



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH

Ending the HIV Epidemic: An Update in the Time of COVID 19

Reunion Latina

Latino Commission on AIDS - Virtual Meeting

June 3, 2020



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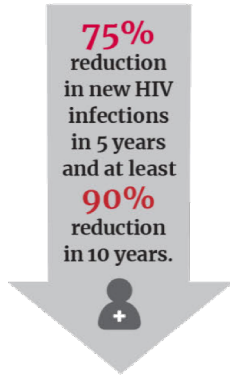
- EHE overview
- EHE update
- HIV and COVID 19
- New service delivery models



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Ending The HIV Epidemic: A Plan For America

GOAL



ACHIEVING THE GOALS

✓ DIAGNOSE

All people with HIV as early as possible after infection

✓ TREAT

People with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression

✓ PREVENT

New HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs (SSPs)

✓ RESPOND

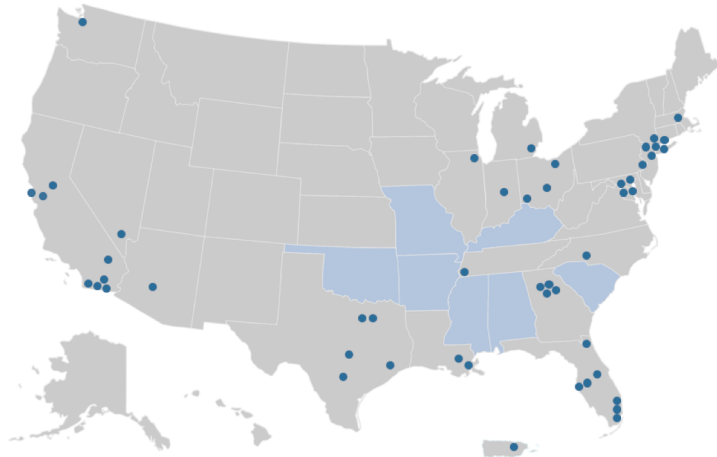
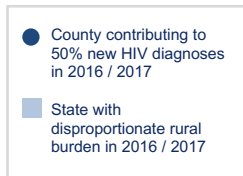
Quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them



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Phase One Locations

48 counties, DC, and San Juan account for 50% of new diagnoses; 7 states with substantial rural HIV burden



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Summary of EHE Initiative Progress

Major Achievements:

- Established Prevention Through Active Community Engagement (PACE) Program in Regions 4, 6 & 9.
- Implemented jump-start programs in four Phase I jurisdictions.
- Phase I jurisdictions developed draft community plans for *Ending the HIV Epidemic*.
- Awarded funds to enhance and expand HIV diagnosis, PrEP initiation, HIV prevention, linkage to treatment, engagement in care, and viral suppression.
- Developed and implemented distribution of donated pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medications to uninsured, at-risk individuals.



Summary of EHE Initiative Progress (cont.)

Major Achievements:

- Developed and implemented an education and awareness campaign on PrEP and the HHS Ready, Set, PrEP Program.
- Developing the Data Analysis and Visualization System (Dashboard) for the *Ending the HIV Epidemic* initiative.
- Creating EHE collaborations with other federal colleagues – HOPWA, OWH, OMH, OPA, VA.
- Exploring future collaborations and policy discussions – CMS, DOJ, DOL, and Treasury.
- Developing EHE initiative engagement strategies for other sectors of society.



Listening Sessions: Feedback

Access: Expand availability of testing, PrEP, and ART by meeting patients within their community

Innovation: Utilize non-traditional delivery systems including telemedicine and means to expand case management

Stigma: High profile effort needed to combat stigma, specifically around HIV testing, prevention, and treatment

Coordination of Care: Encourage providers to integrate HIV diagnosis and treatment into primary care; rapid linkage to care

Communication: Lack of knowledge with regard to treatment and prevention – need for effective and robust education awareness utilizing all forms of media

Social Determinants: Access to stable housing, criminal justice laws, transportation

Workforce: Public health departments need additional resources, empowering communities and people living with HIV to enter the workforce



Secretary Azar, Dr. Redfield, and Mr. Grogan Roundtable Discussion, Indianapolis Indiana



ADM Giroir announces PACE Initiative, Jackson Mississippi



Drs. Redfield and Beckham HIV Listening Session, Houston Texas



HHS Global-Domestic HIV Meeting



Open Arms Healthcare Center



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Prevention Through Active Community Engagement (PACE)

Region 4 (Atlanta)

Region 6 (Dallas)

Region 9 (Los Angeles)

Senior Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Officers Assigned to Regions

- Assist HHS Regional Offices in *Ending the HIV Epidemic* activities
- Prepare urban and rural areas to implement the EHE initiative
- Serve as public health educators and coordinators
- Engage public at open forums and community centers
- Serve as force multipliers
- Assess communities' needs and gaps to inform HHS planning and implementation



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READY SET PrEP

This program makes PrEP medications available at no cost for qualifying recipients

Ending the HIV Epidemic

READY SET PrEP

<https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/ending-the-hiv-epidemic/prep-program>

READY, SET, PrEP

makes PrEP medication available at no cost.

→ FIND OUT IF YOU QUALIFY

Ending the HIV Epidemic

READY SET PrEP

To receive PrEP through the Ready, Set, PrEP program, an individual must:

- Test negative for HIV
- Have a valid prescription for PrEP
- Not have prescription drug coverage


For individuals enrolled in the program, there is **no cost** for medications.

The costs of clinic visits and lab tests may depend on a person's income and where they receive the services.


Enrollment Page: GetYourPrEP.com

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- These retail pharmacies distribute PrEP medications at no cost to Ready Set PrEP program qualified patients. They are the only pharmacies distributing PrEP medications on behalf of the Ready Set PrEP Program.
- Patients can also get PrEP medications through mail order at no cost.
- These pharmacies also provide patient counseling and take steps to promote patient adherence to the regimen.



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PrEP Education & Awareness Campaign



- Phase I
 - Provider and Community Education & Awareness Campaign
 - Branding
 - Creation of materials
- Phase II
 - Extended education & awareness campaign
 - Jurisdiction support
 - Community focus groups
- Achieve maximum impact through focus groups and other feedback mechanisms
- Integrated approach:
 - Owned Media - webinars, podcasts, mobile apps, and newsletters.
 - Earned Media - press releases, speaking engagements, media outreach.
 - Shared Media - Facebook, Twitter, YouTube.
 - Paid Media -social media ads, sponsored posts/content, in-app ads.



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Ready, Set, PrEP Materials

Resources:

- **Fact Sheets**
 - Consumer (English/Spanish)
 - Healthcare Provider (English/Spanish)
 - Indian Health Service
- **Posters** (English/Spanish)
- **Information Card** (English/Spanish)
- **Social Media Toolkit**
- **Sharable Graphics** (English/Spanish)



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AHEAD: Advanced HIV Epidemic Analysis Dashboard



AHEAD is a data visualization tool to support jurisdictional efforts towards reaching the goals of the *Ending the Epidemic: A Plan for America* initiative.

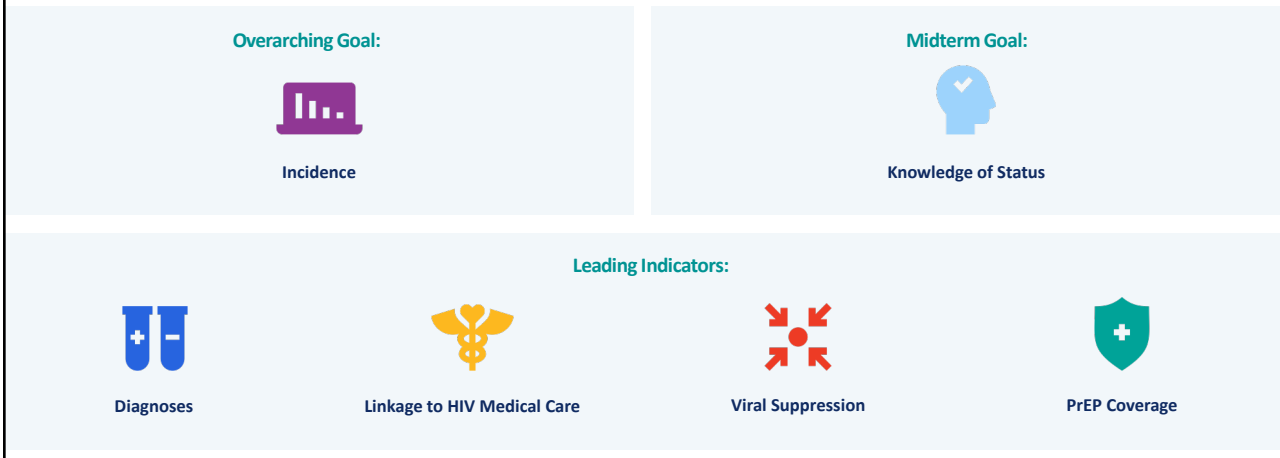


AHEAD will display baseline data and indicator targets for six HIV indicators.

Using these baseline data and the indicators, AHEAD will enable users to monitor progress towards meeting EHE goals.

How Will Jurisdictions Use AHEAD?

Jurisdictions can track their progress toward the six EHE indicators:



Ending the HIV Epidemic Investments

Discretionary Investments (In Millions)

Year	2019	2020	President's Budget 2021
Investment	\$33 m	\$291 m	\$716 m

EHE Funding for CDC, HRSA, NIH, IHS

- State and local health departments and community based organizations
- Ryan White care centers
- Community health centers
- Implementation science research
- Tribal and Urban Indian Health Programs



CDC Funding Opportunities



PS19-1906: Strategic Partnerships and Planning to Support Ending the HIV Epidemic in the United States – Component B: Accelerating State and Local HIV **Planning** to End the HIV Epidemic

- Development of jurisdictional EHE plans
- Emphasis on engaging community in the development of plans
- Draft plans submitted Dec, 2019
- Feedback on drafts March, 2020
- Final plans due – December 31,2020

• CDC-RFA-PS20-2010: Development and **Implementation** of Programs Tailored to the Four Pillars of EHE (Diagnose, Treat, Prevent, and Respond) (component A)

- Applications due May 1, 2020 due to COVID 19
- Proposed Award Start Date: August 1, 2020.



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HRSA EHE Funding Awards



All Awarded in March, 2020:

HRSA Bureau of Primary Health Care

- Primary Care HIV Prevention Supplemental Award

HRSA HIV AIDS Bureau

- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Parts A and B (HRSA 20-078)
- Technical Assistance Provider (HRSA 20-079)
- Systems Coordination Provider (HRSA 20-089)



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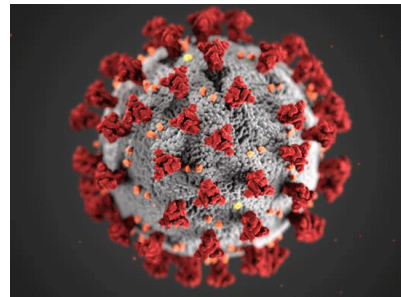
HHS Minority HIV/AIDS Fund FY2020 Awards: 9 Projects

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - Scaling up HIV Prevention Services in STD Specialty Clinics through Training and Technical Assistance
 - Mass Mailing HIV Self-Tests to Transgender Women and Racial/Ethnic Minority Communities Disproportionately Affected by HIV/AIDS
- Health Resources and Services Administration –**Applications due June, 2020**
 - Ending the HIV Epidemic: Technical Assistance and Training on Stigma and Cultural Humility
 - Improving Care and Treatment Coordination for Black Women with HIV
 - Building Capacity to Implement Rapid ART Start for Improved Care Engagement in the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program
- Indian Health Service
 - National Continuum of Care Technical Assistance to Enhance Universal HIV and Hep C Training
 - Clinical Innovations to Increase Role of Pharmacists to Provide PrEP in Indian Country
 - Empowering Healthier Tribal Communities: Reducing New HIV Infections, Improving HIV-related Health Outcomes, and Reducing HIV and Comorbidity-related Health Disparities
 - Project Red Talon: Targeting Teens and Young Adults



HIV and COVID 19

- **People with HIV (PWH) are likely at increased risk for severe disease from COVID 19:**
 - People with a low CD4 cell count
 - People not on HIV treatment (antiretroviral therapy or ART).
 - Older age people, underlying medical conditions
- **Recommendation: PWH should stay in care and follow the advice of their health care provider:**
 - Ensure adequate supply of medications
 - Check in with provider, including using telehealth
- **COVID 19 response may result in limited access to care:**
 - Decreased access to continuity of care for PWH
 - Gaps in prescription refills and testing
 - Decreased HIV testing, access to PrEP and linkage to care



HIV Testing in the Time of COVID 19:

Ending the HIV Epidemic Remains an Administration Priority

- HIV self-testing
 - OraQuick In-Home HIV Test- FDA approved in home test
 - Positive test requires confirmation by lab based testing
- [CDC encourages use of HIV self-testing](#) and encourages health departments to develop self-testing programs with linkage to care, SAMHSA and HRSA/BPHC provided similar guidance
Example State programs: NY, VA, AZ
- eSTAMP study
- National Home Test Kits program for state and local health departments



HIV Prevention in the Time of COVID 19

- Options for PrEP provision given social distancing and reduced public health services:
- [CDC Dear Colleague Letter](#):
 - Quarterly lab only testing - **preferred**
 - Home specimen collection kits for HIV and STI tests
 - HIV self-testing
- Prescriptions
 - 90 day supply
- Innovative Home Delivery Syringe Services Programs and Home and Mail Order Condom Distribution



HIV Treatment in the Time of COVID-19: New Service Delivery Models Using *Telehealth*

- **HRSA and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)** released guidance encouraging telehealth use and recommending other ways to ensure access to critical medications and services.
- **CMS** expanded Medicare coverage for telehealth visits to extend Americans' access to telehealth services during the COVID-19 outbreak.
- **HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR)** announced it will waive potential HIPAA penalties for good-faith use of telehealth during the emergency.
- **HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG)** provided flexibility for healthcare providers to reduce or waive beneficiary cost-sharing for telehealth visits paid by federal healthcare programs.
- Resource: [Telehealth.hhs.gov](https://www.telehealth.hhs.gov)



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HIV and COVID-19: Federal Resources

- **HIV.gov** has launched [HIV.gov/coronavirus](https://www.hiv.gov/coronavirus), a collection of federal resources for people with HIV and the healthcare providers and service organizations who work with them.
Three key resources:
- **NIH:** [Interim Guidance for COVID-19 and Persons with HIV](#)
 - This guidance was developed collectively by the HHS Antiretroviral and Opportunistic Infections Guidelines Working Groups of the Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council.
- **CDC:** [What to Know about HIV and COVID 19](#)
 - This webpage answers frequently asked questions (FAQs) regarding the impact of COVID-19 on people with HIV.
- **HRSA HAB:** [RWHAP COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#)
 - These FAQs were developed to assist HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program recipients, subrecipients, and stakeholders.



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HIV and COVID 19: Other Guidance & Resources

- **SAMHSA:** [SAMHSA.gov/coronavirus](https://www.samhsa.gov/coronavirus)
 - Provides guidance and resources on prevention and treatment for those with mental health and substance use disorders as they relate to COVID-19.
- **SAMHSA:** [Tips for Social Distancing, Quarantine, and Isolation During an Infectious Disease Outbreak](#)
 - Resources supporting behavioral health, such as *Tips for Social Distancing, Quarantine, and Isolation During an Infectious Disease Outbreak*.
- **HUD:** [Using HOPWA Program Funds for Infectious Disease Preparedness and Response](#)
 - Resource describes how HOPWA grantees and project sponsors may use HOPWA funds to prepare for and respond to COVID-19.



WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY INITIATIVE





Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
Department of Health and Human Services

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