FY 27 AHSP Application Staff Summary:

Healing Through Harm Reduction: The Heart House – New Start

8	$6,250	$1.00:$5.10	0%	0%
Transitional Housing Beds	AHSP Request Per Bed	Leverage Ratio AHSP $: Other Non-County $	AMI Target	% Admin Cost

Project Description: Healing Through Harm Reduction (dba Heart House Comprehensive Recovery Community) submitted a **New Start** application requesting grant funds in the amount of **$50,000** to open The Heart House, a free, supportive transitional living house for people experiencing homelessness.

AHSP Goal: Support activities that achieve functional zero Homelessness

Summary: Healing Through Harm Reduction's request ($50,000) is intended to support the $240,224 budget for start-up costs of The Heart House. The project will provide transitional housing and supportive service, for up to 2 years for people experiencing homelessness that are seeking recovery but have been discharged from treatment programs or have experienced barriers accessing other transitional housing options.

Healing Through Recovery plans to rent a 4-bedroom house in West Asheville and possibly purchase the property in the future. The applicant estimates serving 30-60 individuals annually who are unable to access other transitional housing options due to lack of income, prior trauma, mental health issues, sex or gender identity discrimination, or who need a more person-centered approach. Services will include support groups, 24/7 peer support staff, connection to medical/mental health services, accountability plans, vocation classes, employment support, housing counseling, and basics like food staples and transportation.

The Heart House will accept self-referral and receive referrals from homeless services providers, treatment facilities, hospitals, and jails. The goal of the project will be to address substance use, mental health and financial barriers to help secure safe, stable, and independent housing. Short-term stays will be a bridge or a safe place to land when folks leave treatment or are kicked out of programs. The goal with long-term stays is that the individual leaves to go into independent housing, with financial independence, mental health/substance use stability, and as a healthy, well-resourced community member.

The applicant is requesting advanced grant payments, indicating the funding structure would be necessary to provide housing and services free of charge to participants. The applicant has also applied for $50,000 from the AHSP Administrative Support Program. Ongoing operations will require additional grants and fundraising. Healing Through Recovery is exploring potential Medicaid billing and contracts with managed care organizations.

Finance Department Assessment of Audits and Financial Position: Healing Through Harm Reduction did not provide enough information to determine financial health.

Recommendation: Community Development Division staff reviewed the project and confirm it adheres to AHSP requirements. It is not clear that the project is ready for implementation. The project appears to be in an early planning phase with location, staffing, and financial sustainability still to be established. Staff recommend the applicant consider applying in a future cycle when the project plan is more complete.

PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET	Y/N
Project Description/Narrative	
Clearly affordable housing focused	Y
Aligns with all components of the application	Y
Aligns with all guidelines of the AHSP program	Y
Aligns with the selected strategic goal	Y
Aims to impact at least one Social Determinate of Health	Y
Designed to Serve Households with AMI	
<80%	N
<50%	N
<30%	Y
Designed to Serve	
Income qualified general populous eligible for the program	N
Individuals who are age 55 or older	Y
Individuals with a disability	Y
Individuals who are hard to house	Y
Individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness	Y
Individuals who are BIPOC	Y
Individuals who are justice involved	Y
Individuals who have vouchers	N
Individuals who have been referred by the Continuum of Care	Y
Individuals who have been affected by Helene	Y
Project Expenses	
Complete	N
Reasonable	N
Project Sources	
Complete	N
Reasonable	N
Includes leveraging additional investment (non-AHSP funds)	N
Project Team	
Relevant experience and qualifications to complete the project	N
Project History	
Indicates success in completing projects in the program category	N
Applicant	
Has timely audits free of qualifications and findings which would adversely indicate ability to manage an AHSP allocation	N
Shows a healthy financial position	N
Is a non-profit applicant	Y