

Ryan White Title I

Boston EMA

HIV Health Services Planning Council

Housing Services for People with HIV/AIDS

HOPWA Update

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AIDS and Housing

The death rate among homeless people with AIDS is five times greater than that of people with AIDS who are housed

HOPWA Overview

- In 1992, the National AIDS Commission reported that housing serves as a base from which to receive care; the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program was created to address this finding
- The goal of HOPWA is to ensure access to safe affordable housing for people with HIV/AIDS with appropriate levels of services
- Current (FFY 11) HOPWA funding is \$335M
- About \$4M (formula) and \$2.5 M (competitive) come into Massachusetts per year (\$6.5M total)

HOPWA Overview

- 90% of HOPWA funds are distributed to Eligible Metropolitan Areas (EMAs) [or states] through formula (133 jurisdictions)
- 10% of HOPWA funds are awarded through competition (105 current projects)
- Formula is based on cumulative AIDS cases: 1,500 cases within EMAs [or states] of 500,000 people or more

HOPWA Overview

- 66% - Direct Housing Assistance
- 45% - Supportive Services
- 4% - Housing Information and Placement
- 5% - Administration

HOPWA Overview

- HOPWA is a flexible program that fills critical gaps in the housing continuum for people with HIV/AIDS
- In Massachusetts, HOPWA is used for emergency assistance, long-term rental assistance, and services connected to housing
- Massachusetts's grantees have allowed providers and advocates to be creative in developing our AIDS housing system

HOPWA Funding in Boston's RWT1 Area

● HOPWA Formula Funding

– Massachusetts:

- Boston EMA
- Lynn EMA
- Lowell EMA
- Worcester EMA
- State-DPH
- [Springfield EMA]

– Rhode Island:

- Providence EMA (includes Bristol County in Massachusetts)

HOPWA Funding in Boston's RWT1 Area

● HOPWA Competitive Grants

– Massachusetts:

- Action, Inc. (Gloucester)
- CCAC/AAC—Bay State Supportive Housing Alliance (North Shore to South Shore)
- Community Health Link—Miranda's House (Worcester)
- Justice Resource Institute (& partners)—TBRA

– New Hampshire:

- Harbor Homes
- Nashua
- State-DHHS
-

[State-DHHS]

HOPWA Funding in Boston's RWT1 Area

MASSACHUSETTS

● Formula	2009	2010
– Boston EMA:	1,779,243	1,889,165
– Lynn EMA:	331,866	355,028
– Lowell EMA:	658,318	702,955
– Worcester EMA:	377,385	408,282
Totals:	3,146,812	3,355,430
[State—DPH:	180,471	194,639]
[Springfield EMA:	445,162	481,793]

HOPWA Funding in Boston's RWT1 Area

MASSACHUSETTS

● Competitive	2009	2010
– CCAA/AAC (& partners):	1,370,440	
– Community Health Link:	880,496	
– Action, Inc. (Gloucester):		1,292,869
– JRI (& partners):		1,405,137
Totals:	2,250,936	2,698,006

HOPWA Funding in Boston's RWT1 Area

RHODE ISLAND

- **Formula**

- Providence:

- [Includes Bristol County in Massachusetts]

2009

820,541

2010

874,203

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- **Competitive**

- Harbor Homes:

500,457

- Nashua:

1,430,000

- State-DHHS:

716,221

- Totals:**

500,457

2,146,221

2010

0

- [State-DHHS:

966,900]

HIV/AIDS Housing Programs in Boston's RWT1 Area

● Boston:

- Amory Street Community (Vinfen)
- Bobbie White Services (VPI)
- Cathedral Housing Program (AAC)
- Cedar House (VPI)
- Comunidad de Walnut Park (LHI) - **HOPWA**
- Coventry Street (Vinfen)
- Home Support Program (Whittier Street NHC)
- Huntington at Symphony (JRI)
- Joseph McAllaster House (AAC)
- Joy Street (AAC)
- Lakay Project (CCHER) - **HOPWA**
- Living and Recovering Community—LARC (VPI)
- Nazareth Residence (Catholic Charities Boston)
- Project Opciones (LHI)
- River Street Community (JRI)

HIV/AIDS Housing Programs in Boston's RWT1 Area

● Boston

- Robert McBride House
- Rockwell Street (Pine Street Inn)
- ROOF (AAC)
- Rosie's Place-A Positive Step (Rosie's Place)
- Safe Harbor (BPHC)
- School Street (Vinfen)
- Seton Manor (Peabody Properties)
- Sheila Daniels Houses (Dimock)
- SPAN Transitional (SPAN)
- SRO Collaborative (Commonwealth Land Trust)
- Talbot Bernard Housing (AAC) - **HOPWA**
- Ummi's (Dimock)
- Victory Transitional (VPI)
- Women's Hope (VPI)

HIV/AIDS Housing Programs in Boston's RWT1 Area

- Cambridge
 - Home Connections Program (CCAA/AAC)
 - Open Door Program (CCAA/AAC)
 - Ruah (VPI) - **HOPWA**
 - Transitional Shelter Program (CCAA/AAC)
- Greater Boston EMA
 - Assisted Living Program-ALP (JRI)
 - Bay State Supportive Housing Alliance (CCAA) - **HOPWA**
 - Homelessness Prevention Program (AAC) - **HOPWA**
 - Rental Start-up Program (AAC) - **HOPWA**

HIV/AIDS Housing Programs in Boston's RWT1 Area

- Fall River
 - Hope House (St. Anne's Hospital)
 - Next Step Home (Stepping Stone)
- Framingham
 - Framingham Housing Program (SMOC)
 - New Beginnings at Bethany Hill (SMOC)
- Hull
 - Hull House (Fr. Bill's Place)
- Lawrence
 - Corpus Christi Residences (Lazarus House Ministries)
- Lowell
 - Project Heal (Institute for Health and Recovery)

HIV/AIDS Housing Programs in Boston's RWT1 Area

- Lynn
 - South Common Street Residence (Serving People in Need)
- New Bedford
 - Luis E. Martinez House (Seven Hills)
 - Project Home (Seven Hills)
- Topsfield
 - Serenity Supportive Housing (HES)
- Worcester
 - Abby's House
 - Compassion House
 - HOAP (Community Health Link) - **HOPWA**
 - Miranda's House (Community Health Link) - **HOPWA**

HIV/AIDS Housing Programs in Boston's RWT1 Area

- **New Hampshire:**
 - AIDS Response Seacoast
(Merrimack Valley Assistance Program) - **HOPWA**
 - Southern New Hampshire AIDS Task Force
(Harbor Homes) - **HOPWA**

HOPWA

- Fiscal Year 07: \$286M
- Fiscal Year 08: \$300M
- Fiscal Year 09: \$315M
- Fiscal Year 10: \$335M
- Fiscal Year 11: Currently \$335M
- National AIDS Housing Coalition (NAHC)
Fiscal Year 12: HOPWA request: \$427M

What will \$427M Support?

- Reduce waiting lists for HOPWA housing
- Assist communities to develop new housing for poor individuals with HIV/AIDS and their families
- Provide rental assistance
- Establish strategic housing plans
- Help the thousands of people receiving other RWCA assistance to locate and be stable in housing – a vital component for the success of their medical treatment
- Make supportive services available to keep people in their housing and fill gaps in comprehensive care

Housing and HIV/AIDS

- AIDS housing is created by a network of funding sources including HOPWA, RWCA and other HUD programs.
- Most AIDS housing programs rely on a combination of state and federal funds to create a program.
- Most people with HIV/AIDS rely on resources outside of HOPWA and RWCA for their housing subsidies/rental support, such as Section 8, public housing and Shelter Plus Care
- Supportive housing services funded by HOPWA and RWCA are critical to the individual and overall success of AIDS housing

AIDS Housing: Housing Assistance

- People with HIV/AIDS receive different types of housing and rental assistance through HOPWA, RWCA, and other HUD programs
- HOPWA can pay for long-term and emergency rental assistance, housing placement, and utilities assistance
- RWCA can pay for short-term/emergency rental assistance, housing placement, and utilities assistance

AIDS Housing: Supportive Services

- Both HOPWA and RWCA funds are used for a variety of housing-related supportive services
- Supportive Housing services help people find housing and address financial, health, and other factors that can result in unstable housing and homelessness
- Types of Supportive Services include:
 - Case management
 - Housing advocacy
 - Mental health and substance abuse services
 - Life skills assistance
 - Residential services

Research Findings:

Housing is the greatest unmet need of persons with HIV/AIDS

- 40% to 60% of people living with HIV/AIDS report an experience of homelessness in their lifetimes
- It is estimated that half of the people alive with HIV/AIDS in the U.S. will need housing assistance over the course of their lives – over 500,000 households
- 91% of HOPWA-assisted individuals have incomes of less than \$1,000 per month - far below Fair Market Rent affordability

Research Findings:

Breaking the Link Between Homelessness and HIV

- Research confirms an increased risk of HIV-infection among homeless persons and increased rates of homelessness among people living with HIV/AIDS
- HIV/AIDS prevalence is up to 9 times higher for persons who are homeless or unstably housed
- Homeless people with HIV are three times as likely to be outside of care than those with HIV who are stably housed
- Homeless people with HIV die at a rate five times that of people with HIV in stable housing

Research Findings:

HIV/AIDS Housing Improves Health Outcomes

- A recent CDC study finds housing status among the strongest predictors of treatment access and health outcomes for people with HIV/AIDS
- Homeless people with HIV/AIDS experience far worse overall physical and mental health compared to their stably housed counterparts
- Stably housed people with HIV/AIDS are four times as likely to enter medical care than those who are homeless
- People with HIV/AIDS who have moved from homelessness to housing are six times more likely to be in care/treatment than those who remain homeless

Research Findings:

HIV/AIDS Housing and Prevention

- Research demonstrates a strong association between change in housing status and HIV risk behavior change
- Homeless persons were found to be two to six times more likely to use hard drugs, share needles, or engage in high-risk sexual behavior than stably house people
- Homeless persons at high risk for HIV are significantly more likely than others to become HIV infected
- Persons whose housing status improved reduced risk behaviors by half

Research Findings:

HIV/AIDS Housing as a Sound Investment of Public Resources

- Access to stable housing sharply reduces utilization of emergency and inpatient health care services
- An extensive HUD/CDC joint study found that HIV/AIDS housing is cost-effective and-cost saving
- Each HIV-transmission that is prevented saves an estimated \$303,000 in lifetime medical cost; stable housing has been found to be a structural intervention to reduce the spread of HIV

About the Technical Assistance Program (TAP)

- TAP, formerly known as the AIDS Housing Corporation, became a program of Victory Programs, Inc., after the two organizations merged in July of 2009
- TAP provides technical assistance for housing services to providers, funders, and consumers in 11 states reaching down the coast from Maine to West Virginia
- Victory Programs, Inc., one of Massachusetts's largest non-profit agencies, provides housing and innovative direct care to individuals and families facing homelessness, addiction, or other chronic illnesses (including HIV/AIDS); VPI offers 18 programs located throughout Boston and in Cambridge.

Final Words

Websites

- Technical Assistance Program at VPI: Visit the TAP webpage at www.vpi.org/TAP/index.htm
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) [for HOPWA and other housing information] at www.hudhre.info
 - National AIDS Housing Coalition at www.nationalaidshousing.org

HOUSING IS HEALTHCARE!