



# Food is Medicine:

**Integrating Nutrition into a Ryan White Program** 

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## Disclosures

We have no financial interest to disclose.

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# **Learning Objectives**

At the conclusion of this activity, the participant will be able to:

- 1. Define the scope of medical nutrition therapy for persons living with HIV/AIDS.
- 2. Discuss the importance of internal and external partnership in developing an integrated nutrition program.
- Describe the effectiveness of nutritional services on HIVrelated health outcomes.

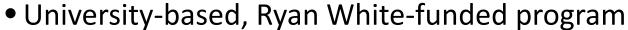


# **Program Overview**

Andy Moore, LPC







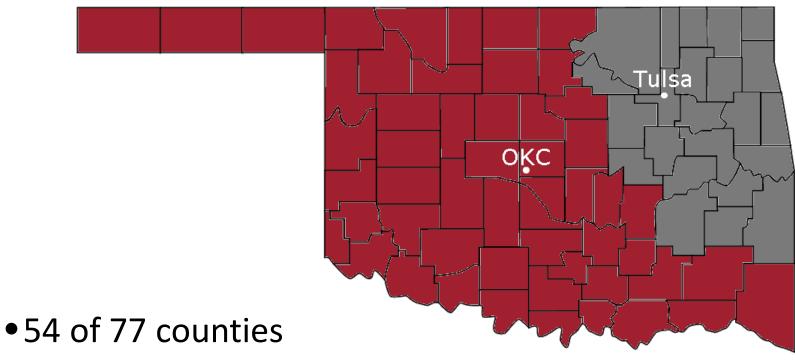
- 20 years of Ryan White services!
- Outpatient medical clinic
- Medical Case Management
- Mental health & substance abuse counseling
- Nutrition services
- Direct connection to dental, psychiatric, and other services







## **Service Area**



Approximately 50,000 square miles



# Patient demographics: 2015

#### 1,446 unduplicated clients (received one or more RW services)

- 79% Male
- 21% Female
- 67% White
- 27% Black
- 9% Hispanic
- 6% American Indian
- 3% Asian

- 81% <200% Federal Poverty Level
- 84% live within 50 miles
- 62% live within 10 miles
  - Impact of limited public transit



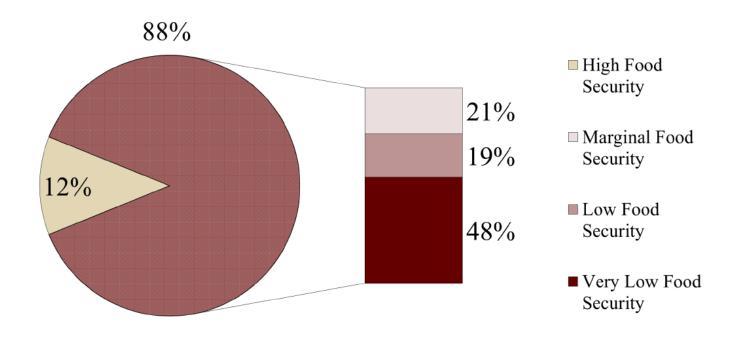
# Identifying the problem

- Quantitative (n=164) and Qualitative (n=31) assessments:
- Quantitative: 66-item standardized questionnaire on food security status.
- Qualitative: Focus groups held at HIV-exclusive food pantries; transcripts analyzed to identify themes surrounding food insecurity and opportunities for food assistance programs.





## **The Problem**





# The (rest of) the problem

- Poor or Fair self-rated physical health = 2.4x odds of being food insecure
- Frequent Mental Distress = 3.5x odds of being food insecure
  - FMD is 14+ "bad days" per month
  - 41% of surveyed clients had FMD
- Medication non-adherence self-report = 4.1x odds of being food insecure



"Getting used to not taking care of your own self—[it's] probably one of the hardest things, admitting that you don't have enough food at times. As a man, you are supposed to take care of your family. I can hardly take care of myself, much less my wife. It's a lot to deal [with], not just physically, but mentally."

-White male, age 51, very low food security



"People nowadays, when they see you with HIV, they treat you like it's the black plague—stay away! [stated with emphasis, multiple people agreeing]. . . . Coming here, I see so many people that I know. . . . When you come here [to this pantry for people with HIV] and you see someone that you know, they know what you're going through. They understand what the struggle is like. You find a best friend in the worst of circumstances."

—American Indian male, age 20, low food security



# Initial response

Presented data to statewide planning consortia. Result:



- Tulsa CARES funded by Advocacy Capacity Building Project (ACBP)
  - ACBP is funded by MAC AIDS Fund & God's Love We Deliver
- Formation of Oklahoma Nutrition Advocacy Team (ONAT)

#### **Oklahoma Nutrition Advocacy Team**

- First statewide coalition of its kind
- Members from <u>all</u> Ryan White-funded organizations
  - Administrators
  - Board members
  - Case managers
  - Nutrition experts
  - Consumers













 Analyzed current systems of care, identified gaps/needs, planned interventions



#### The problem that created the problem...

- Lack of awareness (and understanding) of the need
- Incomplete systems: OKC vs Tulsa
- Inadequate existing resources
  - Only 3 HIV-specific food pantries
  - Only 1 HIV agency providing nutrition services
- No one to take the lead

#### Teamwork makes the dream work

- Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma
  - RegionalFoodBank.org
  - FreshRX mobile farmer's market
  - Urban Harvest sustainable gardening program



- RAIN Oklahoma
  - RAINOklahoma.org







## **Creating a Nutrition Program**

Jussara Madrid, RD, LD/N





## How it all started...

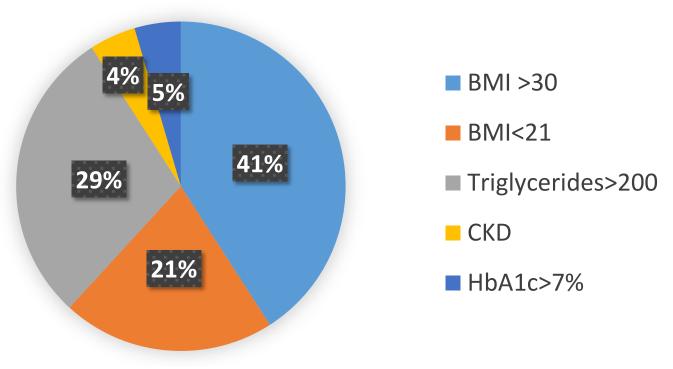
- Who do I focus on?
  - Over 6 months, ~1295 patients were seen
    - Of those, roughly 60% met <u>1</u> of the following criteria:
    - 1. Body Mass Index >30
    - 2. Body Mass Index <21
    - 3. Triglycerides > 200
    - 4. CKD
    - 5. **HbA1c > 7%**





## **Preliminary Clinic Data**









## **RD** Role in the Clinic

#### **GOALS:**

- To delay HIV disease progression.
- To prevent and treat malnutrition.
- To assess and evaluate food security.
- To minimize the impact of other comorbidities on the progression of HIV infection, from birth through adulthood.





# **Medical Nutrition Therapy**

- An evidence-based application of the Nutrition Care Process
- The Nutrition Care Process (NCP) includes:
  - Assessment
  - Diagnosis
  - Intervention
  - Monitoring
  - Evaluation





#### **Nutrition-Related Clinical Issues**

- The "dual" burden
- Nutrition-focused physical exam (NFPE)
- Food insecurity







## **Nutrition-Focused Physical Exam**

- Oral Cavity
- Muscle
- Fat
- Fluid

#### Scapular Bone Region



Used with permission from: Veterans Health Administration Employee Education System.



# **Food Insecurity**







#### **According to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics**

#### Food insecurity is linked to:





## Fighting Food Insecurity in the IDI

- 1. The food that we bought just didn't last, and we didn't have money to get more.
  - ☐ Often true
  - ☐ Sometimes true
  - ☐ Never true
- 2. We often couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.
  - ☐ Often true
  - ☐ Sometimes true
  - ☐ Never true







# **FARMERS MARKET**

healthy Having enough / food is important.





#### **FreshLife Farmers Market**















#### Fish Tacos with Peach and Mango Salsa

#### Ingredients

1 cup peaches, diced 4 tila 1 cup mango, diced 1 TBS 1/2 red bell pepper, finely diced 1 pac 1/4 red onion, finely diced 1/4 cd 2 TBSP lemon juice 2 TBS 1 jalapeño pepper, finely diced no seeds

4 tilapia fish fillets 1 TBSP chili powder 1 pack 6" corn tortillas 1/4 cup cilantro, finely cut 2 TBSP olive oil

#### Tips & Facts

- -Try using 3 TBSP Mrs. Dash lemon and Pepper seasoning on fish to keep this dish free of added salt.
- -For more texture, add Romain lettuce.
- -Use a grill for less absorbed fat in the fish.

#### **Directions**

Salsa: Stir peaches, mango, bell pepper, onion, lemon juice, and jalapeño in a medium bowl. Cover and refrigerate. Fish: Heat sauce pan with olive oil on medium heat. Place tilapia on hot pan and sprinkle chili powder on top. Cook 4 minutes and flip. sprinkle chili powder on this side and cook for 3 minutes (or until flaky). Avoid overcooking. Place cooked fish in a bowl and use a fork to shred. Salt to taste. Serve on corn tortilla topped with salsa and cilantro.



# FRESH | A PRESCRIPTION FOR HEALTH.





# Case Study #1

Diabetic Male

A1C:8.7%, Triglycerides: 1159, Cholesterol: 252 CD4:613

+food insecurity, \$146/month in SNAP

#### 24 hour recall visit #1 May 2016

1-2 pm: Ramen noodles with tea made with stevia

6-7 pm: fried chicken, fried pickles and Kool-Aid

Midnight: 1 glass of milk

Height: 64 in

Weight: 304 lbs

BMI: 52.18

"I'm tired and always want to sleep."



# Case Study #1

#### 24 hr recall visit#2 July 2016

- No breakfast
- Noon: tuna salad sandwich (made with cucumber, tomatoes, "light" mayo)
  + 16 oz water
- Snack: handful of pita chips + hummus
- 7 pm: white bean soup with vegetables + ham (~2 cups) + tea made with stevia (~16 oz)

Weight: 296 lbs

BMI: 50.8

"I have more energy now and I enjoy looking up recipes for the food I receive from the farmers market."



## **Client Feedback**

- "I eat breakfast now because I have eggs!"
- "I'd never cooked eggplant before and it was AMAZING!"
- Patients starting to plan their budgets around the farmers market (i.e. buying more fruits/veggies w/ SNAP early in month.)
  - Highlight benefit of SNAP at some local farmers markets





## **Lessons Learned**

- Verify scheduled delivery times ahead of time
- Having a farmer's market list handy allows RD to check-in with the patient
- Have an inclement weather plan
- Location should be near a bus stop
- Where we are now



# Looking ahead

- Adding additional location(s) for farmers market in underserved areas
- Securing additional funding



## **Contact info & Questions**

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