

of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 *et. seq.*) (1937 Act).

VI. Selection Process

A. Application Selection Process. Three levels of review will be conducted: (1) A screening to determine if you are eligible to apply for this funding category and whether your application submission is complete, on time, and meets threshold; (2) a technical review by an individual reviewer to rate your application based on the five rating factors provided in this section; and (3) a technical review by a review committee to ensure uniform rating treatment by the individual reviewers. HUD will select for grant award the highest ranked application first and continue down in ranking until funds are exhausted.

B. Response to Factors as Narrative. As explained in Section I.E., Application Format your responses to the rating factors constitute the narrative portion of the application. The rating factor responses should include information and references to the program summary that is required under Rating Factor 3 and other documentation in the application. The factors cover key personnel, target audience, services and activities, how the services/activities match the needs of the target audience, program evaluation, and financial controls. A narrative separate from the rating factor responses will not be reviewed. Repeating information is not necessary.

C. Factors for Award Used to Evaluate and Rate Neighborhood Networks Applications. The factors for rating and ranking applicants and maximum points for each factor are provided below. The maximum number of points available for this program is 50. In order to be awarded a grant under this NN NOFA, the applicant must score a minimum of 35 points. (Two extra EZ/EC bonus points were already included in the award of the HOPE VI NOFA and will not be included in this NN NOFA).

Rating Factor 1: Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Organizational Staff (12 Points)

A. Description. This factor addresses whether the applicant has the organizational resources necessary to successfully implement the proposed activities within the grant period. In rating this factor, HUD will consider the extent to which the proposal demonstrates that the applicant will have qualified and experienced staff dedicated to administering the program.

B. Proposed Program Staffing. Staff Experience (4 Points).

1. The knowledge and experience of your proposed NNC Coordinator, staff, subcontractors, subgrantees, and other partners in planning and successfully managing programs similar to the Neighborhood Networks program for which funding is being requested. Experience will be judged in terms of recent, relevant, and successful experience of your team to undertake eligible program activities. In rating this factor, HUD will consider experience within the last 5 years to be recent; experience should relate specific activities and specific accomplishments.

2. Scoring: a. If your proposed team has experience working in both computer-related and supportive service programs, you may receive up to 4 points.

b. If your team has experience in only one area, you may receive up to a maximum of 2 points for this subfactor.

c. If your staff has experience in neither area, you will receive a score of 0 points for this subfactor.

C. Staff Capacity (4 Points). 1. You will be evaluated based on whether you, your subcontractors, and partners have sufficient personnel, or will be able to quickly access enough qualified experts or professionals, to deliver the proposed activities in a timely and effective fashion.

2. Scoring:

a. If you have staff and partners in place to begin the proposed work immediately, you will receive up to a maximum of 4 points;

b. If you have staff and partners in place to begin the proposed work three months after award, you will receive up to a maximum of 2 points;

c. If you have staff and partners in place to begin the proposed work six months after award, you will receive up to a maximum of 1 point; and

d. If you will not have the staff and partners in place within six months, you will receive 0 points.

D. Program Administration and Fiscal Management. (4 Points). 1. Describe how you will manage the program; how HUD can be sure that there is program and financial accountability; and describe staff/team members' roles and responsibilities. You must provide the following:

a. A *complete* description of your fiscal management structure, including fiscal controls you have in place;

b. A list of any findings (HUD Inspector General, management review, fiscal, etc.), material weaknesses and what you have done to address them.

2. Scoring:

a. If you show fiscal management controls that are adequate to manage a grant from this NN NOFA, and you do

not have any outstanding findings, you will receive up to 4 points;

b. If you show a program management structure and fiscal management controls that are adequate to manage a grant from this NN NOFA, but have outstanding findings (or do not address findings), you will receive up to 2 points; and

c. If you do not describe your program management structure and fiscal management controls and show that they are adequate, you will receive 0 points.

Rating Factor 2: Need/Extent of the Problem (8 Points)

A. Description. 1. This factor addresses the extent to which there is a need for funding your proposed program and your indication of the importance of meeting the need in the target area. In responding to this factor, you will be evaluated on the extent to which you describe and document the level of need for your proposed activities and the urgency in meeting the need.

2. Contrast the number of low-income residents in the area around the existing or proposed NNC to availability of no-cost Neighborhood Networks type training currently in that area. State the sources of this information. You should document needs as they apply to the HOPE VI development's locally defined neighborhood.

3. In responding to this factor, you should include:

a. Public Housing Residents and Low-Income Families. The applicant should reference relevant pages in the program summary.

b. Local Training Program Information. Information on the lack of Neighborhood Networks related training programs currently available and easily accessible to public housing residents. List no-cost training that is available through either the PHA or other local or state community organizations.

B. Scoring: 1. If there are no computer and Internet facilities available in the HOPE VI development's locally defined neighborhood other than those located at public schools, you may receive up to 8 points;

2. If there is an insufficient amount of computer and Internet facilities available in the HOPE VI development's locally defined neighborhood, including library and public school availability, you may receive up to 4 points, depending upon the number of residents in need; and

3. If there are sufficient computer and Internet facilities available in the HOPE VI development's locally defined neighborhood to fulfill the needs of your