

*These notes reflect the discussion that took place during the 2011 HIV Prevention Contractor Summit held July 28-29, 2011. The content should not be interpreted as policy. DSHS has posted these materials for reference only.*

**2011 HIV Prevention Contractor Summit**

**Hyatt Regency Austin**

**July 28, 2011**

**Notes**

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS - Jeff Hitt**

- Goals:
  - Continuation of last year's conversation on new directions
  - Discuss the future of HIV Prevention based on direction from ECHPP (Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan), the National Strategy for HIV/AIDS, and the CDC FOA for health departments.
  - New funding discussion for 2012 and 2013
- Participants were seated by regions and communities for round table discussions
- Hopes for meeting
  - Opportunity to shape the work that can bring new infections down
  - Common understanding of:
    - CDC language and requirements
    - What we are currently doing
    - Strategies for future
      - Possible activities

**OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE - Jeff Hitt**

- New ideas for prevention in the future; community mobilization
- Working together;
- Big picture/direction; How do projects fit into direction of future prevention
- Specific questions answered
- Funding
  - Learn about new funding opportunity and where to go with prevention efforts
  - What types of activities will be funded

**HIV PREVENTION FOA - Jeff Hitt**

- DSHS appreciates the level of involvement with funding agency as we move in this new direction
  - Strategies to meet challenges of new contract year to share hope and prevention with communities served
  - Share experience with community conversations and faith based orgs, school and HIV education
    - Innovative ideas for screening
  - Continuity of programs - bring good things and history and knowledge with us
- National strategy and goals
    - Reducing undiagnosed infection

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- Promoting behavior change through social and environmental interventions/strategies
- Jurisdictional plan
  - Over-arching plan
  - Comprehensive and coordinated response across many different levels
  - Agreeing to who is at risk (epidemiology)
  - Where we can have our highest impact
- Funding opportunity announcement
  - Funding for 2012 will be transition year with adjustments to explore how things might be done differently
- Organization of FOA is different
  - Review of 3 different categories (A,B,C)
  - Stated goals
    - Decrease the annual incidence rate
    - Decrease the rate of transmission by infected persons
    - Decrease the risky sexual and drug-using behaviors among persons at high-risk for acquiring
    - Increase the proportion of infected persons who are linked in prevention and care services
  - Formula allocation for funding
    - 75% required activities and 25% recommended activities

Category A, HIV Prevention:

- Required Activities:
  - Testing
  - Comprehensive prevention with positives
  - Condom distribution
  - Policy initiatives
    - Other opportunities for local policy initiatives and schools
  - Other requirements
    - Jurisdictional prevention planning – system level ways
    - Capacity building and technical assistance to include training
    - Program planning, monitoring and evaluation, and quality assurance, to include data collection, management and reporting
- Recommended Activities
  - Evidence based prevention intervention for negative persons
  - Social marketing, media, and mobilization
  - Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and non-occupation post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) services
    - No medication can be purchased with funding

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#### Category B: Expanded (Routine) HIV Testing

- Funding will be cut
  - Had large increase over previous years
- We will slow initiating new activities
- 150,000 tests through routine testing in clinical testing and is at .7% positive with continued positives identified
- Funds will be used to support integration of routine testing in clinical setting
  - 20% of funds can be used to support targeted testing in community based orgs
    - Must maintain a positivity rate of 2%
      - Creating new database to see how close to 2%
- 3 month extension of current funds will be given to accommodate for the shift in program period
  - Community based funds are still funded under category A

#### Category C: Demonstration Project

- Focuses
  - Structural, behavioral and or biomedical interventions or a combination
  - Innovative testing activities
  - Enhanced linkage to and retention in care
  - Advanced use of technology
  - Programmatic and epidemiological use of CD4, viral load and other surveillance data to assess and reduce transmission risk
    - Through electronic lab work
    - Making systems to allow flow of data
    - Working with couples who are both negative and positive
- New funding
  - Project period up to 4 years
  - Based on morbidity
  - Category C funding amounts
    - Up to 4 awards for 1m-2m
    - Up to 8 awards for 1/2m-1m
    - Look to slides for more info from Emma

#### New directions

- Community mobilization
- Encourage programs to begin integrating changes for new FOA without the need for amendments
- Looking at how prevention is packaged

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- Encouraging social networking model for testing
  - Not partner notification but similar
  - Recruitment strategy for finding high-risk
  - Have found positives with this model
- Partner notification is reserved for Health departments by law
  - Community partner training around notification?
  - Regarding authority and protection
- Condom distribution
  - The prices for condoms is rising
  - DSHS is changing vendors
  - DSHS plans to continue to provide condoms in 2012
    - Lubricated condoms and female condom among others

### **Things that stood out for you during the FOA discussion**

- Emphasis for prevention
  - Linkage and then breaking down the barriers
- 75/25 required vs recommended shift
- More condoms, more tests, fewer EBI's
- Policy on positivity rate:
  - 1% requirement for HIV programs jurisdiction for Texas
  - 1% does not apply to routine testing programs except
    - 2% positivity rate for routine testing programs at CBO's
- Linkages of care expanding beyond referrals retaining and barriers
  - More coordination
- Inclusion of condom distribution in Category A
- Figuring out what we can do together
- Demonstration project
- Allocation of first time funding
- Policy initiatives focus
- Category C is shaped now by DSHS
- How far into the future will these programs (HIV) with the new affordable care act
  - Looking forward to 2014 or 2015 possible but unknown
  - Funding could change quite a bit
  - Feels they will still use clinics regardless of health insurance

### **COMMUNITY PLAN – Greg Beets**

- The landscape
  - 6 regional CPGs to 1 statewide CPG
  - National Strategy then came out
  - ECHPP/12 Cities Project
  - CDC HIV Prevention FOA
- National themes

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- Reduce new infections
- Framework
  - Behavior does not take place in a vacuum
  - Blow up prevention to speak to every one of these levels for nodes of opportunity
    - Build upon the individual
- Priority population
  - HIV positive especially those who do not know their status
  - Black gay MSM
  - All other gay and MSM
  - Black Heterosexual Woman
  - IDU
  - Black Heterosexual Men
  - High risk Heterosexual Hispanics
  - Youth
  - Special Populations
    - Transgender
    - Partner of HIV positive persons
    - Homeless
    - Incarcerated/recently released
    - Sex professionals
    - Individuals with STD/Hepatitis C
    - Mental health issues
    - Substance use issues
- Universal prevention strategies
  - Expanded testing
  - Linkage to care/treatment
  - Access to condoms/clean needles
  - Partner service/public health
  - Perinatal care
  - Community mobilization
- Population/Intervention Matching
  - TxCPG reviewed interventions on the current CDC compendium
  - Population/intervention match list included in Plan
  - Decreased role of EBI
- Action Briefs
  - Identified key settings where HIV testing is critical
  - Contain recommendation at all levels from the socio-ecological framework
  - Is not meant to be an exhaustive list for planning an intervention strategy
  - Template to develop prevention strategies
- 7 objectives of plan

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- Address entire population instead of individuals
  - 1 in 3 diagnosed with AIDS after diagnosed with HIV in 1 year
  - Promote behavior change through condoms, clean needles
  - Those reported being tested is 1 in 5, same as in 1997
  - Leverage traditional and non-traditional resources
  - Focus prevention on populations most at risk
    - Not everyone has same risk
    - Design scalable, cost effective prevention strategies
- Growing population of positive persons in Texas disproportionately on marginalized populations
- Enhancing goes beyond small scale intervention to embed prevention strategies at levels of society
- Limited resources must be prioritized, targeted and coordinated to maximize impact
- Community Viral load - term to describe and characterize community risk
  - How is it expressed is not clear yet, working on it for the next year or so

#### **HIV INVESTMENTS AND EPIDEMIC – Liza Hinojosa and Jeff Hitt**

- DSHS accessed the investments/funding landscape to see where changes needed to be made based on the morbidity
- We know what tools are needed but don't know what the picture will look like; we are putting the pieces of the puzzle together without knowing what the end product will be
- Programs need to understand what is going on in their communities
- DSHS looked at current prevention investments and how that matched up to the epidemic
- Agencies can no longer depend on one funding source, must diversify and look for alternative resources
- Where is the money?
- Regional investments
  - Morbidity minus Houston and Dallas morbidity
  - Can we see price per case
    - Different for rural vs urban
    - Take in to account scope and scale of projects
  - Ryan White Money?
    - Pulling it together
- Targeted testing and the epidemic
  - Only targeted testing DSHS funded in 2010
  - National Strategy and FOA have raised the issue of focus within our programs
  - Over half of diagnosis are MSM but heterosexual are tested at over 60%
  - How do we focus testing on a big scale

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**Notes**

**QUESTIONS/THOUGHTS FROM FIRST DAY**

- Corrections:
  - CDC conceptualizes funding in very specific way
  - DSHS uses STD funds to provide a portion of partner services
    - Positives are located in other categories
    - Jeff will edit or create new slides before posting to website

What stood out for you yesterday

- Allocation of funds with 75/25 split
- Other funding sources and how that will play out
- With multiple funding sources for programs how will that play out
  - Looking at it more as a community instead of an organization
  - Responding to the epidemic appropriately
- Morbidity percentages and who is receiving funding
  - Should it match, what is acceptable
- The ratio of those that are positive with routine testing funds
  - Less money available for that across the country
  - Resources and being asked to do more
  - National strategy is asking to do more
  - Just not significantly seeing more funding
  - Not supposed to fund research but the CDC has certain expectations
- The difference between rural and urban and the way it looks
  - Black MSM vs White MSM
  - Reconnecting those with care – linkage and networks
- The Plan is not a broad stroke for all communities
  - Responses differ in different areas
- Distribution of routine testing affect the distribution of prevention
  - Diffusion process and giving that away without external support
  - CDC has not required to look at the distribution
- Policy focus to benefit the program services
  - How can get more involved and unify with other orgs
    - DIS in some areas are our main resources for those populations
    - Engage in local health department is a great idea, how do we do that and further those conversations
  - Develop policy with partner orgs, who gets the credit
    - You all do
    - Data system right now does not recognize collaboration
      - Need to figure out how to share that information

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## **FOCUS & RE-DIRECTION – Jeff Hitt**

### Resource application

- How have you decided to allocate funding to specific areas
  - Does matter where you start
    - Geography
    - Narrow or broad populations
    - Haven't figured out yet
    - Focus of MSM
      - Need to look at where in the state
      - Not thinking of just regional distribution but also by those most affected

### **Group and Community Level Interventions**

- Community Level Data
  - hard to capture and not completely accurate
- Group Level
  - Data easier to capture
- All are funded at different levels
- Data is hard to gather
  - There are concerns about the accuracy of the data provided today
    - Data does not reflect working with positives for some activities
    - How are numbers of people through an intervention interpreted
    - Capturing data on positives moving through multiple systems can be problematic (e.g. solely in private care)
    - How can positivity rate for a geographic area accurately reflect the epi?
    - DSHS wants to share the data so everyone understands what they are looking at when they understand DSHS work on the epidemic
    - Consultants use the data in deciding how to work with contractors
    - Contractors need to check semiannual report data accuracy

Where are we headed:

#### EBI's

- EBIs may become packaged with condom distribution etc. to achieve a more comprehensive approach
- EBI work needs to be integrated into a community approach that involves the total programming in the community
- Between now and 2013 we want to talk about how we can support engaging communities in collaborative efforts
  - This includes engaging institutions such as schools in prevention programming

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- A goal would be to reduce undiagnosed infections at the community level

### **CRCS**

- Has problems achieving scale
- If it is focused on HIV+ then we can have an acceptable level of scale
- We need to think about the need for CRCS referrals with respect to adherence to care

### **Testing**

- See power point
  - Giving negative results over the phone will be allowed
  - Finding positives and then linking them to care
  - Targeted testing better at finding people early in the course of disease
  - Partner services from public health side provides a larger picture of how the linkage works
  - Revisited testing/proportions by population
  - It can be hard to accurately assess risk behavior because of unwillingness to report MSM behavior, IDU, etc – does TWOC reduce ability to assess risk behaviors & influence behavior?
  - White and Latino epi vs. testing are similar
  - How do you become relevant for most influenced communities if that is not your mission
  - Why reduction in IDU infections
    - We are doing a good job
    - Different drugs; less shooting
    - Underground syringe exchanges
  - Why discrepancy between testing and positivity rates with heterosexuals?
  - $1.5 \times 10^6$  tests required to find all estimated positives with 1% positivity rate
  - With only 450,000 msm in texas, the task is not so daunting
  - $1.2 \times 10^6$  Adolescent/adult black females
  - DSHS does not have reports on negative tests and on other funding streams

### **Linkage to Care**

- Testers need to engage more with DIS, and those doing CRCS & case management
- We are working on data systems to capture success in linkage to care
- National Strategy has a goal of having people attend medical care apt within three months of diagnosis

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### **In summary**

- Move toward number of tests correlated with positivity
- EBIs need to increase scope
- Differentiate between positives and negatives
  - Negatives might be in greater need of scope expansion
    - SISTA promotion by minister
    - PIP WE focus groups to identify community engagement opportunities
  - Positives – example Healthy Relationships (HR)
    - Make HR an organizational level org
      - Case managers could reinforce disclosure messages if their org promoted that idea.
    - Interpersonal level
      - Bring partner to last session
      - Couples counseling
  - Collaborations – how to do it?
    - Having care providers refer to behavioral supports
    - Return to care collaborative
      - Local FQHC – checks data regularly for those out of care
  - Other ideas (see posters)
    - Negative results over phone
    - Enhanced linkage to care
    - Testing flexibility
    - Technology for testing
    - Type of encounter
    - Linkage = medical care event
    - Longer engagement with newly diagnosed clients
    - Outreach and peer support as supports for linkage
  - Group activity to process morning's work

### **ARIES DEMONSTRATION – Jonathon Poe**

- Possibility of sharing client information
- Possibility of updating client information without reentering client info from the beginning
- With the possibility of sharing the system you could also monitor client and ensure follow through with referrals and appointments
- Possibility of extracting your own data
  - Maybe try to plan for... exporter/importer functions
  - In the future, if not a funded program, could you still have access
- Opportunity for others outside of pilot site to make comments on the system
  - The code is owned by DSHS

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- Shaped data around old limitations of the system, might not exist in the new system
- Laptop availability of the system
  - Hopefully sometime next year at least for Aries prevention
- Issues surrounding confidentiality

#### **NEW DIRECTION – Jeff Hitt**

- Intentionality
- Work with regional and local health departments
- Think of new possible resources

#### **EXAMPLES from FUNDED CONTRACTORS**

- AIDS Foundation Houston Presentation: Dwayne Morros
  - The Truth Project
  - Splash Houston testing
- Valley AIDS Council: Chris Salinas
  - Created special position, case finder, because of those dropping out of care
    - Role of the case finder is to engage in positive case
    - Shadowing the client to the next session
    - Explains services from the many resources
    - Layout of the intake lengthy process
    - Other possible referral (substance abuse or mental )
    - HIV 101 for the client and family
    - Provides transportation for clients if necessary
    - Presents info to doctors, clinics, including WIC
    - Will also go to the clients home in search if necessary
  - Lupe card in area for those without some form of identification
    - Case finder ensure client has card for service
  - Case workers work closely with DIS
  - Training for that position
    - Case finder is trained in PBC PRS
    - Trained with HIV case manager role
  - Length of time to engage and go through the system with clients
    - Does impact the amount of time spent with each client
    - No real dead time for the case manager
    - Real helpful with linkage of care
  - When do the case finders first meet
    - Risk reduction specialist refers from first positive to enroll them in the correct follow up care
    - Case finder also does outreach with rapid testing
      - Eve taking back for counseling

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- Case managers with try to reach client for 60-90 days and then turn over to case finder
  - Others refer because only AIDS program in the valley
  - How is this position funded
    - Ryan White, HERSA?, CDPG?, and other funding sources
  - The position has been filled for about 3 years
  - Success rate is very high
  - Has volunteer coordinator helps to provide info on services
    - Link peers to new HIV patients to provide a sense of understanding (peer navigators)
- Black Women Initiative Presentation: Michelle Durham
  - 3 years ago introduced to group of 30 churches called San Antonio Fighting Back
  - Saw linkage between substance use and STD/HIV
  - Pastor asked to come test at church and educate nurses
  - With funding educated pastors through CHIPP process
  - Pillow Talk, Joy in our Town, Girl Worth
  - Tons of support from the faith community
  - Churches and other orgs were taught SISTA
  - Lots of community level collaboration
  - Mini Conference October 2
  - How do you fund these events
    - Ryan White funds and other resources
- Legacy Presentation: Amy Leonard
  - Next Step Health Educator
    - Group level around for 10 years originally funded through Ryan White
      - Now takes place over the course of a couple of evenings with about 10 individuals newly diagnosed
    - She meets with them immediately after positive diagnosis introducing them to system
  - Electronic medical record
    - Centricity
- Social Networks Strategies Presentations: Brian Barron, Tarrant Co HD
  - Program focusing on individuals with a network of people to get tested
  - Position that uses referral sources, including intervention sites, to find these individuals.
    - Those he recruits engage their social networks to get tested
      - High success rate (7%)
      - Given gift card to become recruiter
      - Recruiter is also given gift card when someone test as well as the person who tests

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- \$10 gift card from Target
- Looking at testing “parties”

#### WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN? Thoughts and Questions

- Dream big thinking about the future newsprint
  - Awareness
  - Peer navigators and case finders
  - Educating the private sector
  - Community assessment regarding condom distribution
  - Condom blast messages
  - Nat testing more available
  - Community resource coordinator
- Pluses
  - Regional seating
  - Social networking here was fantastic
  - Good timing to prepare
  - Projections of future direction and progress from last year
  - Hearing the work of contractors
  - Approach of treating everyone as equal partners in moving this forward
  - Honesty of staff and says what they don’t know
  - Individualized creativity
- Wishes
  - Wish for more agencies beyond DSHS
  - Wish for quarterly regional meetings