



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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February 24, 2014

Dear Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and CDC HIV Prevention Colleagues:

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP) are pleased to support integrated HIV prevention and care planning groups and activities. Integrated planning, reports, and activities will help further progress in reaching the goals of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy and improving outcomes on the HIV Continuum of Care.

HRSA and CDC have determined that the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) Parts A and B Comprehensive Plans and the CDC Jurisdictional HIV Prevention Plan will be due in September 2016. Also due at that time will be the RWHAP Part B Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need (SCSN). HRSA and CDC are working to align the guidance(s) for the RWHAP Comprehensive Plans/SCSN and the Jurisdictional HIV Prevention Plan to enable the submission of an integrated HIV Plan that is responsive to the requirements of both HRSA and CDC.

HRSA and CDC encourage RWHAP and HIV prevention programs at the local and state level to integrate planning activities. These encompass comprehensive needs assessment, information and data sharing, cross representation on prevention and care planning bodies, coordinated/combined projects, combined meetings, and merged planning bodies. Planning groups are encouraged to streamline their approaches to HIV planning so that it increases access to and effectiveness of prevention, care and treatment services within the jurisdictions.

Good planning is imperative for effective local and state decision making to develop systems of prevention and care that are responsive to the needs of persons at risk for HIV infection and people living with HIV. Activities to collaborate and/or develop a joint planning body are supported by both HRSA and CDC. Community involvement is an essential component for planning comprehensive, effective HIV prevention and care programs in the United States.

We look forward to continued work with all our partners and stakeholders involved in HIV prevention and care and treatment planning to accomplish the goals of the National/HIV/AIDS Strategy and the HIV Continuum of Care Initiative.

Sincerely,

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