

THE CITY OF PASADENA

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program

Purpose:

The HOPWA program provides tenant-based rental assistance to very-low income individuals or families living with HIV/AIDS. The Pasadena Community Development Commission (PCDC) administers the HOPWA program for the Cities of Pasadena and Glendale.

Referral Process:

Applicants who fall under the above mentioned criteria will need to be referred to the PCDC by a supportive service provider (Sponsor Agency) that has shown evidence of expertise and commitment to serving persons and their families living with HIV/AIDS. The current sponsor agencies for the HOPWA program are Serra Project and AIDS Service Center.

Program Summary:

The Sponsor Agency will screen HOPWA applicants for program eligibility. The eligibility screening includes verification of HIV/AIDS status, income, assets and family status. The PCDC will interview applicants to the HOPWA Program to ensure that the applicant meets the eligibility requirements. A criminal background check will be conducted for all adult applicants.

An applicant who meets the eligibility criteria and passes the criminal background screening will be issued a Certificate in a briefing session conducted by the PCDC. The applicant must then locate a rental unit within the City of Pasadena or the City of Glendale with the assistance of the Sponsor Agency. The selected unit must pass a Housing Quality Standards inspection before the unit can be subsidized.

The initial 12 months of rental assistance will be funded under the HOPWA Program. Upon expiration of the 12 month period for each HOPWA Program Participant, the PCDC will "absorb" or provide continued rental assistance to the Program Participants under its regular Housing Choice Voucher Program for households residing within the PCDC's jurisdiction and for households who continue to meet the eligibility requirements for ongoing rental assistance.

The Sponsor Agency will be required to provide supportive services to HOPWA program participants and their families, such as case management and education and training to meet the specific needs of HOPWA Program Participants in obtaining other services such as public benefits, private insurance and legal services.

For more information regarding the HOPWA Program, please contact:

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