



**WHAT IS HOPWA?** The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, known as State HOPWA, is funded through a grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide states and designated eligible metropolitan areas with resources and incentives for meeting the housing needs of persons with HIV disease and AIDS. The Department of Health which contracts with project sponsors (agencies and organizations) at the local level administers Florida's HOPWA program.

**WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED?** The State HOPWA program provides short-term, temporary housing assistance and long-term housing in specified areas to qualified individuals. The services include:

- Short-Term Housing Facilities placement.
- Short-Term Rent, Mortgage and Utilities Assistance.
- Supportive Services (such as Case Management).
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance in specified areas.

**WHO QUALIFIES FOR SERVICES?** Persons and their families with documented HIV disease, who meet HIV/AIDS Patient Care core eligibility requirements located at [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Disease\\_ctrl/aids/care/EligibilityAdRule.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Disease_ctrl/aids/care/EligibilityAdRule.html), and other HOPWA program qualifications, such as income at or below 80% of the median income for the local area. By coordinating HOPWA services through the Ryan White Part B consortia and planning bodies, HOPWA participants have access to a variety of support services which contribute to a stable housing situation. Services not approved include but are not limited to:

- Payments which exceed actual costs,
- Payments made directly to clients,
- Cash payments of any kind (including checks made out to cash),
- Property taxes that are not included in mortgage payments,
- Long distance telephones charges, fines and penalties, and
- Down payment or closing costs on a home.

**WHO DO I CONTACT?** The Department of Health contracts with project sponsors in 10 Ryan White Part B consortium and planning body areas throughout the state. The following agencies receive State HOPWA funds for delivery of housing services, at the local level, and should be contacted for more information:

Lutheran Services Florida, Inc., Northwest	850/497-7157
BASIC NWFL Inc.	850/785-1088
Big Bend Cares, Inc.	850/656-2437
WellFlorida Council, Inc.	352/313-6500
Hillsborough County Health & Social Services	813/272-6935
United Way of Brevard County, Inc.	321/631-2740
Health Planning Council of Southwest Florida, Inc.	239/433-6700
AIDS Help, Inc.	305/296-6196
Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida, Inc.	904/745-3050
Treasure Coast Health Council, Inc.	561/844-4220

Information about accessing services in your area can be obtained by calling the Florida HIV/AIDS Hotline at 1-800-FLA-AIDS or by visiting the following website [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease\\_ctrl/aids/index.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/aids/index.html)