

# **Oregon HIV Early Intervention Services and Outreach Program**

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# Alicia Knapp & Erin Parrish Disclaimer

This project was supported by income generated through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Ryan White Part B of the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) awarded at \$29 million over 5 years. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

# Presenters, Alicia Knapp & Erin Parrish



I have been in Public Health for 15 years and started as a research evaluation analyst, working on various PH grants. In 2010 I happily began working in HIV care and prevention and have been with the Oregon Health Authority for the last 4 years. When I am not working, I enjoy being outdoors hiking and backpacking with my two kids, and dancing.



I started in the field of public health working for a reproductive health organization and volunteering with an HIV prevention and treatment clinic. I earned my Master's in Public Health from George Washington University, in Washington, DC. Since moving to Oregon in 2014, I have worked with the Americorps VISTA Program and with local public health agencies. I currently work for Washington County Public Health in Hillsboro, OR as the HIV/STI and Harm Reduction Program Coordinator.

# Oregon Overview

## **End HIV/STI Oregon**

- Initiative developed by our HIV/STI Statewide Planning Group
- Eliminate HIV and STI inequities through increased access to testing, education, and linkage to care
- Includes public and private agencies, and community groups

## **HIV Early Intervention Services and Outreach**

- Designed by the Oregon Health Authority and implemented by six local public health agencies (LPHA)
- Represents 12 Oregon counties and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Provides services and outreach to help identify, treat, and prevent HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and help clients reach viral suppression
- Funded by Ryan White Part B

# Program Goals

To eliminate new HIV infections through testing, prevention, treatment, and responding to end inequities

- **Short-term goals:**

- Increased HIV and STI testing hours and locations
- Expansion of HIV/STI partner services

- **Longer-term goals:**

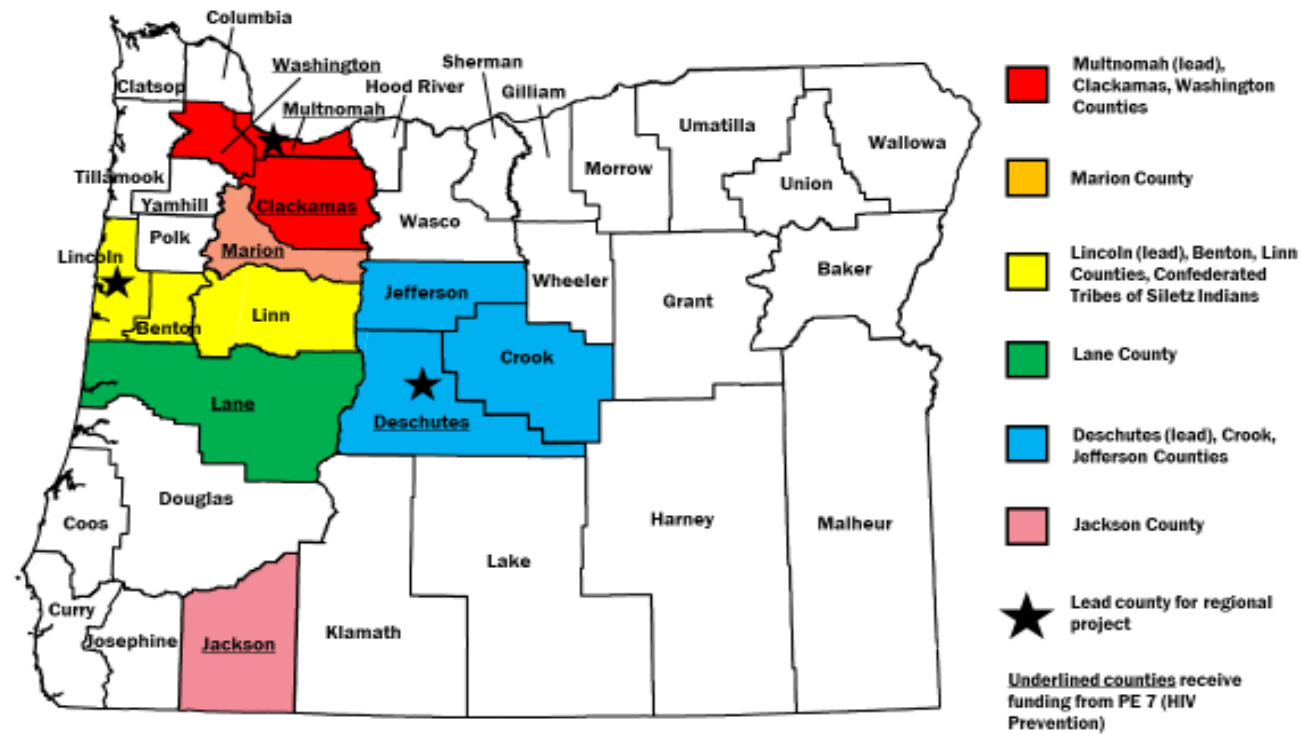
- Identification and treatment of HIV/STI cases
- Development of community partnerships that are foundational to health equity

# Oregon Intervention

- The EISO intervention seeks to ensure persons with HIV and STIs in Oregon have access to high-quality care, free from stigma and discrimination
- Fills gaps in services and expands geographic coverage by building partnerships across sectors and within multiple communities
- User-focused outreach strategies target racial and ethnic minorities, sexual and gender diverse persons, people with a substance use disorder, and unstably housed persons
- Increase HIV and STI testing hours and locations and provide testing and harm reduction services
- Develop and distribute testing and linkage information for people with HIV/STI as well as those who tested negative

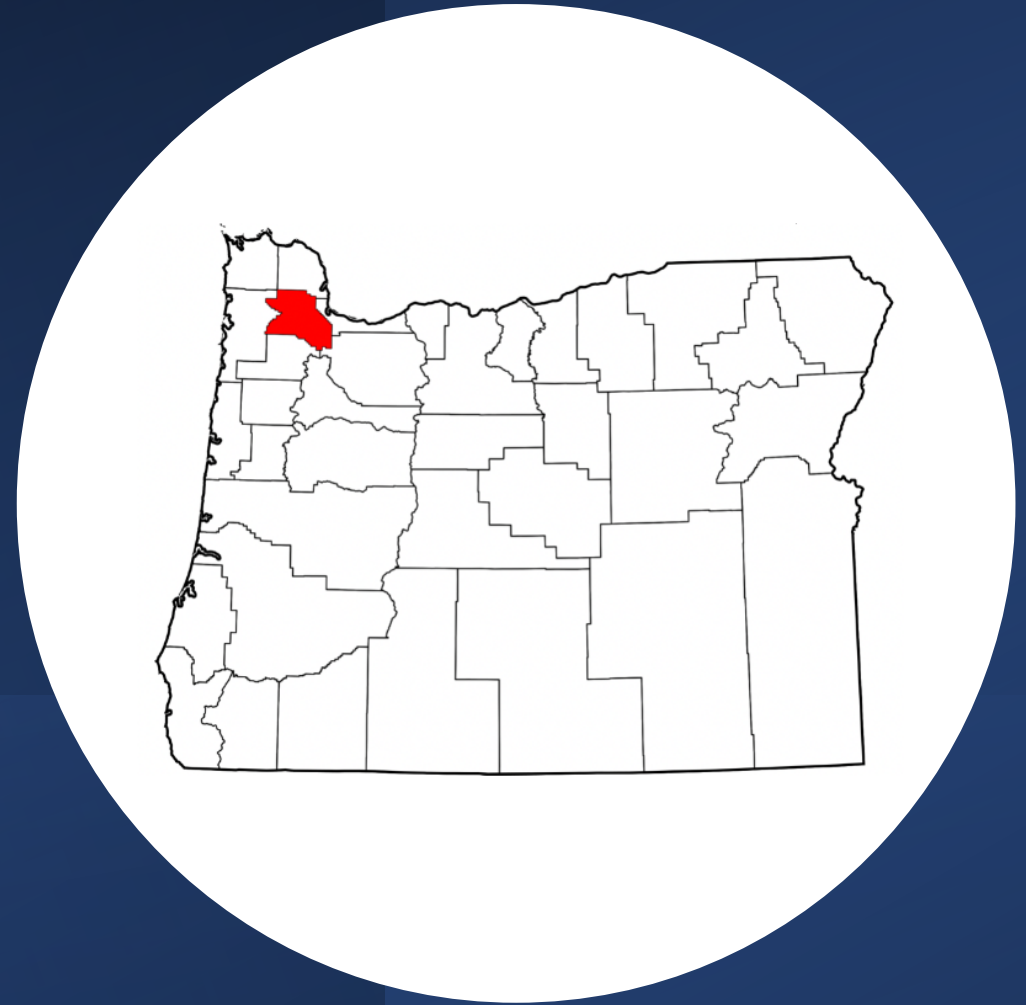
# Grantee Locations

## EISO Grantee Counties



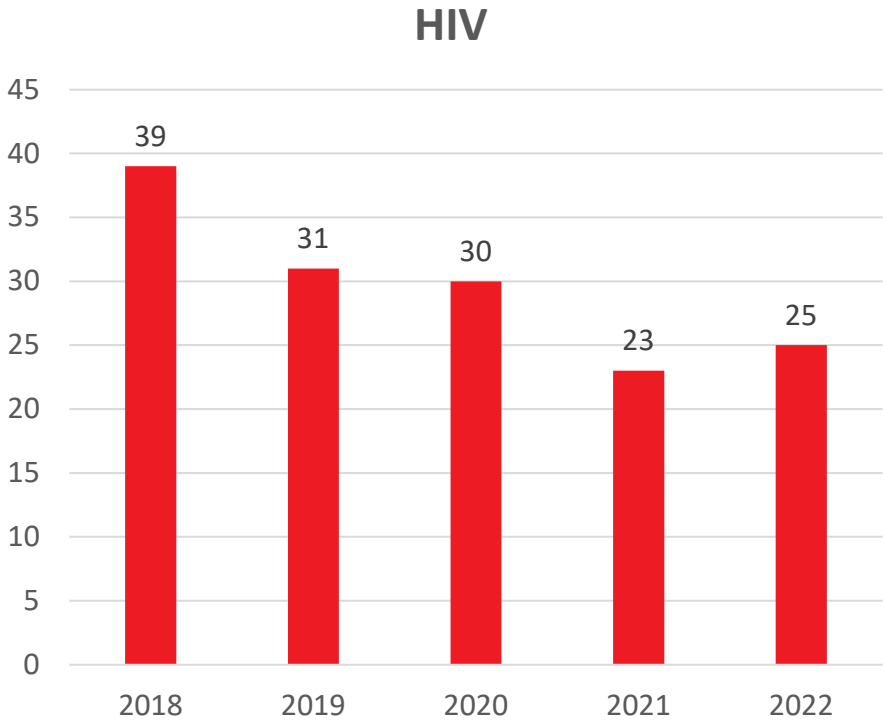
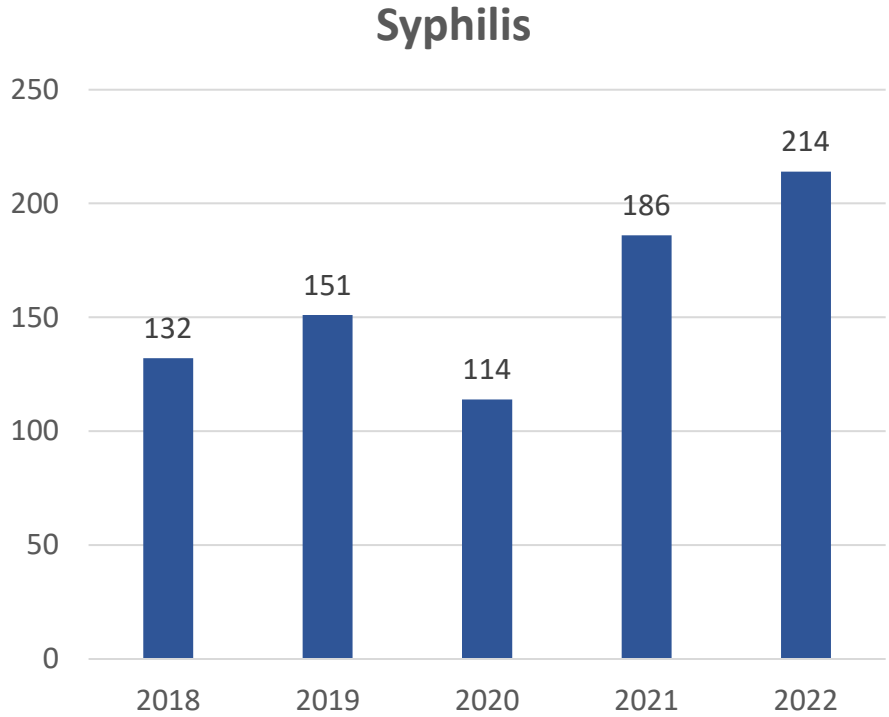
# Washington County

- Located in the Portland Metro area
  - Suburban & rural
  - 726 sq miles
- Total Population: 600,811
- Demographics:
  - White: 78.6%
  - Hispanic/Latino: 17.6%
  - Asian: 12.2%
  - Black/African American: 2.7%





# Syphilis and HIV Trends



- 2020 testing low due to COVID closures
- 2022 data through 11/14/22

# HIV/STI Trends: Disparities

## **Increasing disparities in rates of HIV in Latinx Community (2016-2020)**

- 37.6% of new HIV infections in Washington County among people who identify as Latino and comprise approximately 17% of the Washington County population
- 30% of the new HIV infections among the Latino population were diagnosed with AIDS at the time of their HIV diagnosis

# Community Partnership Building

## Familias en Acción

- Collaborated with community partner to develop a train-the-trainer sexual health curriculum designed for community health workers (CHWs), Me Cuido, Te Cuido
- The curriculum was deployed and continues to train CHWs in Washington County and across Oregon
- Participants reported they feel more prepared to discuss issues related to HIV with their clients
- Provides resources for CHWs to assist their clients with accessing testing services and HIV prevention resources



# Community Partnership and Linkage to Care

## Neighborhood Health Center & Partnership Project: Linkage to Care

- Collaboration formed between FQHC and HIV case management agency
- Provided opportunities for better connection to HIV treatment providers
- Embedded HIV case management staff within the clinic to enable better access for clients
- FQHC held appointment space for new HIV clients
- Opportunities for education and connecting new HIV treatment providers to the Oregon AIDS Education and Training Center

# Community Partnership with Syringe Services

## HIV Alliance

- Two mobile locations
- Services include:
  - Syringe disposal and distribution of safe injection supplies
  - Rapid HIV Testing & referrals to full panel STI testing
  - Risk reduction counseling & PrEP referrals
  - Substance use treatment & other service referrals



# HIV/STI Testing Efforts

- HIV/STI High-Risk Clinic
  - Partner with Cascade AIDS Project
  - See clients most at risk for HIV infection
  - Can provide treatment for syphilis, chlamydia, and gonorrhea
- Syringe Exchange
- Outreach Events
  - Pride Events
  - National Transgender HIV Testing Day
  - National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day



# Linkage to Care

## Success Stories

- Syringe exchange: Positive HIV test
  - Referred into the high-risk clinic for STI testing and confirmatory HIV testing – tested positive for syphilis
  - Received syphilis treatment and were able to do follow up with other positive contacts
  - Referred to HIV case management agency and linked to care with an HIV treatment provider and is now virally suppressed
- High-Risk Clinic: Positive HIV and syphilis
  - Connected to HIV case management agency and linked to care within two weeks of initial HIV test and is now virally suppressed
  - Tested during our co-hMPXV/STI clinic and received first dose of hMPXV vaccine

# Linkage to Care (con't)

## Success Stories

- Established a partnership with the Washington County Jail medical staff
  - Inmates go through a medical screening at intake
    - If HIV positive, Nurse DIS determines if they are in care
    - If not in care, meets with Nurse DIS prior to release
    - Develop care plan upon release
- Has improved linkage to care for new and out of care HIV cases



# Statewide Outcomes - Linkage to Care

- In 2021, 76% (132/174) were linked to care within 30 days or less
  - Increase from before EISO was funded - 66% linked  $\leq$  30 days in 2013-2017, 79% in 2019, and 86% in 2020.
- Median days to viral load suppression was 58 days (62 days in 2020)

# Statewide Outcomes - Integrated Testing

- STI testing and treatment of those newly diagnosed with HIV:
  - 56% (98/174) were tested for other STIs
  - Among those tested:
    - 34% (33) positive for Syphilis
    - 32% (31) positive for Gonorrhea
  - 89% received partner services

# Statewide Outcomes – HIV Testing of Those with Early Syphilis

- HIV/syphilis coinfection common: 18% (229) previously dx with HIV
- 48% (519/1,082) tested for HIV
  - Resulting in 12 new cases (2.3% positivity rate)
- 32% (341) of HIV-negative early syphilis cases offered PrEP referral

# Statewide Outcomes - HIV Testing of Those with Rectal GC

- HIV/gonorrhea coinfection common 28% (184) previously dx with HIV
- 58% (280/483) tested for HIV
  - Resulting in 10 new cases (3.6% positivity rate)
- 25% (120) of HIV-negative rectal GC cases offered PrEP referral

# Oregon Lessons Learned

- Challenging to offer support around community connections
- Implementation timelines varied among grantees, particularly those that did not have an HIV prevention program before implementation
- Resources and staffing challenges with regional approach
- Creating standards document for grantees along with frequent communications around workplans and technical assistance needs are important for success
- Local programs that made strong community connections had better linkage to care outcomes

# Oregon Sustainability

- EISO leverages program income generated through 340B for focused EISO services - These enhanced services were built upon existing local and state prevention services
- Costs to build capacity and train staff were frontloaded into the first year of the project
- The state conducted a billing assessment to optimize how EISO services are billed to insurance
- EISO grantees submitted a Sustainability Plan in year 4 to help with planning the future of this work

# Resources

Washington County Public Health STI Resources:

<https://www.washingtoncountyor.gov/disease-control/sexually-transmitted-infections>

End HIV Oregon:

<https://www.endhivoregon.org/>

# Contact Information

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