

# Status-Neutral Approaches: NYC, Texas & Detroit

Expanding the HIV Continuum to Improve Patient Experiences



January 27, 2022

12-1 PM EST; 11 AM- 12 PM CST;  
10-11 AM MST; 9-10 AM PST





# Cooperative Agreement Award # U69HA33964

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# Who We Are

Strengthen & support implementation of jurisdiction Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Plans to contribute to achievement of reduction in new reported HIV cases by 75% by 2025



**Technical Assistance Provider**  
**innovation network**

**Tip: Get TAP-in TA and Training by Contacting [TAP-in@caiglobal.org](mailto:TAP-in@caiglobal.org)**

# TAP-in Partnership Structure



Center for Telehealth



**NCS D**

National Coalition  
of STD Directors



**UCLA**



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
Community Health Centers®



SOUTHERN AIDS COALITION



# The HIV Status Neutral Framework:

## Spotlight on Local Implementation

**Demetre C. Daskalakis, MD, MPH**  
**Director, Division of HIV Prevention**





# **Why is a Status Neutral Approach Needed?**

**HIV stigma is rooted in a fear of HIV  
and supported by systems that  
“otherized” people with HIV.**

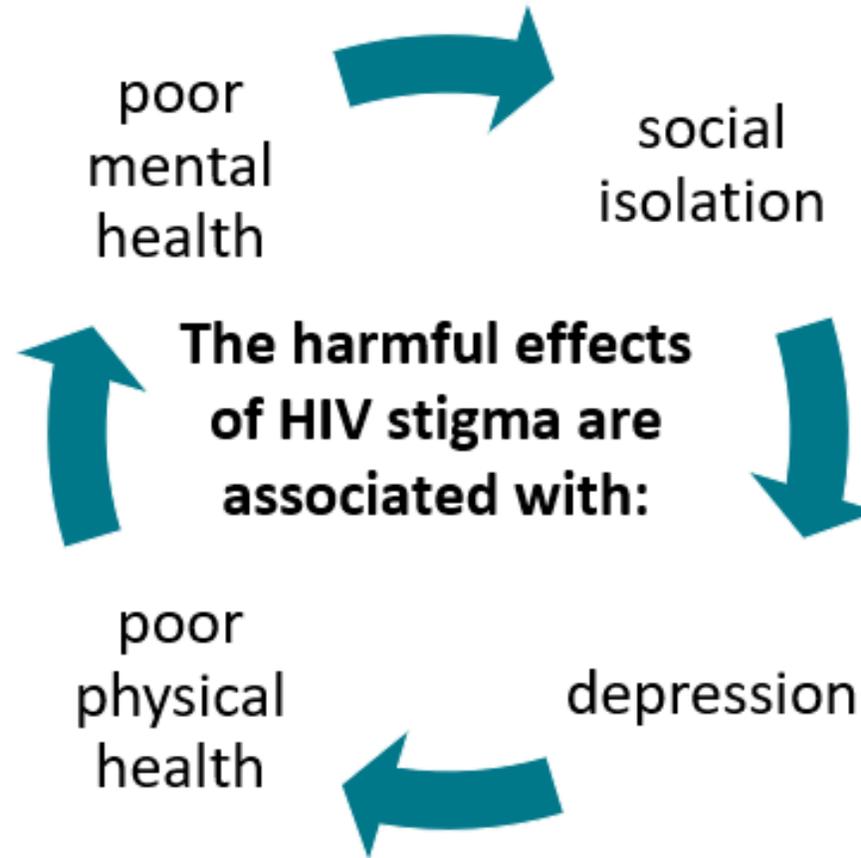
# Anticipated Stigma

## Internalized Stigma

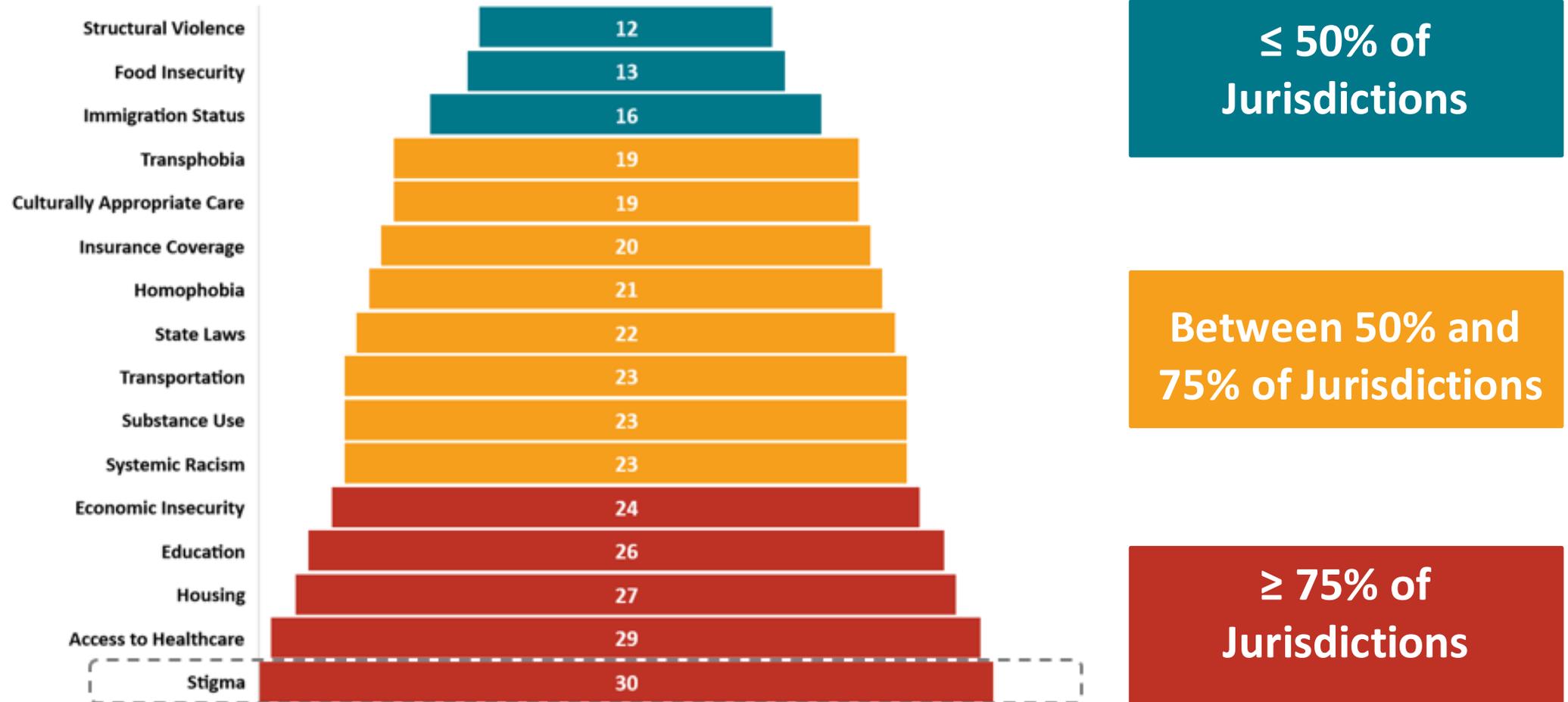
## Experienced Stigma



# Why is a Status Neutral Approach Needed?



# Identified Systemic Challenges & Structural Barriers<sup>1</sup>

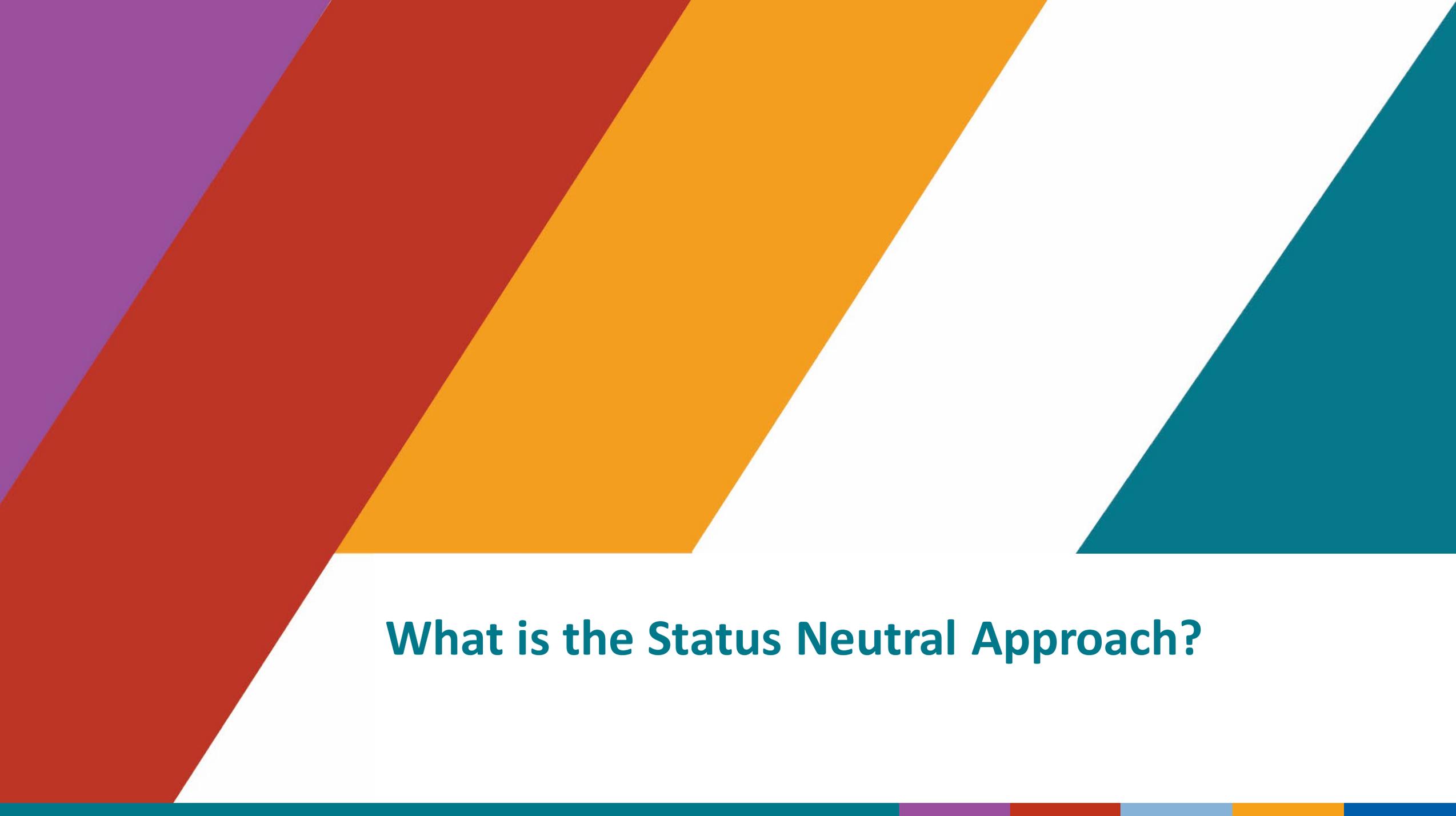


1. CDC , Accelerating State and Local HIV Planning to End the HIV Epidemic: A Thematic Analysis of EHE Jurisdictional Plans. (unpublished)

# Duplicate Services are Inefficient

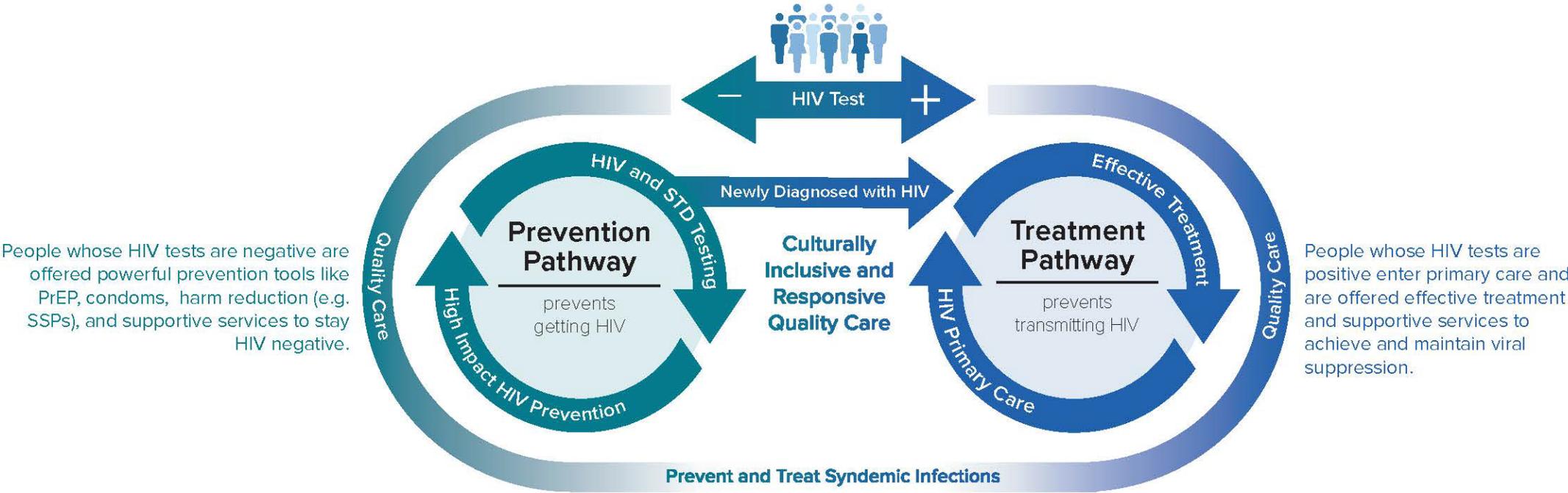
- **People with HIV and those who could benefit from HIV prevention have similar needs**
  - Duplicate services/programs are inefficient
  - Jurisdictions and CBOs cite siloed funding as a barrier to status neutral programming
- **The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) is a great model**
  - RWHAP-funded facilities use a medical home model, offering comprehensive, patient-centered care<sup>1</sup>
  - Most service-provision, other than testing, is for people with diagnosed HIV

1. Baugher AR, Beer L, Fagan JL, Mattson CL, Shouse RL; Medical Monitoring Project. Discrimination in healthcare settings among adults with recent HIV diagnoses. *AIDS Care*. 2019;31(9):1077-1082. doi:10.1080/09540121.2018.1545988



# **What is the Status Neutral Approach?**

# Status Neutral HIV Prevention and Care

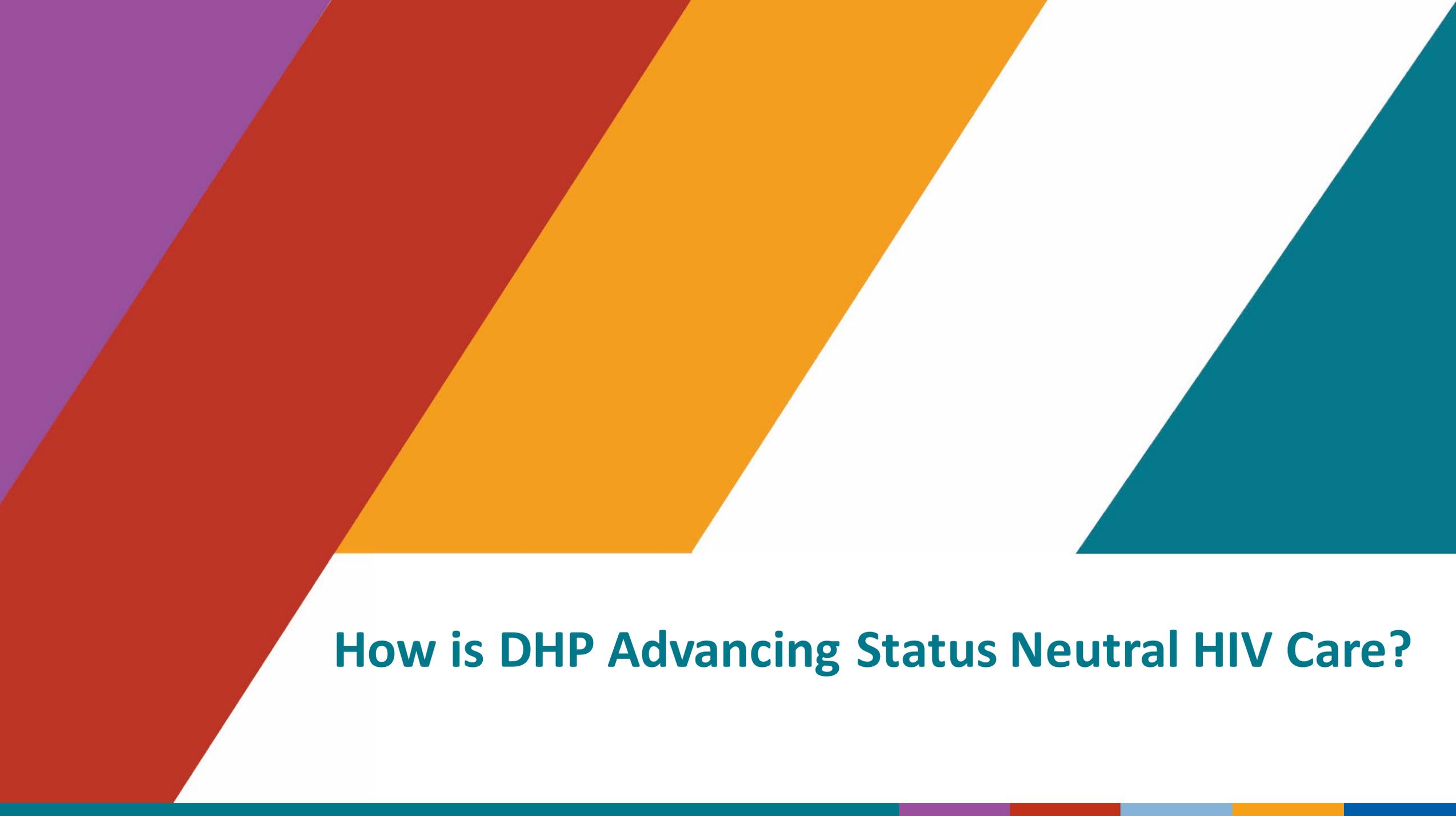


Follow CDC guidelines to test people for HIV. Regardless of HIV status, quality care is the foundation of HIV prevention and effective treatment. Both pathways provide people with the tools they need to stay healthy and stop HIV.

# Benefits of the Status Neutral Approach

- Dramatically decrease new HIV infections
- Supports and enables optimal health through continual engagement in comprehensive, “whole person” care and supports syndemic-related services and health promotion
- Increases opportunities for more efficient service delivery
- Improves health equity given intersection of HIV stigma and other biases





# **How is DHP Advancing Status Neutral HIV Care?**

## CDC's Approach



**Making HIV testing simple, accessible, and routine.**



**Quickly linking people with HIV to care and treatment, and re-engaging those who have stopped receiving care.**



**Increasing availability and use of PrEP among populations who could benefit most.**



**Partnering with other agencies and working with local communities to implement SSPs where they are needed and permitted by law.**



**Ensuring all jurisdictions have the capacity to identify, investigate, and respond to potential HIV outbreaks quickly.**

# Advancing Status Neutral Care

**Encouraging  
integrated  
service delivery**

**Conducting  
implementation  
science**

**Building  
partnerships**

# Thank you

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention  
Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention





# Objectives

- 1 Describe the status-neutral prevention and treatment cycle and its benefits/challenges.
- 2 Identify current prevention and care interventions that jurisdictions may wish to modify to align with status neutral concepts.
- 3 Identify status-neutral messaging techniques.

# Agenda



**Topic 1: The Status-Neutral Framework—and NHAS**



**Topic 2: The Framework in NYC**



**Topic 3: Status-Neutral in Texas**



**Topic 4: Communicating Status-Neutral**



**Accessing TAP-in TA and Q&A**



# Introductions

- **Tom Donohoe**, UCLA Family Medicine
- **Benjamin Tsoi**, MD, MPH, Director of HIV Prevention, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- **Jesse Carter**, Planning Group Manager, HIV/STD Prevention and Care Unit. Texas Department of State Health Services
- **Michael Canty**, Senior Manager, Clinical Programs, National Coalition of STD Directors



# Purpose

Practical tips for ways to expand the care continuum to better address a myriad of HIV prevention and care needs of patients.





# Status-Neutral in NYC

## **Benjamin Tsoi, MD**

Director, HIV Prevention

Bureau of Hepatitis, HIV, and Sexually Transmitted Infections

NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene



# Applying Status Neutral Framework

Applying	Applying status neutral lens to social marketing
Rebranding	Rebranding City STD clinics into Sexual Health Clinics
Enhancing	Enhancing Ryan White-funded medical case management program

# Promoting Health Through a Status-Neutral Lens



**WE STAY SURE**  
HIV TREATMENT = PREVENTION

#PLAYSURE

**BE SURE, PLAY SURE, STAY SURE.**  
If you're HIV positive, starting and staying on treatment can keep your viral load undetectable. Treatment keeps you healthy and makes it nearly impossible to pass HIV to your partner. Condoms offer additional protection against HIV and other STIs.

**STAY SURE:** Call 311 or visit [nyc.gov/health](http://nyc.gov/health) to learn more about services that can help you get and stay on treatment.

**NYC** Department of Health & Mental Hygiene



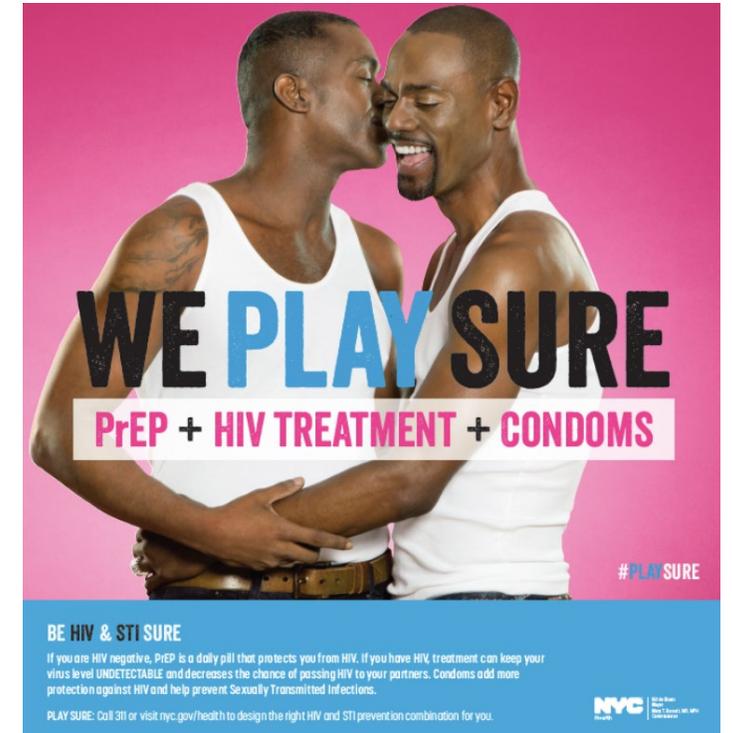
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**NYC** Department of Health & Mental Hygiene



**WE PLAY SURE**  
PrEP + HIV TREATMENT + CONDOMS

#PLAYSURE

**BE HIV & STI SURE**  
If you are HIV negative, PrEP is a daily pill that protects you from HIV. If you have HIV, treatment can keep your virus level UNDETECTABLE and decreases the chance of passing HIV to your partners. Condoms add more protection against HIV and help prevent Sexually Transmitted Infections.

**PLAY SURE:** Call 311 or visit [nyc.gov/health](http://nyc.gov/health) to design the right HIV and STI prevention combination for you.

**NYC** Department of Health & Mental Hygiene

# Promoting Health Through a Status-Neutral Lens



**WE STAY SURE**  
DAILY PrEP + CONDOMS

#PLAYSURE

## BE SURE, PLAY SURE, STAY SURE.

If you're HIV negative, PrEP is a daily pill that protects you from HIV. Condoms offer additional protection against HIV and other STIs.

**STAY SURE:** Call 311 or visit [nyc.gov/health](http://nyc.gov/health) to design the right HIV and STI prevention combination for you.



**I PLAY SURE**  
PrEP + CONDOMS

#PLAYSURE

## BE HIV & STI SURE

If you are HIV negative, PrEP is a daily pill that protects you from HIV. Condoms add more protection against HIV and help prevent other Sexually Transmitted Infections. Combine these tools to stay healthy and prevent the spread of HIV and other STIs.

**PLAY SURE:** Call 311 or visit [nyc.gov/health](http://nyc.gov/health) to design the right HIV and STI prevention combination for you.



**WE STAY SURE**  
DAILY PrEP + CONDOMS

#PLAYSURE

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If you're HIV negative, PrEP is a daily pill that protects you from HIV. Condoms offer additional protection against HIV and other STIs.

**STAY SURE:** Call 311 or visit [nyc.gov/health](http://nyc.gov/health) to design the right HIV and STI prevention combination for you.





whether it's a  
**FLING** or a  
**SERIOUS**  
**THING...**

Is this a 🍊📞?

You up?

👐👐

**GET TESTED!**

You can enjoy your sex life and stay healthy by getting tested for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) today. To get tested at a Sexual Health Clinic, call 311 or visit [nyc.gov/health/clinics](http://nyc.gov/health/clinics).

**NYC** Department of Health & Mental Hygiene

Side piece?

**We've got you COVERED!**

**NYC** nychhealthy

Barebacked?

**We've got you COVERED!**

**NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHAT YOU'RE INTO NYC SEXUAL HEALTH CLINICS** are here for you, with confidential services like

- HIV and STI Testing
- PEP
- Contraception
- and more

Anyone 17 years and older can visit us, regardless of immigration status or insurance coverage. To find a Sexual Health Clinic, call 311 or visit [nyc.gov/health/clinics](http://nyc.gov/health/clinics).

**NYC** Department of Health & Mental Hygiene

We're open and ready!

Chelsea Sexual Health Clinic is back!

**We've got you COVERED!**

# Status Neutral Services In City Sexual Health Clinics

## HIV Testing Services

**PEP**

**Immediate  
PrEP  
Initiation**

**JumpstART  
Immediate HIV treatment**

**STI Screening and Treatment, Condoms, Partner Services, Emergency Contraception,  
Crisis Counseling, and Substance Use Services**

# Enhancing Ryan White-funded Medical Case Management

## RWHAP MEDICAL CASE MANAGEMENT

HIV+

Address HIV Healthcare disparities by facilitating access to care and other services

Leads orientation, **assessment** and **care planning**  
Verifies program eligibility  
**Coordinates** with medical providers  
Facilitates **case conferences**

Provides **health education**  
Provides mDOT and **accompaniment** to appointments  
Provides **navigation** and **support** to clients  
Provides **appointment reminders** and follow-up  
Provides **linkages** to needed services  
Leads client **engagement** and re-**engagement** in service elements  
Participates in **planning** and **assessment** activities



**CARE COORDINATOR**

**NAVIGATOR**

## STATUS-NEUTRAL CARE COORDINATION

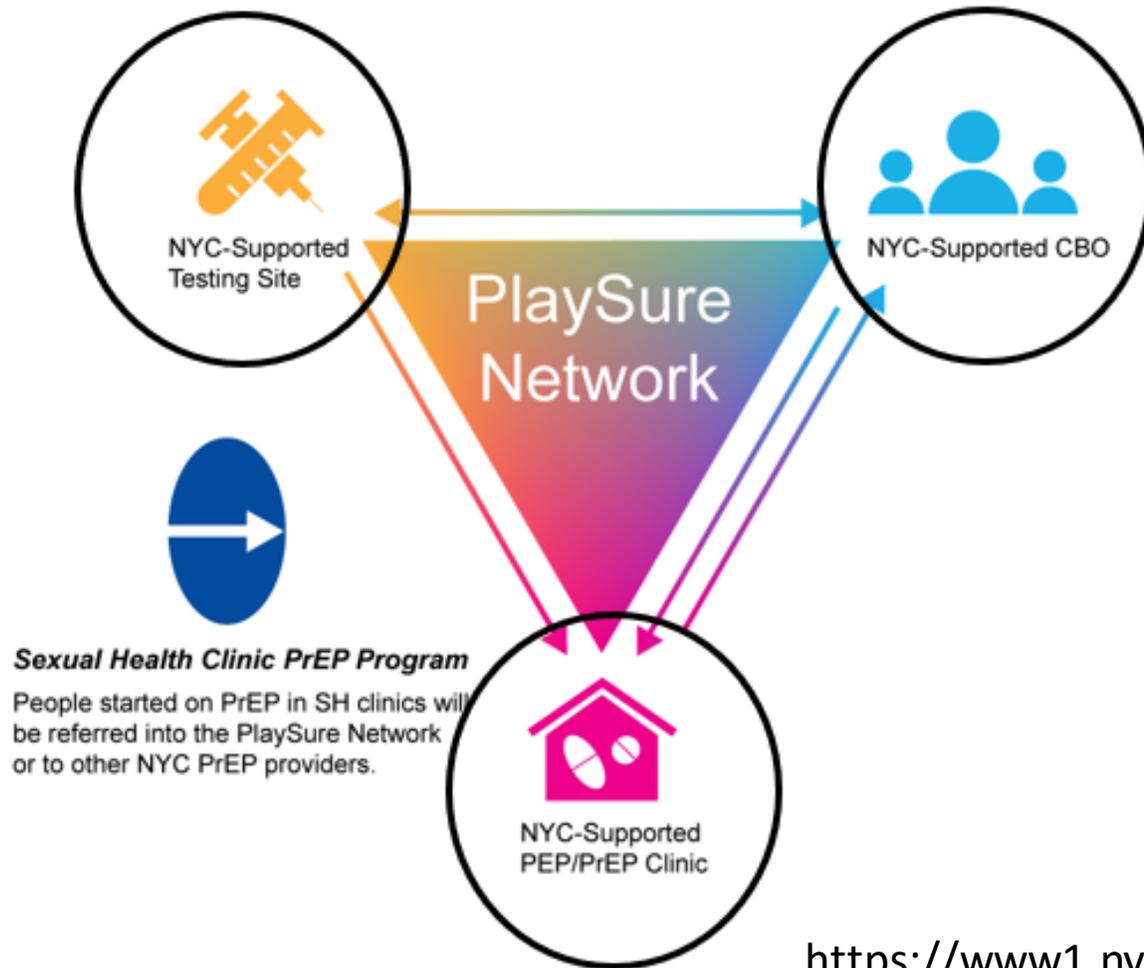
HIV-

Address disparities in HIV incidence by facilitating access to PrEP and other services

Leads orientation, **assessment** and **care planning**, Verifies program eligibility, **Coordinates** with medical providers

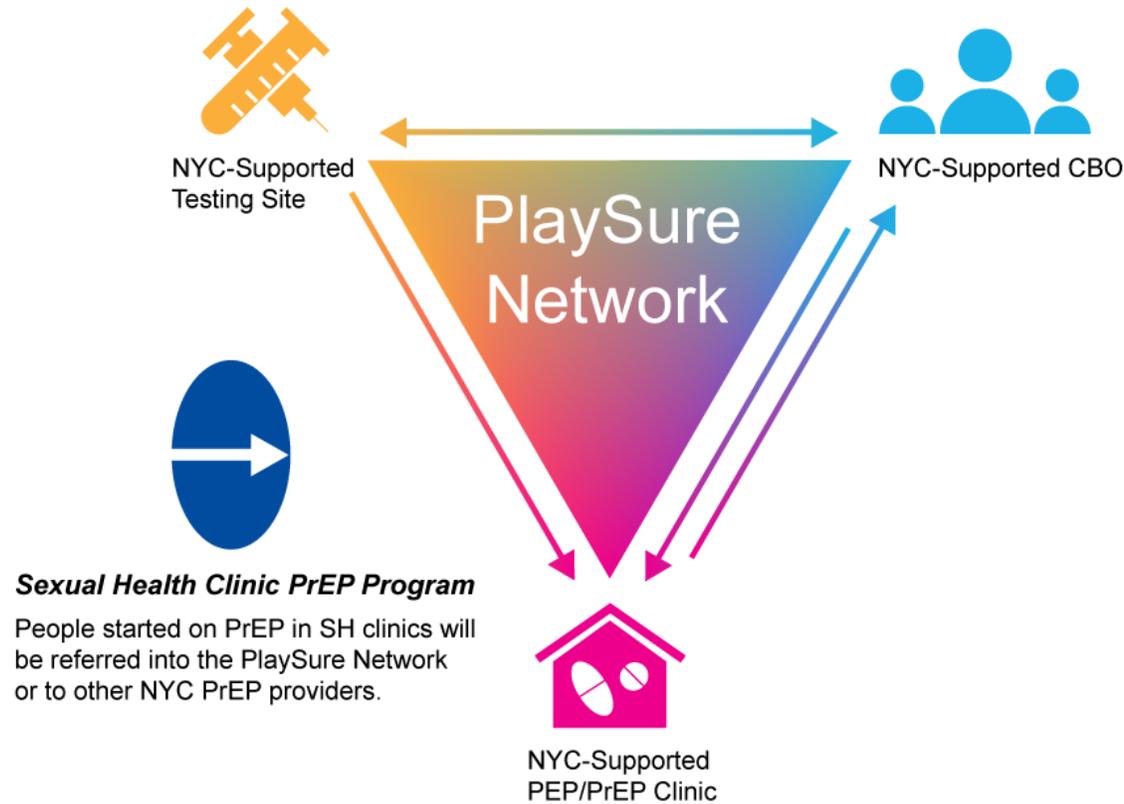
Provides **health education**  
Provides **accompaniment** to appointments  
Provides **navigation** and **support** to clients  
Provides **appointment reminders** and follow-up  
Provides **linkages** to needed services  
Leads client **engagement** and re-**engagement** in service elements  
Conducts **outreach** activities to identify new clients

# PlaySure Network



<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/providers/resources/playsure-network.page>

# PlaySure Network – cont.



- In the process of soliciting new portfolio of sub-recipients
  - Using multiple funding sources to support status neutral framework
  - Highlighting one-stop shop model for prevention and care services
  - Integrating screening for STIs
  - Using quality-based financing to promote affirming, person-centered approach

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/providers/resources/playsure-network.page>

An aerial photograph of New York City, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous skyscrapers and buildings. The image is overlaid with a blue and purple color gradient, which is most prominent in the foreground and fades towards the background. The text "LESSONS LEARNED" is centered horizontally across the middle of the image.

# LESSONS LEARNED

# Benefits of Status Neutral Approach

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- Reduce institutionalized stigma for people living with HIV
- Create efficiencies – improve resource utilization
- Gain insights from parallel service delivery
- Become more whole person-focused – embrace the person; service delivery is secondary





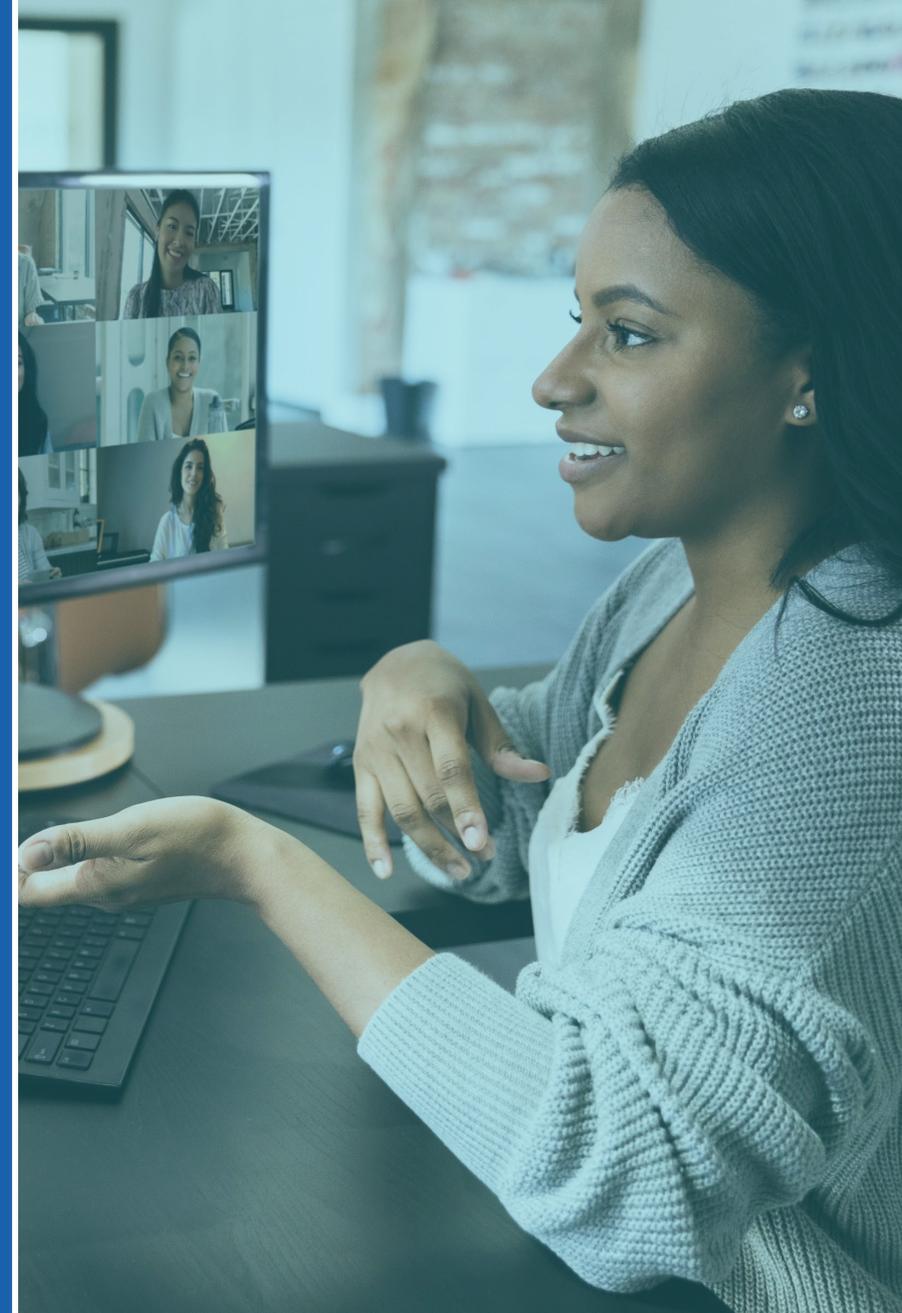
# Benefits Of Whole Person Focused Approach

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- Assess our models of care through a new lens
- Support self-esteem by normalizing conversations and strategies to optimize health
- Focus on sexual health and pleasure – harm reduction
- Respect the individual and their autonomy

# Lessons Learned from Implementing Status Neutral

- Full integration requires a thorough, deliberate approach
- Robust collaboration is needed (internal/external)
- Messaging and programming have to align
- May require use of multiple sources of funding



# Broadening Eligibility in Detroit

Transgender Women Engagement and Entry to Care (T.W.E.E.T.) broadened eligibility for group for transgender women of color to include health and wellness.

The focus on positive HIV status created a stigma and limited participation.

The site was able to draw from multiple funding streams in order to implement TWEET with a status-neutral approach.





# Status-Neutral in Texas

Jesse Carter  
Planning Group Manager  
HIV/STD Prevention and Care Unit  
Texas Department of State Health Services



# Status Neutral Approach in Texas

## A STATUS NEUTRAL APPROACH:



*Achieving Together to End the HIV Epidemic*

<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/hivstd/meetings/partb2020oct/StatusNeutralWhitePaper.pdf>

# Opportunity to Address Priority Populations

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**A status neutral approach seizes the opportunity to address the needs of everyone in a community, particularly groups who have been disproportionately impacted by HIV.**





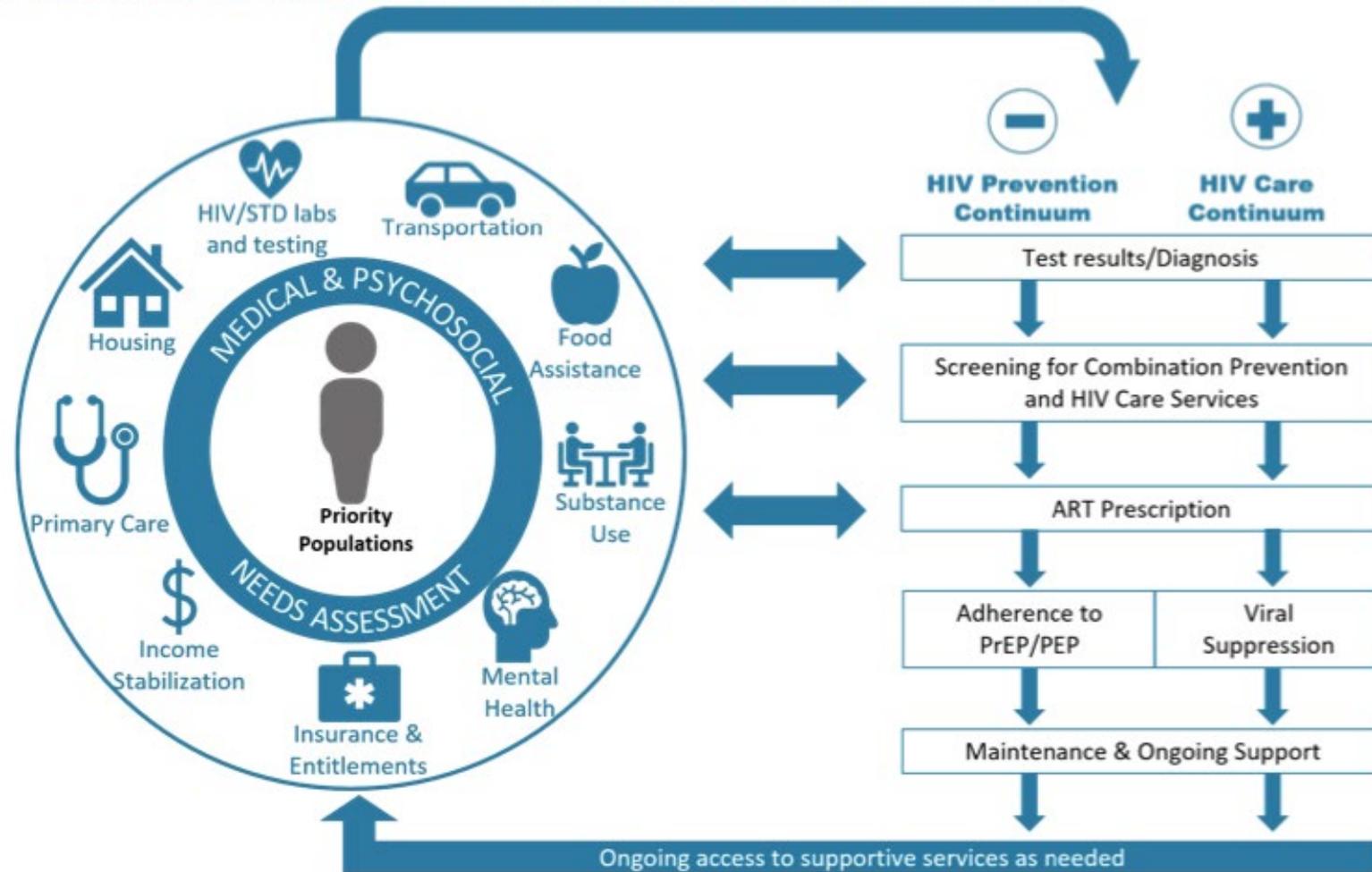
**PERSON-FIRST, NOT DISEASE-FIRST**



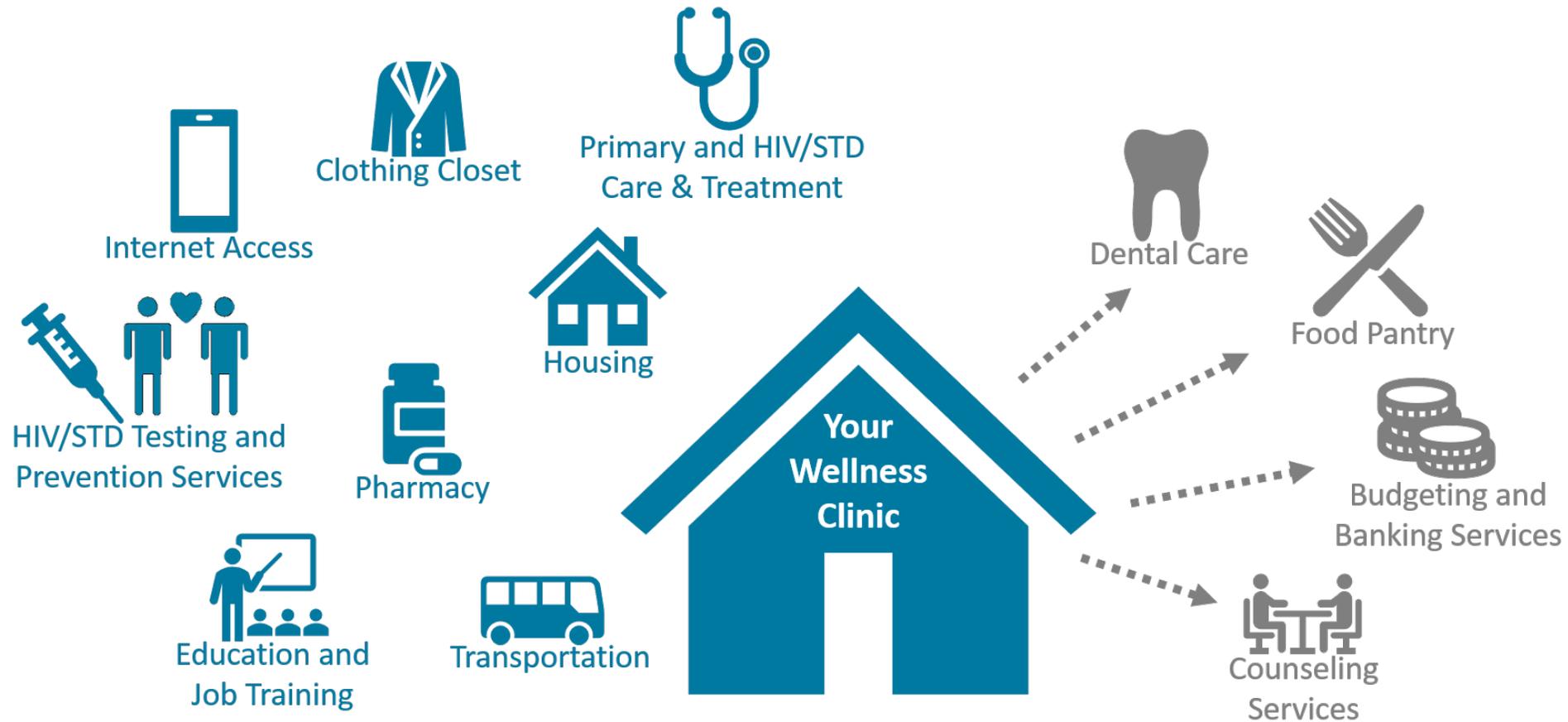
**HIV testing is not the only entry point  
into a status neutral system**

# Status Neutral at the Individual Level

## STATUS NEUTRAL AT THE INDIVIDUAL LEVEL



# Status Neutral at the Community Level



**IN HOUSE SERVICES**

**EXTERNAL SERVICES THRU  
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS**

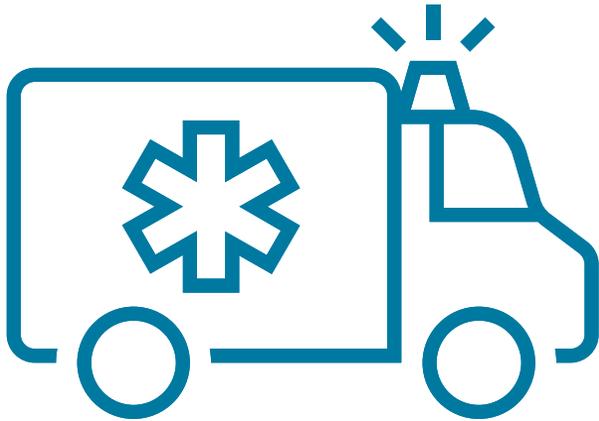
# Status Neutral In the Real World



**34 CORE  
PREVENTION  
SITES OFFERING  
HIV TESTING AND  
PREP REFERRAL**

# Status Neutral in the Real World

Tarrant County / Fort Worth Texas



**ED providing routine HIV screening**

**Reduce time to ART**

**Routine syphilis screening  
prevention services**



# Messaging Status-Neutral to the Community

Michael Canty  
Senior Manager, Clinical Programs  
National Coalition of STD Directors



# Setting the Scene

## THEN

Unintentionally, many prevention efforts were oriented at keeping people apart.

- Abstinence
- Avoidance
- Choosing partners based on HIV status

## NOW

Today we have the opportunity to reduce stigma.

- More knowledge about HIV
- Access to better treatment
- New prevention methods

# Goals of Status Neutral Health Communications

01

Reduce stigma

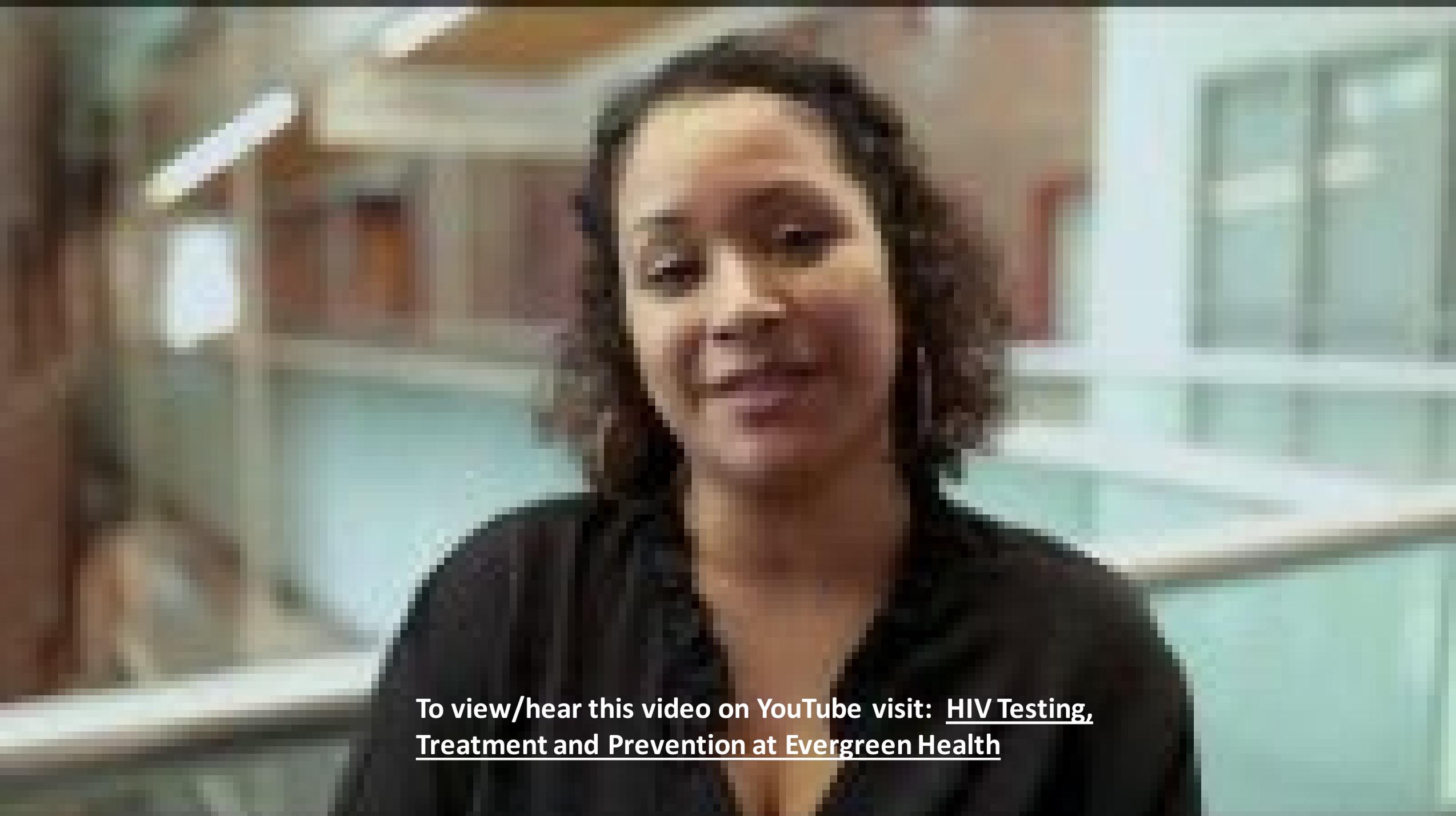
02

Encourage HIV testing

03

Foster conversations about HIV prevention among partners





To view/hear this video on YouTube visit: [HIV Testing, Treatment and Prevention at Evergreen Health](#)



To view/hear this video on YouTube visit: [Doing It — Options After Your HIV Test](#)

My  
**PrEP**  
My partner's  
health





## Poll #2

What do you feel is the #1 barrier to implementing or enhancing Status Neutral services?

- 1) Funding/Administrative Silos
- 2) Defined roles/job descriptions
- 3) Lack of TA/training
- 4) Lack of coordination
- 5) Separate prevention/treatment departments
- 6) Other (please write in chat)



# Questions?





# TAP-in Technical Assistance Offerings

Several EHE jurisdictions include a status neutral approach in their EHE Work Plans:

- Status neutral peer navigation / community health worker program

TAP-in can support implementation of a status neutral approach:

- Connecting you with EHE peers to share successful models
- Providing clinical expertise to recommend best practices tailored to your jurisdiction's circumstances
- Identifying available resources and ways to overcome potential barriers



# How to Request TA

Email:

[tap-in@caiglobal.org](mailto:tap-in@caiglobal.org)

for all TA needs and requests



# Closing and Evaluation

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

In order to complete our evaluation, you must be registered for this webinar. If you have not registered, please register using the link in the chat. Thank you!

