

A publication of the Affected Communities Committee of the HIV Health Services Planning Council
Paid for by the Sacramento TGA Part A Ryan White Grant Funds

"This project was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number H89HA00048, HIV Emergency Relief Projects Grant, in a FY24 award amount of \$1,080,368. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author(s) and should not be construed as the official position or policy of nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government."

National HIV Testing Day

Written By: Arturo Jackson III, MSW

HIV Testing Day (NHTD) was first observed on June 27, 1995 as a day to encourage U.S. residents to get tested for HIV, know their status, and get linked to care, treatment and prevention.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) NHTD theme for 2024, "Level up Your Self-Love: Check your Status" underlines valuing yourself, showing yourself compassion, respect and honoring your health needs with self-love. Information is power and knowing your HIV status is a vital life saving step to staying healthy especially if you are a member of a high risk group.

HIV testing is essential to know what path once you receive your results: HIV+ treatment and access to HIV medical care and medication or prevention with PREP, protecting persons from HIV infection.

Today there is no AIDS cure. If you test HIV+ it is a lifetime condition in a community and World united in a fight to end AIDS by 2030. Forty plus years into the AIDS epidemic and stigma remains a serious barrier to HIV testing and support for infected U.S. citizens.

While HIV affects all race and ethnic groups in the United States, some races are disproportionately affected compared to their population size. Black/African American people and Hispanic/Latino people are particularly affected by HIV, making up more than half (70%) of estimated new HIV infections in 2022. Latino or Hispanic people represent less than 20% of the United States population but account for nearly a third of new HIV diagnoses in 2022, according to the CDC.



When compared to all racial and ethnic groups, Hispanic people have the second highest rate of new HIV diagnoses, 19 new diagnoses for every 100,000 people, which is nearly double the national rate and new diagnoses are rising quickly.

There were 31,800 estimated new HIV infections in the U.S. in 2022. 67% (21,400) were among gay/bisexual men who reported male-to-male sexual contact. 22% (7,000) were reported among people reporting heterosexual sexual contact and 7% (2,300) among people who inject drugs.

HIV affects some groups more than others. Social and structural issues—such as HIV stigma, homophobia, discrimination, poverty, socio-economic instability, need for more mental health and substance abuse services, access to high-quality health care—influence health outcomes and continue to drive inequities. Regions in the U.S are impacted with the South testing more than half all new HIV cases. Overall future public health goal is to reduce the number of new HIV infections to 9,300 by 2025 and 3,000 by 2030.

U.S health advocates emphasize providers must approach communities they serve with innovative efforts to reach more people at risk of HIV. Some suggest to provide a HIV test as part of a regular healthcare check up and laboratory blood draw. It is hoped that by including a HIV test as part of regular blood screen will reduce the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS. The goal is to save lives.

Awareness Days

June 5th is HIV Long-Term Survivors Awareness Day

June 27 is National HIV Testing Day

July 21 is Zero HIV Stigma Day

August 20 is Southern HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

August 25 is National Faith HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

ACC Community Conversations

The Affected Communities Committee, ACC, a Committee of the HIV Health Services Planning Council, is once again, hosting Community Conversations related to the most current information on HIV. We look forward to seeing you there. All sessions will be held at the LGBT Center from 6 to 7pm with dinner provided. Please reach out to Zachary Basler at 415-299-7027 if you have questions. To register for an event please visit www.sacramento-tga.com

**Upcoming Events:
HIV & Aging—September 17th**

One Community Health offers low cost & confidential walk-in and appointments for HIV, Hepatitis C & STD testing at its Midtown Campus.

Call 916-443-3299 to make an appointment or for more information.

No one will be turned away if they are unable to pay.

Sunburst Clinic:916-299-6810, SunburstClinic.org

Free confidential walk-in HIV/HCV/STD testing

Monday – Friday, 8 am – 6 pm in Arden Area.

PrEP Starter Pack issued same-day. PrEP-AP and ADAP enrollment or recertification

Free or Low-Cost STD/HIV/HCV Testing;

Contact the agency directly for dates, times and costs of testing

Golden Rule Services 916-427-4653

Harm Reduction Services 916-456-4849

Sacramento Sexual Health Clinic 916-875-1551

Partner Services:

County of Sacramento - 916-875-1100

One Community Health - 916-443-3299

Sunburst Projects - 916-440-0889

Yolo County - 530-666-8670

El Dorado and Placer Counties:

Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation 530-889-2437

The Sacramento TGA's HIV Health Services Planning Council and Committee Meeting Schedules
Committees may be canceled if there is no pressing business to conduct.
Go to www.sacramento-tga.com for the most updated meeting schedule.

1st Monday of Even Months:
February 5th, April 3rd, June 3rd,
August 5th, October 7th, and
December 2nd

Affected Communities Committee: 3:00—4:00 p.m. at
Sacramento County Health Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Community Room 2020

Note: April meeting will be held on 4/03 due to Cesar Chavez holiday

Quarterly on the 1st Tuesday of:
March 5th, May 7th, June 4th,
Sept. 3rd, and Dec. 3rd

Quality Advisory Committee: 2:00—3:00 p.m. at the
Sacramento County Health Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Community Room 2020

Note: Will be meeting additionally on the 1st Tuesday of May.

Quarterly on the 1st Tuesday of
March 5th, May 7th, June 4th,
Sept. 3rd, and Dec. 3rd

Needs Assessment Committee: 3:00—4:30 p.m. at the
Sacramento County Health Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Community Room 2020

Note: Will be meeting additionally on the 1st Tuesday of May.

1st Wednesday of the Months of:
March 6th, May 1st, June 5th, and
Sept. 11th. **Jan 1, 2025 is a holiday**

Priorities and Allocations Committee: 9:00—11:00 a.m. at the
Sacramento County Health Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Community Room 2020

Note: Will be meeting on September 11th instead of September 4th.

2nd Thursday of the Months of:
March 14th, May 9th, June 13th,
Sept.12th, and January 9th

Executive Committee: 3:00—5:00 p.m. at the County of Sacramento
Sacramento County Health Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Community Room 2020

4th Wednesday of Every Month:
Combined Nov/Dec on 12/11/2024

HIV Health Services Planning Council: 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. at the
Sacramento County Health Center, 4600 Broadway, Sacramento, CA.
Community Room 2020



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The **POSITIVE ADVOCATE** Newsletter is a quarterly information and outreach project. We welcome submissions from the affected community. For additional information about the Affected Communities Committee (ACC), HIV Health Services Planning Council (HHSPC), or this newsletter, contact: Danielle Caravella at 916-875-6021
www.sacramento-tga.com

The **Affected Communities Committee** addresses issues facing the HIV/AIDS community and advises the Planning Council on community affairs. The mission of the committee is to recruit, empower, and involve people living with HIV/AIDS in the strategic planning and advocacy of HIV/AIDS care and services. These goals will be accomplished with the assistance of the Council support staff toward the fulfillment of its mission. The committee encourages an environment of trust and safety in achieving its mission.

The Committee meets the first Monday of the Even Months of the year, 3—4 p.m., at Sacramento County Health Center, 4600 Broadway, Community Room 2020, Sacramento, 95820.
Please note that there is no meeting on April 1, 2024 due to the Cesar Chavez holiday

RYAN WHITE CARE ACT SERVICE PROVIDERS

CommuniCare+OLE

**** Yolo County Residents only ****
916-403-2910 x1077

Golden Rule Services 916-427-4653

Harm Reduction Services 916-456-4849

One Community Health 916-443-3299
Direct HIV Service Line: 916-842-5185

Sacramento Sexual Health Clinic

916-875-1551

Sierra Foothills AIDS Foundation

**** El Dorado and Placer Counties only ****
Main number: 530-889-2437

Sunburst Projects 916-440-0889

UC Davis Medical Center Pediatric Infectious Disease 916-734-1873

In the box to the right, is a list of Ryan White Part A and B funded Services.

Services may vary per provider and additional services may be available through other funding sources.

Please contact a provider above for additional information.

- ⇒ Ambulatory Outpatient Care
- ⇒ Medical Case Management
- ⇒ Child Care
- ⇒ Emergency Financial Assistance
- ⇒ Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals
- ⇒ Health Insurance Assistance
- ⇒ Housing
- ⇒ Medical Nutritional Therapy
- ⇒ Medical Transportation
- ⇒ Mental Health
- ⇒ Non-Medical Case Management
- ⇒ Oral Health
- ⇒ Outreach Services
- ⇒ Substance Abuse—Outpatient
- ⇒ Substance Abuse—Residential