

Palm Beach County Ending the HIV Epidemic

Healthcare + Housing Opportunities (H2O)

Dr. Andres Correa
Casework Supervisor

Chloe Bagley
H2O Case Manager

Tess Clemones
H2O Case Manager



Amber Goodwin
H2O Case Manager

Rosa Fortunato
Registration Clerk

June 13, 2024

Program Description

Healthcare + Housing Opportunities (H2O) provides clients with access to a range of services intended to maximize access and adherence to comprehensive health care in coordination with stable, permanent housing for priority populations of people with HIV. This program does not provide standalone housing assistance to clients, rather it provides opportunities that support upward economic mobility leading to self-sufficiency through increased engagement in health care and support services to obtain and maintain stable, permanent housing.



Program Guidance

Healthcare + Housing Opportunities (H2O) services may include:

- H2O Case Management (including comprehensive assessment and collaborative goal-setting, financial planning/literacy, employment counseling, housing resource identification, referrals for health care and support services, etc.)
- Transitional housing assistance
- Relocation assistance
- Budget-deficit rent/utility assistance
- Transportation assistance
- Employment counseling
- Vocational rehabilitation
- GED/ESL classes
- Tele-Adherence Counseling



H2O Criteria & Required Documentation

1. Client is currently **experiencing homelessness OR Severely cost-burdened** (defined as spending more than 50% of earned income on housing costs (mortgage/rent/utilities); **AND**
2. Client ability and willingness to adhere to HIV treatment plans to achieve and maintain viral suppression; **AND**
3. Client ability and willingness to achieve self-sufficiency to obtain and maintain stable, permanent housing



H2O Caps/Limitations

- One-time enrollment
- Transitional housing limited to 14 days, with potential re-authorization contingent on achieving progress with H2O service goals/objectives
- Rental assistance limited to 12 months with a maximum amount equal to the annual severely cost-burdened budget-deficit amount (defined as the difference between 50% of client's earned income minus actual rental cost OR Rent Reasonableness if no current lease exists)
- Utility Assistance limited to 100% for months in which rental assistance is provided
- Transportation Assistance limited to trips necessary to achieve H2O service goals/objectives
- Relocation Assistance limited to 3 x monthly rent
- H2O Case Management will not be limited



H2O Definitions & Typology

Definitions

- Severely Cost-Burdened - Greater than 50% of earned income expended on rent
- Rent Reasonableness - 120% Fair Market Rent
- Homelessness - Sleeping in settings not designated for shelter including cars, parks, encampments, bus stops, abandoned buildings, streets, sidewalks, and other public spaces.

Typology

- Income, Lease
- No Income, Lease
- Income, No Lease
- No Income, No Lease

	Income	No Income
Lease	IL	NIL
No Lease	INL	NINL

H2O Referrals

Referrals should be sent in Provide Enterprise (PE)

- H2O Questions must be answered, and all 3 criteria must be met in order to send a referral
- EHE Enrollment is not required prior to referral for H2O

Referral	
Referral Status	* Open
Referring Person	* Andres Correa
Referral Date	* 06/12/2024
Eligibility Date Expire	02/12/2025
Referred Type	* Internal
Referred To	* Palm Beach County
Referred for Service Type	* EHE Healthcare & Housing Opportunities (H2O)
H2O Questions	
Is client currently experiencing homelessness OR currently severely cost-burdened (spending more than 50% of income on rent)?	Yes
Does client have the ability and willingness to adhere to HIV treatment plans to achieve and maintain viral suppression?	Yes
Does client have the ability and willingness to achieve self-sufficiency to obtain and maintain stable, permanent housing?	Yes
Referred To Assignee	Rosa Fortunato
Referred for Service Description	* Client currently has a lease, but hours have been reduced at work and is now spending more than 50% of income on rent each month.
Date Check Back	* 07/12/2024

H2O Service Documentation

All H2O Service Documentation will be completed by H2O Case Managers

- Screening Assessment
- Coordinated Services Network (CSN) (In PE)
- Consent To Release Information
- Participation Agreement
- Transitional Housing Client Responsibilities (If Applicable)
- Housing Assessment
- Financial Assessment
- Mental Health And Substance Abuse Screening (In PE)
- Self-sufficiency Matrix
- H2O Care Plan (In PE)
- Monthly Budget Planner
- Savings Plan
- Viral Suppression Log
- A Week of Meaningful Activities
- New Property Checklist
- Self-Sufficiency Estimator
- Rental Assistance Plan

Severely Cost-Burdened Budget Deficit

Example 1: Client has income with active lease (IL)

Household Size: 1

Current Monthly Gross Income: \$2,510

FPL: 200%

Zip-Code: 33404

Rent: \$1,580

Cost Burden (%): 63%

Rent / Monthly Gross Income

$$1580 / 2510 = 62.95\%$$

Budget-Deficit Gap: \$325

Rent – (Monthly Gross Income x 50%)

$$1580 - (2510 \times 50\%) = 325$$

Maximum Rental Assistance: \$3,900

Budget-Deficit Gap x 12 months

$$325 \times 12 = 3900$$

Self-Sufficiency Monthly Gross Income Goal: >\$3,160

Rent x 2

$$1580 \times 2 = 3160$$

Severely Cost-Burdened Budget Deficit

Example 2: Client has income, no active lease (INL)

Household Size: 1

Current Monthly Gross Income: \$2,510

FPL: 200%

Zip-Code: 33404

120% FMR: \$1,668

Cost Burden (%): 66% 120% FMR / Monthly Gross Income $1668 / 2510 = 66.45\%$

Budget-Deficit Gap: \$413 120% FMR - (Monthly Gross Income x 50%) $1668 - (2510 \times 50\%) = 413$

Maximum Rental Assistance: \$4,956 Budget-Deficit Gap x 12 months $413 \times 12 = 4956$

Self-Sufficiency Monthly Gross Income Goal: >\$3,336 120% FMR x 2 $1668 \times 2 = 3336$

Severely Cost-Burdened Budget Deficit

Example 3: Client has no income with active lease (NIL)

Household Size: 1

100% FPL: \$1,255

FPL: 100%

Zip-Code: 33404

Rent: \$1,580

Cost Burden (%): 126% Rent / 100% FPL $1580 / 1255 = 125.90\%$

Budget-Deficit Gap: \$953 Rent - (100% FPL x 50%) $1580 - (1255 \times 50\%) = 952.50$

Maximum Rental Assistance: \$11,436 Budget-Deficit Gap x 12 months $953 \times 12 = 11436$

Self-Sufficiency Monthly Gross Income Goal: >\$3,160 Rent x 2 $1580 \times 2 = 3160$

Severely Cost-Burdened Budget Deficit

Example 4: Client has no income, no active lease (NINL)

Household Size: 1

100% FPL: \$1,255

FPL: 100%

Zip-Code: 33404

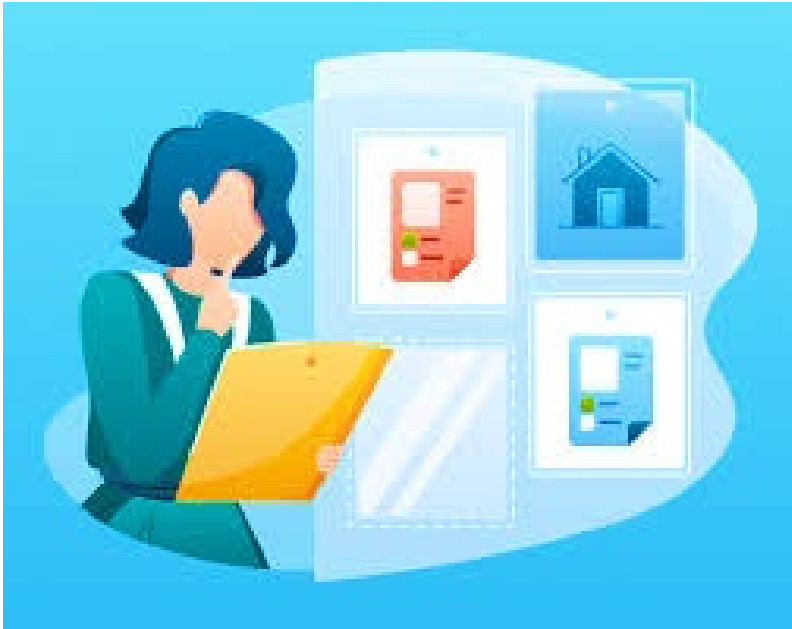
120% FMR: \$1,668

Cost Burden (%): 133% 120% FMR / 100% FPL $1668 / 1255 = 132.91\%$

Budget-Deficit Gap: \$1,041 120% FMR - (100% FPL x 50%) $1668 - (1255 \times 50\%) = 1040.50$

Maximum Rental Assistance: \$12,492 Budget-Deficit Gap x 12 months $1041 \times 12 = 12492$

Self-Sufficiency Monthly Gross Income Goal: >\$3,336 120% FMR x 2 $1668 \times 2 = 3336$



Candidates for H2O

Scenario Discussions

Scenario 1

My client only needs emergency rental or utility assistance. Should I refer them to H2O?



Scenario 1

My client only needs emergency rental or utility assistance. Should I refer them to H2O?

No. H2O does not provide standalone emergency rental or utility assistance. H2O provides opportunities that support upward economic mobility leading to self-sufficiency. Budget-deficit rent/utility assistance may be provided once enrolled, but only as a component of a client's self-sufficiency plan.



Scenario 2



My client is homeless. Will they be suitable for the program?

Scenario 2



My client is homeless. Will they be suitable for the program?

Yes. All client housing situations are welcome. Temporary transitional housing may be provided for persons experiencing homelessness, however, the client must make progress toward their H2O service goals/objectives to be retained in the program.

Scenario 3

I have a client whose monthly rent is \$2135 and their monthly income is \$4610. Are they suitable for the program?



Scenario 3

I have a client whose monthly rent is \$2135 and their monthly income is \$4610. Are they suitable for the program?

Not at this time. Client expends 46% of earned income on rent. H2O criteria is severely cost-burdened, defined as greater than 50% of earned income expended on rent. Client may be eligible for other standalone housing or vocational training programs.



Scenario 4



My client does not have a high school diploma or GED. Are they suitable for the program?

Scenario 4



My client does not have a high school diploma or GED. Are they suitable for the program?

Yes. H2O can support the client in completing their GED and/or vocational rehabilitation courses to support upward economic mobility leading to self-sufficiency.

Scenario 5

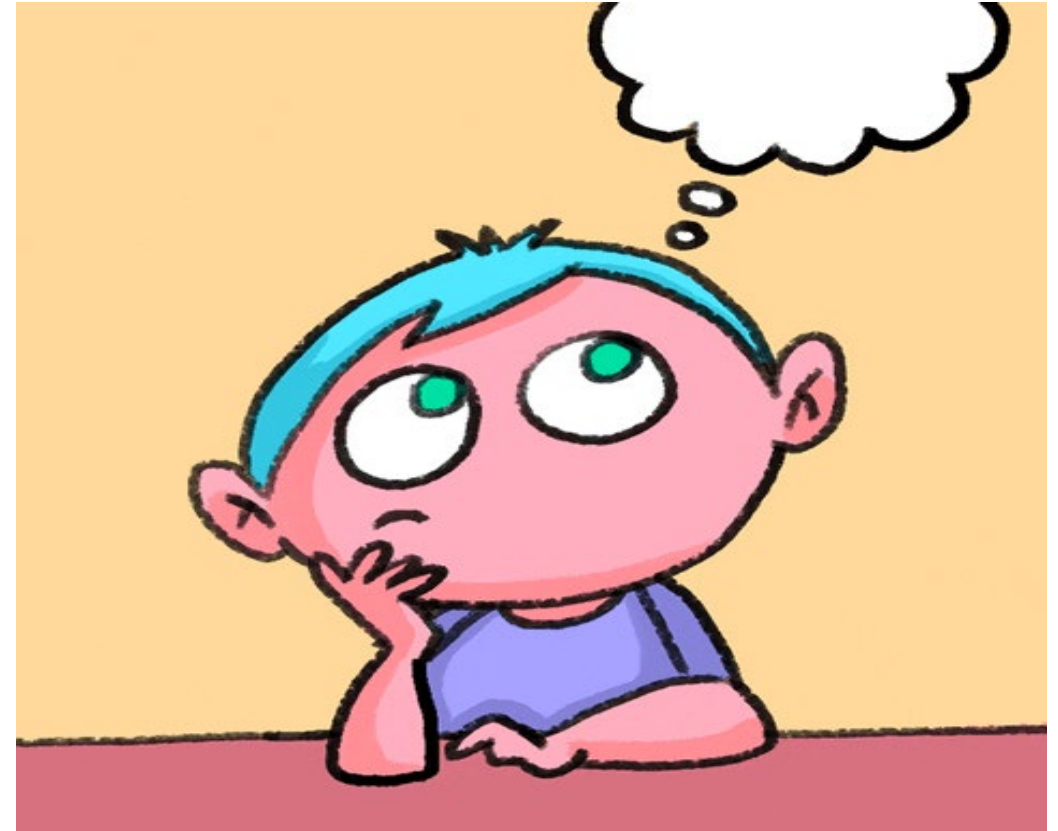
My client does not speak English.
Would they be eligible for H2O?



Scenario 5

My client does not speak English.
Would they be eligible for H2O?

Yes, however, GED & vocational training curricula are provided in English and the client may need to complete English as a Second Language (ESL) courses prior to enrolling in GED and/or Vocational Rehabilitation.



Scenario 6



My client is undocumented, or does not have legal residency status, or does not have a taxpayer identification number (TIN). Would they be eligible for H2O?

Scenario 6

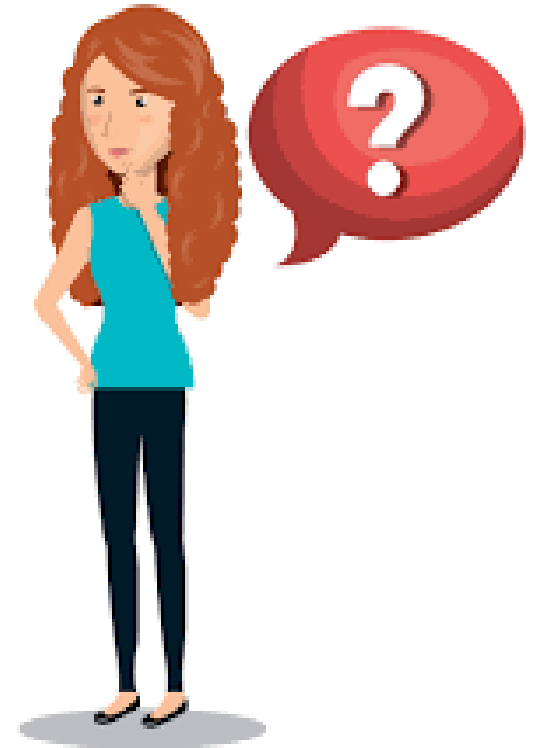


My client is undocumented, or does not have legal residency status, or does not have a taxpayer identification number (TIN). Would they be eligible for H2O?

Yes, however, clients must be aware that they may face multiple barriers in housing, education/ training and employment. Clients must often be able to secure a lease and be gainfully employed to become self-sufficient.

Scenario 7

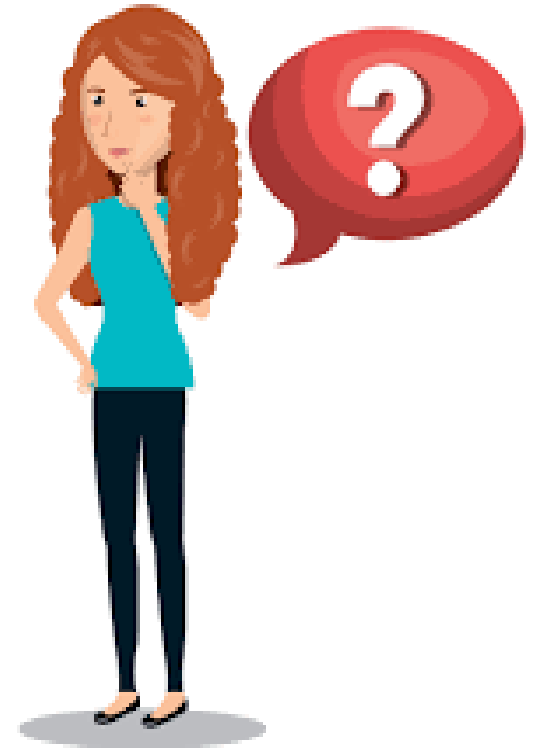
My client is disabled and/or receives fixed-income benefits from the Social Security Administration.
Will they be suitable for H2O?



Scenario 7

My client is disabled and/or receives fixed-income benefits from the Social Security Administration. Will they be suitable for H2O?

Maybe. All H2O clients must be able and willing to achieve self-sufficiency to obtain and maintain stable, permanent housing. If a client is unable or unwilling to increase their income, they will not be able to achieve self-sufficiency. Clients who are receiving SSI/SSDI must be aware that their benefits may be affected by increasing their earned income.



Scenario 8



My client lives with their family/friends/roommate, but wants to live on their own. Would they be eligible for H2O?

Scenario 8



My client lives with their family/friends/roommate, but wants to live on their own. Would they be eligible for H2O?

No. H2O clients must be currently experiencing homelessness OR Severely cost-burdened. The client may be eligible for other programs that provide standalone relocation assistance.

Scenario 9



My client does not have a current or active Ryan White Notice of Eligibility (NOE). Can I send a referral?

Scenario 9



My client does not have a current or active Ryan White Notice of Eligibility (NOE). Can I send a referral?

Yes. H2O is a program funded through EHE, and does not require a client to have a current or active Ryan White NOE to receive services. Client should be a person with HIV (PWH) and registered in Provide Enterprise (PE).

Scenario 10



My client has a viral load of 38,000 and is not newly diagnosed. Will they be eligible for the program?

Scenario 10



My client has a viral load of 38,000 and is not newly diagnosed. Will they be eligible for the program?

Yes. H2O focuses on both housing and healthcare. The client must be able and willing to adhere to HIV treatment plans to achieve and maintain viral suppression. Client can also receive EHE Tele-Adherence Counseling (TAC) to achieve and maintain viral suppression.

Open Forum Discussion/Q & A

