



The Office of Community is seeking those who would like to serve on the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Modernization Core Committee.

The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grant, administered by the Office of Community Development (OCD) has been operating under enacted statute and regulations since 1992. As of July 29, 2016 as a result of the signing of the Housing Opportunity through Modernization Act (HOTMA), the formula for allocation of funding changed. The change known as the HOPWA Modernization will impact the City of New Orleans.

In the past, the grant was awarded to the City as a formula grant that was based on the cumulative number of individuals living with HIV or AIDS cases, census information and some other factors. This formula counted deceased individuals as well as those living with HIV/AIDS. The modernized formula will be awarded based on the current number of individuals living with HIV or AIDS. The old requirement that 25% of the funds be distributed to cities based on AIDS incidences is removed and replaced with a new requirements that 25% of the funds be distributed based on the current population living with HIV or AIDS, local fair market rents, and poverty rates. This change will be phased in over a five-year period. The projections for FY 18 – FY 22 suggests that New Orleans will see a significant decrease in HOPWA funds.

To prepare for the decrease in funding, the City with the assistance of the Core Committee will develop the City's New Model of providing HOPWA services. The Committee's responsibilities will include the following:

1. Attend Core Committee meetings as scheduled.
2. Review the agenda and supporting materials prior to Core Committee meetings.
3. Be informed of the program activities and inform others in the community of the activities.
4. Share developments in and suggestions from the community with OCD..
5. Serve as a liaison between the community and OCD.
6. Realistically assess the needs of people living with HIV (PLWH) to help design a spectrum of services that meet the needs of PLWH in New Orleans and the Metropolitan area.
7. Assist with communicating the planning process.
8. Provide recommendations for HOPWA program design.
9. Be engaged in the process through 2022.

If you would like to serve on the committee contact Madelyn Cosey Sanchez at (504) 658-4214 or by email at mcsanchez@nola.gov.