

**California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS
Report to San Francisco HIV Community Planning Council
November 2016**

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

- Moving forward with the Integrated HIV Surveillance, Prevention, and Care Plan (Plan), the Office of AIDS (OA) is now developing an internal work plan to carry out the 15 strategies and 12 objectives of the Plan. The aim is to move the State towards Getting to Zero: zero new infections; zero AIDS-related deaths; and zero stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV. OA has released a two page Executive Summary of the Plan (www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/IP_2016_ExecSum.pdf) and a press release (www.cdph.ca.gov/Pages/NR16-067.aspx).
- OA met with the California Planning Group on October 12th in Los Angeles to gather input on each activity described by each strategy. The information from that survey is being summarized. Templates to report on the progress of each objective are being developed and will provide a simple means to monitor progress over the five years of the Plan.
- The California Needs Assessment for HIV (CNA) was submitted to the CDC and HRSA this past September. The CNA included three briefs discussing routine opt-out HIV testing, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), and additional local needs, gaps, and barriers. The Office of AIDS and our co-author jurisdictions are continuing work on the additional nine briefs covering the following priority topics: housing, partner services, mental health, substance use treatment services, linkage to care, retention services, re-engagement services, quality of care, and case management. These latter briefs will be released as each is completed.

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

- **ADAP Transition Update**
Starting October 27, 2016, the Enrollment Benefits Manager (EBM) began sending eligibility data files to the Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM) *every 15 minutes*. This data exchange occurs *8:00am to 8:00pm every day, including weekends*. Effective October 28, 2016, through November 30, 2016, Magellan call center staff will be able to provide real time, 24/7 access to a 30-day supply of medications for ADAP clients who experience access issues at the pharmacy. On October 28, 2016, a "fax blast" outlining the process was disseminated to all

in-network pharmacies and an email was sent to all ADAP enrollment workers and coordinators to inform them of the new process and to provide a copy of the fax blast for their reference. ADAP will closely monitor this process and evaluate extending this process beyond November 30, 2016, based on need.

- **Management Memos**

- Management Memo 2016-17, posted on October 10th, outlines acceptable documentation for proof of residency and HIV positive status. The Memo is available on the ADAP webpage at www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/ADAPMM2016-17EligibilityDocsUpdates.pdf.
- Management Memo 2016-18, posted on October 14th, informs enrollment workers of the Covered California Open Enrollment period, binder payment process for new Covered California clients enrolling in OA-Health Insurance Premium Payment (OA-HIPP), and OA-HIPP renewal requirements for current Covered California clients. The client letters are attached to this memo for enrollment worker reference. The Memo is available on the ADAP webpage of the OA website at www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/ADAPMM2016-18CovCAOpenEnroll.pdf.

- **Covered California Open Enrollment Activities**

In mid-October, ADAP mailed letters to ADAP-only clients to inform them of their Covered California health care options and how to apply, and to OA-HIPP clients who are enrolled in a Covered California health plan to inform them of Covered California's renewal process and subsequent OA-HIPP requirements. In conjunction to the client letters and enrollment worker management memo listed above, ADAP is also working on updating:

- The Comprehensive Health Care Coverage fact sheet, which outlines basic information on health insurance available through Covered California and the associated federal tax penalties if adults do not enroll in public or private health insurance. The fact sheet is available on the ADAP webpage of the OA website at www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/CovCAOverviewbyOA.pdf.
- The ADAP Screening Flow Chart for the 2017 coverage year, to inform enrollment workers of health coverage options available for uninsured clients. The updated Flow Chart will be posted to the ADAP webpage in November.

Both documents will be shared with all ADAP enrollment workers via email.

RW Part B: HIV Care Program

On October 11, 2016, OA presented on the Housing Plus Project during the HRSA HIV/AIDS Bureau webinar, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) Housing Policy Update: Sneak Peek into RWHAP Housing Services. OA staff, Jessica Heskin and Marjorie Katz, joined staff from the Columbus and New Jersey Departments of Public Health on a panel to share innovative ways Ryan White funds have been used to support housing services. The presentation is available on the TARGET Center's website at www.careacttarget.org/content/webinar-and-call-archives.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

On November 3, 2016, the Care Housing Unit hosted an instructional webinar on the use of AIDS Regional Information and Evaluation System (ARIES) for HOPWA data.

AIDS Medi-Cal Waiver Program (MCWP)

- Contract amendments were sent on September 15, 2016, to MCWP Waiver agencies for a one-year extension of the current contract term. Contracts are set to expire this year on December 31st, and the amendment will extend the term to December 31, 2017. One-year term extensions are necessary to align the new contracts effective January 1, 2018, with the Waiver renewal set to go into effect on January 1, 2017. To date, ten of the contract amendments have been executed. All signed contract amendments should be returned to California Department of Public Health, OA Administration by December 9, 2016, in order to have them executed by December 31st.

- On September 21, 2016, the MCWP sent a survey to the Waiver agency Project Directors (PD's) listing the top three training topics identified by Waiver agencies in their mid-year Progress Reports. The PD's were asked in the survey to prioritize the three training topics by order of importance. The PD's ranked the training topics accordingly:
 - QI/QM document expectations in progress reports
 - Clarification on required elements content in the MCWP enrollment and/or client assessment forms
 - Waiver agency policy and procedures manual development and expectations

Based on the survey results, MCWP staff will develop training webinars for Waiver agency PDs and staff which will address these topics in the coming months.

HIV Prevention

On October 31, 2016, CDPH/OA posted for public comment information related to an application received from Kings County Public Health for CDPH Syringe Exchange Program (SEP) Certification

(www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/Applicationsopenforpubliccomment.aspx).

The application seeks approval from CDPH for the Kings County Needle Exchange Program to begin providing syringe exchange services in a number of Kings County Public Health Clinics.

As required under California Health and Safety Code Section 121349, the website posting will open a 90 day public comment period, which will close on January 29, 2017. After consulting with the local health officer and local law enforcement leadership and within 30 business days after the close of the 90-day public comment period (March 14, 2017), CDPH/OA will issue a final decision to certify or not to certify the application.

Surveillance, Research, and Evaluation

OA is extremely excited to announce the release of the completely redesigned California HIV Surveillance Report. The new report contains HIV surveillance data from 2014 on persons who are diagnosed with HIV in 2014, persons living with HIV during 2014, and people with HIV who passed away during the year. Data are presented on: demographics, including gender, race/ethnicity, and age; transmission category; and local health jurisdiction. The report is available on the OA website at

www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Documents/California%20HIV%20Surveillance%20Report%20-%202014.pdf.

This report will meet the need for California HIV surveillance data now and in the future. OA will be updating the report annually and adding additional tables as they are developed. All HIV surveillance reports and fact sheets, including the Continuum of HIV Care fact sheets, can be found on the OA website at www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/TOASurv.aspx.

Additionally, OA released local Continuums of HIV Care to each local health jurisdiction that can be used in local program planning and monitoring. OA expects to provide these reports annually.

California Planning Group

An in-person CPG meeting was held in Los Angeles on October 11-13, 2016. At the meeting, CPG members received updates on CPG business items, local planning councils/groups, and OA activities from the HIV Care, ADAP, Prevention, and Surveillance, Research and Evaluation Branches. CPG members participated in group activities in which they provided OA feedback on ways to enhance CPG and

implementing the Plan activities. Presentations were provided on HIV and American Indians and Alaskan Natives; and using telehealth to meet rural health needs. Presentation slides and meeting notes will be posted on the CPG webpage of the OA website at www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/aids/Pages/OACPG.aspx.

For questions regarding this report, please contact: liz.hall@cdph.ca.gov.