



GRANT SAMPLE #3

Please provide a description of the specific project/program for which you are requesting funding. (Please describe in 1000 words or less)

Despite the incredible progress of the LGBT civil rights movement in the last ten years, the situation for LGBT-identified youth remains grim. Each year over 300,000 LGBT youth experience at least one night of homelessness in America (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2012). Further, 20%-40% of the homeless youth in America's urban cities identify as LGBT. While family conflict, violence, sexual abuse and poverty are among the causes for homelessness among all youth, LGBT youth have often also experienced wrenching familial and community rejection because of their sexual orientation or gender identification. The lack of a family or community safety net for these youth can easily lead to a lack of educational attainment, economic instability, mental and physical health challenges, and drug/alcohol abuse.

Funds from XXX will be utilized to provide comprehensive case management service at XXX's XXXXXX program, which provides affordable and supportive housing for the city's homeless youth, with a special focus on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and HIV-positive, 18-to 24-year-old youth. The 23-unit development is located in downtown XXX, close to City College, public transportation, community health facilities and other essential resources. The facility is wheelchair accessible and contains two units that have been retrofitted to accommodate persons with physical disabilities.

To be eligible for residency at XXX, youth must be between the ages of 18 and 24, and must be homeless or at risk of imminent homelessness. They must have a diagnosed disability, including a qualifying physical or mental health diagnosis, and must also meet income guidelines that designate them as very low or extremely low income.

XXX residents continue to cite their sexual orientation and/or gender identity as one of the primary causes of their becoming homeless. The majority of our residents have highly unstable family histories, including parental relationship instability, economic instability, physical, emotional and/or sexual abuse, untreated or unmanaged mental illness in a parent or caregiver, and substance abuse in at least one parent or caregiver. Over two-thirds of our residents were in foster care or juvenile justice systems prior to turning 18.



One hundred percent of our tenants have had at least one clinically traumatic experience in their lives. Over 95% have a serious mental illness diagnosis, including major depression, post-traumatic stress disorder and anxiety disorders. Over half of our residents have a history of substance use and/or dependence. Half of our male residents are infected with HIV.

Demographically, our residents are primarily young men of color. In terms of gender, males comprise 62% of our clients, females 19% and transgender youth 19%. In terms of ethnicity, African-American youth comprise 38%, Latino/a youth 31%, and Caucasian youth 31%.
