

Policy Briefing Summary

City Council



Regarding:	Resolution to appropriate \$389,975 from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS/HIV grant 26-HOPWA-303 (1 of 2 readings)
Staff Contact(s):	Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager
Presenter:	Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager
Date of Proposed Action:	May 4, 2026

Issue

The City of Charlottesville has been awarded a H.O.P.W.A. grant in the amount of \$389,975 from the DHCD.

Background / Rule

The Office of Budget and Grants Management, in coordination with the Blue Ridge Area Coalition on Homelessness (B.R.A.C.H.), 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 \$389,975 for September 24, 2025 — September 24, 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. H.M.I.S. 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.

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 execution of the FY26 H.O.P.W.A. grant agreement by the City Manager, and approval of the resolution to appropriate the H.O.P.W.A. funds.

Recommended Motion (if Applicable)

I move to approve the resolution as presented to appropriate the FY2026 HOPWA grant funds in the amount of \$389,975.

Attachments

1. FY 26 HOPWA Resolution
2. HOPWA Grant Agreement