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HIV CARE & TREATMENT

HRSA SPNS Initiative: Improving HIV Health Outcomes Through the Coordination of Supportive Employment and Housing Services

The HIV, Housing & Employment Project

Institute Objectives



- Describe the complex needs of people with HIV who experience homelessness/ housing instability and unemployment/underemployment.
- Develop strategies to build staff skills and create external partnerships to facilitate care and services.
- Share strategies, resources, and tools to provide integrated care to people with HIV who are out of care, homeless/unstably housed, and unemployed/underemployed.
- Describe opportunities to leverage partnerships with federally funded housing (HUD), employment (DOL), and other community agencies, to serve people with HIV who are homeless/unstably housed and unemployed/underemployed.



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Interdisciplinary and Systems Models for Providing Care and Treatment to PWH Experiencing Homelessness and Under/Unemployment

The HIV, Housing & Employment Project: Session Two of Three

Presenters



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The Evaluation and Technical Assistance Provider, Boston, MA

Positive Impact Health Centers, Atlanta, GA

- Alphonso Mills, B.A., Study Enrollment Coordinator

Gay Men's Health Crisis, New York City, NY

- Laverne Hayes, M.S., Project Director

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Session Two Objectives



- Describe interdisciplinary team models for providing care, treatment, housing, and employment services for people with HIV who are homeless/unstably housed and unemployed/underemployed
- Obtain skills, resources and tools for providing HIV medical care, housing, and employment services for people with HIV
- Learn to set up systems to make and complete referrals and share information across health, housing, and employment programs

A One-Stop Shopping Model HRSA/H.O.M.E.S. (Housing Opportunities Medical & Employment Services) Intervention

Alphonso Mills, Positive Impact Health Centers
Atlanta, GA

POSITIVE **IMPACT**
HEALTH CENTERS

A horizontal bar composed of four colored segments: red, green, yellow, and blue.

Site Overview

- Serving PWH at three unique locations, across a 25-County geographical region
- Positive Impact Health Centers (PIHC) is a Ryan White Part A, B and C Recipient *and* a HOPWA Grantee (serving 29 metro Atlanta counties)
- Serving approximately 4,900 Ryan White clients annually
- The HOPWA Housing Program provides services for approximately 600 clients per year
- Intensive efforts to expand the internal PrEP Program over the past 2 years, serving over 1,000 PWH on a yearly basis

PIHC SPNS Intervention Client Demographics



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Demographics – 104 Total Clients Enrolled

Mean Age (years)	36.59
Cisgender Men (%)	89
Cisgender Women (%)	9
Transgender Women (%)	6
African American (%)	85
Caucasian (%)	16
Other (%)	3

PIHC: One Stop Shop (Wrap Around Services)



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POSITIVE IMPACT
HEALTH CENTERS



The Social Work Perspective



PIHC was well positioned to address client needs from a wide variety of perspective

As a “one stop shop” for HIV care, PIHC offers care from a multi-disciplinary perspective, ensuring that the *micro, mezzo and macro* aspects of client needs are met.

Micro

Medical & Non-Medical
Case Management

Clinical Care, Provider
Access, On-Site Lab

Mezzo

Community Partnerships
and Referral Programs

Peer Support through
Grassroots Organizations

Macro

Advocating for PWH to
Local Elected Officials

Ensuring client’s needs are
heard on community level

Working in Care Teams at a One Stop Shop



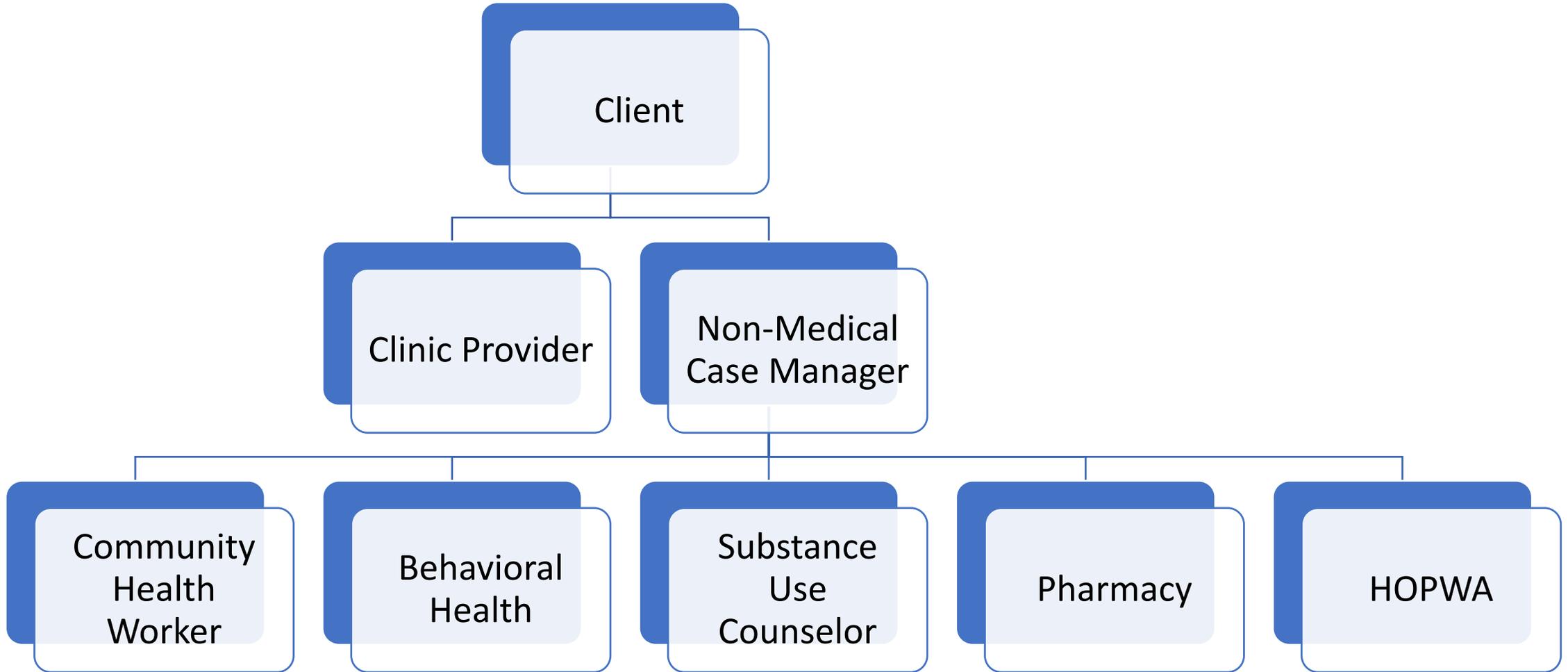
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality defines Care Teams as:

Groups of primary care staff members who collectively take responsibility for a set of patients. Teams blend multidisciplinary skills, focusing several people's insights rather than a single physician.

At PIHC, Care Teams are...

Groups of staff members from different departments within the agency, collaborating their expertise to best assist a specific client to achieve their best health, ensuring all parties stay aware of client's progress.

PIHC Care Team Model



Care Teams: Lessons Learned



Pros

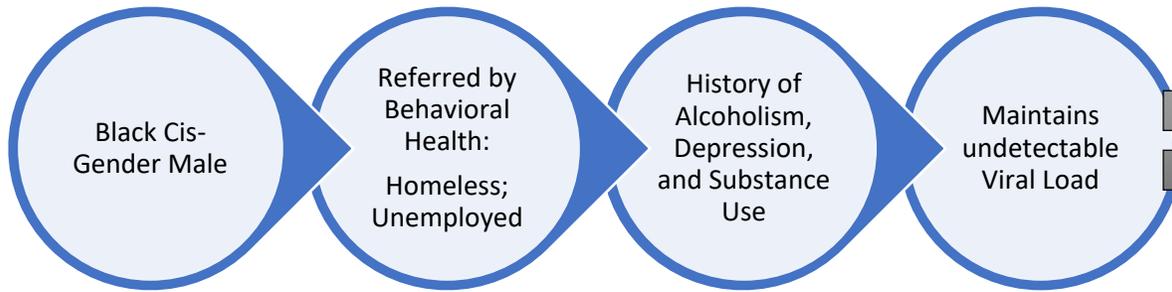
- Gives the client multiple points of entry into the agency to maintain engagement and retention.
- Creates ease of access to multiple forms of healthcare for a more holistic approach.
- Client has more support to achieve health and life goals.
- Creative techniques for providing care can be produced with multidisciplinary backgrounds.

Cons

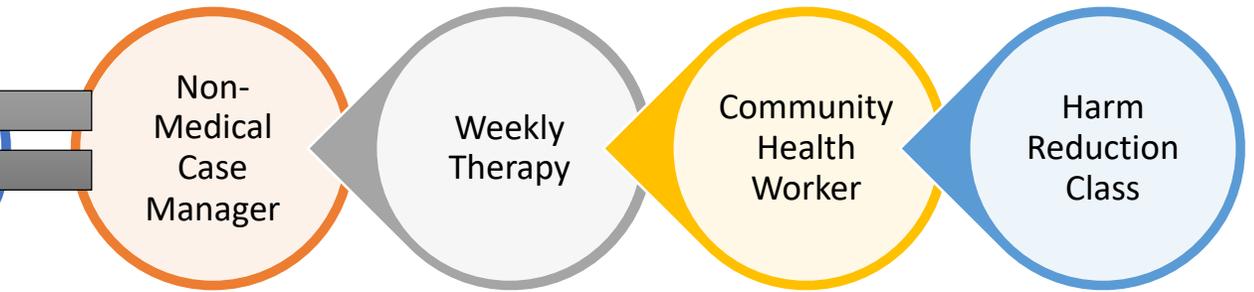
- Each provider must stay within their own expertise, and every encounter must be documented.
- If the team does not communicate, the client's care suffers.
- Potential for client to share different pieces of narrative with each provider.

Lights, Camera, Care Teams!

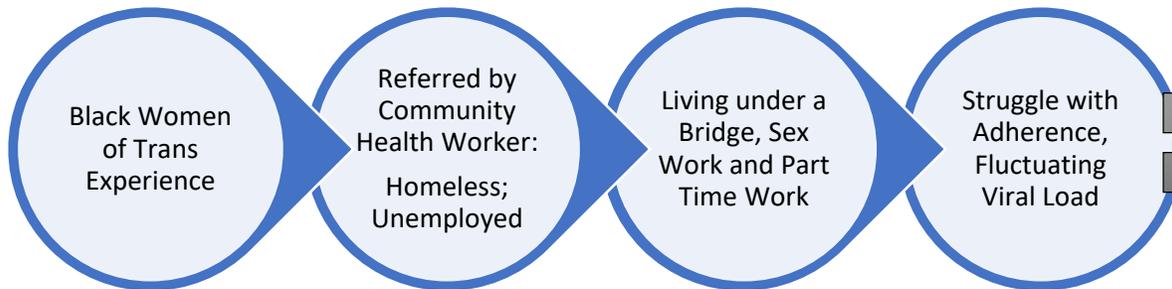
Client 1



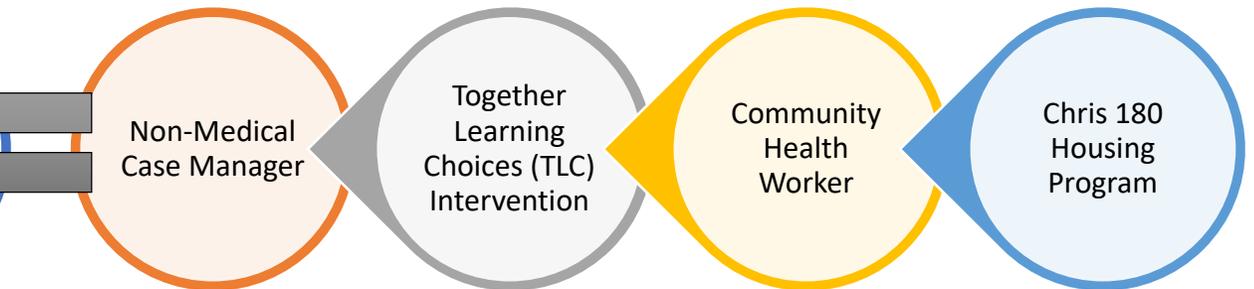
Care Team 1



Client 2



Care Team 2



PIHC Moving Forward



Implementing Care Teams and intensive Case Management for clients with layered needs.

Adding Employment services into Case Management practice.

Leveraging intensive Case Management services for clients with advanced needs to other departments in the agency.

Stronger interdepartmental collaborations to build systems for better continuity of care for PWH.

Dissemination!



Utilizing the Stages of Change Model Project Health

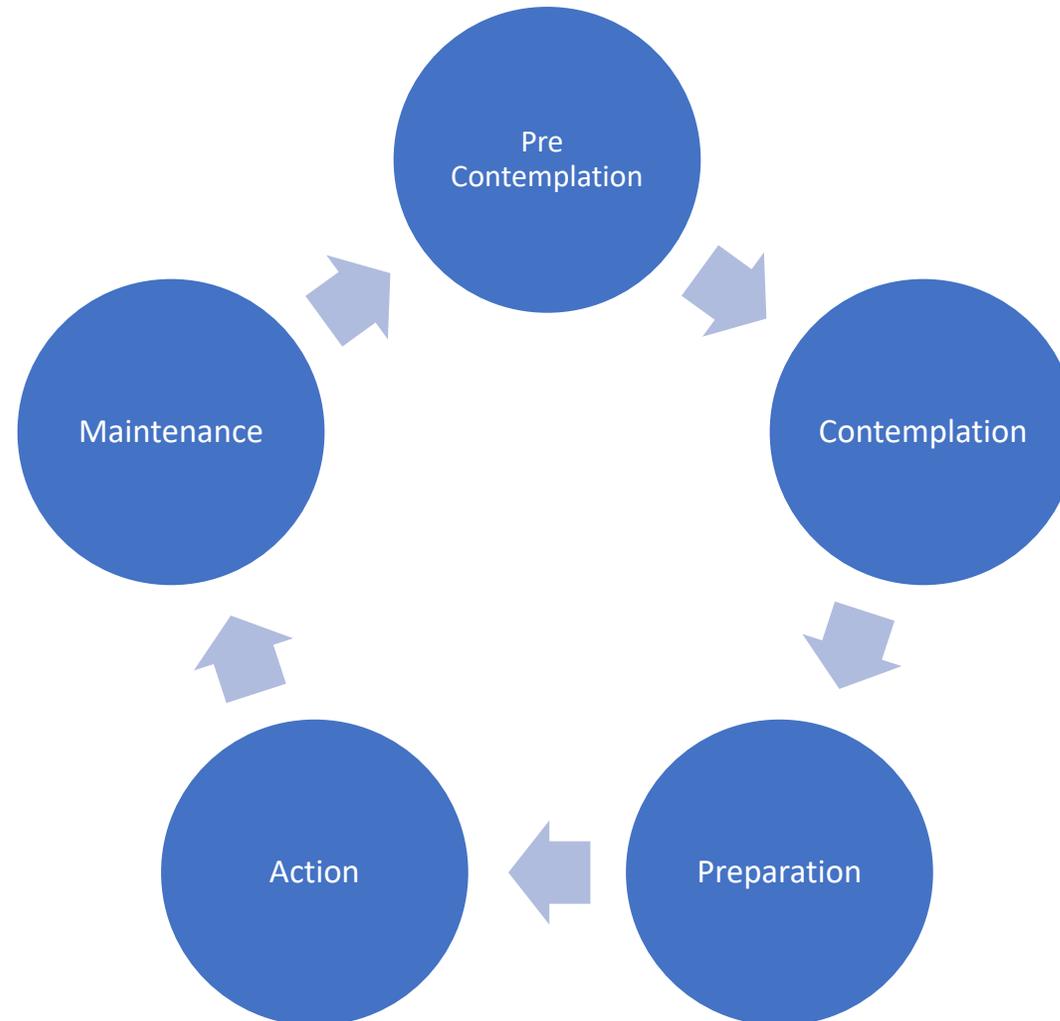
Laverne Hayes, Program Manager
Gay Men's Health Crisis, New York City, NY

Services Offered



- Geffen Testing Center
- Workforce Development
- SUNY Computer Lab
- Legal Services
- Nutrition & Wellness
- Duane Reade Pharmacy Onsite
- Financial Management
- Youth Services
- Long Term Survivors/Buddy Program
- HOPWA Housing
- STRAP/After Hours
- Safety in Housing
- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse
- Women's Services
- TGNC Services
- Support Groups
- Case Management

The Stages of Change

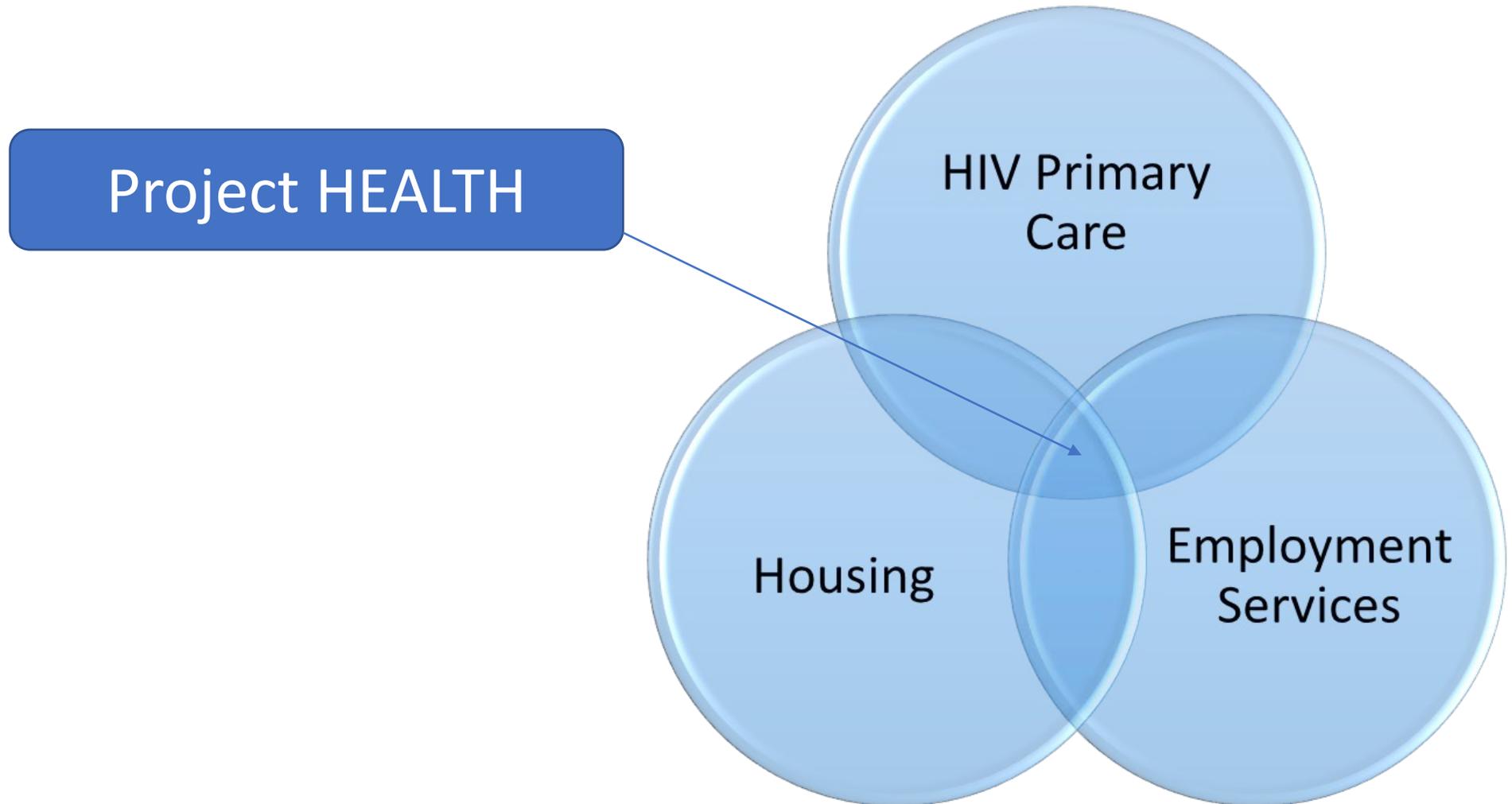


Service Menu



Change-Readiness Responsive Intervention Tracks: approx. 90 days each	
<u>Readiness Track</u>	<u>Action Track</u>
Individual Supportive counseling	Transitional Benefits Counseling
Referrals to coordinated medical, legal, and social services	Linkage to housing, employment, RWHAP, and supportive services
Readiness Support Groups	Psychoeducational Groups
Orientation	Housing & Employment Retention Support Group
Peer Support Model – “The Courage Cohort”	
Peer support group	Peer support group
1:1 contact with Action Track peer	1:1 contact with Readiness Track peer

Interdisciplinary Care Coordination



Team Structure

**Social Work
Case Manager**

**Transitional
Benefits Counselor**

Partners

Peer Counselor



Social Work Case Manager



Comprehensive Assessment Includes:

- Demographic Data
- Family Composition (and Social Supports)
- Psychosocial/Housing History
- Legal History
- Medical History
- Mental Health and Substance Use History
- Risk Assessment (Trauma, DV, SI/HI)
- Education and Employment History
- Present Situation (Strengths, Challenges, Goals)
- Summary and Recommendations

Additional Team Members



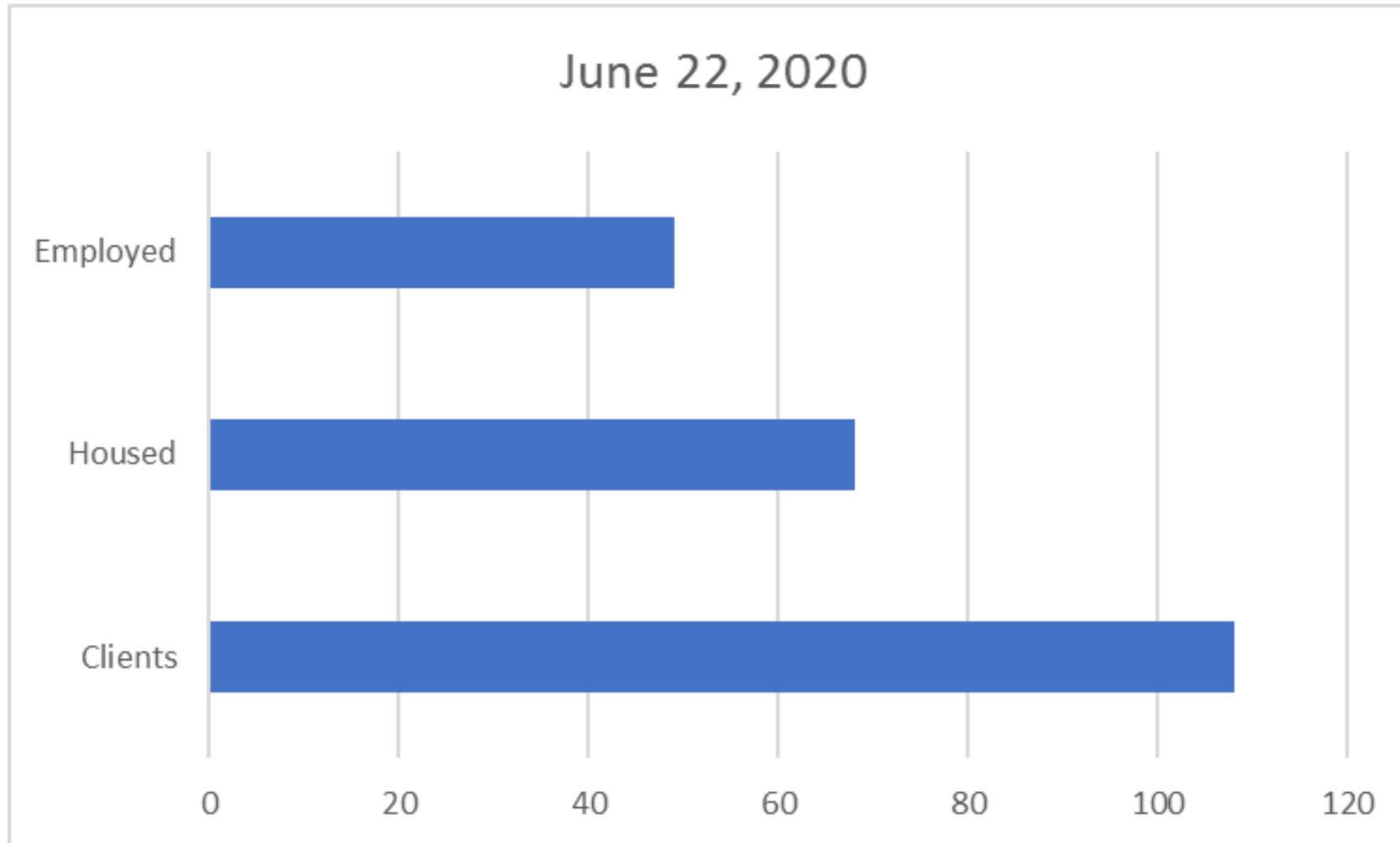
- **Transitional Benefits Counselor**

- Budget counseling
- Individual psychosocial support
- Personal Benefits Transition Plan
- Employment related supports
- TBC group

- **Peer Care Navigator**

- Supportive counseling
- PSN Group
- Assistance with Housing, Realtors, Outreach

Outcomes



Client Story

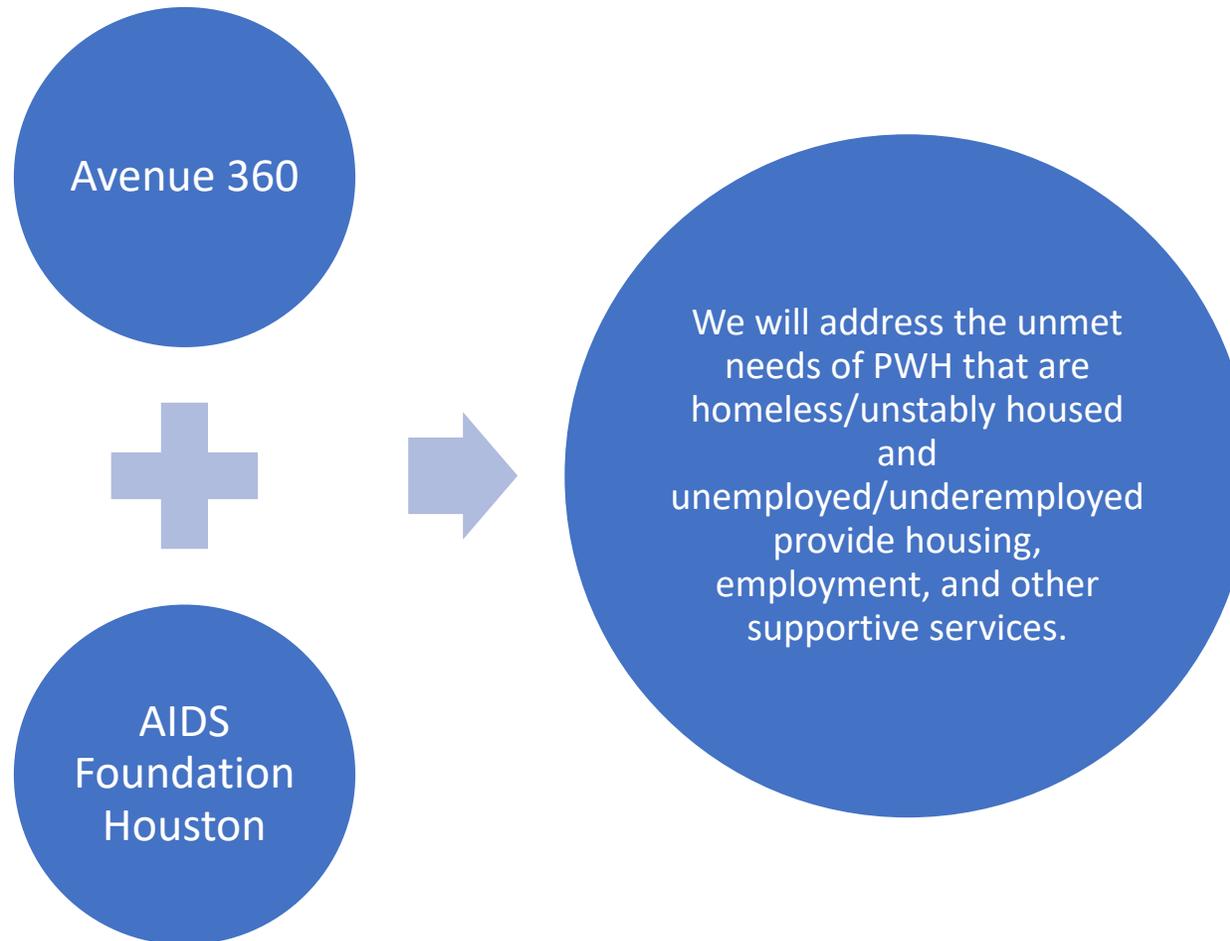




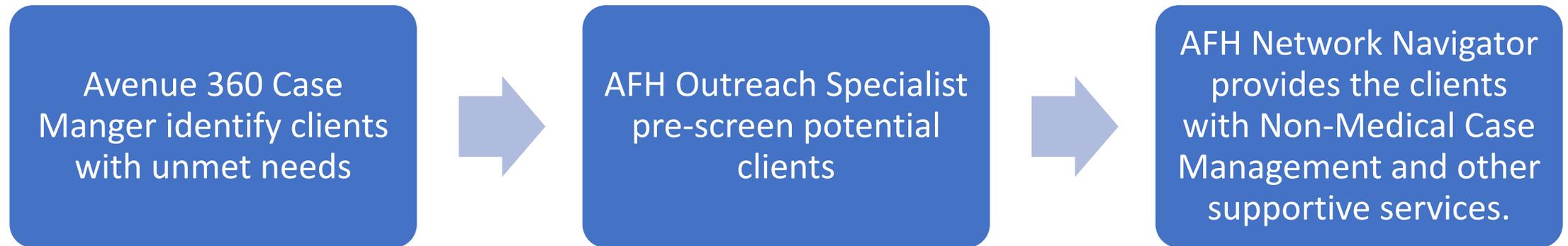
Partnering with the Department of Labor Avenue 360 Health and Wellness & AIDS Foundation of Houston

LaNikka Green-Sofola, AIDS Foundation Houston
Houston, TX

FQHC & ASO Partnership



FQHC & ASO Partnership



Forming the Partnership with the Department of Labor



Who/What?

Employment Specialist

Provide employment services and resources to Project CORE Clients

When/Where?

September 2018

While attending a Community Resource Fair

How/Why?

Attended a workshop and made a connection with the Workforce Solutions Regional Facilitator

Clients will be able to receive weekly employment resources and services

Provide workforce development services to employers and job seekers by promoting and supporting a workforce system that creates value and offers employers, individuals, and communities the opportunity to achieve and sustain economic prosperity.

Services provided:

- Job readiness workshops
- Career counseling
- Computer training
- Job search assistance
- Vocational/trade training referrals
- Free assistance for certifications leading to employment

Program



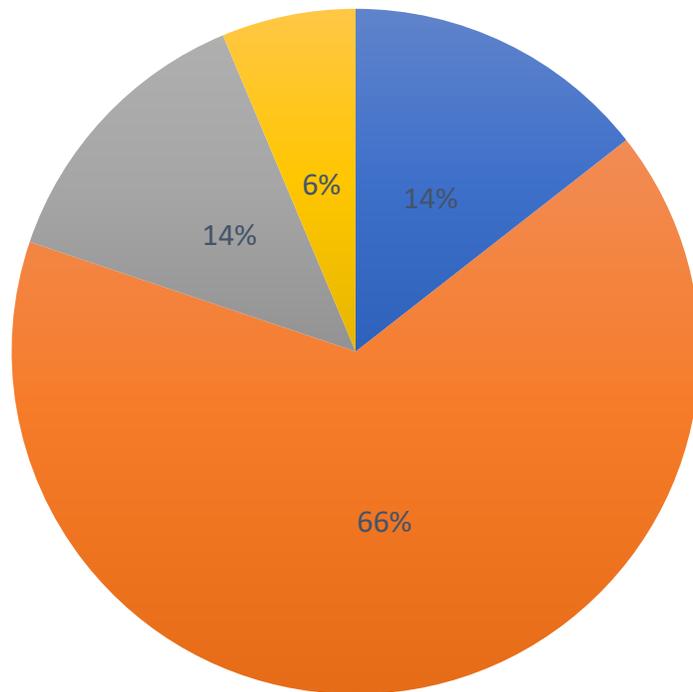
Clients are able to attend workshops at the AFH Corporate Office once a week

One on one training provided by a Workforce Solutions Regional Facilitator

Job search assistance

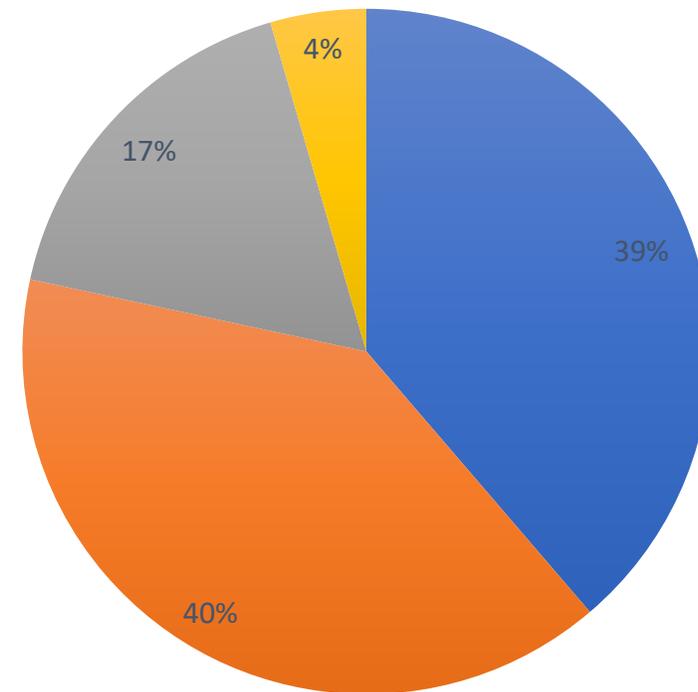
Smaller class sizes

Employment status at baseline



■ Employed ■ Unemployed ■ Underemployed ■ Other

Employment status as of April 2020



■ Employed ■ Unemployed ■ Underemployed ■ Other

Client Success Story: “Barry”

Before Project CORE

- Homeless
- Unemployed
- Viral load >100,000 copies/ml (off medication for 5 months)
- Suffers from depression and anxiety
- No transportation
- No income
- Limited job skills

After enrollment

- Client completed a Housing Assessment and was referred to a housing program
- Client was referred to LCDC for Mental Health Evaluation
- Client attended weekly Workforce Solutions Job Readiness Workshops
- Client enrolled in a Welding vocational class

Client update

- Stably housed in a HOPWA funded Program
- Full time employed
- Virally suppressed
- Attending bi-weekly therapy sessions
- Volunteer at homeless a local homeless shelter in the food pantry
- Client has reliable transportation



- Continue to promote Project CORE and the available resources
- Continue to provide Job Readiness Workshops
- Encourage clients to obtain additional job readiness skills
- Encourage clients to attend vocational and certification training
- Provide clients with incentives
- Promote job fairs and job openings
- Create opportunities for community and client engagement
- Provide evaluations to see where there is a need for improvement



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Questions?



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More information on [The HIV,
Housing & Employment Project](#)

Contact information



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Thank you

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