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Mayor

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P. NIGEL ROBERTS  
Commissioner

February 24, 2020

**Subject: FY20 HOPWA Project Sponsor Application Summaries Comment Period Ending March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Dear Community Stakeholders,

The City of Atlanta received 15 HOPWA eligible proposals requesting a total of \$21,798,572. The HOPWA award amount for FY20 is \$22,795,464.

An evaluation committee, composed of two members of the HOPWA Advisory Committee, three staff from the City of Atlanta, and one staff member from the Atlanta Homeless Continuum of Care will score the applications. Within Appendix A below and at this [LINK](#) you can find the FY20 HOPWA Project Sponsor application summaries.

Please provide any comments related to the HOPWA Project Sponsor application summaries no later than **Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.** Please forward all comments to [DGCD\\_Planning@CityOfAtlanta.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:DGCD_Planning@CityOfAtlanta.onmicrosoft.com).

Respectfully,

P. Nigel Roberts  
Commissioner  
Department of Grants and Community Development  
City of Atlanta

Cc: Jon Keen, Deputy Chief Operating Officer

**Appendix A: FY20 HOPWA Application Summaries**

<b>Organization Name</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Project Summary:</b>	<b>Total Requested Funding</b>
1. Travelers Aid of Metropolitan Atlanta (dba HOPE Atlanta)	Special Needs Housing Program	<p>HOPE Atlanta’s Special Needs Housing Program (SNHP) provides central intake and assessment, housing assistance, case management, and related services to homeless persons living with HIV or AIDS (PLWHA). In alignment with HOPWA regulatory guidelines and the City of Atlanta’s 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan, SNHP provides eligible clients with access to rental assistance, housing placement services, move-in financial aid, permanent supportive housing, and access to supportive services and mainstream benefits. Rental assistance (either through tenant-based rental assistance or master leasing) provided through SNHP serves as the housing component of a comprehensive array of integrated and individualized support services targeting low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS. SNHP emphasizes the use of a coordinated delivery of services by maximizing available resources and funding to address the full spectrum of services needed by each client. SNHP also provides eligible clients, who have identified a housing unit, with housing support financial assistance through permanent housing placement services and bridge housing financial assistance. SNHP provides supportive services to assist clients in</p>	\$7,932,879

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		<p>securing housing and maintaining housing stability following receipt of rental assistance. SNHP provides case management and supportive services both on site at the client's unit and at HOPE Atlanta's main office located a block from the Five Points MARTA station in downtown Atlanta. In October 2019, we took over Central Intake services for the City of Atlanta. In this role, we conduct intake assessments on individuals who are HIV+ and qualify as low-income according to HUD guidelines and, if eligible, connect them to housing and supportive services both in house and through referring agencies. From October 2019 - January 2020, we served 717 individuals through this program.</p>	
2. DeKalb County Board of Health	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program	<p>Opening its doors in 1991, the DeKalb County Board of Health's Ryan White Early Care Clinic (RWECC) serves uninsured and underserved persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) within DeKalb and the 29-county Atlanta Eligible Metropolitan Service Area (EMA). The RWECC provides specialized comprehensive HIV medical and primary care, mental health and substance abuse assessment and referral, AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) access, short-term rent and utility assistance for persons at risk for homelessness, transportation, nutrition services and case management. Funds awarded through Ryan</p>	\$644,298

Organization Name	Project Title	Project Summary:	Total Requested Funding
		White Parts A and C provide program sustainability and enhance the clinic's core medical service delivery.	
3. Positive Impact Health Centers	PIHC HOPWA Proposal for FY2020 Funding	<p>For the 2020-2022 fiscal HOPWA operating years Positive Impact Health Centers, Inc. (PIHC) is seeking continued funding for its four primary HOPWA housing programs: Emergency Shelter, Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), Short Term Rent/Mortgage/Utility Assistance (STRMU), and Permanent Housing Placement (PHP). PIHC is requesting continued funding to assist 600 HOPWA eligible PLWHA with housing subsidies, over a two-year contract term. PIHC views these four services as the primary steppingstones to linking HOPWA eligible clients to stable housing.</p> <p>Over the past 14 years as a HOPWA provider, PIHC has identified that many HOPWA clients particularly those with unmet medical, untreated substance abuse or untreated psychological needs require multiple supportive resources, coupled with intensive case management to effectively transition to stable housing. Each PIHC project site offers PLWHA; HIV medical care, substance abuse treatment, behavioral health services, peer support groups, in addition to HOPWA funded housing services, providing a supportive</p>	\$4,675,098

Organization Name	Project Title	Project Summary:	Total Requested Funding
		<p>environment designed to address the barriers that challenge housing stability.</p> <p>The continued goal of PIHC's housing program is to move clients from homelessness to stable housing in the most efficient and effective manner that meets consumers where they are in life. In 2016, PIHC adopted the Housing First Model as the guide for expediently linking individuals and families to habitable, safe and affordable housing that can be maintained long-term.</p> <p>If awarded funding for 2020-2022, PIHC intends to utilize HOPWA funding to continue the goal of providing housing subsidies to all HOPWA-eligible households that have a family member engaged in HIV primary care, behavioral health, and/or substance abuse treatment at any PIHC center (Duluth, Decatur, Marietta).</p> <p>PIHC consistently works to ensure that our housing goals align with the City of Atlanta's Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP), structuring housing programs to support qualifying clients with the ability to maintain affordable housing and life-sustaining services.</p>	

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4. A Vision 4 Hope, Inc (AV4H)	Hope360 Initiative	<p>The proposed project will provide emergency housing for up to eight weeks and transitional housing for up to 104 weeks for a total of 80 income-eligible individuals living with HIV/AIDS and family units, to facilitate the maintenance of housing in stable living environments. This program will align with all guidelines and regulations set forth by the City of Atlanta’s Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program. The residential facilities will accommodate adults, 18 years and older, who are HIV+ and are homeless or at high risk for becoming homeless. The Hope360 Initiative is designed to provide a customized experience for homeless people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) to reside in a stable environment and cultivate the resources and skills that will enable them to become self-sufficient and live independently in the community. This project will support housing that is affordable, secure and sanitary to reduce the applicant’s risk of homelessness and to improve their access to health care and supportive services. Essentially, the emergency and transitional housing assistance aims to reinforce the National HIV/AIDS Strategy by: 1) Reducing the percentage of persons in HIV medical care who are homeless to no more than 5 percent; 2) Support comprehensive, coordinated patient-centered care for people living with HIV,</p>	\$279,854

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		<p>including addressing HIV-related co-occurring conditions and challenges in meeting basic needs, such as housing; 3) Increasing access to care and improving health outcomes for people living with HIV by eliminating structural determinants of health, such as homelessness.</p>	
<p>5. Veterans Empowerment Organization of Georgia, Inc.</p>	<p>Help for Our Heroes</p>	<p>Since 2008, Veterans Empowerment Organization of Georgia, Inc. (VEO) has worked to enhance the quality of life for all veterans on their road to total restoration and sufficiency. VEO's Help for Our Heroes Program was designed to help alleviate the growing number homeless veterans living with HIV/AIDS. VEO's Facility Based Housing coupled with wrap around Supportive Services provides those critical services for this population of veterans. It is well established that HIV, HCV and HBV disproportionately affect armed forces veterans in the United States. Homeless individuals are at particularly high risk of infection with these blood-borne viruses due to overlapping risk factors, including mental health disorders and substance abuse (Noska AJ et al. Prevalence of HIV, HCV and HBV among homeless and non-homeless United States veterans. Clin Infect Dis, online edition,</p>	<p>\$137,610</p>

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		<p>2017.). VEO's comprehensive evidence-based approach to empowering veterans along their journey to restoration includes but is not limited to: Housing; Optimal Wellness and Health (including substance abuse and mental health counseling); Workforce and Income. Our Benchmark Metrics include: Stability, Recovery, Restoration and Reentry. VEO's highly trained and credentialed staff provide the services our veteran heroes need and deserve.</p>	
6. THRIVE Support Services	Case management for Housing Assistance program	<p>THRIVE SS is creating a housing and supportive services case management department, to be housed at the East Point location, to service its more than 940 members as well as any other persons living with HIV and in need of housing and other supportive services. THRIVE, being founded for and by people living with HIV (PLWH), has inroads into the most vulnerable populations, rarely reached by governmental services, e.g., Black gay and other same gender loving men of color living with HIV, Black women and persons of trans-experience living with HIV. This new client-centered approach to case management will work directly with THRIVE's successful R3 (Re-engage, Retain, Reduce) program to address the overwhelming requests for housing received by the agency daily. On average, via the R3 program, THRIVE fields between 15 and 20 calls related to housing per week. This program</p>	\$901,200



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		<p>will allow THRIVE to be added to the cohort of CBO's and ASO's currently working to address Atlanta's rising housing crisis utilizing a culturally humble and responsive workforce and tactics.</p>	
7. AID Atlanta	AID Atlanta Housing Program	<p>AID Atlanta has been a recipient of HOPWA funds since 2002. The primary goal of AID Atlanta's HOPWA funded housing programs are to ensure access to safe, decent and affordable housing to low-income individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS. The core functions of AID Atlanta's housing program services can be categorized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of information about available programs and service options</li> <li>• Housing Information and Resource Specialist will provide information associated with program eligibility, services provided through AID Atlanta's housing program and other possible community referral sources. Housing Information and Resource Specialist will serve as a link between eligible members and AID Atlanta's housing resources and programs. Initial screenings and intakes will be completed as needed.</li> <li>• Assessment and development of Housing Stability Plan Assessments and development of Housing Stability Plans are developed by case management staff to</li> </ul>	\$3,221,800

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		<p>address the housing need of our Members. Determination of which program would best address the need of the Member and level of case-management needed are incorporated into the assessment process.</p> <p>Applications for Permanent Housing Placement (PHP), Short Term Rental Mortgage and Utility (STRMU) or Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) may be completed if applicable.</p> <p>Active referrals and linkages to other housing resources may also be incorporated into the housing stability plan.</p> <p>• On-going Case Management service to Participants on TBRA - Case Managers provide on-going case management program participants. Program participants are expected to actively work their housing plan with the intent of obtaining more permanent sustainable housing options.</p> <p>• On-going Community Based Case Management - Case Managers provide on-going case management and supportive services to residents of community-based HIV/AIDS housing programs. On-site service delivery addresses barriers of those who are medically fragile and wraps around them an array of services within their HOPWA housing community.</p>	

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8. CaringWorks, Inc.	CaringWorks HOPWA PSH	<p>The goal of the CaringWorks HOPWA Permanent Supportive Housing program is to provide permanent housing, intensive case management, behavioral health supports, life skills, employment readiness, emergency assistance and related services to chronically homeless adults with another disabling condition “ typically a diagnosis of severe and persistent mental illness or substance use disorder - and who reside in the City of Atlanta and are also living with HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>This project will provide 28 adults in the target population with a safe and affordable place to live in the City of Atlanta, medical assessments, linkage to resources, access to healthcare, and follow-up monitoring. CaringWorks’ clients receive case management and wrap around supportive services for as long as they are in our programs. These individualized services help our clients achieve housing stability. Once stabilized, we focus on maintaining or increasing both their health and income so that they can ultimately reach their goals of independence and self-sufficiency. In 2019, 93% of residents in CaringWorks permanent supportive housing achieved housing stability.</p>	\$140,000

Organization Name	Project Title	Project Summary:	Total Requested Funding
<p>9. Antioch Urban Ministries, Inc. - Matthew's Place</p>	<p>HOPWA NEW/CONTINUING PROJECT APPLICATION - Matthew's Place</p>	<p>Matthew's Place has provided transitional housing for 25 years. We have served 525 persons in our facilities since 1994. We have been on the top layer of helping to change lives. Our clients have been able to have stable homes and to reconnect to their families. Our mission has always been serving; and we have been charged with a tremendous task. We welcome all individuals needing to make a restart. Matthews Place has collaborated with several of the HIV/ AIDS organizations to help in the success of our clients. We have had several of our clients to transition to permanent employment and housing. Our program continues to promote medication compliance, therapy, sponsors, and peer counseling. Our staff has been charged with providing all resources that will benefit our clients.</p> <p>Our partnership with The Villages at Castleberry Hills where the Matthew's Place program is housed has been a tremendous value. The units have all undergone a major renovation. The clients all have washer and dryers in their units and built in microwave ovens. Our location is conveniently located near two Marta stops and two train stations.</p> <p>We have 4 permanent staff members and 4 professionals providing contract services to our clients. Our program has</p>	<p>\$1,215,507</p>

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		<p>encouraged each resident if needed to complete their GED. We have had several clients to attend college and advance studies. Matthews Place has provided referrals for the Antioch food and clothing bank, where the clients can shop for their desired grocery. Our continuous efforts are to house 25 or more clients at a given time. We have plans of our own facility and long-term housing. Our program has had a very positive impact on the numerous clients we have serviced; we continue to strive for betterment.</p>	
10, CaringWorks, Inc.	Hope House 2021	<p>Hope House is a 70-bed transitional housing facility located in downtown Atlanta which serves men who have experienced homelessness and are in recovery from substance addiction, with possible co-occurring mental health disorders. In 2019, 15% of the residents also were HIV positive. Hope House offers on-site recovery support services to help individuals transition from dependence to self-sufficiency. Identified as one of the seven top priority projects by then Mayor Shirley Franklin's Regional Commission on Homelessness, Hope House has provided housing, meals, behavioral health, medical assessments, medication monitoring, and a comprehensive array of supportive services to over</p>	\$60,000

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		<p>2,000 chronically homeless men with substance use disorder since 2005.</p> <p>This project will provide transitional housing for twelve (12) homeless men living with HIV/AIDS per year. It is estimated that at least 7 beds will house HOPWA eligible clients. CaringWorks will provide a safe and affordable place to live in the City of Atlanta, recovery support, medical assessments, linkage to resources, access to healthcare, and follow-up monitoring. CaringWorks' clients receive case management and wrap around supportive services for as long as they are in our programs. These individualized services help our clients achieve housing stability. Once stabilized, we focus on maintaining or increasing both their health and income so that they can ultimately reach their goals of independence and self-sufficiency.</p>	

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11. Making A Way Housing, Inc	HOPWA/SERVICES	<p>Making A Way Housing (MAWH) provides a supportive environment for homeless men, women, and transgender individuals living with HIV to live while on the road towards self-sufficiency. MAWH is an inclusive, safe, and clean housing facility, providing the services needed for individuals to establish a sense of self-worth and find their place in society. The organization's doors are open to those who are homeless, recovering from substance abuse, and mental health challenges in addition to those living with HIV/AIDS. MAWH focuses on providing low-barrier access to housing services for those in need.</p> <p>With the support of the City of Atlanta's HOPWA program, MAWH will provide housing services to 32 HOPWA-eligible candidates among 16 housing units, assisting in their journey towards self-sufficiency and financial independence. This journey may entail a variety of critical resources offered to residents, including case management, social life skills groups, and a variety of counseling opportunities, including addiction, grief, domestic violence, and financial planning.</p> <p>MAWH partners with a variety of local organizations to provide residents with useful resources, knowledge, and skills. HIV-positive residents can attend HIV support groups, helping</p>	\$646,172

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		<p>them to learn how to cope with the disease and how to continue living healthy and productive lives. These residents may not otherwise have the resources available in the community without the support of MAWH and the HOPWA program. Through the efforts of MAWH, residents not only learn how to overcome the hurdles to their health and well-being but are also given the support needed to regain their footing in life and become independent members of society.</p>	
12. NAESM, Inc.	NAESM Safe Harbor Housing Assistance Program	<p>The proposed project will provide short term rental, mortgage, and/or utility support to 75 income-eligible individuals living with HIV/AIDS, to ensure they maintain a stable living environment in housing that is decent, safe, and sanitary, to reduce their risk of homelessness, and to improve access to health care and supportive services. NAESM will also provide up to 30 individuals with permanent housing placement by providing individuals with first month's rent and security deposits in an amount not exceeding the City of Atlanta's HOPWA guidelines. The program will also provide tenant based rental assistance to 20 individuals. The program will operate under all guidelines and regulations set forth by the City of Atlanta's HOPWA program. The focus on providing this housing</p>	\$1,050,294



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		<p>assistance is to reduce the risk of homelessness and increase access to appropriate healthcare and other support services. Ultimately, this assistance aims to support the National HIV/AIDS Strategy by:</p> <p>1) Decreasing adverse health outcomes through the provision of affordable and equitable access to housing for people living with HIV/AIDS; 2 ) Establishing a comprehensive housing and supportive services network to reduce the transmission of HIV, reduce homelessness among persons living with HIV/AIDS, reduce HIV/AIDS stigma and barriers to culturally and linguistically appropriate care, and improve clinical outcomes of persons living with HIV/AIDS; and 3) Supporting a more coordinated local response to providing housing assistance and other support services for people living with HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>Additionally, NAESM, Inc. will provide each HOPWA enrollee with a mental health/substance use assessment conducted by our licensed mental health professional (not funded by HOPWA), as well as an assessment of ancillary needs conducted by HOPWA staff. This will allow NAESM to link enrollees into the supportive services that they need in order to optimize their housing stability and support their retention in treatment and care.</p>	

Organization Name	Project Title	Project Summary:	Total Requested Funding
13. H.O.P.E. Through Divine Intervention	Project Link	<p>HOPE Through Divine Intervention, Inc. (HTDI) proposes to expand and enhance its current continuum of services for chronically homeless gay male and transgender male to females living with HIV/AIDS residing in Atlanta Georgia. The program will target the most vulnerable. These are African American homeless gay males and transgender male to females living with HIV/AIDS. Some will have substance use and/or co-occurring disorders. All gay males and (M to F) transgenders will have life conditions requiring housing support and employment assistance. We will develop and implement comprehensive programs that meet the needs of a vulnerable population working to break the cycles of chronic homelessness, addiction and HIV/AIDS. Our program is proven to be effective in helping chronically homeless gay males and (M to F) transgenders develop or increase in mental capacity by education or experience in our community. HTDI's goal is to take chronically homeless gay males and (M to F) transgenders and help them overcome their obstacles, transform them as human beings, making them prolific and self-sufficient individuals. Each is housed at our facility for up to two years while they participate in transitional work-related programs. All individuals renounce dependency and remain drug and alcohol free.</p>	\$118,524

Organization Name	Project Title	Project Summary:	Total Requested Funding
		<p>Personal support, case management, and workforce training is offered throughout the program. We also provide financial literacy, neighbor etiquette support while receiving help setting up a bank account, and life skill preparation courses.</p>	
<p>14. Here's to Life, Incorporated</p>	<p>Phoenix Rising II</p>	<p>The proposed Phoenix Rising II housing program will be an extension of HTL's relationship with the City of Atlanta's HOPWA program (Phoenix Rising I). The proposed project will provide a gender specific programming that will specifically address the special needs of MSM, and transgender rarely discussed in mainstream mixed gender program environments. This proposal will accommodate the housing needs of up to 30 individuals (15 per year) that meet the eligibility qualifications of HOPWA transitional housing programming.</p> <p>HTL proposes a program design that embraces a Housing-First model; where participants are housed first then provided supportive services including linkage to medical, mental health services and other appropriate social services that are available via HTL's diverse provider network. Program participants will be eligible to participate in onsite HIV support groups, job, and HIV education</p>	<p>\$725,336</p>

Organization Name	Project Title	Project Summary:	Total Requested Funding
		<p>interventions. HTL also has as part of its menu of service options an ongoing continuing care and relapse prevention interventions that program participants have access to as needed.</p> <p>If present demographic trends are maintained, we expect the proposed program to provide safe housing support services to 90% African American men and 10% Caucasian men with 92% of program participants self-identifying as MSM with an average 11th grade education. Phoenix II program participants will share 2-bedroom apartments in safe neighborhoods with ease of access to public transportation and other public support systems. Supportive services will be provided at HTL's main offices located in the West End community of Atlanta which will include: HTL's 8-week substance abuse day program, individualized psychotherapy, emotional coping skills development, understanding life skills interventions, comprehensive case management, HIV support groups, prevention and aftercare services, as well as a vibrant social network support structure.</p>	

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15. Gift Transitional Home, Inc.	Gift Transitional Home, Inc.	<p>EARLY INTERVENTION:</p> <p>• RAPID RE-HOUSING</p> <p>GIFT Transitional Home, Inc. is very committed to continue to uphold its mission statement for the past 17 years, providing rapid, safe and stable supportive housing to adult men and women who are at high-risk for chronic homelessness especially those with chronic health issues, such as HIV/AIDS, mental illness, recovering substance abusers who are at high risk for relapse without safe and stable housing. We are proposing to implement a HOPWA housing unit for 20 high risk adult men and women, to add to our current housing population of non-HOPWA population of 50 individuals, 5 of our current population are individuals living with HIV/AIDS.</p> <p>• PREVENTION: helping those at-risk population of homelessness with financial assistance, first month's rent, security deposit, housing relocation support, transportation, and 1-2 months rental arears.</p> <p>DIVERSION: Services, flexible financial assistance and support, to help people avoid entry into a homelessness status.</p>	\$50,000

