



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

May 22, 2013

Dear Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and CDC HIV Prevention Colleagues:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) are pleased to support integrated HIV prevention and care planning groups and activities. Integrated planning, reports, and activities will help further progress in reaching the goals of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy.

HIV prevention planning groups supported by CDC review existing resources, needs, gaps, current activities, and impacted populations for HIV prevention services and develop a jurisdictional HIV prevention plan that guides HIV prevention activities. The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program planning groups supported by HRSA are required to annually plan, prioritize services and recommend allocation of resources to address the HIV service needs of people living with HIV (PLWH). Implementing a comprehensive HIV prevention, care and treatment planning body provides an opportunity for integration, synergy, and efficiency in responding to jurisdictional needs and federal requirements, and these have been successful in many states and local health departments.

Good planning is imperative for effective local and state decision making to develop systems of prevention and care that are responsive to the needs of persons at risk for HIV infection and PLWH. Activities to collaborate and/or develop a joint planning body are supported by both CDC and HRSA. Community involvement is an essential component for planning comprehensive, effective HIV prevention and care programs in this country. Integrated planning activities may include but are not limited to, needs assessment activities, information sharing, cross representation on prevention and care planning bodies, coordinated/combined projects, combined meetings, and merged planning bodies. Planning groups are encouraged to streamline their approaches to HIV planning in a manner that increases access to and effectiveness of prevention, care and treatment services within the jurisdictions.

We look forward to our continued work with all our partners and stakeholders involved in HIV prevention and care and treatment planning and our continued work to accomplish the goals set forth in the National/HIV/AIDS Strategy.

Sincerely,

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