



Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) Program

2020 National Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment

August 11, 2020

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Division of Policy and Data
HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB)

Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People



Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Overview

- Supports more than 90 programs that provide health care to people who are geographically isolated, economically or medically vulnerable 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/AIDS, pregnant women, mothers and their families, and those otherwise unable to access quality health care



HRSA's HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) Vision and Mission

Vision

Optimal HIV/AIDS care and treatment for all.

Mission

Provide leadership and resources to assure access to and retention in high quality, integrated care, and treatment services for vulnerable people with HIV/AIDS and their families.



HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

- Provides comprehensive system of HIV primary medical care, medications, and essential support services for low-income people with HIV
 - More than half of people with diagnosed HIV in the United States – nearly 519,000 people – receive care through the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP)
 - Funds grants to states, cities/counties, and local community based organizations
 - Recipients determine service delivery and funding priorities based on local needs and planning process
- Payor of last resort statutory provision: RWHAP funds may not be used for services if another state or federal payer is available
- 87.1% of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program clients were virally suppressed in 2018, exceeding national average of 62.7%



Source: HRSA. Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Annual Client-Level Data Report 2018; CDC. HIV Surveillance Supplemental Report 2018;21(No. 4)





What SPNS Does

- **Supports development of innovative models of HIV care** to quickly respond to the emerging needs of clients served by the RWHAP
- **Evaluates effectiveness of the models'** design, implementation, utilization, cost, and health-related outcomes
- **Promotes dissemination and replication** of successful models
- **Supports special programs to develop standard electronic client information data systems** to improve grantee- and client-level data reporting to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)





Portfolio of Special Projects of National Significance:

- **\$25M a year authorized by the Ryan White legislation and distributed across grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts**
- **46 current and continuing projects not including sub recipients**
- **31 new projects with project start period of September 1, 2020**
- **2 Evaluation contracts (1 new).**

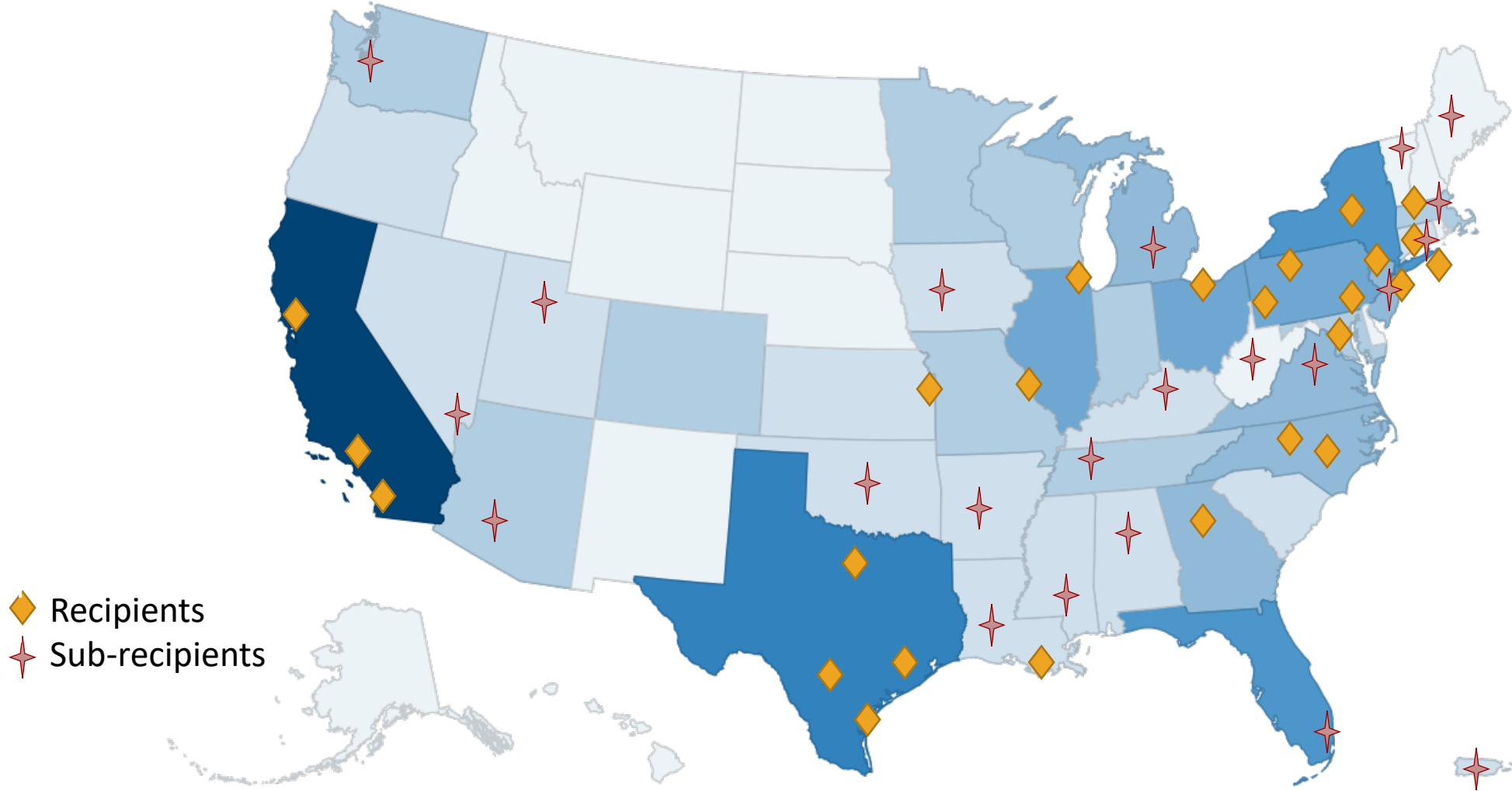
SPNS Innovative Initiatives

SPNS Current Areas of Work:

- Evaluating Health Outcomes among **Black MSM**
- Building Capacity among RWHAP to **Replicate** SPNS Interventions
- Developing System Approaches to **Cure Hepatitis C**
- Promoting the **Dissemination** of Evidence-Informed Interventions
- Evaluating the Coordination of **Employment & Housing** Services
- Strengthening Systems of Care for People Living with HIV and Opioid Disorder
- Implementing & Evaluating Effectiveness of **Rapid ART Start Therapy**
- Developing a **Compendium** of Rapid ART Interventions
- Implementing and Evaluating Innovative **Systems of Care for Black Women**
- Implementing **Data to Care Approaches** (HIV/HCV & STI/HIV Surveillance Systems)



National Reach: SPNS Recipients/Sub-recipients



SPNS Projects by AETC Regions



SPNS Projects by AETC Regions

- New England AETC -

SPNS RECIPIENTS/SITES

- Boston University (DEC)
- City of Hartford, Hartford CT
- Fenway-MA
- Yale University-CT

INITIATIVES

DEI; H/E
HIV/HCV
H/E; E2i
H/E; Hep C



SPNS Projects by AETC Regions

- Southeast AETC -

SPNS RECIPIENTS/SITES

- Meharry Med. College-TN
- Grady Health System-GA
- University of Kentucky
- University of NC-Chapel Hill
- Univ. of South Carolina
- Wake Forest University-NC
- Palm Beach County
- Wake Forest University-NC
- Duke University – STYLE
- Positive Impact-GA

INITIATIVES

- DEII
- DEII
- DEII
- DEII
- DEII
- Social Media
- Housing and Data
- Housing and Data
- BMSM
- H/E



SPNS Projects by AETC Regions

- MidAtlantic AETC -

SPNS RECIPIENTS/SITES

- AIDS United (ITAC)-Wash., DC
- AIDS Care Group-PA
- Penn State University
- Philadelphia Fight
- Friends Research Institute-MD
- NASTAD-Wash., DC
- City of Philadelphia
- RAND Corporation (ETAC)

INITIATIVES

- DEII
- DEII
- Social Media
- Social Media
- Social Media; BMSM
- HIV/HCV; EI
- HIV/HCV
- HIV/HCV



SPNS Projects by AETC Regions

- Northeast/Caribbean AETC -

SPNS RECIPIENTS/SITES

- Health Research-NY
- New York City DOH
- Newark Beth Israel-NJ
- Centro Ararat-PR
- Cooper Health-NJ
- Gay Men's Health Crisis-NY
- City of Paterson
- Rutgers-NJ

INITIATIVES

- Social Media
- HIV/HCV
- DEII
- DEII
- DEII
- BMSM; H/E
- H/E
- Improving STI



SPNS Projects by AETC Regions

- South Central AETC -

SPNS RECIPIENTS/SITES

- Coastal Bend-Texas
- Dallas County Hospital District
- New Orleans AIDS/Crescent Care
- Avenue 360-Texas
- Bexar County-Texas
- UT Health-San Antonio

INITIATIVES

Social Media
BMSM
BMSM
H/E
H/E
Hep C



SPNS Projects by AETC Regions

- Pacific AETC -

SPNS RECIPIENTS/SITES

- Southern Nevada Health-NV
- Public Health Foundation-CA
- U. of California, Los Angeles (ETAC)
- Sutter Bay Hospitals
- City of Pasadena
- Family Health Center-San Diego
- Positive Resources-San Francisco
- University of CA-San Francisco (EC)
- RAND Corporation (ETAC)

INITIATIVES

- DEII
- Social Media
- Social Media
- BMSM
- H/E
- H/E
- H/E
- E2i
- HIV/HCV



SPNS Projects by AETC Regions

- Mountain West AETC -

SPNS RECIPIENTS/SITES

- Cascade AIDS Project-OR

INITIATIVES

Housing and Data



SPNS Projects by AETC Regions

- Midwest AETC -

SPNS RECIPIENTS/SITES

- Howard Brown HC-IL
- Metro Health System-OH
- Washington University-MO
- Kansas City Health Dept.
- Christian Community HC-IL
- Project ARK-Wash. University
- AIDS Foundation Chicago
- City of Kansas
- National Opinion RC-IL (ETAP)

INITIATIVES

DEII; Social Media
DEII; Social Media
Social Media
Housing and Data
BMSM
BMSM
H/E
H/E
BMSM



Where to find SPNS Resources

- **HAB Website**

- <https://hab.hrsa.gov> (List of current SPNS projects, Fact Sheets, Bulletins and NOFOs)
- <https://hab.hrsa.gov/about-ryan-white-hivaids-program/part-f-special-projects-national-significance-spns-program> (Current and Past initiatives: purpose, recipients and their demonstration projects, and journal articles (added when published))

- **TargetHIV**

- <https://targethiv.org/library/hiv-care-innovations-replication-resources> (HIV Care Innovations: Replication Resources)
- <https://targethiv.org/ihip> (Integrating HIV Innovative Practices)



SPNS Resources

Moving Patients Along the HIV Care Continuum and Beyond

Implementation Manual

Case Studies

Pocket Guides



INTERVENTION OVERVIEW & REPLICATION TIPS

Hepatitis Treatment Expansion Initiative

University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco General Hospital HIV Clinic

Diagnosing HIV
Linkage to Care
Retention in Care
Prescription of ART & Medication Access
Beyond the Care Continuum

The table below provides a general overview of the Hepatitis Treatment Expansion intervention so readers can assess the necessary steps required for replication.

Intervention at-a-Glance	
Step 1	Consult on HCV Coinfected Client Health Record Upon HCV diagnosis, the HIV primary-care physician sends client electronic health record to the internal physician lead at the HCV coinfection clinic. Internal HCV physician lead provides technical review of proposed treatment plan and complexity of client case.
Step 2	Conduct Electronic Review of Client Health Record HCV physician lead reviews client health record: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More complicated cases are referred for in-person evaluation in HCV coinfection clinic for more involved oversight, lab work, and ART regimen change. For more straightforward cases, the HCV physician lead sends an e-script to the pharmacist for a 12-week treatment regimen.
Step 3	Conduct Lab Work At 4 weeks into the treatment regimen, conduct lab work to verify beneficial impact to date.
Step 4	Provide Pharmacist Adherence Monitoring Pharmacist continues adherence monitoring and counseling with the coinfecting client.
Step 5	Monitor Clients on Ribavirin Clients on ribavirin have lab visits every 2-4 weeks and nursing visits, if necessary, to monitor for anemia until treatment is complete.

University of Illinois at Chicago
Enhancing Linkages to Care for Women Leaving Jails

Virginia Department of Health – Care Coordination

Improving Linkage to Care: Ensuring High-Quality Care for PLWH Within and Beyond Corrections

Highlights from the Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) Program

POCKET GUIDE

This pocket guide contains highlights from: Assess, Test, Link, Achieve Success (ATLAS) Program at the Care Alliance Health Center, Cleveland, OH; Video Conferencing Intervention, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals; Enhancing Linkages to Care for Women Leaving Jails, University of Illinois-Chicago; and, Care Coordination, Virginia Department of Health.

The corrected writing is associated with unique opportunities and challenges for diagnosing HIV and linking individuals to care. HIV screening at the time of intake can result in high testing rates and accurate linkage to care results can improve outcomes for individuals upon release. When incarcerated persons are reentry-related to the community, this, addressing the HIV care continuum during their transition is an important opportunity to improve health outcomes within, as well as beyond, the correctional setting.

The goal of this pocket guide is to provide a condensed reference tool for HIV provider organizations working to improve screening, diagnosis, and linkage to HIV care for persons during and after incarceration. Selected detailed information on the highlighted interventions is available at [iHiP](#).

iHiP

HRSA
Ryan White & Global HIV/AIDS Programs

and Webinars!



SPNS Resources

Moving Patients Along the HIV Care Continuum and Beyond

DEII Demonstration Sites



-  **Integrating Buprenorphine Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in HIV Primary Care**
 - CENTRO ADARAT, Inc. FAITH Clinic - Juana Diaz, PR
 - The MetroHealth System - Cleveland, OH
 - University of Kentucky Research Foundation, through the Bluegrass Care Clinic at UKHealthcare and the Center for Health Services Research - Lexington, KY
-  **Transitional Care Coordination from Jail Intake to Community HIV Primary Care**
 - The Cooper Health System Early Intervention Program - Camden, NJ
 - The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases - Chapel Hill, NC
 - Southern Nevada Health District - Las Vegas, NV
-  **Enhanced Patient Navigation for Women of Color**
 - Grady Health System, Infectious Disease Program - Atlanta, GA
 - Keck School of Medicine at University of Southern California - Los Angeles, CA
 - Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, a part of the RWJBarnabas Health System - Newark, NJ
-  **Peer Linkage and Re-engagement of HIV-Positive Women of Color**
 - AIDS Care Group - Chester, PA
 - Howard Brown Health - Chicago, IL
 - Meharry Medical College - Nashville, TN



Implementation Manuals

- Peer Linkage and Re-Engagement of Women of Color Living with HIV
- Enhanced Patient Navigation for Women of Color with HIV

and Webinars!



AIDS Education and Training Centers Program

2020 National Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment

August 11, 2020

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HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB)

Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People



AIDS Education and Training Centers Program (AETC)

Mission

Increase the number of health care providers who are effectively educated and motivated to counsel, diagnose, treat, and medically manage people with HIV, and to help prevent high-risk behaviors that lead to HIV transmission

The RWHAP AETC Program recognizes the importance of a well-trained HIV health workforce as a crucial step toward ending the HIV epidemic in the U.S.



AIDS Education and Training Centers Program

Overview

- \$33M annual appropriation under authority: section 2692 (42 U.S.C. §300ff-111) and section 2693 of the Public Health Service Act, as amended by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009
- The AIDS Education & Training Center (AETC) Program, a national program of **leading HIV experts**, provides **locally based, tailored** education and technical assistance to healthcare teams and systems to integrate comprehensive care for those with or affected by HIV. The AETC Program *transforms* HIV care by building the capacity to provide accessible, high-quality treatment and services throughout the United States and its territories.
- Train and provide technical assistance to health care professionals, interprofessional health teams, and health care organizations on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of HIV disease.
- Special emphasis on clinicians who are themselves of minority racial/ethnic background and/or are serving minority populations, including Native Americans and Alaska Natives



AETC Program Goals

- Increase the size and strengthen the skills of the HIV clinical workforce in the United States.
- Improve outcomes along the HIV care continuum, including diagnosis, linkage, retention and viral suppression, in alignment with the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, through training and technical assistance.
- Reduce HIV incidence by improving the achievement and maintenance of viral suppression in people with HIV.



AETC Program Overview

8 Regional AETCs

National Coordinating Resource Center (NCRC)

AIDS Education and Training Centers Program

National Clinician Consultation Center (NCCC)

National Evaluation Contractor

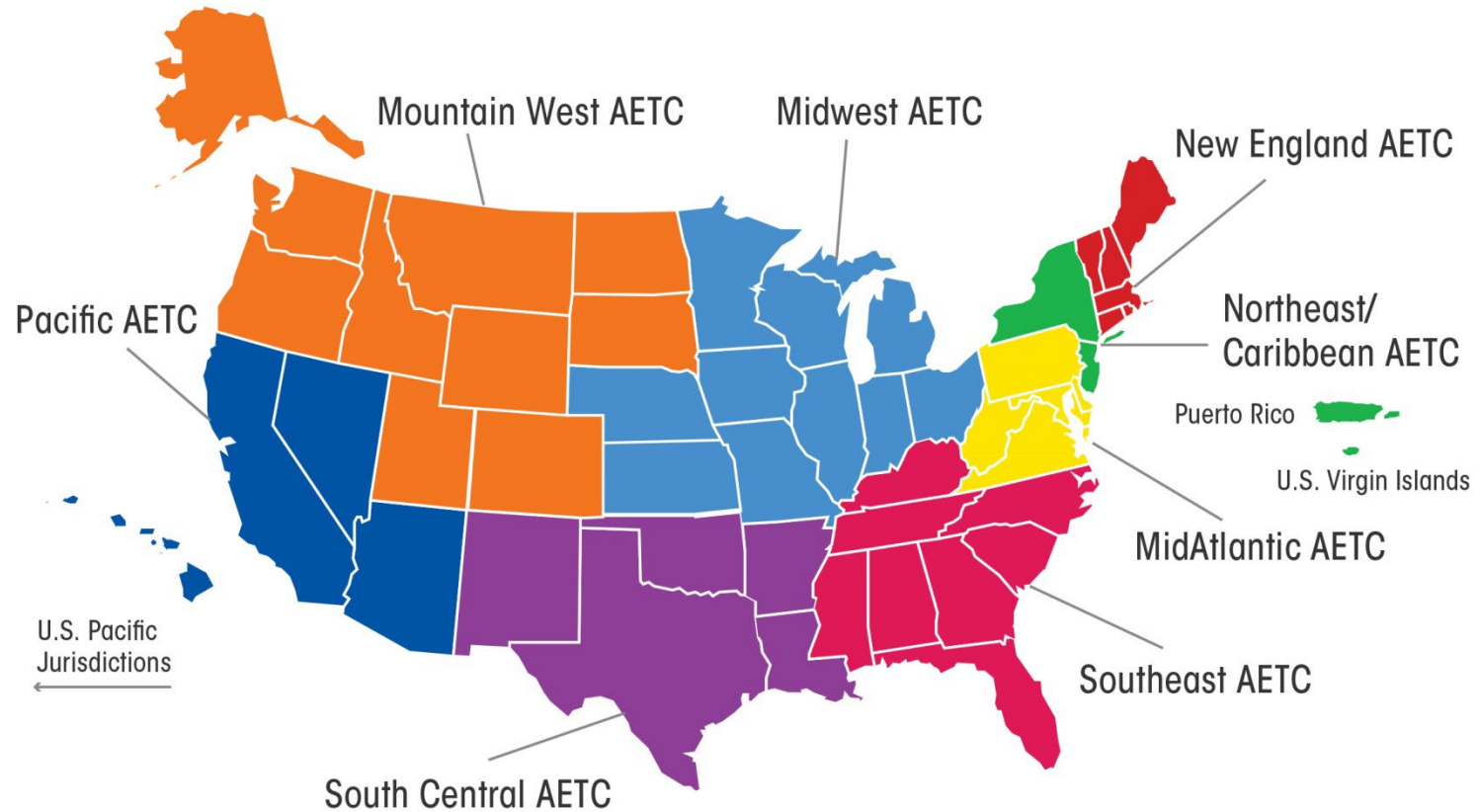
National HIV Curriculum (NHC) Programs:

- (1) Enhancement and Update of NHC e-Learning Platform
- (2) Technology Operations and Maintenance of NHC e-Learning Platform
- (3) Integration of NHC into Health Care Provider Professional Education



Regional AETC Program

<http://aidsetc.org/>



Potential AETC Avenues for Dissemination of SPNS Interventions

Practice Transformation Expansion (PTE) (Optional)

Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI)

Interprofessional Education (IPE)

Core Training

Practice Transformation (PT)



Regional AETC Program Components

- **Core Training**

- Reach novice and low-volume HIV providers and clinics
 - Novice – provider with <6 years of HIV experience
 - Low-volume – provider who sees <10 patients with HIV per year
- Implement replicable HIV service delivery models and evidence-based interventions
- Coordinate with RWHAP Parts A and B recipients to develop core training work plan



Regional AETC Program Components - PT

- **Practice Transformation (Minimum of 40%)**
 - Improve outcomes along the HIV care continuum and build clinic capacity
 - Transform clinical practice through training, coaching and practice facilitation
 - Minimum of 6 HRSA funded health centers or clinics
 - 3 Ryan White clinics
 - 3 non-Ryan White clinics (Section 330 funding)
 - 33% of clinics must include replicable SPNS model or evidence-based/informed interventions



Regional AETC Program Components - PTE

- **Practice Transformation Expansion (*Optional*)**
 - Collaboration with Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC)
 - Increase capacity of providers in BPHC-funded health centers
 - With high HIV prevalence and/or incidence
 - Rural counties with new HIV diagnosis and at high risk for substance use disorder
 - Funded AETCs: **South East, Pacific, and Midwest**



National Coordinating Resource Center (NCRC)

- Central repository for AETC training and capacity building resources
- Available free through a virtual library: aidsetc.org
- Maintains the AETC Program Directory
- Fosters collaboration and group facilitation among AETCs and with external partners
- Provides marketing and communications services
- Coordinates the annual Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Clinical Conference



National Clinician Consultation Center (NCCC)

Provides free immediate expert clinical consultation to health care professionals on HIV prevention, care, and treatment through telephone and e-consultation:

- [HIV/AIDS Management Warmline](#): individualized expert multidisciplinary consultation on preventing and treating HIV, from initiating treatment to managing advanced disease
- [Perinatal HIV Hotline](#): consultation for HIV testing and care during pregnancy, labor and delivery, and the postpartum period
- [Hepatitis C Management Warmline](#): consultation for screening and treating hepatitis C, from testing to treatment
- [Substance Use Management Warmline](#): individualized national clinical consultation for healthcare providers treating people living with HIV who use/abuse substances or are at risk of contracting HIV due to substance use
- [PEPline Warmline](#): consultation for managing healthcare worker exposures to HIV and hepatitis B and C, including recommendations on when and how to initiate PEP
- [PrEPline Warmline](#): Up-to-date clinical consultation for PrEP decision-making, from determining when PrEP is an appropriate part of a prevention program to understanding laboratory protocols and follow-up tests



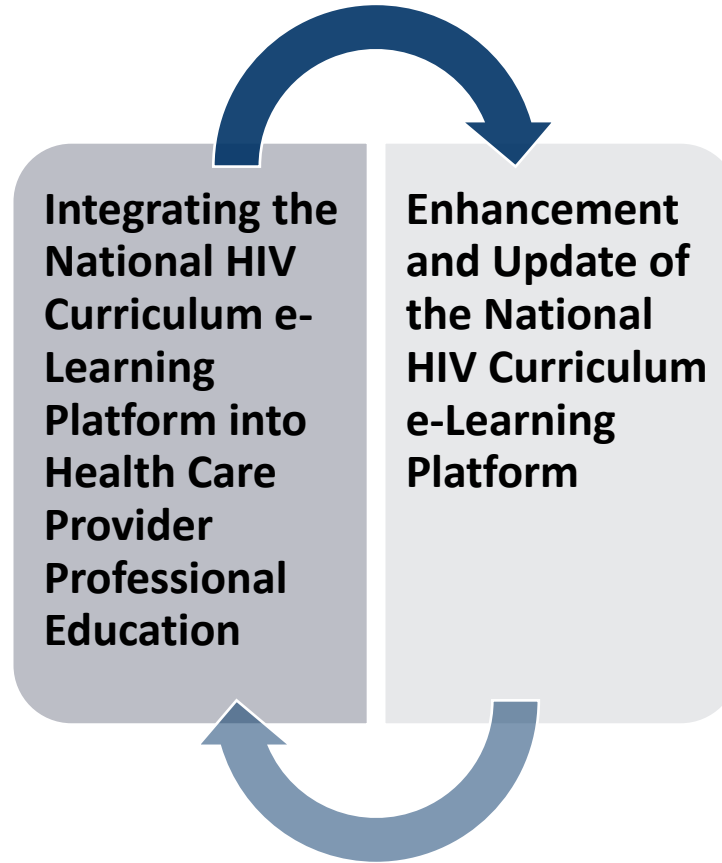
The National HIV Curriculum (NHC)

- Free e-Learning website www.hiv.uw.edu
- Provides ongoing, up-to-date HIV training information and CEUs for health professionals through:
 - Self study course modules
 - Question bank
 - Clinical challenges
 - Screening tools
 - Clinical calculators
 - National guidelines/recommendations for HIV care and treatment
- Developed by University of Washington (UW) in collaboration with NCRC
- Website operated and maintained by UW (HRSA-18-110 & HRSA-19-041)



The National HIV Curriculum and Integration of NHC into Health Professional Programs

Howard University
University of Illinois



University of Washington

AETC Ending the HIV Education and CARES Act (COVID-19) Response Award

AETC Ending the HIV Epidemic Supplemental Awards

Award Amount: \$3,000,000

AETC COVID-19 Response Awards

- Award Amount: \$3,600,000
- Period of Performance: April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021 (1 year)



Expectations and Roles: AETC and SPNS Programs

- Promote a tangible collaboration
- Enhance communication
- Ongoing promotion and dissemination of evidence-informed interventions
- Provide effective and useful tools
- Share ideas and lessons learned



AETC/SPNS Spotlight

Anna Poker, RN, MS, Senior Public Health Analyst, HIV Workforce Training and Development Team

John Hannay, MTS, MCHES, Public Health Analyst, Special Projects of National Significance



Panelists

Corrections Initiative

Christopher Hurt, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Jennifer Burdge, Med

Project Director

Southeast AIDS Education & Training Center

Vanderbilt University



Panelists

Hepatitis C Initiative

Raudel Bobadilla, MPH, CHW

Program Manager

UT Health San Antonio South Central AIDS Education & Training Center

Peter Coronado, CHW-I

Program Manager

Valley AIDS Council

South Central Texas AIDS Education & Training Center



Discussion Questions...

- How can AETCs and SPNS increase collaboration on available SPNS interventions?
 - What has worked in the past?
 - **What new ideas can be implemented?**
- What is needed to facilitate integration?
- What type of dissemination is needed to help promote the interventions?
 - What role can the National AETCs play?





Wrap up: Closing Questions and Discussion



Contact Information

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