



2023 CQII Quality Award Categories and Selection Criteria

The 2023 Center for Quality Improvement & Innovation (CQII) Quality Award Program recognizes Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHP) recipients, subrecipients, organizations, and individuals who have made outstanding progress in improving HIV care. The aim is to celebrate the success of HIV providers nationally, increase the visibility of quality champions, and provide real world examples of quality improvement (QI) other HIV programs should aspire to achieve.

The 2023 CQII Quality Award criteria for each award category are presented in a checklist format to provide further guidance on what is considered a very strong applicant. Strong applications will have most, if not all, criteria checked off in the corresponding award category. Individuals and organizations that are new to QI (defined as less than 2 years of QI experience) are encouraged to submit applications using the categories listed below and indicating their 'New to Quality Improvement' status on the application form.

2023 Application Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NW7JRK7>

Please note that the 2023 CQII Quality Award Program winners will be highlighted on the TargetHIV website (a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) HIV/AIDS Bureau website specific to HIV resources), asked to share their QI expertise on future CQII Technical Assistance (TA) webinars, and potentially to participate in the recording of an upcoming CQII Quality Academy tutorial.

A) Patient Involvement in Quality Improvement

This CQII award is given to a Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program recipient, subrecipient, or group of recipients that have effectively incorporated people with lived experience into local or regional QI efforts, or to a person with lived experience or group of people with lived experience who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to partner with recipient(s) or subrecipient(s) to improve HIV care. Involvement of people with HIV includes the implementation of QI efforts based on patient input, patient involvement in QI projects, or the designation of a person with lived experience as the team leader. The application should outline the methodology used for continued patient involvement and showcase measurable outcomes.

Successful applications are expected to include the following:

Check	Criteria
	Demonstration of the active and meaningful participation of patients/people with lived experience in ongoing clinical quality management program activities and QI efforts
	Demonstration of the impact of the involvement of patients/people with lived experience on measurable improvements in HIV care



	Description of how patients/people with lived experience who participate in QI activities are supported and receive the necessary training to be equal partners in improving HIV care
	Description of how patients/people with lived experience participated, co-produced, or led QI projects
	Commitment by patients/people with lived experience to be QI advocates for other people with lived experience within the program, within the community, and across the region

B) Award for Leadership in Quality Improvement

This CQII award is given to a Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program recipient, subrecipient, group of recipients, or individual(s) who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to QI on the local, regional, or national level. The long-standing dedication to QI by the applicant has resulted in the implementation of effective and sustainable clinical quality management programs, innovative QI initiatives with measurable results that have benefited HIV clients, or regional improvement efforts to work across a network of HIV organizations.

Successful applications are expected to include the following:

Check	Criteria
	Establishment of a “culture of quality” in a local HIV agency or across a network of HIV providers as a result of the leadership commitment
	Effective leadership in QI as evidenced by demonstrable results in advancing local or regional QI initiatives leading to significant improvements in patient care or health outcomes
	Detailed description of how the different levels of management in the organization or regional providers are active participants in QI efforts
	Promotion of transparency in all aspects in quality management (e.g., performance measurement, QI projects, QI training) and openly sharing results and findings of all improvement activities
	Demonstration of how available QI resources are optimized to establish sustainable QI activities

C) Award for Measurable Improvements in HIV Care

This CQII award recognizes a Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program recipient, subrecipient, or a group of recipients that have made impressive measurable improvements over time by addressing emergent issues and sustaining their improvement efforts. This year’s focus is on working toward creating equity in HIV care and treatment outcomes. The successful applicant is expected to submit their performance data over time, identify the underlying root causes, specify the specific improvement interventions that were undertaken to achieve the measurable improvements, and outline their sustainability efforts. The improvement effort should have a direct, positive impact on the health outcomes of people with HIV.



Successful applications are expected to include the following:

Check	Criteria
	Rationale for choosing the specific improvement focus area and how this topic was relevant to the people with HIV who the recipient, subrecipient, or a group of recipients serve
	Description of the structured QI methodology used to improve performance of the emergent issue and effective use of QI tools
	Use of a cross-disciplinary improvement team, including an individual with HIV, to work on the QI project
	Routine collection of relevant performance data and how the results were routinely analyzed to generate momentum for improvements in HIV care
	Measurable improvements over the course of the improvement project that demonstrate the impact of the improvement results
	Detailed description of the QI interventions and/or change ideas that have been successfully implemented leading to improvements in patient health outcomes
	Involvement of staff and people with HIV in all aspects of the improvement process to plan, manage, implement, and sustain the improvement project
	Establishment of a system to sustain gains and continued improvements over time



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