Technical Assistance to Improve the Delivery of Homelessness Programs – FAQs

General Technical Assistance Questions	
1. **How many technical assistance (TA) requests can an eligible recipient submit?**	An eligible recipient may request activities under one or more of the TA "category" i.e. capacity building TA and housing first TA. Additionally, an eligible recipient may submit multiple requests for the same TA "category", i.e. Request 1 – updating the strategic plan to end homelessness. Request 2 – Identify system gaps or structural issues of the local Coordinated Entry System.
2. **Approximately how long should we expect to hear from the HCD TA team once our initial request is submitted?**	Once a community submits a TA request, with the details of the request outlined clearly, HCD will be in touch with a proposed work plan and request for availability for an introduction call, within two weeks.
3. **Is there a cost to receive TA in my community?**	The TA is at no cost to your CoC/county. HCD secured and procured the funds to provide the capacity building, housing first, and housing stabilization TA being offered. However, HCD expects TA recipients to provide some staff time and resources (i.e. training space, meeting announcements) needed to make the engagement process a success.
4. **Can a service provider or the housing authority submit a TA application?**	No, however, local service providers or the housing authority staff are encouraged to discuss their needs and work with the local CoC or County to submit a TA request on their behalf.
5. **Is the TA restricted to HCD administered programs?**	No. The TA can be used to align the local homeless system resources or administer homelessness programs in a consistent manner.
Capacity Building, Housing First, and Housing Stability Questions	
6. **If our CoC/county requests TA for both housing first and capacity building, will the consultants who are respectively tasked for each of the TA "buckets" coordinate with each other?**	YES! HCD as well as each of the TA consultants, will work together to ensure the TA in the different "buckets" complement each other as opposed to duplicating efforts and activities.
7. **What are the eligible activities under the disaster recovery TA- through Capacity Building "category"?**	If your community requests disaster recovery or disaster preparedness TA, the consultants can help ensure that those who are the most vulnerable are a part of your planning and recovery efforts. The TA can assist you to evaluate the multiple funding streams in advance of the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) request, create program guidelines, or implementation support.

8. **What are eligible activities under the youth homelessness planning TA-through Capacity Building "bucket"?**	The youth planning TA can help your community with a strategic planning processes to prevent and end youth homelessness, through collecting and analyzing data, coordinating with other systems of care that interact with youth, and implementing promising best program practices.
9. **What are the overarching TA activities that capacity building TA could provide?**	Capacity Building TA is a broad description of interventions that can enhance, develop, and build local capacity to resolve homelessness in a community. HCD's capacity building TA provider, TAC offers a "menu" of capacity building TA options and has the ability to engage with the community in a variety of ways that support a community's efforts to build or improve its homeless services and housing resources.
	TAC is available to provide some of the following TA activities: enhancements to governance and structure, assessment, enhancement and evaluation of coordinated entry, comprehensive strategic planning and systems mapping; development, utilization and evaluation of performance measurements; planning for and implementation of disaster recovery, integration of HMIS, expansion of rapid re-housing including training and program development, and planning to prevent and end youth homelessness.
10. **Will capacity building TA have the ability to look at our CoC system as a whole and map the ways we can increase capacity, better align local and federal resources, and ensure efforts are not being duplicated and/or missing?**	YES! This is the essence of the capacity building TA. The capacity building TA is tailored around your communities' individual needs as it relates to increasing resource alignment, system mapping and maximizing multiple funding opportunities to serve people who are experiencing homelessness in your community, and ensure homelessness is a rare, brief, and non-reoccurring for everyone who faces a housing crisis.
11. **What types of trainings are available under housing stability TA category?**	Trauma informed care, motivational interviewing, harm reduction, housing navigation, eviction prevention, shelter system retooling etc..
12. **Landlords in my community do not understand what my program does and are refusing to house my clients. Can the TA help us reach out to them?**	YES! The TA assistance provided under the housing stability category can include developing media campaigns or tools to organize local landlord engagement events, tenant rights education, or supportive housing education.
13. **The housing market is really tight in my community and competition for vacant units is stiff. Can anything be done to help?**	YES! The TA under the housing stability category can help develop a flexible subsidy pool, in addition to landlord engagement tools noted above.
14. **Housing first is a new concept for our new service providers. Is there training available to bridge the knowledge gap?**	YES! The TA under the housing first category can include a detailed training overview of the core components of housing first or a peer to peer training approach for implementing housing first consistently in your community.