Funded Categories

Category 1: PrEP (Preexposure Prophylaxis)
Category 2: Data to Care

Background

There were 22,344 reported cases of people living with HIV and AIDS in Chicago in 2012. Over the past decade, reported cases of HIV and AIDS in Chicago have dropped significantly; however new HIV infection and AIDS diagnosis rates are at least double those of the nation. Both prevalent HIV cases and new annual AIDS diagnoses in Chicago are primarily among men who have sex with men (MSM), non-Hispanic (NH) African American (AA)/black, and persons over the age of 30 years. Five-year trends suggest a continuing annual decline in new HIV infections, with the exception of young MSM. New HIV diagnoses among MSM under the age of 30 increased by 76% from 2000 to 2011. Additionally, though detailed surveillance data on transgender persons have only recently been collected, they may face specific barriers to accessing care and services, including HIV Prevention Services, and can therefore benefit from targeted high-impact prevention (HIP) efforts.

Overview of Chicago's Project PrIDE Plan

The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) will implement activities that serve to achieve health equity. For category 1, CDPH will expand their current efforts to increase availability and accessibility of PrEP for MSM of color and transgender individuals, and reflect cultural competence. The category 2 goals will focus on expanding activities to link persons into care.

Programmatic Activities

Category 1:

To build the capacity for PrEP implementation of current partner organizations, CDPH will:

- **Develop new partnerships**: CDPH will develop a training plan to increase cultural competence amongst staff working with diverse populations and facilitate awareness and general knowledge about PrEP as an HIV prevention intervention among non-HIV focused medical providers and systems,
- **Implement Provider Education and Training:** CDPH will implement continuing education for medical providers (doctors, nurses and others), via implementation of public health detailing, and partner with non-clinical CBOs to implement PrEP in communities. CDPH will increase knowledge and awareness of PrEP as an HIV prevention intervention among MSM and transgender persons at high risk for HIV infection through the provision of CBO-led education sessions. CDPH will convene a PrEP symposium focusing on African American MSM, transgender, LGBTQ youth and others).
- **Develop and implement a Social media and advertising campaign**: CDPH will focus efforts towards service providers who may already be trusted and routinely accessed by MSM of color and/or transgender persons of color.

- **Ensure Service Integration:** CDPH will integrate activities to screen potential clients for PrEP uptake into existing HIV, STD and hepatitis programs, using surveillance data to guide efforts towards partners with highest volumes of STD and HIV incidence, mandating PrEP access plans for all agencies funded by the HIV Prevention office, and expanding access to services by implementing culturally appropriate and affirming language to advertise PrEP services to target populations.

Category 2:

- **Focus on *out of care* list**: CDPH will expand existing data-to-care activities including Ryan White Outreach, Early Intervention Services and Case Management to improve continuum of care outcomes.
- **Use of HIV surveillance data**: CDPH plans to increase their capacity to implement Data-to-Care activities by using HIV surveillance data to inform hiring, re-assigning and training staff, planning and executing contracts with partners, developing policies and procedures for identifying and linking to care HIV-diagnosed persons who are out of care or not virally suppressed, with the goal of a reduction in the overall duration of time from identification to care linkage.

PROGRAM POINT(S) OF CONTACT
Patrick Stonehouse   Patrick.Stonehouse@cityofchicago.org
Stephanie Schuette   Stephanie.Schuette@cityofchicago.org
Evelyn Green   Evelyn.Green@cityofchicago.org