2018 NATIONAL RYAN WHITE CONFERENCE ON HIV CARE & TREATMENT

This workshop was developed as part of the Community HIV/AIDS Technical Assistance and Training (Planning CHATT) Project

Workshop Purposes

- Introduce participants to low-cost, creative, practical approaches for assessing subpopulation needs and service provider capacity to meet these needs

- Focus on approaches planning councils/planning bodies (PC/PBs) and recipients can implement without extensive research or data analysis capacity

- Have participants develop a practical plan for some form of subpopulation-focused needs assessment

- Highlight the importance of understanding how well current services are meeting the needs of different PLWH subpopulations in order to improve services and outcomes

Instructions

On the web:
(preferred option)

Pollev.com/jsi955
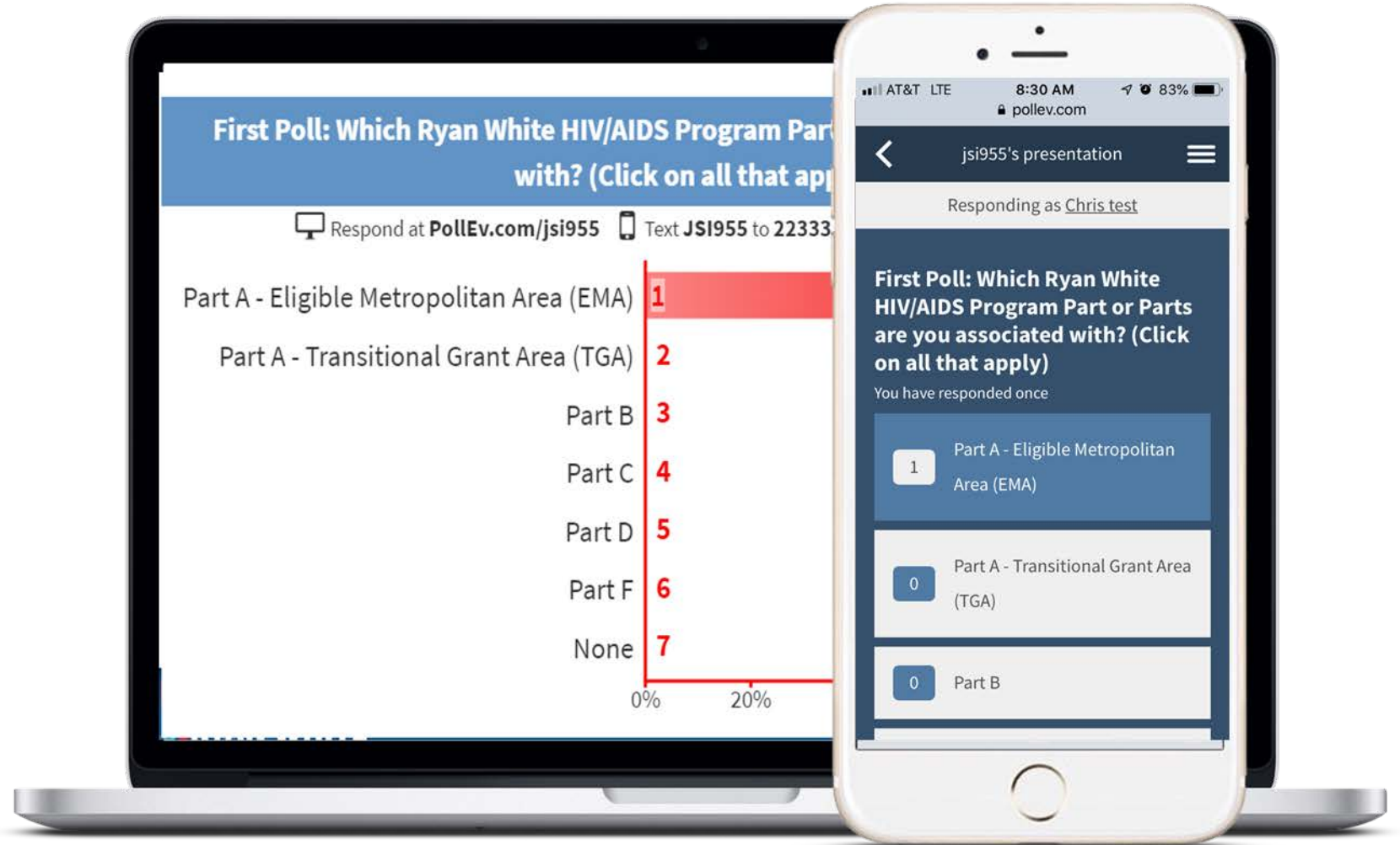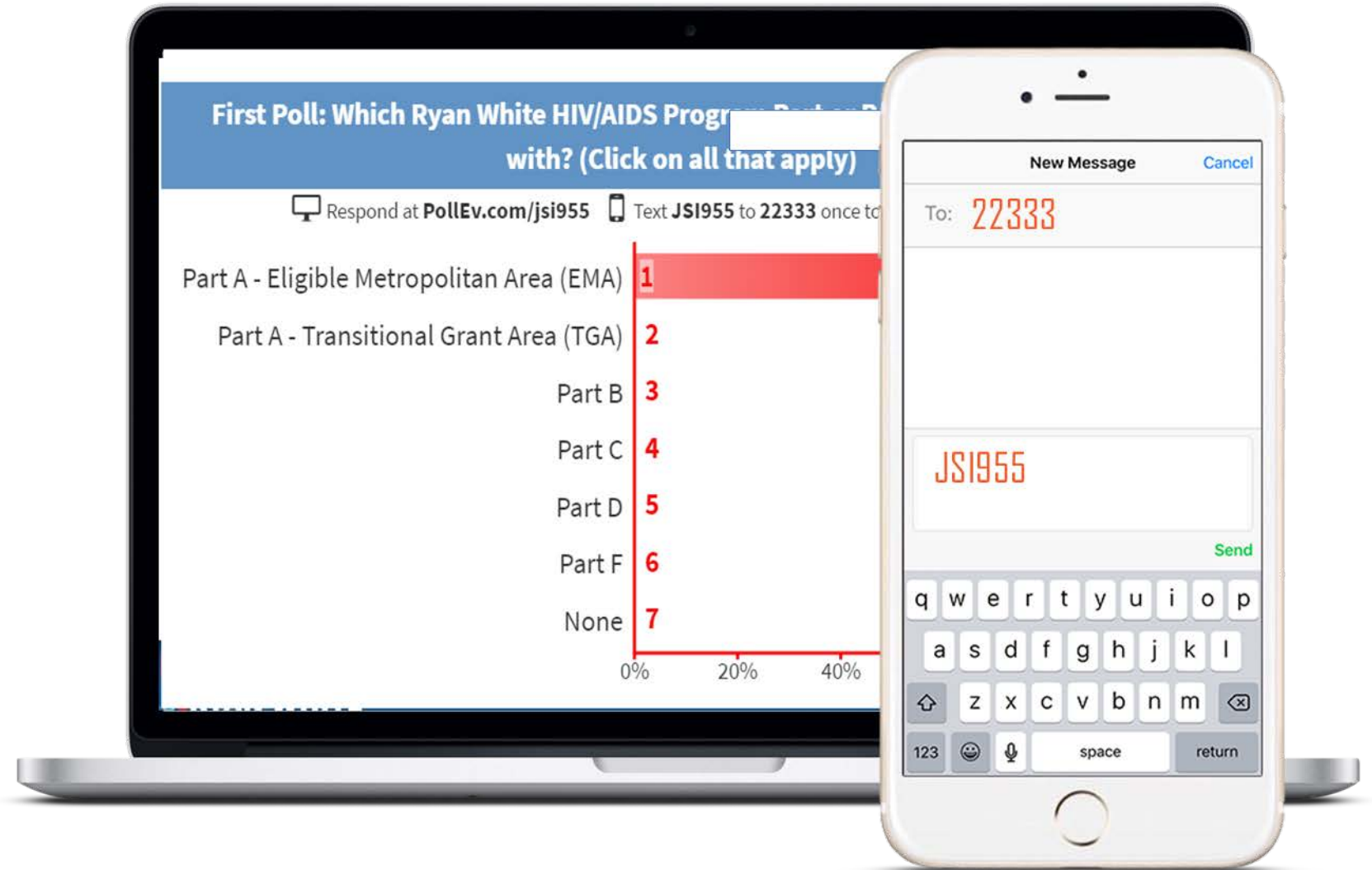
First Poll: Your RWHAP Part

Please use your clicker to indicate which Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) Part or Parts you are associated with – check all that apply:

1. Part A – Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA)
2. Part A – Transitional Grant Area (TGA)
3. Part B
4. Part C
5. Part D
6. Part F
7. None

First Poll: Which Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part or Parts are you associated with? (Click on all that apply)

Part A - Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA)

Part A - Transitional Grant Area (TGA)

Part B

Part C

Part D

Part F

None

Second Poll: Your Affiliation

Please indicate your RWHAP affiliation(s) – check all that apply:

1. Planning council/planning body – leader or member
2. Planning council/planning body – staff
3. Recipient
4. Subrecipient
5. HIV/AIDS Bureau
6. Other

Second Poll: What is your most important relationship with RWHAP planning? (Click up to two responses)

PC/PB Member

Planning council/planning body staff (PCS)

RWHAP recipient

RWHAP subrecipient/service provide

HIV/AIDS Bureau staff

Other

NA (not involved in any RWHAP program)

Learning Outcomes

1. To identify at least 4 ways to tailor existing needs assessment efforts to provide additional information about specific subpopulations

2. To describe a process for analyzing subpopulation needs through a combination of needs assessment, HIV care continuum data, client characteristics, and client utilization data

3. To describe a practical plan for back-home needs assessment focusing on one or several specific subpopulations of people living with HIV

Context: Needs Assessment

- **A legislatively required role** for RWHAP Part A and Part B Programs – and for Part A planning councils/planning bodies and Part B consortia

- **A necessary source of data** about both:
  - The needs of people living with HIV (PLWH) in the service area
  - The capacity of the current system of care to meet those needs

- **A challenging task,** especially in jurisdictions with limited RWHAP funding, due to:
  - Limited human resources – funds and time – to spend on needs assessment
  - Staff who understand planning but are not experts in needs assessment or data analysis

Share with the Group

What is the greatest challenge your program or planning body faces in doing comprehensive needs assessment including analysis of quantitative (numerical) data?

Importance of Subpopulation Analysis

- **In HIV services, one size does NOT "fit all" –** different PLWH subpopulations need different service models and strategies

- Differences exist based on factors such as:
  - Demographic characteristics like age, race/ethnicity, gender [including gender identity], sexual orientation
  - Urban, suburban, or rural residence within your service area
  - Co-occurring health conditions, such as mental illness, substance use, Hepatitis C, other sexually transmitted infections and chronic diseases
  - Life experiences and challenges, such as homelessness, incarceration, and domestic and sexual violence

- Subpopulation data are essential in meeting the national goal of reducing HIV-related health disparities

Benefits of Subpopulation Analysis

- It enables a program/planning body to better understand and address:
  - Performance or outcomes for a particular group that are unacceptably low – e.g., linkage to care, retention in care, use of antiretroviral medications, and/or viral suppression
  - Low client satisfaction reported by a particular subpopulation
  - Low service utilization for a subpopulation, overall or for particular service categories
- It provides information necessary for decision making to make the system of care work better for particular PLWH subpopulations

Third Poll: Needs Assessment & Data Analysis Resources and Capacity

Which of the following best describes your program's needs assessment and data analysis capacity? Check up to 3.

1. We have planning council/planning body staff who are expert in needs assessment and data analysis

2. We have recipient or associated staff who are expert in needs assessment and data analysis

3. We hire consultants to help us with needs assessment and data analysis

4. We depend on planning council/planning body members with expertise in needs assessment and data analysis

5. We don't have a regular source of expertise in needs assessment and data analysis

We have planning council/planning body staff who are expert in needs assessment and data analysis

We have recipient or associated staff who are expert in needs assessment and data analysis

We hire consultants to help us with needs assessment and data analysis

We depend on planning council/planning body members with expertise in needs assessment and data analysis

We don't have a regular source of expertise in needs assessment and data analysis

Questions for Brainstorming

Individually consider and be ready to share:

1. What kinds of client and service data with breakouts by subpopulations does your program/planning body currently receive or prepare?

2. How do you use this information in decision making?

Example of Subpopulation Analyses: Older PLWH

- HIV care continuum data for RWHAP clients show reduced adherence to antiretrovirals by some long-term survivors over age 50

- CQM data report reduced use of case managers by this subpopulation

- Client satisfaction surveys indicate a low rate of satisfaction with case management services and with primary (non-HIV) medical care

- When you separately analyze consumer survey data, you find that over 60% of this subpopulation report serious health issues other than HIV

Example of Subpopulation Analyses: Young PLWH

- Your planning body receives HIV care continuum data for RWHAP clients, overall and for several major subpopulations – and the most recent data show young PLWH aged 19-29 – especially African American and Latino men – have much lower rates of retention in care and viral suppression than other age groups

- When you analyze your most recent PLWH survey data for young adults, you find that they are especially likely to report problems in navigating the system of care and much less likely to report adherence to their HIV medications

- The local RWHAP Part D program reports similar findings from a follow-up study of young PLWH who "aged out" of its services in the past 3 years

RWHAP programs and planning bodies can analyze data by subpopulation even with limited resources and experience – with a logical and well-thought-out plan

A Template for Planning Subpopulation Analysis

1. Identify and choose subpopulations to target
2. Identify and arrange for subpopulation data available from the recipient
3. Choose 1 or more strategies for doing subpopulation analysis as part of PC/PB needs assessment – using (a) existing or (b) new data
4. Decide how you will do the analysis
5. Outline your work plan: tasks, responsibilities, and timeline
6. Outline how you will use the results of your subpopulation analysis

1. Choosing Subpopulations

Choose subpopulations based on epidemiologic trends and identified service challenges – consider subpopulations based on:

- A single characteristic – for example:
  - Hispanics-Latinos/as
  - PLWH diagnosed within the past 3 years

- Combinations of characteristics – for example:
  - Young African American MSM
  - Transgender PLWH living outside the central city

- Characteristics plus co-occurring situations – for example:
  - Latinas reporting mental health issues
  - Young men reporting substance use
  - Older PLWH reporting other chronic illnesses

2. Obtaining Subpopulation Data from the Recipient

The recipient often has or can obtain the following types of data by subpopulation :

- HIV care continuum data – for all PLWH and for RWHAP clients

- Client utilization data – overall and by service category

- Clinical Quality Management reports on performance and outcome measures – overall and by service category

- Quality Assurance data from program monitoring

- Epidemiologic data – such as trends in new infections

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between PC/PB and recipient can clarify data-sharing expectations and support collaboration

3a. Choosing Needs Assessment Strategies for New Analysis of Existing Data

- "Disaggregate" (separate) data from an existing survey: PLWH, consumer, out-of-care-PLWH, provider

- Review existing focus group data to highlight comparisons across group

- Review provider inventory and capacity/capability data with a focus on identifying key target populations and staff capacity

3b. Choosing Needs Assessment Strategies for New Data Gathering

- New PLWH survey with easy-to-use screening questions for disaggregating data by subpopulation

- Deliberate oversampling of identified subpopulations

- Survey or other data collection strategy targeting 1 or more specific subpopulation(s)

- Provider survey including subpopulation-specific questions about services

- Key informant interviews or group sessions focusing on a particular subpopulation

- Focus groups held after surveys have been completed and analyzed, designed to supplement data from surveys

4. Identifying Ways to Do Subpopulation Analysis

- Use online survey tools with built-in analysis capacity and include questions to permit easy filtering of data by subpopulation

- Download reports from CareWARE or other client-level data systems by subpopulation – use a consistent format for comparisons across subpopulations or with all clients, or download into Excel for basic analysis

- Enter hard copy interview data into an online survey format for analysis

- Partner with a university to get help from graduate students either free or at low cost

5. Developing a Work Plan

- Suggestion: Start small and expand your efforts over time

- Identify the main tasks

- Be sure some person or entity has primary responsibility for each task

- Schedule based on the scope of your subpopulation analysis
  - Re-analysis of data from 1 survey or other database may take 4-6 weeks
  - Recipient data may best be provided for a full calendar or program year
  - New data gathering can be part of an annual or multi-year needs assessment plan
  - Scheduling should include time to compare data from multiple sources – for example: needs assessment, service utilization, CQM

6. Using Subpopulation Analysis Results

- Refine service priorities to be sure they reflect subpopulation needs

- Refine allocations to ensure resources needed by particular subpopulations

- Develop directives based on subpopulation needs, through:
  - Testing a new service model
  - Ensuring that appropriate services are available

- Modify service standards

Activity

- Work with other people from your program or jurisdiction or with 1-2 people sitting near you

- Use the Template Work Sheet to outline a plan for at least one type of subpopulation analysis in your service area

- Be prepared to share your work with the full group

Sum Up

- Needs assessment is an essential HIV planning activity

- Subpopulation analysis of needs assessment data is necessary for decision making to ensure that the system of HIV care "works" for all PLWH

- Subpopulation data from recipient sources is needed to review and compare with needs assessment data

- Useful subpopulation analysis is possible even if resources are limited and there are no needs assessment and data analysis experts on the recipient or PC/PB staff

- The more limited your resources, the more important it is to carefully consider subpopulations to target and strategies to use

Fourth Poll : Your Planned Follow Up

Over the next, year, I plan to (check all that apply):

1. Discuss the importance of subpopulation analysis with the PC/PB and/or recipient
2. Explore ways to increase the amount of subpopulation data obtained/provided by the recipient
3. Adopt at least one new needs assessment strategy to increase subpopulation analysis
4. Explore affordable ways to obtain additional subpopulation analyses
5. Do more to compare subpopulation data from various sources
6. Carry out some form of new population analysis based on my template outline

Discuss the importance of subpopulation analysis with the PC/PB and/or recipient

Explore ways to increase the amount of subpopulation data obtained/provided by the recipient

Adopt at least one new needs assessment strategy to increase subpopulation analysis

Do more to compare subpopulation data from various sources

Carry out some form of new population analysis based on my template outline

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Our Follow Up

Provide your name and email address on our sign-in sheet, and we will send you electronically:

- A summary of the discussion at this workshop, including ideas shared by the group
- An expanded chart of subpopulation analysis strategies
- A copy of the PowerPoint
- A refined subpopulation analysis template

Thank You!

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