



Statement from the Amarillo TX-611 Continuum of Care

Last Updated: August 12, 2026

Approved by CoC Board on August 12, 2026

Prohibitions: In alignment with the FY2026 CoC NOFO, housing projects funded by our Continuum of Care are prohibited from:

- Operating drug injection sites or safe consumption sites;
- Knowingly distributing drug paraphernalia¹ on or off property under their control; or
- Knowingly permitting the use of distribution of illicit drugs on property under their control.

The activities outlined above will not be conducted, permitted, encouraged, or allowed, even within the context of harm reduction.

Violations: CoC-funded housing projects determined to be violation of the above are required to participate in technical assistance to resolve the violations and prevent future violations of this statement. If the CoC-funded housing project in violation does not participate in the technical assistance, their program may face a transfer or reallocation in the next NOFO cycle if they are unwilling to participate in TA and take the necessary actions to become compliant with the statement.

Program Policies & Resources: To be clear, this CoC statement does **not** require that projects condition assistance on sobriety or treatment participation (but projects may, in accordance with 24 CFR 578) or that participants be evicted or exited from assistance for a first-time violation of a drug-related program policy or lease requirement.

CoC-funded housing projects should continue to support clients with substance use disorders through partnerships with behavioral health providers, substance use disorder treatment providers, community groups, and recovery-oriented resources (e.g., recovery housing). This support should be client-centered and focused on maintaining safe and stable housing.

For Additional Information: If you have questions about how this statement applies to your CoC-funded housing project, please reach out to CoCTX611@amarillo.gov.

¹ Our CoC understands “drug paraphernalia,” as defined in the April 24, 2026 SAMHSA Dear Colleague letter, available at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/dear-colleague-letter-updated-hr-funding-guidance.pdf> to include:

- Syringes or needles used to inject illicit drugs
- Pipes or other supplies for safer smoking kits
- Fentanyl test strips or any other substance test kits, including xylazine and medetomidine test strips, intended for use by people using drugs
- Sterile water, saline, or ascorbic acid (vitamin c) used to facilitate drug use
- Any other drug paraphernalia or supplies that promote or facilitate drug use not listed as acceptable above