



The time is now.

Ending
the
HIV
Epidemic

November 2nd, 2020

One Word Video + Promote November Stakeholder Events

Strategies: review revised Prevent, Diagnose, Treat

November 9th: Respond, Overarching

November 12th & 13th Community Stakeholder Virtual Forums

Considerations

- **Feasibility** – can this strategy actually be done?
- **Measurability** – can success be measured?
- **Funding** – is there a funding source for this strategy?
- **Timing** – how long will it take to fully realize this strategy?
- **Flexibility** – can this strategy be flexible to a changing environment?
- **Limitations** – what could prevent success with this strategy?
- **Impact** – will this actually reduce new HIV infections?

Overarching Strategies



Overarching strategies impact all Ending the HIV Epidemic pillars; Treat, Diagnose, Prevent, Respond. Each pillar will include specific strategies that cover the overarching issues. The pillar strategies will complement and build upon each other as they reflect the overarching strategy.

- Systemic Racism
- Modernization of HIV Laws
- Education
- Data Infrastructure
- Public Awareness
- Priority Populations
- LGBTQ and Gender Affirming

Diagnose



Diagnose all people with HIV as early as possible

Guiding principles:

Equitable access to HIV testing



Strategy

Increase availability of equitable HIV testing throughout the community

Activities

- Deploy Disease Intervention Specialist for community based testing events/opportunities
- Electronic Medical Record alert system: client meets criteria and/or exhibits certain symptoms should be offered rapid testing
- Routine HIV Testing via Primary Care, OB/GYN, Urgent Care, Plasma centers, STI clinics & Pride clinics
- Identify sites who may require additional testing kits
- Examine feasibility and pilot of “Testing Together” strategy
- Testing offered on location during syringe services outreach
- Create a list of places youth (under 18) can receive testing without parental permission
- Expand emergency department testing initiative
- Work with OHIV.org to grant access to self-testing to any Cuyahoga resident

Public Education and Awareness Campaigns



Strategy

Increase public awareness of testing locations, events and at-home options

Activities

- Utilize social media platforms and dating apps to provide information on: testing locations and/or events; public health alerts on outbreaks utilizing geo-coding
- Increase marketing and visibility of at-home testing options
- Target messaging to priority populations
- Pilot campaign encouraging diagnosis with a support person (family/friend?)
- Integrate messaging about testing into school health curriculum

Partnerships



Strategy

Create a partnership with the justice system, domestic violence centers & rape crisis centers and within HIV workforce

Activities

- Availability of ongoing testing (i.e. not only at time of arrest/sentencing)
- Testing during re-entry process
- Linkage to testing for Domestic Violence centers/homes and survivors of rape/human trafficking
- Coordination of PrEP navigators across funding sources
- Revitalize HIV Prevention Planning Group locally
- Work with pharmacies to offer pharmacy based HIV Testing

Community Health Workers



Strategy

Integrate
Community Health
Workers within
hospital systems

Activities

- Training Initiative to increase Credentialed Candidates able to engage priority populations
- Support PCP in initial linkage to care for HIV+ clients

Professional Development



Strategy

Encourage the HIV workforce to engage in professional development activities on an ongoing basis

Activities

- Create a list serve of HIV professionals and ancillary professionals (clinical & non-clinical) for ongoing promotion of professional development opportunities
- Provide ongoing training opportunities to clinicians, HIV testers, social workers, CHWs etc. on topics related to: Referral process & procedures; Cultural Competency; De-escalation; Testing Together; Human Trafficking; STEPS to Care. Additional interventions to consider via CDC - <https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/effective-interventions/diagnose/index.html>

Peer Navigation



Strategy

Increase support
for peer navigators

Activities

- Develop funding stream to provide pay and resources for peer navigators within existing organizations
- Utilize innovative and successful models including POL (popular opinion leaders), Promise Model, Community Promise

Treat



Treat people with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach sustained viral suppression

Guiding Principles:

Viral Suppression



Strategy

Provide opportunity for equitable sustained viral suppression

Activities

- Rapid start of ART widely available and incorporated
- Adherence to medical treatment
- Monitor trends in viral suppression amongst priority populations where available
- Develop mobile lab draws/mobile nursing for long acting injectables

Linkages to Care



Strategy

Ensure all individuals diagnosed with HIV have a clear pathway to medical care/treatment

Activities

- Referral & Linkage procedures in place for Primary care, OB/GYN, Urgent Care, Plasma centers, STI Clinics & Pride clinics
- Transitional Care Coordination intervention for recently incarcerated clients
- Data to Care: Streamlined and accurate data systems to identify clients out of care
- Availability of tele-health visits and/or expanded hours

Support Networks for PLWH



Strategy

Develop and strengthen formal and informal support networks for PLWH

Activities

- Hospital systems incorporate STEPs to Care: patient navigation, care team coordination and HIV Self-Management
- Utilize community health workers for re-engagement into care outreach, patient navigation, providing linkage and referrals, and promoting medication adherence
- Peer support groups
- Social workers conduct detailed needs assessment with clients to remove barriers to care (employment, health care, substance abuse, mental health, food insecurity, housing & transportation)
- Drop-in centers for youth, MSM, caregivers, LGBTQ and other populations as needed.
- Continue to support the expansion of Positive Peers App to reach young adults living with HIV
- Offer additional housing supports including shelter + care vouchers, permanent supportive housing, LGBTW specific housing, emergency housing

Public Education & Awareness



Strategy

Increase public awareness of pathways to enter care and ways to engage with support networks

Activities

- Utilize social media platforms and dating apps to promote U=U, stigma reduction & re-engagement into care
- Promote peer-support groups (in person/virtual) via social media and/or campaign website.

Professional Development



Strategy

Encourage the HIV workforce to engage in professional development activities on an ongoing basis

Activities

- Entities select and intervention to pilot from CDC resources available for the HIV prevention workforce to increase their capacity to link, retain and re-engage people from HIV care and treatment
- Continue to build peers as a resource in paid positions within both community-based and clinical settings
- Establish relationship with AIDS Education and Treatment Center to conduct programming with providers on cultural sensitivity
- Increased information and training on using stigmatizing language, leading with trauma informed approached
- Expand Part A providers clinical quality management programs

Integrated Care Approach



Strategy

Adopt a model of care that integrates social supports, medical care, substance use treatment, mental health and well being.

Activities

- Access to Medication Assisted Treatment & Substance use treatment alongside HIV care
- Increase social supports for holistic wellness
- Increase availability of gender affirming care for transgender folx alongside HIV care
- Focus Linkage to Care efforts to build independence and empower PLWH to take control of their care

Respond



Respond quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them

Guiding principles:

Outbreak Response



Strategy

Develop a clear plan of action to respond to an HIV outbreak and follow plan if necessary.

Activities

- Integrate HIV surveillance and response into the Emergency Preparedness structures within ODH and CDC
- Utilize expertise of DIS workers to identify potential clusters and/or outbreaks
- Establish public health advisories during outbreaks to users of dating apps using geo-targeting
- Integrate efforts with the CFAR (Center for Aids Research)

Partner Identification



Strategy

Use multiple methods to identify partners of PLWH and contact as necessary to advise on testing and resources.

Activities

- Expand contact information of partner(s) to also include username, specific dating apps, email communication, etc.
- Utilize search engines, dating apps and social media for contract tracing activities
- Link potentially exposed persons to testing and resources
- Ohio HIV Criminalization Law amendment



Strategy

Activities