paid to the consultant for participation in CoC activities as listed above. The stipend amount will be determined annually by the CoC Governing Board based on funding availability. A maximum of 7 consultants will be designated for paid participation at any particular time. The designated consultants will be determined by the CoC Governing Board. In order for the stipend to be paid, the consultant must complete and submit a Stipend Request Form which must be approved and signed by the CoC Coordinator before payment can be issued.

Designated consultants will be offered a mentor to assist them in learning about the CoC, its operations, programs, and acronyms. This mentorship will be offered free of charge to the consultant and will be available for at least 3 months from the time the consultant is designated.

Proposed 9-6-22  
Revised 9-12-22  
Approved 9-15-22