

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) provides assistance to persons who have been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and their families who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. Additionally, the program assists in locating and/or securing suitable rental housing, identifying other related housing and community-based resources that may be available, and providing housing information and referral to those housing resources. The HOPWA program at Nortex Regional Planning Commission serves 11 counties: Archer, Baylor, Clay, Cottle, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Montague, Wichita, Wilbarger and Young.

The goal of HOPWA is to:

- provide housing assistance and eligible supportive services for income-eligible individuals living with HIV/AIDS and their families to establish or better maintain a stable living environment in housing and
- assist clients in achieving and maintaining housing stability to avoid homelessness and improve access to, and engagement in, HIV care and treatment.

HOPWA approved activities include:

- PHP – Permanent Housing Placement - is used to help households establish permanent residence. Eligible costs include application fees, related credit checks, utility hookup fees and deposits, and reasonable security deposits necessary to move persons into permanent housing
- STRMU – Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance - provides short-term rent, mortgage, or utility payments to households experiencing a financial crisis as a result of their HIV health condition or a change in their economic circumstances. STRMU is designed as a preventive measure to prevent households from becoming homeless by helping them remain in their dwellings. Persons receiving STRMU must be housed already.
- STSH – Emergency housing, Hotel/motel, Etc. - is available to eligible households who are or are facing homelessness while working on a permanent housing plan.
- TBRA – Tenant-Based Rental Assistance - is a rental subsidy used to help low income-eligible clients living with HIV/AIDS and their households until they can secure/obtain other permanent, affordable, and stable housing. With TBRA, a household pays a determined portion of the rent based upon family income and other requirements while the HOPWA program pays the difference.

HOPWA Eligibility:

Individuals seeking HOPWA assistance must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Texas resident
- Income below 80% of area median income
- Documented verification of HIV/AIDS status (confidentiality must be maintained)

For additional information or to apply for HOPWA services, please contact:

Meliene Perry, Eligibility Case Manager – 940-322-5281, ext. 139

Note: Clients are not eligible to receive TBRA and STRMU at the same time.

HOPWA complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, nation origin, age, disability, religion, or sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or familial status.