

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Brian Schatz
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Transportation, Housing and Urban
Development
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Steve Wommack Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith Ranking Member, Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Quigley
Ranking Member, Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
and Urban Development
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Schatz, Ranking Member Hyde-Smith, Chairman Womack, and Ranking Member Quigley:

We, the undersigned 393 national, state, local organizations, and concerned citizens write to express our strong support to fund the Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) program at a funding level of at least \$750 million, comprised of \$600 million of base funding for the HOPWA program and an additional \$150 million as part of Biden's Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. (EHE) initiative. This \$150 million would be targeted toward jurisdictions with most HIV prevalence as defined by the CDC.

In December 2022, NHAHC and the CDC published research in *AIDS Journal*, Needs for shelter or housing assistance among people with diagnosed HIV by jurisdiction: United States, 2015–2020', which found that nationally, only 1 in 4 (27.7%) people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) had shelter or housing service needs and among those who needed housing services, 2 in 5 (40.4%) did not receive them (range: 21.3% in New York to 62.3% in Georgia). The research showed that in 2019, HOPWA funding was only able to cover rent for 1.24 months per year for those in need of housing assistance.

For over 30 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 stigma-free 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 virus to another person, thereby ensuring the health of their entire community.

Since the announcement of the *Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America*, leaders have acknowledged that the United States has the medical tools necessary to end the HIV Epidemic. However, research shows that we cannot end the HIV Epidemic without addressing the housing needs of individuals living with and at-risk of HIV/AIDS. Inadequate funding of the only federal housing program solely dedicated to addressing the housing needs of individuals with HIV/AIDS will be a barrier to the Ending the *HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America* initiative.

HIV does not affect all Americans equally, making the need for adequate HOPWA funding in certain communities more important than ever. 92% of HOPWA funds serve extremely-low to very-low-income households. During the last program year, 46% of HOPWA funds assisted individuals in the 51+ age range. Currently, over half of adults living with HIV are over the age of 50, and by 2030 it is estimated that over 70% of those living with HIV in the United States will be 50+. Along with 8% of HOPWA's homeless beneficiaries were veterans, an increase of 3% from the previous year, and another 52% were considered chronically homeless, which continues to increase each year. 62% of HOPWA funds are serving the BIPOC community. The program placed 19,777 new individuals into housing while providing housing for 45,740 households, provided 106,611 individuals with supportive services. According to HUD, the HOPWA program leveraged \$1,100,472,465.75 from state and local jurisdictions in the last program year.

If Congress and the President want to end homelessness and the HIV epidemic in America, we implore you to fund HOPWA at least at \$600 million and create a \$150M EHE housing program for FY25.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Lauren Banks, Executive Director, at the National HIV/AIDS Housing Coalition (Lauren@nhahc.org).

Thank you,

National HIV/AIDS Housing Coalition (DC)

A.H. of Monroe County Inc. Key West, FL **Abode Services** Fremont, CA Acacia Network Bronx, NY AcadianaCares Lafayette, LA ACasaYSalud Advocacy Chicago, IL Access Ready, Inc. St. Petersburg, FL Access Support Network Salinas, CA ACR Health Syracuse, NY ACT NOW: END AIDS (ANEA) Coalition New York, NY Philadelphia, PA **Action Wellness Advancing Connecticut Together** Hartford, CT African American AIDS Task Force Minneapolis, MN Agape Missions, NFP Joliet, IL AID Upstate Greenville, SC AID Atlanta, Inc. Atlanta, GA **AIDS Action Baltimore** Baltimore, MD AIDS Alabama Birmingham, AL AIDS Alabama South Mobile, AL AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families Washington, D.C. AIDS Athens, Inc Athens, GA AIDS Foundation of Chicago Chicago, IL AIDS Healthcare Foundation Fort Lauderdale, FL AIDS Housing Information Project, Eden Information & Referral Inc. Hayward, CA AIDS Law Project of PA Philadelphia, PA AIDS Legal Referral Panel San Francisco, CA AIDS Project of the East Bay Oakland, CA AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin Wisconsin AIDS Services of Austin Austin, TX AIDS Services of Dallas Dallas, TX **AIDS United** Washington, D.C. Alameda Health System Oakland, CA Albany Damien Center Albany, NY Aliveness Project Minneapolis, MN Alliance Care 360 Chicago, IL Alliance for Positive Health Albany, NY Alliance for Positive Health Glens Falls, NY Allies for Health + Wellbeing Pittsburgh, PA American Academy of HIV Medicine Washington, D.C. American Rainbow Pride PLLC Muskegon, MI

New York, NY

Atlanta, GA

Amida Care

Aniz, Inc.

Antioch Urban Ministries Inc.

AIDS Project of the East Bay (APEB)

APLA Health

Appalachian Learning Initiative Inc

Arianna's Center

Arianna's Center PR

Arkansas RAPPS

Ascension Illnois Housing & Health Alliance

ASPIRATIONS

Association of Nurses in AIDS Care

Atlanta Coalition for LGBTQ Youth

Atlanta Pride Committee

Berkeley Drop In Center

Bill's Kitchen, Inc

Birmingham AIDS Outreach (BAO)

Black AIDS Institute

Blaq Equity Baltimore, Inc.

Blossoming In Red, Inc.

Brentwood Community Foundation

Bridging Access To Care

Brilliant Corners

Buddies of NJ, Inc.

Butterfly Girls, LLC

CAEAR Coalition

CAL PEP

CALOR - AHF

CAMBA, Inc.

CAN Community Health

Caracole

CARES of Southwest Michigan

Carolinas CARE Partnership

Cascade AIDS Project

Cass Community Social Services, Inc.

CCasaYSalud

Cempa Community Care

Center For Black Equity-Baltimore

Center for Disability Rights

Center for Housing and Health

CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers

Cero VIH PR

CFAR CAB

Atlanta, GA

Oakland, CA

Los Angeles, CA

Morgantown, WV

Fort Lauderdale, FL

San Juan, PR

Little Rock, AR

Chicago, IL

Baton Rouge, LA

Uniontown, OH

Atlanta, GA

Atlanta, GA

Berkeley, CA

San Juan, PR

Birmingham, AL

Los Angeles, CA

Birmingham, AL

Valdosta, GA

Houston, TX

Brooklyn, NY

San Francisco, CA

Hackensack, NJ

Marietta, GA

Washington, D.C.

Oakland, CA

Chicago, IL

New York, NY

Sarasota, FL

Cincinati, OH

Kalamazoo, MI

Charlotte, NC

Portland, OR

Detroit, MI

Chicago, IL

Chattanooga TN

Washington, D.C.

Washington, D.C.

Chicago, IL

Fort Lauderdale, FL

San Juan, PR

Philadelphia, PA

Chicago Black Gay Men's Caucus Chicago, IL Chicago House and Social Service Agency Chicago, IL Chicago Women's AIDS Project Chicago, IL Choice Health Network Knoxville, TN Chrysalis Center Hartford, CT Circle of Friends Task Force Greenville, NC City of Chicago Chicago, IL City of Columbia Columbia, SC City of Fort Lauderdale Fort Lauderdale, FL City of Fort Smith Fort Smith, AR City of Jacksonville Jacksonville, FL City of Paterson Paterson, NJ City of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA Clare Housing Minneapolis, MN Cleveland Dept. of Public Health - HIV/AIDS Cleveland, OH **CNY HIV Care Network** Central New York Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation Corpus Christi, TX Collaborative Solutions Birmingham, AL Colorado Organizations and Individuals Responding to HIV/AIDS Colorado (CORA) Columbus House, Inc. New Haven, CT Community Access National Network (CANN) Washington, D.C. Community AIDS Resources and Education Services (CARES) Kalamazoo, MI Community Education Group **United States** CommunityScape Services, Inc. Stone Mountain, GA Concerned Citizens For A Better Algiers New Orleans, LA Philadelphia, PA Congreso Council of State Community Development Agencies Washington, D.C. CrescentCare New Orleans, LA Dallas, TX Dallas County Ryan White Planning Council Damien Center Indianapolis, IN **DAP** Health Palm Springs, CA DC Fights Back Washington, D.C. **Dekalb Young Democrats** Tucker, GA Del Norte Neighborhood Development Corp. Denver, CO Delaware HIV Consortium Wilmington, DE Delaware Housing Assistance Program Wilmington, DE Demontico Anderson Durham, NC Detroit Community Health Connection, Inc. Detroit, MI

San Juan, PR

Abilene, TX

Department of Housing Municipality of San Juan

Dignity Health Management Center

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund

Dogwood Health Care Network

DOORWAYS

East Oakland Community Project

Eden Housing

Edgewood Center, Affordable Housing Solutions, Inc

Edwards Outreach Center

End AIDS Now

Let's Kick Ass NY

EOCP

Equality California

Equality California

Family Initiative of the CSRA, Inc.

Desert Aids Project

Femme Plus

Five Horizons Health Services

Foothill AIDS Project

Foothill AIDS Project

Fort Smith Senior Center

Franhoco Corporation

Frannie Peabody Center

Friends For Life

Friends of Peter

Fulton County

Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance (GLAA)

Georgia AIDS Coalition

Georgia Equality

Georgia House of Representatives

Global Justice Institute

GMHC

Golden Rainbow

GoodWorks

Grace House

Grady Health System - Ponce De Leon Center

Gregory House Programs

Grounded Solutions Network

HAART Oakland

Harlem United

Harm Reduction Coalition

Health Services Center, Inc.

HealthHIV

Berkeley, CA

Fayetteville, NC

Saint Louis, MO

Oakland, CA

Hayward, CA

Atlanta, GA

Moundville, AL

New York, NY

New York, NY

Oakland, CA

Los Angeles, CA

Washington, D.C.

Augusta, GA

Palm Srings, CA

Kinshasa, Congo

AL, MS

San Bernardino, CA

Claremont, CA

Fort Smith, AR

Kelayres, PA

Portland, ME

Memephis, TN

Saint Louis, MO

Altanta, GA

Washington, D.C.

Snellville, GA

Atlanta, GA

Atlanta, GA

New York, NY

New York, NY

Las Vegas, NV

Huntsville, AL

Jackson, MS

Atlanta, GA

Honolulu, HI

Portland, OR

Oakland, CA

New York, NY

New York, NY

Anniston, AL

Washington, D.C.

Heart to Heart Pregnancy Support Center Fort Smith, AR Heartland CARES, Inc. Paducah, KY HEMA Universal Life Community Services, Inc Wichita, KS Here's to Life Inc. Atlanta, GA Highland Adult Immunology Clinic Oakland, CA **HIghland Hospital** Oakland, CA Hispanic AIDS Forum Bronx, New York Hispanic Health Network New York, NY HIV AIDS Alliance of Michigan Detroit, MI HIV Dental Alliance Atlanta, GA **HIV Medicine Association** Arlington, VA HOGAR, Inc. Bronx, NY HomeFront Lawrenceville, NJ Hope and Help Center of Central Florida, Inc. Winter Park, FL Hope Haven Inc Charlotte, NC Hope House of St. Croix Valley Stillwater, MN Hope In The End Charlotte, NC House of Mercy Belmont, NC House of Serenity, Inc Atlanta, GA Housing & Community Development Augusta, GA Housing Authority of the City of Terre Haute Terre Haute, IN **Housing Works** New York, NY Houzffordable Vallejo, CA **Hudson County Housing Resource Center** Jersey City, NJ Human Resources Development Inst. (HRDI) Chicago, IL iHealth New York, NY iknowAwareness LLC Atlanta, GA Impulse Group DC Washington, D.C. Interfaith Medical Center - One Brooklyn Health Brooklyn, NY Iris House, Inc. New York, NY JSI Boston, MA

JustUs Health St Paul, MN

Juxtaposed Center for Transformation, Inc Stone Mountain, GA

Kigali Hope Association Kigali, Rwanda

Kingsport Housing & Redevelopment Authority Kingsport, TN KU School of Medicine Wichita Wichita, KS La Clinica Oakland, CA La Gender Inc Atlanta, GA

Lansing Area AIDS Netwrok Lansing, MI Latino Commission on AIDS New York, NY Latino LinQ Atlanta, GA

LeadingAge Washington, D.C. Legal Aid Service of Broward County Plantation, FL Lets Kick ASS AIDS Survivor Syndrome San Francisco, CA LGBT Life Center Norfolk, VA **Liberty Community Services** New Haven, CT Living HAPI Charlotte, NC Los Angeles LGBT Center Los Angeles, CA LOTUS Atlanta, GA Low Income Housing Coalition of Alabama Birmingham, AL Lucha Contra el Sida, Inc San Juan, PR Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University New York, NY Maple Island Estates Inc South Haven, MI Mathew's Place Atlanta, GA McClees Clinic Muskegon, MI Medical Advocacy and Outreach Montgomery, AL Mental Health Assoc. of San Mateo Co. Redwood City, CA Mercy Care Atlanta, GA **MFA** Albuquerque, NM MI Tax Services LLC Muskegon, MI Michigan HIV/AIDS Coalition of Michigan Michigan Michigan HIV and AIDS Council Detroit, MI St. Stephen's Ministry Augusta, GA Mississippi Harm Reduction Initiative Jackson, MS Mississippi Positive Network Cleveland, MS Municipality of San Juan San Juan, PR My Brother's Keeper, Inc. Jackson, MS N.O.M.O Organization Macon, GA NAESM, Inc. Atlanta, GA **NARAN** Jonesboro, AR **NASTAD** Washington, D.C. National Association for County Community and Economic Development Washington, D.C. National Black Gay Men's Advocacy Coalition Washington, D.C. National Black Justice Coalition Washington, D.C. National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development Washington, D.C. (CAPACD) National Coalition for LGBT Health Washington, D.C. National Coalition for the Homeless Washington, D.C. National Community Development Association Washington, D.C. National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) Washington, D.C. National Health Care for the Homeless Council Baltimore, MD National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty Washington, D.C.

National NeighborWorks Association Washington, D.C. National Network to End Domestic Violence Washington, D.C. National Working Positive Coalition New York, NY NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice Washington, D.C. **NKAC** Washington, D.C. **NMAC** Washington, D.C. **NNEDV** Washington, D.C. North Carolina AIDS Action Network Raleigh, NC North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition Raleigh, NC North Jersey Community Reseach Initiative Newark, NJ Northeast Arkansas Regional AIDS Network Jonesboro, AR NsideOut Excellence Matthews, NC Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center Cleveland, OH Office of Health Policy and AIDS Funding New Orleans, LA Older Women Embracing Life Baltimore, MD OLSHA Pontiac MI one-n-ten Phoenix, AZ Open Door Clinic of Greater Elgin Elgin, IL Open Hand Atlanta Atlanta, GA Organizational Empowerment Atlanta, GA Osborne Association Bronx, NY Our House of Portland Portland, OR **OWEL** Baltimore, MD West Palm Beach, Palm Beach HIV Care Council FL Partners in Nutrition Indiana Indianapolis, IN Partnership Project Portland, OR Patricia Wright Philadelphia, PA Penn. Inc. Decater, GA Philadelphia HIV/AIDS Advisory Board Philadelphia, PA Phoenix Pride Incorporated Phoenix, AZ Positive Impact Health Centers Duluth, GA Positive Wellness Alliance Lexington, NC Positive Women's Network **United States** Power of Diversity Chapel Hill, NC Poz Military Veterans USA INTL Atlanta, GA Praxis Housing Inirtiatives, Inc New York, NY PrEP4A11 New York, NY Presbyterian AIDS Network (PAN) PC USA Washington, D.C.

Brooklyn, NY

Birmingham, AL

Prevention Access Campaign

Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS

Progressive People Living with HIV Harare, Zimbabwe Staten Island, NY **Project Hospitality Project Inform** San Francisco, CA Project PLASE Baltimore, MD Project Safety Net NY Hauppauge, NY Project Vida, Inc. Chicago, IL Project Weber/RENEW Providence, RI Puerto Rico Department of Health San Juan, PR PWQ Coalition of Dallas Inc. - AIDS Services of Dallas Dallas, TX Jackson Heights, **Queens Pride House** NYQuest Center For Integrative Health Portland, OR Baltimore, MD Right to Health (R2H Actoin) **RAIN** Charlotte, NC RAIN Oklahoma Oklahoma City, OK Rainbow Health Minnesota Minneapolis, MN Recovery Consultants of Atlanta, Inc. Decatur, GA Regional AIDS Intercommunity Network Oklahoma City, OK Regional Housing Partnership LLC Charlotte, NC Ribbon Largo, MD Richard's Place Inc. Waukesha, WI **Rocky Mountain CARES** Denver, CO Rowan Helping Ministries Salisbury, NC Rural AIDS Action Network St. Cloud, MN Rural Health Service Providers Network Lost River, WV San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) San Antonio, TX Saint John's Hospice Philadelphia, PA St. Louis Effort for AIDS St. Louis, MO San Francisco AIDS Foundation San Francisco, CA SAVE, Inc. Kansas City, MO Selma AIR Selma, AL Sero Project Nashua, NH Services for the UnderServed New York, NY Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS) Washington, D.C. San Francisco, CA Shanti Shelter Resources, Inc. - Belle Reve NOLA New Orleans, LA **Shepherd Wellness Community** Pittsburgh, PA Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation Auburn, CA Solutions NOT Punishment Collaborative, Inc. **East Point**

Dallas, TX

Sonya's House Inc.

South Sudan Network of PLHIV (SSNeP+)

Juba, South Sudan

Southern AIDS Coalition

Birmingham, AL

Colorado Springs,

CO

Southern Colorado Health Network C

Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force
Nashua, NH
Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS
Phoenix, AZ
SSTAR
Fall River, MA

Status: Home, Inc.
StayWell Health Center
Waterbury, CT
STIGMAAside
Charlotte, NC

SunServe Wilton Manors, FL
Swaziland Posetive Living (SWAPOL) Manzini, Swaziland

Tenn Community Outreach Initiative (TCOI)

Tennessee

Team Management 2000 Inc.

Newark, New Jersey

The Afiya Center Dallas, TX

The AIDS Institute Washington, D.C.
The Aliveness Project, Inc. Minneapolis, MN

The Boulevard Chicago, IL

The Counter Narrative Project

Atlanta, GA
The Grapevine HIV/AIDS Foundation, Inc.

Dallas, TX

The Health Trust San Jose, CA
The Kelsey United States

The Matrix Consulting, LLC Morgantown, WV

The Open Door Inc.

Pittsburgh, PA
The PoZitive2PoSitive Initiative

Atlanta, GA

The Professional Association of Social Workers in HIV/AIDS Birmingham, AL

The Strilite Foundation, Inc.

Little Rock, AR
The Urban Advocate

Atlanta, GA

The Well Project

The Women's Collective

Brooklyn, NY

Washington, D.C.

The Yvette A. Flunder Foundation Oakland, CA

The LaStraw, Inc Greensboro, NC

Thomas Judd Care Center

Traverse City, MI
Thrive Alabama

Huntsville, AL

Thrive SS
Atlanta, GA
Townspeople
San Diego, CA
Trans Housing Atlanta Program
Atlanta GA

Trans Housing Atlanta Program

Atlanta, GA

Transgender Law Center

Oakland, CA

Traveler's Aid of Metro Atlanta - HOPE Atlanta

Atlanta, GA

Treatment Action Group (TAG)

New York, NY

Tri-City Health Center Fremont, CA

Trillium Health
Trinity Health
Muskegon, MI
True Colors Fund
Washington, D.C.
True Colors United
Washington, D.C.
TruLiving Travel LLC
Muskegon, MI
Tulsa CARES
Tulsa, OK

Tulsa CARES

U=U U.S.

UAR 1017 Clinic at Dayshams

Pigmingham A

UAB 1917 Clinic at Dewberry

UNIFIED - HIV, Health & Beyond

United Way of Long Island

Unity Fellowship of Christ Church NYC

Birmingham, AL

Detroit, MI

Deer Park, NY

New York, NY

Unity Wellness Center

University of Georgia

Upstate University Hospital

Opelika, AL

Decatur, GA

Syracuse, NY

Us Helping Us Washington, D.C.

Valley AIDS Council

Vecino Group

Visible Truth 365

Vivent Health

Texas

Springfield, MO

Philadelphia, PA

United States

Vivent Health

VOCAL New York

W.O.R.L.D

Woke County Human Services

Paleigh NC

Wake County Human Services

Raleigh, NC

Wayne State University Prevention Team

Detroit, MI

We The People PA

Harrisburg, PA

Wellness Services, Inc.

Flint, MI

West Branch Pride Williamsport, PA
Western North Carolina AIDS Project (WNCAP) Asheville, NC
Youth and Aged Foundation Sunyani, Ghana

Youth and AIDS Projects

YWCA of St. Paul

Minneapolis, MN

Saint Paul, MN