Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Regional Learning Collaborative

Alameda, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, and San Francisco Counties



-- Session 10 -- *EHE Phase 1 Updates: State and County Perspectives* Tuesday, July 20, 2021 CHIPTS 10-11:30 a.m. PST

Session Agenda

- > California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS Updates
 - Kevin Sitter and Allison Hargreaves
- California EHE Phase 1 County Updates
 - California Consortium
 - Alameda Steve Gibson
 - Orange Matilde Gonzalez-Flores
 - Riverside Carol Barrera
 - Sacramento Kyle Lafferty
 - San Bernardino Heather Cockerill and Cynthia Turk
 - San Diego Felipe Ruiz
 - San Francisco Hanna Hjord
 - Los Angeles Saron Selassie
- Panel Discussion/Q&A

Ending the Epidemics Project Updates

EHE Regional Learning Collaborative Meeting July 20, 2021

Kevin Sitter, MSW, MPH Ending the Epidemics Project Manager



Federal Ending the HIV Epidemic in America (PS20-2010)

- Liaison between CDC and the six Phase I Counties
- Primary evaluator, currently customizing EPMP plans for each county
- Building Healthy Online Communities(BHOC)
 - Facilitating funding for the TakeMeHome[®] program
 - Assisting the counties to utilize BHOC effectively within their EtHE Interventions
 - Reporting aggregate BHOC data for the six counties
- Responsible for mid-year and annual reports
- PS20-2010 fiscal management

Speedbumps because of COVID

- COVID documents took precedence, contract process slowed immensely at state and county level
- Diverted staff delayed initiation of activities from posting for positions at the county through developing and issuing RFPs

Other Speedbumps

- Award letter received day before start of grant
- Mobile Van Acquisition
 - CDC stated counties could not purchase vehicles, but the state could
 - State said it could not purchase vehicles, but counties could
 - Solution: *Lease* Vehicles



Ending the Epidemics Strategic Plan

Current plan is the 2016 – 2021 California HIV Surveillance, Prevention and Care Plan

- Data for 2016 2019 will be reported soon
- 12 Objectives, goal to eliminate disparities when identified

HRSA/CDC has issued instructions on creation of a new Integrated Prevention and Care Plan due in December 2022.

 The new guidance recognizes that there are many other plans in effect, and those plans can contribute to fulfilling the requirements of the new 2022 – 2026 Integrated Prevention and Care Plan Ending the Epidemic**s** Strategic Plan

- The Office of AIDS and the STD Control Branch are developing the plan with community representatives from the Ending the Epidemics Coalition and others, and with the facilitation and writing skills of Facente Consulting
- The intersectionality of Racial Health Equity, Social Determinants of Health and HIV, STIs and HCV will drive the plan.
- The plan will use Harm Reduction principals and affirm the needs of people who inject drugs and people who use drugs, with emphasis of ending overdose deaths.



Ending the Epidemic**s** Strategic Plan will be developed in two parts

Year One: Mission, Value, Vision and Goals

- Subject Matter experts providing guidance to the ETES Team
- Community Input through Surveys, key informant interviews, input of the statewide Ending the Epidemics Coalition
- A public comment period to provide input on the draft prior to finalization
- Release in December 2021

Year Two: Objectives directing activities to achieve the goals

- OA and STD Control Branch staff guiding the development of objectives.
- Assuring compliance with HRSA and CDC requirements
- Consistent with the state's federal Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan, Part A plans, county Getting to Zero plans, etc.
- Ongoing community input and review periods

CURRENTLY SEEKING INPUT!!!

- An open-ended 7 question survey is now open
- The survey is in English and Spanish
- EVERYONE is needed to provide input
- <u>The survey will be open</u> <u>until August 31</u>, but the earlier you respond the earlier we can incorporate your thoughts into our planning.

https://www.surveymonkey .com/r/CDPHStratPlan



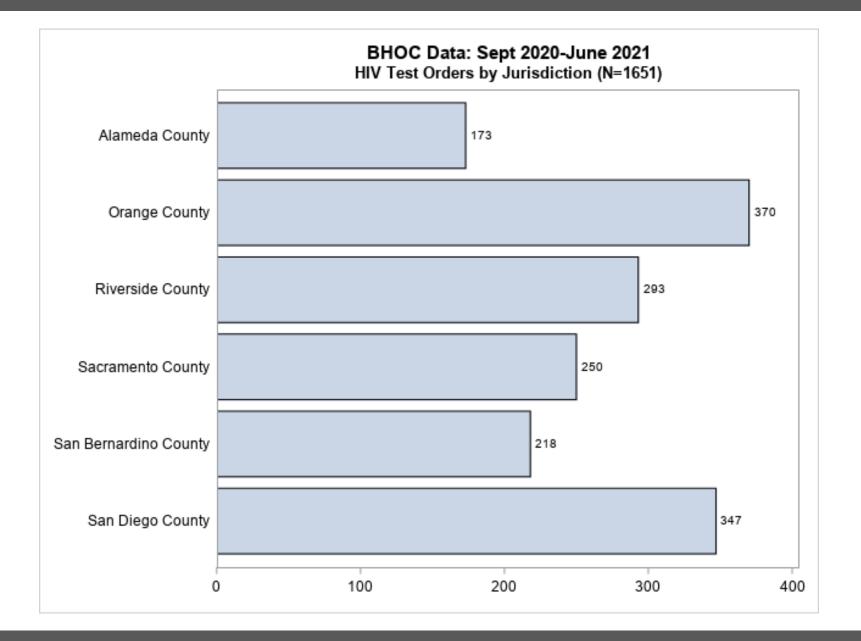


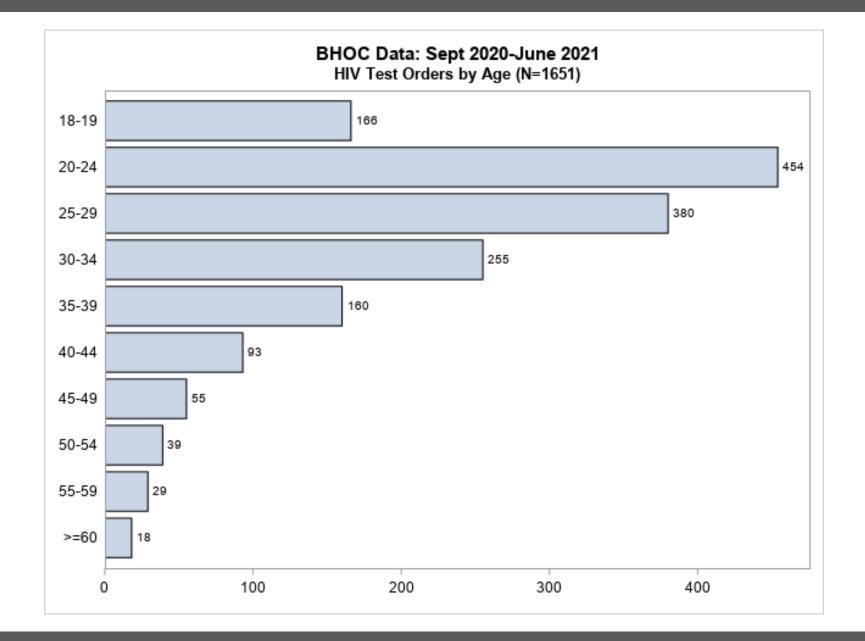
Building Healthy Online Communities (BHOC) TakeMeHomeTM

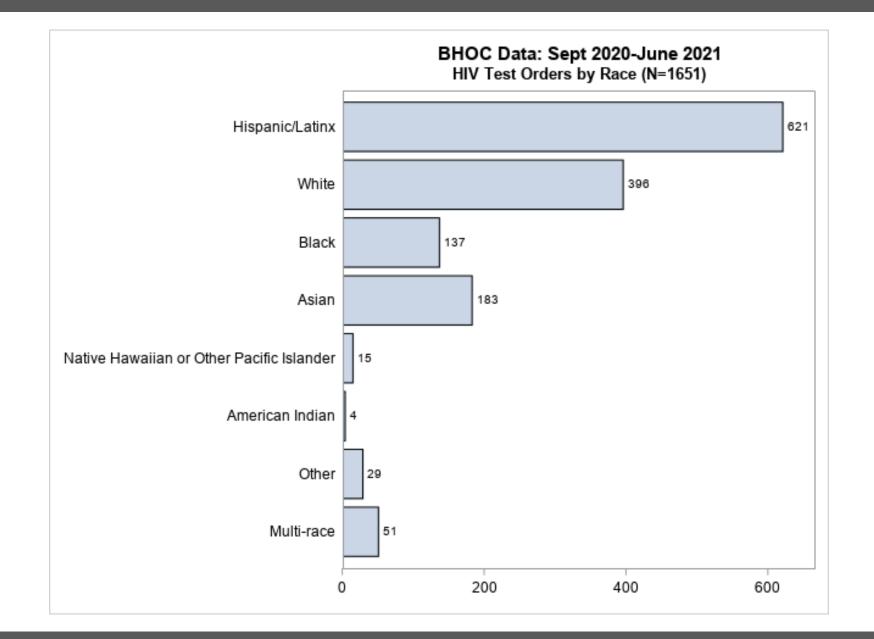
Results for testing occurring between September 2020 and June 2021

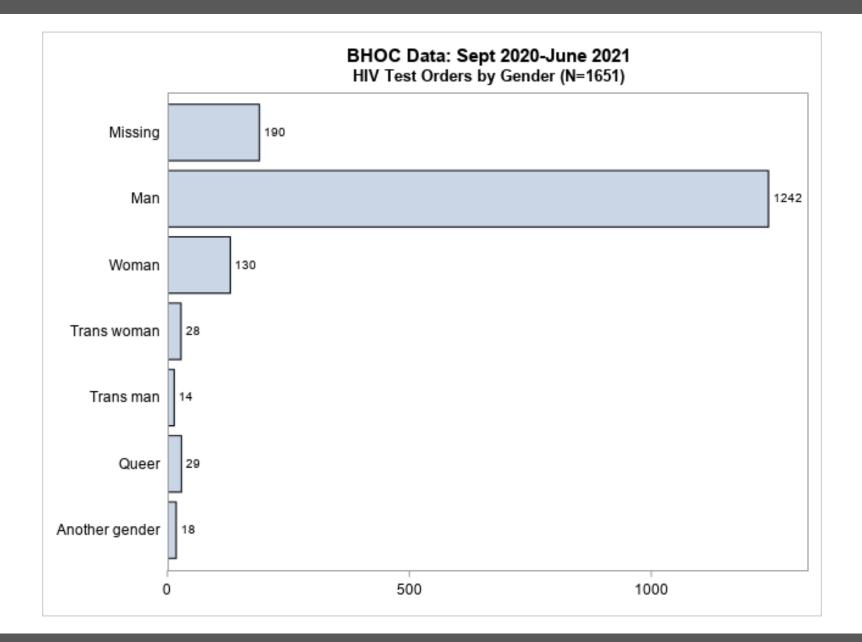
Allison Hargreaves, MPH Research Scientist II Office of AIDS, California Department of Public Health

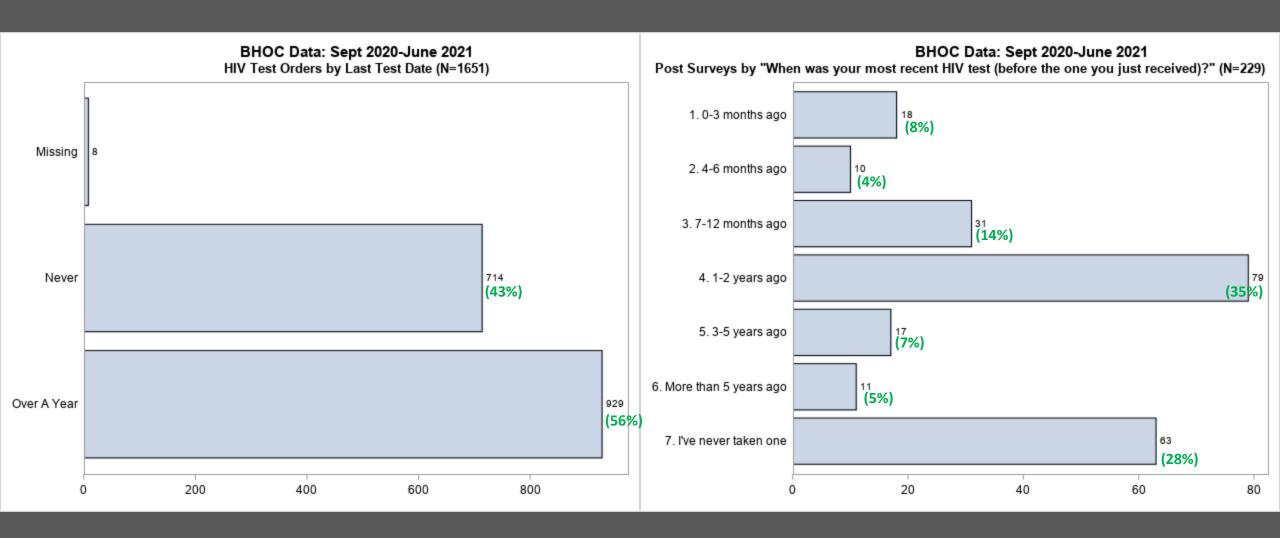


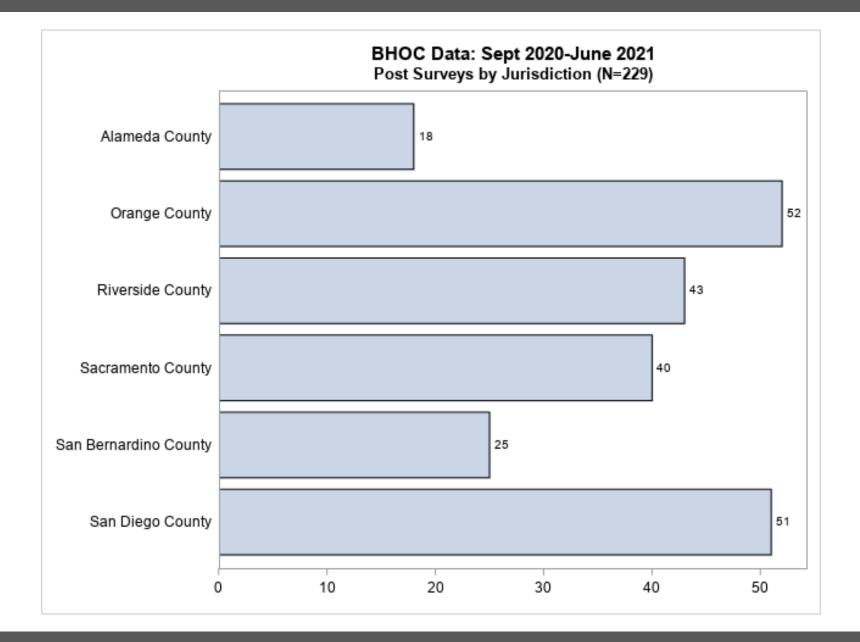


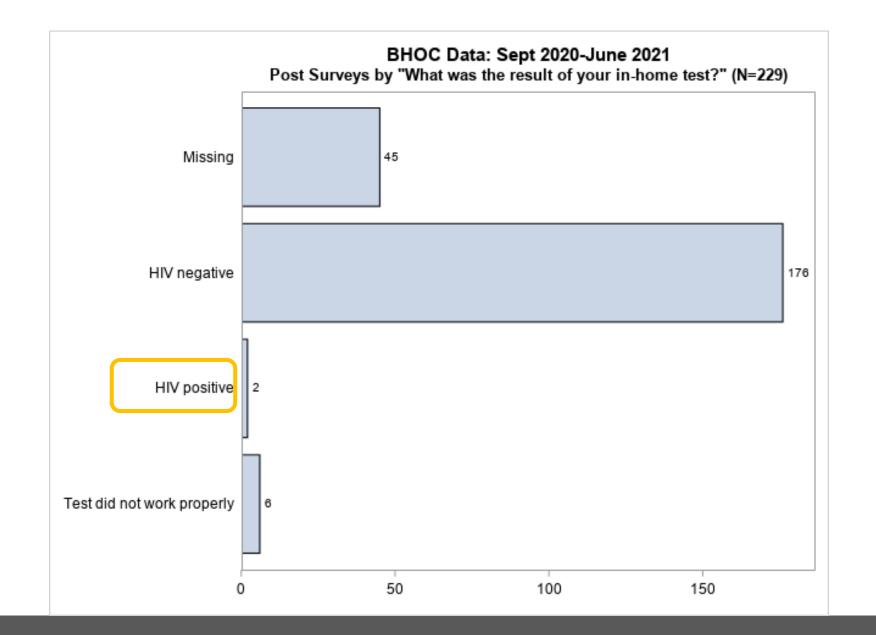




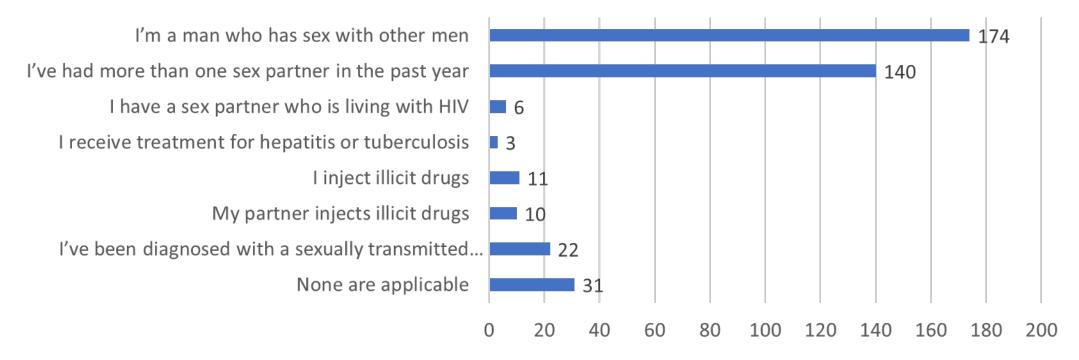








BHOC Data: September 2020-June 2021 Please tell us which of these apply to you. You can pick more than one. (N=229)



Note: respondents may be represented in multiple categories

California Consortium:

- Successes
- Upcoming Activities
- Ongoing Partnerships
- Key Lessons

Ending the HIV Epidemic

CALIFORNIA CONSORTIUM FOR CDC PS19-1906





CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE OF AIDS

Marisa Ramos, Ph.D., Chief, Office of AIDS Kevin Sitter, MSW MPH, End the HIV Epidemic Program Coordinator



Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan Year One Progress: Alameda County

Steve Gibson, MSW Director, Office of HIV Prevention Alameda County Public Health Department

Successes



Filling prevention resource gaps for critical populations

- African American and Latinx MSM,
- Young MSM of color (under 30)
- Transgender people
- Women of color

Completed RFP Process

- AIDS Healthcare Foundation
- Bay Area Community Health
- East Bay AIDS Center

Innovative strategies for PrEP and Testing

- Focused testing, routine opt-out testing, self testing
- Social network outreach
- Same day PrEP initiation
- Youth-centered services
- Job training
 - Transgender Women

Upcoming Activities



• Staff hiring

- Program Specialist
- Public Health Investigator

• Expanding Home Testing

- HIV DBS, multi-site GC and CT, syphilis, and HIV DBS + Creatine for PrEP maintenance.
- CBO Testing and PrEP services expansion
- Technical Assistance
 - Supporting routine opt out testing
 - Pharmacy access of PrEP

- Community Engagement
 - Summer promotion of self testing
 - Young MSM of color not engaged in HIV prevention
 - Providers that work with incarcerated or previously incarcerated individuals

Ongoing Partnerships

Leveraging long-term community partnerships

- CDPH-OA
- California Consortium
- CHIPTS
- Fast Track Cities
- East Bay Getting to Zero
 - Linkage Network
 - Prevention Network

Ongoing communityfocused planning

• East Bay Getting to Zero

Ongoing Community Engagement focused on priority populations





One key lesson learned

Public/private partnerships allow for the flexibility and responsiveness that local health departments and community-based organizations alone cannot provide and reach people who are not reached by current prevention methods and strategies.





Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan -Year One Progress: Orange County

Matilde Gonzalez-Flores, MPH, CHES

Program Manager, HIV Planning and Coordination Health Promotion and Community Planning Division

Successes 19-1906 and 20-2010



• Engaging priority populations

- Transgender Latinx Community
- Community engagement linked to testing and PrEP enrollment

• Integrated Plan Committee

- EtHE Steering Committee
- 18-1802 and 20-2010

Contracts Awarded

• Alianza Translatinx

• Filling staffing gaps

- Staff Specialist
- PrEP Navigator
- Case Manager

• Innovative strategies

- Long-term relationship building with Latinx Transgender Community
- Mail Home Test Kit Pilot
- Viral Suppression Patient Incentive Program
- Community Based Case Management Services
- PrEP Navigation Services

Upcoming Activities



Solicitation for Services

- Mobile testing, care and referral services for EtHE priority populations
- Health Summits for Gay/MSM and Transgender Communities
- Community Based PrEP
 Navigation Services

Community Engagement

- Community needs assessment for Black/African American population
- Health Summits for Gay/MSM and Transgender Communities
- E-Surveys
- Focus groups

Ongoing Partnerships

Regional Partners

- CDPH-OA
- CHIPTS
- California Consortium
- Ethe TA
- PAETC

Orange County Partners

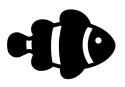
- Ongoing Planning Council Engagement with consumer involvement
- Ongoing Integrated Plan Committee involvement
- HIV Services Providers
- STI Coalition
- Alianza Translatinx





One key lesson learned

- Collaboration and community driven programs and services are key!
- For LHJ Staff: Just keep swimming!- Dory





Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan Year One Progress: Riverside County

Carol Barrera Riverside University Health System-Public Health

Successes



• Engaging critical populations

- MSM & MSM of Color
- Persons under the age of 30
- Trans People
- Latinx and African American Communities

Completed RFP Process

- Family Living with AIDS Care Center (Hemet)
- Palm Springs Test

• Filling staffing gaps

- Program Coordinator
- Sr. Communicable Disease Specialist
- Health Educator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Health Admin. Assistant

• Innovative strategies

- Testing and PrEP expansion to service deserts
- Strengthen Community Engagement
- Rapid Linkage of Clients to Care

Community Engagement

- Inland Empire Planning Council Focus Group
- Riverside Overdose Data to Action (RODA)
- Special event outreach and testing

• Capacity Building

 Provider training on PrEP and medical screenings

Upcoming Activities

Additional Staffing

• Communicable Disease Specialists (2)

Interventions

- PrEP Assistance Program
- MSM Night Clinic
- CBO Testing

Community Engagement

- Trans focus group
- Ongoing community engagement in West, Central and South County



Ongoing Partner Involvement

Regional Partners

- CDPH-OA
- CHIPTS
- California Consortium

Technical Assistance

- Strengthening PrEP Programs
- PrEP Navigator Trainings
- PrEP Navigator Training
 Program

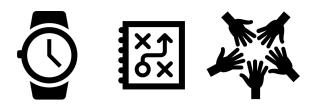




One key lesson learned

New programs take more time than anticipated

- Contracts with CBO's may take longer than initially planned, have a plan in place to assist contracts, for staff, and for CBO's.
- Have a Plan B. We have participated in outreach and community testing events to begin testing while CBO's go through the contract process.
- We are not alone! Look to other counties to learn from their processes and see what can be applied and learned from.





Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan Year One Progress: Sacramento County

Kyle Lafferty, MST, MPH, CHES

Sexual Health Promotion Program Division of Public Health Sacramento County Department of Health Services

Successes

Engaging priority populations

- Transition age youth focus group
- E-survey distributed through social networks

Filling staffing gaps

Communicable Disease
 investigator

Innovative strategies

- Wellness Without Walls
 - Mobile testing/PrEP
 - Comprehensive wellness
 services
- Home testing
- Comprehensive U=U campaign
- Youth-friendly services
- Scale up of linkage and retention efforts
- Expand Surveillance-Based Partner Services



Upcoming Activities



Engaging priority populations

- Focus groups
 - People experiencing homelessness
 - People who use drugs

RFP's Pending

- Wrap-around services
 - People experiencing homelessness
 - People who use drugs
 - Transition age youth

Filling staffing gaps

- Medical Assistant
- Nurse Practitioner

Innovative strategies

- Mobile shower and laundry services to compliment Wellness Without Walls Van
- U=U impacts
- Home testing expansion: DBS, site specific STI's, HCV, PrEP labs

Technical Assistance

- U=U evaluation
- Home testing expansion
- Expanding clinic-based PrEP program

Ongoing Partnerships

Regional Partners

- CDPH-OA
- CHIPTS
- CFAR
- California Consortium
- EtHE TA Providers

Sacramento Partnerships

- Sacramento HIV Health Services Planning Council
- HIV Prevention and Care Providers
- Sunburst Projects
- Sacramento Street Medicine
- Non-traditional HIV Providers





One key lesson learned

Think of roadblocks as detours that can help move you forward in creative ways

- We were not able to purchase our own mobile testing van so we are now sharing an existing mobile clinic with our Primary Care Division
- Outcomes: more comprehensive coverage and care to priority populations than originally planned





Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan Year One Progress: San Bernardino County

Heather Cockerill, MPH, MCHES Public Health Program Coordinator

Cynthia Turk Health Education Specialist II

Department of Public Health, Health Promotion & Education Section

Successes



- Re-engaging the Planning Council
- New Intra-agency collaboration
 - HIV Prevention, Care and Surveillance
- Engaging Critical New Partners
 - Behavioral Health
 - DPH Communicable Disease Section
 - Sheriff's office
 - Probation

- Innovative strategies planning
 - Rapid Response Team/Mobile clinic deployed to service deserts
 - Integrated HIV/HCV/STI testing
 - Rapid StART/PrEP
 - Peer Outreach
 - Home testing

Upcoming Activities



• RFPs

- County procurement process initiated
 - Mobile Van
 - Community Based Organization EtHE Partners
- Staff Hiring
 - Recruitment of new staff in process

- Expanded use of home testing
 - DBS, STIs, HCV, PrEP Labs
- Community Engagement
 - People experiencing homelessness
 - People who use drugs

Ongoing Partnerships

- New Intra-agency collaboration
- EHE TA Providers
 - CDPH-OA
 - CA-PTC
 - PAETC
 - Facente Consulting
- California Collaborative
- CHIPTS

- Inland Empire HIV Planning Council
- HIV Prevention and Care Providers
- Substance Use Providers
- Housing Providers
- Mental Health





One key lesson learned

New territories take more time and resources

- We are doing things that we have never done before. Start somewhere, even if it is difficult.
- We can do virtual community engagement with providers but we connect to clients better face-to-face.
- New partners have given us new ideas about how to reorganize baseline services to connect to priority groups like people who use drugs.









Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan Year One Progress: San Diego County

Felipe Ruiz, MPH

Community Health Program Specialist HIV, STD and Hepatitis Branch of Public Health Services County of San Diego Health & Human Services Agency

Successes

Engaging critical populations

- Community Readiness Assessment: Wrap-around services for Persons Who Inject Drug
- Follow-up to engagement activities laid out at the EHE 2020 Community Summit

Filling staffing gaps

- Health Information Specialist
- Community Health Program Specialist

Innovative strategies

- Wrap-around services for Persons Who Inject Drugs
- Routine opt-out testing expansion
- Benefits Navigation
- Getting to Zero Resource Guide and Mobile App
- Home testing



Upcoming Activities

COUNTY OF SAN DEGO HHHSA HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Interventions prioritized for Year 2

- Wrap-around services for PWID
- Transgender-specific Community Services
 - Trans-responsive systems of care
 - Expanding community partnerships
 - Social support
 - Workforce development
- Peer-based mobile PrEP

Technical Assistance Needed

- Implementing harm reduction activities
- HIV workforce development

Ongoing Partnerships

Regional Partners

- CDPH-OA
- CHIPTS
- California Consortium
- EtHE TA Providers

San Diego County

- HIV Planning Group
- San Diego CFAR
- HIV Prevention and Care Providers
- Non-traditional HIV organizations





One key lesson learned

Build on Strengths

- Build on existing infrastructure
- Use successful programs as models
- Outreach through existing peer networks





San Francisco Ending the HIV/HCV/STI EPIDEMICS (ETE)

July 20, 2021 Presented by: Hanna Hjord, MPH HIV/HCV/STI Behavioral Health Coordinator San Francisco Department of Public Health





POPULATION HEALTH DIVISION SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Key Successes: HRSA Funded Activities

- Improved stability of medical care of dozens of individuals previously experiencing homelessness
- Provided validating, Trans-affirming care to dozens of Trans women
- Fortified trusting relationships which have led to viral load suppression and healthy and satisfactory gender affirming care and surgery outcomes (Trans Access)
- The shift to remote service delivery in response to COVID worked for some clients, reducing barriers to engagement in services such as transportation costs (Trans Access)
- EHE funded sites continued in-person care during COVID



Key Successes: CDC Funded Activities

Focused community engagement through mini-grants:

- 8 funded Community Advisory Processes (CAPs)
- Continuous and meaningful dialogue with the ETE communities
- Advise SFDPH on service design, delivery methods, and funding allocations
- Community leadership and skill building
- Meaningful compensation (at least 50% of the funding) to community members for their time and expertise

Enhanced workforce development opportunities:

- HIV/HCV/STI Community Health Leadership Initiative (CHLI), focused on racial equity, health equity and harm reduction
- SFDPH workforce equity focus: hiring, recruiting, and supporting staff from ETE priority communities



Key Successes: San Francisco City Clinic Project Expand and Elevate (ExEl) – Comp C

- Relaunched a phone-based PrEP Express Visit program
- Launched express visits for asymptomatic screening
- Research and planning toward implementing VL testing to help identify non-virally suppressed PLWH
- PrEP retention survey (low response rate but 1/3 of respondents said they were still on PrEP, in October 2020)
- Pursued EHE partnerships in the form of resumed sexual health public health detailing and TA to other agencies and clinics



Slide 53

Key Innovations and Upcoming activities: HRSA

- Low threshold drop in services; more referrals from ER and Urgent Care; realtime availability of remote psychiatric consultations
- Trans-specific clinic days/times; one-stop shop model with onsite dental; hormone therapy as primary care
- Mobile medical services with street medicine overlap; support services in place to assist with keeping clients housed
- Home-based mobile blood draws (Forthcoming Program)
- Outreach and outpatient substance use treatment at homeless encampments; includes overdose prevention and service engagements (Forthcoming Program)



Key Upcoming activities: CDC and HRSA

Status neutral services (jointly funded by HRSA and CDC)

- Jointly funded navigators and other services and an expanded street medicine outreach team
- Services provided to both clients living with or at risk for HIV, HCV and STI
- Status-neutral, sex positive, whole person care messaging

Mobile Contingency Management (jointly funded by HRSA and CDC)

- For people experiencing homelessness
- Focus on people who smoke fentanyl
- Street-based outreach and brief interventions
- Other resources: incentives, overdose prevention services, ongoing counseling, drug testing services

Regional planning

- Collaboration with Alameda County Public Health Department, East Bay Getting to Zero, and SF Getting to Zero
- Develop regional PrEP approach and messaging



Opportunities to get involved/stay informed

Community Advisory Processes (CAPS)

ETE Steering Committee

Coming soon:

- ETE community-facing materials
- ETE Online Community
- Townhalls

Please contact: <u>hanna.hjord@sfdph.org</u>



Thank you!

For more information, please contact: Hanna Hjord 628-217-6316 <u>hanna.hjord@sfdph.org</u> SF ETE Plan: <u>https://www.sfdph.org/dph/files/CHEP/SF-ETE-Plan.pdf</u>





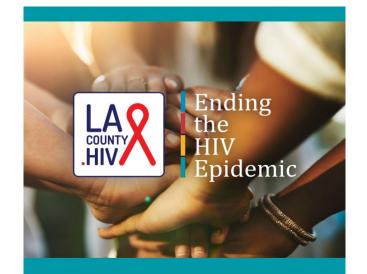
Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative: Los Angeles County Updates

Ending the HIV Epidemic Regional Learning Collaborative July 20, 2021

Saron Selassie, MPH Health Program Analyst, Diagnose Pillar Lead Division of HIV and STD Programs



57,700 people living with HIV in LA County	1,200 new transmissions per year	5,700 are unaware of their HIV positive status	50,660 Black & Latinx people who would benefit from PrEP	72,700 MSM*, transwomen, ciswomen & injection drug users would benefit from PrEP
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ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY 2020-2025 **Overarching Goal:** Reduce new HIV transmissions and acquisitions in the United States by 75% in five years and by 90% in ten years.

Overarching Strategy: Ensure that Los Angeles County Ending the HIV Epidemic pillars of interventions address and eliminate health inequities, address and dismantle racial inequities that are at the root of HIV and related syndemics, focus on the communities most impacted by HIV, and adopts a client-centered, people first approach.

Priority Populations: Based on the most recent LA County epidemiologic profile and other key local data, the priority populations include: Black/African-American men who have sex with men (MSM), Latinx MSM, women of color, people who inject drugs, transgender persons, and persons under 30 years of age.

HIV Testing Brief in development. Identifies County testing access points and modalities and include guidance on how to increase HIV testing across sectors.

HIV testing in healthcare and other institutional settings in high prevalence communities.

- Working with DMH to conduct rapid HIV testing in clinics.
- Ongoing discussion with partners to expand test kit distribution; routine opt out testing.

Expanding HIV testing in non-healthcare settings through HIV self-test kits.

- DHSP Orasure test kit distribution to date:
 - 1,753 to testing providers.
 - 2,055 distributed at June community events.
 - 1,044 at additional community events.
- Take Me Home Partnership: 1,130 tests ordered as of June 2021. 83% identified as men, 56% under 30 years, 46% identified as Latinx, 65% haven't tested in over a year and 35% never tested.





Rapid Linkage to Care Pilot Program launched with 3 sites at Wesley Health Centers (Hollywood, Pasadena, Hacienda Heights) & 2 testing sites (LA CADA, REACH LA).

- Protocols developed and close to final.
- HIV navigators to be hired at DHSP.
- Warm line created.

Emergency Financial Assistance Program offers up to \$5,000 available to eligible clients to be sent directly to vendors for emergency situations related to rent, utilities, food, etc.

- Network of over 35 providers trained.
- 217 of 323 applications approved to date, 91 pending, 14 withdrawn/referred.

Ryan White Mental Health Assessment in development.

- DMH collaboration in development to increase services at 3 sites: Augustus Hawkins, Edelman, Hollywood.
- Exploring potential for region-wide telehealth mental health services with emphasis on the monolingual Spanish speaking community.

Contingency Management Pilot Program developed for two cohorts.

- 1. Youth status neutral approach
- 2. Women out of care from DHSP's Linkage and Reengagement Program

HIV Transition of Care Program in development with LAC USC Medical Center and USC Street Medicine.

 Proposed model will bring acute care providers (ED, Inpatient) in closer collaboration with street medicine and outpatient HIV services.

Ongoing Discussions:

- Workforce development for PLWH
- Peer to Peer linkage to care programs





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PrEP Landscape Analysis with Clinics/Providers in District 2 (South Los Angeles region)

 Preliminary results: 30 completed interviews, 66% offer PrEP to patients, 56% unaware of CA law requiring PrEP insurance coverage, 41% identified a training need.

TelePrEP to increase retention and engagement

3 telePrEP partnerships executed with Via Care, St. Mary's, Wesley Health Centers.

Client Follow Up to Support Linkage to PrEP

- Conducting calls to people recently diagnosed with syphilis.

Increase capacity of Syringe Service Programs via SAPC partnership to link PWID to HIV prevention.

PrEP marketing campaign discussions with community.





Cluster Detection and Response Plan in development.

- Refining processes and real-time cluster detection response.

Increase capacity to provide Partner Services to all people newly diagnosed with HIV.

- Hired additional Public Health Investigators (PHIs) to support both Partner Services and the Linkage and Re-engagement Program.

Build surveillance infrastructure to enhance the identification and assignment of new HIV cases to staff for timely follow-up and Partner Services.

- Contractor selected to support development of procurement for new data system.





- FREE HIV self-test kits available. <u>https://takemehome.org/</u>
- <u>U=U Toolkit</u>
- <u>Ryan White Fact Sheets</u> for Mental Health and Oral Health services in English and Spanish.
- Emergency Financial Assistance Program: Email <u>EHEInitiative@ph.laounty.gov</u> for flyer.
- HIV, STD, and sexual health info and resources in LA County

Stay Connected!

Email <u>EHEInitiative@ph.lacounty.gov</u> to sign up for the EHE listserv.

EHE website: www.LACounty.HIV

