A Regional Response to Ending the HIV Epidemic: A View from the California HIV/AIDS Research Program (CHRP)

Andrew D. Forsyth, Ph.D.
University of California, Office of the President

Los Angeles, California
January 24, 2020
What does CHRP do?

- Established 1983
- 2,000+ research projects on HIV
- ~$300 million for basic, prevention, and treatment
- Unrestricted, designated State funds
- Receives strong support from legislators and advocates
- FY2019 Budget: $8.75M
CHRP Strategic Plan: FY20 and Beyond

**Vision:** Helping to achieve HIV epidemic control in California by 2025

**Mission:** To support principal investigators in California to develop, evaluate, and disseminate innovative research for eliminating new HIV infections; optimizing treatment uptake and outcomes for all persons living with HIV infection; and addressing the comorbidities and social determinants that threaten the health and well-being of persons vulnerable to or living with HIV infection.
Strategic Directions

• Addresses unmet needs for HIV research by prioritizing areas that are **missed by other major funders**.
• Supports **implementation science** designed to generate actionable knowledge that, **when taken to scale**, offers effective and cost-effective approaches for stemming new infections and averting HIV-associated morbidity and mortality.
• Funds research that explains and mitigates **social determinants** associated both with **inequitable access** to prevention and treatment services and **disparate health outcomes**.
• Adopts a **syndemics approach** to health and disease that addresses common HIV-co-morbidities (e.g., Hepatitis C, other STIs, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders).
Ending the HIV Epidemic: A plan for America

**Goal:** Reduce incident HIV infections in the U.S. by 75% within 5 years, 90% within 10 years by focusing on 48 high-burden counties (CA = 8).

**Objectives:**
- **Diagnose** all PLHIV
- **Treat** early and effectively
- **Prevent** new infections with pre-exposure prophylaxis
- **Detect and respond** rapidly to new outbreaks
California: Laying a Foundation for Getting to Zero

New HIV infections
Zero AIDS-related deaths
Stigma/Discrimination

Goals
• Reduce new HIV infections
• Increase access to care and improve health outcomes
• Reduces HIV-related disparities and health inequities
• Achieve a more coordinated statewide response to the HIV epidemic

Strategies
• PrEP utilization
• HIV testing, linkage, retention
• Care quality
• STI/HIV services integration
• Case-management services
• Insurance/benefits coverage
• Services for PWID
• HIV education
• Data quality and use
• Community involvement

Source: CA DPH Office of AIDS, SEP 2016
How Will CHRP Support a Regional Response to Ending the HIV Epidemic in California?
California HIV/AIDS Policy Research Centers (CHPRC)

- **The California HIV/AIDS Policy Center** is a collaboration between UCLA's Center for HIV Identification, Prevention and Treatment Services and AIDS Project Los Angeles, which includes the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center and Charles Drew University as subcontracting partners.

- **The AIDS Policy Research Center** is a collaboration between the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at UCSF and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, which included Project Inform as a subcontracting partner.
CHPRC Rapid Response Briefs 2016-2020

- The Role of the 340B Drug Pricing Program in HIV--Related Services in California [Policy Brief]
- Immigrant Health: Implications for HIV Care in California [Fact Sheet]
- Addressing HIV Prevention Among Transmasculine Californians [Policy Brief]
- HIV and Safer Drug Consumption Programs in California [Policy Brief]
- Examining PrEP Uptake among Medi-Cal Beneficiaries in California: Differences by Age, Gender, Race/Ethnicity and Geographic Region [Brief Report]
- The Affordable Housing Crisis: Impact on People Living with HIV in California [Policy Brief]
- Use of HIV Set-Aside Funding from the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant in California [Policy Brief]
- HIV Criminalization in California: What we know [Policy Brief]
- PrEP Cost Analysis for Covered California Health Plans [Policy Brief | Infographic]
- Addressing PrEP Disparities among Young Gay and Bisexual Men in California [Policy Brief]
A Data-Driven Approach to *Getting to Zero*: Modeling Cost-Effectiveness of HIV Prevention & Treatment Strategies in California

- Launched by CHPRC in 2017, uses **mathematical modeling** to identify **cost-effective** prevention and treatment strategies with the **greatest impact** on the HIV epidemic in **Los Angeles and San Francisco Counties**.
- Extended to **San Diego County**, with plans for other priority counties.
- Reflects a **strong collaboration** among state and local departments of public health, community-based organizations, and universities (USC, UCLA, UCSF), with **meaningful engagement** of communities and other stakeholders.
- Seeks to **inform resource allocation** strategies that optimize a regional response to the HIV syndemics.
- **Results are urgently needed**, expected by AIDS 2020.
“Much of the attention given to the epidemic has focused on national estimates and national needs. **Ultimately, however, the epidemic and its impacts, and the responses to it, are experienced in specific locales, and responses are shaped by the resources, traditions, and leadership of the specific communities.**”


Questions/Comments to: Andrew.Forsyth@ucop.edu