



NASTAD 2023 National HIV and Hepatitis Technical Assistance Meeting

Reaffirming Meaningful Community Engagement
October 12, 2023

Heather Hauck, MSW, LICSW
Deputy Associate Administrator
HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB)

Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People



HRSA HAB Vision and Mission

Vision

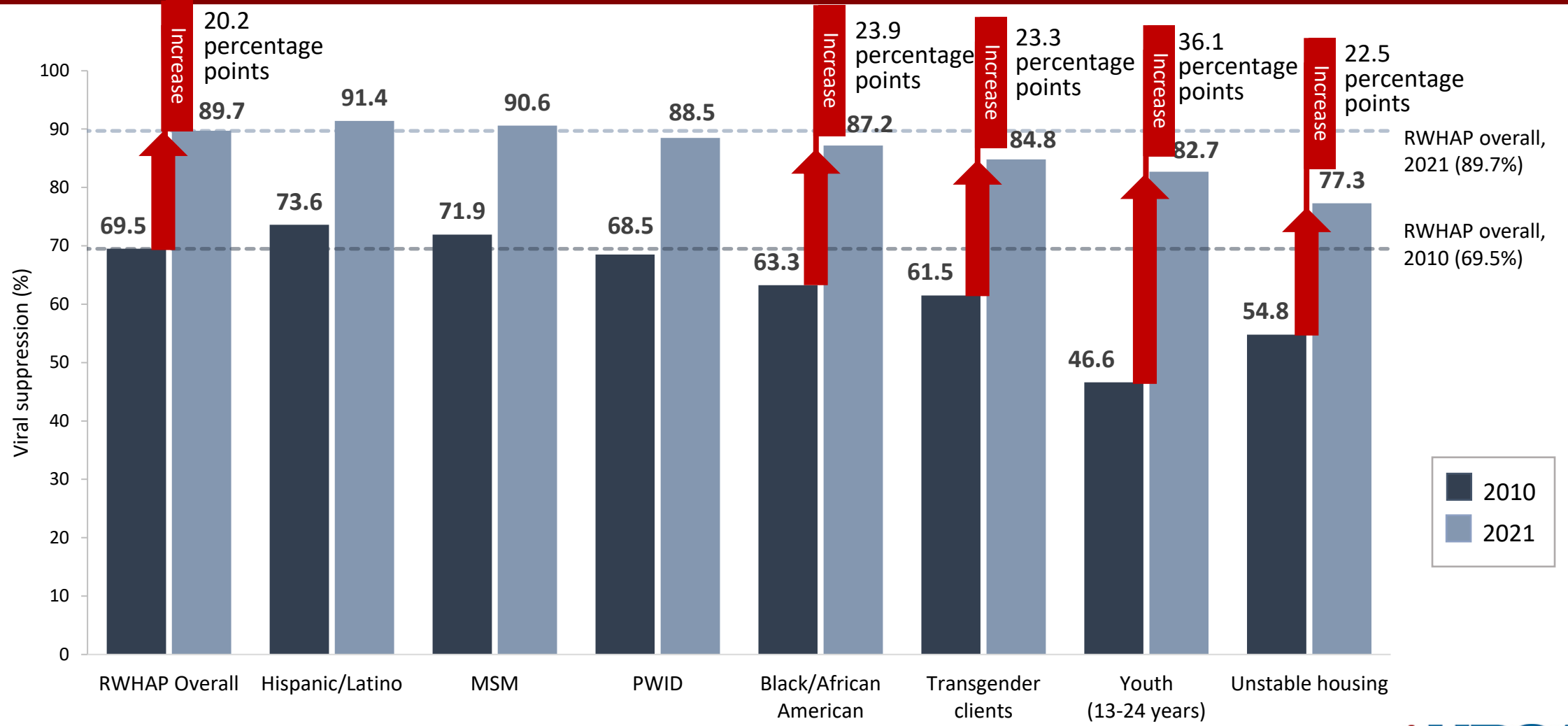
Optimal HIV care and treatment for all to end the HIV epidemic in the U.S.

Mission

Provide leadership and resources to advance HIV care and treatment to improve health outcomes and reduce health disparities for people with HIV and affected communities.



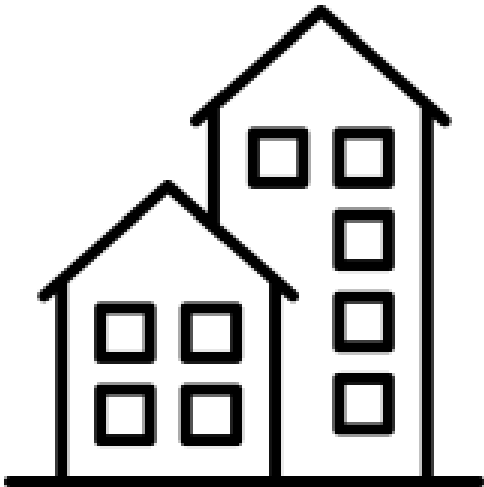
Significant progress has been made in viral suppression among priority populations, but inequities remain, particularly among Black/African American clients, transgender clients, youth aged 13–24 years, and clients with unstable housing.



Source: HRSA. Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Data Report (RSR) 2021. Does not include AIDS Drug Assistance Program data.

HRSA SPNS Initiative: Supporting Replication of Housing Interventions in the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (SURE)

SURE Housing uses an implementation science approach to identify, evaluate, and support replication of effective housing interventions in the RWHAP to decrease health and housing disparities and improve health outcomes along the HIV care continuum.



People with
incarceration
experience



People who
identify as
LGBTQ+



Youth and
Young Adults
(13-24)

HRSA SPNS Initiative: Using Innovative Intervention Strategies to Improve Health Outcomes among People with HIV – 2iS



LGBTQ+
Youth

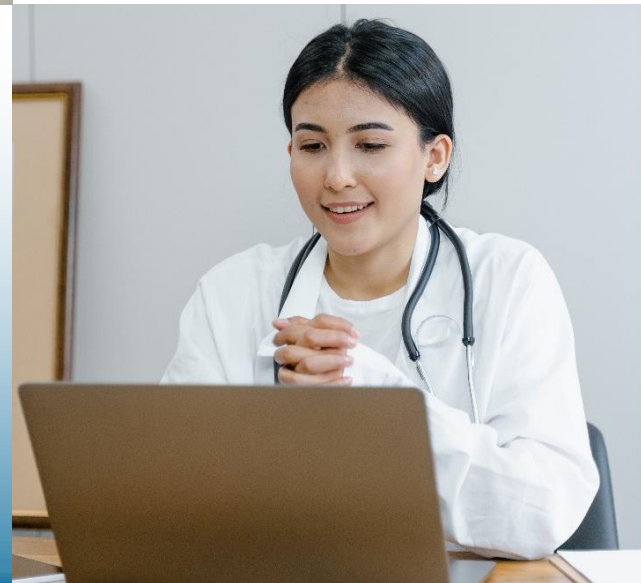


Telehealth

Incarceration
Experience



Substance
Use
Disorder



HRSA SPNS Initiative: Improving Care and Treatment Coordination Focusing on Black Women with HIV

Black Women First Initiative supports the design, implementation, and evaluation of the use of bundled interventions to improve HIV care and treatment coordination for cisgender and transgender Black women.

Benefits of bundled interventions include:

- Addressing socio-cultural health determinants
- Expanding delivery and utilization of comprehensive HIV care and treatment services
- Supporting continuous engagement in care
- Improving health outcomes for Black women with HIV in a culturally sensitive and responsive manner



SPNS Funded Initiative: Emerging Strategies to Improve Health Outcomes for People Aging with HIV



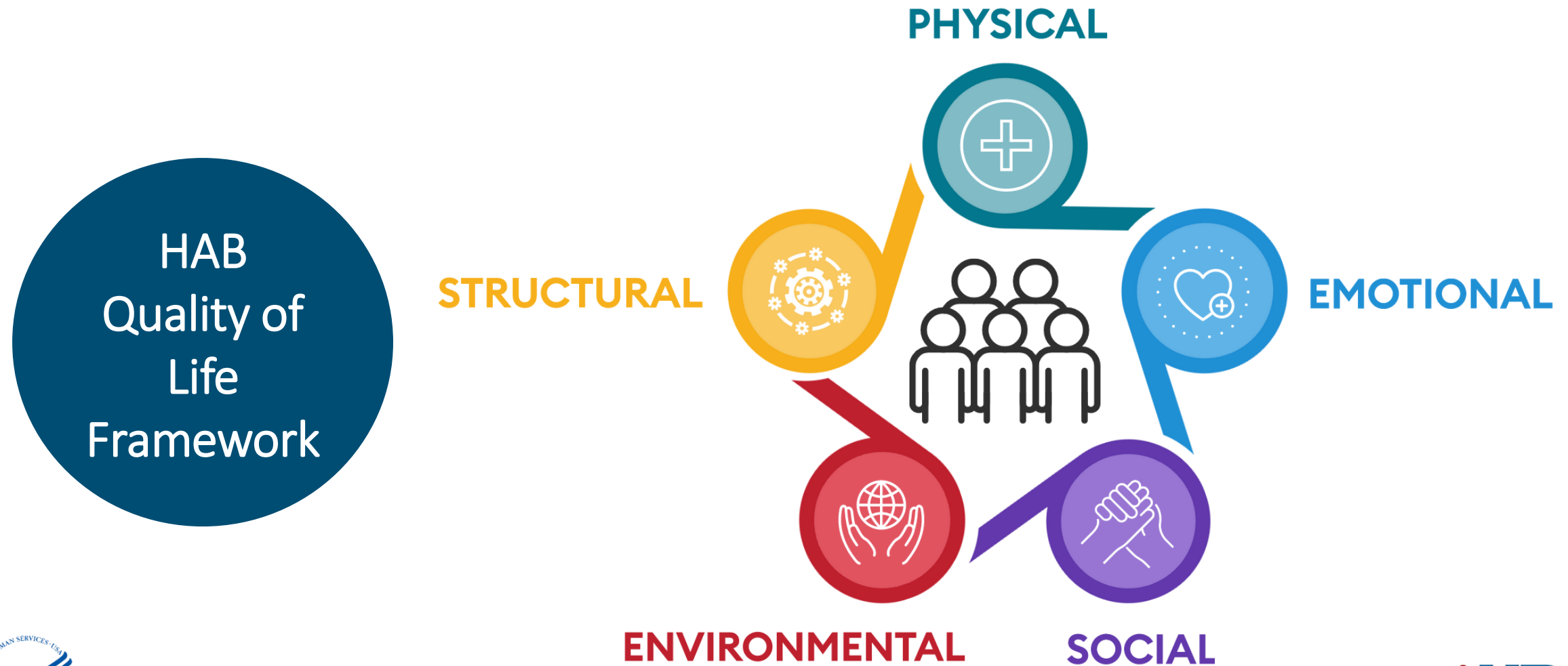
Project Period: AUG. 2022 – JULY 2025

Implement emerging strategies to comprehensively screen and manage comorbidities | geriatric conditions | behavioral health | psychosocial needs of people 50 years and older.

Demonstration sites

Beth Israel Medical Center | Boston Medical Center | Centro Ararat | Colorado Health Network | Empower U | Family Health Centers of San Diego | University Of Chicago | UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside | Wake Forest University | Yale University

Quality of Life (QoL) Framework



Supporting Community Engagement in the RWHAP

February 28, 2023

Dear [Ryan](#) White HIV/AIDS Program Colleagues,

The voices of people with HIV and their communities have been the cornerstone of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) since its enactment by Congress in 1990. The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) supports community engagement efforts through a range of activities including hosting community engagement listening sessions,¹ developing tools and providing leadership training to people with HIV, elevating the voices of people with lived experience², and funding initiatives to engage communities and address unmet needs. Additionally, RWHAP recipients and subrecipients engage community through Planning Councils,³ Planning Bodies, consortia, integrated planning groups, community advisory boards, and community involvement in clinical quality management activities. RWHAP recipients and subrecipients are also involved in community engagement activities via outreach, education, and collaboration with both traditional and non-traditional partners.

Because HRSA HAB recognizes the value of people with lived experience and the ways their input and expertise contribute to the delivery of services that are tailored to the needs of people with HIV, this letter articulates three mechanisms that RWHAP recipients and subrecipients can utilize to maximize community input.

1. While the RWHAP statute prohibits recipients from making cash payments to people with HIV, RWHAP recipients can support the meaningful participation of people with HIV by providing incentives, such as store gift cards, vouchers, coupons, or tickets that can be exchanged for a specific service or commodity. As outlined in [HRSA HAB Policy Clarification Notice \(PCN\) 16-02: Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Services: Eligible Individuals & Allowable Uses of Funds](#), RWHAP recipients and subrecipients are advised to administer vouchers and store gift cards in a manner that assures they cannot be exchanged for cash or used for anything other than allowable goods or services. RWHAP recipients and subrecipients should develop a tracking system for the purchase and disbursement of incentives and establish policies and procedures that outline the criteria for offering incentives that include but are not limited to the type and amount of the incentive; the criteria for determining who receives an incentive; and the frequency of distributing the incentives.

¹ Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. Initiative 2021 Community Engagement Listening Sessions <https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/ryanwhite/resources/hrsa-ehc-exec-summary-2021.pdf>

² Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program's *Life Beyond HIV*. <https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov/resources/videos>

³ RWHAP Part A Planning Council and Planning Body Letter - Supporting People With Lived Experience <https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/ryanwhite/grants/rwhap-part-a-letter-support-lived-experience.pdf>

- HRSA HAB released a Program Letter outlining how the RWHAP can support **community engagement** efforts by outlining three mechanisms that RWHAP recipients and subrecipients can utilize to maximize community input.
- Access the letter: <https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov/grants/program-letters>



2023 CDC/HRSA Virtual Community Engagement Listening Sessions

WE'RE HERE TO...
ENCOURAGE • EMPOWER • ENGAGE

**CDC AND HRSA JOINT VIRTUAL
PUBLIC HEALTH LEADER ROUNDTABLE
HHS REGIONS 8&10**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023 • 4-5:30PM ET

HRSA
Health Resources & Services Administration



WE'RE HERE TO...
ENCOURAGE • EMPOWER • ENGAGE

**CDC AND HRSA JOINT VIRTUAL
COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSION
HHS REGIONS 8&10**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2023 • 4-5:30PM ET


HRSA
Health Resources & Services Administration



HRSA
Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

Recently Released HAB Program Letters

April 12, 2023



Dear Recipients:

In recent years, numerous homeless and housing social determinant of health care outcomes. The experience to higher viral loads and fail people with HIV. The Health [White HIV/AIDS Program](#) (RW) lower levels of viral suppression versus 90.8% clients¹. With increased vulnerability foundation from which people associated with reductions HIV².

[The National HIV/AIDS Strategy](#) to decrease homelessness 4 percent. The Strategy also call local governments and respond to HIV outbreaks³. (CDC) [Division of HIV Prevention Development](#) (HUD) [Office of \(HAB\)](#) have partnered on re-experiencing homelessness Based on the lessons learned HUD, and HRSA encourage prepare for and respond to

- Health departments at prevention, care, and H

April 26, 2023

Dear Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Colleagues:

As sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including the disproportionate impact on people with HIV, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) HIV/AIDS Bureau's (HAB) Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RW) role in addressing STIs for people with HIV. This includes RW's HIV/AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) forum.

ADAPs ensure that eligible people with HIV can access their health outcomes and reduce HIV transmission. Similarly, decreases the potential for STI transmission. While many provide access to medications used to treat STIs, ADAPs formulary to ensure that all preferred and second line medication guidelines are included, especially in jurisdiction.

The 2022-2025 National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS)¹ identifies conditions that adversely interact with each other and can and ongoing health disparities and inequities. Rates of STI than people without HIV, and people with HIV who have transmit HIV to a partner. Furthermore, people without HIV likely to contract HIV.² Overall, STI rates have increased alarming risk both for people with HIV and for new HIV. NHAS priority populations including communities of color (MSM), heterosexual women, and youth.³

Per the RW/HAB statute, RW/HAB recipients and subrecipient federally approved HIV clinical practice guidelines, including [Treatment of Opportunistic Infections in Adults and Adolescents](#) and [Treatment of Syphilis](#). In addition, the 2021 [STI Treatment Guidelines](#) (CDC) include updated treatment factor-based testing for select STIs. When implemented at can reduce barriers to STI treatment, decrease transmission

¹ National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States 2022-2025
² Sexually transmitted infections and HIV in the era of antiretroviral therapy
³ <https://www.cdc.gov/nih/oddsatlas/oddsatlas.html>
⁴ National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the United States 2022-2025
⁵ CDC. [2021 STI Treatment Guidelines](#)

Health Resources and Services Administration
Rockville, MD 20857
HIV/AIDS Bureau

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration
Rockville, MD 20857
HIV/AIDS Bureau

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration
Rockville, MD 20857
HIV/AIDS Bureau

May 11, 2023

Dear Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part B AIDS Drug

The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRS) encourages all Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RW) recipients to include medications for self-referred to medication-assisted treatment or MAT, including buprenorphine (BUP), and naloxone for opioid overdose prevention (N/O).

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in combination with community-based organizations (CBOs) provide a "whole-patient" approach to the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD), and naloxone for opioid overdose prevention (N/O).

"Research shows that a combination of medication, counseling, and social support can help sustain that receiving buprenorphine and naloxone treatment can help people with OUD, leading to improvements in physical and mental health."

The misuse of prescription opioids and use of heroin is one of the most significant public health issues in the United States. The Human Services Administration (HSA) [Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Therapy for HIV](#) (HHS treatment guidelines) note that the is higher among people with HIV than among the general population.¹ The HHS treatment guidelines state:

Opioids remain a significant concern for people with HIV and are a major contributor to morbidity and mortality in the leading cause of accidental and intentional deaths. Appropriate use of opioids while caring for people with HIV is an important component of combating the opioid epidemic.

The HHS treatment guidelines also state that "People with evidence-based pharmacotherapy (including opioid agonist treatment) in clinical settings." Specifically, the guidelines

Thursday, July 6, 2023

Dear Health Resources and Services Administration Recipient Colleagues:

This letter is to inform Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) recipients of the increasing syphilis rates within American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) communities. In partnership with the Indian Health Service (IHS), HRSA specifically notes the escalating rates of syphilis within highly impacted jurisdictions in Alaska, Arizona, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oregon, and South Dakota. Given the reach of HRSA programs and services across impacted communities, this letter is a request to utilize the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) sexually transmitted infections (STIs) screening and treatment guidelines to address this serious issue among AI/AN communities. This letter also includes the [HHS Field Treatment Guidelines](#) sent to IHS partners (see Attachment).

Nationally, CDC data indicate that the rate of primary and secondary syphilis among AI/AN in 2021 was 42.2 per 100,000 (nearly 5 times that of white individuals), up 520 percent from 8.0 per 100,000 among AI/AN in 2016. In the same time period, congenital syphilis has increased over 900 percent among AI/AN (rate of 37.7 per 100,000 live births in 2016 compared to 363.7 in 2021) and is almost 10 times higher than whites.

HRSA recommends that recipients and subrecipients adopt the CDC recommendation for universal screening and testing for at-risk populations and follow their local and state testing and treatment guidelines for syphilis and other STIs.

As always, thank you for your ongoing commitment and dedication to support the prevention, care, and treatment needs of people across the country.

Sincerely,

Taura W. Cheever / Antigone Dempsey
Laura Cheever, MD, ScM / Antigone Dempsey, MEd
Associate Administrator / Associate Administrator
HIV/AIDS Bureau / Office of Intergovernmental & External Affairs

Access HAB Program Letters:
<https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov/grants/program-letters>

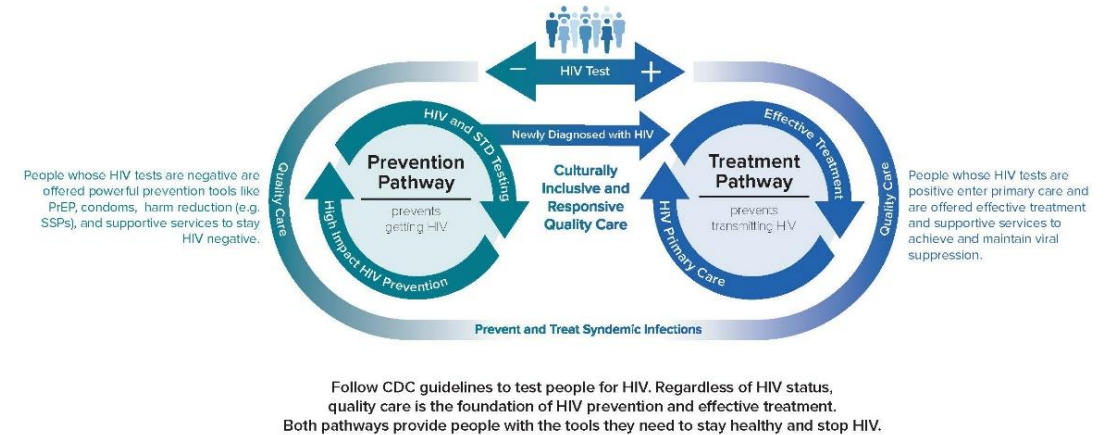


A Status Neutral Approach to Improve HIV Prevention and Health Outcomes for Racial and Ethnic Minorities (FY 2023 – FY 2026)

Purpose

- A three-year initiative to develop, implement, and evaluate status neutral strategies within Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A jurisdictions for racial and ethnic minority subpopulations who need HIV prevention services.
- Project focuses on the prevention pathway, using existing RWHAP non-medical case management (NMCM) model for those who test negative and are at substantial risk for HIV

Status Neutral HIV Prevention and Care

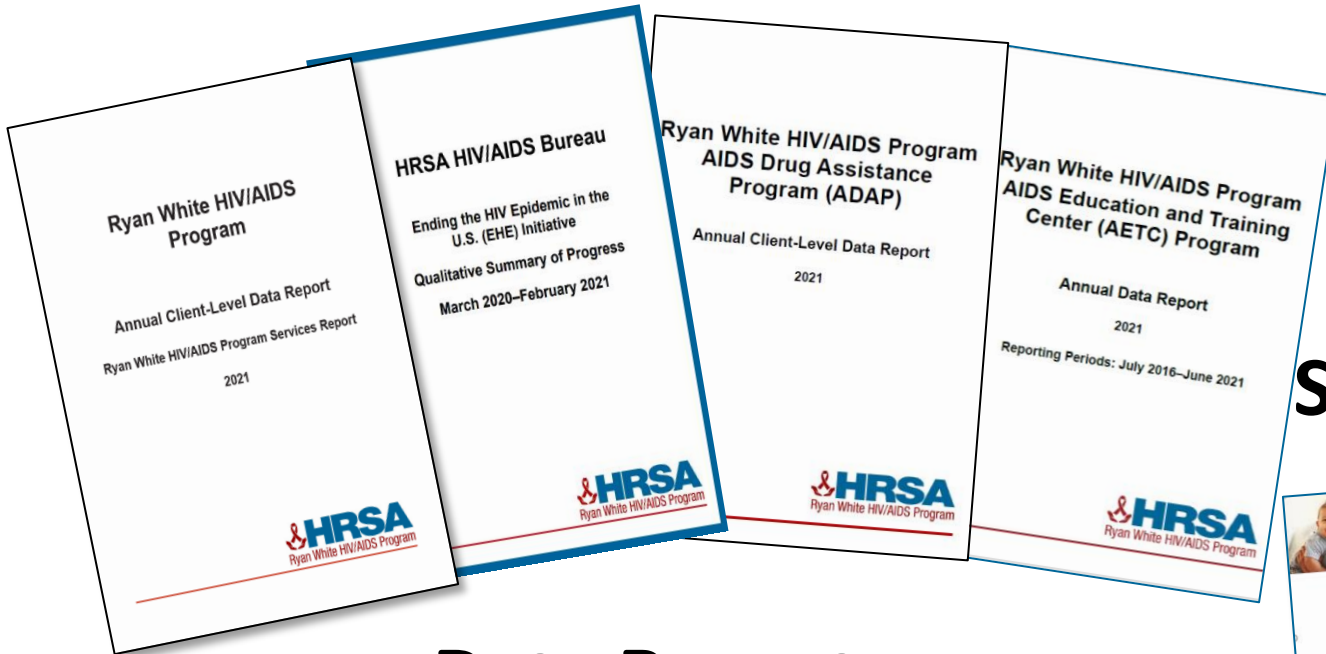


HRSA HAB Data Resources

Interactive data visualization dashboard

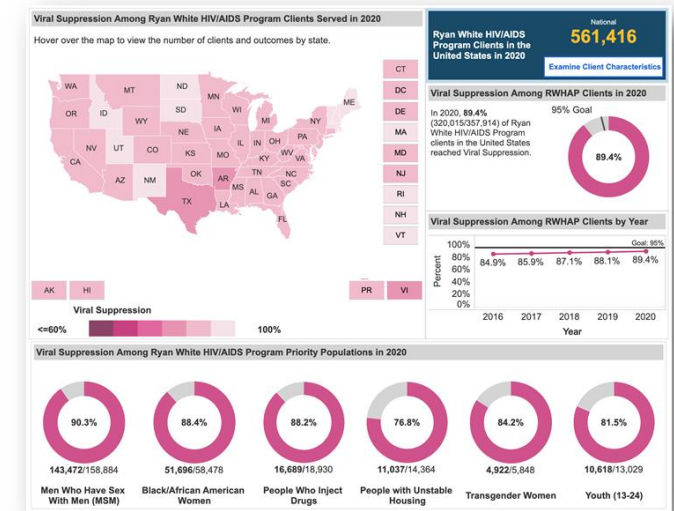
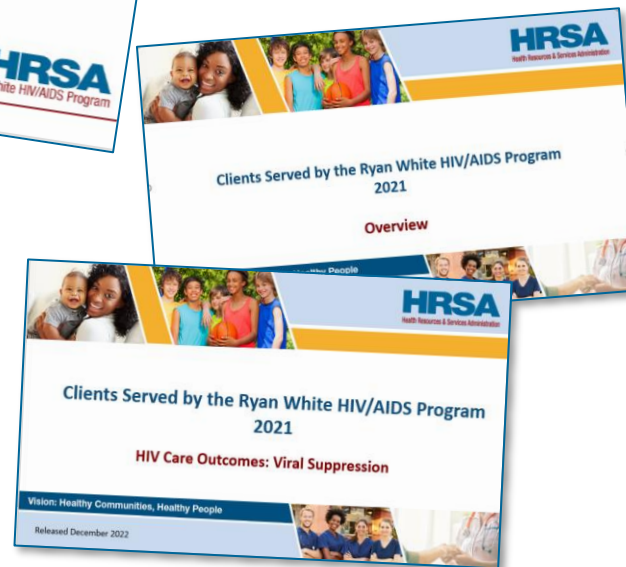


HEALTH RESOURCES & SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM
COMPASS



Data Reports

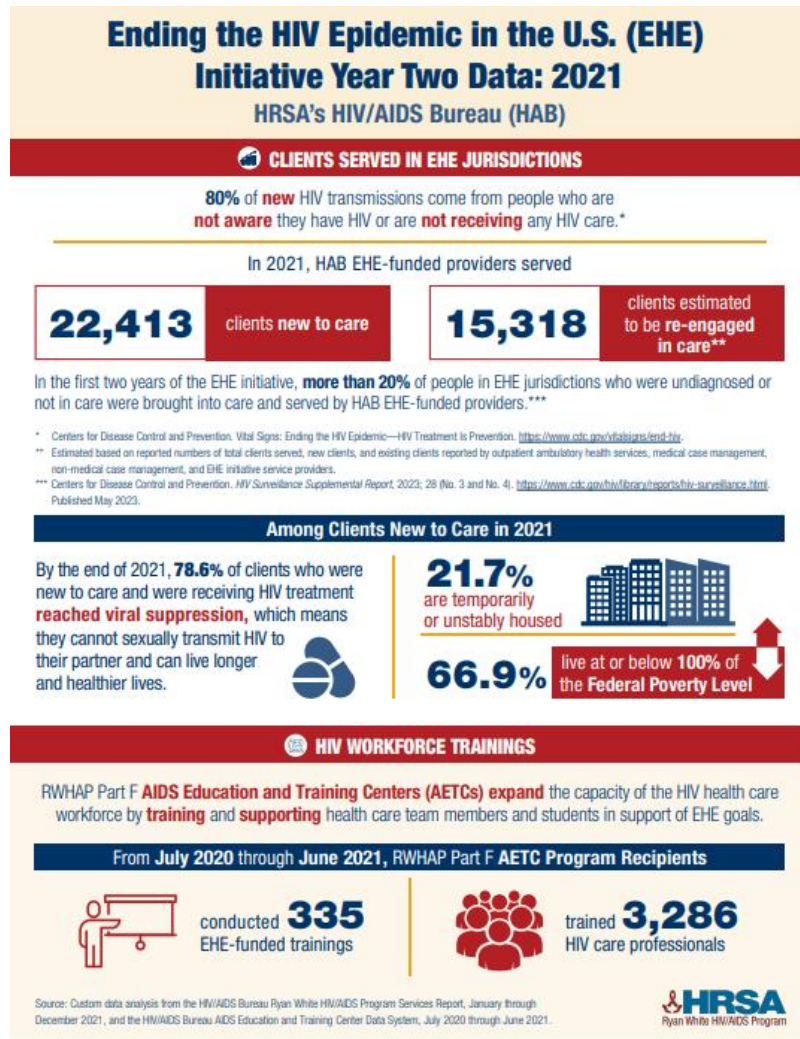
Slide decks



<https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov/data>



Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. (EHE) Infographic



- Highlighting Year 2 data from the Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. (EHE) initiative
 - RSR data
 - AETC data
- Available at:
<https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov/resources/hivaids-bureau-infographics>

Contact Information

Heather Hauck, MSW, LICSW
Deputy Associate Administrator
HIV/AIDS Bureau
Health Resources and Services
Administration

Email: HHauck@hrsa.gov

Connect with HRSA

Learn more about our agency at:

www.HRSA.gov



[Sign up for the HRSA eNews](#)

FOLLOW US:

