families. Approximately \$103 million, or 3,000 rental vouchers, will be setaside for persons with HIV/AIDS and their families who are homeless or who are at risk of homelessness. Approximately \$411 million, or approximately 12,000 rental vouchers and certificates, will be made available to provide rental assistance to homeless families living in transitional housing or emergency shelters. Section 8 budget authority for each of these subprograms is allocated by formula as described in this section and in section VIII of this NOFA.

The Department recognizes that the HIV/AIDS epidemic has had a widespread and perverse impact on the ability of communities to provide the appropriate housing and care for their residents who are living with HIV/AIDS. The findings of the National Commission on AIDS in Housing and the HIV/AIDS Epidemic (issued in June 1992) state that there is "frequently desperate need for safe shelter that provides not only protection and comfort, but also a base in which and from which to receive services, care and support." Since 1992, the Department has provided assistance to communities to address these needs under the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program. The HOPWA program supports community planning and coordination of public and private efforts and supports programs that provide housing and supportive services for low-income persons living with HIV/ AIDS and their families. This set-aside of rental vouchers is intended to complement the community efforts already underway by providing permanent housing resources and ensuring coordination of housing and health-care programs with HAs, governmental agencies and communitybased organizations.

The set-aside of rental vouchers for persons with HIV/AIDS and their families is an initiative of the Department that will help communities establish a continuum of care for this population by creating additional permanent housing options. This initiative combines rental voucher assistance to selected HAs in conjunction with State and local governments that have been implementing planning efforts and programs that provide housing and services for persons with HIV/AIDS under the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDŠ (HÔPWA) program.

This notice stipulates the roles of the HA, the HOPWA grantee and community-based organizations which provide assistance to persons with HIV/ AIDS and their families. These

community planning and program efforts generally involve experienced non-profit housing and service providers engaged in connecting housing assistance for persons with HIV/AIDS to appropriate case management, comprehensive health services and other supportive services for clients. Community-based organizations will undertake outreach efforts to identify eligible people with HIV/AIDS in need of permanent housing. The assistance will be given on a priority basis to persons with HIV/ AIDS who are homeless and on a lower priority basis to persons with HIV/AIDS who are at risk of homelessness. Community-based organizations will also assist these clients in finding and securing permanent housing and provide or assist clients in accessing appropriate supportive services.

The Department expects that HOPWA grantees and HAs will be able to initiate their programs within 120 days after approval of their application. To expedite the administration of this program, the area's HOPWA formula grantee should consider how HOPWA funds might be used in support of this set-aside of rental vouchers, including technical assistance and resource identification activities to assist in the delivery of this housing resource.

(2) Guidelines

Under this initiative HAs will provide Section 8 rental vouchers to persons with HIV/AIDS in conjunction with program planning and comprehensive supportive services from other sources which are coordinated by the HOPWA grantee. The initiative will be implemented at the local level through partnerships of grantees of the HOPWA program, HAs and community-based organizations. The roles and responsibilities of each participating entity are detailed in this notice. The application must be submitted jointly by an area's HOPWA grantee and one or more eligible HAs that the HOPWA grantee designates and that agree to administer the rental vouchers for use in conjunction with services provided by community-based organizations. The application must designate the number of rental vouchers for the area or subarea to be administered by each HA. HAs identified by HUD with certain civil rights or major program violations are ineligible to apply.

Rental vouchers under this subprogram will be administered in conjunction with existing community planning processes for housing assistance and supportive services for persons with HIV/AIDS. This connection will provide greater program efficiencies, reduce the need for additional planning mechanisms, ensure coordination of the program with other current related efforts and help ensure an appropriate response to the person's or family's individual housing and related service needs. The HOPWA grantee must ensure that the supportive service component will be made available for the term of the Section 8 funding.

(a) Definitions.

The definition of family for the purposes of this set-aside is a definition similar to that established for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program at 24 CFR 574.3.

"Family" means a household composed of two or more related persons. The term family also includes one or more eligible persons living with another person or persons who are determined to be important to their care or well being, and the surviving member or members of any family described in this definition who were living in a unit assisted under this program with the person with AIDS at the time of his or her death.

While the Department expects that most families who apply for this setaside will be single persons, the families of eligible persons may also be assisted. This NOFA uses the term "person" frequently, although the eligible population for this set-aside, as with the regular rental assistance programs, includes the family of any person selected to participate in the set-aside.

selected to participate in the set-aside. (b) HOPWA Grantee Responsibilities. The grantee for the 1995 HOPWA formula allocation, or its designated representative, will have responsibilities that include:

(i) planning for the use of this setaside in coordination with HAs and existing HIV/AIDS housing and services programs and providers in the entitlement area, including participation by persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families;

(ii) establishing participation agreements with HAs to implement this initiative; if more than one HA in an area will be participating, deciding how to suballocate available funding for the service area between or among the participating HAs;

(iii) establishing participation agreements with community-based organizations as service providers to implement this initiative; these agreements can be used to implement a plan for the provision of supportive services, including outreach to identify eligible persons and assistance in locating and securing suitable housing, ongoing case management, health-care