



17 Executive Park Drive, NE
Suite 290
Atlanta GA 30329-2220
Phone: (404) 350-1633
Fax: (404) 351-4816
www.jerusalemhouse.org

May 19, 2016

The Host Committee of Joining Hearts
Attn: Mr. Wes Berry, President
Joining Hearts, Inc.
Post Office Box 54808
Atlanta GA 30308

Dear Host Committee:

Please allow me to begin by thanking you for selecting me to be an Honorary Patron for Joining Hearts! I remember fondly my years on the Host Committee, and the fun we had.

As the Executive Director of Jerusalem House I am also honored to submit this request for funding to support our agency's newest housing program – New Horizons. Jerusalem House has been very proud of its past designation as a beneficiary of Joining Hearts, and are hopeful that you will look favorably upon our request.

This request is to help us finish launching The New Horizons Program to help 30 individuals and/or families in independent housing within the community. In total, our five housing programs will offer quality permanent housing to 425 to 450 men, women and children affected by HIV/AIDS.

Under separate cover will come an accounting of our spending from the Joining Hearts fund, and a projection for the remaining funds. Thank you, again, for your past support.

Best wishes on what always proves to be a busy, hectic, and memorable spring and summer.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlie Frew". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charlie Frew
Executive Director



17 Executive Park Drive, NE
Suite 290
Atlanta GA 30329-2220
Phone: (404) 350-1633
Fax: (404) 351-4816
www.jerusalemhouse.org

Appeal for Funding Support

Address: 17 Executive Park Drive NE, Suite 290
Atlanta, GA 30329

Phone: (404) 350-1633
Fax: (404) 351-4816

Contact: Jon Santos
E-mail: jon@jerusalemhouse.org

Title: Director of Development
Phone: (404) 350-0513

Mission: *Jerusalem House provides a continuum of housing and supportive services for Atlanta's homeless and low-income individuals, families and children affected by HIV/AIDS; leading the community in meeting their needs.*

Need: HIV/AIDS remains a crisis across the southern United States, particularly in urban regions in Georgia. In fact, our state ranks second for new diagnoses of HIV infection and Atlanta ranks fifth in the same category. Regrettably, a large number of individuals affected by the virus have an unmet need for care, including access to safe, permanent housing. In Atlanta, our agency's soon-to-be 338 units will provide 76% of the designated spaces of permanent housing for those affected by HIV/AIDS. Total available permanent housing units, however, only represent 6% of the projected need.

Jerusalem House's program development aligns with the newly-updated *National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States* and supports the assertions that

- 1) homelessness and poverty are major risk factors for HIV
- 2) permanent housing acts as an HIV prevention tool
- 3) that Housing is Cost-Effective Healthcare.

People who are homeless or unstably housed have HIV infection rates as much as 16 times higher than people who have a stable place to live. Housing assistance for HIV+ individuals who are homeless improves health outcomes, dramatically reduces emergency and inpatient health services, and improves access and adherence to life-saving anti-retroviral medications, and helps prevent new HIV infections.

Each new HIV infection prevented through stable housing saves between \$250,000-\$400,000 in lifetime medical costs.

History, Programs, & Services: Jerusalem House was established in 1989 to provide five men and women with AIDS a place to die with dignity. Over time, advancements in HIV treatment lengthened the lives of those with the virus, and accordingly, our organizational focus evolved from comforting the dying to assisting the living. All of our programs have been in operation since their respective year of inception and serve all family types and compositions:

- Program for Adults (1989, 23 units) – annually provides services to 28 homeless single adults with AIDS. The facility features individual efficiency apartments and common spaces, including a formal dining room, a study and a television room.
- Family Program (1997, 12 units) – devoted entirely to homeless single mothers with HIV/AIDS and their children, annually provides apartments to 13 mothers and 23 dependent children. In addition to one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments, the historic facility also features an on-site Learning Center, a meditation garden, a large playground and a recreation center.
- Scattered Site I Program (2003, 28 units) – annually serves 52 homeless individuals with HIV/AIDS, including 15 children. This “master-lease” housing program leases apartment units “scattered” throughout Metropolitan Atlanta.
- Scattered Site II Program (2009, 133 units) – currently serves 142 homeless and low-income individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS, including 39 children. This program is in the process of adding new units and will serve 300 residents by 2017!
- New Horizons (2015) – currently at 11 units, this Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program will help place a total 30 individuals and/or families into more independent accommodations in the community.

Our residents face a combination of difficulties that preempt their homelessness status and complicate their HIV/AIDS treatment. At the point of program entry, their lives are already shaped by their particular race, gender and/or socioeconomic status. Many also face compounding illnesses or are affected by substance or domestic abuse. As such, we provide supportive services to address each resident’s unique set of challenges in his/her road to stability and self-sufficiency. In addition to permanent housing, clients have access to supportive services provided by our staff members and through 26 collaborative partnerships with other Atlanta agencies. Examples of services include: case management, counseling, education, budgeting classes, HIV/AIDS medical services, substance abuse counseling, mental health treatment, child care and food/clothing assistance.

Goals and Outcomes: All Jerusalem House programs pursue a common goal: that by living in a safe and physically sound housing environment, residents have the opportunity to focus on their physical, economic and emotional needs thus increasing the likelihood of stabilizing their health and well-being and, when possible, return to the community as independent members. Agency-wide goals and outcomes for 2016 include:

- Jerusalem House will expand the Scattered Site II Program by 170 units by 2017 (60 of those units have already been added) and finish launching the New Horizons Program to help support 30 individuals/families in independent housing within the community. In total, our five programs will offer quality permanent housing to 425-450 men, women and children affected by HIV/AIDS.

- To ensure adherence to a medication regimen and reap the benefits of stable housing, 75% of residents remain in their program for at least one year and 50% remain for at least three years. Residents of the New Horizons Program will transition into full independence after three years, but can remain for up to 5 years. Resident admissions and progress are tracked by the Manager of Resident Services at each program.
- 80% of residents will experience increased health and quality of life due to the housing and supportive services received at our programs. Health is monitored through annual doctor visits, which monitor indicators of health (CD4 counts, viral loads etc.). This information is self-reported through annual surveys.
- 100% of residents will have access to supportive services that facilitate a high level of independence. Residents will set personal and professional goals through an Individual Service Plan (ISP). In order to improve economic stability, 100% of residents will meet at least one goal listed on their ISP, 80% of residents will meet two goals and 70% will meet three goals or more. Jerusalem House Case Managers will work one-on-one with each resident and document progress in meeting goals and objectives.

To evaluate our programs, Jerusalem House adheres to stringent reporting standards set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Annually, the Director of Housing and Residential Services and program managers collect information regarding: how programs lead to improved health outcomes (CD4 measurements, individual's viral load count, etc.), resident satisfaction (annual resident satisfaction survey), demographics, retention rates, quality of care received and progress on ISPs. Evaluations are entered into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), a database within HUD's Homelessness Resource Exchange. Data collected over the year is then utilized to provide reports at staff meetings, during committee sessions and presented to the Board of Directors.

Funding Request: An award of \$25,000 will help us subsidize rent and utility bills (gas, water and electric) for the residents of the New Horizons Program. The New Horizons Program is a Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program that allows capable individuals and families to live in more independent accommodations throughout the city. Participating residents individually rent apartments in the neighborhood of their choosing and Jerusalem House subsidizes a portion of their rent and utility payments. Clients continue to have access to self-managed counseling and can remain at the program for up to five years.

Your support will be applied against the cost of \$240,000 to run the program over the course of one year and allows us to expand the continuum of housing and supportive services available to our residents. With your help, we will support 30 individuals/families in independent living within the community!

We welcome the opportunity to continue our partnership with Joining Hearts. Together we can meet the pressing need for quality housing and supportive services for those struggling with both homelessness and HIV/AIDS.

If you have any questions please contact Jon Santos at 404-350-0513 or jon@jerusalemhouse.org.