

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Community Planning and Development

Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Competitive Grant: Housing as an Intervention to Fight AIDS FR-6400-N-11 07/06/2021

Table of Contents

Overview	3
I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION	3
A. Program Description.	3
B. Authority.	11
II. Award Information.	12
A. Available Funds	12
B. Number of Awards.	12
C. Minimum/Maximum Award Information	12
D. Period of Performance	12
E. Type of Funding Instrument.	12
III. Eligibility Information.	12
A. Eligible Applicants	13
B. Ineligible Applicants.	13
C. Cost Sharing or Matching	13
D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements.	13
E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.	14
F. Program-Specific Requirements.	15
G. Criteria for Beneficiaries.	22
IV. Application and Submission Information.	22
A. Obtaining an Application Package.	22
B. Content and Form of Application Submission.	23
C. System for Award Management (SAM) and Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number.	26
D. Application Submission Dates and Times.	
E. Intergovernmental Review.	
F. Funding Restrictions.	
G. Other Submission Requirements	
V. Application Review Information	
A. Review Criteria.	32
B. Review and Selection Process.	
VI. Award Administration Information.	
A. Award Notices	42

B. Statutory and Administrative, National and Department Requirements for HUD	Recipients
	43
C. Reporting.	45
D. Debriefing.	47
VII. Agency Contact(s).	48
VIII. Other Information	48
APPENDIX	49

Program Office:

Community Planning and Development

Funding Opportunity Title: Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Competitive Grant: Housing as an Intervention to Fight AIDS

Funding Opportunity Number: FR-6400-N-11 Primary CFDA Number: 14.241 Due Date for Applications:

07/06/2021

Overview

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issues this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to invite applications from eligible applicants for the program and purpose described within this NOFO. Prospective applicants should carefully read all instructions in all sections to avoid sending an incomplete or ineligible application. HUD funding is highly competitive. Failure to respond accurately to any submission requirement could result in an incomplete or noncompetitive proposal.

During the selection process HUD is prohibited from disclosing 1) information regarding any applicant's relative standing, 2) the amount of assistance requested by an applicant, and 3) any information contained in the application. Prior to the application deadline, HUD may not disclose the identity of any applicant or the number of applicants that have applied for assistance.

For Further Information Regarding this NOFO: Please direct questions regarding the specific requirements of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to the office contact identified in Section VII.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement. The information collection requirements in this notice have been approved by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, HUD may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection displays a valid OMB control number. Each NOFO will identify its applicable OMB control number unless its collection of information is excluded from these requirements under 5 CFR part 1320.

OMB Approval Number(s):

2506-0133

I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION.

A. Program Description.

1. Purpose

The Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) program was enacted to provide states and localities with the resources and incentives to devise long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting the housing needs of low-income persons with Human Immunodeficiency

Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and their families. Stable housing has been a major issue facing many persons living with HIV since the beginning of the epidemic. Achieving and maintaining stable housing can be a powerful structural intervention in ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

As discussed in *HIV Care Continuum: The Connection Between Housing and Improved Outcomes Along the HIV Care Continuum (2014)*, a resource created by HUD's Office of HIV/AIDS Housing and available on the <u>HUD Exchange</u>, approximately half of all persons living with HIV in the U.S. will experience homelessness or housing instability at some point following their diagnosis. Economic disadvantages, episodes of poor health, and co-occurring health diagnoses make it difficult for many persons living with HIV to secure or maintain housing.

HIV/AIDS-related stigma and discrimination add additional barriers to accessing and maintaining housing. To end the HIV/AIDS epidemic, persons living with HIV must have access to high-quality and culturally competent services including housing and supportive services that are non-stigmatizing, non-discriminatory, inclusive, and responsive to their needs. Issues such as discrimination and systemic racism that contribute to differences in access in housing and lead to ongoing disparities among racial, ethnic, and LGBTQ+ communities must be addressed. Reducing these disparities requires a focus on the needs of disproportionately affected populations, supporting racial justice, LGBTQ+ rights, combating HIV-related stigma and discrimination, providing leadership and employment opportunities for people with or at risk for HIV, and addressing social determinants of health and co-occurring conditions to reduce health inequities and disparities.

HUD's 2014 *HIV Care Continuum* report also found that housing has a direct, independent, and powerful impact on HIV incidence, health outcomes, and health disparities. According to the report, "Housing status is a more significant predictor of health care access and HIV outcomes than individual characteristics, behavioral health issues, or access to other services. People who are stably housed are more likely to be virally suppressed, more likely to have a reduced risk of HIV transmission, more likely to use fewer public resources, and more likely to return to care if not currently engaged, among other positive outcomes."

Collectively, our local, domestic, and global communities have committed to ending the HIV/AIDS Epidemic through strategies and initiatives including Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America, the HIV National Strategic Plan, and Getting to Zero. With aggressive goals set to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic under each of these initiatives and strategies, all available resources must be used to achieve these goals. HOPWA has the opportunity to take part in these efforts by using housing as an effective structural intervention to end HIV/AIDS epidemic. Grants funded under this NOFO will enhance local and federal efforts to end the U.S. HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America (EHE) is a federal initiative led by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) with a goal to end the HIV epidemic in the United States within 10 years by reducing new HIV infections in the United States by 75 percent by 2025 and by 90 percent by 2030. EHE leverages critical scientific advances in HIV

prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and outbreak response by coordinating the highly successful programs, resources, and infrastructure of many HHS agencies and offices and providing a targeted infusion of new resources and support to the jurisdictions most heavily impacted. Phase I of EHE has a geographic focus on 48 counties plus Washington, DC and San Juan, PR and seven states where new HIV infections are highly concentrated.

The National HIV/AIDS Strategy was first released on July 13, 2010 and identified a set of priorities and strategic action steps tied to measurable outcomes for moving the Nation forward in addressing the domestic HIV epidemic. In July 2015, the <u>National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States: Updated to 2020</u> was released, and it expired in 2020. In January 2021, the <u>HIV National Strategic Plan</u> was released as the nation's third consecutive five-year national HIV strategy and covers 2021-2025. The HIV Plan focuses on four goals: (1) Reduce New Infections, (2) Increase Access to Care and Improve Health Outcomes for People Living with HIV, (3) Reduce HIV-Related Health Disparities and Health Inequities, and (4) Achieve a More Coordinated National Response to the HIV Epidemic. The HIV National Strategic Plan and the Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America initiative are closely aligned and complementary, with the EHE initiative serving as a leading component of the work by HHS, in collaboration with local, state, and federal partners, to achieve both the Plan's and the initiative's goal of reducing new HIV infections by 90 percent by 2030.

This NOFO announces the availability of funding under the authority for HOPWA Special Projects of National Significance at Section 854(c)(5) of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12903(c)(5)). This funding will provide communities an opportunity to create and implement new projects that align with initiatives aimed at ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and elevate housing as an effective structural intervention in ending the epidemic. HUD is seeking projects with exemplary and innovative qualities, including community-level coordination, data collection with emphasis on stable housing and positive health outcomes, culturally competent approaches to providing housing and services, and a systemic approach to advance equity in underserved communities that can serve as a national place-based model.

Each project must be designed for the Grantee to achieve the following six required project objectives:

- 1. Implement and document housing and services models for low-income persons living with HIV and their families that are innovative and replicable in other similar localities or nationally;
- 2. Increase alignment with new or existing local initiatives or strategies to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic by elevating housing as an effective structural intervention;
- 3. Improve coordination among local housing and service providers and use of available community resources;
- 4. Increase the amount of quality data collected and used for data-driven decision making with an emphasis on stable housing, positive health outcomes, and racial equity;
- 5. Assess and document replicable practices that ensure equitable access and culturally competent approaches to providing housing and services for populations of persons living with HIV experiencing service gaps; and

6. Prioritize sustainable, effective, and equitable approaches to providing housing and services to persons living with HIV and their families that can be continued past the funded project's period of performance.

Each successful applicant under this NOFO will received a one-time, non-renewable grant to fund housing assistance and supportive services for eligible beneficiaries, coordination and planning activities, and grants management and administration. Reporting requirements under this NOFO are more comprehensive than traditional HOPWA program reporting. Grantees will be required to collect client-level data to produce a programmatic HIV Housing Care Continuum Model at the end of each operating year. At the end of the grant period of performance, each grantee must also develop a Housing as an Intervention to Fight AIDS (HIFA) Model, consisting of promising practices for and lessons learned in using housing as a structural intervention to end the AIDS epidemic. Each HIFA Model will be shared with the public, and lessons learned through these grantee efforts will help inform national and community policy and actions.

Pre-Application Webcast: HUD will conduct a Pre-Application Webcast for anyone interested in submitting an application for a Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 HOPWA Competitive Grant. The webcast will cover the information contained in this NOFO. Viewing the webcast is optional. Interested applicants who do not view the webcast are still eligible to apply and will receive equal consideration for their grant applications. More information on the webcast will be provided through the HOPWA mailing list and posted online here:

<u>https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/hopwa/listserv</u>. To sign up for the mailing list, please

visit: https://www.hud.gov/subscribe/signup?listname=Housing%20Opportunities%20for%20Per sons%20with%20AIDS%20Program&list=HOPWA-L

2. Changes from Previous NOFO.

The last NOFO published with HOPWA funding was FR-5900-N-11B, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Project Demonstration. This NOFO is completely new and different. The only similarity from the previous NOFO is HOPWA funding being awarded.

3. Definitions.

a. Standard Definitions

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH). Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) means taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics. Specifically, affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking meaningful actions that, taken together, address significant disparities in housing needs and in access to opportunity, replacing segregated living patterns with truly integrated and balanced living patterns, transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, and fostering and maintaining compliance with civil rights and fair housing laws. The duty to affirmatively further fair housing extends to all of a program participant's activities and programs relating to housing and urban development.

Assistance Listings means a unique number assigned to identify a Federal Assistance Listing, formerly known as the CFDA Number.

Federal Financial Assistance means assistance that entities received or administer in the form of:

1) Grant;

- 2. Cooperative agreements (which does not include a cooperative research and development agreement pursuant to the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986, as amended (15 U.S.C. 3710a));
- 3. Loans;
- 4. Loan guarantees;
- 5. Subsidies;
- 6. Insurance;
- 7. Food commodities;
- 8. Direct appropriations;
- 9. Assessed or voluntary contributions; or
- 10. Any other financial assistance transaction that authorizes the non-Federal entity's expenditure of Federal funds.
- b. Federal Financial Assistancedoes not include:
 - 1. Technical assistance, which provides services in lieu of money; and
 - 2. A transfer of title to federally owned property provided in lieu of money, even if the award is called a grant.

Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) is the person authorized to submit applications on behalf of the organization via Grants.gov. The AOR is authorized by the E-Biz point of contact in the System for Award Management. The AOR is listed in item 21 on the SF-424.

Consolidated Plan is a document developed by states and local jurisdictions. This plan is completed by engaging in a participatory process to assess their affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions, and to make data-driven, place-based investment decisions with funding from formula grant programs. (See 24 CFR part 91 HUD's requirements regarding the Consolidated Plan and related Action Plan).

Contract means, for the purpose of Federal financial assistance, a legal instrument by which a recipient or subrecipient purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a Federal award. For additional information on contractor and subrecipient determinations see 2 CFR 200.331.

Contractor means an entity that receives a contract as defined in 2 CFR 200.1.

Deficiency is information missing or omitted within a submitted application. Examples of deficiencies include missing documents, information on a form, or some other type of unsatisfied information requirement (e.g., an unsigned form, unchecked box.). Depending on specific criteria, deficiencies may be either curable or non-curable.

• *Curable Deficiencies* may be corrected by the applicant with timely action. To be curable the deficiency must:

- Not be a threshold requirement, except for documentation of applicant eligibility;
- Not influence how an applicant is ranked or scored versus other applicants; and
- Be remedied within the time frame specified in the notice of deficiency.
- *Non-Curable Deficiencies* cannot be corrected by an applicant after the submission deadline.

Non-curable deficiencies are deficiencies that, if corrected, would change an applicant's score or rank versus other applicants. Non-curable deficiencies may result in an application being marked ineligible, or otherwise adversely affect an application's score and final determination.

DUNS Number is the nine-digit Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Number

System identification number assigned to a business or organization by Dun & Bradstreet and provides a means of identifying business entities on a location-specific basis. OMB removed duplicate recipients based on recipient Data Universal Number System (DUNS) numbers, from Dun & Bradstreet (D&B). At this time all Federal financial assistance recipients are required to register for DUNS numbers.

E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) A user registered as an organization applicant who is responsible for the administration and management of grant activities for his or her organization. The E-Biz POC is likely to be an organization's chief financial officer or authorizing official. The E-Biz POC authorizes representatives of their organization to apply on behalf of the organization (see Standard AOR and Expanded AOR). There can only be one E-Biz POC per DUNS Number.)

Eligibility requirements are mandatory requirements for an application to be eligible for funding.

Federal award, has the meaning, depending on the context, in either paragraph (1) or (2) of this definition:

(1)(i) The Federal financial assistance that a recipient receives directly from a Federal awarding agency or a subrecipient receives indirectly from a pass-through entity, as described in 2 CFR §200.101; or

- ii. The cost-reimbursement contract under the Federal Acquisition Regulations that a non-Federal entity receives directly from a Federal awarding agency or indirectly from a passthrough entity, as described in 2 CFR §200.101.
 - The instrument setting forth the terms and conditions. The instrument is the grant agreement, cooperative agreement, other agreement for assistance covered in paragraph (2) of the definitions of Federal financial assistance in 2 CFR §200.1, or the cost-reimbursement contract awarded under the Federal Acquisition Regulations.
 - 3. Federal award does not include other contracts that a Federal agency uses to buy goods or services from a contractor or a contract to operate Federal Government owned, contractor operated facilities (GOCOs).
 - 4. See also definitions of Federal financial assistance, grant agreement, and cooperative agreement.

Grants.gov is the website serving as the Federal government's central portal for searching and applying for Federal financial assistance throughout the Federal government. Registration on Grants.gov is required for submission of applications to prospective agencies unless otherwise specified in this NOFO.

Non-Federal Entity (NFE) means a state, local government, Indian tribe, Institution of Higher Education (IHE), or non-profit organization that carries out a Federal award as a recipient or subrecipient.

Point of Contact (POC) is the person who may be contacted with questions about the application submitted by the AOR. The POC is listed in item 8F on the SF-424.

Recipient means an entity, usually but not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a Federal award directly from HUD. The term recipient does not include subrecipients or individuals that are beneficiaries of the award.

Small business is defined as a privately-owned corporation, partnership, or sole proprietorship that has fewer employees and less annual revenue than a corporation or regular-sized business. The definition of "small"—in terms of being able to apply for government support and qualify for preferential tax policy—varies by country and industry. The U.S. Small Business Administration defines a small business according to a set of standards based on specific industries. {e-CFR Title 13-Chapter I – Part 121}

Subaward means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a Federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that pass-through entity considers a contract.

Subrecipient means an entity, usually but not limited to non-Federal entities, that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal award but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such award. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly for a Federal awarding agency.

System for Award Management (SAM) means the Federal Repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Registration with SAM is required for submission of applications via Grants.gov. You can access the website

athttps://www.sam.gov/SAM/. There is no cost to use SAM.

Threshold Requirements are an eligibility requirement that must be met for an application to be reviewed. Threshold requirements are not curable, except for documentation of applicant eligibility and are listed in Section III.D Threshold Eligibility Requirements. Similarly, there are eligibility requirements under Section III.E, Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.

Unique Entity Identifier means the identifier required for SAM registration to uniquely identify business entities.

4. Program Definitions

The following apply in addition to program definitions stated in 24 CFR 574.3.

Client is an eligible person as defined at 24 CFR 574.3 who is receiving HOPWA-funded assistance.

Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) is the systematic process of identifying, describing, and analyzing strengths and problems and then testing, implementing, learning from, and revising solutions. More simply, CQI can be described as an ongoing cycle of collecting data and using it to make decisions to gradually improve program processes. For more information, see the following publication from the Office of Adolescent Health of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:

https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/sites/default/files/cqi-intro.pdf

Equity is the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as Black, Latino, and Indigenous and Native American persons, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other persons of color; members of religious minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) persons; persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality. For more information on equity, see Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government published January 20, 2021: https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-advancing-racial-equity-and-support-for-underserved-communities-through-the-federal-government/

HIV Housing Care Continuum Model is an annual reporting document available as form HUD-4154. This reporting document uses a diagnosis-based HIV Care Continuum that outlines where eligible beneficiaries are on the sequential stages of HIV medical care including receipt of care, retained in care, and viral suppression. The HIV Housing Care Continuum Model requires grantees to collect client-level data to aggregately report where clients are on the HIV Care Continuum by type of HOPWA assistance received through this NOFO. For more information on the HIV Housing Care Continuum, see published CDC resources at: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/factsheets/cdc-hiv-care-continuum.pdf</u>; and HOPWA resources at: <u>https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hopwa/hiv-housing-care-continuuminitiative/</u>

Housing as an Intervention to Fight AIDS (HIFA) Model is a reporting document available as form HUD-4153. This reporting document is due to HUD 90 days after the end of the grant period and will be made available to the public via the Office of HIV/AIDS Housing. The HIFA Model includes the following components: a vision or goal for the project; description of the need being met by the project; description of the program design; description of the alignment with initiatives or strategies to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic; description of data collection and analysis used to make data-driven decisions on stable housing, positive health outcomes, and racial equity; description of culturally competent approaches used for clients experiencing service gaps; partnerships formed or continued with community organizations and other housing and service providers; resources and partnerships used to transition clients to self-sufficiency or other forms of housing assistance by the end of the grant period; successes and challenges in using housing as a structural intervention to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic; client outcomes

related to health and housing stability including a summary of HIV Housing Care Continuum results and, if applicable, employment and income growth.

Project Sponsor is any nonprofit organization or governmental housing agency that receives funds under a contract with the grantee to carry out eligible activities under this NOFO. The selection of project sponsors is not subject to the procurement requirements of 2 CFR part 200, subpart D.

Receipt of Care is a data element collected for the HIV Housing Care Continuum. Receipt of Care is measured as a person with diagnosed HIV receiving HOPWA assistance under this NOFO who had at least one CD4 or viral load test during a single operating year.

Retained in Care is a data element collected for the HIV Housing Care Continuum. Retained in Care is measured as a person with diagnosed HIV receiving HOPWA assistance under this NOFO who had two or more CD4 or viral load tests, performed at least three months apart, during a single operating year.

Trauma-informed is a term referring to how one thinks about and responds to those who have experienced or may be at risk for experiencing trauma. An approach that is trauma-informed reflects an understanding of the widespread impact of trauma and potential paths for recovery; recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, families, staff, and others involved with a program, organization, or system; and responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices, while actively resisting re-traumatization. For more information, see the following publication from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content/SMA14-4884/SMA14-4884.pdf

Underserved Communities refers to populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life, as exemplified by the list in the definition of "equity." For more information on underserved communities, see Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government published January 20, 2021: <u>https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-advancing-racial-equity-and-support-for-underserved-communities-through-the-federal-government/</u>

Viral Suppression is a data element collected for the HIV Housing Care Continuum. Viral Suppression is measured as a person with diagnosed HIV receiving HOPWA assistance under this NOFO who has a viral load test result of <200 copies/mL at the most recent viral load test during a single operating year.

B. Authority.

HUD's authority to award funding under this NOFO is provided by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. 12901-12912), and the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Pub. L. No. 116-94, enacted December 20, 2019). Awards are also subject to the HOPWA program requirements under 24 CFR part 574 (as now in effect and as may be amended from time to time), except as expressly stated in Section III of this NOFO.

II. Award Information.

A. Available Funds

Funding of approximately **\$ 41,000,000** is available through this NOFO.

Additional funds may become available for award under this NOFO, because of HUD's efforts to recapture funds, use carryover funds, or because of the availability of additional appropriated funds. Use of these funds is subject to statutory constraints. All awards are subject to the funding restrictions contained in this NOFO.

B. Number of Awards.

HUD expects to make approximately 18 awards from the funds available under this NOFO.

C. Minimum/Maximum Award Information

HUD reserves the right to add time to the competitive submission period if the initial round of applicant submissions does not provide enough eligible applicants to award the funds available. Alternatively, if there are not enough eligible applicants, HUD reserves the right to adjust the funding range to accommodate a smaller number of applicants with the funds available.

Estimated Total Funding: \$ 41,000,000 Minimum Award Amount: \$ 300,000 Per Project Period

Maximum Award Amount: \$ 2,250,000 Per Project Period

D. Period of Performance

Estimated Project Start Date: 03/01/2022 Estimated Project End Date: 03/01/2025 Length of Project Periods: Other

Length of Periods Explanation of Other:

The Period of Performance and Budget Period for each grant will be a 36-month project period with a 36-month budget period.

E. Type of Funding Instrument.

Funding Instrument Type: G (Grant)

III. Eligibility Information.

A. Eligible Applicants.

25 (Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification))

Additional Information on Eligibility

Eligible applicants for funding under this NOFO are States, units of general local government, and nonprofit organizations. To be eligible, nonprofit organizations must meet the definition of an eligible "nonprofit organization" under the HOPWA program found regulations at 24 CFR 574.3.

B. Ineligible Applicants.

HUD will only score applications from eligible applicants as defined in Section III.A.

C. Cost Sharing or Matching.

This Program does not require cost sharing or matching, but provides points based on leverage as describe below.

More information on leveraging is available at Rating Factor 4 in Section V.A.

D. Threshold Eligibility Requirements.

Applicants who fail to meet any of the following threshold eligibility requirements will be deemed ineligible. Applications from ineligible applicants will not be evaluated.

1. Resolution of Civil Rights Matters. Outstanding civil rights matters must be resolved before the application deadline. Applicants, who after review are confirmed to have civil rights matters unresolved at the application deadline, will be deemed ineligible. Their applications will receive no further review, will not be rated and ranked, and they will not receive funding.

- a. Applicants having any of the charges, cause determinations, lawsuits, or letters of findings referenced in subparagraphs (1) (5) that have not been resolved to HUD's satisfaction before or on the application deadline date are ineligible for funding. Such matters include:
 - 1. Charges from HUD concerning a systemic violation of the Fair Housing Act or receipt of a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a systemic violation of a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing law proscribing discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or familial status;
 - 2. Status as a defendant in a Fair Housing Act lawsuit filed by the Department of Justice alleging a pattern or practice of discrimination or denial of rights to a group of persons raising an issue of general public importance under 42 U.S.C. 3614(a);
 - 3. Status as a defendant in any other lawsuit filed or joined by the Department of Justice, or in which the Department of Justice has intervened, or filed an amicus brief or statement of interest, alleging a pattern or practice or systemic violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Americans with Disabilities Act or a claim under the False Claims Act related to fair

housing, non-discrimination, or civil rights generally including an alleged failure to affirmatively further fair housing;

- 4. Receipt of a letter of findings identifying systemic non-compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; or the Americans with Disabilities Act; or
- 5. Receipt of a cause determination from a substantially equivalent state or local fair housing agency concerning a systemic violation of provisions of a state or local law prohibiting discrimination in housing based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or lawful source of income.
- b. HUD will determine if actions to resolve the charge, cause determination, lawsuit, or letter of findings taken before the application deadline date will resolve the matter. Examples of actions that may be sufficient to resolve the matter include, but are not limited to:
 - 1. Current compliance with a voluntary compliance agreement signed by all the parties;
 - 2. Current compliance with a HUD-approved conciliation agreement signed by all the parties;
 - 3. Current compliance with a conciliation agreement signed by all the parties and approved by the state governmental or local administrative agency with jurisdiction over the matter;
 - 4. Current compliance with a consent order or consent decree;
 - 5. Current compliance with a final judicial ruling or administrative ruling or decision; or
 - 6. Dismissal of charges.

2. Timely Submission of Applications. Applications submitted after the deadline stated within this NOFO that do not meet the requirements of the grace period policy will be marked late. Late applications are ineligible and will not be considered for funding. See Section IV. D. Application Submission Dates and Times.

3. Complete Application. HUD reserves the right to determine whether an application is substantially deficient and non-responsive to the NOFO application requirements. Refer to Section IV.B., Content and Form of Application Submission, for information on the required documentation for submission.

E. Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility.

Eligibility Requirements for Applicants of HUD's Grants Programs

The following requirements affect applicant eligibility. Detailed information on each requirement is posted on <u>HUD's Funding Opportunities Page</u>.

- Active Prime and Sub Recipient registration with SAM.gov
- Outstanding Delinquent Federal Debts
- Debarments and/or Suspensions
- Pre-selection Review of Performance
- Sufficiency of Financial Management System
- False Statements
- Mandatory Disclosure Requirement

- Prohibition Against Lobbying Activities
- Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations in HUD Programs and Activities

F. Program-Specific Requirements.

1. Required Project Objectives. Each Project must be designed for the Grantee to achieve the following six required project objectives. Applicants must clearly show how the proposed project will achieve the required project objectives in the submitted application narratives.

- Implement and document housing and services models for low-income persons living with HIV and their families that are innovative and replicable in other similar localities or nationally;
- Increase alignment with new or existing local initiatives or strategies to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic by elevating housing as an effective structural intervention;
- Improve coordination among local housing and service providers and use of available community resources;
- Increase the amount of quality data collected and used for data-driven decision making with an emphasis on stable housing, positive health outcomes, and racial equity;
- Assess and document replicable practices that ensure equitable access and culturally competent approaches to providing housing and services for populations of persons living with HIV experiencing service gaps; and
- Prioritize sustainable, effective, and equitable approaches to providing housing and services to persons living with HIV and their families that can be continued past the funded project's period of performance.

2. Required Participation in Technical Assistance (TA) Initiative. Awarded grantees and their project sponsors must participate in a TA initiative that will support grantee efforts to identify and document promising practices and replicable innovative qualities from the projects to share with the broader HIV/AIDS housing and service provider networks. The TA initiative will provide a structured environment where grantees and project sponsors will have the opportunity to collaboratively problem solve, share successes and challenges, and engage in peer-learning. Grantees will be expected to engage in continuous quality improvement (CQI) efforts with the support of the TA initiative. The TA initiative will consist of regular facilitated conference calls and may also require travel for a group meeting in Washington, DC, and/or participation in conferences.

3. Eligible Activities. Funded projects must comply with the HOPWA program requirements at 24 CFR 574, as modified below. Applicants may choose to use a combination of eligible activities under this NOFO to achieve the funding opportunity's required project objectives and address the housing and service needs of eligible persons in the service area.

a. Housing Assistance. Applicants must commit to providing housing assistance as a main focus of program activities and at least 60 percent of the proposed budget must consist of housing assistance costs. All housing assistance eligible under 24 CFR 574 can be funded under this NOFO, except for the following activities, which are ineligible for this funding: acquisition, new construction, or rehabilitation of housing facilities; and

assistance through emergency shelters. **HUD is providing funding via this NOFO on a one-time-only basis.** It is expected that all program beneficiaries will have secured permanent housing by the end of the grant period of performance. This includes outplacement to self-sufficiency or to permanent rental housing subsidized by HUD or other Federal, state, and local resources. Housing assistance must not be conditioned on the eligible person's acceptance of and/or participation in supportive services.

i. Operating Costs. Funding may be used for the Grantee's or Project Sponsor's cost of operating a housing facility owned or leased by the Grantee or Project Sponsor, to the extent the costs are necessary to house eligible persons. Eligible Operating Costs include utilities, property insurance, minor repairs and upkeep of the facility, maintenance both inside and outside the facility, procurement and contracting of services for facility operation or maintenance, furniture and appliances that will remain with the facility, food purchases and kitchen operation for HOPWA clients at the facility, and staff time for directing the operation of all activities at the facility for HOPWA clients.

ii. Leasing. Funding may be used to lease all or a portion of a building as needed to provide housing to eligible persons. For eligible persons unable to hold leases in their names, funding may be used to master lease units, where the eligible persons choose the units, the grantee or project sponsor leases the units and pays the full rent to the landlord, and the eligible persons pay the grantee or project sponsor the amount required by 24 CFR 574.310(d). This type of master leasing can be administered as "turn-key" housing assistance, to be replaced with TBRA if the landlord agrees to transfer the lease to the eligible person. Funding may also be used to master lease units to be operated as transitional housing for eligible persons. For example, post-incarceration programs often lease a unit to temporarily house an eligible person returning to the community until other more permanent housing arrangements can be made. The lease is always in the organization's name. The furniture, housing equipment, and supplies belong to the organization and remain in the unit for the next household's use. Eligible leasing costs include the cost to lease a housing facility or scattered site units, staff time to negotiate lease terms with lessor or landlord, and annual housing inspections to ensure HOPWA habitability standards are met for scattered-site units assisted with Leasing.

iii. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA). TBRA may be used to provide eligible persons with a rental subsidy through the duration of the grant period and give them the opportunity to transition in place to self-sufficiency or another subsidy. Eligible TBRA costs include client income verification for TBRA assistance, calculation of resident rent payment, monthly rental payments, processing a TBRA rental payment on behalf of the program beneficiary, annual housing inspections to ensure HOPWA habitability standards are met for units being assisted with TBRA, reasonable travel costs to units for housing inspections, review of a program beneficiary's selected unit for rent reasonableness and rent standard, annual recertifications for program beneficiaries receiving on-going TBRA, and staff time for resolving landlord issues directly related to providing the TBRA assistance.

iv. Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU). STRMU may be used to prevent homelessness of the tenant or mortgagor of a dwelling. The goal of STRMU assistance under the HOPWA program is to provide short-term, stabilizing interventions to HOPWA eligible households experiencing a financial crisis as a result of their HIV/AIDS health condition or a change in their economic circumstances. The amount of STRMU assistance provided to a program beneficiary should be based on need, and not applied uniformly to all clients. Eligible STRMU costs include up to 21 weeks of the eligible person's rent, mortgage, and/or utility costs, and the costs of staff time to review and determine client's need for STRMU assistance, and make the STRMU payments. For the purposes of STRMU assistance, to the extent that taxes, insurance, condominium fees, or other building operation costs are included in the monthly mortgage payment either by federal regulation or the terms of the mortgage, these expenses are eligible to be included in STRMU mortgage assistance payments. STRMU mortgage assistance for taxes, insurance, or condo fees that are not included on the monthly mortgage statement are not eligible.

v. Housing Information Services. Housing Information Services may be used to provide counseling, information, or referral services to assist an eligible person to locate, acquire, finance, and maintain housing. Some eligible costs under Housing Information Services include staff time to assist clients in searching for or locating appropriate housing whether HOPWA-subsidized or not; staff time to provide fair housing guidance for eligible persons who may encounter discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, familial status, or disability; staff time to provide housing counseling to acquire and finance housing; and development and use of Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) elements to coordinate housing and services. HMIS costs billed to housing information services must be pro-rated and not include HMIS reporting. Use of HMIS for reporting purposes is considered an administration activity and must be billed to administrative costs.

vi. Permanent Housing Placement Assistance (PHP). Permanent housing placement authorized at 24 CFR 574.300(b)(7) may be used in connection with the provision of housing support provided under these awards and is not considered a supportive service. Some eligible costs under PHP include security deposits not to exceed two months rent, rental application fees, credit checks, one-time utility hook-up fees paid directly to the utility company, utility arrears only if the cost is creating a barrier to establishing permanent housing in a new unit, rent arrears only if past due rent debt at a prior unit is a barrier to accessing a new unit, initial housing inspections, reasonable travel costs to units for initial housing inspections, staff time

to review and identify causes for eviction and responsibilities of the tenant within the lease, staff time for assisting clients with executing the lease, and staff time for resolving landlord issues directly related to the PHP assistance being provided. PHP can be used in conjunction with TBRA where PHP pays the security deposit and TBRA covers ongoing monthly rent payments starting with the first month. PHP should only be used to assist the client in entering permanent housing. PHP should never be used for monthly rent or on-going utility costs where a client is already in permanent housing.

vii. Other HUD-Approved Activities. Other housing activities not already authorized at 24 CFR 574.300(b) may be proposed, but are subject to HUD's approval. Your proposal must address the expected beneficial impact of this alternative activity in addressing housing needs of eligible persons by describing the project impact and the identified performance output and client outcome measures for this activity. Examples of past approved Other HUD-approved Activities include rental assistance allowing clients to pay more or less than the required resident rent payment at 24 CFR 675.310(d), moving costs, and nonamortizing second mortgages to assist with homeownership. Funding restrictions for acquisition, new construction, or rehabilitation of housing facilities, and assistance through emergency shelters still apply. HUD will not approve Other Activities outside of the application submission process.

b. Supportive Services. Supportive Services funding may be used to provide access to mainstream resources and public benefits, improve access to healthcare, and provide other needed support to maintain stable housing and support positive health outcomes, subject to the supportive services requirements in 24 CFR 574. Eligible supportive services costs include staff time to develop and process individual housing and service plans for clients; staff time to connect clients to appropriate services and treatment in accordance with their housing and service plans; staff time to review progress on the client's housing and service plan, management-level consultation on client case issues; health and mental health assessment services; direct outpatient treatment by licensed professionals of mental health conditions; substance abuse treatment services designed to prevent, reduce, eliminate, or deter relapse of substance abuse or addictive behaviors provided by licensed or certified professionals; individual, family, or group therapy to address co-occurring disorders; nutritional services including food banks, nutritional supplements, and counseling on proper nutrition by certified nutrition specialists; life skills trainings such as budgeting resources, managing money, managing a household, resolving conflict, shopping for food and needed items, improving nutrition, using public transportation, parenting, and cleaning and unit maintenance; credit counseling; education services including instruction or training in consumer education, health education, substance abuse prevention, literacy, English as a Second Language, and General Educational Development (GED); job training or job coaching including resume development; client transportation to and from medical care, employment, child care, or other eligible essential services facilities; and HOPWA provider transportation to meet with clients for supportive service needs.

c. Resource Identification. Resource Identification funds may be used to comprehensively plan, coordinate, and integrate housing and services for program beneficiaries with strategies and resources in the service area. There are four activities for which Resource Identification funds should be used: (1) Increasing coordination with local initiatives or strategies to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic; (2) Conducting preliminary research and making expenditures necessary to determine the feasibility of specific housing-related initiatives; (3) Planning and Coordination for Client Transitions; and (4) Participation in a Peer Learning Cohort. Applicants may propose through the application narratives other use of Resource Identification funds for purposes not listed here if the activities are in compliance with HOPWA regulations at 24 CFR 574.300.

i. Increasing coordination with local initiatives or strategies to end the

HIV/AIDS epidemic. Two of the required project objectives for this funding opportunity are (1) Increase alignment with new or existing local initiatives or strategies to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic by elevating housing as a structural intervention; and (2) Improve coordination among local housing and service providers and use of available community resources. Grantee planning and coordination efforts should strive to meaningful integrate HIV housing into local efforts to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic by creating new or strengthening existing community partnerships. Resource identification can be used for staff time to participate in local planning bodies where staff are establishing, coordinating, or developing housing assistance resources for HOPWA eligible persons. Applicants must provide signed commitment letters with community organizations regarding intentions to partner. These commitment letters should be submitted with the leveraged resources narrative information under Rating Factor 4. Applicants must address their planning and coordination activities under Rating Factor 3, Soundness of Approach.

ii. Conducting research and making expenditures necessary to determine the feasibility of specific housing-related initiatives. Four of the required project objectives for this funding opportunity are (1) Implement and document housing and services models for low-income persons living with HIV and their families that are innovative and replicable in other similar localities or nationally; (2) Increase the amount of quality data collected and used for data-driven decision making with an emphasis on stable housing, positive health outcomes, and racial equity; (3) Assess and document replicable practices that ensure equitable access and culturally competent approaches to providing housing and services for populations of persons living with HIV experiencing service gaps; and (4) Prioritize sustainable, effective, and equitable approaches to providing housing and services to persons living with HIV and their families that can be continued past the funded project's period of performance. The client-level data collected for the HIV Housing Care Continuum Model should be used to identify service gaps preventing stable housing and viral

suppression. Identified service gaps should be analyzed to determine whether discrimination and systemic racism contributed to differences in access in housing and services for people of color and others who have been historically underserved. The Resource Identification budget line item can be used to analyze the client-level data collected and research causes preventing clients from achieving stable housing and viral suppression. Collected data should also be analyzed to determine whether, and to what extent programmatic policies and procedures are perpetuating systemic barriers to opportunities and benefits for people of color and other underserved groups being served under this grant. It can be used to make necessary expenditures to determine the feasibility of approaches to providing housing and services to persons living with HIV and their families being culturally competent, equitable, effective, and sustainable. It can also be used to write and publish the HIFA Model at the end of the grant period of performance to document housing and services models for low-income persons living with HIV and their families that are innovative and replicable in other similar localities or nationally. Please note that Resource Identification cannot be used for data collection or reporting on form HUD-40110-C (APR) and form HUD-4154, HIV Housing Care Continuum Model which are administrative costs.

iii. Planning and Coordination for Client Transitions. As funding under this NOFO will be provided on a one-time only basis and **will not** be eligible for renewal, grant recipients must ensure the full integration of their clients into local systems of care including any continuing housing assistance and services, if needed. The Resource Identification budget line item can be used to identify and coordinate local resources to ensure the successful transition of assisted clients to permanent housing by the end of the grant operating period.

iv. Participation in HUD-funded TA. Awarded grantees and their project sponsors will participate in a Peer Learning Cohort supported by a HUD-funded Technical Assistance (TA) initiative as part of this funding opportunity. The TA initiative will consist of regular facilitated conference calls and may also require travel for a group meeting in Washington, DC, and/or participation in conferences. Resource Identification can be used for staff time and reasonable travel costs related to participating in the TA initiative. Applicants should, at minimum, include staff costs to participate in the Peer Learning Cohort and travel costs for two staff persons to attend a two-day meeting in Washington, DC.

d. Administrative costs. HOPWA regulations (24 CFR 574.300(b)(10)) limit administrative costs to 3 percent of the award for grantees and, for project sponsors, 7 percent of the amounts received. HOPWA funds may be used for administrative costs as provided under 24 CFR 574, including costs of compiling data for and preparing form HUD-40110-C, Annual Performance Report (APR) and form HUD-4154, HIV Housing Care Continuum Model report at the end of each operating year.

3. Required Performance Goals and Reporting. Grant recipients must conduct eligible HOPWA activities consistent with their planned annual performance output goals, objectively measure actual achievements against anticipated achievements, report on their actual performance in form HUD-40110-C Annual Progress Report (APR), and report aggregated client-level health outcomes through an annual HIV Housing Care Continuum Model Report. The HIV Housing Care Continuum Model report requires grantees to collect client-level data elements including receipt of care, retained in care, and viral suppression to aggregately report on client outcomes through this NOFO. Applicants are also required to use the HOPWA Budget Form (form HUD-40110-B) found in the attachments to this NOFO for recording the funds being requested with the associated performance outputs for each activity, and any commitments of leveraged funding to support the program. Applicants will be required to establish project goals in Rating Factor 5 to be reported on in the narrative section of the APR and the Housing as an Intervention to Fight AIDS (HIFA) Model. Project goals must incorporate the six required project objectives.

HUD expects that each grantee will show that eligible program beneficiaries have achieved stable housing, have reduced risks of homelessness, and improved access to care in their program during the operating year, as shown by an assessment of the housing status and health outcomes for the household at the end of each operating year. Required Outputs refer to the number of units of housing or households assisted during the year, as measured by the annual use of HOPWA funding. The application must specify yearly goals for the number of households to be provided housing and services through the use of eligible activities. See Section III.F.3 of this NOFO for more information on eligible activities. Required Outcomes refer to the number of eligible households that have been provided housing assistance (as noted above for outputs) and thereby maintain a stable living environment in housing that is safe, decent, and sanitary. The program will measure these results in annual assessments on the housing status of beneficiaries along with other outcome measures on the reduced risks of homelessness, improved access to HIV/AIDS treatment and other health care and supportive services, and achieved viral suppression. On a nationwide basis, the HOPWA program is expected to demonstrate stable housing results, reduced risks of homelessness, and improved access to care results for beneficiaries

Reporting requirements under this NOFO are more comprehensive than traditional HOPWA program reporting. Grantees will be required to submit an APR and HIV Housing Care Continuum Model report within 90 days of the end of each operating year. Grantees will also develop a Housing as an Intervention to Fight AIDS (HIFA) Model to be submitted within 90 days of grant expiration date. More information on reporting requirements under this NOFO can be found in Section VI.C.5.

4. Disbursement of Funds. Grant recipients must fully expend their grant funding no later than three years following the effective date or the operation start date in the grant agreement, unless HUD approves a one-time extension for an additional 12 months or less. HOPWA grantees are required to use HUD's Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) for financial transactions and reimbursement of approved project activities. It is important that grantees understand the required separation of duties to draw down funding and how to keep the accounts active. New IDIS users will need to work with HUD to submit a request for access to an IDIS account. More information on IDIS account creation and maintenance can be found

here: https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/idis/idis-technical-assistance/.

Grant funds under this award must be used in a consistent and regular manner over the three-year period of performance. Grantees will be required to drawdown funds and reconcile the account quarterly at minimum in IDIS. It is recommended as a sound financial management practice and oversight action, that drawdowns and reconciliations occur on a monthly basis. Grant recipients must also reimburse project sponsors for eligible incurred expenses in a reasonable and timely manner.

5. Consistency with the Consolidated Plan.

This program requires a certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan under 24 CFR 91.2. This certification means the proposed activities in the application are consistent with the jurisdiction's strategic plan, and the location of the proposed activities is consistent with the geographic areas specified in the Consolidated Plan.

G. Criteria for Beneficiaries.

To receive assistance funded under this NOFO, an individual or family must meet the eligibility criteria that applies to that assistance under 24 CFR 574.

IV. Application and Submission Information.

A. Obtaining an Application Package.

Instructions for Applicants.

You must download both the Application Instructions and the Application Package from Grants.gov. You must verify that the Assistance Listing Number and Assistance Listing Description on the first page of the Application Package, and the Funding Opportunity Title and the Funding Opportunity Number match the Program and NOFO to which you are applying.

The Application Package contains the portable document forms (PDFs) available on Grants.gov, such as the SF-424 Family. The Instruction Download contains official copies of the NOFO and forms necessary for a complete application. The Instruction Download may include Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and additional documents.

An applicant demonstrating good cause may request a waiver from the requirement for electronic submission, for example, a lack of available Internet access in the geographic area in which your business offices are located. Lack of SAM registration or valid DUNS Number is not good cause. If you cannot submit your application electronically, you must ask in writing for a waiver of the electronic grant submission requirements. HUD will not grant a waiver if HUD does not receive your written mailed, shipped, or emailed request at least 15 calendar days before the application deadline and if you do not demonstrate good cause. If HUD waives the requirement, HUD must receive your paper application before the deadline of this NOFO. To request a waiver, you must contact:

Name: Email: HOPWA@hud.gov HUD Organization: Street:

State:

Zip:

B. Content and Form of Application Submission.

You must verify that boxes 11, 12, and 13 on the SF-424 match the NOFO for which you are applying. If they do not match, you have downloaded the wrong Application Instruction and Application Package.

Submission of an application that is otherwise sufficient, under the wrong Assistance Listing and Funding Opportunity Number is non curable unless otherwise stated in Threshold requirements.

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
Application for Federal Assistance (SF424)	Submission is required for all applicants by the application due date.	
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SFLLL), if applicable	HUD will provide instructions to grantees on how the form is to be submitted.	If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the applicant shall complete and submit the SF-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Applicants must furnish an executed copy of the Certification Regarding Lobbying prior to award.
Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424B)	Submission is required for all applicants by the	This is a required form for all applicants. The Authorized Representative must sign and date this

1. Content.

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
	application due date.	form and include the organization name.
Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan (HUD- 2991)	Submission is required for all applicants by the application due date.	Applicants must obtain a Consolidated Plan certification signed by the applicable state or local government official for submitting the appropriate plan for the areas in which activities are targeted. The authorizing official from the state or local government must sign this certification. If your project will be carried out on a national basis or will be located on an Indian reservation or in one of the U.S. Territories of Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, or the Northern Mariana Islands, you are not required to include a Consolidated Plan certification.
HOPWA Budget (HUD-40110-B)	Submission is required for all applicants by the application due date.	Applicants must use this program- specific budget form (HUD-40110-B) that demonstrates how HOPWA funds will be used for eligible activities. The HUD-40110-B will provide a summary of the total budget for the project, the annual HOPWA amounts to be used in each of the three years of operation, and a detailed budget for each project sponsor and the grantee. On the detailed budget, applicants must provide a short narrative which summarizes each of the requested budget line items and how the funds will be used, including the amount of requested funding by budget line item for the grantee and project sponsors and, as appropriate, community team members.

Forms/Assurances/Certifications	Submission Requirement	Notes/Description
Commitment Letter(s)	Submission is required for all applicants by the application due date. This is required for all leveraged resources, and planning partnerships that increase coordination under Resource Identification.	Each organization providing leveraged resources for this project must submit a signed letter from an Authorized Representative to the grantee during the development of the application. The commitment letter must include: the name and address of the organization(s) providing the commitment(s) (state if the organization will serve as a project sponsor); the type of commitment (applicant or third party cash resources, non-cash resources, volunteer time, contribution of a building, contribution of a lease hold interest, etc.); the dollar value of the commitment; the date of the commitment letter or other document; the source of the funding (federal, state, local, private, or in-kind contribution); and the organization's Authorized Representative's name, title, and contact information who has made this commitment. A single commitment letter from the lead Ending the Epidemic: A Plan for America (EHE) planning agency or HOPWA formula grantee is acceptable to show partnership with all organizations involved with EHE or HOPWA modernization work in a community, but the letter should provide the names of all relevant organizations involved in the work and the amount of funding leveraged for the project.

Additionally, your complete application must include the following narratives and non-form attachments.

a. **Narratives.** Each narrative must be titled with a corresponding heading. The application must contain the following narratives:

i. Executive Summary. On no more than two pages, provide an Executive Summary of the proposed project. The summary must provide an overview of the main components of your planned project including any special service delivery method or project purposes, and the projected annual housing output. The summary should briefly identify your innovative approach to achieving the required project objectives for this NOFO. In the executive summary, provide the name of the applicant, and any project sponsors, along with contact names, phone numbers, and email addresses.

ii. Narratives to Address the Rating Factors for Award. Applicants must provide written responses to each of the five rating factors described in Section V.A. of this NOFO. The rating factor narratives are where applicants should provide a clear vision of their proposed project within the guidelines provided. Responses should follow the formatting in Section IV.B.2. and be within the page limit stated under each rating factor.

2. Format and Form.

Narratives and other attachments to your application must follow the following format guidelines.

50 Pages maximum length of narratives

Double spaced 12-point (minimum) Times Roman font on letter sized paper (8 $1/2 \times 11$ inches) with at least 1-inch margins on all sides

Other

All narratives should be formatted as described here. Page limits for each narrative are provided with its Rating Factor description in Section V.A.

- Font size/style for headings: 14 point, Bold. (subheadings 12 point, Bold.)
- Headers: Left-justified indicate the rating factor or executive summary.
- Footers: Left-justified name of applicant. Right-justified page number out of total pages. (ex. Page 1 of 3)

C. System for Award Management (SAM) and Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number.

1. SAM Registration Requirement.

Applicants must be registered with https://www.sam.gov/ before submitting their application. Applicants must maintain current information in SAM on immediate and highest-level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all predecessors that have been awarded a Federal contract or grant within the last three years, if applicable. Information in SAM must be current for all times during which the applicant has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by HUD.

2. DUNS Number Requirement.

Applicants must provide a valid DUNS number, registered and active at https://www.sam.gov/ in the application. DUNS numbers may be obtained for free from Dun & Bradstreet.

3. Requirement to Register with Grants.gov.

Anyone planning to submit applications on behalf of an organization must register at grants.gov and be approved by the E-Biz POC in SAM to submit applications for the organization. Registration for SAM and grants.gov is a multi-step process and can take four (4) weeks or longer to complete if data issues arise. Applicants without a valid registration cannot apply through grants.gov. Complete registration instructions and guidance are provided on grants.gov.

D. Application Submission Dates and Times.

Application Due Date Explanation

The application deadline is 11:59:59 PM Eastern Standard time on

07/06/2021

Applications must be received no later than the deadline, or, if HUD has issued you a waiver allowing you to submit your application in paper form, by HUD no later than the deadline.

Submit your application to Grants.gov unless a waiver has been issued allowing you to submit your application in paper form. Instructions for submitting your paper application will be contained in the waiver of electronic submission.

"Received by Grants.gov" means the applicant received a confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number from Grants.gov. Grants.gov then assigns an application tracking number and date-and timestamps each application upon successful receipt by the Grants.gov system. A submission attempt not resulting in confirmation of receipt and an application tracking number is not considered received by Grants.gov.

Applications received by Grants.gov must be validated by Grants.gov to be received by HUD.

"Validated by Grants.gov" means the application has been accepted and was not rejected with errors. You can track the status of your application by logging into Grants.gov, selecting "Applicants" from the top navigation, and selecting "Track my application" from the dropdown list. If the application status is "rejected with errors," you must correct the error(s) and resubmit the application before the 24-hour grace period ends. Applications in "rejected with errors" status after the 24-hour grace period expires will not be received by HUD. Visit Grants.gov for a complete description of processing steps after applying.

HUD strongly recommends you submit your applications at least **48 hours before the deadline** and during regular business hours to allow enough time to correct errors or overcome other problems.

Grants.gov Customer Support. Grants.gov provides customer support information on its website at <u>https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html</u>. Applicants having difficulty accessing the application and instructions or having technical problems can receive customer support from Grants.gov by calling (800) 518-GRANTS (this is a toll-free number) or by sending an email to <u>support@grants.gov</u>. The customer support center is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week, except Federal holidays. The phone number above may also be reached by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, or who have speech disabilities, through the Federal Relay Service's teletype service at 800-877-8339.

You can verify the contents of your submitted application to confirm Grants.gov received everything you intended to submit. To verify the contents of your submitted application:

- Log in to Grants.gov.
- Click the Check Application Status link, which appears under the Grant Applications heading in the Applicant Center page. This will take you to the Check Application Status page.
- Enter search criteria and a date range to narrow your search results.
- Click the Search button. To review your search results in Microsoft Excel, click the Export Data button.
- Review the Status column, to view more detailed submission information, click the Details link in the Actions column.
- To download the submitted application, click the Download link in the Actions column.

Please make note of the Grants.gov tracking number as it will be needed by the Grants.gov Help Desk if you seek their assistance.

HUD may extend the application deadline for any program if Grants.gov is offline or not available to applicants for at least 24 hours immediately prior to the deadline date, or the system is down for 24 hours or longer and impacts the ability of applicants to cure a submission deficiency within the grace period.

HUD may also extend the application deadline upon request if there is a presidentially declared disaster in the applicant's area.

If these events occur, HUD will post a notice on its website establishing the new, extended deadline for the affected applicants. HUD will also include the fact of the extension in the program's Notice of Funding Awards required to be published in the Federal Register.

In determining whether to grant a request for an extension based on a presidentially-declared disaster, HUD will consider the totality of the circumstances including the date of an applicant's extension request (how closely it followed the basis for the extension), whether other applicants in the geographic area are similarly affected by the disaster, and how quickly power or services are restored to enable the applicant to submit its application.

PLEASE NOTE: Busy servers, slow processing, large file sizes, improper registration or password issues are not valid circumstances to extend the deadline dates or the grace period.

1. Amending or Resubmitting an Application.

Before the submission deadline, you may amend a validated application through Grants.gov by resubmitting a revised application containing the new or changed material. The resubmitted application must be received and validated by Grants.gov by the applicable deadline.

If HUD receives an original and a revised application for a single proposal, HUD will evaluate only the last submission received by Grants.gov before the deadline.

2. Grace Period for Grants.gov Submissions.

If your application is received by Grants.gov before the deadline, but is rejected with errors, you have a grace period of 24 hours after the application deadline to submit a corrected, received, and validated application through Grants.gov. The date and time stamp on the Grants.gov system determines the application receipt time. Any application submitted during the grace period not received and validated by Grants.gov will not be considered for funding. There is no grace period for paper applications.

3. Late Applications.

An application received after the NOFO deadline date that does not meet the Grace Period requirements will be marked late and will not be received by HUD for funding consideration. Improper or expired registration and password issues are not causes that allow HUD to accept applications after the deadline.

4. Corrections to Deficient Applications.

HUD will not consider information from applicants after the application deadline.

HUD will uniformly notify applicants of each curable deficiency. See curable deficiency in the definitions section (Section I.A.3). Examples of curable (correctable) deficiencies include inconsistencies in the funding request and failure to submit required certifications. These examples are non-exhaustive.

When HUD identifies a curable deficiency, HUD will notify the authorized organization representative identified on the SF 424 Application for Federal Assistance via email. This email is the official notification of a curable deficiency.

Applicants must email corrections of curable deficiencies to <u>applicationsupport@hud.gov</u> within the time limits specified in the notification. The time allowed to correct deficiencies will be no less than 48 hours and no more than 14 calendar days from the date of the email notification. The start of the cure period will be the date stamp on the email sent from HUD. If the deficiency cure deadline date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, Federal holiday, or on a day when HUD's Headquarters are closed, then the applicant's correction must be received on the next business day HUD Headquarters offices in Washington, DC are open.

The subject line of the email sent to <u>applicationsupport@hud.gov</u> must state: Technical Cure and include the Grants.gov application tracking number or the GrantSolutions application number (e.g., Subject: Technical Cure - GRANT123456 or Technical Cure - XXXXXXXXXX). If this information is not included, HUD cannot match the response with the application under review and the application may be rejected due to the deficiency.

Corrections to a paper application must be sent in accordance with and to the address indicated in the notification of deficiency. HUD will treat a paper application submitted in accordance with a waiver of electronic application containing the wrong DUNS number as having a curable deficiency. Failure to correct the deficiency and meet the requirement to have a DUNS number and active registration in SAM will render the application ineligible for funding.

5. Authoritative Versions of HUD NOFOs. The version of these NOFOs as posted on

Grants.gov are the official documents HUD uses to solicit applications.

6. Exemptions. Parties that believe the requirements of the NOFO would impose a substantial burden on the exercise of their religion should seek an exemption under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA).

E. Intergovernmental Review.

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

F. Funding Restrictions.

This NOFO will NOT fund acquisition, development, construction, rehabilitation, or emergency shelters.

Indirect Cost Rate.

Normal indirect cost rules under 2 CFR part 200, subpart E apply. If you intend to charge indirect costs to your award, your application must clearly state the rate and distribution base you intend to use. If you have a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must also include a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the approved rate. Successful applicants whose rate changes after the application deadline must submit new rate and documentation.

<u>Applicants other than state and local governments.</u> If you have a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must clearly state the approved rate and distribution base and must include a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the approved rate. If your agency does not have a current negotiated rate (including provisional) rate and elects to use the de minimis rate, your application must clearly state you intend to use the de minimis rate of 10% of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC). As described in 2 CFR 200.403, costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. Once elected, the de minimis rate must be applied consistently for all Federal awards until you choose to negotiate for a rate, which you may apply to do at any time. Documentation of the decision to use the de minimis rate must be retained on file for audit.

<u>State and local governments.</u> If your department or agency unit has a Federally negotiated indirect cost rate, your application must include that rate, the applicable distribution base, and a letter or other documentation from the cognizant agency showing the negotiated rate. If your department or agency unit receives more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year, you may not claim indirect costs until you receive a negotiated rate from your cognizant agency for indirect costs as provided in Appendix VII to 2 CFR Part 200.

If your department or agency unit receives no more than \$35 million in direct Federal funding per year and your department or agency unit has developed and maintains an indirect cost rate proposal and supporting documentation for audit in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix VII, you may use the rate and distribution base specified in that indirect cost rate proposal. Alternatively, if your department or agency unit receives no more than \$35 million in direct

Federal funding per year and does not have a current negotiated rate (including provisional) rate, you may elect to use the de minimis rate of 10% of MTDC. As described in 2 CFR 200.403, costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. Once elected, the de minimis rate must be applied consistently for all Federal awards until you choose to negotiate for a rate, which you may apply to do at any time. Documentation of the decision to use the de minimis rate must be retained on file for audit.

G. Other Submission Requirements.

1. Application, Assurances and Certifications.

Standard Form 424 (SF-424) Application for Federal Assistance Programs is the governmentwide form required to apply for Application for Federal Assistance Programs, discretionary Federal grants and other forms of financial assistance programs. Applicants for this Federal assistance program must submit all required forms in the SF-424 Family of forms, including SF-424B (Assurances of Non construction Programs) or SF424D (Assurances for Construction Programs). Applications receiving funds for both non-construction programs and construction programs must submit both the SF-424B and SF-424D.

By signing the forms in the SF-424 either through electronic submission or in paper copy submission (for those granted a waiver), the applicant and the signing authorized organization representative affirm that they have reviewed the certifications and assurances associated with the application for Federal assistance and (1) are aware the submission of the SF-424 is an assertion that the relevant certifications and assurances are established and (2) acknowledge that the truthfulness of the certifications and assurances are material representations upon which HUD will rely when making an award to the applicant. If it is later determined the signing authorized organization representative to the application made a false certification or assurance, caused the submission of a false certification or assurance, or did not have the authority to make a legally binding commitment for the applicant, the applicant and the individual who signed the application may be subject to administrative, civil, or criminal action. Additionally, HUD may terminate the award to the applicant organization or pursue other available remedies. Each applicant is responsible for including the correct certifications and assurances with its application submission, including those applicable to all applicants, those applicable only to Federally recognized Indian tribes, or Alaska native villages and those applicable to applicants other than federally recognized Indian tribes or Alaska native villages.

Assurances. By submitting your application, you provide assurances that, if selected to receive an award, you will comply with U.S. statutory and public policy requirements, including, but not limited to civil rights requirements. Applicants and recipients are required to submit assurances of compliance with federal civil rights requirements. *See, e.g.*, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; *see also* 24 C.F.R. §§ 1.5; 3.115; 8.50; and 146.25. HUD accepts these assurances in the form of the SF-424B and SF-424D, which also require compliance with all general federal nondiscrimination requirements in the administration of the grant.

V. Application Review Information.

A. Review Criteria.

1. Rating Factors.

The factors for rating and ranking applications and the points for each factor are provided below. Partial points may be awarded for a criterion if the applicant does not fully address the information needed for full points. A maximum of 100 points may be awarded under Rating Factors 1 through 5. Applicants must receive a minimum of 70 points to be eligible for funding.

Rating Factor 1: Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Organizational Staff (20 points) Rating Factor 2: Need/Extent of the Problem (14 points) Rating Factor 3: Soundness of Approach (36 points) Rating Factor 4: Leveraging Resources (10 points) Rating Factor 5: Achieving Results and Program Evaluation (20 points)

Rating Factor 1: Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Organizational Staff

Maximum Points: 20

Applicants may receive a maximum of 20 points for this factor. A minimum of 12 points are required in Rating Factor 1 to qualify for funding. Responses are limited to six pages plus up to two extra pages for each project sponsor. An applicant that plans to use project sponsors but fails to provide information on their capacity will not receive the minimum score.

This factor addresses the extent to which the applicant has the organizational resources necessary to successfully implement the proposed activities. It is important that the applicant demonstrates its administrative and organizational capacity to implement, monitor, and evaluate effective housing and service programs for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS. Applicants should strategically choose and involve team members with relevant experience. The team members include the proposed project manager and key staff relevant to carrying out the proposed activities. Team members will be evaluated in terms of recent, relevant, and successful experience in undertaking eligible program activities.

1. Describe team member experience and knowledge in serving persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

3 points - Full points will be awarded if the application presents direct, extensive, and clear evidence of team member experience relevant to the proposed project activities in serving persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

2. Describe the involvement of HOPWA eligible persons in project-level processes for the planning, implementation, and evaluation stages of the proposed project. This can include paid or unpaid positions related to the proposed project.

2 points - Full points will be awarded if the application presents direct, meaningful, and clear evidence of involvement of HOPWA eligible person(s) in the planning, implementation, and evaluation stages of the proposed project.

3. Describe team member experience in implementing trauma-informed approaches into programs and services for persons with special needs.

l point - Full points will be awarded if the application presents direct, extensive, and clear evidence of team member experience in implementing trauma-informed approaches into programs and services for persons with special needs.

4. Describe team member experience in data collection and data analysis in adherence with confidentiality and/or privacy law and regulations.

2 points - Full points will be awarded if the application presents direct, extensive, and clear evidence of team member experience in data collection and data analysis in adherence with confidentiality and/or privacy law and regulations.

5. Describe team member experience with managing and implementing programs similar to those proposed in your application, including HOPWA, and other housing and service programs for special needs populations.

3 points - Full points will be awarded if the application presents direct, extensive, and clear evidence of team member experience and knowledge in providing activities similar to the range of housing and service activities proposed in the application.

6. Describe team member experience in coordinating with local planning bodies and building partnerships to leverage resources. Local planning bodies could include a Ryan White Planning Council, Continuum of Care, or Getting to Zero initiative.

3 points - Full points will be awarded if the application presents direct, extensive, and clear evidence of team member experience coordinating with local planning bodies and building partnerships to leverage resources.

7. Describe team member experience in achieving measurable results and meeting applicable performance benchmarks in the operation of existing or previous HOPWA grants, or other similar housing and supportive service grants. This includes meeting project goals and objectives, such as the number of persons assisted in comparison to the number that was planned at the time of the application; submitting timely performance reports; and expending funding as outlined in grant agreements/contracts, with no outstanding audit or monitoring issues.

3 points - Full points will be awarded if the application presents clear evidence of team member experience in achieving results and meeting benchmarks under existing or previous HOPWA grants or other similar grant programs.

8. Describe team member experience and knowledge in: (1) monitoring and evaluating the performance of housing and service programs; and (2) reporting on project outcomes similar to the HOPWA client outcomes of housing stability, reduced risks of homelessness, and access to care.

3 points - Full points will be awarded if the application fully describes team member experience in monitoring and evaluating program performance reporting on project outcome information similar to HOPWA outcomes.

9. Provide clarification and action taken for any past performance issues that may have occurred in the last 5 years. Past Performance of HOPWA grants will be evaluated by HUD and up to 8 points may be deducted due to untimely, inaccurate, and/or incomplete performance reports; financial issues with expending funding as outlined in grant agreements/contracts, and outstanding audit or monitoring issues.

Minus 2 points - Up to 2 points will be deducted for untimely, inaccurate, and/or incomplete performance reports.

Minus 2 points - Up to 2 points will be deducted for issues with expending funding as outlined in grant agreements/contracts including erratic spending where funds were drawn less than quarterly and unexpended funds of \$10,000 or more were recaptured.

Minus 4 points - Up to 4 points will be deducted for unaddressed and unresolved audit or monitoring issues.

Maximum Points: 0

Rating Factor 2: Need/Extent of the Problem

Maximum Points: 14

Applicants may receive a maximum of 14 points for this factor. Responses for Rating Factor 2 are limited to five pages. This factor must show a clear need for housing and coordinated services addressing the unique needs of low-income persons living with HIV and how the proposed project aligns with those needs.

1. Define your planned service area. The geographic location of your project will determine whether you receive a point. HUD will use HIV surveillance data pertinent to the service area from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to the relative numbers of HIV/AIDS cases and per capita HIV/AIDS incidence within your service area. If there is a discrepancy in ranking applicants when looking at both relative HIV/AIDS cases and per capita HIV/AIDS incidence to determine which applicants receive the point.

l point – Full points will be awarded if the defined service area has higher relative numbers of HIV/AIDS cases and per capita HIV/AIDS incidence than the majority of applicants under this NOFO.

2. Describe the need for housing and services for low-income persons living with HIV in the service area. Applicants should demonstrate a clear understanding of the clients to be served by providing eligible client demographics and shared characteristics of any identified target population. This may include but is not limited to race, gender, sexual orientation, age (e.g. youth or aged 50+), history of incarceration, intimate partner or domestic violence victimization, chronic homelessness, substance use, and co-occurring or multiply diagnosed medical

conditions. Data sources could include census data, health department statistics, CDC data sets, and other locally available data.

4 *points* – Full points will be awarded if the need in the service area is clearly described and supported with relevant data sources for HIV and eligible client demographics and shared characteristics.

3. Identify the public and private resources/organizations available to coordinate housing and services for low-income persons living with HIV. Applicants should demonstrate viability through strong community partnerships linking together local organizations and resources to ensure that project efforts are sustained after the conclusion of the funding period. It is expected that applicants in EHE Phase I Jurisdictions and highly impacted HOPWA formula modernization communities will be working in partnership with organizations receiving EHE funding through the CDC and HOPWA formula funds. All organizations identified should also have a signed Commitment Letter submitted with the application. A single commitment letter from the lead EHE planning agency or HOPWA formula grantee is acceptable to show partnership with all organizations involved with EHE or HOPWA modernization work in a community, but the letter should provide the names of all relevant organizations involved in the work and the amount of funding leveraged for the project.

3 points – Full points will be awarded if the community resources/organizations identified for coordination in this project clearly show experience with housing and services for low-income persons living with HIV, and exhibit formed partnerships through a Commitment Letter.

4. Identify local initiatives or strategies to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic and how the applicant and the proposed project will align with local efforts by elevating housing as an effective structural intervention.

4 points - Full points will be awarded if the application clearly identified the local initiatives or strategies to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic and can clearly show how the applicant and the proposed project will align with local efforts through two or more specific actions that will elevate housing as an effective structural intervention.

5. Identify the need for systems level improvement in the community and how improved coordination among local housing and service providers and utilization of available community resources will benefit community members in the planned service area. Applicants are encouraged to consider new and non-traditional community partnerships and resources to address barriers such as discrimination and systemic racism that contribute to differences in access in housing and lead to ongoing disparities among underserved communities. Reducing these disparities requires a focus on the needs of disproportionately affected populations, supporting racial justice, LGBTQ+ rights, combatting HIV-related stigma and discrimination, providing leadership and employment opportunities for people with or at risk for HIV, and addressing social determinants of health and co-occurring conditions to reduce health inequities and disparities.
2 points – Full points will be awarded if the application clearly identifies current community barriers to coordination among local housing and service providers and discusses two or more high-quality benefits of planned project activities to overcome barriers and advance equity.

Rating Factor 3: Soundness of Approach

Maximum Points: 36

Applicants may receive a maximum of 36 points for this factor. Responses for Rating Factor 3 are limited to a total of 10 pages.

This factor evaluates the proposed housing and supportive service activities to be carried out through this funding opportunity to help participants obtain and/or maintain safe, stable housing, the roles and responsibilities of coordinating organizations, and the innovative strategies in cross-agency coordination, resource utilization, and data-driven approaches to providing housing and services and reducing HIV-related disparities that can serve as models for other programs and/or support long-term change.

1. Show a clear strategy, with established project goals, to achieve the six required project objectives listed in Section III.F.1, Required Project Objectives, of this NOFO. The project should exhibit exemplary and/or innovative qualities, including community level coordination; data collection with emphasis on stable housing, positive health outcomes, and racial equity; and replicable practices that ensure equitable access and culturally competent approaches to providing housing and services that can serve as a national place-based model. Funds for Resource Identification are available to facilitate coordination during the program period, but applicants are expected to establish relevant partnerships and have an innovative strategy for cross-agency coordination, resource utilization, and data-driven approaches to providing housing and services and reducing HIV-related disparities that can serve as models for other program and/or support long-term change at the time of application.

6 points – Full points will be awarded if the strategy establishes clear goals to accomplish all the required project objectives for this NOFO.

2. Describe how success of the project's innovative strategic goals will align with and contribute to locally established goals to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic. For example, if the local community is collectively working towards a goal of increasing the percentage of individuals who are virally suppressed to 80 percent, applicants should clearly show how the project's goals will align with and contribute to accomplishing this locally established goal.

4 points - Full points will be awarded if there is a clear description showing how the project's goals align with and contribute to locally established goals to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

3. Describe the operations plan for the housing assistance being proposed with the projected number of persons to be served through each type of housing assistance for each year of the program. For rental assistance programs, this will include a plan for providing rental assistance and length of stay.

4 points – Full points will be awarded if the plan describes projected number of housing units, by type, to be provided through the program, by year, over a 3-year period. The projected yearly number of persons to be served is identified for each type of housing assistance and the number is appropriate and feasible.

4. Describe how eligible persons will access the housing assistance provided through the project and through any specific commitments with other community housing providers. Include a description of how a client moves through the housing program from outreach, intake, client assessment, the delivery of housing services, and when appropriate, the outplacement to more self-sufficient independent housing or permanent rental housing. The description should recognize and align with the needs of eligible HOPWA clients described in Rating Factor 2 and should exhibit equitable access and culturally competent approaches to provide housing for the identified population of persons living with HIV.

4 points – Full points will be awarded if there is a clear, feasible description of how a client moves through the housing program from outreach, intake, client assessment, the delivery of housing services, and when appropriate, the outplacement to more self-sufficient independent housing or permanent rental housing with support of organizations responsible for these actions. The description considers the needs of the identified population to be served under this grant and systemic barriers that may prevent people of color and other underserved groups from fully accessing housing and services.

5. Describe plans to facilitate the movement of eligible persons receiving housing support to permanent housing or independent living arrangements within the 36 months of the grant period of performance. This includes outplacement to self-sufficiency or to permanent rental housing subsidized by HUD or other Federal, state, and local resources. If funds will be used to help beneficiaries secure new housing units, applicants must describe plans to use the funds and the related housing outputs for these permanent housing placement services (under that budget line item), such as costs for first month's rent and security deposits.

4 *points* – Full points will be awarded if there is a clear, feasible plan to transition program beneficiaries off housing assistance provided through this program to alternative permanent housing or independent living arrangements, that presents flexibility and the necessity to address varying special needs of individuals receiving housing assistance, without any risk of homelessness or housing instability.

6. Describe how the supportive service needs of eligible persons will be met and the use of any additional leveraged resources by describing the type of supportive services that will be offered directly by the program and/or how agreements and project plans will ensure that services will be accessed and coordinated from other mainstream health and human welfare sources. Projects should provide access to a wide range of flexible and optional services that reflect the varying individual needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS. Individualized services may be offered, such as counseling, support groups, and advocacy services as well as other services such as case management, licensed childcare, employment services, nutritional support, transportation vouchers, and referrals to other agencies. Supportive services must never be required to receive housing assistance, but the plan should clearly show how the applicant plans to engage clients

uninterested in receiving supportive services. The description should recognize and align with the needs of eligible HOPWA clients described in Rating Factor 2.

4 points – Full points will be awarded if there is a precise, feasible plan ensuring program beneficiaries have viable access to a wide variety of supportive services that address needs associated with maintaining stable housing and achieving positive health outcomes. The proposed plan should clearly allow program beneficiaries to choose the course of action that is best for them and demonstrate cross-agency coordination, resource utilization and data-driven approaches to provide culturally competent services.

7. Describe the ways in which these services will help eligible persons obtain and/or maintain stable housing. Applicants must explain their comprehensive plan for ensuring equitable access to and delivering culturally competent supportive services in coordination with project partners and show how agreements with community organizations will ensure that eligible persons receive adequate access to medical care and other mainstream supportive services to address their needs.

4 points – Full points will be awarded if the roles and responsibilities of the organizations carrying out each eligible activity are reasonable and clearly identified, and clearly exhibit how the housing and service needs of beneficiaries will be addressed in an equitable, culturally competent, and holistic manner.

8. Explain how the coordination of HIV housing assistance and related services will continue past the funded period.

2 points – Full points will be awarded if the coordination of HIV housing assistance and related services exemplifies long-term partnerships that will continue past the conclusion of funding.

9. Complete the HOPWA budget form (HUD-40110-B) with amounts and descriptions that reflect the planned eligible activities along with leveraged resources discussed in the Rating Factor Narratives. The budget must follow the guidelines and requirements within this funding announcement. If the applicant is proposing an Other Activity to be approved by HUD, there must be an accompanying narrative description (maximum two pages which are not included in page limit for Rating Factor 3) specifically describing the Other Activity proposed in the budget. The Other Activity narrative must address the expected beneficial impact of this alternative activity in addressing housing needs of eligible persons by describing the project impact and the identified performance output and client outcome measures for this activity. Proposed Other Activities will be approved through the application review process if the description of the Other Activity shows a beneficial impact to the project and eligible persons

4 points – Full points will be awarded if all budget amounts and descriptions reflect the planned activities discussed in this narrative section, reflect funding amounts reasonable for the locality, and follow the guidelines and requirements within this funding announcement. If the applicant is proposing an Other Activity to be approved by HUD, there is a clear description of the proposed Other Activity including the project impact, the

performance output and client outcome measures, and how the funds included in the budget will be expended.

Rating Factor 4: Leveraging Resources

Maximum Points: 10

Applicants may receive a maximum of 10 points for this factor. Applicants must receive a minimum of 2 points in Leveraging Resources to be eligible for funding.

This factor addresses the applicant's ability to secure community resources that can be combined with NOFO funds to achieve program purposes and to ensure sustainability of the housing efforts. Such commitments may involve provisions of funding or services by other agencies, or in-kind donation of dedicated personnel to lead or plan collaborative activities. Applicants can receive up to 10 points based on the extent to which resources from other state, local, federal, or private resources are listed with the required elements to demonstrate that these funds are committed at the time of application to support and sustain the project.

The leveraging information must be presented on a list or chart with the following information: the name and address of the organization(s) providing the commitment(s) (state if the organization will serve as a project sponsor); the type of commitment (applicant or third party cash resources, non-cash resources, volunteer time, contribution of a building, contribution of lease hold interest); the dollar value of the commitment; the date of the commitment letter or other document; the source of the funding or in-kind contribution, such as federal, state, local, private; and the organization's authorized representative's name, title, and contact information who has made this commitment. See Appendix A for an example leveraging chart.

Applicants will be awarded points based on the percentage of commitment dedicated to the project. The percentage of leveraging is determined by comparing the determined amount of leveraged resources to the total grant amount requested by the applicant under this NOFO.

10 points - 200.0% or greater 8 points - 150.0% to 199.9% 6 points - 100.0% to 149.9% 4 points - 50.0% to 99.9% 2 points - 1% to 49.9%

Rating Factor 5: Achieving Results and Program Evaluation

Maximum Points: 20

Applicants may receive a maximum of 20 points for this factor. Responses for Factor 5 are limited to five pages.

Reporting requirements under this NOFO are more comprehensive than traditional HOPWA program reporting. Responses for this factor must describe the project's specific outcomes and goals and how data will be collected to ensure reporting is accurate and complete. This must also include a clear plan to monitor and evaluate project achievements based on the established goals.

1. Determine aggregated client-level outcomes for the project based off the strategic goals established in Rating Factor 3 including, but not limited to, improved housing stability, reduced

risk of homelessness, improved access to appropriate supportive services, increased access to healthcare, improved individual health (ex. CD4 count, viral load, perceived health, etc.), and, if applicable, employment and income growth.

4 *points* – Full points will be awarded if outcomes are clearly stated, reasonable, and inclusive of housing and health.

2. Determine quantifiable systems-level outcomes for the project based off the strategic goals established in Rating Factor 3 including, but not limited to, increased alignment with initiatives or strategies to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic; reduced HIV-related disparities and health inequities for underserved communities; increased partnerships formed or continued with community organizations and other housing and service providers; increased utilization and leverage of available community resources.

4 *points* – Full points will be awarded if quantifiable outcomes are clearly stated, reasonable, and inclusive of system-level improvements identified in the established strategic goals for the project.

3. Provide a clear plan for collecting client-level data and other necessary project data to produce accurate and complete reports for this NOFO inclusive of the APR, HIV Housing Care Continuum Model, and HIFA Model. The applicant should show they have systems or processes in place to accommodate the data collection for this funding opportunity.

4 *points* – Full points will be awarded if there is a clear data collection plan to gather all the required data elements in the required reporting forms under this NOFO.

4. Provide a clear plan to monitor and evaluate the delivery of housing and services that objectively measures actual achievements against anticipated achievements. This should include a timeline with activities, benchmarks, and performance indicators.

4 *points* – Full points will be awarded if there is a clear monitoring and evaluation plan to measure achievements with a timeline that includes activities, benchmarks, and performance indicators.

5. Indicate how monitoring will be used to make programmatic adjustments throughout the grant operating period to ensure goals are achieved. Applicants should consider when adjustments would be needed to advance equity for underserved communities at both a client level and a systems level.

4 *points* – Full points will be awarded if there is clear indication that monitoring throughout the operating period will be used in set time intervals to ensure goals are being achieved with adjustments as needed.

2. Other Factors.

This program does not offer points for Section 3.

Preference Points

This program does not offer preference points.

Opportunity Zones.

This program does not offer Opportunity Zone preference points.

HBCU.

This program does not offer HBCU preference points.

Promise Zones

This program does not offer Promise Zone preference points.

B. Review and Selection Process.

1. Past Performance

In evaluating applications for funding, HUD will consider an applicant's past performance in managing funds. Items HUD will consider include, but are not limited to:

The ability to account for funds in compliance with applicable reporting and recordkeeping requirements;

Timely use of funds received from HUD;

Timely submission and quality of reports submitted to HUD;

Meeting program requirements;

Meeting performance targets as established in the grant agreement;

The applicant's organizational capacity, including staffing structures and capabilities;

Timely completion of activities and receipt and expenditure of promised matching or leveraged funds;

The number of persons served or targeted for assistance;

Producing positive outcomes and results.

The number of persons served or targeted for assistance.

HUD may reduce scores based on the past performance review, as specified under V.A. Review Criteria. Whenever possible, HUD will obtain past performance information. If this review results in an adverse finding related to integrity of performance, HUD reserves the right to take any of the remedies provided in Section III E., Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Affecting Eligibility, "Pre-selection Review of Performance" document link above.

2. Assessing Applicant Risk.

In evaluating risks posed by applicants, HUD may use a risk-based approach and may consider any items such as the following:

- Financial stability;
- Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in this part;
- History of performance. The applicant's record in managing Federal awards, if it is a prior recipient of Federal awards, including timeliness of compliance with applicable reporting requirements, failing to make significant progress in a timely manner, failing to meet planned activities in a timely manner, conformance to the terms and conditions of

previous Federal awards, and if applicable, the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards;

- Reports and findings from audits performed under Subpart F—Audit Requirements of this part or the reports and findings of any other available audits; and
- The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities.

VI. Award Administration Information.

A. Award Notices.

Following the evaluation process, HUD will notify successful applicants of their selection for funding. HUD will also notify other applicants, whose applications were received by the deadline, but have not been chosen for award. Notifications will be sent by email to the person listed as the AOR in item 21 of the SF424.

Negotiation. After HUD has made selections, HUD will negotiate specific terms of the funding agreement and budget with selected applicants. If HUD and a selected applicant do not successfully conclude negotiations in a timely manner, or a selected applicant fails to provide requested information, an award will not be made to that applicant. In this case, HUD may select another eligible applicant.

HUD may impose special conditions on an award as provided under 2 CFR 200.208:

• Based on HUD's review of the applicant's risk under 2 CFR 200.206;

• When the applicant or recipient has a history of failure to comply with the general or specific terms and conditions of a Federal award;

• When the applicant or recipient fails to meet expected performance goals contained in a Federal award; or

• When the applicant or recipient is not otherwise responsible.

Adjustments to Funding. To ensure the fair distribution of funds and enable the purposes or requirements of a specific program to be met, HUD reserves the right to fund less than the amount requested in an application.

a. HUD will fund no portion of an application that:

(1) Is not eligible for funding under applicable statutory or regulatory requirements;

(2) Does not meet the requirements of this notice; or

(3) Duplicates other funded programs or activities from prior year awards or other selected applicants.

b.If funds are available after funding the highest-ranking application, HUD may fund all or part of another eligible fundable application. If an applicant turns down an award offer, or if HUD and an applicant do not successfully complete grant negotiations, HUD may withdraw the award offer and make an offer of funding to another eligible application.

c. If funds remain after all selections have been made, remaining funds may be made available within the current FY for other competitions within the program area, or be held for future competitions, or be used as otherwise provided by authorizing statute or appropriation.

d. If, after announcement of awards made under the current NOFO, additional funds become available either through the current appropriations, a supplemental appropriation, other appropriations or recapture of funds, HUD may use the additional funds to provide additional funding to an applicant awarded less than the requested amount of funds to make the full award, and/or to fund additional applicants that were eligible to receive an award but for which there were no funds available.

Funding Errors. If HUD commits an error that when corrected would cause selection of an applicant during the funding round of a Program NOFO, HUD may select that applicant for funding, subject to the availability of funds. If funding is not available to award in the current fiscal year, HUD may make an award to this applicant during the next fiscal year, if funding is available then.

Program-specific Adjustments to Funding. HUD reserves the right to redistribute or remove incorrectly allocated activity costs on the HOPWA budget form (HUD-40110-B). Applicants should refer to Section III.F.3. for eligible costs under this NOFO's eligible budget line items.

Rating and Selection of Applications. HUD will select applications in order of the highest ranking score to the extent that funds are available. HUD will not select an application that is rated below 70 points, nor will an application be funded if it receives lower than 12 points for Rating Factor 1 or lower than 2 points for Rating Factor 4. If there is more than one applicant with planned activities in the same service area, the applicant with the highest score for that service area will receive the award and the lower scored application will only be considered if funding remains after all other eligible applications have been selected. In the event of a tie score between applications, HUD reserves the right to break the tie by selecting the application that was scored higher on a rating criterion in the following order: Rating Factor 3, Rating Factor 1, Rating Factor 2, Rating Factor 5, and Rating Factor 4.

B. Statutory and Administrative, National and Department Requirements for HUD Recipients

For this NOFO, the following <u>Administrative</u>, <u>National and Department Policy Requirements</u> and <u>Terms for HUD Financial Assistance Awards</u> apply. (Please select the linked text to read the detailed description of each applicable requirement).

1. Unless otherwise specified, these non-discrimination and equal opportunity authorities and other requirements apply to all NOFOs. Please read the following requirements carefully as the requirements are different among HUD's programs.

• Compliance with Fair Housing and Civil Rights Laws, Which Encompass the Fair Housing Act and Related Authorities (cf. 24 CFR 5.105(a)).

• Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.

• Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) See https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/limited_english_proficiency.

• Accessible Technology. See

- https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/OCIO/documents/s508103017.pdf
- 2. Equal Access Requirements. See 24 CFR 5.105(a)(2)
- 3. Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations in HUD Programs and Activities.
- 4. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal

Awards.

5. Drug-Free Workplace.

6. Safeguarding Resident/Client Files.

7. Compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub.

L.109-282) (Transparency Act), as amended.

8. Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities. See

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/disability_overview 9. Violence Against Women Act. See 24 CFR part 5, subpart L and applicable program regulations.

10. Conducting Business in Accordance with Ethical Standards/Code of Conduct.

11. Environmental Requirements, which include compliance with environmental justice requirements under Executive Order 12898.

Compliance with 24 CFR part 50 or 58 procedures is explained below:

All HOPWA assistance is subject to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4321, and applicable related federal environmental authorities. Although many eligible HOPWA activities under this NOFO, such as tenant-based rental assistance, supportive services, and administrative costs, are excluded from environmental review because of the lack of environmental impact, other activities, including project-based assistance, require environmental review. In accordance with Section 856(h) of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act and the HOPWA regulations at 24 CFR 574.510, environmental reviews for HOPWA activities are to be completed by responsible entities (as defined in 24 CFR 58.2) in accordance with 24 CFR part 58. Applicants or grantees that are not a responsible entity must request the unit of general local government to perform the environmental review, or HUD may make a finding in accordance with 24 CFR 574.510(c) and 24 CFR 58.11(d) and may itself perform the environmental review under the provisions of 24 CFR part 50 if a grant recipient that is not a responsible entity objects in writing to the responsible entity's performing the review under 24 CFR part 58. HOPWA grantees and project sponsors may not undertake any project or activity, or commit or expend any HUD or non-HUD funds on project activities (other than those listed in 24 CFR 58.22(f), 58.34 or 58.35(b) for which the responsible entity documents its findings of exemption or exclusion for the environmental review record (24 CFR 58.34(b) or 24 CFR 58.35(d)) that could limit the choice of reasonable alternatives or have an adverse environmental impact until HUD has approved a "Request for Release of Funds and Certification" (RROF), form HUD-7015.15, in compliance with NEPA and 24 CFR Part 58, or until HUD has completed the environmental review and the recipient has received HUD approval. The recipient, its project sponsors and their contractors may not lease property for a project, or commit or expend HUD or local funds for this eligible activity, until the responsible entity (as defined in 24 CFR 58.2) has completed the environmental review procedures required by 24 CFR part 58 and the environmental certification and the RROF have been approved, or until HUD has completed the environmental review and the recipient has received HUD approval. HUD will not release grant funds if the recipient or any other party commits HUD or non-HUD funds (i.e., incurs any costs or expenditures to be paid or reimbursed with such funds) before the recipient submits and HUD approves its RROF (where such submission is required). The recipient shall supply all available, relevant information necessary for the responsible entity or HUD to perform, for each property, any environmental review required.

2 CFR 200.216 Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment

2 CFR 200.340 Termination

Lead Based Paint Requirements.

When providing housing assistance funding for purchase, lease, support services, operation, or work that may be disturb painted surfaces, of pre-1978 housing, you must comply with the lead-based paint evaluation and hazard reduction requirements of HUD's lead-based paint rules (Lead Disclosure; and Lead Safe Housing (24 CFR part 35)), and EPA's lead-based paint rules (e.g., Repair, Renovation and Painting; Pre-Renovation Education; and Lead Training and Certification (40 CFR part 745)).

When providing education or counseling on buying or renting housing that may include pre-1978 housing under your grant you must inform clients of their rights under the Lead Disclosure Rule (24 CFR part 35, subpart A), and, if the focus of the education or counseling is on rental or purchase of HUD-assisted pre-1978 housing, the Lead Safe Housing Rule (subparts B, R, and, as applicable, F - M).

C. Reporting.

HUD requires recipients to submit performance and financial reports under OMB guidance and program instructions.

1. Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters. Applicants should be aware that if the total Federal share of your Federal award includes more than \$ 500,000 over the period of performance, you may be subject to post award reporting requirements reflected in Appendix XII to Part 200-Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters.

2. Race, Ethnicity and Other Data Reporting. HUD requires recipients that provide HUD-funded program benefits to individuals or families to report data on the race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and family characteristics of persons and households who are applicants for, participants in, or beneficiaries or potential beneficiaries of HUD programs in order to carry out the Department's responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act, Executive Order 11063, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Section 562 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987.

Grantees will be required to submit this information through the reporting form HUD-40110-C, HOPWA Annual Performance Report (APR).

4. Compliance with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Pub. L. 109-282) as amended (FFATA). FFATA requires information on Federal awards be made available to the public via a single, searchable website, which is <u>www.USASpending.gov.</u> Accordingly, each award HUD makes under this NOFO will be subject to the requirements provided by the Award Term in Appendix A to 2 CFR Part 170, "REPORTING SUBAWARD AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION INFORMATION," unless the Federal funding for the award (including funding that may be added through amendments) is not expected to equal or exceed \$30,000. Requirements under this Award Term include filing subaward information in the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS.gov) by the end of the month following the month in which the recipient awards any sub-grant equal to or greater than \$30,000. Each

applicant under this NOFO must have the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with this Award Term, in the event that they receive an award, unless an exception applies under 2 CFR 170.110.

5. Program-Specific Reporting Requirements

Reporting requirements under this NOFO are more comprehensive than traditional HOPWA program reporting. Grantees will be required to submit three different reporting documents including the HOPWA APR (HUD-40110-C), an HIV Housing Care Continuum Model Report, and a Housing as an Intervention to Fight AIDS (HIFA) Model.

a. **HOPWA APR (form HUD-40110-C)**. Grantees will be required to submit an APR within 90 days of the end of each operating year. The APR can be accessed at <u>https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/1012/hopwa-annual-progress-report-apr-form-hud-40110-c/</u>

b. **HIV Housing Care Continuum Model (form HUD-4154)**. Grantees will be required to submit an HIV Housing Care Continuum Model report within 90 days of the end of each operating year. The HIV Housing Care Continuum Model being reported under this NOFO uses the diagnosis-based approached established by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) through their fact sheet, "Understanding the HIV Care Continuum", published in July 2019. This fact sheet can be accessed

at <u>https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/factsheets/cdc-hiv-care-continuum.pdf</u>. The HIV Housing Care Continuum Model will require grantees to collect four client-level data elements for each person with diagnosed HIV receiving HOPWA assistance by type of assistance received through this NOFO. The data elements include:

- **Receipt of Care**. Receipt of care is measured as a person with diagnosed HIV receiving HOPWA assistance under this NOFO who had at least one CD4 or viral load test during the operating year.
- **Retained in Care.** Retained in care is measured as a person with diagnosed HIV receiving HOPWA assistance under this NOFO who had two or more CD4 or viral load tests, performed at least three months apart during the operating year.
- Viral Suppression. Viral suppression is measured as a person with diagnosed HIV receiving HOPWA assistance under this NOFO who had a viral load test result of <200 copies/mL at the most recent viral load test during the operating year.
- **Type of HOPWA assistance received.** The type of HOPWA assistance received by the person with diagnosed HIV includes any HOPWA assistance for housing or supportive services funded through this NOFO. This data element will provide the denominator for the variety of HIV Housing Care Continuums created through the HIV Housing Care Continuum Model report. Grantees will be required to separately report receipt of care, retained in care, and viral suppression for persons with diagnosed HIV receiving the following categories of type of HOPWA assistance under this NOFO:
 - Any eligible HOPWA assistance;
 - Housing assistance defined in Section III.F.3.a. only;
 - Supportive Services only;
 - Both Housing assistance and Supportive Services;

- TBRA and Master Leasing only;
- o TBRA, Master Leasing, and Supportive Services;
- Facility-based Housing only;
- Facility-based Housing and Supportive Services;
- STRMU only;
- STRMU and Supportive Services;
- Other Housing Activities only;
- Other Housing Activities and Supportive Services.

Each annual submission of the HIV Housing Care Continuum Model will cover only the data from the program year covered. The client-level data elements should be collected at minimum annually and at the following times: Client Intake, HOPWA Assistance Ends, Type of HOPWA Assistance Changes, or Recertification for HOPWA Assistance. In addition to the data elements collected, the grantee will provide a brief narrative to interpret the data reported.

c. Housing as an Intervention to Fight AIDS (HIFA) Model (form HUD-

4153). Grantees will also develop a Housing as an Intervention to Fight AIDS (HIFA) Model to be submitted within 90 days of the grant expiration date. The HIFA Model will document the project's design, implementation, and outcomes, and identify best practices and model qualities related to the use of housing as a structural intervention in the ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The HIFA Model will include the following components: a vision or goal for the project; description of the need being met by the project; description of the program design; description of the alignment with initiatives or strategies to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic; description of data collection and analysis used to make data-driven decisions on stable housing, positive health outcomes, and racial equity; description of culturally competent approaches used for clients experiencing service gaps; partnerships formed or continued with community organizations and other housing and service providers; resources and partnerships used to transition clients to self-sufficiency or other forms of housing assistance by the end of the grant period; successes and challenges in using housing as a structural intervention to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic; client outcomes related to health and housing stability including a summary of HIV Housing Care Continuum results and, if applicable, employment and income growth. Health outcome measures will include eligible program beneficiary CD4 count, viral load, and perceived health. This data will be provided in the aggregate. Each HIFA Model will be shared with the public, and lessons learned through these grantee efforts will help inform national and community policy and actions.

D. Debriefing.

For a period of at least 120 days, beginning 30 days after the public announcement of awards under this NOFO, HUD will provide a debriefing related to their application to requesting applicants. A request for debriefing must be made in writing or by email by the authorized organization representative whose signature appears on the SF-424 or by his or her successor in office and be submitted to the POC in Section VII Agency Contact(s), below. Information provided during a debriefing may include the final score the applicant received for each rating

factor, final evaluator comments for each rating factor, and the final assessment indicating the basis upon which funding was approved or denied.

VII. Agency Contact(s).

HUD staff will be available to provide clarification on the content of this NOFO.

Questions regarding specific program requirements for this NOFO should be directed to the POC listed below.

Name: Office of HIV/AIDS Housing

Phone:

Email:

HOPWA@hud.gov

Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TTY by calling the tollfree Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339. Please note that HUD staff cannot assist applicants in preparing their applications.

VIII. Other Information.

1. National Environmental Policy Act.

This NOFO provides funding under 24 CFR 574.510 and applicants are required to follow the environmental requirements that are outlined at 24 CFR 574.510. This NOFO does not alter any of those environmental requirements. Accordingly, under 24 CFR 50.19(c)(5), this NOFO is categorically excluded from environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321).

Activities under this NOFO are subject to the environmental review provisions set out at 24 CFR 574.510.

2. Web Resources.

- <u>Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing</u>
- Code of Conduct list
- <u>CFDA</u>
- Dun & Bradstreet
- Equal Participation of Faith-Based Organizations
- Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System
- FFATA Subaward Reporting System
- Grants.gov
- <u>HBCUs</u>
- <u>Healthy Homes Strategic Plan</u>
- Healthy Housing Reference Manual
- HUD's Strategic Plan
- HUD Grants
- Limited English Proficiency
- NOFO Webcasts
- **Opportunity Zone**

- <u>Procurement of Recovered Materials</u>
- **Promise Zones**
- <u>Section 3 Business Registry</u>
- <u>State Point of Contact List</u>
- <u>System for Award Management (SAM)</u>
- Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Act of 1970 (URA)
- USA Spending

3. Program Relevant Web Resources

- <u>HUD.gov HOPWA website</u>
- <u>HUD.gov HOPWA Listserv Sign up</u>
- <u>HUD.gov HOPWA Published Listservs</u>
- HUD Exchange HOPWA Technical Assistance website

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A: Sample Leveraged Resources Chart

Chart of Leveraged Resources (SAMPLE)

Applicant:

Name/Address of Organization	Type of Commitment	\$ Amount	Date of Commitment Letter	Source of Funding or In-kind Contribution	Organization Contact (name, title, phone, email)
We Leverage! Inc. 25 Percent Avenue Here, PP 00000	Third Party Cash Resources (for IT Services)	\$200,000 (3 yrs)	1/1/11	Private Funding	Guy Help, Director 1-555-XXX- XXXX, [email]
Volunteers on Earth 2 Earth Dr. Gaia, EA 00001	Volunteer Time (Support Groups)	\$5,000 (1,000hrs*\$5/hr)	1/2/11	Private In- Kind Contribution	Phil Anthropist, Executive Director 1-555-XXX- XXXX, [email]
Junkyard Revival 2b 2nd Life Blvd. Hope, WE 00002	Vehicle for client transportation	\$40,000 (Vehicle and 3 yrs of maintenance)	1/3/11	State In-Kind Contribution	

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