

September 11, 2018

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Price
Ranking Member, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Díaz -Balart, Ranking Member Price, Chairwoman Collins, and Ranking Member Reed:

We, the undersigned 227 national, state, and local organizations, write to express our strong support for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program in the Transportation-HUD appropriations bill. **We urge you to appropriate at least \$393 million for HOPWA in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019.** We are deeply concerned by the Administration's FY 2019 budget, and though the Senate flat-funded HOPWA, it is not enough. This approach would result in homelessness for extremely low-income people living with HIV/AIDS. We do thank and applaud this committee for the FY18 HOPWA funding level and thank the House for providing \$393 million for HOPWA for FY19.

As you are well aware, the Congress passed legislation in 2015 that included an update to the HOPWA formula. We applaud the change to the HOPWA formula that ensures funds go to communities that need it the most and where HIV is most prevalent. However, with the new formula, many jurisdictions are poised to lose significant resources. To mitigate these losses and to help jurisdictions plan for full implementation, we are advocating for an increase in funding of the HOPWA program to \$393 million. HUD's current estimate is that over 2,900 households would lose their homes if the program was flat-funded at \$375 million.

For 26 years, HOPWA has provided a national safety net for very low-income people living with HIV/AIDS. The program provides competitive and formula grants to all fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Through these grants, cities and states design and deliver community-based, cost-effective housing and supportive services to people living with HIV/AIDS. HOPWA is critical because housing remains the greatest unmet need for people living with HIV/AIDS. Stable housing, like the housing provided by HOPWA grantees, leads to better health outcomes for those living with HIV. For people living with HIV, a better health outcome means viral suppression. An individual who is virally suppressed cannot transmit the HIV virus to another person, thereby ensuring the health of their entire community.

We know that HIV does not affect all Americans equally, making the need for HOPWA in certain communities all the more important. Ninety-one percent of HOPWA funds serve extremely-low to very-low-income households. During the last program year 12% of HOPWA beneficiaries were veterans and another 52% were considered chronically homeless. The program placed 24,851 new individuals into housing while providing housing for 53,108 households. Further, HOPWA leverages income from local communities. According to HUD, the HOPWA program leveraged \$860,740,678 from state and local jurisdictions in the last program year.

Therefore, we urge you to at least fund HOPWA at the House's recommendation of \$393 million.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Lauren Banks Killelea, Director of Policy, at the National AIDS Housing Coalition (LaurenK@nationalaidshousing.org).

Thank you,

AcadianaCares	Lafayette, LA
Access Support Network of San Luis Obispo and Monterey Counties	San Luis Obispo, CA
Action Wellness	Philadelphia, PA
ADAP Advocacy Association	Washington, DC
AdvanceAbilities, Inc.	West Hollywood, CA
African American Health Alliance	Dunkirk, MD
African Services Committee	New York, NY
AIDS Action Baltimore	Baltimore, MA
AIDS Action Committee	Boston, MA
AIDS Alabama	Birmingham, AL
AIDS Alabama South	Mobile, AL
AIDS CT	Hartford, CT
AIDS Foundation of Chicago	Chicago, IL
AIDS Legal Referral Panel	San Francisco, CA
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin	Wisconsin
AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland	Cleveland, OH
AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition	New York, NY
AIDS United	Washington, DC
American Rainbow Pride PLLC	Muskegon, MI
American Sexual Health Association	Research Triangle Park, NC
Amida Care	New York, NY
Apex Community Care, Inc.	Danbury, CT
Apex Community Care, Inc.	Danbury, CT
APLA Health	Los Angeles, CA
Archway Housing and Services/ Archway Investment Corporation	Lakewood, CO
Asian and Pacific Islander Wellness Center	San Francisco, CA
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care	Akron, OH
Athlete Ally	New York, NY
Bailey House, Inc.	New York, NY
Ballantyne Family Medicine	Charlotte, NC
BAO (Birmingham AIDS Outreach)	Birmingham, AL
Bill's Kitchen, Inc.	San Juan, PR
BOOM!Health	New York City, NY
Boulder County AIDS Project	Boulder, CO
Brentwood Community Foundation	Houston, TX
Buddies of New Jersey	Hackensack, NJ
CAEAR Coalition	Washington, DC
CARES	Kalamazoo, MI
Carolina Alcohol and Drugs Resources	Charlotte, NC
Carolinas CARE Partnership	Charlotte, NC

Cascade AIDS Project	Portland, OR
Catholic Charities	San Francisco, CA
Catholic Community Services	Everett, WA
Center For Black Equity-Baltimore	Baltimore, MD
Center for Housing and Health	Chicago, IL
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers	Fort Lauderdale, FL
Central Carolina Health Network	Greensboro, NC
Cero VIH Puerto Rico	San Juan, PR
CHOW Project	Honolulu, HI
Chrysalis Center, Inc.	Hartford, CT
CIHHS	Anna Maria, FL
City of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, PA
City of Paterson	Paterson, NJ
Clare Housing	Minneapolis MN
Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation	Corpus Christi, TX
Collaborative Solutions, Inc.	Birmingham, AL
Colorado Health Network	Denver, CO
Colorado Organizations and Individuals Responding to HIV/AIDS (CORA)	Colorado
Community Access National Network	Washington, DC
Community AIDS Resource and Education Services of Southwest Michigan	Kalamazoo, MI
Concerned Citizens for a Better Algiers	New Orleans, LA
Congreso De Latinos Unidos, Inc.	Philadelphia, PA
Counter Narrative Project	Atlanta, GA
DC Fights Back!!	Washington, DC
Del Norte Neighborhood Development Corporation	Denver, CO
Delaware HIV Consortium	Wilmington, DE
Desert AIDS Project	Palm Springs, CA
DOORWAYS	St. Louis, MO
ECU BSOM ID/Region 10 HIV RWPB Network	Greenville, NC
End AIDS Now	New York, NY
Equality Alabama	Birmingham, AL
Equality California	Washington, DC
Equality North Carolina	Raleigh, NC
Equitas Health	Columbus, OH
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Advocacy Office	Washington, DC
Five Horizons Health Services	Tuscaloosa, AL
Food & Friends	Washington DC
Food For Thought	Forestville, CA
Foothill AIDS Project	Los Angeles, CA
Frannie Peabody Center	Portland, ME
Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance (GLAA)	Washington, DC
GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBT Equality	Washington, DC
Georgia AIDS Coalition	Snellville, GA
Georgia Equality	Atlanta, GA

Global Justice Institute	New York City, NY
GMHC	New York City, NY
Greater Community AIDS Project of East Central IL	Champaign, IL
Gregory House Programs	Honolulu, HI
Grounded Solutions Network	Portland, OR
Harlem United	New York City, NY
Harm Reduction Coalition	New York City, NY
Hawai'i Health and Harm Reduction Center	Honolulu, HI
HealthHIV	Washington, DC
Health Services Center, Inc.	Anniston, AL
Healthy Teen Network	Baltimore, MD
The Health Trust	San Jose, CA
HEMA Universal Life Community Services, Inc.	Wichita, KS
Hep Free Hawaii	Honolulu, HI
Hispanic Health Network	New York City, NY
HIV AIDS Alliance of Michigan	Michigan
HIV Dental Alliance	Atlanta, GA
HIV Medicine Association	Arlington, VA
Hope and Help Center of Central Florida, Inc.	Orlando, FL
Hope House of St Croix Valley	Stillwater, Minnesota
Housing Works, Inc.	New York City, NY
Howard Brown Health	Chicago, IL
HRA of New Britain	New Britain CT
Human Resources Agency	New Britain, CT
Human Rights Campaign	Washington, DC
Indigenous Peoples Task Force	Minneapolis, MN
Institute for Community Research	Hartford, CT
Joseph's House	Washington, DC
Kingsport Housing at Redevelopment Authority	Kingsport, TN
LA LGBT CENTER	Los Angeles, CA
Lansing Area AIS Network	Lansing, MI
Latino Commission on AIDS	New York City, NY
LeadingAge	Washington, DC
Legal Action Center	Washington, DC
Liberty Community Services	New Haven, CT
LifeBridge Community Services	Bridgeport, CT
Living Room, Inc.	Atlanta, GA
Los Angeles LGBT Center	Los Angeles, CA
Low Income Housing Coalition of Alabama	Birmingham, AL
Medical Advocacy and Outreach	Montgomery, AL
Metropolitan Community Churches	Sarasota, FL
Michigan Coalition for HIV Health and Safety	Michigan
Minnesota AIDS Project	St. Paul, MN
Mississippi Positive Network	Cleveland, MS
Miracle of Love, Inc.	Orlando, FL

Moveable Feast, Inc.	Baltimore, MD
Multnomah County Health Department	Portland, OR
Municipality of San Juan	San Juan, PR
My Brother's Keeper, Inc.	Jackson, MS
NAACP	Washington, DC
Nashville CARES	Nashville, TN
NASTAD	Washington, DC
National AIDS Housing Coalition	Washington, DC
National Alliance to End Homelessness	Washington, DC
National Association for County Community and Economic Development	Washington, DC
National Black Gay Men's Advocacy Coalition	Washington, DC
National Black Justice Coalition	Washington, DC
National Center for Lesbian Rights	San Francisco, CA
National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development	Washington, DC
National Coalition for the Homeless	Washington, DC
National Coalition for LGBT Health	Washington, DC
National Coalition of STD Directors	Washington, DC
National Community Development Association	Washington DC
National Health Care for the Homeless Council	Baltimore, MD
National Housing Law Project	San Francisco, CA
National Low Income Housing Coalition	Washington, DC
National Network to End Domestic Violence	Washington, DC
National Working Positive Coalition	New York, NY
NC AIDS Action Network	Raleigh, NC
NC Harm Reduction Coalition	Wilmington, NC
NMAC	Washington, DC
NNEDV	Washington, DC
NO/AIDS Task Force (d.b.a. CrescentCare)	New Orleans, LA
North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition	Wilmington, NC
North Jersey Community Research Initiative	Newark, NJ
Northeast Arkansas Regional AIDS Network	Jonesboro, AR
Open Hand Atlanta	Atlanta, GA
Pacientes de SIDA pro Política Sana	San Juan, PR
Partnership Project	Portland, OR
Project PLASE	Baltimore, MD
Positive Impact Health Centers	Duluth & Decatur, GA
Positive Wellness Alliance	North Carolina
Poz Haven Foundation	Denver, CO
Poz Military & Vets USA	Atlanta, GA
Presbyterian AIDS Network (PAN), PHEWA, PCUSA	Washington, DC
Prism Health	Portland, OR
Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS	Birmingham, AL
Project Inform	San Francisco, CA
Project PLASE, Inc.	Baltimore, MD
Puerto Rico Community Network for Clinical Research on AIDS, Inc.	San Juan, PR

PWA Coalition of Dallas, Inc.	Dallas, TX
RAIN	Charlotte, NC
RAIN Oklahoma	Oklahoma City, OK
Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition	Dunkirk, MD
Regional Housing Partnership	Charlotte, NC
Rocky Mountain CARES	Denver, CO
Rural AIDS Action Network	St. Cloud, MN
Salaam Legal Network & Citizens Council for Human Rights	Memphis, TN
San Francisco AIDS Foundation	San Francisco, CA
SAVE, Inc.	Kansas City, MO
Selma AIR	Selma, AL
Services for the UnderServed	New York, NY
Shanti	San Francisco, CA
Shelter Resources, Inc. d.b.a. Bellel Reve	New Orleans, LA
Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation	Auburn, CA
Sonya's House Inc.	Dallas, TX
Southern AIDS Coalition	Birmingham, AL
Southern Colorado Health Network	Colorado Springs, CO
Southern HIV/AIDS Strategy Initiative (SASI)	Durham, NC
Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force	Nashua, NH
SSTAR	Fall River, MA
St. Vincent de Paul Middletown	Middletown, CT
TAPWA Tennessee Association Of People With AIDS	Nashville, TN
Team Management 2000 Inc.	Newark, NJ
The AIDS Institute	FL and DC
The Aliveness Project	Minneapolis, MN
The TransAdvocate	Houston, TX
Thomas Judd Care Center at Munson Medical Center	Traverse City, MI
Thrive Alabama	Huntsville, AL
Transgender Foundation of America	Houston, TX
Transgender Law Center	Oakland, CA
TransSOCIAL, Inc.	Miami, FL
Treatment Action Group	New York, NY
Treatment Education Network	Denver, CO
Triad Health Project	Greensboro, NC
Trillium Health	Rochester, NY
True Colors Fund	Washington, DC
TruLiving Travel, LLC	Muskegon, MI
Tulsa CARES	Tulsa, OK
UCHAPS	Washington, DC
Under One Roof/WCHS	Raleigh, NC
UNIFIED-HIV Health and Beyond	Detroit, MI
Unity Fellowship of Christ Church-NYC	New York, NY
Unity Wellness Center	Opelika, AL
Upstate University Hospital	Syracuse, NY

VillageCare
VOCAL New York
Wellness and Education Community Action Health Network WECAHN
Whitman-walker Health
Wilson Community Health Center
The Women's Collective
Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases (WORLD)
YWCA St. Paul

New York, NY
Brooklyn, NY
Siler City, NC
Washington, DC
Wilson, NC
Washington, DC
Oakland, CA
Saint Paul, MN