Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Regional Learning Collaborative

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

Session 22: Strategies to Support Access to HIV Services

Tuesday, October 25, 2022
10-11:30 a.m. PT
Session Agenda

1) Presentations
   - California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS
   - Leroy Blea, MPH, Ending the Epidemics Project Manager
   - Alameda Health Consortium
     - Megan Crowley, MPH, HIV Project Manager
   - Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Division of HIV and STD Programs
     - Kim Bui, MPH, Section Manager - Direct Community Services

2) Panel Discussion/Q&A
   - Enter questions using Q&A
   - Share comments/resources using Chat
Community Planning and Programs to Support Access to HIV Services in California

Leroy Blea
Ending the Epidemics Program Manager
California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS

Ending the HIV Epidemic Regional Learning Collaborative
October 25, 2022
MAKING THE CONNECTION: Multiple Initiatives

National HIV/AIDS Strategy and the Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative

State; County EHE plans

CA Strategic Plan to address HIV, HCV, and STIs*

...plus, other programmatic initiatives (i.e. GTZ, HIV Prevention Group Plans, etc)

* Strategies proposed meet legislative and programmatic requirements for CDC DHAP and HRSA HAB

Overarching Principles

• Addressing HIV as a syndemic with STIs and HCV through a social determinants of health lens
• Achieving health equity and reducing disparities
• Implementing status neutral approaches
• Focus on priority populations
CDPH is prioritizing **six key social determinants of health**, each with **five broad strategies**, over the next five years.

**Racial Equity**
1. Leadership and workforce development
2. Racial/Ethnic data collection and stratification
3. Equitable distribution of funding and resources
4. Community engagement
5. Racial and social justice training

**Housing First**
1. Data collection and use
2. Infrastructure changes
3. New models of housing access
4. Street medicine strategies
5. Low-barrier housing options

**Health Access for All**
1. Redesigned Care Delivery
2. Trauma-Informed and Responsive Services
3. Fewer Hurdles to Healthcare Coverage
4. Culturally and Linguistically Relevant Services
5. Collaboration and Streamlining

**Stigma Free**
1. Nothing about us without us
2. Reframe policies and messaging
3. Positive, accurate information
4. Acknowledge medical mistrust
5. Ongoing partnerships

**Economic Justice**
1. Workforce development
2. Employment for people with lived experience
3. Equitable hiring practices and fair pay
4. Leadership development
5. Universal hiring and housing policies

**Mental Health & Substance Use**
1. Overdose prevention in correctional setting
2. Mental health and substance use disorder treatment access through telehealth
3. Build harm reduction infrastructure
4. Expand low-threshold SUD treatment options
5. Cross-sector collaboration
## Evaluation

**Includes 6 Metrics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Target: 2025/2030</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Incidence</td>
<td>75%/90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of HIV Status</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viral Suppression</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnoses</td>
<td>75%/90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linkage to HIV Medical Care</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PrEP Coverage</td>
<td>50%</td>
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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

• Initial presentation to CPG and Part A Planning bodies
  • CPG, Inland/Empire, LA, Alameda, Sacramento, San Fran, Santa Clara

• Statewide Townhall (over 460 participants)

• 17 In-Person Meetings throughout 5 regions; 4 virtual meetings
  • April – July, 300+ attendees

• Virtual Input Survey

• Providers’ Needs Assessment for Integrated Plan
  • 130 respondents from 27 counties throughout California

• Planned: Concurrence October/November 2022

• Planned: Draft Blueprint review period Dec/January 2023 (public comment)

• Planned: Second-round Presentations to Planning Councils January 2023
EXAMPLES OF SYNDROMIC WORK: INNOVATIONS AND ADVANCES

CDPH Office of AIDS

- Addressing social determinants of health
- Effectively delivers mobile primary care and other supportive services to unhoused communities

Street Medicine

- Person-centered self-testing
- Puts integrated screening into the hands of clients
- Plan to expand this service to all California counties

Take Me Home

CDPH STD Control Branch

- Emergency department community of practice for syphilis, HIV, and HCV screening
- Integration of STD, HIV, HCV and overdose into STD and HCV prevention and collaboration grants
- Including HCV care status in HIV out-of-care line lists for LHJs to support integrated case follow up
The HIV Prevention Branch funds initiatives to assist local health departments and other HIV service providers to implement effective HIV detection and prevention programs.

- HIV and HCV Testing
  - Focused and ROOT
  - OraQuick
- Demonstration Projects
  - PrEP and PEP Navigator Projects
  - Project Empowerment
  - Rapid Antiretroviral Treatment Projects
The goals of the HIV Care Branch are to

1. reduce the number of new HIV infections
2. increase access to quality of care, and
3. reduce HIV/AIDS related health disparities.

• AIDS Medi-Cal Waiver Program
• HIV Care Program
• Housing Plus Project
• Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
• Minority AIDS Initiative
The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Branch administers both ADAP for people living with HIV and AIDS in California, and the Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Assistance Program (PrEP-AP) for HIV negative individuals living in California, for the prevention of HIV.

- AIDS Drug Assistance Program
  - Health Insurance Premium Payment Program
  - Employer Based Health Insurance Premium Payment Program
  - Medicare Part D Premium Payment
- PrEP-AP
- PrEP Temporary Coverage
- PrEP Immediate Access
PrEP-AP Benefits

All enrolled PrEP-AP Clients can access these services at no cost:

- **Medication**
  - PrEP & PEP, STI Treatment/Prevention, Rapid ART

- **Testing**
  - HIV, Renal & Liver Function, STI & Hepatitis, Pregnancy

- **Services**
  - PrEP related Office Visits & Services

**Note:** PrEP-AP will cover remaining costs for these services after third party payers such as pharmaceutical assistance programs and insurance have been utilized.
Throughout California, PrEP-AP partners with:

- Enrollment sites
- Clinical providers
- Pharmacies (Magellan network, or AssistRx for clients enrolled in Advancing Access®)
- **Telehealth services available**

Find a PrEP-AP enrollment site or clinical provider at: https://cdphdata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.htm?id=6878d3a1c9724418aebfe96878cd5b2
Temporary Coverage

Uninsured individuals, minors (12-17), and clients with confidentiality concerns can enroll at a PrEP-AP Temporary Coverage pharmacy to access PrEP or PEP at the pharmacy.

• Coverage lasts for 30 days
• Regular PrEP-AP eligibility requirements do not apply
• Enrolled clients must see a PrEP-AP Clinical Provider for services
What is PrEP-AP Temporary Coverage?

- Expedient way for people to start PrEP or PEP
- Developed to compliment SB159
- Pharmacy staff enrolls their client in PrEP-AP Temporary Coverage to assist with cost of medication and services
- Available through pharmacies that contract with PrEP-AP
  - Must have a pharmacist trained to dispense PrEP and PEP
  - Must be a MagellanRx ADAP/PrEP-AP network pharmacy
  - Find Temporary Coverage Enrollment Sites on the PrEP-AP site map
- Enrolled clients must see a PrEP-AP Clinical Provider for services such as a medical office visit or testing
Immediate Access

Individuals 13 and older can enroll through the Immediate Access portal to access PrEP or PEP.

• Coverage lasts for 30 days
• Regular PrEP-AP eligibility requirements do not apply
• Clients see a PrEP-AP Clinical Provider
  • Note: Insured clients must see a provider in their health plan’s network
• Clients pick up their medications at a MagellanRx pharmacy
What is PrEP-AP Immediate Access?

- Expedient way for people to start PrEP or PEP
- Developed to address gaps in quick access to PrEP & PEP care
- Clients self-enroll in PrEP-AP Immediate Access through the Immediate Access Portal to assist with cost of medication and services
- After enrolling, clients will need to see a provider for a PrEP or PEP prescription
  - Insured clients must see a provider in their health plans network
  - All other Immediate Access clients must see a PrEP-AP Clinical Provider

*Clients who already have a prescription for PrEP/PEP can pick up their medications at a MagellanRx pharmacy*
Thank You!

Questions?

• Follow our progress or get more information:

https://tinyurl.com/CDPHStratPlan

Leroy.Blea@cdph.ca.gov
Rapid & Ready Navigation Program

October 25th, 2022

Kim Bui, MPH
she/her/hers
Section Manager – Direct Community Services
Division of HIV and STD Programs
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Rapid Navigation Team

Francisco Armenta
(He/They/El)

Ariel Garcia
(They/Them/El)

EJ Schadegg
(She/They)
What is the Rapid and Ready Program?

• The Rapid and Ready Program is a new effort that is part of the national Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) initiative

• The goal is to link clients to an HIV provider for immediate treatment, also known as “Rapid ART”
Rapid and Ready Program Components

- Rapid Navigators
- Rapid Treatment Hubs
- Capacity Assessment
- Learning Collaborative and Coaching
Rapid and Ready Referral Flow

- PCPs
- Prenatal Care Providers
- Mobile Testing Units
- EDs
- Others

HIV Testing Sites ➔ Navigators ➔ HIV Medical Care

- Rapid ART Hubs
- Kaiser
- DHS Providers
- Others
Who can receive the Rapid and Ready Navigation Program services?

• The program is intended for anyone who tests positive for HIV in LA County and is interested in seeing an HIV provider
• The program can also serve anyone with HIV who has recently relocated to or are wishing to relocate to LA County
• HIV testing sites, community clinics, medical centers, and emergency departments can use this service to seek assistance with linking clients to HIV care
Rapid Navigation Services Offered

• Services include:
  • Field/home visits
  • Assistance with transportation
  • Assistance with insurance and benefits screening requirements
  • Accompanying clients to clinic visits
  • Psychosocial support
  • Referrals to resources including partner services
  • Ensuring successful transition of care
Case Vignette #1

• Demographics: 36 y/o Latinx male, new diagnosis
• Referral source: Internal (DHSP) – Partner Services
• Referred 8/25, linked to care 8/30
• Case highlights:
  ○ Client needed treatment for both HIV and syphilis
  ○ Client had a partner who was also newly diagnosed with HIV
  ○ With strong point-of-contact at clinic, an appt was scheduled and streamlined within 3 business days for both the client and partner
  ○ Client was able to meet with the provider, receive ART, and receive syphilis tx
Case Vignette #2

• Demographics: 22 y/o AA male, new diagnosis
• Referral source: DHSP Mobile Testing Unit
• Referred 5/19, linked to care 6/21
• Case highlights:
  ○ Initial appointment was scheduled for 6/3/22 but could only complete financial screening; could not see the provider or obtain meds due to Medi-Cal being connected to SF
  ○ Confusion around appointment scheduling and difficulties confirming appointments
  ○ Client was linked and obtained meds on 6/21/22, but had some difficulties with the refill process
  ○ R&R closed the case once client reached undetectable status
Keys to Success

• Having designated clinic point-of-contact specific to HIV linkage
• Good communication between Navs and clinic teams
• Appointment availability that meets patient needs
• Welcoming front-desk staff who are knowledgeable about rapid program and goals
• Having meds or starter packs issued at initial visits
Barriers + Challenges

• No point-of-contact and unclear process for accessing rapid visit
• Appointment availability > 7 business days
• Meds/starter packs not always issued at initial visit
  • Rotating/on-call providers, not all providers trained on expected practice
• Front desk staff not aware of Rapid program or not welcoming
Rapid and Ready Program Components

- Rapid Navigators
- Rapid Treatment Hubs
- Capacity Assessment
- Learning Collaborative and Coaching
How to access the Rapid and Ready Navigation Program

• To access the program, providers and the community can call toll-free **833-351-2298** or email **rapid@ph.lacounty.gov** to connect with a member of the Rapid Navigation Team

• Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM
Thank you!