## Exhibit A

## **Continuums of Care (CoC)**

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program was formed in 2009 when the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was amended to consolidate three homeless assistance programs administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development into a single grant program. The three programs include Shelter Plus Care, Supportive Housing and Emergency Solutions (which was previously known as Emergency Shelter).

The CoC Program is designed 1) to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; 2) provide funding for nonprofit providers, states, and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families, while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families and communities by homelessness; 3) promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; 4) and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Pursuant to Federal law, CoCs are self-forming and may include representatives from "relevant organizations" including nonprofit homeless assistance providers, victim service providers, faithbased organizations, governments, businesses, advocates, public housing agencies, school districts, social service providers, mental health agencies, hospitals, universities, affordable housing developers, law enforcement, and organizations that serve veterans and homeless and formerly homeless individuals.

Each CoC is mandated to form a governing board following a written process that the local CoC adopts. The CoC governing board is required to be representative of the relevant organizations listed above and of the projects serving homeless subpopulations. Despite the broad range of organizations eligible for CoC membership, the only specific requirement is that the board include "at least one homeless or formerly homeless individual."