



STRATEGIC PLAN FOR A FUTURE WITHOUT HIV

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DELAWARE HIV CONSORTIUM

100 W. 10TH STREET, SUITE 415, WILMINGTON, DE 19801

- Our Vision:** To end the HIV epidemic in Delaware
- Our Mission:** The Delaware HIV Consortium is dedicated to providing leadership to eliminate HIV in Delaware by supporting optimal HIV care and prevention services
- Our Core Values:** Accountability, Collaboration, Empowerment, Excellence, Integrity, Respect, Stewardship, Teamwork and Equality
- Who We Serve:** The Delaware HIV Consortium serves individuals infected and affected by HIV throughout the state of Delaware. The Delaware HIV Consortium is committed to providing a quality continuum of care that increases access to care and optimizes health outcomes and viral suppression.

Organizational Background:

For more than twenty-eight years the Delaware HIV Consortium (DHC) has continued to evolve and grow in order to better serve the HIV community in Delaware. Initially, a non-profit organization that facilitated statewide community collaboration and participation in the community planning process and policy development, the DHC has grown its wide array of client services to meet the ever changing needs of the HIV community. Many DHC client services were initiated to compensate for gaps in service or services other organization could not or would not provide. Today, the Consortium offers the most comprehensive continuum of care of any HIV Community Based Organization (CBO) in the state. If there is a client need, or a demonstrated gap in client services, the DHC strives to provide the service by completing diligent research and development and identifying funding sources before program implementation in order to maintain service sustainability.

Our Programs and Services:

In addition to the DHC's oldest programs of Community Planning and its Housing voucher program, the Consortium provides medical case management, emergency financial assistance, HIV & Hep C counseling and testing, a mail order condom distribution program, mental health counseling, and administrative oversight of transportation, nutritional services, re-engagement outreach, and community outreach and education.

The epidemic is not over yet. Despite the innovations in treatment, prevention and policy, HIV remains a serious health issue in Delaware.

- 3,520 people are estimated to be living with HIV in Delaware
- 100 new infections of HIV infection are reported every year
- Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men are the most affected by HIV.
- People who inject drugs are a growing and high risk population
- Populations of color, especially young African American men who have sex with men
- Transgender people are also a growing population at high risk of contracting HIV

Our Strategy:

The Delaware HIV Consortium is guided by a strategic plan that mirrors the National HIV Strategy (Appendix A), while addressing the specific needs of Delawareans living with HIV.

Thanks to new advances in HIV prevention and care, for the first time we have the medical science, knowledge and tools to end the HIV epidemic. In order to achieve health equity and end the HIV epidemic in Delaware, the Delaware HIV Consortium seeks to boldly address the social and systemic barriers to HIV treatment, care and prevention for all. Our strategy and goals will require us to implement and leverage solid solutions related to affordable housing, stigma, education, treatment, prevention and supportive systems in order to break the cycle of HIV transmission and ensure that all Delawareans living with HIV lead long, healthy lives.

Delaware HIV Consortium Strategic Priorities: 2020 - 2023

Prevent New HIV Infections:

To eliminate the spread of HIV, the DHC will:

- **Expand testing & counseling to better reach specific communities that are disproportionately affected by HIV**
- **Promote HIV awareness to all Delawareans, especially health professionals, students and people at high risk of infection**
- **Encourage and support routine opt-out testing and early intervention services**
- **Increase the use of evidence-based interventions to prevent HIV such as PrEP**
- **Connect people newly diagnosed with HIV to holistic treatment**
- **Grow the number of people served**

Reduce HIV Related Health Disparities, and Promote Health Equity:

To reduce the impact of disproportionate impact of HIV on people of color and to reduce barriers affecting health disparities, the DHC will:

- **Reduce HIV- related stigma and discrimination**
- **Encourage and train HIV positive individuals to become peer ambassadors**
- **Promote health care policies that support affordable and easy access to health care**
- **Dedicate funding and resources to help eliminate health inequities especially among people of color**
- **Engage local organizations, community leaders, stakeholders and people living with HIV to address barriers that prevent HIV testing and culturally appropriate health care**
- **Reduce HIV related stigma and discrimination**

Increase Retention in Care for People Living With HIV:

To assist people living with HIV to lead empowered and healthy lives, the DHC will:

- **Identify and re-engage people who are out of HIV care and treatment**
- **Ensure access to services that address and support the basic and immediate needs to re-enforce retention in care**
- **Reduce barriers to accessing mental health and substance abuse treatment and services**
- **Provide culturally appropriate services that address people's backgrounds, language, gender and sexual orientation**
- **Promote strategies that support long-term retention in care**
- **Provide patient oriented pro-active medical case management for all clients to ensure their retention in care and optimal health outcomes.**

Ensure Affordable & Stable Housing for People Living With HIV:

To ensure affordable, secure and safe housing, the DHC will:

- **Identify gaps in statewide affordable housing opportunities**
- **Build partnerships and collaborations to increase the supply of affordable housing**
- **Provide access to necessary housing support through housing case management**
- **Secure long-term, sustainable housing resources that ensure affordable housing opportunities and support services**

Achieve a More Coordinated Statewide Response to HIV Through Effective Community Planning:

To support a statewide effort to mobilize all parties to actively help end the epidemic, the DHC will:

- **Encourage leadership from the staff and board to implement and update the strategy as needed**
- **Integrate HIV prevention, treatment and care across health care systems, social services and government sectors**
- **Through leadership and partnerships provide reliable data to drive informed decisions, strategies and accountability.**
- **Encourage a broad base of community partners, corporations, organizations, health professionals, department of public health, consumers and stakeholders to actively participate in the planning process**
- **Lead the community process by ensuring a coordinated statewide response addresses the needs of people living with HIV in both rural and urban populations**
- **Mobilize advocates and people living with HIV to transform systems, policies and resources**
- **Identify new HIV interventions through partnerships with government, academic and community organizations**
- **Establish policies that encourage an innovative culture and recognition of evolving technologies**
- **Identify gaps in services in order to better meet client needs**

Strengthen Our Organizational Excellence:

To expand organizational efforts by being a bolder voice and by strengthening the effectiveness of the agency, the DHC will:

- **Expand staff and board of trustees to reflect the communities served in order to provide racial equity and diversity**
- **Ensure stewardship of organizational funds**
- **Increase resource development for long-term financial security**
- **Ensure organization achieves its greatest impact to education, testing, support, prevention and cure**
- **Be a bold voice for change**
- **Demonstrate flexibility to address changing client needs, new technology and interventions**
- **Provide exceptional, cost effective and culturally competent care**
- **Routinely define, monitor and evaluate the annual and long-term programmatic and financial goals**

Executive Summary:

The Delaware Consortium is committed to implementing and fulfilling the agency's strategic plan and goals for 2020-2023 by adhering to the organizational Vision, Mission and Core Values. The DHC will achieve this strategy and goals by honoring its Core Values of Accountability, Collaboration, Empowerment, Excellence, Integrity, Respect, Stewardship and Teamwork. Furthermore, the DHC will promote and foster the expertise, pride and fulfillment of its workforce and volunteers by cultivating and sustaining a board of trustees dedicated to developing and implementing cutting edge direct client services that assist in achieving optimal health outcomes for Delawareans living with HIV.

NATIONAL HIV/AIDS STRATEGY: UPDATED TO 2020

5 MAJOR CHANGES SINCE 2010

Since the first National HIV/AIDS Strategy was released in 2010, major advances have transformed how we respond to HIV, provided new tools to prevent new infections, and improved access to care. With a vision for the next five years, our National HIV/AIDS Strategy has been updated to leverage these achievements and look ahead to 2020.

Our prevention toolkit has expanded.

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

A daily pill to prevent HIV.

When taken consistently, can reduce the risk of HIV by up to

92%

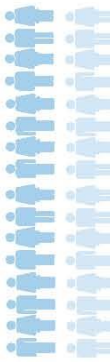
Treatment as Prevention

The risk of transmitting HIV is reduced by

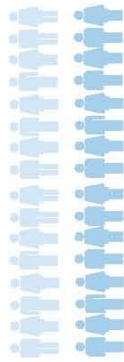
96%

in those who start treatment early.

The Affordable Care Act has transformed health care access.



Millions more individuals now have **affordable, quality health coverage.**



There is **no denial of coverage for pre-existing conditions, like HIV.**

Preventive services, including HIV testing, are covered without co-pays.

Protections against sex or disability discrimination in health care.

HIV testing and treatment are recommended.

Federal Guidelines now recommend **routine HIV screening** for people aged

15 TO 65



CDC updated recommendations for HIV testing to help labs **detect infections earlier.**

Federal HIV treatment guidelines now recommend **antiretroviral therapy for all people living with HIV.**



Improving HIV Care Continuum outcomes is a priority.

President Obama's **HIV Care Continuum Initiative** directed Federal departments to increase the number of people with HIV who are:

- +** **diagnosed** with HIV
- 🔗** **linked** to HIV care
- 🏠** **retained** in HIV care
- 👓** **prescribed** HIV treatment
- 💙** **virally suppressed** (having very low levels of HIV in their body).



Research is unlocking new knowledge and tools.

- Evidence that **starting HIV treatment early** lowers the risk of developing AIDS or other serious illnesses
- New **HIV testing technologies**, including new diagnostic tests
- New **HIV medications** with fewer side effects, less frequent dosing, and a lower risk of drug resistance
- Continued investigation** of long-acting drugs for HIV treatment and prevention, an HIV vaccine, and, ultimately, a cure.

