



# Community Engagement Institute 201

## The Impact of the Stories We Tell

2022 National Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment

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**Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs**  
**HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB)**

**Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People**



# Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants will be able to:

1. Learn how storytelling can change decision makers minds about programs and even policy.
2. Understand effective strategies used by RWHAP recipients to make systems changes that are responsive to community needs.
3. Learn what can be gained by both sharing and listening to the stories of people that are served in the RWHAP.

Antigone Dempsey has no relevant financial interests to disclose.

Vincent Crisostomo has no relevant financial interests to disclose.

Valerie Gallo has no relevant financial interests to disclose.

Leandro Rodriguez has no relevant financial interest to disclose.

Jacquelyn Bickham has no relevant financial interest to disclose.

Celeste Watkins-Hayes has no relevant financial interest to disclose.

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# Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

## Overview



Supports more than 90 programs that provide health care to people who are geographically isolated, economically challenged, or medically challenged



HRSA does this through grants and cooperative agreements to more than 3,000 awardees, including community and faith-based organizations, colleges and universities, hospitals, state, local, and tribal governments, and private entities



Every year, HRSA programs serve tens of millions of people, including people with HIV, pregnant individuals, mothers and their families, and those otherwise unable to access quality health care



# Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

## Mission

To provide on-the-ground outreach to increase the reach, impact, and awareness of HRSA programs.



# HRSA's HIV/AIDS Bureau Vision and Mission

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## Vision

Optimal HIV care and treatment for all to end the HIV epidemic in the U.S.

## Mission

Provide leadership and resources to advance HIV care and treatment to improve health outcomes and reduce health disparities for people with HIV and affected communities.



# HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) Overview

- Provides a comprehensive system of HIV primary medical care, medications, and essential support services for low-income people with HIV.
- Funds grants to states, cities, counties, and local community-based organizations to improve health outcome and reduce HIV transmission.
  - Recipients determine service delivery and funding priorities based on local needs and planning process.
- Provided services to nearly 562,000 people in 2020—more than half of all people with diagnosed HIV in the United States.
- 89.4% of RWHAP clients receiving HIV medical care were virally suppressed in 2020, exceeding national average of 64.6%<sup>i</sup>.



# Why Is Community Engagement Important?

- The voices of people with HIV, their communities, and the greater communities that support people with HIV have been the cornerstone of the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) since its passage by Congress in 1990.
- While the RWHAP has successfully provided care, support and treatment for more than 561,000 people with HIV in 2020, there remains hundreds of thousands of people who have HIV but are not diagnosed or are inconsistently in care.
- With a renewed focus on community engagement to meet the goals for Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S., our collective success depends on how well communities are involved in the planning, development, and implementation of HIV care and treatment strategies.





# Community Engagement Framework: Where We Began

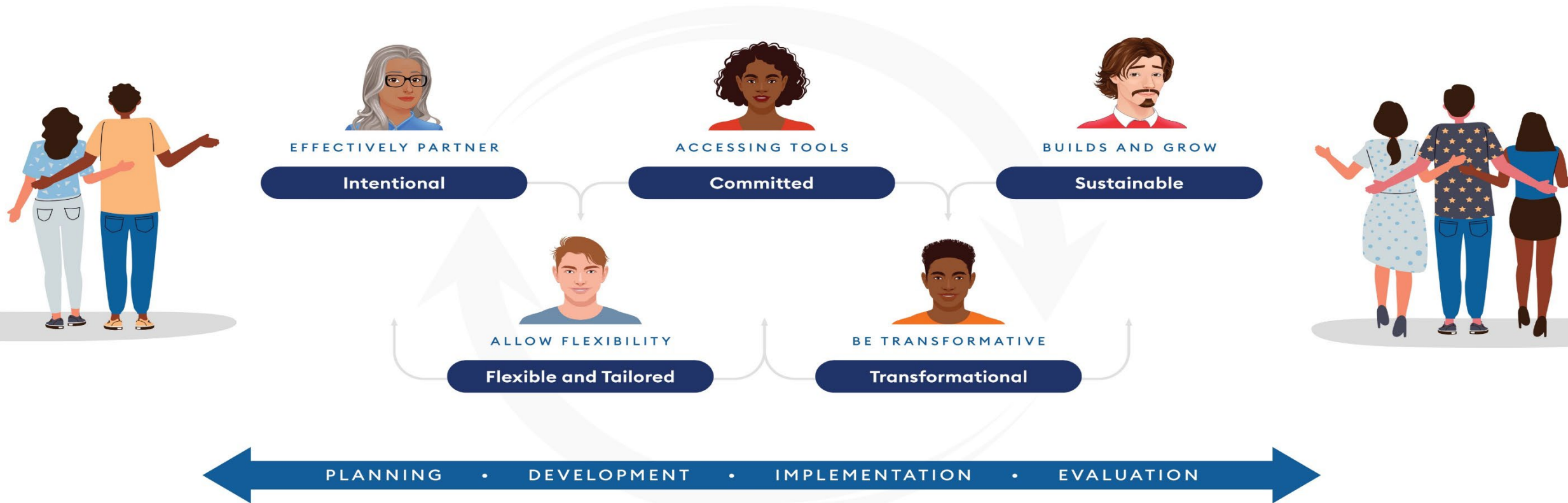


# Community Engagement Framework: Where We Are Today

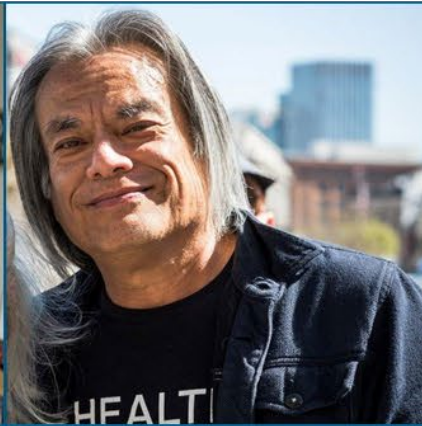


## Community Engagement Guiding Principles

“voices of the community from beginning to end”



# Today's Storytellers



**Valerie Gallo**

- HRSA's Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

**Antigone Dempsey**

- HRSA's HIV/AIDS Bureau

**Leandro Rodriguez**

- Latino Commission on AIDS

**Jacquelyn Bickham**

- Louisiana Department of Health

**Vince Crisostomo**

- San Francisco AIDS Foundation

**Celeste Watkins-Hayes**

- The University of Michigan





# How To Claim CE Credit

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# Contact Information

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# Connect with the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

Learn more about our program at our new website:

[ryanwhite.hrsa.gov](https://ryanwhite.hrsa.gov)



Sign up for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Listserv:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USHHSRSA/signup/29907>

# Connect with HRSA

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[www.HRSA.gov](http://www.HRSA.gov)



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