



Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) vs. Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) Housing

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Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People



Learning Objectives

- **Topic:**
 - Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) vs. the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) Housing
- **Objectives:**
 - Differences between the use of federal funds for HOPWA and RWHAP Part B Housing
 - Why housing is an important topic to address within RWHAP Part B
 - Identify mechanisms to address housing needs at the state level

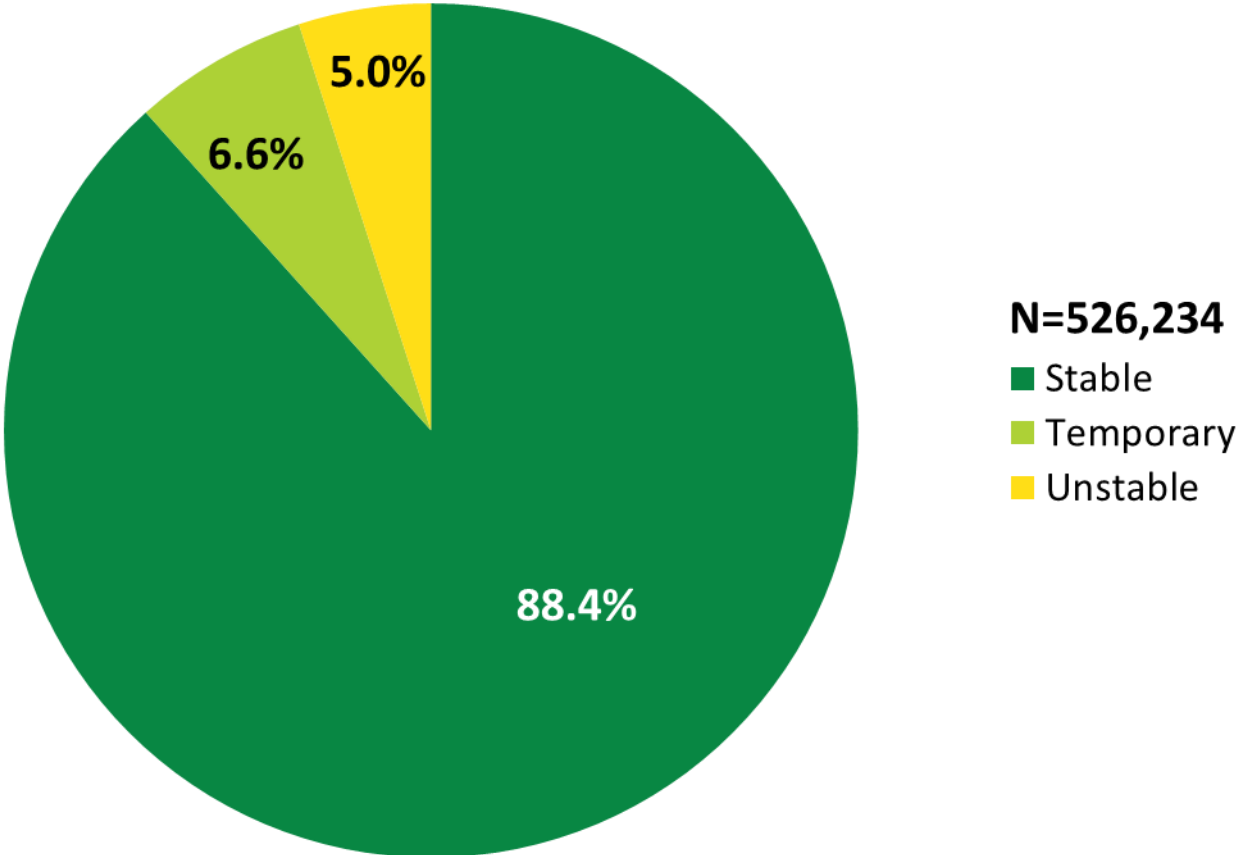


Why Housing?

- We understand that the clients we serve in the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program face a number of challenges, including unstable housing.
- There is growing body of research that indicates that stable housing has a direct and powerful effect on HIV incidence, HIV health outcomes and on health disparities.
- Housing is a more significant predictor of health care access and HIV outcomes than individual characteristics, behavioral health issues and access to other services.



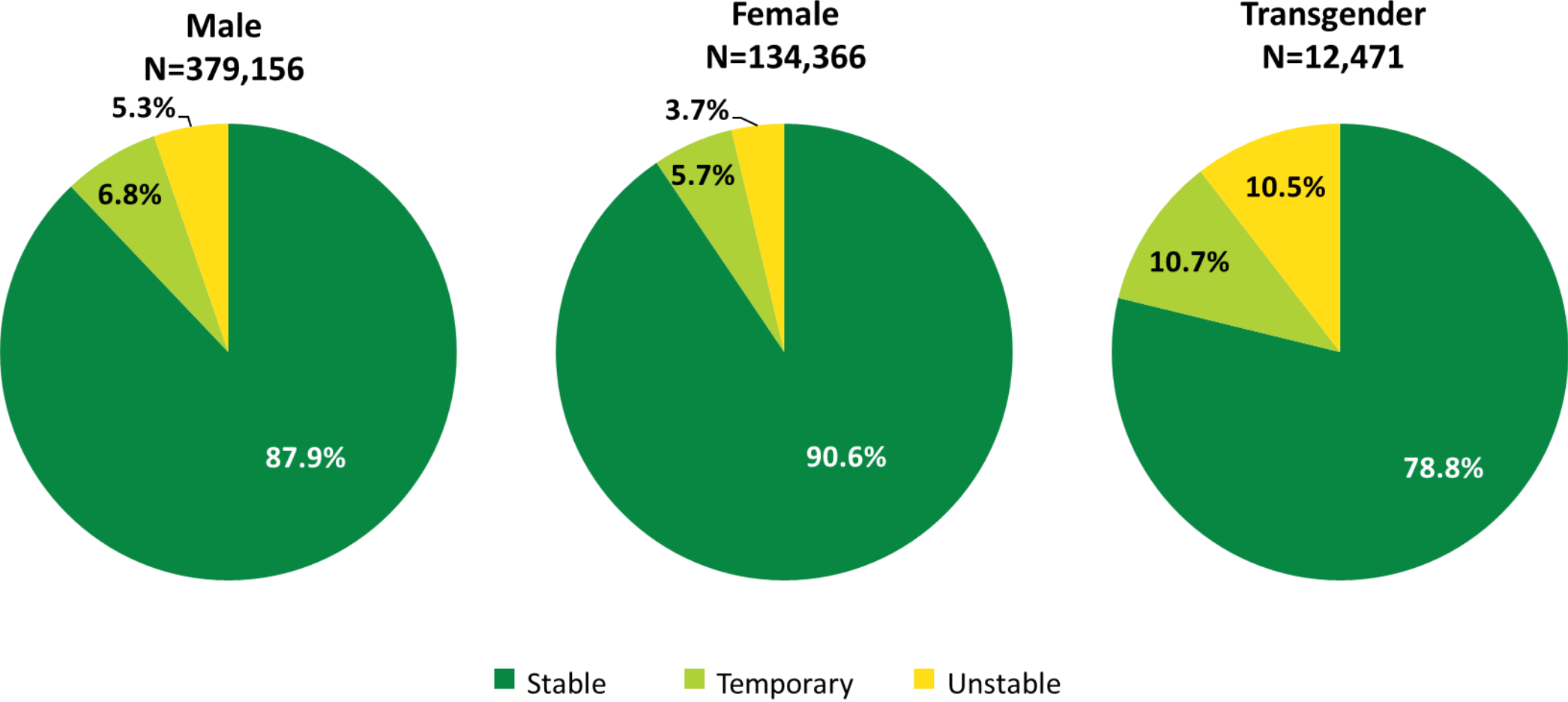
Clients Served by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, by Housing Status, 2021—United States and 3 Territories^a



^a Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



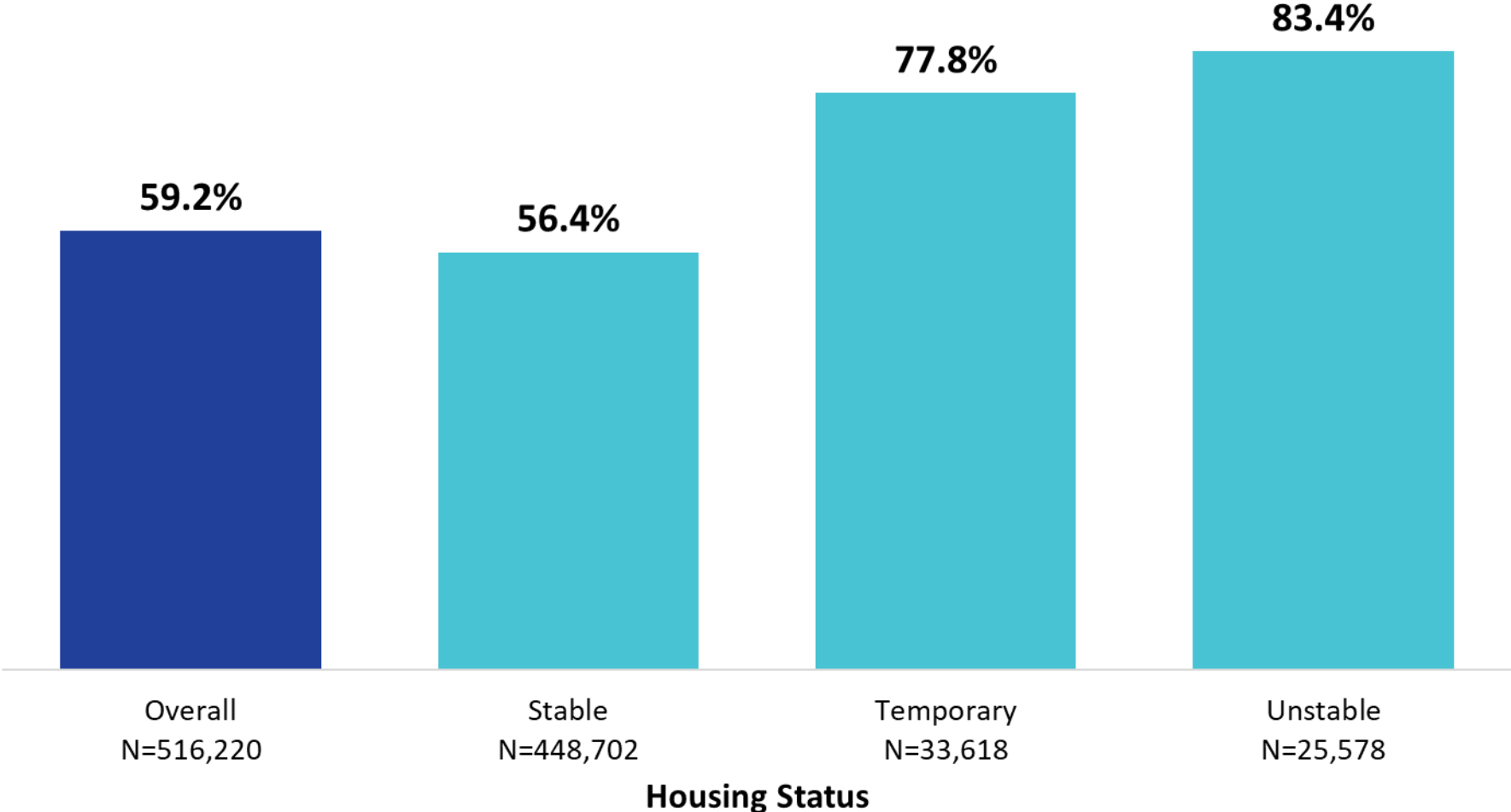
Clients Served by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, by Gender and Housing Status, 2021—United States and 3 Territories^a



^a Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



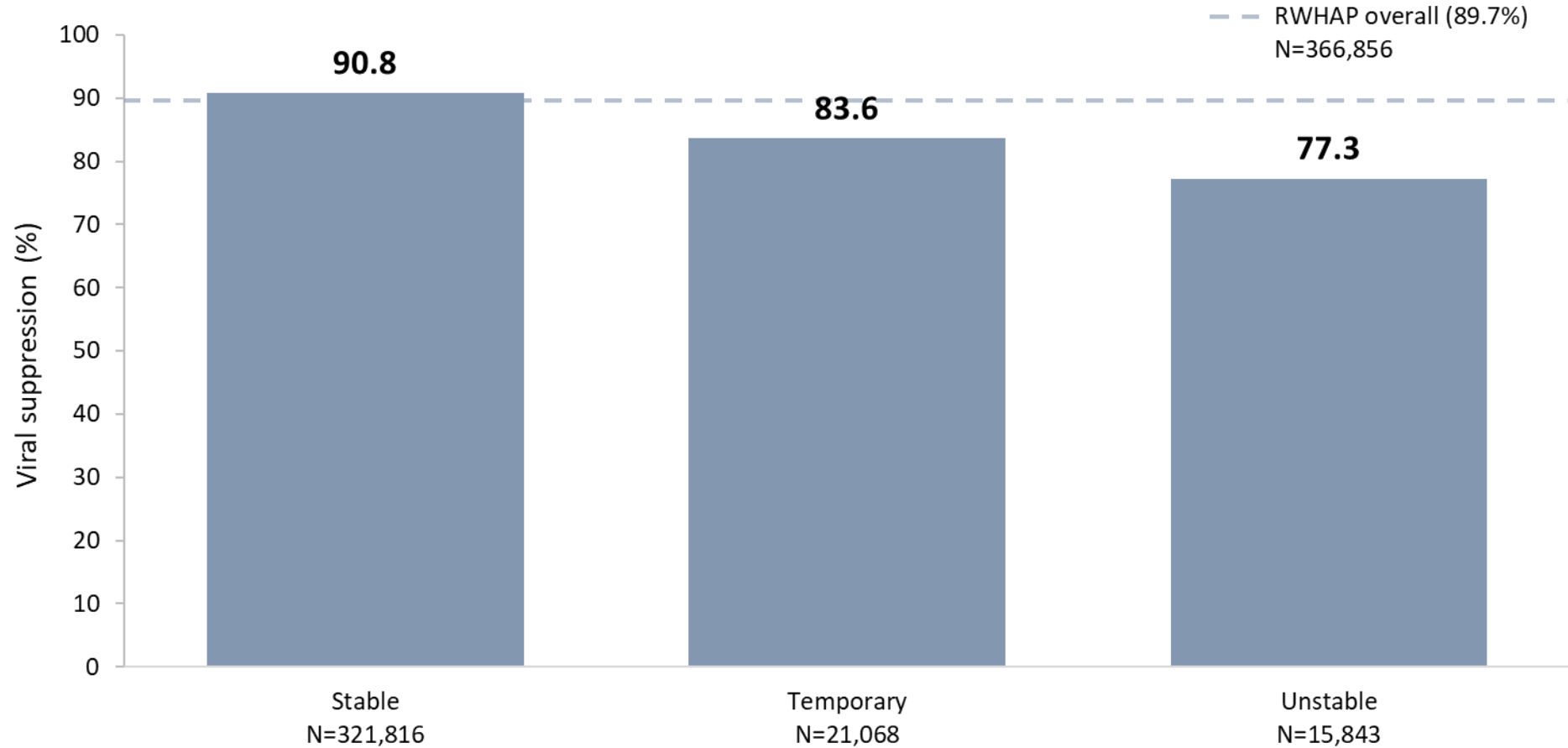
Clients Served by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Living $\leq 100\%$ of the Federal Poverty Level, by Housing Status, 2021—United States and 3 Territories^a



^a Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



Viral Suppression among Clients Served by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, by Housing Status, 2021—United States and 3 Territories^a



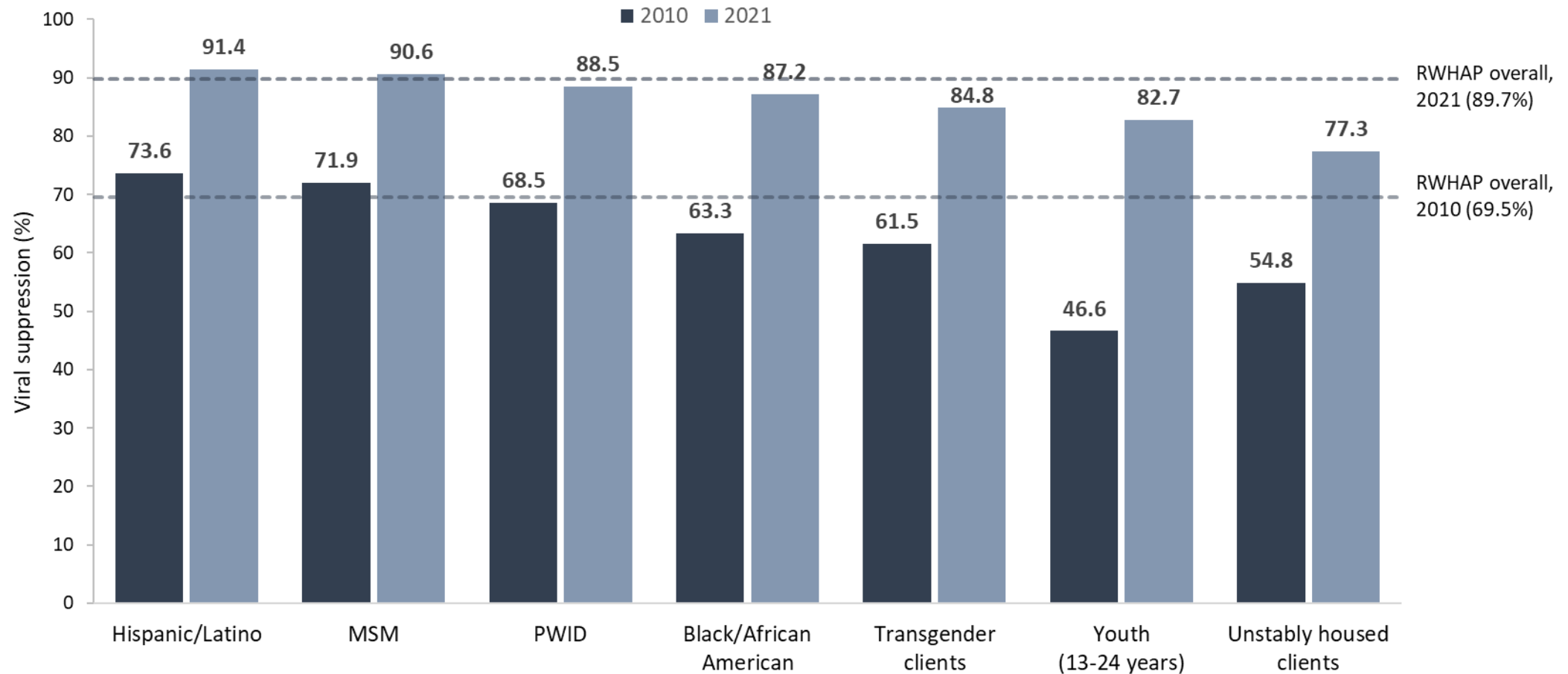
N represents the total number of clients in the specific population.

Viral suppression: ≥ 1 OAHS visit during the calendar year and ≥ 1 viral load reported, with the last viral load result < 200 copies/mL.

^a Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



Viral Suppression among Priority Populations Served by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, 2010 and 2021—United States and 3 Territories^a



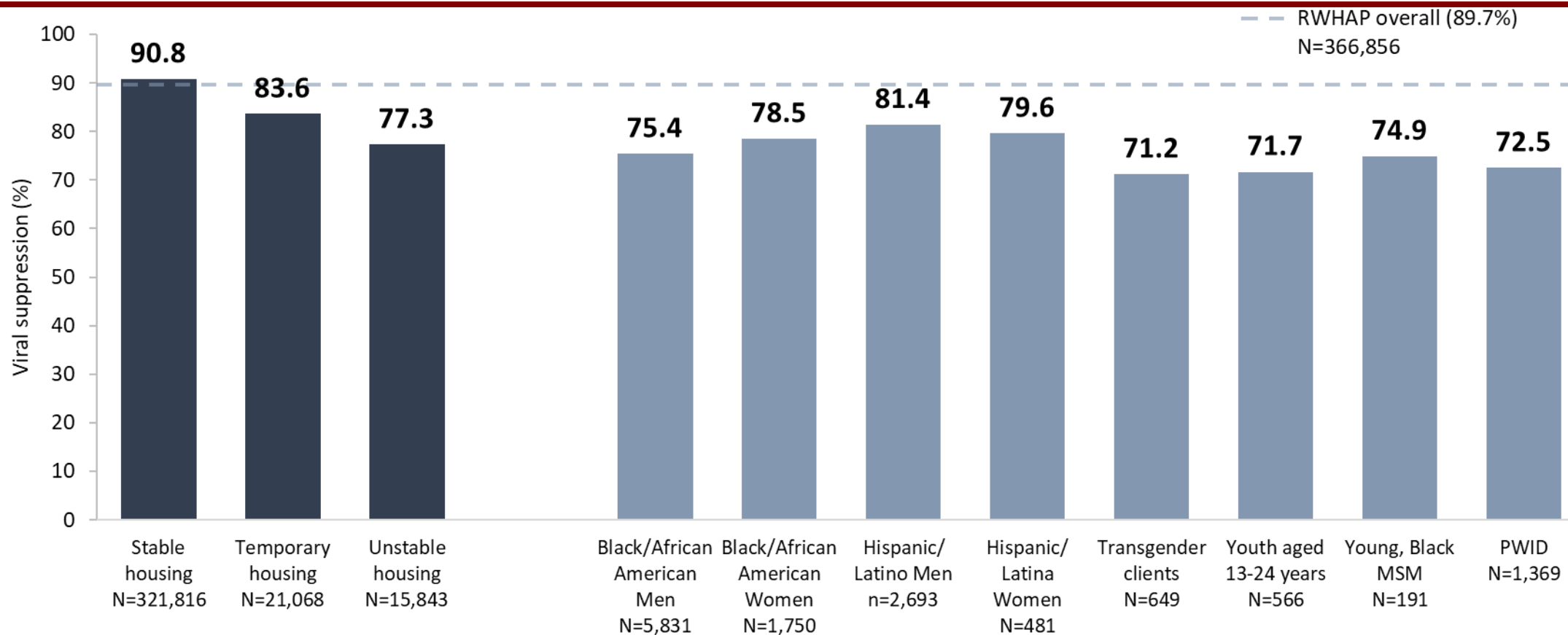
Hispanics/Latinos can be of any race.

Viral suppression: ≥1 OAHs visit during the calendar year and ≥1 viral load reported, with the last viral load result <200 copies/mL.

^a Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



Viral Suppression among RWHAP Clients, by Housing Status and among Key Populations with Unstable Housing, 2021—United States and 3 Territories^a



Viral suppression among priority populations with unstable housing



PWID, people who inject drugs (i.e., HIV attributed to injection drug use).

N represents the total number of clients in the specific population.

Viral suppression: ≥1 OAHS visit during the calendar year and ≥1 viral load reported, with the last viral load result <200 copies/mL.

^a Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



Collaboration with Housing and Urban Development



- HRSA HAB has a long-standing, committed collaboration with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- Because the RWHAP does not function as a housing provider, HRSA HAB relies on collaborations with HUD.
- HRSA is committed to continued collaborations with HUD to further enhance our understanding and ability to address the housing needs of our clients.



Housing Policy & Program Letters



Definition of Housing

- [In Policy Clarification Notice \(PCN\) 16-02](#), HAB better defined housing services and removed the requirement to show medical necessity.

Expanding Allowable Services

- In 2016, HAB expanded the housing services category to include RWHAP Part C.

Supporting Data Integration

- In 2017, HAB and HUD put out a [joint letter](#) supporting the integration of RWHAP and HOPWA data.
- In 2019, a [toolkit](#) was released for service providers on a checklist and best practices for sharing data and improving service coordination.

Outbreaks and Housing Stability

- In April 2023, HRSA, HUD & CDC released a [joint letter](#) encouraging collaboration to prevent and respond to outbreaks for people at-risk for HIV and people with HIV experiencing homelessness and housing instability.



Housing Technical Expert Panels



- In November 2019 and August 2022, HAB convened two housing-related technical expert panels (TEP) to discuss the housing needs of people with HIV
- TEP participants:
 - Defined housing issues for clients
 - Identified strategies and innovative models to address need
 - Discussed trauma-informed care approaches to accessing and maintaining housing
 - Continue collaborations that support a status neutral approach to housing

Housing TEP summary (Nov 2019): <https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/ryanwhite/resources/hrsa-housing-tep-overview.pdf>

Housing TEP summary (Aug 2022): <https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/ryanwhite/resources/hrsa-housing-tep-exec-summary.pdf>



Program Implementation: Housing Services

Flexibility to address housing needs: [PCN 16-02: Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Services: Eligible Individuals and Allowable Uses of Funds](#)

- **Housing Services:** transitional, short-term, or emergency housing assistance as well as housing referral services (assessment, search and placement) and housing advocacy services for clients.
 - ✓ Individualized housing plan updated annually
 - ✓ Can be incorporated within another core or support service
 - ✓ May include housing referral services, including search & placement
 - ✓ Cannot be in the form of direct cash payments to clients, mortgage payments, or rental deposits.

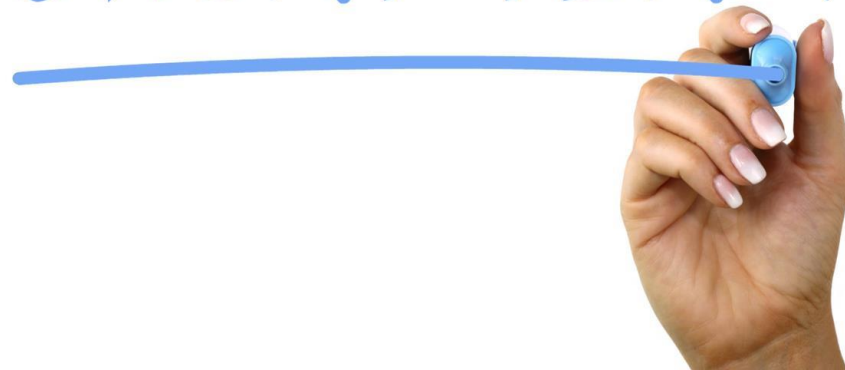


Program Implementation: Housing Provision

Emergency Financial Assistance: limited one-time or short-term payments to assist with an urgent need for essential items or services necessary to improve health outcomes, including utilities and housing

- Continuous provision of an allowable service to a client must not be funded through Emergency Financial Assistance.

SHORT-TERM



Program Implementation: Ancillary Services

Implementing programs to address whole-person care should include either directly funded or leveraged support services to address trauma, substance use, mental illness, health literacy, special health needs, etc. Some relevant service categories may include:

- Medical Case Management
- Non-Medical Case Management – focus on accessing services such as employment and education centers and permanent housing
- Peer Navigators
- Mental Health Services
- Support Groups
- Specialized medical care
 - ✓ Separate kids from adult populations
 - ✓ Address transgender health issues
 - ✓ Provide holistic, patient-centered care



Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) in the U.S.

Ending
the
HIV
Epidemic

- EHE funds can be used in different ways to expand access to HIV care and support services and improve retention to address the needs of priority populations.
- EHE funds can also support the **EHE Initiative Service** category which are costs associated with a broader approach to addressing HIV in the community than exists in services authorized by the RWHAP legislation. Initiative services are activities that do not neatly fit within the RWHAP service categories. These services may be innovative with a focus on ending the HIV epidemic.



Housing Supports through EHE



Examples from EHE jurisdictions:

- **King County**
 - Housing & Life Skills support groups
 - Co-locating RWHAP services within day-center serving people experiencing homelessness
- **Maricopa County**
 - Emergency Housing for people leaving incarceration
- **Ohio (Hamilton County)**
 - Blended HOPWA and EHE funding to provide housing services to clients who may not otherwise qualify or are on the HOPWA waiting list
- **Arkansas**
 - Temporary housing/motel stays to address unmet housing needs to continue to provide services, e.g. after a tornado

RWHAP Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS)

SPNS Housing-related Demonstration, Evaluation & Implementation Science Initiatives

- *Building a Medical Home for Multiply-Diagnosed HIV-positive Homeless Populations, 2012-2017*
- *Addressing HIV Care and Housing Coordination through Data Integration, 2015-2018*
- *Improving HIV Health Outcomes through the Coordination of Supportive Employment and Housing Services, 2017-2021*
- *Supporting Replication of Housing Interventions (SURE Housing) in the RWHAP, 2022-2025*

Resources

- For more information about the SPNS Program: <https://hab.hrsa.gov/about-ryan-white-hivaids-program/part-f-special-projects-national-significance-spns-program>
- For information about specific interventions: <https://targethiv.org/ihip>



Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA)



HOPWA Program Established

The Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Program was created to address the housing needs of low-income individuals living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

Established by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 12901)

To provide **state and local governments** with resources and incentives for devising **long-term strategies** to develop a range of housing assistance and supportive services for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS **and their families** to overcome key barriers to stable housing - affordability and discrimination.



HOPWA Program Overview

- Administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of HIV Housing (OHH)
- Under HOPWA, HUD makes grants to eligible cities, states, and nonprofit organizations to provide housing assistance and supportive services to low-income people with HIV and their families
- By providing housing assistance and supportive services, the HOPWA program helps people with HIV enter and remain in housing, access and maintain medical care, and adhere to HIV treatment



What is HOPWA?

- HOPWA was established in 1992 by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12901)
- HOPWA is the only Federal program dedicated to addressing the housing needs of people with HIV.
- Under HOPWA, HUD makes grants to eligible cities, states, and nonprofit organizations to provide housing assistance and supportive services to low-income people with HIV and their families.
- There are local HOPWA programs in all 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands.
- By providing housing assistance and supportive services, the HOPWA program helps people with HIV enter and remain in housing, access and maintain medical care, and adhere to HIV treatment.



Why Housing and HOPWA?

- Housing status is a social determinant of health that has a significant impact on HIV prevention and care outcomes.
- Homelessness and housing instability are linked to higher viral loads and failure to attain or sustain viral suppression and increased vulnerability for HIV acquisition. Housing instability is one of the most significant factors limiting the use of antiretrovirals, regardless of insurance, substance abuse, and other factors.
- Stable housing provides a foundation from which people can participate in HIV prevention services and is associated with reductions in behaviors associated with getting or transmitting HIV.
- People with HIV who achieve and maintain an undetectable viral load—the amount of HIV in the blood—by taking antiretroviral therapy (ART) daily as prescribed cannot sexually transmit the virus to others.

HOPWA 30th Anniversary



- The HOPWA program received its first direct appropriations on October 28, 1992.
- The first appropriation provided formula funding to 38 jurisdictions including 11 states, Puerto Rico, and 27 cities.
- Timeline: A look back at 30 years of HOPWA https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/hopwa/30th_anniversary



Who HOPWA Serves

- Over **100,000** households receive HOPWA housing assistance and/or supportive services annually
- **77%** of HOPWA beneficiaries are extremely low income
- Among new clients served last year, approximately **3,456** (16%) were experiencing homelessness at program entry
- **63%** of the HOPWA-eligible individuals served under the program are male
- **43%** are between the ages of 31 and 50; and **45%** are 51 or older
- **54%** are Black or African American, **37%** are White, and **19%** have Hispanic/Latino ethnicity



HOPWA Resources

Budget

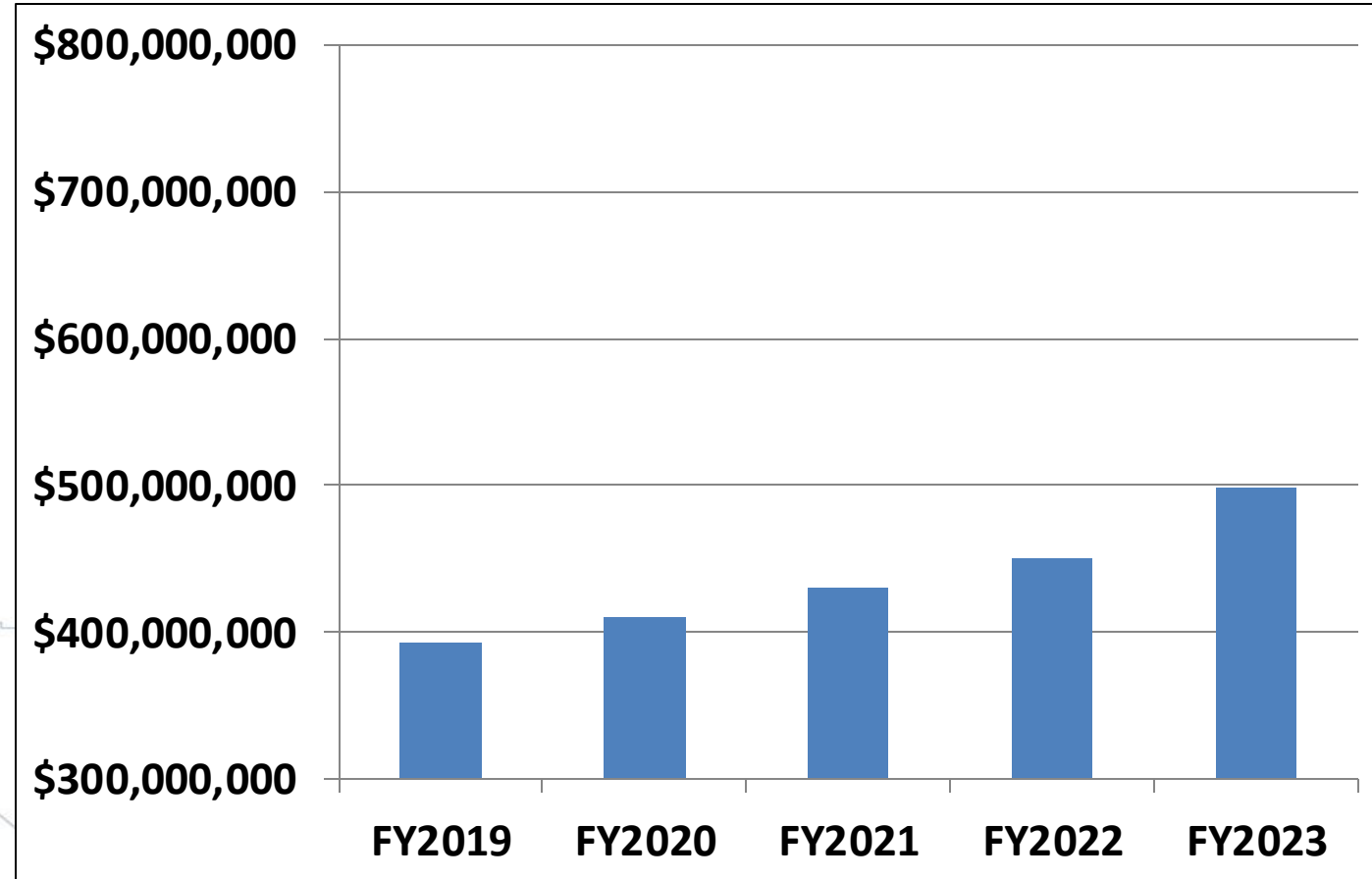
\$499M in FY23

By Statute:

90% Formula / 10% Competitive

Grants

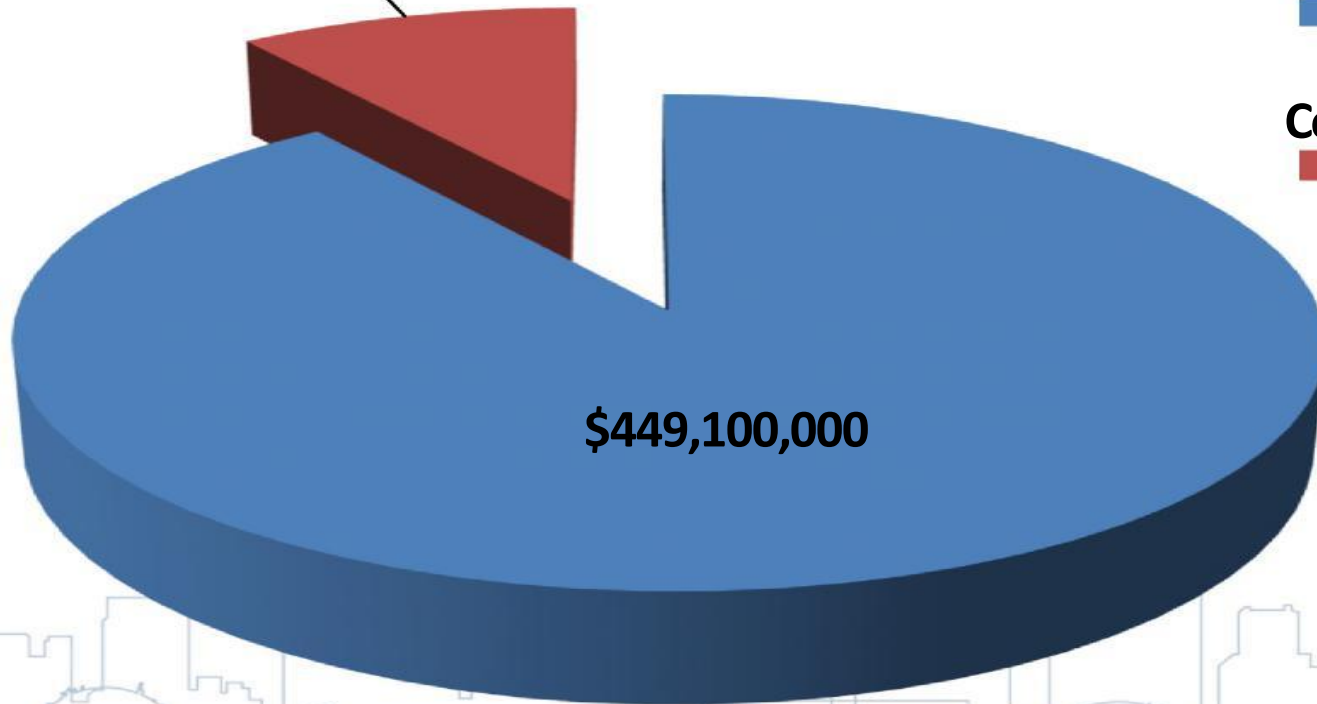
- 143 Formula Jurisdictions
- 82 Competitive Renewal Grants
- Over 1,000 Project Sponsors
- 20 new competitive grants awarded in December 2021



Division of Funding

FY23 \$499,000,000

\$49,900,000



Formula 90%

Competitive 10%



Formula Vs. Competitive

Formula

- Eligible grantees:
 - Metropolitan areas with more than 500,000 people and at least 2,000 HIV cases; and
 - States with more than 2,000 HIV cases outside of eligible metropolitan areas
- Awards are contingent upon the submission and acceptance of a community's Consolidated Plan/Annual Action Plan
- Grantees may provide housing and services directly or fund project sponsors (subrecipients) to carry out these activities
- 143 formula jurisdictions

Competitive

- Eligible grantees:
 - States, local governments, and nonprofit organizations
- Awards are based on application process, with priority given to renewal or replacement of expiring permanent supportive housing (PSH) grants
- If funds remain after renew/replace process, they are distributed under a new competition
- Grantees may provide housing and services directly or fund project sponsors (subrecipients) to carry out these activities
- 81 PSH grants
- 20 new HIFA grants announced Dec. 2021



HOPWA Client Eligibility

There are two basic elements of HOPWA client eligibility:

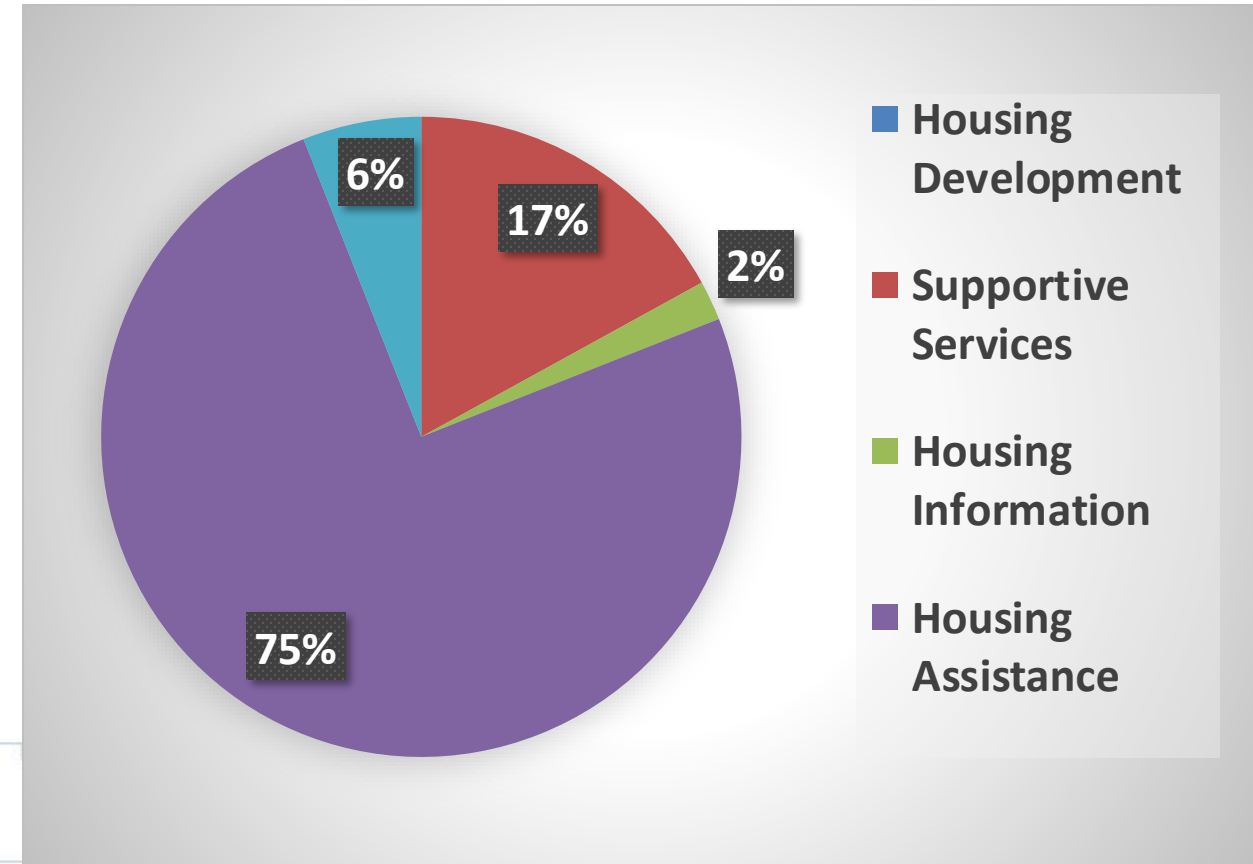
- Household has a least one person who is living with HIV. This includes households where the only eligible person is a minor; and
- Total household income is at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (low-income as defined by HUD).

Grantees can further restrict eligibility based on local needs and approved by HUD through the consolidated planning process or competitive application.



Eligible HOPWA Activities

- ❖ Facility-based and scattered-site emergency, transitional, and permanent housing
- ❖ Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness
- ❖ Housing Development
- ❖ Permanent housing placement
- ❖ Housing information services
- ❖ Supportive services
- ❖ Resource identification
- ❖ Administration (by statute, 3% for grantees and 7% for project sponsors)*



HOPWA Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Grants

- From 2010-2020, HOPWA appropriations language required that HUD prioritize the renewal of existing eligible Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) grants originally funded under a HUD competitive grant in FY 2010 or earlier.
- Renewal prioritization prevented PSH grantees from changing their housing models over time to evolve with client needs and resulted in HUD funding outdated service models in some communities.
- The FY21 HOPWA appropriations language included the option to replace, as well as renew, the original PSH grants. This language was carried over into the FY22 and FY23 appropriations language.
- HUD continues to request the deletion of the priority renewal AND replacement provision. Removal would ensure the 10 percent of HOPWA funding designated by statute as “Competitive” is utilized for the intended purposes.

HOPWA COVID-19 Response

CARES Act Funding

- \$65M in supplemental funding for HOPWA
 - \$53.7M for formula grantees
 - \$10M for existing competitive grantees
 - \$1.3M to TA providers for capacity building
- One-time, three-year grants to maintain operations and for rental assistance, supportive services, and other necessary actions



HOPWA Competitive SPNS Grants - HIFA

- On December 1, 2021, HUD awarded 20 new grants under the FY2020 HOPWA Competitive Grant: Housing as an Intervention to Fight AIDS (HIFA) NOFO, FR-6400-N-11.
 - First new HOPWA competitive opportunity in over 5 years.
- The total funding awarded was \$40,468,821. Maximum grant amount was \$2,250,000.
- Provided communities an opportunity to create and implement new projects that align with initiatives aimed at ending the HIV epidemic and elevate housing as an effective structural intervention in ending the epidemic.
- Grantees received a three-year grant to fund housing assistance and supportive services, coordination and planning activities, and grants management and administration.



Meet the HOPWA HIFA Grantees

California

Volunteers Of America Of Los Angeles

Foothill AIDS Project

Colorado

Vivent Health

Florida

Community Rightful Center, Inc.

Broward House, Inc.

City Of Tampa

Hawaii

Hoomanaolana (Gregory House)

Illinois

AIDS Foundation Of Chicago

Chicago House And Social Service Agency

Indiana

The Damien Center Inc.

Massachusetts

Fenway Community Health Center, Inc.

Missouri

Interfaith Residence Inc.

City Of Kansas City, Missouri

New York

African Services Committee, Inc.

Oklahoma

HIV Resource Consortium Inc.

South Carolina

Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services

Tennessee

Hope House Day Care Center, Inc.

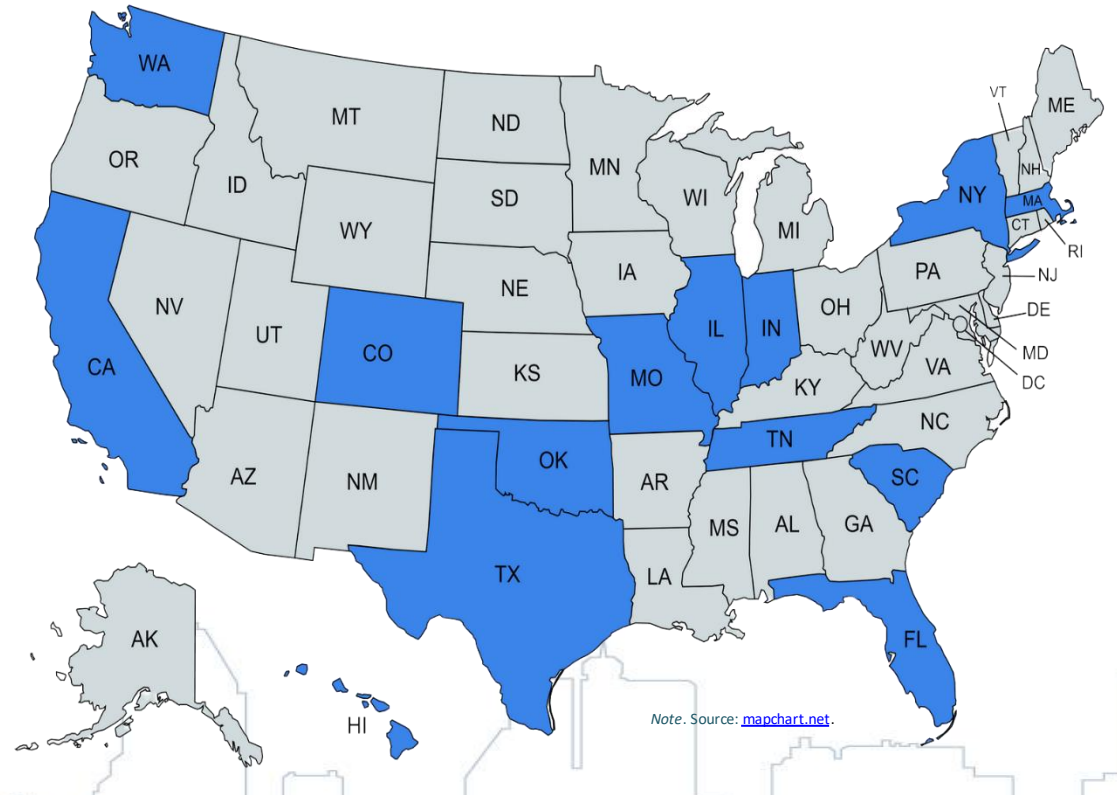
Texas

AIDS Foundation Houston, Inc.

Abounding Prosperity Incorporated

Washington

City of Seattle



Summaries of each HOPWA HIFA project awarded can be found with the award announcement press release here:

https://www.hud.gov/press/press_releases_media_advisories/HUD_No_21_196



HIFA Year 1 Successes

- HUD has started receiving data on health outcomes by type of housing activity through the new HIV Housing Care Continuum for ([HUD-4154](#))
- Priority populations are the focus for housing and services under HIFA projects.
- Internal organizational systems are being evaluated and shifted to best serve transgender clients.
- Housing is being integrated into larger geographic plans to end the HIV epidemic.



Housing Interventions (HINT) to End the HIV Epidemic

HUD is seeking projects with exemplary and innovative qualities, including incorporation of Housing First principles, community-level coordination, data collection with emphasis on stable housing and positive health outcomes, the use of cultural humility in providing housing and services, and a systemic approach to advance equity in underserved communities that can serve as a national place-based model.

NOFO Publication: September 15, 2023

Applications Due: January 31, 2024

Awards Announced: August 2024

Estimated Project Start Date: 10/1/2024

Estimated Project End Date: 9/30/2027

Link to published NOFO:

[FR-6700-N-11 HOPWA NOFO to Grants.gov.](#)

Projected # of Awards: 20

Funding Available: \$50mil

Max Award: \$2.5mil



HINT – Required Project Objectives

- Implement and document a low-barrier model using Housing First principles to provide housing and services to low-income people with HIV and their families that is innovative and replicable in other similar localities or nationally;
- Increase alignment with new or existing local initiatives or strategies to end the HIV epidemic by elevating housing as an effective structural intervention;
- Improve use of available community resources and coordination among local housing and service providers;
- Increase the amount of quality data collected and used for data-driven decision making with an emphasis on stable housing, positive health outcomes, and equity;
- Assess and document replicable practices that ensure equitable access and cultural humility in providing housing and services for populations of people with HIV experiencing service gaps; and
- Prioritize sustainable, effective, and equitable approaches to providing housing and services to people with HIV and their families that can be continued past the funded project period.

HOPWA Modernization: Key Points

- In 2016, The Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act (HOTMA) updated the HOPWA statute to modernize the formula
- HOPWA formula is now based on “living with HIV” data instead of “cumulative AIDS” data
- Old requirement that 25% of funds be distributed to cities based on AIDS incidence was removed, and replaced with a new requirement that 25% of funds be distributed based on Fair Market Rents and poverty rates
- The modernized formula was phased in over 5 years (2017-2021) with a stop-loss provision, to avoid highly volatile shifts in either direction for any one jurisdiction
- FY 2022 allocations reflect full implementation of modernization formula



Work with Federal Partners

National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) 2022-2025

- Federal Implementation Plan. HUD has committed to accomplishing several actions to support the four goals identified in the Strategy.

Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Initiative

- EHE is an HHS initiative. Currently HUD does not receive funding to support EHE efforts.
- OHH has been engaged with our HHS partners in planning and coordination of EHE work since near the beginning of its announcement with a goal of ensuring that housing and HOPWA is considered in EHE plans to the extent possible.

HUD has also been engaged with our federal partners on how to include housing as part of the local response on HIV outbreaks.

HOPWA Resources

HOPWA page on HUD.gov:

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/hopwa

HOPWA COVID-19 Resources:

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/hopwa_covid-19

HOPWA page on the HUD Exchange TA Portal:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hopwa/>

HOPWA Grantee Performance Profiles:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hopwa/hopwa-performance-profiles/>



Contact Information

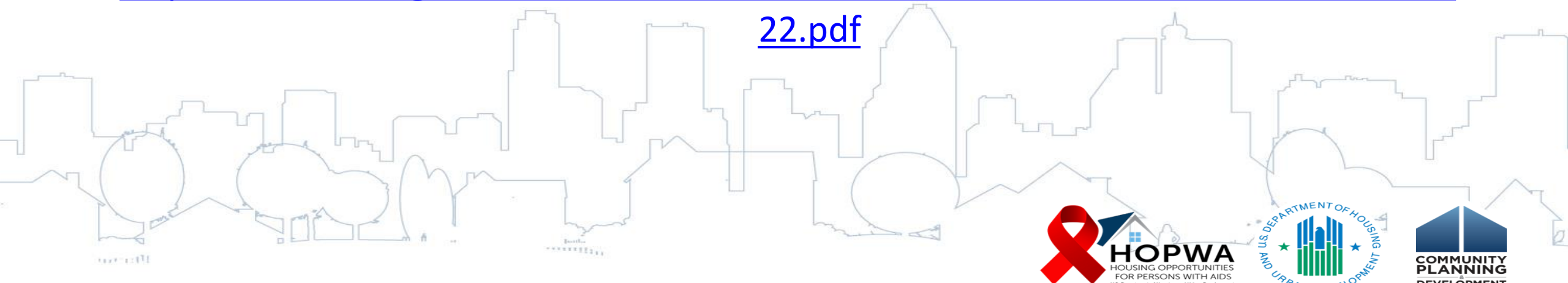
Amy Palilonis, Deputy Director

Office of HIV/AIDS Housing

Amy.L.Palilonis@hud.gov

HOPWA Program Desk Officers

<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/HOPWA-Staff-Contacts-2022-06-22.pdf>



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Questions and Answers



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