

**The LTR Lewis Cloverdale Foundation, Inc.
Grant Application**

Part I

Date: November 22, 2016

Title of Project/Program: Community Health Worker for High-Impact HIV Prevention

1. Name of Organization: AIDS Foundation Houston, Inc.

Address: 6260 Westpark Drive, #100, Houston, TX 77057

2. Date Organization was founded: 1982

3. Federal Identification Number: 76-0073661

4. Contact Person: Melody Patelis

Telephone Number: (713) 623-6796

Email address: patelism@afhouston.org

5. Mission Statement of your organization:

AIDS Foundation Houston, Inc. leads the innovative efforts in the prevention of new HIV infections and empowers individuals, families, and communities affected by HIV/AIDS to create and sustain healthy lives.

6. Amount requested from the Foundation: \$ 25,000

Total Project Budget: \$ N/A*

Total Organizational Budget: \$ 5,082,894

* This request is to underwrite a part-time certified Community Health Worker (CHW) position as well as cover the cost of outreach materials and HIV test kits.

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Part II

1. History and description of the Organization:

AIDS Foundation Houston, Inc. (AFH) was founded in 1982 as Texas' first organization dedicated to HIV/AIDS prevention education and services. AFH began as a grassroots organization comprised of individuals who aided those dying of AIDS by delivering food, helping to find housing for those who were homeless, advocating for treatment, and comforting those whose bodies could no longer fight the incurable disease. Over the years, AFH has grown into a multi-faceted health and human services organization providing supportive services for men, women, and children infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS, as well as offering prevention education and HIV testing to high-risk populations, including those incarcerated in the Texas prison system.

AFH's supportive services include its permanent housing program with individualized case management, transportation, job skills training, direct linkage to free or subsidized medical care, medication adherence monitoring, and nutritional support. AFH's methods have been effective in reducing individual and community infection rates in the Houston area, since these stabilizing services allow individuals living with HIV/AIDS to concentrate solely on their health and wellbeing, thereby improving their health, lowering their viral loads, and functioning as prevention.

Additionally, AFH is committed to stopping new HIV infections through its HIV testing programs targeted to high-risk individuals. AFH uses HIV testing recruitment methods that include: community mobilization, prevention education, social media, and targeted strategies for high-risk populations.

2. **Board:**

Richard Ray, Chairperson / Ex Officio, John Daugherty Realtors

Jessica Rossman. Vice Chairperson, United Airlines

Erin Fry, Secretary, EFT Properties

Michael K. Stewart, Treasurer, United Way Gulf Coast

Amy E. Absher, Chevron Corporation

Dr. Rev. Michael Diaz, Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church

Michael Dulaney, EMC

Dr. Stephen Frangos, MD, MPH, FACOEM, Chevron Services Company

Chris Lewis, Chris Lewis Architecture

Thom McDaniel, Southwest Airlines

Leslie Nagy, Parker Drilling

Michelle Pisklak, Edro Investments

Gwen Richard, LeClairRyan Law Firm

Mark Roth RPh, Avita Drugs Pharmacy Solutions

Dr. Jonathan Russell, MD, FGOC, Methodist Hospital

Juan Carlos Sanchez, BBVA Compass

Jillian Simmons, KBXX 97.9 The Box

Travis Torrence, Shell Oil Company

Mark D. Tschaepe, PhD, Expert Liaison Officer

Tanner Williams, Texas American Federation of Teachers

Jennifer Wilson, Zimmerman, Axelrad, Meyer, Stern & Wise, P.C.

3. **Name of person/entity that oversees organization's finances other than the**

Treasurer: Nicolas Williams, Chief Finance Officer

4. **Staff:**

AFH currently employs 49 people with most of these positions in the program services area overseen by Nike Blue, chief program officer. These positions range from case managers and program coordinators to community health workers and risk reduction specialists.

5. **Volunteers:**

AFH benefits from the generosity of over 300 volunteers a year to support our various programs, including Camp Hope, a camp for HIV-positive children in Texas. All volunteers participate in a two-hour orientation; Camp Hope counselors participate in an additional five hours of training plus child safety training.

6. **Your community:**

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), young people—especially LGBT and minority youth between the ages of 13 and 24—account for almost 75% of all new infections and are at highest risk for HIV infection. Because of this high incidence, AFH will outreach to young men who have sex with men (YMSM) between the ages of 13 and 24 for this project. AFH staff will focus their efforts on HIV testing and education to African-American and Latino youth by reaching out through existing social networks, visiting venues where this population congregates, and attending events hosted by these youths. Much of these efforts will take place in the neighborhoods of Southwest Houston, as well as at venues in Montrose, the Heights, and downtown.

7. **Project/Program Information:**

Two recent reports, *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance* and the *Lifetime Risk of HIV Diagnosis*, both published this year, confirm that gay and bisexual males, as well as men who have sex with men (MSM), continue to be most affected by the HIV epidemic in the U.S. The February 2016 Lifetime Risk of HIV Diagnosis study, the first-ever comprehensive national estimates of the lifetime risk of an HIV diagnosis, estimates that one in six MSM will be diagnosed with HIV in their lifetime, including one in two black MSM, one in four Latino MSM, and lastly, one in 11 white MSM. Furthermore, as noted in the study *Vital Signs: HIV Infection, Testing, and Risk Behaviors Among Youths*, 60 percent of all youth with HIV do not know they are infected. These youths are not getting into medical treatment and are unknowingly passing the virus on to others. These reports reiterate the overwhelming need for concentrated and innovative interventions, outreach, education, and HIV testing targeted to MSM.

AFH respectfully requests the support of The LTR Lewis Cloverdale Foundation for \$25,000 to underwrite a part-time certified Community Health Worker (CHW) position in our High-Impact HIV Prevention program. The CHW will perform outreach, HIV testing, and prevention education for 20 hours per week. The funds will also cover the cost of outreach materials and HIV test kits. The CHW will spend this time building trust within the community, offering testing to the target population, identifying peer advocates who can influence from the inside, and educating in a nonthreatening atmosphere. The CHW will conduct weekend and late-night street and community outreach in areas where new infections have been reported with a primary goal to conduct HIV testing.

Ideally, with regular testing opportunities, linkage to medical services for those who are positive, condom distribution, and education around biomedical preventatives, such as Pre-

Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), YMSM will have the tools and knowledge they need to know to protect themselves from infection. Yet, education and knowledge are not enough. The ability to successfully encourage behavior changes in any population takes changing misperceptions about the disease such as the judgment, labeling, and myths about using PrEP, misunderstandings around the importance of medical adherence, and the stigma attached to regular testing.

Through the outreach activities and engagement with the target population, the CHW will become familiar with the community, understand how YMSM network within it, and learn about the places YMSM congregate. This base of knowledge will help the CHW better understand the target population and any misperceptions, myths, and misunderstandings about HIV that may be circulating in the community. The CHW can then help educate YMSM on the facts, reduce stigma, and refer and link YMSM to medical and social services.

Other nonprofit agencies in Houston conduct street and community outreach to high-risk YMSM; however, AFH's High-Impact HIV Prevention program uses unique ways to engage YMSM through engagement at social events, use of social media, and by recruiting peer leaders to help recruit their friends and acquaintances who may be at high risk of HIV infection. AFH also uses community mobilization techniques such as those used in our T.R.U.T.H. Project, which uses artistic expression to bring awareness about HIV/AIDS to African American MSM. The T.R.U.T.H. Project also addresses factors directly related to the rise of HIV/AIDS such as stigma, bullying and discrimination, while promoting the importance of HIV testing.

8. Evaluation:

As a method to evaluate the effectiveness of the CHW, monthly reports will be completed by the CHW to track his/her performance and ability to reach the following objectives:

- Conduct 10 outreach activities to promote prevention services and recruit participants for HIV testing
- Conduct 75 rapid HIV tests on individuals at high risk for HIV infection
- Provide confirmatory testing and linkage to care services to 100% of individuals testing preliminary positive for HIV

9. **Foundation Partnership:**

If awarded funding from The LTR Lewis Cloverdale Foundation, AFH will send out a press release to the media, post the press release on its website, and include Cloverdale Foundation in its annual report.

10. **Community Partnerships:**

- First Responders & T.E.X.T. M.S.G. – Lord of the Streets, Houston Food Bank, AAMA, Houston Area Women’s Center, Houston GLBT Community Center, Catholic Charities, Coalition for the Homeless, The Work Faith Connection, Planned Parenthood, Family Services of Greater Houston, Covenant House, and many other nonprofits.
- Housing programs – Bering Omega, Depression & Bipolar Alliance, Goodwill, Neighborhood Centers, Houston Food Bank, Montrose Center, Houston Lawyer Referral Agency, Houston Area Urban League, Houston Center for Independent Living, and more.
- Wall Talk/Somebody Cares – Texas Department of Criminal Justice
- HIV Community Outreach & Education – St. Hope Foundation, Legacy Community Health, The Montrose Center, Houston Area Community Services, FLAS, Bee Busy, etc.
- PrEP Campaign – Houston Health Department

11. **Certification:**

As a condition precedent to receiving a grant from The LTR Lewis Cloverdale Foundation, Inc., recipient, by filing a request, does hereby agree to provide a complete accounting of the use of the funds it receives from the Foundation. Depending upon the nature of the grant and the period it covers, the organization will be required to provide periodic updates on its use of the funds and such verification as the Foundation deems appropriate including at a minimum the Grant Report Guidelines.

I certify that the information contained in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that significant discrepancies may result in the dismissal of this application.

Authorized signature: _____

Typed or Printed Name: Melody Patelis

Title: Chief Development Officer Date: 11-22-16

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Organizational Operating Budget and Income Statement

See attached PDF document titled: Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Operating Budget as of 9.30.16

Proposed project budget and income statement

Project is currently funded. Please see attached PDF document titled: Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Operating Budget as of 9.30.16

Organizational Current Balance Sheet

See attached PDF document titled: Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Operating Budget as of 9.30.16

IRS Form 990

See attached PDF document titled AIDS Foundation Houston 990 or click here:

[https://static.donordrive.com/assets/aidsfoundationhouston/files/\\$cms\\$/100/2283.pdf](https://static.donordrive.com/assets/aidsfoundationhouston/files/cms/100/2283.pdf)

IRS Determination Letter

See attached PDF document titled AFH IRS 501c3 determination letter.