Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Townhall

September 16, 2020

Mario J. Pérez, MPH, Director, Division of HIV and STD Programs
Julie Tolentino, MPH, Program Manager, Ending the HIV Epidemic

Please note: We will begin around 10:10 am to allow attendees time to join the meeting
Logistics for our new virtual normal

• Please mute yourself
• If you’d like to make a comment or ask a question, please use the Q&A function at the bottom or your screen
• This meeting will be recorded
Today’s Agenda

• Welcome and Opening Remarks
  Mario J. Pérez, MPH, Director, Division of HIV and STD Programs

• Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan & Public Comment Launch
  Julie Tolentino, MPH, Program Manager, Ending the HIV Epidemic

• Call to Action
  Mario J. Pérez, MPH, Director, Division of HIV and STD Programs

• Questions & Discussion
  Submit questions through Q&A function
Welcome and Opening Remarks

Mario J. Pérez, MPH
Director, Division of HIV and STD Programs
County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health
Los Angeles County is vast and diverse.

- Over 4,000 square miles
- 88 cities
- 26 health districts
- Over 100 unincorporated areas
- Urban, suburban, and rural areas

- Most populous county in the U.S. with approximately 10 million residents
- Greater population than 42 individual states
- One of the most racially/ethnically diverse county in the U.S.
Key HIV metrics in Los Angeles County

- 57,700 people living with HIV
- 1,700 new transmissions per year
- 6,400 unaware of their HIV-positive status
- Highest rates of transmission in Hollywood-Wilshire, Central and Long Beach health districts

\(^{\text{The Census HIV Surveillance data as of December 31, 2019; U.S. Department of Commerce, 2010 U.S. Census Tract; U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD USPS ZIP Code – Census Tract Crosswalk Files, 2nd quarter 2018 was used for HIV diagnoses 2014-2018 and 4th quarter 2019 was used for PLWDH at year-end 2019.}}\)
The Latinx population represents the largest group in the County, followed by the White community. Black men and women represent 8% of the total County population.

Latinos represent 40% of people living with diagnosed HIV (PLWDH) followed by White (26%) and Black males (16%). These groups represent >80% of PLWDH in LA County.
Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America announced in 2019 with implementation beginning in 2020

**GOAL:**

75% reduction in new HIV infections by 2025 and at least 90% reduction by 2030.
Collective action is necessary to achieve the national goal

Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiative Geographic Locations
https://www.hrsa.gov/ending-hiv-epidemic

FEDERAL PARTNERS

Health Resources & Services Administration

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

National Institutes of Health

Indian Health Service

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration

PACE Team, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health
Four key pillars were identified as part of Ending the HIV Epidemic initiative

**Diagnose** all people with HIV as early as possible.

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

**Prevent** new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs (SSPs).

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

Key Strategies. [https://www.hrsa.gov/ending-hiv-epidemic](https://www.hrsa.gov/ending-hiv-epidemic)
We have an unprecedented opportunity to end the HIV epidemic in America

The time is Now.

#EndHIVEpidemic

Right Data
- Ability to gather information related to geographic locations and populations affected by HIV

Right Tools
- Advances in biomedical and scientific research
- Evidence based models of HIV care and prevention

Right Leadership
- Revitalized energy from federal and local partners

EHE Background https://www.hrsa.gov/ending-hiv-epidemic
Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan & Public Comment Launch

Julie Tolentino, MPH
Program Manager, Ending the HIV Epidemic
Division of HIV and STD Programs
Transitioning from the LA County HIV/AIDS Strategy to EHE Plan

Key Dates

• Nov. 2017: LACHAS released
• Feb. 2019: Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) announced
• 2019 – 2020: One-year EHE planning grant
• 2020: HRSA and CDC grants awarded to LAC
• Dec. 2020: Local EHE Plan due to CDC
Leading Indicators by EHE Pillar for Los Angeles County

- **Diagnose**
  - HIV diagnoses
  - Knowledge of status

- **Treat**
  - Linkage to Care
  - Viral suppression

- **Prevent**
  - PrEP Coverage

- **Respond**
  - Monitor outbreaks
  - Partner Services
Leading Indicators for Pillar 1: Diagnose

1. Reduce annual number of HIV diagnoses
2. Increase the percentage of PLWH who are aware of their HIV status to 95%

https://ahead.hiv.gov/locations/los-angeles-county/
Leading Indicators for Pillar 2: Treat

1. Increase the proportion of people diagnosed with HIV who are linked to HIV care within 1 month of diagnosis to 95%
2. Increase the proportion of diagnosed PLWH who are virally suppressed to 95%
Leading Indicators for Pillar 3: Prevent

1. Increase the proportion of persons prescribed PrEP in priority populations to at least 50%
Leading Indicators for Pillar 4: Respond

1. Develop a plan to identify and monitor HIV outbreaks

2. Increase the proportion of people living with HIV that are interviewed for partner services within 7 days of diagnosis to at least 85%

Strategies & Key Partners for EHE Pillars

- Diagnose
- Treat
- Prevent
- Respond
Strategies

- Increase routine opt out HIV testing in healthcare and institutional settings, including jails
- Increase HIV testing programs in non-healthcare settings including home testing
- Increase yearly re-screening for clients at elevated risk for HIV

Key Partners

- FQHCs and community health centers
- Emergency Departments
- HIV and STD Testing Providers
- HIV Service Providers
- Academic medical provider training programs
- Building Healthy Online Communities – NASTAD
- LA County Sherriff Department
Strategies

• Expand partner services to facilitate rapid ART and linkage to care
• Increase knowledge of and access to HIV services
• Assess mental health services to identify and address gaps
• Improve client experience by working with clinical staff
• Increase opportunities for telehealth
• Develop programming that provides services related to housing and emergency financial assistance

Key Partners

• Ryan White HIV service providers
• HIV medical providers outside of Ryan White network
• FQHCs and community health centers
• HIV & STD Testing Providers
• Housing, mental health, and substance use providers
• City public health departments
Prevent new HIV transmissions by using proven interventions, including PrEP and syringe services programs (SSPs).

**Strategies**

- Utilize data to better identify persons with indication for PrEP and link to services
- Expand PrEP service delivery & provider options, including telehealth and pharmacies
- Improve PrEP retention in care through provider and consumer programming
- Expand Syringe Services Programs

**Key Partners**

- FQHCs and community health centers
- PrEP Centers of Excellence
- HIV Service Providers, HIV and STD Testing Providers
- County STD clinics
- Community leaders and advocates
- County and City funded SSPs
- Pharmacies, general practitioners
**Strategies**

- Develop a plan to increase capacity for cluster outbreak detection and response including protocol development and trainings
- Create and implement a protocol to ensure newly diagnosed people are interviewed for partner services
- Continue to build surveillance infrastructure at the public health department

**Key Partners**

- State Office of AIDS
- Other local health departments
- HIV Service Providers
- HIV & STD Testing Providers
Snapshot of Ending the HIV Epidemic Funding & Partners in LA County

LACDPH DHSP is among several partners moving us towards our shared EHE goals

- Los Angeles County Commission on HIV
- Ending the Epidemics (ETE) Statewide Coalition
- Consumer Advisory Boards
- LAC PrEP/PEP Working Group
Community engagement is integral to ending the HIV epidemic.

**Strategies**

- Increase HIV education and awareness across the County
- Develop a program focused on community-led EHE projects and activities
- Develop new partnerships in the non-traditional HIV service sector
- Leverage existing partnerships to continue to strengthen and guide efforts and to ensure communities most impacted are engaged
We want your input! Provide feedback on the EHE Plan.

Submit feedback between September 16 - October 16, 2020
Draft Plan: https://tinyurl.com/EHEplan
EHE Plan Feedback continued

Key Strategies:

Strategy 1A: Expand or implement routine opt-out HIV screening in healthcare and other institutional settings in high prevalence communities

Strategy 1B: Develop locally tailored HIV testing programs to reach persons in non-healthcare settings including home testing

Strategy 1C: Increase at least yearly re-screening of persons at elevated risk for HIV infection per CDC testing guidelines, in healthcare and non-healthcare settings

1. Is there a strategy we are missing to reach these goals?

https://tinyurl.com/EHEplan

Submit feedback between September 16 - October 16, 2020
Ending the HIV Epidemic Steering Committee
Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Steering Committee Members

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Louise McCarthy, MPP
Call to Action
Mario J. Pérez, MPH
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We have an unprecedented opportunity to end the HIV epidemic in America

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*#EndHIVEpideemic*

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- **Right Leadership**
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[Source](https://www.hrsa.gov/ending-hiv-epidemic)
Questions & Discussion
Please use the Q&A function to submit questions
We want your input! Complete the online feedback form for the EHE Plan
September 16 - October 16, 2020
https://tinyurl.com/EHEplan

Stay informed! Find more resources and info through these websites

Federal Websites

• Overview of Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America

• AHEAD Dashboard – Track EHE Indicators by jurisdictions
  https://ahead.hiv.gov/locations/los-angeles-county/

• Ready, Set, PrEP

Local County Websites

• Stay tuned for local EHE updates at
  www.LACounty.HIV

• HIV, STD, and sexual health info and resources in LA County
  https://getprotectedla.com/

• Division of HIV and STD Programs
  http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp/

• Los Angeles County Commission on HIV
  http://hiv.lacounty.gov/
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- Wendy Garland, MPH
- LACDPH DHSP HIV/STD Surveillance Unit
We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.
-Albert Einstein

Stay tuned for EHE updates at https://www.LACounty.HIV/

Ending the HIV Epidemic General Inbox
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