HUD issued a memorandum explaining the availability of suspensions and waivers of certain statutory and regulatory requirements associated with several Community Planning and Development (CPD) grant programs, including the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program, to address damage and facilitate recovery from Hurricane Ida in areas covered by a major disaster declaration under title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), DR-4611-LA, dated August 29, 2021, and as may be amended.

HOPWA grantees located in the Louisiana counties included in the declared-disaster areas may use the statutory suspensions and regulatory waivers described in the memorandum to assist affected HOPWA program beneficiaries and HOPWA program-eligible families to address damage caused by the disaster. HOPWA grantees may also use one of the waivers (Self-Certification of Income and Credible Information on HIV Status) outside of the declared-disaster areas, as explained in the HOPWA specific section of the memorandum.

The waiver flexibility made available under the memorandum must be used to assist only eligible families who have registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The grantee must provide notification in writing, either through mail or e-mail, to the CPD Director of the HUD Field Office serving its jurisdiction no less than three days before the grantee anticipates using the suspension or waiver flexibility. Further directions on notifying HUD can be found in Attachment #1 to the memorandum. Each grantee must also update its program records to include written documentation of the specific conditions that justify each use of a waiver, consistent with the justifications provided in the memorandum.

Questions or concerns regarding the information contained in the memorandum can be directed to HOPWA@hud.gov.

Housing is a structural intervention in ending the AIDS epidemic in the United States.
Each year, HOPWA ensures housing stability for more than 100,000 American households that are low-income and living with HIV.

Want to know more about HOPWA? Go to https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/hopwa

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