Recommendations from the SNOFO Committee discussion:

* Service-Only Projects - regardless of specific project type such as Street/Mobile Outreach, RRH with only services, PSH with only services, SSO only, etc.
  + Unlike the ‘regular’ NOFO, this one encourages SSO Projects and we should take advantage of that to fill known gaps in our rural service areas.
  + Ideally - one large project app that would cover all eligible “rural” areas of the state.
    - This could be one statewide agency, or a collaboration of several agencies.
  + Higher priority for projects that can leverage specific housing resources via connection to a housing authority. This could be existing units or units currently in development.
    - While the committee recognizes the need for more housing, the lack of services for people with “Sever Service Needs” as defined in the SNOFO is often a greater barrier to securing and maintaining housing.
  + Higher priority for projects that can leverage specific healthcare resources, including mental health, MaineCare, etc., as helping those with “Sever Service Needs” is a HUD priority for this specific SNOFO.
  + Higher priority for services that are flexible and all-encompassing, and can serve people from homelessness/on the street and assist with attaining and retaining housing including follow-up services while in housing - like a hybrid of PATH/ICMs/housing navigators.
* Bricks and Mortar housing projects, with the caveat that 50% match would need to be obtained from a source other than MaineHousing.
  + Recommendation is to have a ranking protocol that ranks this below the above due to the SNOFO being unique in that it encourages SSO projects and knowing that MaineHousing expects to have match $ available for bricks and mortar projects should the regular NOFO include a permanent housing bonus.
* The RFP and scoring/ranking processes should encourage and incentivize projects from agencies that have not previously been funded by MCOC, especially agencies lead by and serving BIPOC individuals and/or historically underserved populations.

* 1st caveat to all the above:  Agencies interested in applying for this funding will need to attend a “bidders” meeting in which more details will be discussed (as they’re decided upon by the MCoC and MCoC BOD) as well as the best ways in which people can collaborate.
* 2nd caveat to all the above:  Project applicants are encouraged to work together to make the available funding “work” both for the betterment of the projects themselves, but also to position Maine to be as successful as possible in this funding opportunity.