

B R O W A R D H I V P C

NEWSLETTER

HIV Health Services Planning Council (HIVPC)

One of the important aspects of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) is its focus on community health planning for HIV care and treatment. Community health planning is a deliberate effort to involve diverse community members in an open public process designed to improve the availability, accessibility, and quality of healthcare services in their community. The development of bylaws, policies and procedures, memoranda of understanding, grievance procedures, and training are also crucial for the success of the planning council.

Priority Setting and Resource Allocation (PSRA)

The Priority Setting and Resource Allocation (PSRA) committee of the HIVPC uses needs assessment data and data from other sources to set priorities and allocate resources. The members decide which services are most important to people with HIV (priority setting) and then agree on which service categories to fund and how much funding to provide (resource allocations).

HIVPC, through the PSRA Committee, completed two cycles of reallocating funds by removing monies from underutilized services and moving to underfunded services. During its August 24, 2023, meeting, the Council approved the reallocation of \$2,094,362 for Part A Core and Support Services and \$238,092 in Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Core and Support services, totaling \$2,332,454. Then, at the December 5, 2023, meeting, the reallocation of \$737,649 for Part A Core and Support Services and \$333,077 in MAI Core and Support services was approved, totaling \$1,070,726. The reallocation of Ryan White Part A program funds was conducted according to the standard priority setting and resource allocation procedure. The HIVPC's PSRA Committee adhered to legislative requirements for the proper use of funds and reallocated resources to service categories, which include Core Services: Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services; AIDS Pharmacy Assistance; Oral Health Care, Health Insurance Premium & Cost Sharing, Medical Case Management, Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Outpatient Care. Support Services: Non-Medical Case Management Services, including Centralized Intake and Eligibility Determination, Emergency Financial Assistance, Food Bank/ Food Voucher, and Legal Services.



Join the Planning Council!

The Council is seeking people with HIV to contribute their time, ideas, and expertise to serve on the Planning Council and its committees.

Contact the Planning Council Office:

954-561-9681 Ext., 1244/1343 or

hivpc@brhpc.org

Check out our social media:

Facebook

@BrowardHIVPlanningCouncil;

Instagram and X (formerly Twitter)

@Broward HIVPC

www.Browardhivpc.org

World AIDS Day 2023: December 1st



V. Biggs, HIVPC Vice Chair
2nd from left, L. Robertson,
HIVPC Chair, 4th from left
with Board of Commission
Officials and staff of the
Ryan White Part A
Program, Community
Partnerships
Division||Human Services
Department

This year marks the 35th anniversary of the HIV/AIDS crisis, with the theme "World AIDS Day 35: Remember and Commit." This theme reminds us to honor those we've lost and renew our collective dedication to ending the HIV epidemic. As part of the World AIDS Day observance, community members gathered on Saturday, December 2nd, for the opening ceremony of the AIDS Memorial Quilt Display at Hagen Park in Wilton Manors. The event was organized by Brad Barnes of The Poverello Center, Inc., and PSRA Chair of the HIVPC. HIV Health Services Planning Council Chair Lorenzo Robertson and Vice Chair Von Biggs accepted Broward County's World AIDS Day Proclamation on behalf of the Council from the Board of Commissioners on December 12th.

These moments provided a space to remember, honor, and celebrate the lives and stories of those impacted by HIV/AIDS. The epidemic continues to affect countless lives, and it remains essential for us to unite as a community, raise awareness, reduce stigma, and support those living with HIV. Through the 2022-2026 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan, we reaffirm our commitment to increasing diagnoses, connecting people with HIV to care, and expanding both treatment and prevention efforts.



AIDS Memorial Quilt Display at Hagen Park in Wilton Manors

From left: BRHPC Staf -Michelle Barrett, Dr. Gritell Berkeley Martinez, and Natalie Lewis with Brad Barnes, PSRA Chair and event organizer, participated in the opening ceremony by reading out the names of the departed and opening the quilts.

Clinical Quality Management (CQM) Activities

Quality Improvement Projects

A CQM program is the coordination of activities aimed at improving patient care, health outcomes, and patient satisfaction. It is the responsibility of the RWHAP recipient to work directly with their subrecipients to provide overall direction and to implement, monitor, and exchange any needed data for performance measure data and/or quality improvement activities. BRHPC's CQM team continues its annual quality improvement guidance of the 12 subrecipients of the Ryan White Part A Program. Each agency has prepared aim statements and is completing improvement activities which will be reported in January and February 2024.

Ending the HIV Epidemic

Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. (EHE) is a national plan announced in 2019 that aims to end the HIV epidemic in the United States by 2030. Broward County along with other jurisdictions across the U.S. developed an operational plan to pursue that goal. The plan, submitted to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) addresses four pillars HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and outbreak response. As a recipient of EHE funding, the Ryan White Part A Program has instituted a CQM component to assist its subrecipients in meeting the EHE objectives. During October and November, the following trainings were coordinated and hosted by the CQM staff:

- **October 26th: Skill Building for Disease Case Managers, Non-Medical Case Managers, and Peers Through Provider Network Support & High-Quality Services.** This training focused on: Improving the completeness, timeliness, and accuracy of data used to conduct Comprehensive Assessments and increasing the use of Electronic Health Records (EHRs) and information provided by members of the EHE Intensive Care Teams (ICTs) and other care providers; Alignment between Assessments, Action Plans, referrals, and services provided by the DCM and members of the EHE ICTs; Alignment of these activities with the Part A and EHE Service Delivery Models (SDMs); Improving documentation and billing; and Increasing the roles of Supervisors, Non-medical Case Managers, and Peers to improve the quality of services.
 - Presented by Dr. Julia Hidalgo, Positive Outcomes Inc.,
- **November 17th: Medicare Basics: Helping Clients to Enroll and Maximize Benefits.** An increasing number of Broward PWH are eligible to enroll in Medicare due to age and/or long-term disability. This workshop was designed to familiarize EHE network members with the basics of Medicare enrollment, including Medicare Advantage plans and medication benefits. The benefits available to Medicare beneficiaries were reviewed and methods for coordinating services were discussed. This workshop was scheduled during Medicare open enrollment to facilitate community efforts to enroll beneficiaries in plans that best meet their needs.
 - Presented by Dr. Julia Hidalgo, Positive Outcomes Inc.,
- **November 29th: Housing First Initiative and Ending the HIV Epidemic.** Housing First is a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness, and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life.
 - Presenters: Amanda Bruno, Joshua Kratz, Ken Robinson, and Ginny Shubert of Housing Works, Inc.; Rafael Garcia, Marifel La Cruz, Georgie Reid, and Francisco Gomez of Care Resource. Housing Works is a New York City-based non-profit that works to ensure that all people living with HIV/AIDS have access to quality housing, healthcare, HIV prevention, treatment, and other lifesaving services. Care Resource, a Federally Qualified Health Center, is a Broward County Ryan White Part A subrecipient that offers direct client support services such as case management, housing, and food assistance and referrals to several assistance programs, including transportation, utility, and rental/housing services



Contact the CQM Support Staff

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Upcoming Events



The Quality Team is excited to announce the Lean into Your Peer Power through Quality Improvement Initiatives Workshop, a free in-person training session that will be held on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, from 12 PM-2 PM at Broward Regional Health Planning Council. After participating in this professional development session, attendees will be able to: 1). Identify formal and informal quality improvement activities/strategies that peers, and client support workers engage in; and 2). Discuss consumers' access and engagement with services that support viral suppression/undetectable status.

Click on the link to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lean-into-your-peer-power-through-quality-improvement-initiatives-workshop-tickets-772415775377?aff=oddtcreator>



In honor of the National Black HIV Awareness Day, the HIVPC Community Empowerment Committee will be hosting its Community Conversation, on Wednesday, January 31, 2024, entitled Stigma Smashers: Breaking Health Stigma in the Black Community. The event will be at the L.A. Lee YMCA/Mizell Community Center from 6 PM-8 PM.

Click on the link to register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZctfu2hpzM5EtFD6s0XWGDJNFqgc57xUtah>