



September 20, 2016

The LTR Lewis Cloverdale Foundation, Inc.
Mr. Terrance Baggott
820 Richmond Ave.
Houston, Texas 77006

Dear Mr. Baggot,

On behalf of the entire AIDS Foundation Houston (AFH) staff, we would like to thank the LTR Lewis Cloverdale Foundation for its invaluable partnership over the past grant year. Your \$10,000 gift to support AFH's T.E.X.T M.S.G. (Teaching Empowerment to eXit Transitional Housing by Managing Secure Goals) program has helped provide safe housing and a stable environment for HIV+ youth, thereby limiting conditions that perpetuate the spread of HIV within our community. We are excited to share the last year's outcomes regarding this important program in a final report detailed below.

T.E.X.T.M.S.G. was developed to assist young adults living with HIV—helping them reach residential stability and establish and maintain self-sufficiency—to prevent these young adults from falling prey to the dual effects of HIV and socioeconomic disadvantage. Nearly all of T.E.X.T. M.S.G.'s residents identify themselves as LGBT (91%), and well over half of T.E.X.T. M.S.G.'s total population (85%) come directly from the street or other locations not meant for human habitation; the remaining 15% come directly from emergency shelters. LGBT youth are among the population of those at greater risk for contracting HIV and make up nearly 75% of all new HIV infections, as stated by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). An important contributing factor to this increased risk is the fact youth who are unable or unwilling to disclose their sexual orientation may withdraw from important sources of HIV/STI prevention education and social support. Since 2009, T.E.X.T M.S.G. has helped HIV positive youth constructively manage a chronic life threatening disease, while providing the support and resources to improve their skills, bolster their income, and transition into independent living.

Current T.E.X.T. M.S.G. client demographics are as follows:

Category	#	%
Ethnicity		
Hispanic/Latino	3	12%
Black/African American	19	76%
Caucasian	3	12%
Gender		
Female	1	4%
Male	20	80%
Unspecified	4	16%

As Houston's first permanent housing program geared to the particular needs of HIV positive young adults between the ages of 18 and 24, T.E.X.T. M.S.G. is based on the Housing First model, which centers on

rapidly housing individuals who are homeless and then, providing supportive services. Intensive case management is a cornerstone of all AFH's housing programs like T.E.X.T M.S.G., which allows AFH staff to customize support to each client's individual needs. For example, case management sessions revealed that the majority of T.E.X.T M.S.G. residents were unable to prepare healthy meals, so the program partnered with the Houston Food Bank to offer cooking classes for preparing healthy meals. To help residents cope with emotions and manage stress, program staff offered monthly therapy sessions to help them work through personal issues posing barriers to successful interpersonal relationships. For motivation and career coaching, AFH has partnered: with MEN, Inc. to provide mentors and assist with linkage to career opportunities; with Kingdom Works to teach resume writing and interviewing techniques; and with DARS and SER Jobs for Progress for potential job placement. All residents are encouraged to pursue employment, education, and volunteering opportunities, and as a result, there are currently eleven clients employed and five clients attending school. In addition to these services, your gift has underwritten other support including: life skills training, educational expenses, client starter kits (including basic household goods like bedding, cookware, towels, cleaning supplies, toiletries, and laundry money), and emergency food vouchers.

Grant Expenditures:

CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Transportation	\$2,592.98
Personal Development: Client registration for Positive Living 19 conference to help with strategies to coping with HIV diagnosis	\$1,700.00
Education: Hardship financial support for school tuition and purchasing textbooks, as well as the purchase of workbooks and training materials for life skills classes in anger management, GED preparation and sobriety	\$709.04
Client kits: For household goods, personal hygiene items	\$1,500.00
Emergency Food vouchers/Groceries	\$3,497.98
TOTAL	\$10,000.00

While T.E.X.T. M.S.G. is able to service up to 30 homeless youth who are living with HIV/AIDS, the program is currently serving 25 clients. The reason for five open beds is twofold: challenges with client identification and intake, as well as the recent relocation of the program.

To ensure the program is in compliance with HUD requirements, all referrals must be assessed and referred through Coalition for the Homeless Coordinated Access system. This system presents challenges in locating homeless young adults who are most likely couch surfing at the homes of friends instead of seeking suitable housing. Additionally, they often do not initially qualify for placement because they do not meet the criteria needed to be categorized as chronically homeless. For example: according to the current definition of chronically homeless, spending one night on a friend's couch means they are no longer considered chronically homeless and cannot be placed through the Coordinated Access system. To better meet the needs of homeless HIV positive youth in Houston, AFH became an access point for the Coordinated Access system in 2016. This allows AFH staff to directly place homeless clients in housing, thereby allowing AFH to place homeless youth with HIV/AIDS more quickly as well as advocating for certain populations' unique circumstances.

In January 2016, the T.E.X.T. M.S.G. program relocated due to changes in our primary funder's guidelines. The program which consists of a mixture of leasing and rental assistance with clustered participants residing under a master lease and scattered site participants having leases under the participant's name.

Per the new funding guidelines, this mixed configuration will no longer be allowed after 2015 and all units must be under one master lease. To be compliant with the funder's guideline by the end-of-year 2015 deadline, the program has secured a location that is compliant with the current HUD regulations.

The new location offers the following;

1. The sufficient number of units to house the one and two bedroom units for program participants
2. The units offered are all bills paid and AFH would have no responsibility for the cost of utilities for the units.
3. All units are reasonably priced and below HUD's Fair Market Rent.
4. Location is in a viable upcoming neighborhood that is close to public transportation, employment opportunities, Houston Community College and airport.

While AFH temporarily slowed active outreach activities in an effort to make the move as seamless as possible for the existing clients, T.E.X.T. M.S.G. staff implemented intensive outreach efforts at local hospitals, clinics, homeless shelters, and clubs and through community organizations serving this target age group. With these efforts, AFH has enrolled fifteen new clients in the last six months. The goal for the remainder of 2016 is to fill any remaining five vacancies, increasing the enrollment to the full 30 clients, with the new outreach initiatives and Coordinate Access system.

Success Story:

A T.E.X.T. M.S.G. resident recently transitioned to independent living in August after securing employment as a Program Director for the San Diego Symphony. He will be relocating to California, and starting his new job (with a salary exceeding \$50,000) soon. In his words:

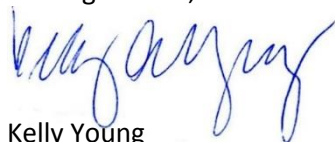
I appreciate all the help you have given me, and promise that as soon as I am able, I will pay your kindness forward.

This is only one small example of how your gift has impacted an individual coping with HIV and how it will continue to have an impact in the future.

Again, we are incredibly appreciative of the LTR Lewis Cloverdale Foundation's support of our T.E.X.T M.S.G. program and hope we will be able to continue our partnership to provide safe havens for LGBT HIV-positive young adults. Your \$10,000 gift provides these young adults with a safe and supportive home environment to empower them as they learn to manage life with HIV.

If after reviewing this report you require any additional information, please contact me at (713) 623-6796, extension 322 or electronically at PatelisM@AFHouston.org. On behalf of the individuals, families and communities infected and affected by HIV/AIDS that we are proud to serve, thank you for your support.

Getting to Zero,



Kelly Young
Chief Executive Officer
AIDS Foundation Houston