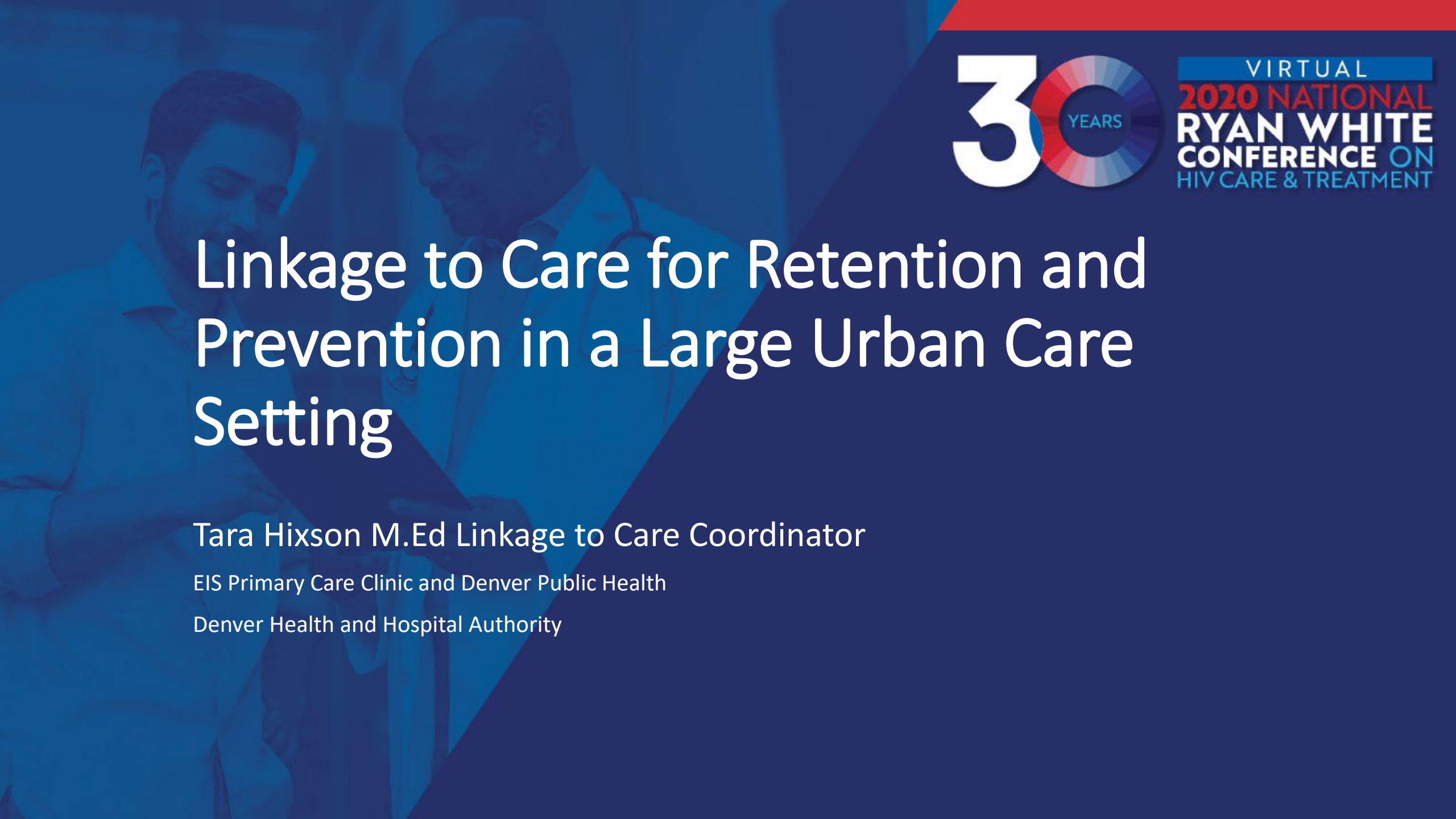


Linkage to Care for Retention and Prevention in a Large Urban Care Setting

Tara Hixson M.Ed Linkage to Care Coordinator

EIS Primary Care Clinic and Denver Public Health

Denver Health and Hospital Authority

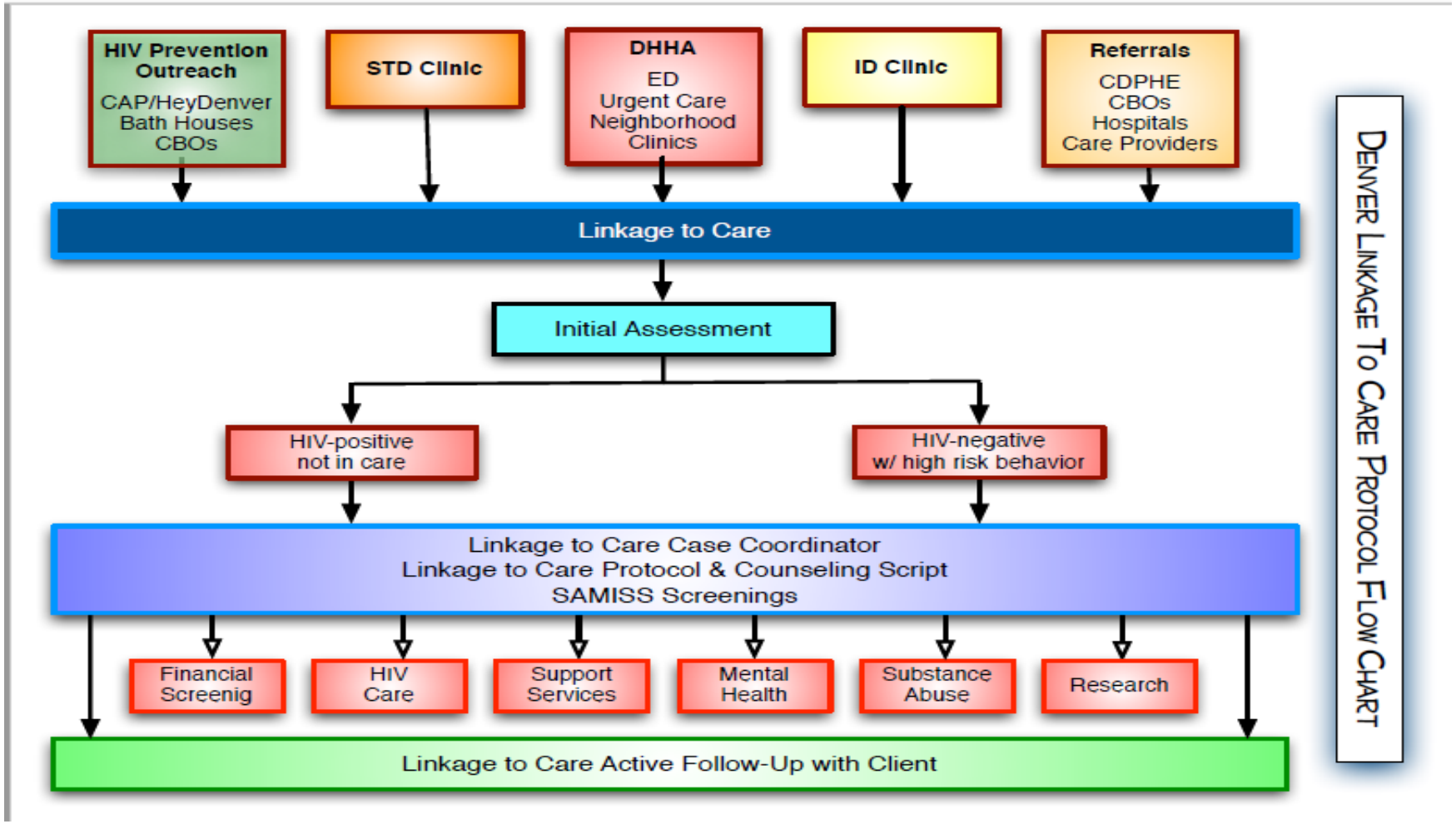
Disclosures

- Presenters have no financial interest to disclose

Objectives

- Define the Linkage to Care Program at Denver Health/Denver Public Health
- Explain key changes made to the program to improve access to care and engagement for PLWH
- Describe program steps for LTC for PrEP and nPEP

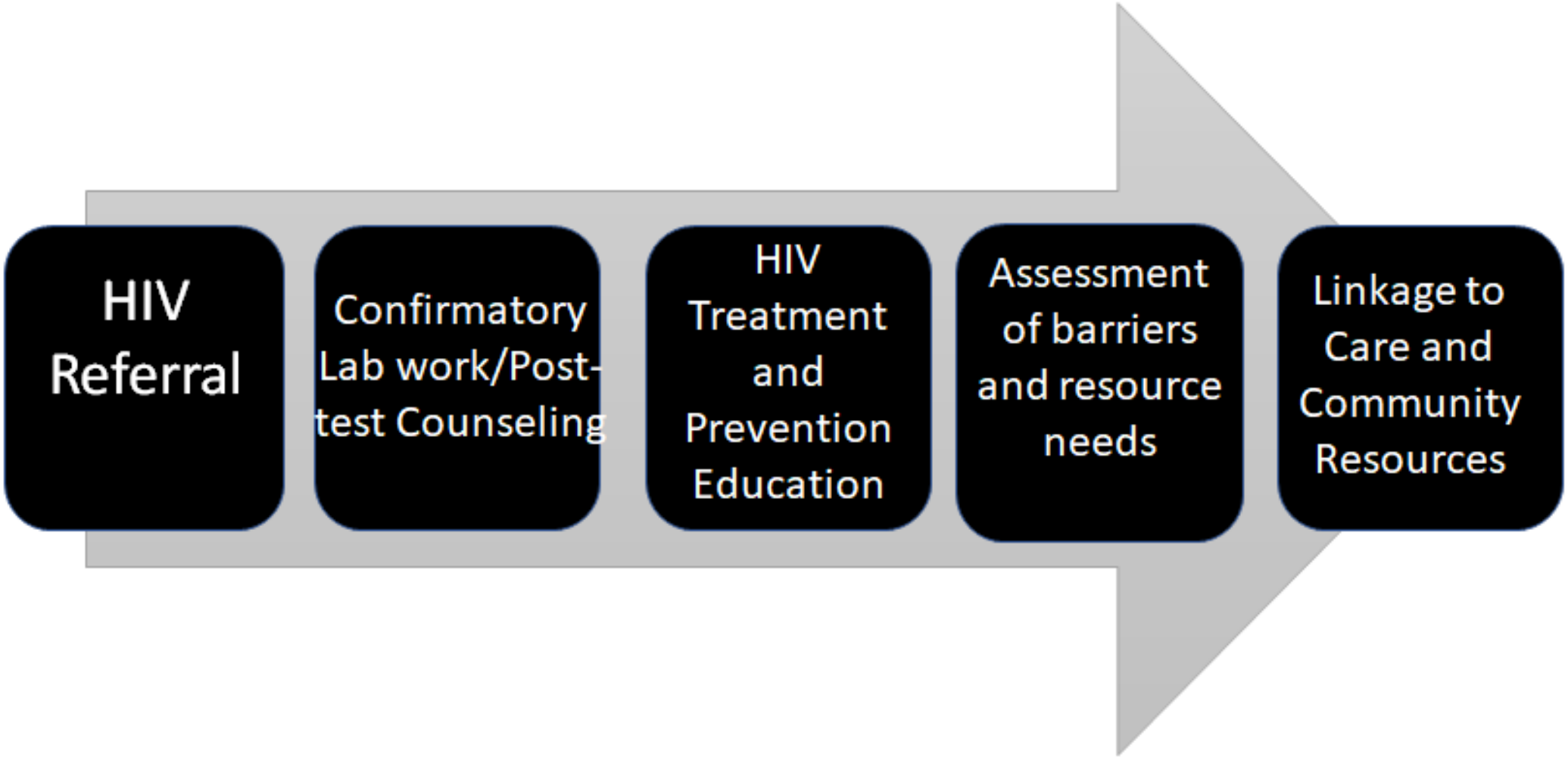
Linkage to Care Model



Referring Partners

- Denver Metro Health Clinic
- Outreach Testing through Denver Public Health
- DHHA (Hospital, ER, Urgent Care, DPH Clinics and FQHCs)
- CBOs (Harm Reduction Action Center, Hey Denver …)
- ASOs
- Bath Houses
- Planned Parenthood
- Metro Area Hospitals and ERs

Linkage to Care Process



Helping PWH overcome barriers to care

Linkage to Care 2019

In 2019, 279 persons referred to LTC at Denver Public Health

–149 were re-identified PLWH

–130 were newly diagnosed persons

–Median Time to linkage for 2019 = 11 days (>90 days) 120 (< 90 days)

Delays in linkage: Insurance / SDAP Enrollment/ Lack of Stable Housing/ Stigma/SUD/Mental Health

LTC and 90/90/90

Fast Track Cities Initiative to End the HIV Epidemic by 2030

Metro Denver 2019

87% Diagnosed	• Percent of Individuals Living with HIV Who Have Been Diagnosed and Are Aware of their Status
84% In Care	• Percent of HIV-diagnosed Individuals Who are Engaged in Care
91% Suppressed	• Percent of HIV-diagnosed Individuals Who Are Engaged in Care and Have Suppressed Viral Loads

2020 Targets

90% Diagnosed	• Percent of Individuals Living with HIV Who Know their Status
90% On ART	• Percent of HIV-diagnosed Individuals Who are on ART
90% Suppressed	• Percent of Individuals Who Are on ART and Have Suppressed Viral Loads

Key Changes

- FAST Rapid ART
- Expedited Enrollment Services
- Co-located Health Access Insurance Navigation
- Specialized workflows for those with additional barriers
- COVID workflows

FAST Rapid ART Pilot

FAST Program Patient Flow

Pre-Enrollment

- **Linkage visit #1**
- Post test counseling
- Obtain labs for HIV confirmatory testing
- Introduce FAST Program
- Discuss Insurance/SDAP

- **Provider Visit #1**
- Rule out OIs
- Order intake Labs*

FAST Intake Visit

- **Linkage Visit #2**
  - Disclose results
  - Facilitate partner services
  - Continue insurance enrollment processes
  - Schedule appt with continuity provider
- **Provider visit #2**
  - H&P
  - Order labs (if not completed)
  - Order 1mo supply meds
  - Offer DOT

Follow-up Plan

- **Linked by 2 weeks →** f/u w continuity provider
- **Linked by 1 mo →** f/u continuity provider

- **If not Linked – f/u Visits w FAST Provider:**
  - 2 wk f/u
  - Q 1 mo f/u PRN

FAST Numbers

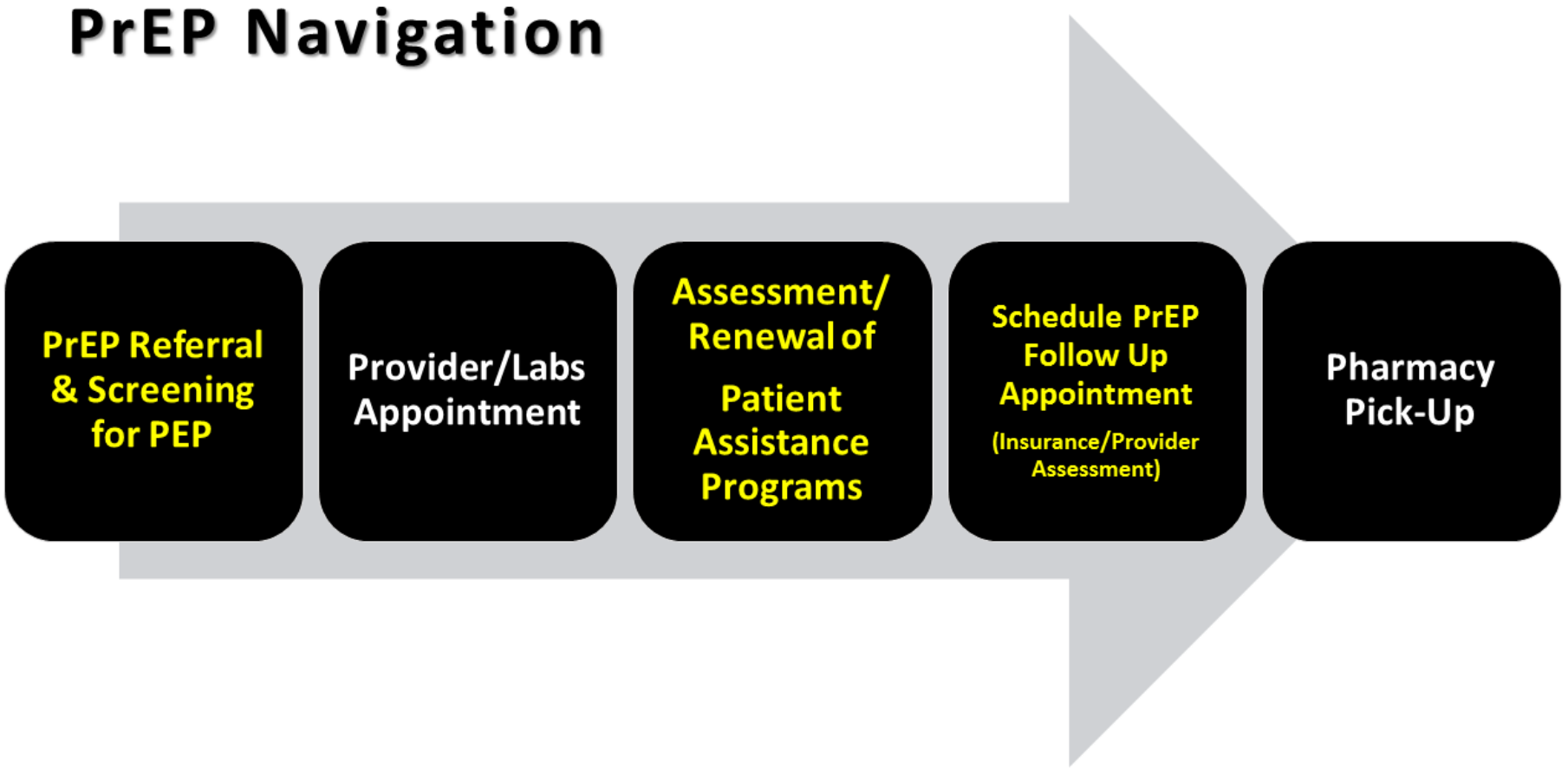
We have enrolled 22 people into the FAST Pilot since starting in 2019

- 19 were uninsured
- 17 identified as Latinx
- 2 identified as Black
- Median time to ART start was 6 days
- Median time to linkage to continuity care 39 days
- ALL were virally suppressed at 2 week follow-up

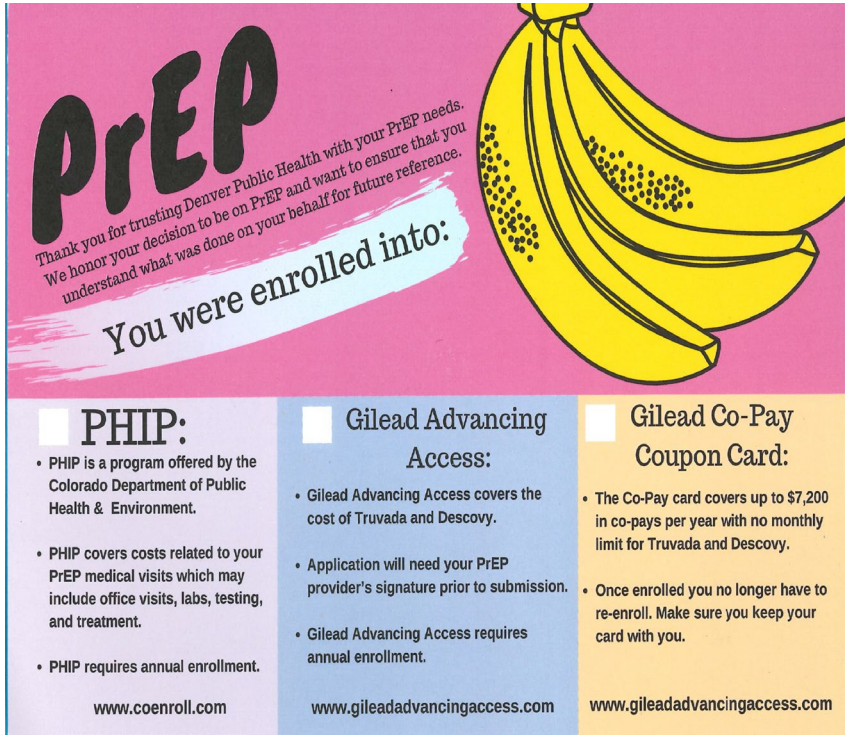
Denver Metro Clinic PrEP

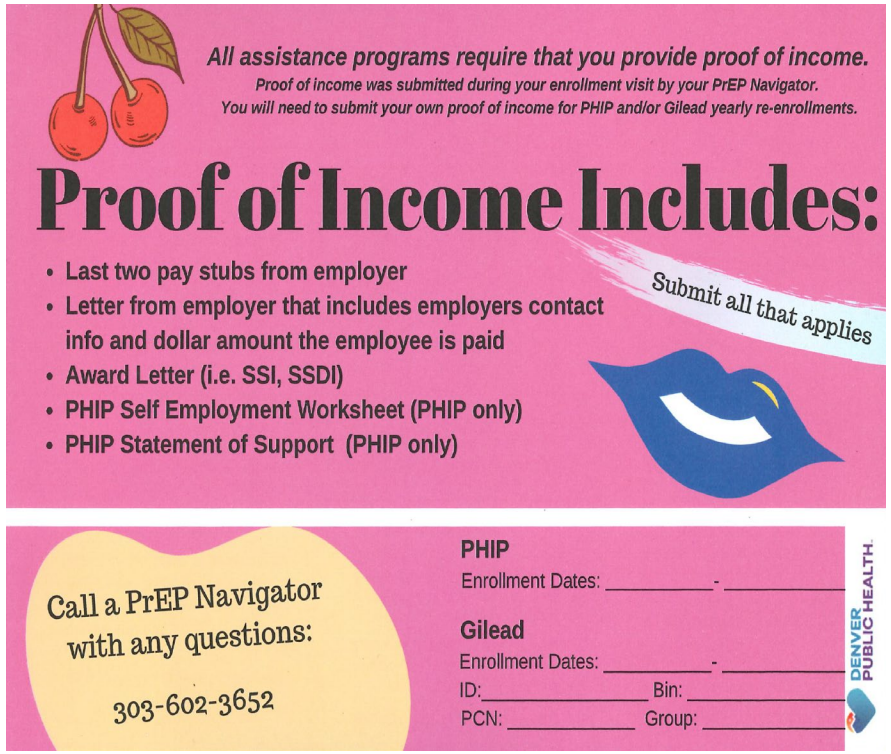
- 1,394 PrEP Starts since 2018
- 569 PrEP Starts 2019
- 231 PrEP Starts in 2020
- 367 TelePrEP visits since 3/17/2020

PrEP Navigation



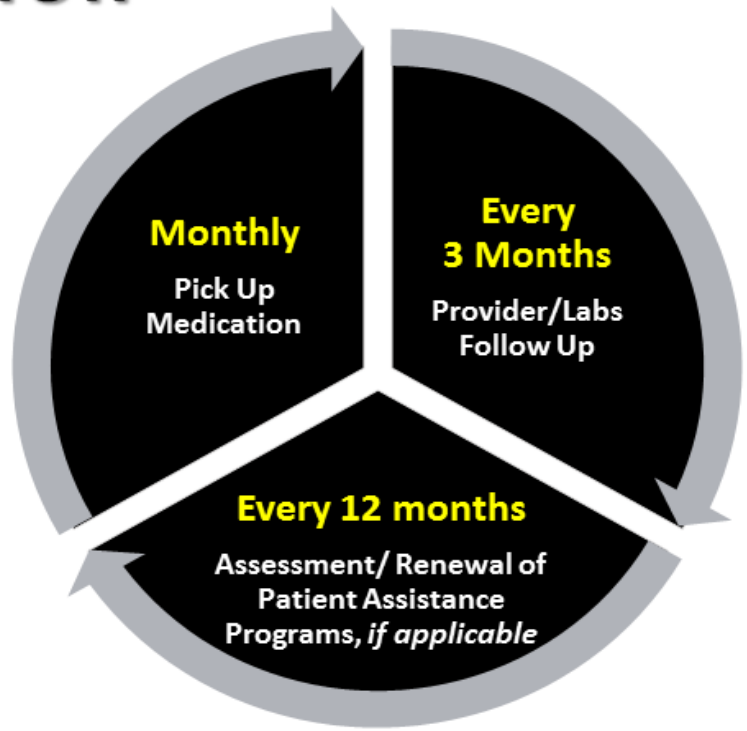
PrEP Financial Assistance





PrEP Retention

PrEP Retention



What are some common barriers?

What retention data should be considered?

Opportunities

- Expansion of FAST (Rapid ART re-start for PWH and out of care)
- Walk-in model
- Co-located SW and BH Counseling in DMHC
- Increased collaboration with community partners
- Data and staffing resources to support PrEP Retention
  - Outpatient clinics
  - Patient Navigation

Conclusions

- Specialized LTC support can help close gaps in care and retention, by reducing barriers to care for PLWH
- Building community trust and partnerships is key to a successful linkage program
- LTC programs and counselors are well suited to provide support for HIV Prevention as well as treatment
- QI should be built into your work

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- DHHA HIV Primary Care Clinic Team
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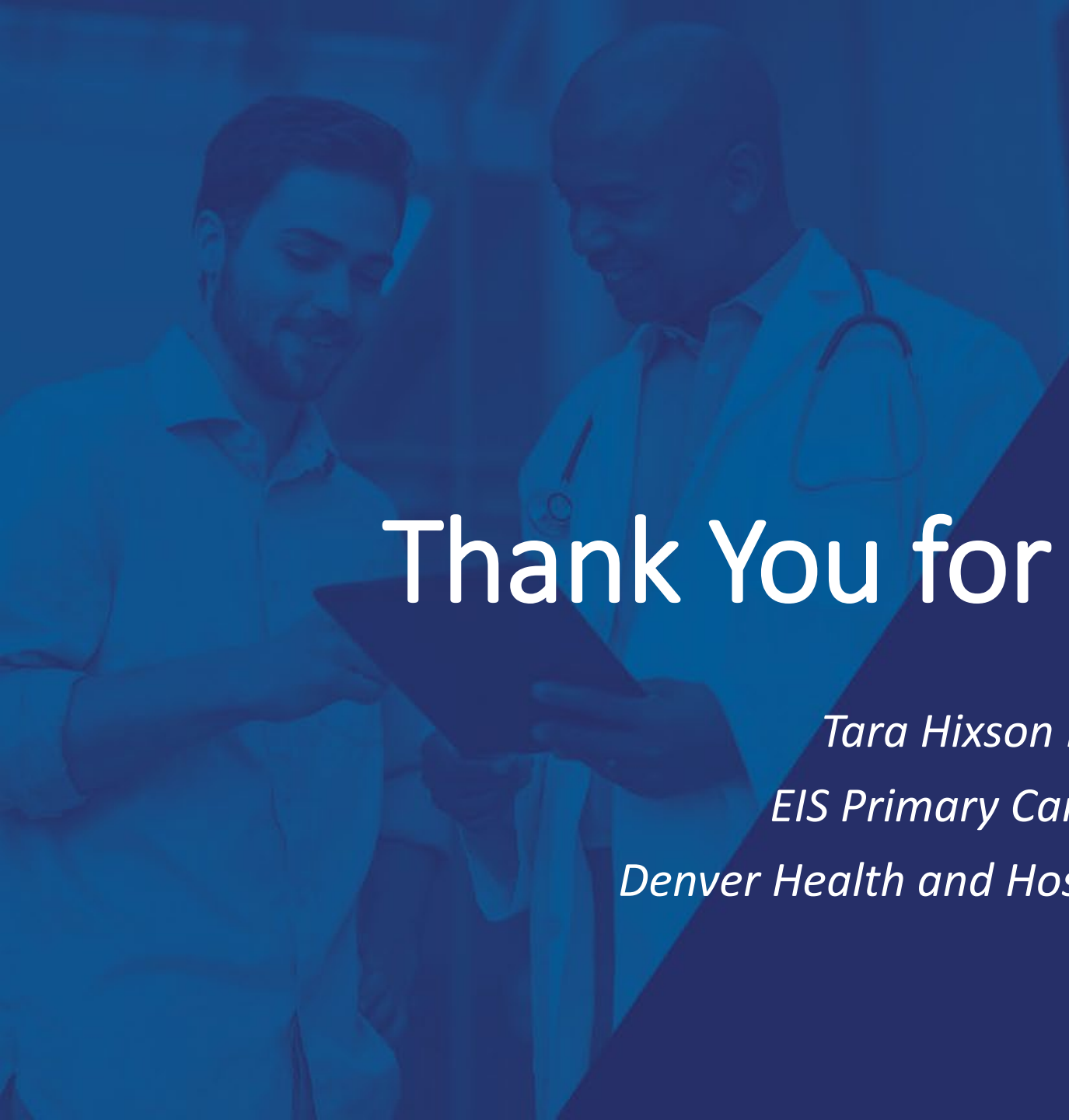

VIRTUAL
2020 NATIONAL RYAN WHITE CONFERENCE ON HIV CARE & TREATMENT

30 YEARS

Thank You for Your Time!

Tara Hixson M.Ed

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Denver Health and Hospital Authority