IV. Waiver of Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

The Medicare statute, as discussed previously, requires publication of the monthly actuarial rates and the Part B premium amount in September. The amounts are determined according to the statute. As has been our custom, we use general notices, rather than formal notice and comment rulemaking procedures, to make such announcements. In doing so, we acknowledge that, under the Administrative Procedure Act, interpretive rules, general statements of policy, and rules of agency organization, procedure or practice are excepted from the requirements of notice and comment rulemaking.

We considered publishing a proposed notice to provide a period for public comment. However, we may waive that procedure if we find good cause that prior notice and comment are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest. We find that the procedure for notice and comment is unnecessary because the formula used to calculate the SMI premium is statutorily directed, and we can exercise no discretion in following that formula. Moreover, the statute establishes the time period for which the premium rates will apply and delaying publication of the SMI premium rate would be contrary to the public interest. Therefore, we find good cause to waive publication of a proposed notice and solicitation of public comments.

In accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 12866, this notice was reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget.

(Section 1839 of the Social Security Act; 42 U.S.C. 1395r)

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance)

Dated: September 26, 1996.

Bruce C. Vladeck,

Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration.

Dated: October 2, 1996.

Donna E. Shalala,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96–27290 Filed 10–21–96; 12:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 4120–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–4012–N–03]

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development; Announcement of Funding Awards for Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Program Fiscal Year 1996

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of funding awards.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 102(a)(4)(C) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989, this notice announces the funding decisions made by the Department in a competition for funding under the Fiscal Year 1996 Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program. The notice contains the names of award winners and the amounts of the awards.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Fred Karnas, Jr., Director, Office of HIV/TAIDS Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room 7154, 451 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20410, telephone (202) 708–1934. The TDD number for the hearing impaired is (202) 708–2565. (These are not toll-free numbers). Information on HOPWA, community development and consolidated planning, and other HUD programs may also be obtained from the Community Connections information center at 1–800–998–9999 (voice) or 1–800–483–2209 (TDD); by e-mail at amcom@aspensys.com; or by internet at gopher://amcom.aspensys.com. The HUD Home Page address on the World Wide Web is http://www.hud.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the competition was to award grants for housing assistance and supportive services by three types of projects: (1) Grants for special projects of national significance which, due to their innovative nature or their potential for replication, are likely to serve as effective models in addressing the needs of low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families; (2) grants for Special Projects of National Significance—HIV Multiple-Diagnoses Initiative (MDI) which, due to their innovative nature or their potential for replication, are likely to serve as effective models in addressing the needs of low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families who are also homeless and have chronic alcohol and/or other drug abuse problems and/or serious mental illness; and (3) grants for projects which are part of long-term comprehensive strategies for providing housing and related services for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families in areas that do not receive HOPWA formula allocations.

The HIV Multiple-Diagnoses Initiative is a new feature of the national HOPWA competition and it responds to recommendations expressed during the 1995 White House Conference on HIV and AIDS, to recommendations to HUD by residents and providers of HIV/AIDS housing, and to recommendations and a survey of priority unmet needs of homeless providers and advocates cited in Priority: Home! The Federal Plan to Break the Cycle of Homelessness, issued by the Interagency Council on the Homeless in March, 1994. The HIV Multiple-Diagnoses Initiative is a collaborative effort between HUD and the Department of Health and Human Services to establish, evaluate and disseminate information on model programs to provide the integration of health care and other supportive services with housing assistance for eligible persons. The initiative targets assistance to homeless persons who often have complex needs and for whom service systems are often least developed.

The announced HOPWA assistance is being offered in conjunction with related assistance being announced under the Special Projects of National Significance component of the Ryan White CARE Act under Department of Health and Human Services notices. HHS will fund an Evaluation Technical Assistance Center which will undertake national and multi-site evaluations of the HHS Special Projects of National Significance, including grants for Housing for Homeless Persons with HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse and/or Mental Illness, and the MDI projects selected under this HUD initiative.

The HOPWA assistance made available in this announcement is authorized by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12901), as amended by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102–550, approved October 28, 1992) and was appropriated by the HUD appropriations act for 1996, the ''Making appropriations for fiscal year 1996 to make a further downpayment toward a balanced budget, and for other purposes'' (Pub. L. 104–134, approved April 26, 1996). The competition was announced in a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) published in the Federal Register on February 28, 1996 (61 FR 7664). Applications were rated and selected for funding on the basis of

selection criteria contained in that Notice.

A total of $17,100,000 was awarded for 19 applications under three categories of assistance: $8,171,233 in 8 grants for Special Projects of National Significance—HIV Multiple-Diagnoses Initiative; $7,893,393 in 9 grants for Special Projects of National Significance; and $1,035,374 in 2 grants for Projects which are part of Long-term Comprehensive Strategies for providing housing and related services in areas that do not receive HOPWA formula allocations. The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance 14.241.

In accordance with section 102(a)(4)(C) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (Pub. L. 101–235, approved December 15, 1989), the Department is publishing the grantees and amounts of the awards as follows:

FY 1996 HOPWA COMPETITIVE GRANTS

Grant recipient	Project location	Award amount
Awards for Projects That are Part of Long Term Comprehensive Strategies		
Pima County Community Services Division	Tucson, Arizona	$538,902
Burlington Housing Authority	Burlington, Vermont	496,472
Total 1996 Long Term Awards	2 Grants	$1,035,374
Awards for Special Projects of National Significance		
Alameda County Planning Department	Oakland/Alameda Co. California	1,093,125
West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation	West Hollywood, California	1,076,200
City of Savannah	Savannah, Georgia	750,000
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	State-wide Maryland	976,800
Santa Fe Community Housing Trust	Sante Fe, New Mexico	1,030,000
The Actors' Fund of America	New York City	750,000
Bailey House, Inc.	New York City and other sites to be selected nation-wide.	717,268
Asociacion de Puertorriquenos en Marcha	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	750,000
Bailey-Boushay House	Seattle, Washington	750,000
Total 1996 SPNS Awards	9 Grants	7,893,393
Awards for Special Projects of National Significance—HIV Multiple-Diagnoses Initiative		
Bernal Heights Housing Corporation	San Francisco, California	845,541
Lutheran Social Services of Northern California	San Francisco, California	1,200,000
Housing Authority of Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz Co., California	750,000
Housing & Services Inc. (of South Florida)	Miami, Florida	1,090,000
Baltimore Department of Housing and Community Development	Baltimore, Maryland	1,200,000
Catholic Community Services	Jersey City, New Jersey	755,692
United Bronx Parents, Inc.	New York City	1,130,000
Houston Regional HIV/AIDS Resource Group, Inc.	Houston, Texas	1,200,000
Total 1996 SPNS Awards	8 Grants	8,171,233

Note: These projects are located in areas that do not qualify for HOPWA formula allocations.
Total for all categories (19 grants) $17,100,000.

Dated: October 16, 1996.

Andrew Cuomo,

Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development.

[FR Doc. 96–27116 Filed 10–22–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210–29–P

[Docket No. FR–4001–N–03]

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing; Announcement of Funding Awards for the Traditional Indian Housing Development Program—Fiscal Year 1996

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of funding awards.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 102(a)(4)(C) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989, this announcement notifies the public of funding decisions made by the Department in a competition for funding under the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Traditional Indian Housing Development Program. This announcement contains the names and addresses of the awardees and the amount of the awards made available by HUD to provide assistance to the Indian Housing Development Program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bruce Knott, Director, Housing and Community Development Division, Office of Native American Programs, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room B–133, 451 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410–7000; telephone (202) 755–0068 (this is not a toll-free number). Hearing- or speech-impaired persons may use the Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDD) by contacting the Federal Information Relay Service at 1–800–877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Indian Housing Development program is authorized by sections 5 and 6, U. S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437c, 1437d), as amended; Section 23 U. S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended by section 554, Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act; section 7(d), Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3535(d).