

## **California State Office of AIDS**

### **Report to San Francisco EMA HIV Health Services Planning Council September 2015**

#### **Office of AIDS (OA) Division/Cross Branch Issues**

On August 21, 2015, Dr. Karen Mark, Chief, Office of AIDS, presented an overview of California's HIV epidemic and systems of HIV care and prevention at a legislative hearing on "A California Plan to End AIDS" hosted by the California Assembly Select Committee on Infectious Diseases in High Risk Disadvantaged Communities. The legislative hearing also included presenters from local public health departments and community stakeholders. Assembly member Mike Gipson (D-Carson) chaired the hearing, which was located in San Francisco, California. Assembly member Gipson stated during the hearing that this was to be the first of four similar planned hearings, with one to be scheduled in Los Angeles in October and others planned for San Diego and Palm Springs. He stated that the Committee plans to submit a White Paper to the legislature and governor after the hearings are completed.

#### **Ryan White (RW) Part B: HIV Care Program (HCP)**

- The OA awarded additional RW Part B Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) funds for the 2015 contract year to the following six MAI contractors: San Diego, Sacramento, Kern, Marin, San Mateo, and Ventura. The additional funding is the 2013 MAI unspent funds that were awarded to OA by HRSA on April 10, 2015. These funds are for MAI outreach and treatment education services and only for the 2015 MAI contract year.

*An HCP and MAI Allocation Table 2015* lists the amount of additional funding that has been awarded. An *MAI Allocation Process Document* explains how the funds were allocated. Both of these documents are located on the OA website at [www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/OAContractHome.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/OAContractHome.aspx).

- HCP Program Advisors are in the process of conducting site visits to all Ryan White Part B contractors throughout the state.

#### **RW Part B: AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)**

- ADAP Management Memo date 2015-15, dated August 13, 2015, was distributed to Local ADAP Coordinators and Enrollment Workers to inform them that ADAP's CD4 test requirement was changed to align with the CD4 test requirement included in the revised National Institutes of Health (NIH) guidelines. Based on HIV viral load test results, clients may not have to provide a CD4 test dated within one year from the date of enrollment or re-enrollment. Prior to the change,

ADAP required that all clients provide CD4 tests dated within one year from the date of enrollment or re-enrollment.

The Management Memo is located on the OA website at [www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/ADAPMM2015-15ViralLoadandCD4Reqs.pdf](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/ADAPMM2015-15ViralLoadandCD4Reqs.pdf).

- On September 4, 2015, ADAP released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Insurance Benefits Management and Medical Benefits Management services. The purpose of this RFP is to select contractor(s) to administer premium and medical out-of-pocket cost payments for eligible clients.

### **HIV Prevention**

On September 3, 2015, the HIV Prevention Branch announced a new opportunity for HIV and hepatitis C virus (HCV) prevention programs and syringe exchange programs to apply for free materials from the California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS as part of a new HIV/HCV prevention Demonstration Project. This opportunity is a one-time allocation of a limited selection of supplies to organizations in California engaged in HIV and HCV prevention efforts. This opportunity is part of a larger project established by Senate Bill 870 (Chapter 40, Statutes of 2014) to develop innovative, evidence-based approaches to providing outreach, HIV and hepatitis C screenings, and linkage to, and retention in, quality health care for the most vulnerable and underserved individuals with a high risk for HIV infection. Last year three applicants, the Los Angeles LGBT Center, San Diego County, and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation successfully competed for funding to establish the HIV Prevention Demonstration Projects.

OA has now added a fourth demonstration project that will allow OA to purchase supplies for California HIV and HCV prevention programs. OA will evaluate how the programs that receive these supplies can serve as locations to provide outreach, screening, linkage to care and retention in care services, either directly or through referral, with the goal of finding models that can be replicated and implemented throughout the state.

Additional information regarding this announcement is available on the OA website at [www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/OARFAListings.aspx](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/OARFAListings.aspx).

### **California Planning Group (CPG)**

An in-person CPG meeting is scheduled to take place in San Diego on October 28-29, 2015. The meeting is open to the public and there will be an opportunity for public comment. Additional information about the public comment opportunity along with the agenda will be posted on the CPG webpage of the OA website at least 30 days prior to

the meeting. For additional questions regarding CPG, please contact Liz Hall at [liz.hall@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:liz.hall@cdph.ca.gov).

For questions regarding this report, please contact: [liz.hall@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:liz.hall@cdph.ca.gov).