

# Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Regional Learning Collaborative

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



**Session 16:**  
*Innovations to Serve Hardly Reached Communities*

**Tuesday, March 15, 2022**  
**10-11:30 a.m. PST**

# Session Agenda

## 1) Presentations

- **UCLA/HPTN 094**
  - **Dr. David Goodman-Meza, Assistant Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases, David Geffen School of Medicine**
- **Invisible Men**
  - **Luckie Alexander, Founder**
- **East Los Angeles Women's Center**
  - **Alejandra Aguilar-Avelino, Program Coordinator**

## 2) Panel Discussion/Q&A

- **Enter questions using**



- **Share comments/resources using**



# HPTN 094 INTEGRA STUDY



**UCLA**



# HPTN 094 Overview



National Institute  
on Drug Abuse

**“A Vanguard Study of Health Service Delivery in a Mobile Health Delivery Unit to Link Persons who Inject Drugs to Integrated Care and Prevention for Addiction, HIV, HCV and Primary Care”**

Design: two-arm, individually randomized, controlled, open-label study

Duration: Approximately 3 years, individual participants in study for 52 weeks

Study sites:

Los Angeles

Houston

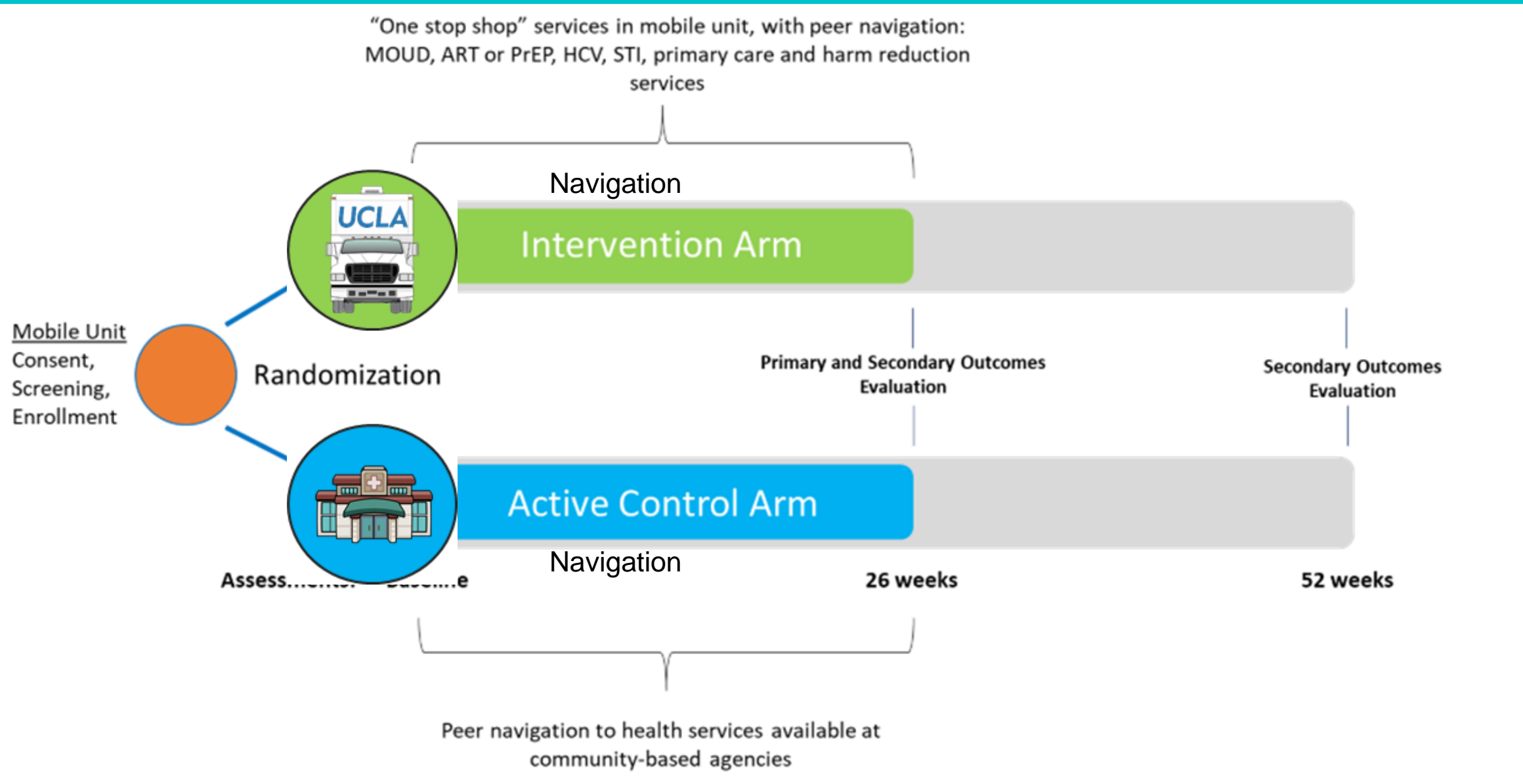
Philadelphia

Bronx

D.C.



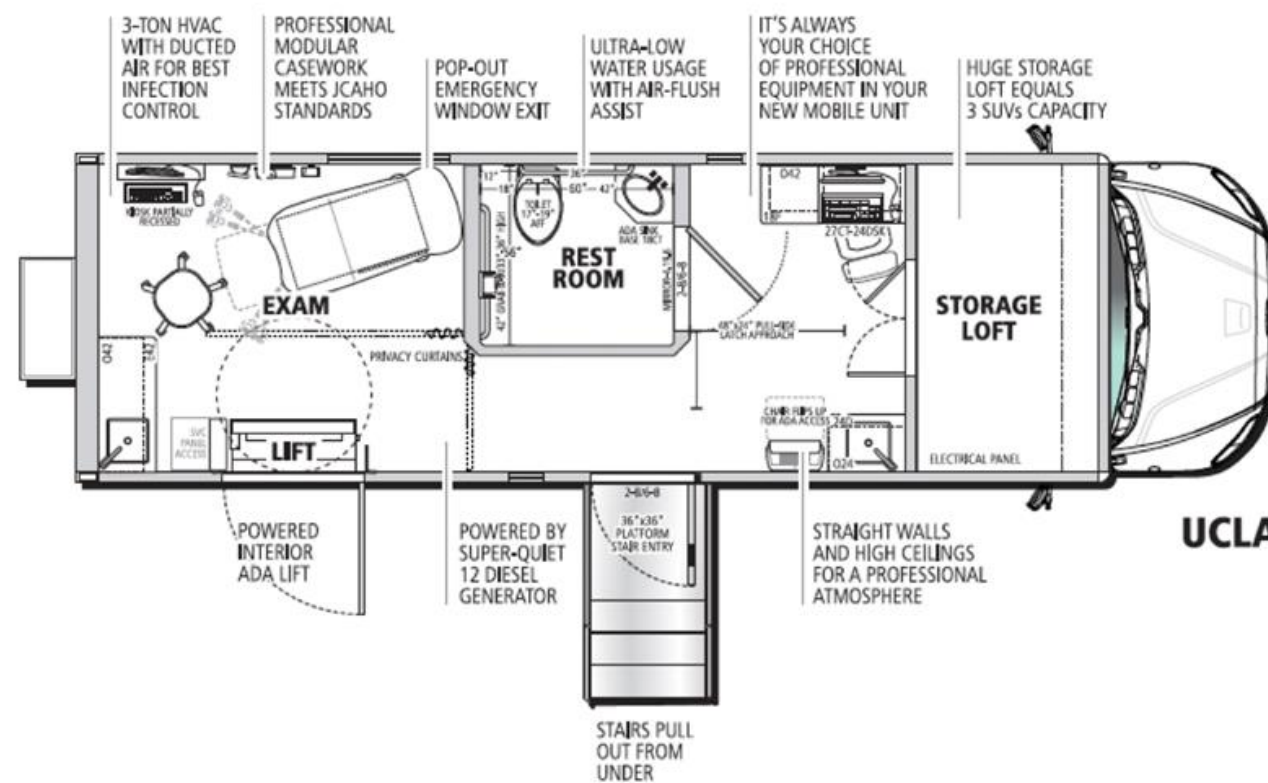
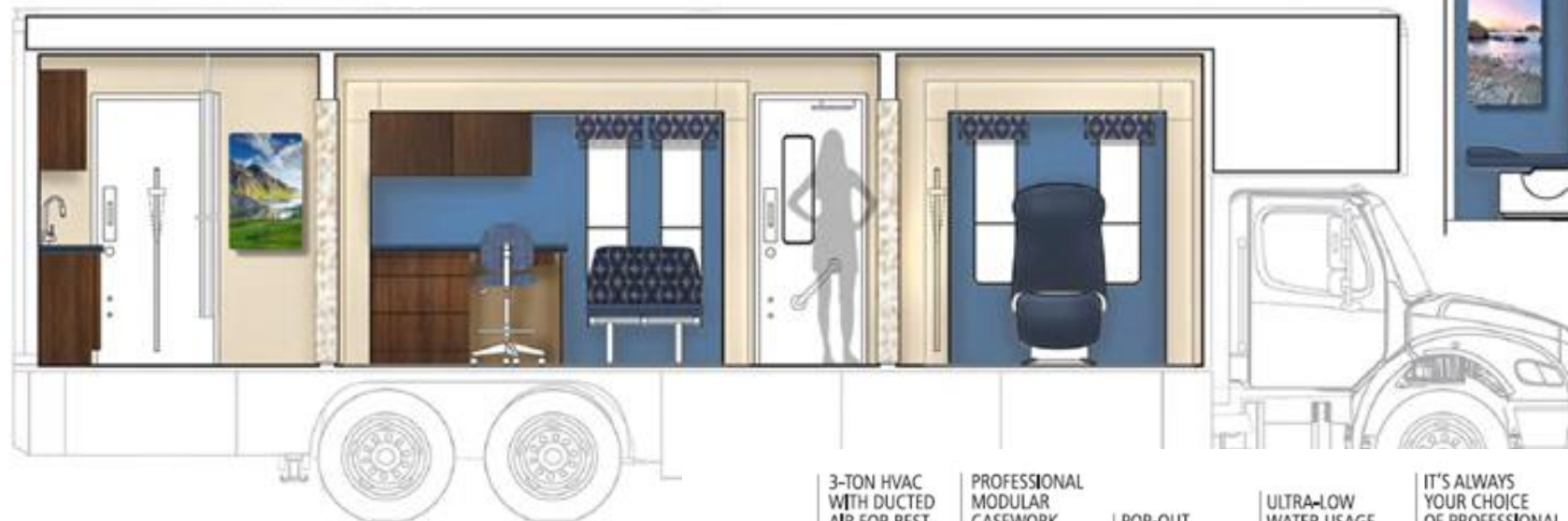
# Study Design Design



# What makes us Unique?



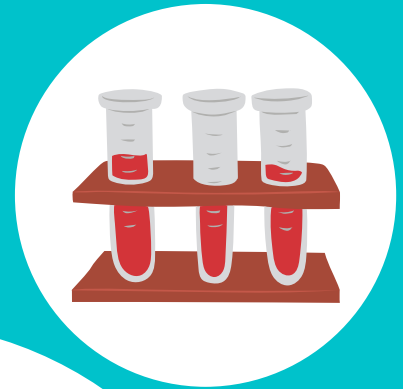
We meet people where they're at.



# Study Visits

At screening, enrollment, 26 and 52 week visits:

- All potential study participants will provide biological samples and self-reported data via interview in the mobile unit
- Samples will be tested for HIV, HAV, HBV, HCV, and STIs
- All participants (both intervention and active control arms) will have study visits at 26 and 52 weeks for evaluation of study outcomes
- Adherence to MOUD, PrEP, ART, and suppressed viral load



# What's Peer navigation?

- Shared lived experiences / demographics
- Social learning theory- we learn from direct experience and by interacting with people who are similar to us
- Collaborative, encouraging style
- Helps the participants create and reach health goals and address nuanced barriers to treatment
- Make referrals to community services



# Primary Outcomes

Primary outcomes are measured at week 26 (6 months)

- Alive
- Documented current use of medication for opioid use disorder

## HIV-Related:

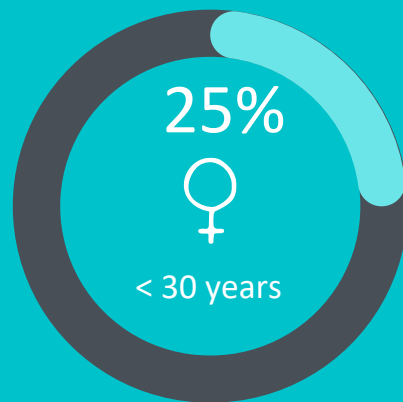
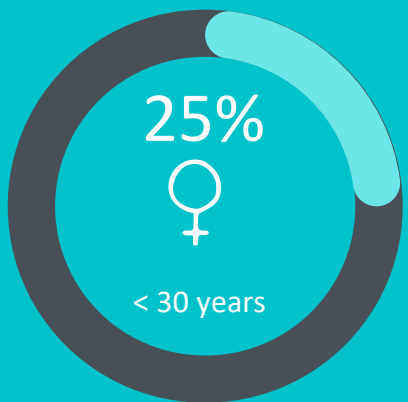
- If HIV (+) at time of enrollment: Alive, retained, and virally suppressed ( $VL < 200/mL$ ) at the week 26 visit
- If HIV (-) at time of enrollment: alive, retained, HIV negative, with detectable PrEP drugs in dried blood spot (DBS) samples at the week 26 visit

# Anticipated Sample Size

860 total participants nationwide

170 per site

Allotted 1:1 to intervention and active control arms



460 HIV-Positive  
&  
400 HIV-Negative

# Who is eligible to participate?



At least 18 years of age

Inject drugs and  
have opioids in urine

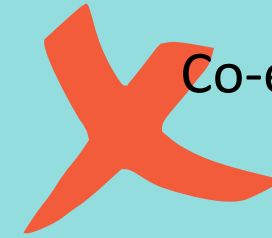
Diagnosed with opioid use disorder per DSM-V

Willing to start MOUD



Self-reported sharing injection equipment  
and/or  
Condomless sex in the last 3 months with a partner  
of unknown HIV status

# Exclusion Criteria



Co-enrollment in another study



Received medication assisted  
treatment for OUD  
in the last 30 days prior to  
enrollment by self-report

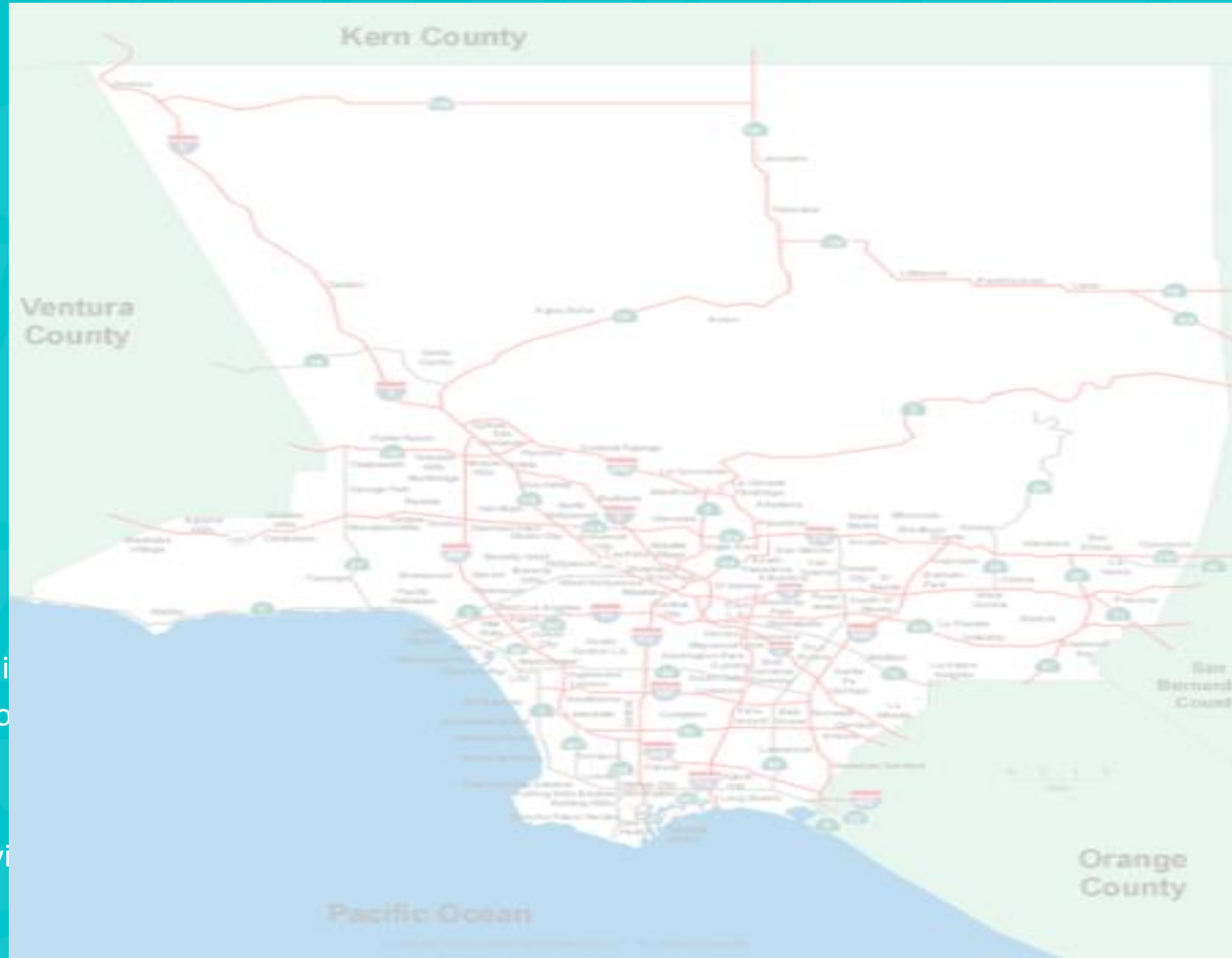
# Implementation:

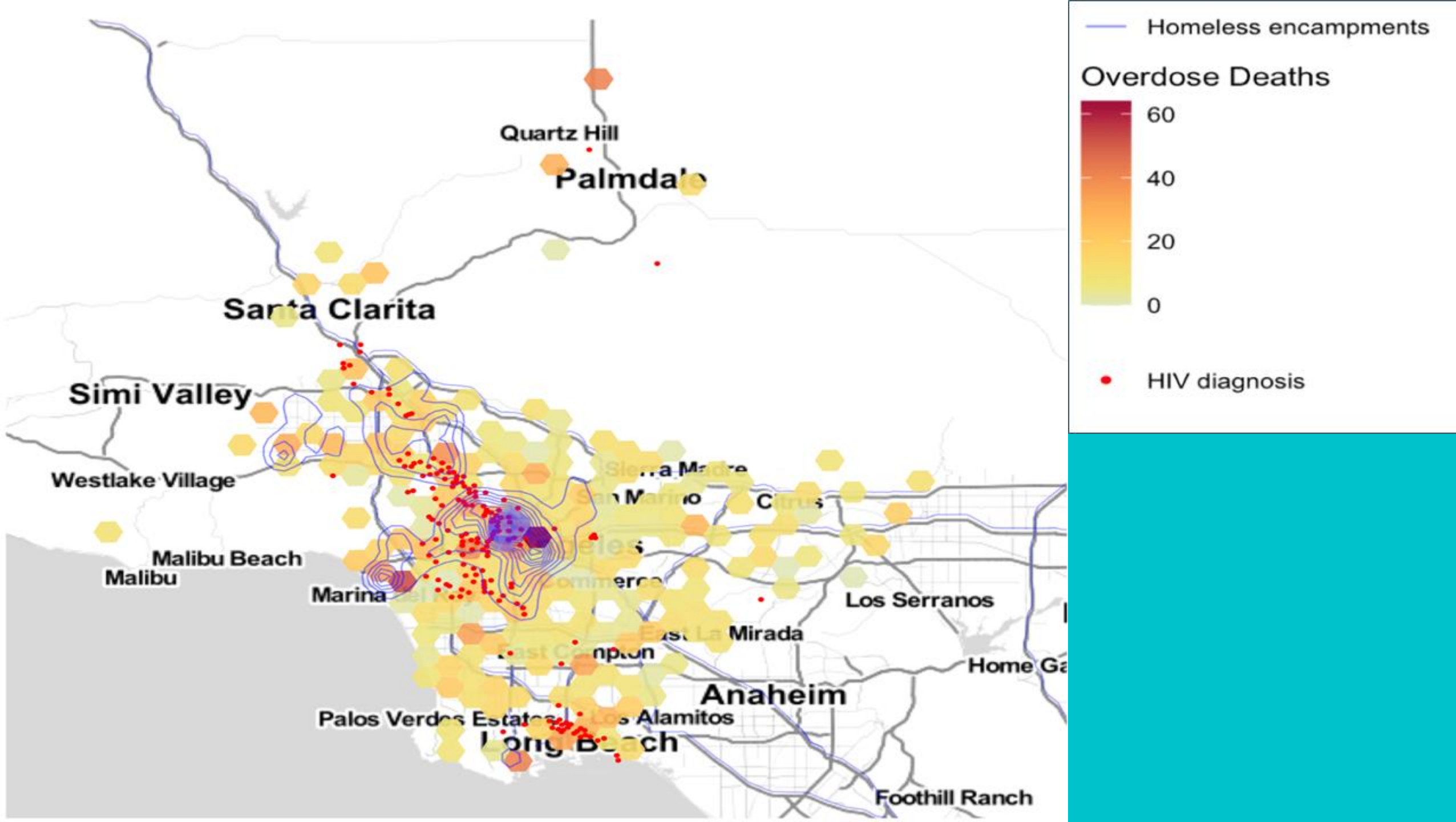
## LA Site

## Determining Locations

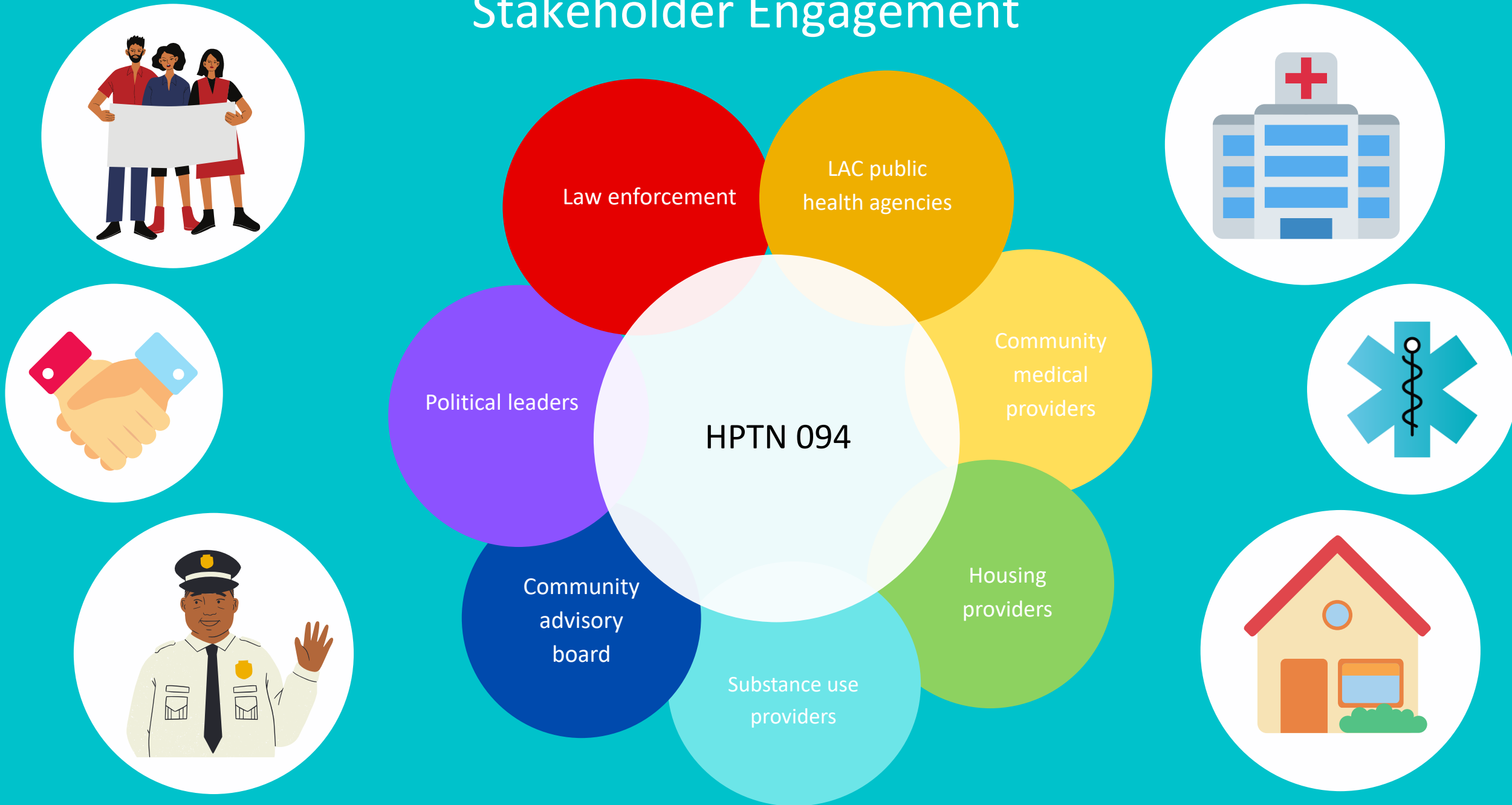
Available maps:

- LAC HIV Surveillance Report
- California Opioid Dashboard - overdose death counts/rates
- Homeless counts and 311 calls for encampments
- "Drive by" assessments to determine population and logistical spaces to set up shop
- Engagement with community service providers





# Stakeholder Engagement



# Questions?

Contact the Los Angeles HPTN 094 study team at

[Hptn094@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:Hptn094@mednet.ucla.edu)



# EHE Regional Learning Collaborative

## INVISIBLE MEN

Luckie Alexander - Founder & Executive Director



# Luckie Alexander, SME



- Advocate 20+ years for LGBTQ Community
- Contributing Research Author for Rand Corporation & TMHJ:LA
- Los Angeles County Commission on HIV Commissioner
- Founder & Executive Director - Invisible Men
- Diversity, Equity, Empathy & Inclusion Trainer
- Artist “ALL BLACK LIVES MATTER” mural Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles
- West Hollywood Trans Advisory Board Chair
- Trans Theory Instructor @ Antioch University

[InvisibleTMen.org](http://InvisibleTMen.org)

Email: [Luckiealexander@Invisibletmen.com](mailto:Luckiealexander@Invisibletmen.com)

# ITM Overview

Invisible Men began as a visibility platform in 2018 and has grown into so much more.

We identify resources lacking for the transmasculine demographic and locate providers, train them to adequately, respectfully and in an affirming way provide service to our siblings.

Through our programs such as The Exchange™ and our Legacy Leadership Academy, we help to empower our transmasculine community to step into their own leadership. We stand in the gaps where Transmasculine folks should be included such as HIV prevention & treatment, Reproductive Justice, and Survivors of Sexual Violence. We show up in these spaces and reclaim our space and ensure those resources include us too.

Also our Legacy Family consists of those who have visibly stood in their truth by submitting their journey on our platform and we have created dedicated space for them lean into one another to give and receive peer support and skill share. We unapologetically center our siblings of color, however we turn away no one. We currently have chapters throughout the US and we have 60 Legacys globally, including in Uganda and Nigeria.

# Why this is important.....

Research related to HIV and Trans people has historically been almost exclusively been focused on transwomen and transfeminine individuals. What has become apparent is the need for allies to understand sexual behaviors, attitudes toward sexual health, access to appropriate sexual health education and the ways we protect ourselves. This will help create more effective prevention methods and messaging around those methods.

Rates of HIV and sexual risk behaviors among transmen are also not well understood because transmen are often assumed to be primarily having sex with non-trans women. However, transmen, like other men, can be of any sexual orientation and may have sex with different types of partners, including (but not limited to) non-trans men, transgender women, and transgender men. A substantial proportion transmasculine individuals meet eligibility criteria but few are receiving adequate PrEP services.

Our approach takes all of these things into consideration. Other things we also keep in mind are social economic factors, trust dynamics and community politics within the LGBTQ community as well as the intersections at which our community operates.

# Reaching Transmasc Community

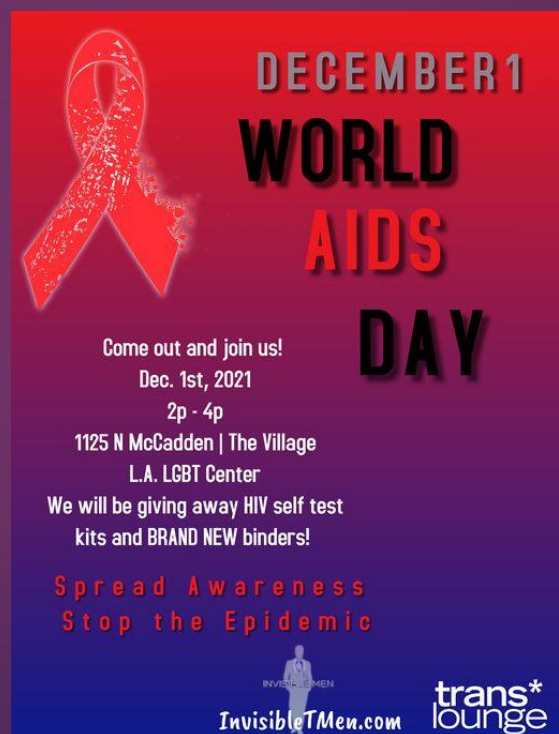
- ↳ Trusted Messengers - Understanding we need to see ourselves reflected in messaging and the messenger
- ↳ Reach them where they are - We go to where community congregates, we understand what our communities access to resources looks like and we attempt to accommodate
- ↳ Engage and ask questions - We do not make assumptions about what our community needs even though we are part of the community we serve. We acknowledge that all journeys are different and we need to ask questions
- ↳ Understand the trust dynamic - Being part of the community we serve gives us a bit of leverage to understand that due to trauma that has been inflicted on our community has left an emotional scar and trust is not willing given. We are intentional about being transparent and honest
- ↳ Partner with Trusted orgs - We partner with organizations that are currently doing the work and providing the resources we need and have already gain the trust of our demographic, then we train them to properly and respectfully engage
- ↳ Provide space to be heard - We have created intentional safe spaces for Transmasculine individuals to dialogue with one another and talk about the things that they need and we LISTEN
- ↳ Understand unique challenges - Again because we are part of the demographic we serve we are intimately privy to the unique challenges faced by the transmasculine community and why access to resources is difficult



# World AIDS Day 2021



We gave out binders, self test kits, snacks, and info on resources.



We distributed over 60 HIV self tests kits in 2 hours, most went to transmasculine individuals!

# Long Beach Pride 2021



We distributed information on PrEP, PEP, and substance abuse. Referred 15 individuals to a few different sexual health clinics we work with for testing such as APLA, Men's Health Clinic, and LA LGBT Center.

We Vaxxed over 200 community members, Covid Tested over 30, and distributed 32 HIV self test kits over six 2 hour events!

# VAX to the MAX!



VACCINATE LA COUNTY

GET YOUR FIRST VACCINE DOSE AND GET A **\$75 TARGET™ GIFT CARD**

**SAT, MAY 29TH ONLY!**

**WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!**

MUST BE UNVACCINATED AND AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD TO PARTICIPATE.

Vax to the Max  
Los Angeles LGBT Center  
1118 N McCadden Place  
Los Angeles, CA 90038  
5pm - 7pm

For more information, visit: [VaccinateLACounty.com](https://vaccinate.lacounty.gov)



INVISIBLE MEN

**Vax to the Max!!**

**2nd Shot Round #2**

Invisible Men in collaboration with Los Angeles Department of Public Health will hold Vaccine Clinics for our TBIG Community !!

Los Angeles LGBT Center  
1118 N. McCadden Place, LA, Ca 90038

**5PM To 7PM**

We will be providing:

- Covid 19 Testing
- Masks
- Goodie Bags
- Self Care Kits
- Food Boxes
- Resources
- And more!!

**Saturday JUNE 26**

Music Provided By:  
DJ - Shane Ivan Nash

Need a ride we got you!  
Call for your Uber Code!

FOR INFO: Luckie (213) 528-0482  
Email: [info@invisiblemen.com](mailto:info@invisiblemen.com)

[www.invisiblemen.org](https://www.invisiblemen.org)



# Transmasculine Care Trainings



We have trained several agencies and entities to include Starview Family Services, APLA, BHS and gearing up to train a lot more this year.



# E.A.T. - Everything All Trans

The ADAM Project and Invisible Men Presents

## E.A.T.

Everything All Trans  
An Open House

JOIN US FOR FOOD,  
GUEST SPEAKERS, MUSIC, AND AN  
INTRO TO SERVICES FOR OUR TRANS  
COMMUNITY!!!

**December 26TH @ 2:00PM**  
**DJ Shane ON THE 1'S & 2'S | HOSTED BY The ADAM Project**  
**514 West Pacific Highway, Long Beach, Ca 90806**  
For more info contact: Wendell Glenn @ 310.844.8567

**The ADAM (Alcohol Drug Advocacy for Men) Project**  
A project of Behavioral Health Services

We forged a partnership with Behavioral Health Services' program ADAM Project in Long Beach to provide mental health and substance misuse services. At our open house event we also distributed 11 HIV self test kits.



# Recommendations:

- ↴ Don't Assume - Do your research
- ↴ Understand Challenges - Create space for people to be heard
- ↴ Create Safe spaces - Preferable to be lead by TGI folks
- ↴ Data Vs. Lived Experience - There isn't always data to support the need but that doesn't mean it's not there
- ↴ Account for populations properly to capture appropriate data
- ↴ Partnership - partner with organizations, agencies, and company that are working with populations you are looking to serve (partnership is also a trusted messenger)
- ↴ Social Media and ad campaigns - Trusted messengers and optics, we need to see us reflected to know it's for us, work with influencers that are part of the target demographic
- ↴ Incentivise programs - it may not always be monetary, sometimes a meal, or a life item such as binders, packers, and clothing

# ***Thank You!***

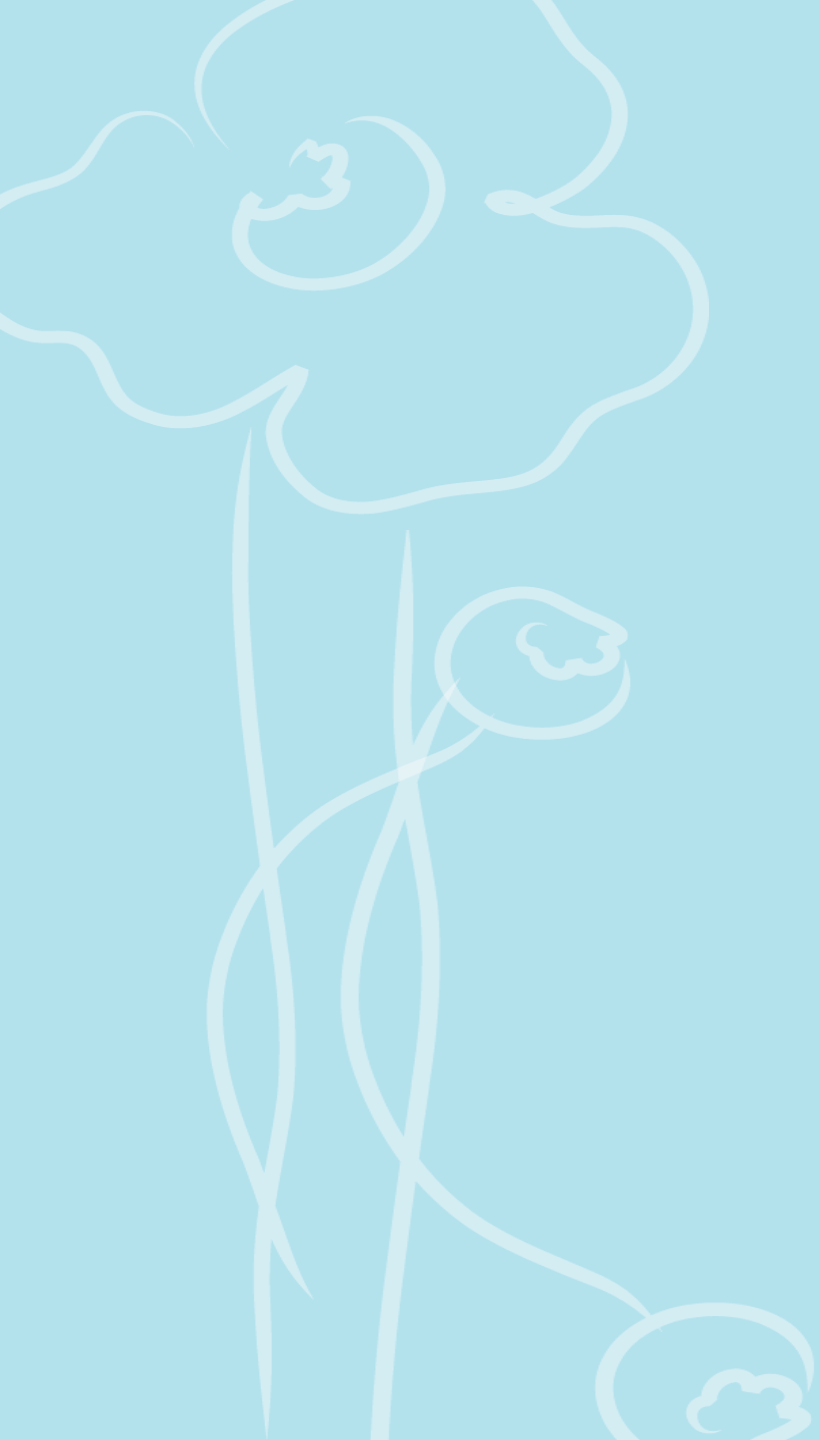
**For more information:**

**Instagram:** @InvisibleTransMen / @LuckieAlexander

**Emails:** Info@InvisibleTMen.com

LuckieAlexander@InvisibleTMen.com

**Web:** InvisibleTMen.org



East Los Angeles  
WOMEN'S  CENTER  
WHERE YOUR *Silence* IS *Heard*



The East Los Angeles Women's Center was founded in 1976 by community volunteers who established the first bilingual sexual assault hotline in the nation.

Today we are recognized as a leading voice for 1000's of survivors.

We provide culturally responsive services specifically for Latinx Communities in the areas of sexual assault, domestic violence, HIV&AIDS and an array of services that inter-connect.

# Violence Against Women and Girls: A Human Rights Issue

Violence against women and girls transgresses the basic human rights of all people. It violates a whole range of fundamental rights — human, civil, economic, social, and cultural. Not only does it violate the rights of individuals subjected to violence, but its repercussions impact children, families, entire communities — even nations. Violence against women takes many forms: sexual abuse, human trafficking, stalking and intimidation, physical violence and emotional abuse.

The intersection of women living with HIV/AIDS experiencing violence and living with the aftermath of violence in their lives remains one of the most under resourced in our communities



## Our purpose is to ignite

### *Esperanza – Hope in the lives of women and*

their families impacted by domestic violence.

Using a holistic and family-centered approach,

### **ELAWC provides a broad range of personalized**

services built on a foundation of best-practices,

trauma informed evidence-based services,

grounded in an empowerment model.

### **We recognize and honor the cultural strengths of the communities we serve.**

We provide services rooted in positive cultural influences

that help families become grounded, centered,

and interconnected. We are committed to

creating culturally responsive programs that

create violence free lives.



Creating an environment that supports trauma informed services helps survivors use skills they already possess, as well as to build new skills.

## Direct Services

Individual Therapy

Case Management Services

Crisis Intervention

Safety Planning

Advocacy

Accompaniment

Healing Groups

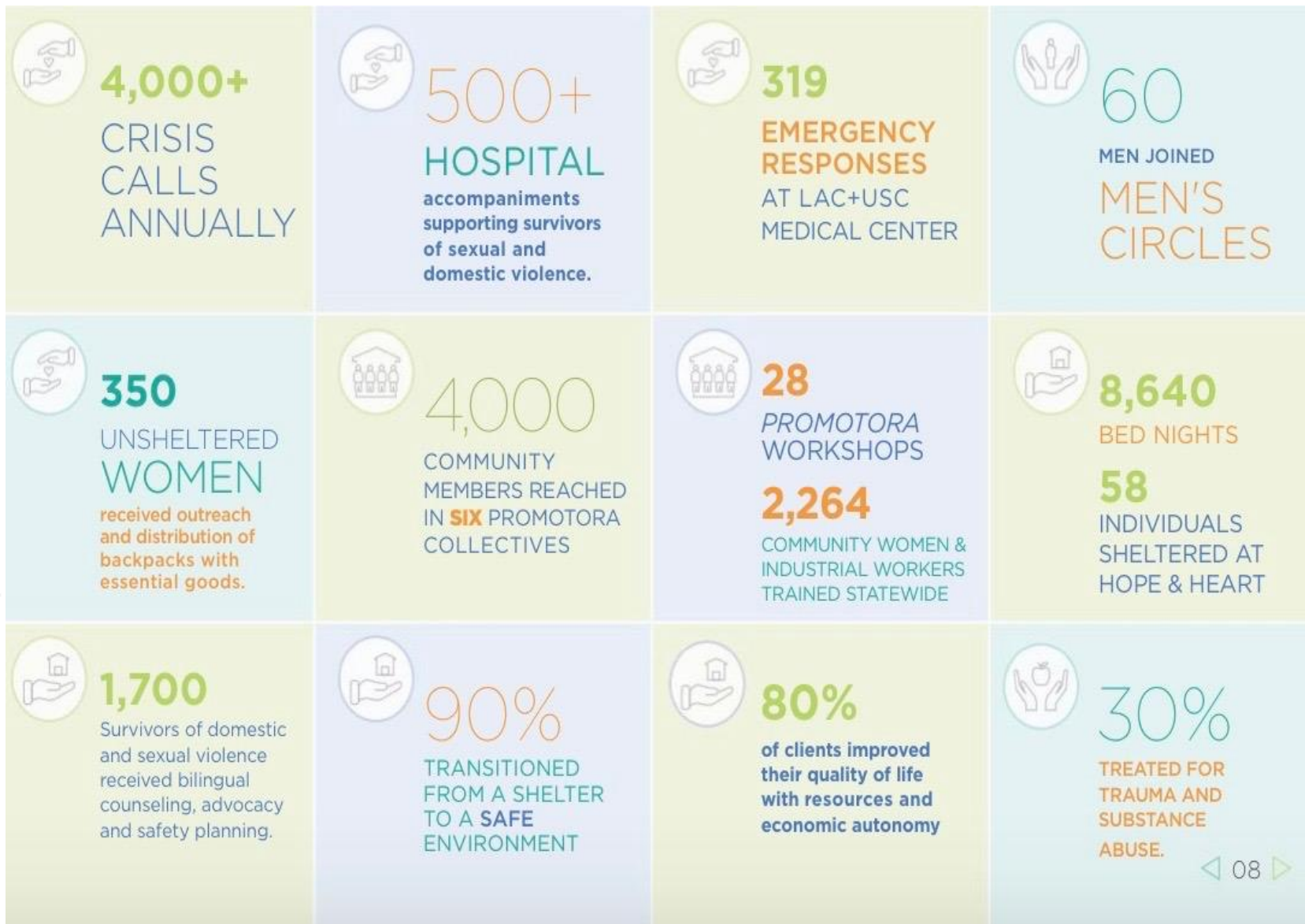
HIV Prevention & Navigation

Linkages and Resources to Safety

Community Outreach and Education

HOPE and HEART Housing Services





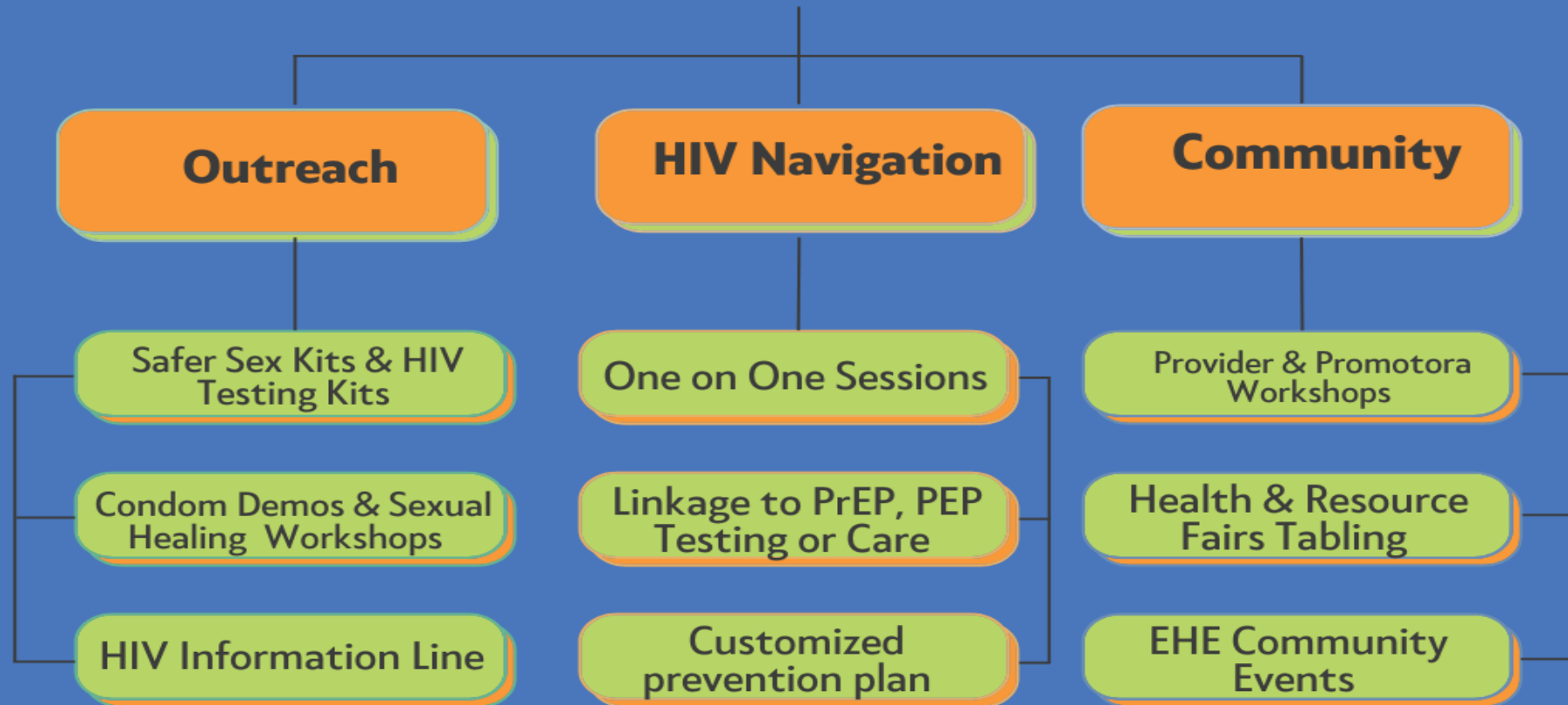
## Promotoras Comunitarias ELAWC

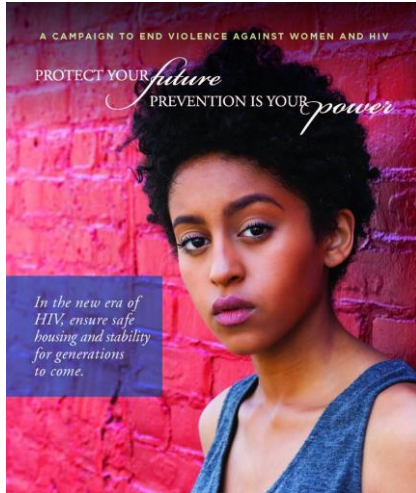


- ELAWC Promotoras Contra la Violencia
- HIV Promotoras



# HIV Services for Women





@elawchiv | [www.elawc.org](http://www.elawc.org) | (800) 400-7432

## *Helping women navigate HIV Services*

*-Women in Domestic Violence are 2x more likely to be infected with HIV.*

*-Forced sex in childhood or adolescence increases the likelihood of engaging in unprotected sex, having multiple partners, participating in sex work, and substance abuse.*

*-Sexual coercion among adolescents and adults is associated with low self-esteem and depression ---factors that are associated with many of the risk behaviors for HIV infection.*



# Protect Your Future Prevention is Your Power

TOGETHER WE CAN END HIV  
Let's advance racial justice and  
promote sexual health literacy for all.  
**#endtheHIVepidemic**



March 8 is International Women's Day | March 10 is National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

A CAMPAIGN TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND HIV

LEARN MORE Crisis Hotline 800 . 585 . 6231 HIV Infoline 800 . 400 . 7432 [www.elawc.org](http://www.elawc.org)

Follow us at @elawc



Endorsed by City of Los Angeles AIDS Coordinator's Office | AHF/LOUD | Via Care

# Protege Tu Futuro Tu Poder es la Prevención

JUNTOS PODEMOS ACABAR CON EL VIH.  
Avanzando la justicia racial y  
promoviendo el conocimiento  
de la salud sexual para todos.  
**#endtheHIVepidemic**



El 8 de marzo es el Día Internacional de la Mujer  
El 10 de marzo es el Día de Concientización de VIH en Mujeres y Niños

Campaña para Terminar con el VIH y Violencia contra las Mujeres

APRENDE MÁS:

Línea de crisis 800 . 585 . 6231 Línea Informativa de VIH 800 . 400 . 7432 [www.elawc.org](http://www.elawc.org)

Síguenos @elawc



respaldado por: City of Los Angeles AIDS Coordinator's Office | AHF/LOUD | Via Care

# THANK YOU!

**Alejandra Aguilar-Avelino**

**Program Coordinator**

**323-526-5819 ext.116**

**[alejandra@elawc.org](mailto:alejandra@elawc.org)**

## **MAIN OFFICES**

1431 South Atlantic Boulevard

Los Angeles, CA 90022

*Office 323 . 526 . 5819*

24 HOUR HOTLINE: (800 ) 585 – 6231

HIV Information Line (800) 400-7432

**[www.elawc.org](http://www.elawc.org)**

## **THE WELLNESS CENTER OFFICE**

1200 State Street, Suite 1041

Los Angeles, CA 90033

Office 213. 481 . 6030

Follow us:

@elawc @elawchiv

**[www.Linktree.com/elawchiv](http://www.Linktree.com/elawchiv)**

Our Voices  
Will Not  
Be Silenced

