



HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS PROGRAM

Mississippi Home Corporation (MHC) is releasing a draft of the HOPWA Program 2020 Request for Proposal (RFP) Scoring Criteria. The purpose of issuing this draft is to bring awareness of the RFP criteria to potential applicants prior to opening of the 2020 Request for Proposal Cycle. In addition, MHC is soliciting public comments to allow the public to provide comments and input of the proposed scoring criteria. Comments will be accepted beginning February 13, 2020 through February 24, 2020, 5:00 p.m. All comments will be reviewed and issued a response.

Program Overview

The Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Program is the only Federal program dedicated to the housing needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. Under the HOPWA Program, HUD makes grants to local communities, States, and nonprofit organizations for projects that benefit low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

The RFP cycle for the HOPWA Program is a competitive process and held on an annual basis. The RFP must meet threshold & scoring requirements in order to be eligible for a HOPWA award. MHC uses a scoring standard with a 100-point scale to process and select RFPs for funding. Request for Proposals must score a minimum of 75 on a 100-point scale to be considered for funding. By adhering to the scoring criteria, applications can receive up to 100 points based on the final rating criteria.

The Program Review Committee (PRC) will evaluate complete and eligible RFPs according to the following criteria.

1. Organization Information (20 pts.)

Applications will be evaluated on the organization's capacity to administer a HUD grant using guidelines specified in OMB Circulars, grant regulations, and Uniform Administrative Requirements.

- Clearly described types of services and clients served, and the organization's purpose/mission as defined in the organization's bylaws.
- Clearly described experience with HUD funds and other federal, state, or private funding.

- Clearly described impact of project/program on the annual operating budget, good fiscal oversight, and internal controls to adequately safeguard grant funds.
- Clearly described policies and procedures and provided evidence that written policies and procedures currently exist.
- Provided evidence of sufficient number of staff with experience to complete the project/program.

2. Project/Program Goals and Objectives (25 pts.)

Applications will be evaluated on how closely the project aligns with MHC's priority needs as set forth in the state's consolidated plan. Current Mississippi Consolidated Plan

- Described how the important issue the project/program addresses aligns with a priority need.
- Provided evidence to substantiate and support why the project/program is needed.
- Clearly described short-term goals that are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound.
- Clearly stated how long-term outcomes will be measured and how outcomes will benefit the community or beneficiaries.

3. Project/Program Information (30 pts.)

Applications will be evaluated on the information provided about the proposed project or program and how well the application met the following criteria.

- Clearly described the project/program scope and activities to be conducted.
- Clearly described the targeted population, location, and the timeframe of the project/program.
- Clearly described the innovation and strength of the project/program plan.
- Provided all information required for the specific type of grant and project/program.
- Described established or proposed collaboration or partnerships that substantiated how the project/program avoids/eliminates duplication of programs, services and activities.
- Clearly described a system planned or in place to measure program's accomplishments and other required reporting data.

4. Project/Program Financial Information (25 pts.)

Applicants will be evaluated on the clarity and reasonability of financial information and budgets, including but not limited to:

- Clearly described budget items, description, purpose, and amount.
- Provided data to substantiate the economic feasibility of the program and how the total cost of the project/program was estimated.
- Requested funds appear reasonable for the total project/program cost, administration expenses, cost per beneficiary, economic feasibility, etc.
- Provided data to substantiate the committed and pending sources of funding for total project/program leverage.
- Provided data to substantiate all funding sources and uses, including any required match.