

Determination of Division of Spending Between HOPWA and CARES Contracts

2021 HOPWA Area 8

May 18, 2021

The Area 8 HOPWA program sponsored by The Health Planning Council of Southwest Florida, Inc. (HPC) has received a CARES Act contract through the Florida Department of Health covering the dates of May 18, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

The contract with the Florida Department of Health specifies that the funds must be used per the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136, Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program provisions. These provisions were explained for HOPWA in CPD-20-05 issued May 8, 2020. These provisions state that “the supplemental funds provided under the CARES Act are to be used by HOPWA grantees as additional funding to maintain operations and for rental assistance, supportive services, and other necessary actions, in order to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.”

Based on this guidance, HPC has determined the following criteria for the use of the CARES funding in Area 8:

For the period of May 18, 2021-June 30, 2021: There has been a significant increase in the need for and usage of HOPWA services in Area 8 for prevention and response to the COVID-19 pandemic during the fiscal period of July 1, 2020-May 18, 2021. Due to the prevention and response efforts in this period remaining funding available for direct client services is very limited. Therefore, it has been determined that in order to maintain adequate operations and to continue to provide the direct client support necessary to prevent homelessness and the further spread of the coronavirus, all direct client assistance in contract funded line items for HOPWA-eligible clients during this period will be eligible for the CARES supplemental funding.

For the period of July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022: As the need and usage is expected to stabilize and additional support is available from external sources, each client service will be reviewed individually to determine if it is related to “preventing, preparing for and responding to coronavirus”. Case Managers will document on the authorization form for each service whether the need is related to the coronavirus or “COVID-19”. Case Managers will further document in the relevant case notes how that need is related to the pandemic. All Case Managers and Supervisors will receive training on determining and documenting a “COVID-19-related need” including links to HUD-issued guidance and FAQs.

All spending for the CARES supplemental funds and the HOPWA contract will be tracked and reported separately except in the case of the Annual Progress Report when all client spending will be combined to show overall impact. All measures and precautions described in the Documentation and Financial Management policies will be used to ensure there is no duplication of spending between the two contracts.