

City of New Haven  
Office of Management and Budget  
Attn: Public Comment  
165 Church Street  
New Haven, CT 06510

My name is Ana Rodriguez and I live in 46 Parker ave N apt 46-A Meriden ct 06450 I receive rental assistance through Independence Northwest's Housing Opportunities Program. I am writing in strong opposition to the City of New Haven's proposed 50% cut to Independence Northwest's rental assistance program. The stated reason for the cut is to keep more funds in New Haven. They are currently retaining 76% of HOPWA funding. If this cut is approved, an estimated 20 people in the Waterbury area won't be able to afford their current monthly rent.

This cut will harm me because: Me afecta por la sencilla Razon de que soy una Persona Impedida de por vida, el cual tengo el Lado Izquierdo de mi cuerpo Paralizado, por lo que no puedo trabajar y sufro de espasticidad en el Lado Izquierdo. Ademas tengo otra condicion soy Paciente HIV Positivo. y esta ayuda que se me Brinda es de gran ayuda Pues soy una persona que vive sola y mi Unico ingreso es el SSI apenas me da para mis cosas Personales por que Las cosas estan muy caras.

The City of New Haven receives the federal HOPWA funding for housing services on behalf of the **entire** county, which includes the Waterbury area. The harm this cut will cause is made worse since I have had less than 90 days to figure out how or where I am going to live. I urge you to restore \$210,000.00 in funding to Independence Northwest's Housing Opportunities Program so I'm not homeless.

Your Name & Date Ana Rodriguez  
4/29/24

City of New Haven  
Office of Management and Budget  
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165 Church Street  
New Haven, CT 06510

My name is ANTHONY PAGE and I live in NEW HAVEN. I receive rental assistance through Independence Northwest's Housing Opportunities Program. I am writing in strong opposition to the City of New Haven's proposed 50% cut to Independence Northwest's rental assistance program. The stated reason for the cut is to keep more funds in New Haven. They are currently retaining 76% of HOPWA funding. If this cut is approved, an estimated 20 people in the Waterbury area won't be able to afford their current monthly rent.

This cut will harm me because:

I AM Enduring many medical issues. Losing housing would force me & my emotional support dog to be homeless. I have no family here & on Social Security disability. My few friends would have no room for me. I can barely survive/live between medication cost, food, utilities. Housing/rental assistance is a big help.

The City of New Haven receives the federal HOPWA funding for housing services on behalf of the **entire** county, which includes the Waterbury area. The harm this cut will cause is made worse since I have had less than 90 days to figure out how or where I am going to live. I urge you to restore \$210,000.00 in funding to Independence Northwest's Housing Opportunities Program so I'm not homeless.

Your Name & Date

Anthony Page 4/28/24

City of New Haven  
Office of Management and Budget  
Attn: Public Comment  
165 Church Street  
New Haven, CT 06510

My name is Jose M Lugo and I live in Waterbury. I receive rental assistance through Independence Northwest's Housing Opportunities Program. I am writing in strong opposition to the City of New Haven's proposed 50% cut to Independence Northwest's rental assistance program. The stated reason for the cut is to keep more funds in New Haven. They are currently retaining 76% of HOPWA funding. If this cut is approved, an estimated 20 people in the Waterbury area won't be able to afford their current monthly rent.

This cut will harm me because:  
I'm on Social Security and my benefits are 1,340.00 a month. I will have to use 90% of my income just to pay rent. So I won't have enough to pay the rest of my bills, light, phone, food and my out of pocket cost of my medication. Please reconsider the proposed cut of 50% to the Independence Northwest Housing Opportunities Program. I'm a veteran I served this country and proud of it. Don't let me be another homeless veteran. We have to many of them. I will appreciate your help in this matter. Thank you  
*Jose M Lugo*

The City of New Haven receives the federal HOPWA funding for housing services on behalf of the **entire** county, which includes the Waterbury area. The harm this cut will cause is made worse since I have had less than 90 days to figure out how or where I am going to live. I urge you to restore \$210,000.00 in funding to Independence Northwest's Housing Opportunities Program so I'm not homeless.

Your Name & Date  
Jose M Lugo  
04/28/24

City of New Haven

Office of Management and Budget

Attn: Public Comment

165 Church Street

New Haven, CT 06710

My name Carmen Bernardi and I live in Waterbury. I receive rental assistance through Independence Northwest's Housing Opportunities Program. I am writing in strong opposition to the City of New Haven's proposed 50% cut to the Independence Northwest rental assistance program. The stated reason for the cut is to keep more funds in New Haven. They are currently retaining 76% of the HOPWA funding. If this cut is approved an estimated 20 people in the Waterbury area won't be able to afford their current monthly rent.

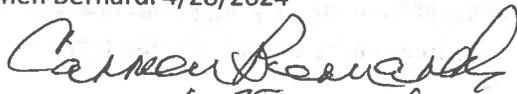
This cut will harm me because I am HIV positive and a Senior Citizen in the City of Waterbury. I live on Social Security Disability. I am barely making ends meet with the assistance that I receive from Independence Northwest, as it is. My landlord increases the rent yearly as most do.

If funding is cut from Independence Northwest and I lose my rental assistance my Social Security Disability check will only cover my rent and ever increasing electric and gas bill. This will leave me little to no money left for other necessities one needs to survive.

This program saved me from being homeless and now I am faced with the fear of living on the streets again. Rents are so high my Social Security Disability check alone can't pay the cost of rents anymore. Never mind the medical, prescriptions, food, transportation, personal hygiene items I need to take care of my condition. Additionally, the added stress is detrimental to my fragile health which is always on my mind.

In Closing, I beg you to reconsider any cuts that affect the HIV population in New Haven County including Waterbury, especially Independence Northwest. Safe Clean Housing is critical to maintaining my health.

Carmen Bernardi 4/28/2024

  
4-28-24