California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS
Monthly Report
July 2017

Office of AIDS Division/Cross Branch Issues

Laying a Foundation for Getting to Zero: California's Integrated HIV Surveillance, Prevention and Care Plan (Integrated Plan)

At the June California HIV/Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Controllers Association Meeting, a plenary providing an update on the Integrated Plan was provided, including highlighting the statewide baseline data for each of the plan's objectives. In addition, copies of the draft of the Continuums of Care by local health jurisdiction (LHJ) were passed out. Baseline data for specific LHJs will be completed in the next two months for those objectives that have local data. At that time, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Office of AIDS (OA) will reach out to each LHJ to discuss the Objectives and baseline measures. In the meantime, any questions regarding the Integrated Plan can be directed to kevin.sitter@cdph.ca.gov.

Ryan White (RW) Part B: AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)

- **Client Eligibility**
  CDPH will extend eligibility for clients whose eligibility is set to expire July 1, 2017, through July 29, 2017. If a client's birthday or half-birthday is in July, their eligibility will expire on July 31, 2017. Enrollment workers have been informed to reach out to their clients whose birthday or half-birthday is in July to re-enroll and recertify them in a timely manner, so their eligibility is extended to their next recertification or re-enrollment date. Enrollment workers have been reminded how to utilize the ADAP Enrollment System to populate a list of their active clients and clients whose eligibility expired in the last 30 days to identify their eligibility end dates.

- **Emergency Medication Access**
  An emergency access process is available to allow expeditious access to ADAP formulary medications for ADAP clients who do not have access to ADAP medications and are at risk for an interruption in treatment. Enrollment workers or clients can contact the ADAP call center at (844) 421-7050 regarding emergency medication access issues, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (excluding state holidays, i.e., July 4). This is in addition to the existing Magellan Call Center that is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If a client has an emergency medication access issue outside of ADAP calls center business hours or on a holiday, they should contact the Magellan call center at (800) 424-5906. The Magellan call center operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- **ADAP Enrollment System**
  The ADAP Enrollment System is being developed in stages, with releases of features and improvements every four weeks to support eligibility management, system navigation, data exchange, reporting, quality assurance, and data security. ADAP continues to coordinate each release with training and outreach to ensure enrollment workers and other users are aware of changes and can correctly use any new features.

- **ADAP Enrollment Worker System Onboarding**
  ADAP is continuing to work with enrollment workers to ensure they complete the ADAP enrollment system onboarding requirements, receive their usernames and passwords, and log into the ADAP Enrollment System. As of June 22, 69 percent of ADAP enrollment workers have completed all of the onboarding requirements and have logged on to the system. On June 14, 46 new ADAP enrollment workers were trained and certified to conduct ADAP services. These enrollment workers are working towards completing the onboarding requirements.

- **Medical Out-of-Pocket Program**
  On the June 7 Statewide ADAP Enrollment Worker Call, enrollment workers were reminded of the policies and procedures pertaining to ADAP's medical out-of-pocket program, including program benefits, billing, reimbursement process, and examples of appropriate supporting documentation. Enrollment workers were also provided with a Medical Out-of-Pocket Program Handout that outlined the policies and procedures. They were also provided with a client-version of the handout that they can provide to clients.
  - Enrollment worker handout:
    http://archive.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/MBMProcessHandout-EW.pdf
  - Client handout:
    http://archive.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/MBMProcessHandout-Client.pdf

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
OA submitted the HOPWA Annual Plan to the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on June 23, 2017. The annual plan is HCD's

application for Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Planning and Development funds and describes the intended use of federal funds administered by the State for various housing programs, including HOPWA. HCD will solicit public comment from July 7 – July 16, 2017, and will submit the final annual plan to HUD by August 11, 2017. The public comment opportunity will be available on the HCD website at www.hcd.ca.gov/index.shtml.

AIDS Medi-Cal Waiver Program (MCWP)

- On June 15, 2017, the Semi-Annual Progress Report was sent to MCWP Project Directors. The reporting period is January 1, 2017, through June 30, 2017. The Progress Report is due to the Office of AIDS on July 31, 2017.

- The next Project Director teleconference is scheduled for July 12, 2017. An agenda will be sent to MCWP Project Directors three to five days prior to the call.

HIV Prevention

- OA released a Request for Applications (RFA) for Strategic HIV Prevention Projects (formerly called "HIV Demonstration Projects") to establish up to four HIV prevention projects to reach individuals at high risk for HIV infection and enhance their engagement with HIV care and prevention. After completing evaluation of the applications submitted, OA has selected and intends to award contracts to the following applicants: AltaMed Health Services Corporation; the County of San Diego; the Los Angeles LGBT Center; and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF). AltaMed will focus their efforts to reach men who have sex with men (MSM), including young MSM, and MSM of color, and transgender women in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. The LA LGBT Center will also focus their efforts on MSM, specifically young MSM of color, and transgender women of color. SFAF will work in partnership with two other organizations, Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Wellness Center and East Bay AIDS Center. San Diego will leverage existing outreach and HIV testing to improve linkage to care for HIV and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP).

- OA Prevention staff hosted a site visit in Sacramento on June 29, 2017, with staff from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to discuss implementation of Project PrIDE related services. Project PrIDE is a demonstration project to reduce HIV infections and improve engagement in HIV medical care and increase access to PrEP among MSM of color and transgender persons. OA initiated contracts with the counties of San Diego, Orange and Alameda, as well as the Desert AIDS Project (Riverside County) to develop comprehensive models to increase access to PrEP within their jurisdictions by utilizing various approaches, such as

establishing PrEP clinics within STD clinics, partnering with primary care providers who serve populations at highest risk, hiring PrEP ambassadors (public health nurses and outreach workers) to educate local physicians and medical clinics on PrEP. The site visit allowed grantees to share lessons learned and best practices with each as well as providing an opportunity for OA and CDC to better understand their needs.

For questions regarding this report, please contact: michael.foster@cdph.ca.gov.