

Policy Briefing Summary

City Council



Regarding:	Resolution to appropriate funding from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS/HIV (HOPWA) Grant 25-HOPWA-303 in the amount of \$392,582 (1 of 2 readings)
Staff Contact(s):	Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager
Presenter:	Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager
Date of Proposed Action:	September 15, 2025

Issue

The City of Charlottesville has been awarded a HOPWA grant in the amount of \$392,582 from the DHCD.

Background / Rule

The Office of Budget and Grants Management in coordination with the Blue Ridge Area Coalition on Homelessness (BRACH), applied for and received a grant from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. The Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS/H.I.V. (H.O.P.W.A.) award is \$392,582 for July 1, 2024 – March 31, 2026.

Analysis

The City of Charlottesville has staff from Human Services and the Office of Budget and Grants Management serving on the BRACH Board. H.O.P.W.A., is an important resource in our community's efforts to end homelessness. The grant provides services in four key areas in addition to Administration:

1. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (T.B.R.A.): The Blue Ridge Health Department (B.R.H.D.) partners with The Haven to provide T.B.R.A. to eligible participants. The B.R.H.D. screens participants for eligibility and inspects the proposed property to ensure that it meets H.U.D. requirements. Upon successful screening, The Haven contacts the landlord to arrange monthly rent payment, similar to rapid re-housing.
2. Short-term Rental, Mortgage and Utility Assistance: B.R.H.D. screens eligible participants for short-term assistance including emergency utility payments to avoid shut off.
3. Supportive Services: B.R.H.D. provides supportive services including crisis intervention, case management and service referrals.
4. Homeless Management Information System(H.M.I.S.): The City of Charlottesville as the award recipient will ensure that H.M.I.S. data is complete through an agreement with B.R.A.C.H. to have the Executive Director ensure data quality. Our Continuum of Care (C.O.C.) has a well-populated database for individuals experiencing homelessness. HMIS collaboration provides real-time monitoring of the needs and progress of individuals and households facing homelessness. Collaborative use of H.M.I.S. among B.R.A.C.H. C.o.C. Service Providers expedites communication and reduces the need to interface disparate documentation systems.
5. Administration: The City of Charlottesville as the award recipient, is eligible for an administrative fee up to seven (7) percent of the total award. Staff proposes that we pass these dollars through to B.R.A.C.H, B.R.H.D. and The Haven to support the supervision of assigned staff.

This grant advances the City of Charlottesville's 2023 City Council Strategic Plan Framework "to be a

place where everyone thrives". More specifically, this grant advances the strategic outcome area, Housing, which indicates "Charlottesville defines access to liveable housing as a human right and works to ensure housing choices and mobility are provided for all who seek it through the implementation of the Affordable Housing Plan". The HOPWA funds provided by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development provides access to housing supports and services to assist individuals with HIV/AIDS with maintaining housing.

Financial Impact

There is no budgetary impact to the City of Charlottesville as this grant is entirely federal pass-through funds and no local match is required. All funds will be distributed to sub-recipients for service provision.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the acceptance of the FY25 HOPWA grant award and approval of the resolution to appropriate the HOPWA funds.

Recommended Motion (if Applicable)

I move to approve the resolution as presented to appropriate the FY2025 HOPWA grant funds in the amount of \$392,582.

Attachments

1. FY25 HOPWA Resolution