



HAVEN OF HOPE

August 31, 2016

Joining Hearts, Inc.
Mr. Wes Berry, President
PO Box 54808
Atlanta, GA 30308-0808

Dear Wes and the Joining Hearts Board of Directors:

AID Atlanta is grateful for our long standing partnership with Joining Hearts and for the tremendous financial assistance provided to those most in need for housing related expenses not covered by Federal or State Grants.

Because of Joining Hearts' dedication and donations to AID Atlanta, we have been able to assist countless families to have safe, secure, and stable housing allowing our clients to focus on better health outcomes and lead more productive lives.

Over the last three years Joining Hearts funding has provided help to 706 clients covering rent and utility deposits, rental and utility assistance and emergency lodging.

Applicants are provided assistance through our housing department and meet certain eligibility requirements. Additionally, AID Atlanta works with the client on an individualized service plan, financial literacy and provides resources for employment/career development.

It is partnerships such as this that allow us to fully maximize our impact on the effort to serve the neediest among us. It is not possible to overstate the impact that you have had on our clients over the years.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this funding request to continue our efforts to provide Housing and Emergency Assistance for people in our community living with HIV/AIDS.

Please contact me if you require additional information about this or other programs offered by AID Atlanta at (404) 870-7720.

Sincerely,

Nicole Roebuck, MSW
Executive Director

Request for Joining Hearts Funding Support

Amount Requested: \$45,000.00

Need: To provide housing related expenses disallowed by Federal and State grants to HIV+ clients including emergency lodging when required.

About AID Atlanta: AID Atlanta has been providing HIV/AIDS-related services, care, and education since its inception in 1982. The agency was established in response to the devastating impact that HIV/AIDS was having on gay men in Atlanta. The organization quickly expanded to meet the evolving needs of our diverse community in response to the epidemic. Our mission is to reduce new HIV infections and improve the quality of life of its members and the community by breaking barriers and building community.

Today, AID Atlanta offers a broad range of services and has grown to be the most comprehensive AIDS service organization in the Southeast. AID Atlanta currently offers HIV/AIDS prevention and care services, including (but not limited to) Primary Care, HIV/STD Screening, PrEP, Community HIV Prevention Programs, Linkage Services, and Case Management. In addition, AID Atlanta operates The Georgia AIDS and STI Information Line which is a free statewide service, providing confidential and anonymous answers and referrals to questions concerning testing, treatment, PrEP, risk assessment, safer sex practices and harm reduction, case management, social services, emotional wellness counseling, and medication assistance for persons infected or affected by HIV and STIs.

AID Atlanta is driving its strategic direction to achieve our vision to get record numbers of individuals tested, to know their status and quickly linked to care if they test positive. We are on target to achieve significant milestones in 2016. Ongoing initiatives include, expanded behavioral health and case management services, providing an additional 250 clients housing assistance, and increasing our patients in primary care to 2,200 regardless of their ability to pay.

In the area of HIV outreach and education, AID Atlanta continues to actively work in communities of high impact to reach those most at risk of HIV and/or living without knowing their status.

AID Atlanta's Housing Program and Emergency Assistance programs for which we are requesting funds helps those HIV positive clients who are living at or below 300% of the federal poverty level and who demonstrate a financial need with no other resources available. This assistance may include emergency lodging, rent and necessary utilities (gas, water, and electric). Other housing related expenses such as moving expenses, security deposits, reconnection fees and late bills may also be covered. These other expenses are not covered by Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) funding. The goal with this program is to keep individuals and families in stable, safe housing.

Clients work with a Case Manager on an Individualized Service Plan, financial literacy and budgeting, and are provided resources for employment and career development.



HAVEN OF HOPE

Success of this program will be measured by helping 140-150 clients maintain stable and safe housing providing them with the means to become self-sufficient as these funds are not used for long-term financial needs. Funds can also be expended for short term emergency lodging, while actively working with a Case Manager to obtain permanent/transitional housing. Due to limited funding and resources of this program, this grant will allow AID Atlanta to provide the financial needs to those requiring assistance while continuing to seek additional funding sources that will increase the number of those that can be served by the program.

AID Atlanta has seen a significant number of requests in 2016, and currently, through August 31, we have 422 individuals/families that are classified as having an unstable living environment. The limited available funding adds an additional barrier that has to be overcome and also reduces our ability to provide wrap around services.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this grant request for consideration. The help that we can provide together through our partnership, will move those affected by HIV/AIDS into stable housing, by removing barriers and will empower people to live their best lives.