New Mexico Department of Health Public Health Division (PHD) Infectious Disease Bureau (IDB) HIV Prevention Program

Who We Are

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Program Description

The goal of the HIV Prevention Program is to reduce HIV transmission by planning, funding, coordinating and evaluating evidence-based HIV prevention interventions for at-risk populations across New Mexico.

The two major sources of funding for the program are the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, roughly \$2.2 million per year) and State general funds (roughly \$900,000 per year.) The program delivers a number of administrative and oversight functions directly.

• Training, technical assistance (TA) and capacity building for providers.

- Process and outcome monitoring of HIV prevention and testing interventions, including annual site visits of funded community-based agencies, quality assurance (QA) visits and support, collection and analysis of process data, and regular reporting to CDC and partners within New Mexico.
- Coordination, support and technical assistance for a statewide HIV Prevention Community Planning and Action Group (CPAG), which is mandated by CDC to define and prioritize 1) at-risk target populations and 2) appropriate and effective HIV prevention interventions for each target group.

Current efforts are targeted to the following risk populations, which are defined in the most recent annual statewide *Comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan* developed by the CPAG. These are in priority order, based on statewide planning.

- Persons living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH/A)
- Men who have sex with men (including both gay-identified and non-gay-identified men) and transgender persons (MSM-T)
- Injection drug users (IDU)
- MSM who are also IDU (tied ranking with IDU)
- Heterosexuals at risk (HAR)

The HIV Prevention Program delivers HIV prevention interventions to these at-risk populations across New Mexico by funding and supporting two types of organizations.

• <u>Community-Based Agencies</u>: The program contracts with twelve (12) community-based organizations that serve diverse ethnic/racial groups and at-risk persons in both urban and rural parts of the state. These organizations deliver HIV prevention interventions that follow priorities in the statewide *Comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan.*

1) **Evidence-based HIV prevention interventions**, including those promoted by the CDC under their Diffusion of Evidence-Based Interventions (DEBI) project.

2) **Effective locally-developed HIV prevention strategies** that were created, implemented and evaluated in New Mexico to reach underserved populations.

3) Anonymous HIV counseling, testing and referral (CTR).

4) **Prevention case management (PCM)** services, using the CDC's new "CRCS" guidance.

5) **Community, street and detention center outreach** to recruit at-risk persons into effective HIV prevention interventions and reach "hidden populations".

6) Social marketing to promote HIV testing, help persons with HIV learn of their status, and

link these individuals to primary care and support services.7) Referrals to other prevention, health care and social services.

<u>Regional Disease Prevention Teams (DPT)</u>: Each of the five (5) NMDOH regions have a team of funded staff, including Disease Prevention Program Managers, Disease Prevention Supervisors, Disease Prevention Specialists (DPS), Health Educators and Infectious Disease Nurse Specialists (IDNS). These teams conduct a range of activities to ensure that important core HIV prevention services are available in all geographic areas of New Mexico.
 1) Evidence-based HIV prevention interventions, such as the Voices/Voces condom education model for persons in detention or substance abuse treatment, and clients of

sexually transmitted disease (STD) clinics.

2) Anonymous and confidential **HIV counseling, testing and referral (CTR)**.

3) Partner services (PS), including partner notification, counseling and referral.

4) Integrated Infectious Disease Outreach in community, street and detention center venues to persons at high risk of infection, which incorporates other infectious disease services such as Harm Reduction, hepatitis testing and vaccination and STD testing.
5) Other HIV education and awareness activities such as training of community partners and integrated HIV/STD/hepatitis presentations.

Additional Information and Internet Resources

New Mexico HIV, Hepatitis and STD Resource Guide www.nmhivguide.org

New Mexico Department of Health, HIV Prevention Program: www.health.state.nm.us/hiv/index.html

New Mexico HIV Prevention Community Planning and Action Group (CPAG) www.nmcpag.org

Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) - HIV/AIDS Information:

www.cdc.gov/hiv/

National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD):

www.nastad.org/

National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC):

www.nmac.org