



Community Health Center
Association of Mississippi

Together We Care

Mississippi Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan for 2021

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Learning Objectives

Participants will learn:

- What is the focus areas for Mississippi's Ending the HIV Epidemic activities
- What are some identified barriers for conducting MS EHE activities
- How MS developed partnerships to address MS EHE activities
- What are the next steps for MS EHE Collaborative Partnerships



National EHE Initiative

- **Phase I: Geographic Focus,** A multi-year program that will infuse 48 counties, Washington, D.C., San Juan, Puerto Rico, as well as 7 states that have substantial rural HIV burden with additional resources.
- **Phase II:** Efforts will be even more widely disseminated across the nation to reduce new infections by 90 percent by 2030.
- **Phase III:** Intensive case management will be implemented to maintain the number of new infections at fewer than 3,000 per year.





EHE Funding for Mississippi



Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA)

MSDH

- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Parts A and B Jurisdictions EHE

CHCAMS

- To provide support and build partnerships among FQHC and community partners to ensure that FQHC have the support to successfully implement their funding.

FQHC

- Increase the number of patients counseled and tested for HIV
- Increase the number of patients prescribed PrEP
- Increase the number of patients linked to HIV care and treatment



The Mississippi Ending the HIV Epidemic Plan for 2021

- **Strategy 1:** Diagnose all people with HIV as early as possible
- **Strategy 2:** Treat people with HIV rapidly and effectively to reach viral suppression
- **Strategy 3:** Prevent new HIV transmission by using proven interventions, including preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs (SSPs)
- **Strategy 4:** Respond quickly to potential HIV outbreaks to get needed prevention and treatment services to people who need them



Barriers for conducting MS EHE activities



Assessing the Problem

- Conducted six focus groups
 - 3 with Health Center Providers
 - 3 with Health Center Senior Leadership
- Conducted organizational assessment to determine readiness
- Developing a Community Health Worker Association of Mississippi

Findings from Focus Groups

▶ Provider Perspective

- ▶ Uncomfortable asking sexual history questions
- ▶ Don't know enough about treatment for persons living with HIV
- ▶ HIV Stigma
- ▶ Not enough support staff
- ▶ Don't know enough about PrEP or PEP
- ▶ Personal beliefs
- ▶ Medical Distrust

▶ Senior Leadership Perspective

- ▶ Feel as if they can't force providers to prescribe PrEP
- ▶ Aren't as knowledgeable about the disease themselves
- ▶ HIV Stigma
- ▶ Don't understand the financial benefit to the agency of getting into HIV prevention and care services
- ▶ Allocating staff to support a program



HIV Integration Readiness Assessment

CHCAMS conducted organizational assessments for the six funded FQHCs in the following areas:

- Organizational Capacity
- Policies and Procedures
- Staffing



Organizational Capacity

- 1= Yes
- 2= Working on it
- 3= No
- 4= Not applicable
- 5= Don't know

Questions	1	2	3	4	5
1. Does your organization currently receive funding to provide primary or preventive services for HIV?	100%				
1. Has your organization conducted an organizational assessment to determine readiness to implement	50%		16.6%	16.6%	16.6%
1. Is your organization prepared to implement primary care services for persons living with HIV/AIDS?	83.33 %	16.6 %			
1. Has your organization conducted an organizational assessment to determine readiness to implement preventive services for HIV (PrEP, PEP, condom dissemination, counseling testing, and referral services, etc.)?	50%	16.6 %	16.6%		16.6%
1. Does your organization provide training for all staff on HIV primary care and preventive services?	50%	16.6 %	33.33 %		
1. Does your organization's senior leadership create an environment that supports implementing HIV services?	83.3%	16.6 %			
1. Does your organization discuss the quality measure associated with HIV screening and PrEP implementation at QI meetings?	83.3%	16.6 %			
1. Does your agency have access to Rapid HIV Testing Kits to provide free HIV testing to patients?	83.3%		16.6%		
1. Is your facility assessable to the target demographic most impacted by HIV in your area?	100%				
1. Has your organization conducted an environmental scan or your service area to see what services are currently being provided around HIV?	66.6%	16.6 %			16.6%



Policies and Procedures

Questions	1	2	3	4	5
1. Does your organization have a policy and procedures that speak to Opt-out Testing?	33.3%	16.6 %	50%		
1. Does your organization offer HIV screening as a routine part of every patient between the ages of 13-65 medical visits?	66.6%	16.6 %	16.6%		
1. Does your organization currently have a workflow that navigates patients to HIV services based on risk factors and status?	83.3%	16.6 %			
1. Does your organization provide PrEP on-site?	83.3%	16.6 %			
1. Does your organization have procedures for assisting patients with obtaining PrEP if they cannot afford it?	100%				
1. Does your agency have a referral policy or procedure if you do not provide PrEP on-site?	16.6%	16.6 %	16.6%	50%	
1. Does your organization have a policy or procedures that mandate team huddles? (This is a meeting of an integrated care team around a patient's care)	83.3%	16.6 %			
1. Does your organization review HHS guidelines for the treatment of HIV/AIDS annually?	66.6%	33.3 %			
1. Does your organization have a policy or procedure that mandates all provider document refusal of HIV screening?	33.3%		50%		16.6%
1. Are your policies and procedures reviewed and approved by the board of directors annually?	100%				

1= Yes

2= Working on it

3= No

4= Not applicable

5= Don't know



Staffing

- 100%, stated they utilize integrated approach to treatment and care of persons living with HIV/AIDS
- 16.6% of agencies have 1 -5 employees, 33.3% of agencies have 6 -10 employees, 33.3% also stated they have 11 or more employees who work on their HIV Program.





Staffing

- Community Health Workers
 - 50% Yes
 - 16.6% No
 - 33.3% Don't Know
- Providers comfort level
 - 100%
- PrEP Navigator
 - 83.3% Yes
 - 16.6% No
- All team member document in HER
 - 83.3%, Yes
 - 16.6%, No
- Documenting the social determinates of health in HER
 - 50%, Yes
 - 16.6%, No
 - 33.3%, Don't Know
- Updating senior leadership on program activity
 - 83.3%, Monthly
 - 33.3%, Quarterly



Staffing

Staffing that makes up your organization's care team

A stylized green graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a large, curved shape resembling a person's head and shoulders, with a smaller oval above it. Below this, there are several vertical bars of varying heights, suggesting a bar chart or data visualization. The entire graphic is rendered in a dark green color against a blue background.

Collaborative Partnerships



What has CHCAMS done to address the identified barriers

- ▶ Developed partnerships with national, state, and local partners to provide training/technical assistance to any health center that would like the services.
- ▶ Started discussion with a host of 17 community partners to develop a HIV Cluster response plan that involves the use of Community Health Centers.
- ▶ Working to train community health workers to specialize in HIV prevention and treatment.
- ▶ Working with Mississippi AETC, to train any provider at the 21 FQHCs, who wants to prescribe PrEP or PEP for their patient population.
- ▶ Working with the six funded health centers to develop Comprehensive outreach and engagement plans.



List of Collaborative Partners

Community Health Center Association of Mississippi

Mississippi State Department of Health

Mississippi AIDS Education Training Center

Teen Health Mississippi

University California San Francisco

University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC)

My Brother's Keeper, Inc

Gilead Sciences

Mississippi Health Alliance, LLC

The background is a solid orange color. On the left side, there is a faint, stylized silhouette of a person with their arms raised, and below it, a bar chart with several vertical bars of varying heights. A thin, light green horizontal line is positioned above the main text.

Next Step for the MS EHE Plan



Ongoing Efforts

- Increasing the number of prescribing providers in the state
- Increase the enabling service staff (CHW)
- Increase the number of PrEP sites
- Increase outreach and engagement in not traditional settings.



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