

**NEWARK ELIGIBLE METROPOLITAN AREA (EMA)
HIV HEALTH SERVICES PLANNING COUNCIL**



**PRIORITY SETTING AND
RESOURCE ALLOCATION
(PSRA) REPORT**

FY 2018

(March 1, 2018 - February 28, 2019)

Approved by the Comprehensive Planning Committee: September 8, 2017
Approved by the Planning Council: September 20, 2017

INTRODUCTION

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimated in 2015 that more than 1.2 million people were living with HIV in the United States (U.S.) and one (1) in seven (7) (14 percent) are not aware of their HIV status. The ultimate goal in the U.S. is to inform all people who test positive for HIV of their status and bring them into care in order to improve their health status, prolong their lives, and slow the spread of HIV to end the epidemic in the U.S.¹

The National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) has four primary goals: 1) reducing the number of people who become infected with HIV, 2) increasing access to care and optimizing health outcomes for people living with HIV, 3) reducing HIV-related health disparities and 4) achieving a more coordinated national response to the HIV epidemic.

The NHAS states that more must be done to ensure that new prevention methods are identified and that prevention resources are more strategically deployed. Further, the NHAS recognizes the importance of getting people with HIV into care early after infection to protect their health and reduce their potential of transmitting the virus to others. HIV disproportionately affects people who have less access to prevention and treatment services and, as a result, often have poorer health outcomes. Therefore, the NHAS advocates adopting community-level approaches to reduce HIV infection in high-risk communities and reduce stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV.

To ensure success, the NHAS requires the Federal government and State, tribal and local governments to increase collaboration, efficiency, and innovation. Therefore, to the extent possible, Ryan White HIV/AIDS program activities should strive to support the four primary goals of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy. The Early Identification of Individuals with HIV/AIDS is a Federal initiative which currently supports the NHAS.

The Newark EMA developed an Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan to address goals set forth in the NHAS 2020. The plan is to assist the Planning Council and Recipient with identifying ways to measure progress toward goals and objectives, selecting strategies for collecting information; and analyzing information to make informed decisions to improve HIV prevention, care and treatment efforts within the EMA.

In accordance with the NHAS 2020, the Newark EMA has created six goals that have been included in its Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan: 1) reduce new infection through health literacy activities to R.W. Clients, 2) link 90% of newly diagnosed to care within 30 days (blood work and/or medical visits), 3) decrease gap in medical visits to 10% EMA wide, 4) increase viral load suppression to 80% EMA wide, 5) increase prescription of ARV to 96% EMA wide, and 6) coordinate NEMA located care and treatment and prevention services annually. All goals are to be accomplished by 2021.

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program is the largest Federal program focused exclusively on HIV/AIDS care. The program is for individuals living with HIV/AIDS who have no health insurance (public or private), have insufficient health care coverage, or lack financial resources to get the care they need for their HIV disease. As such, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program fills gaps in care not covered by other funding sources.

The legislation is called the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009 (RWTEA). Part A of the RWTEA provides emergency assistance to Eligible Metropolitan Areas (EMAs) that are most severely affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The Newark EMA is one of 24 EMAs nation-wide. Part A funds are used to develop or enhance access to a comprehensive continuum of high quality, community-based care for individuals with HIV disease. The RWTEA is intended to help communities and states increase the availability of primary medical care and support services, in order to reduce

¹ HRSA HAB. FY 2018 Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A Notice of Funding Opportunity

utilization of more costly inpatient care, increase access to care for under-served populations, and improve the quality of life for those affected by the HIV epidemic.

This report is respectfully submitted by the Newark EMA HIV Health Services Planning Council in fulfillment of its legislative requirement under the RWTEA. The following document summarizes the priorities for the allocation of RWTEA funds within the Newark EMA - all municipalities within Essex, Morris, Sussex, Union and Warren counties. The document also provides guidance to the Recipient as they select service providers and administer contracts. The Planning Council and its **Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC)** examined epidemiological data, service utilization data, spending data, the range of non-Ryan White Part A funding sources for services utilized by PLWHA, findings and recommendations from the Council's 2017 Needs Assessment Update, 2016 Update, and the 2015 Needs Assessment, the newly developed **2017-2021 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan**, and Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need (SCSN), and input from the Planning Council's three standing committees and consumers in planning for the continuum of HIV care in the Newark EMA.

DIRECTION FOR HIV SERVICES IN FY 2018

The "Core Services Model" of care was introduced in the *2004-2006 Comprehensive Health Plan* and adopted by the Planning Council. The Model has been updated for **FY 2018** and is depicted on the following page. The eight "core" services are:

1. Early Intervention Services
2. Primary Medical Care
3. Oral Health Care
4. Mental Health Services
5. Medical Nutrition Therapy
6. Medical Case Management
7. Substance Abuse Services (Outpatient)
8. Health Insurance Premium and Cost-Sharing Assistance

IMPACT OF HIV ON RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITIES IN THE EMA

The 2017 Newark EMA Epidemiological Profile showed the **high prevalence of HIV among Black/African American PLWHA, and also Hispanic/Latino PLWHA, in all geographic areas in the EMA** compared to the State of New Jersey (which is also disproportionately impacted). In addition to overall Part A funding, the Planning Council recommends that funding from the **FY 2018 Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI)** to service agencies should reflect these prevalence rates and help target the needs of these populations throughout the EMA.

FY 2018 CORE SERVICES MODEL



EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH HIV/AIDS (EIIHA)

Early Identification of Individuals with HIV/AIDS (EIIHA) is the identifying, counseling, testing, informing, and referring of diagnosed and undiagnosed individuals to appropriate services, as well as linking newly diagnosed HIV positive individuals to medical care.

The goals of this initiative are to: 1) increase the number of individuals who are aware of their HIV status, 2) increase the number of HIV positive individuals who are in medical care, and 3) increase the number of HIV negative individuals referred to services that contribute to keeping them HIV negative.

UNMET NEED

Unmet Need for Health Services, also referred to as unmet need, is the need for HIV related Health Services by individuals with HIV who are aware of their HIV status, but are not receiving regular primary health care.

MINORITY AIDS INITIATIVE (MAI)

For FY 2018, the Planning Council has prioritized core medical and support services to ensure that health issues of minority PLWHA are adequately addressed in addition to Part A funding. The Council **ranked the 16 prioritized service categories for MAI funding** and recommends that these be funded in priority order based on available funds, with the understanding that new needs or funding gaps may warrant funding outside of order of these priorities.

MAI Service Priorities- FY 2018	
MAI Priority Ranking	Service Categories
1	Medical Case Management
2	Primary Medical Care
3	Housing Services
4	Early Intervention Services
5	Case Management Services (Non-Medical)
6	Medical Transportation Services
7	Emergency Financial Assistance
8	Mental Health Services
9	Substance Abuse Services (Outpatient)
10	Substance Abuse Services (Residential)
11	Food Bank/Home-Delivered Meals
12	Other Professional Services
13	Oral Health Care
14	Medical Nutrition Therapy
15	Psycho Social Support Services
16	Health Insurance Premium and Cost-Sharing Assistance

The funds must target the minority community including African-American and Hispanic women, infants, children and youth.

RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS – GEOGRAPHICAL NEEDS AND PARITY

An important goal of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funding allocations among service priorities is to ensure access to services throughout the EMA. Allocations for the EMA reflect needs of PLWHA and historically underserved populations within the EMA's geographical areas – counties and regions. The counties/regions work collaboratively to develop resource allocations for the EMA as a whole with special consideration for their respective areas. These allocations are then weighted according to the percentage of PLWHA in each region based on HIV surveillance data from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) to determine the EMA's final resource allocations. For FY 2018, weighted allocations are based on HIV surveillance data reported through 12/31/16 as outlined in the December 31, 2016 NJ HIV/AIDS report.

<http://www.nj.gov/health/hivstdtb/hiv-aids/statmap.shtml>

Region	# PLWHA	% PLWHA
Essex County	9,578	70.1%
Union County	2,872	21.0%
Morris, Sussex, Warren Counties	Morris: 862 Sussex: 172 Warren: 188	8.9%
Total	13,672	100%

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

The allocation of the FY 2018 Ryan White Part A dollars (formula and supplemental dollars) received by the Newark EMA will be made according to the following distribution.

Category	Percentage
Recipient Administration	10.0%
Quality Management ²	5.0%
Direct Care, Treatment and Support Services	<u>85.0%</u>
Total	100.0%

Recipient Administration will include Planning Council functions, CHAMP and Program Support which are NEMA-wide services; that is, they serve all five of the counties in the Newark EMA and are funded directly from the original grant before dollars are distributed regionally.

The dollars for Direct Care, Treatment and Support Services; 85.0% of the entire Ryan White Part A will be distributed as follows, with the allocation for Morris, Sussex and Warren region not less than 8.9% of the EMA total.

Regions	% of all care, treatment and support dollars
Essex County + Morris, Sussex, Warren Counties (not less than 8.9% of the EMA total) + Union County (not less than 21.0% of the EMA total)	100%
Total	100%

DIRECT CARE, TREATMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES: DEFINITIONS

The following is a listing of the HRSA HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) Part A service category definitions which have been prioritized by the Newark EMA HIV Health Services Planning Council. These definitions must be used by the Recipient (City of Newark's Ryan White Unit in applying for funding and in making decisions about the disbursement of funds and by sub-recipients (agencies) in providing services to PLWHA. These definitions allow for the flexibility required to accommodate the wide range of foreseeable and unforeseeable care, treatment and support services that may be proposed. There is no intention to force innovative programs to artificially fit into a service category or categories. Program management and Recipient reimbursement/monitoring should ensure the design and implementation of programs that are high quality, appropriate, accessible and meet consumers need despite crossing a number of service categories.

² Section 2604(h)(5) of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program legislation requires that the chief elected official (CEO) of a Part A eligible metropolitan area/transitional grant area (EMA/TGA): "shall provide for the establishment of a clinical quality management program to assess the extent to which HIV health services provided to patients under the grant are consistent with the most recent Public Health Service (PHS) guidelines for the treatment of HIV/AIDS and related opportunistic infection and, as applicable, to develop strategies for ensuring that such services are consistent with the guidelines for improvement in the access to and quality of HIV health services." Section 2604(h) (5) also provides for funding of clinical quality management activities. It states that, in addition to the 5 percent of funding allocated for administrative costs, the EMA/TGA may use for clinical quality management activities not more than the lesser of "5 percent of amounts received under the grant; or \$3,000,000.

SERVICE CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

CORE MEDICAL SERVICES (8)

PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE (OUTPATIENT/AMBULATORY MEDICAL CARE)

Provision of professional diagnostic and therapeutic services directly to a client by a physician, physician assistant, clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, or other health care professional certified in his or her jurisdiction to prescribe antiretroviral (ARV) therapy in an outpatient setting. These settings include clinics, medical offices, and mobile vans where clients generally do not stay overnight. Emergency room services are not considered outpatient settings. Services include diagnostic testing, early intervention and risk assessment, preventive care and screening, practitioner examination, medical history taking, diagnosis and treatment of common physical and mental conditions, prescribing and managing medication therapy, education and counseling on health issues, well-baby care, continuing care and management of chronic conditions, and referral to and provision of specialty care (includes all medical subspecialties). Primary medical care for the treatment of HIV infection includes the provision of care that is consistent with DHHS guidelines. Such care must include access to ARV and other drug therapies, including prophylaxis and treatment of opportunistic infections and combination ARV therapies.

EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES (EIS)

Counseling individuals with respect to HIV/AIDS; testing (including tests to confirm the presence of the disease, to diagnose the extent of immune deficiency, and to provide information on appropriate therapeutic measures); referrals; other clinical and diagnostic services regarding HIV/AIDS; periodic medical evaluations for individuals with HIV/AIDS; and provision of therapeutic measures.

ORAL HEALTH CARE

Diagnostic, preventive, and therapeutic services provided by a dental health care professional licensed to provide health care in the State or jurisdiction, including general dental practitioners, dental specialists, and dental hygienists, as well as licensed and trained dental assistants.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental Health Services are psychological and psychiatric treatment and counseling services for individuals with a diagnosed mental illness. They are conducted in a group or individual setting, and provided by a mental health professional licensed or authorized within the State to render such services. Such professionals typically include psychiatrists, psychologists, and licensed clinical social workers. Mental Health Services provided to HIV-affected clients should be reported as psychosocial support services.

MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY

Medical nutrition therapy including nutritional supplements is provided by a licensed registered dietitian outside of a primary care visit. The provision of food may be provided pursuant to a physician's recommendation and a nutritional plan developed by a licensed, registered dietician.

Nutritional counseling services and nutritional supplements not provided by a licensed, registered dietician shall be considered a support service and be reported under psychosocial support services and food bank/home delivered meals respectively. Food not provided pursuant to a physician's recommendation and a nutritional plan developed by a licensed, registered dietician also shall be considered a support service and is reported under food bank/home delivered meals.

MEDICAL CASE MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING TREATMENT ADHERENCE)

Medical case management services are a range of client-centered services that link clients with health care, psychosocial, and other services provided by trained professionals, including both medically credentialed and other health care staff. The coordination and follow up of medical treatments are a component of medical case management. These services ensure timely and coordinated access to medically appropriate levels of health and support services and continuity of care through ongoing assessment of the client and other key family members' needs and personal support systems. Medical Case Managers must meet Newark EMA Standards of Care.

Medical case management includes the provision of treatment adherence counseling to ensure readiness for, and adherence to, complex HIV/AIDS treatment.

Key activities include: (1) initial assessment of service needs; (2) development of a comprehensive, individualized service plan; (3) coordination of services required to implement the plan; (4) client monitoring to assess the efficacy of the plan; and (5) periodic reevaluation and adaptation of the plan, at least every 6 months, as necessary over the life of the client. It includes client-specific advocacy and review of utilization of services. This includes all types of case management, including face-to-face, telephone, and any other forms of communication.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES (OUTPATIENT)

Substance abuse services (outpatient) are medical or other treatment and/or counseling to address substance abuse problems (i.e., alcohol and/or legal and illegal drugs) in an outpatient setting by a physician or under the supervision of a physician, or by other qualified personnel. They include limited support of acupuncture services to HIV-positive clients provided the client has received a written referral from his or her primary health care provider and the service is provided by certified or licensed practitioners and/or programs, wherever State certification or licensure exists.

HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM AND COST-SHARING ASSISTANCE

Also referred to as Health Insurance Program (HIP), is the provision of financial assistance for eligible individuals living with HIV to maintain continuity of health insurance or to receive medical benefits under a health insurance program. This includes premium payments, risk pools, co-payments, and deductibles.

SERVICE CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

SUPPORT SERVICES (7)

CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES (NON-MEDICAL)

Case management services include advice and assistance in obtaining medical, social, community, legal, financial, and other needed services. Non-medical case management does not involve coordination and follow-up of medical treatments.

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (EFA)

The provision of one-time or short-term payments to agencies or the establishment of voucher programs when other resources are not available to help with emergency expenses related to essential utilities, housing, food (including groceries, food vouchers, and food stamps), transportation, and medication. It is expected that all other sources of funding in the community for emergency assistance will be effectively used and that any allocation of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funds for these purposes will be the payer-of-last-resort, and for limited amounts, limited use and limited periods of time.

FOOD BANK/HOME-DELIVERED MEALS

The provision of actual food or meals. It does not include finances to purchase food or meals, but may include vouchers to purchase food. The provision of essential household supplies, such as hygiene items and household cleaning supplies also should be included in this item. The provision of food and/or nutritional supplements by someone other than a registered dietician should be included in this item as well.

Food vouchers provided as an ongoing service to a client should be reported in this service category. Food vouchers provided on a one-time or intermittent basis should be reported in the Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) category.

HOUSING SERVICES

Short-term assistance to support emergency, temporary, or transitional housing to enable an individual or family to gain or maintain medical care. Housing-related referral services include assessment, search, placement, advocacy, and the fees associated with them. Eligible housing can include both housing that provides some type of medical or supportive services (such as residential substance abuse or mental health services, residential foster care, or assisted living residential services) and housing that does not provide direct medical or supportive services but is essential for an individual or family to gain or maintain access to and compliance with HIV-related medical care and treatment.

NOTE: (1) Housing funds cannot be in the form of direct cash payments to recipients for services and cannot be used for mortgage payments. (2) Short-term or emergency assistance is understood as transitional in nature and for the purposes of moving and maintaining an individual or family in a long-term, stable living situation. Therefore, such assistance cannot be permanent and must be accompanied by a strategy to identify, relocate, and/or ensure the individual or family is moved to, or capable of maintaining, a long-term, stable living situation.

MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Conveyance services provided, directly or through a voucher, to a client to enable him or her to access health care services.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES (RESIDENTIAL)

Treatment to address substance abuse problems (including alcohol and/or legal and illegal drugs) in a residential health service setting (short-term care). They include limited support of acupuncture services to HIV-positive clients provided the client has received a written referral from his or her primary health care provider and the service is provided by certified or licensed practitioners and/or programs, wherever State certification or licensure exists.

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Support and counseling activities, child abuse and neglect counseling, HIV support groups, pastoral care, caregiver support, and bereavement counseling. Nutrition counseling services provided by a non-registered dietitian are reported in this service category.

Note: Nutritional services and nutritional supplements provided by a licensed, registered dietician are considered a core medical service and should be reported as Medical Nutrition Therapy. The provision of good and/or nutritional supplements by someone other than a registered dietitian should be reported in the Foodbank/home delivered meals service category.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Provision of professional and consultant services rendered by members of particular professions licensed and/or qualified to offer such services by local governing authorities. Such services may include and are not limited to: legal services permanency planning and income tax preparation services.

DIRECT CARE, TREATMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES FY 2018 RESOURCE ALLOCATION FOR CONTRACTING

PRIORITY SETTING RANKING	SERVICE CATEGORIES	COMPARISON		
		FY 2018 ALLOCATION NEMA-WIDE	FY 2017 FINAL ALLOCATION NEMA-WIDE	CHANGE FROM FY 2017
1	Medical Case Management	32.90%	31.20%	+1.70%
2	Primary Medical Care	16.00%	16.00%	0%
3	Housing Services	8.00%	9.00%	-1.0%
4	Early Intervention Services	0.50%	0.50%	0%
5	Case Management Services (Non-Medical)	6.60%	6.50%	+0.1%
6	Medical Transportation Services	2.55%	2.55%	0%
7	Emergency Financial Assistance	1.75%	0.75%	+1.0%
8	Mental Health Services	9.90%	9.90%	0%
9	Substance Abuse Services (Outpatient)	7.00%	7.70%	-0.70%
10	Substance Abuse Services (Residential)	1.35%	1.35%	0%
11	Food Bank/Home-Delivered Meals	1.50%	1.60%	-0.10%
12	Other Professional Services	2.95%	2.95%	0%
13	Oral Health Care	7.00%	7.00%	0%
14	Medical Nutrition Therapy	1.20%	1.20%	0%
15	Psycho Social Support Services	0.30%	0.30%	0%
16	Health Insurance Premium and Cost-Sharing Assistance	0.50%	1.50%	-1.0%
	TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	

ALLOCATION GUIDANCE

An ongoing dialogue between the Recipient and Planning Council is always important; Sharing information is essential to enable the Recipient and Planning Council to work together to establish the ideal continuum of HIV care in the Newark EMA. The following is the guidance for the allocation of all Part A funds awarded to the Newark EMA (formula and supplemental funds) and Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) funds:

- **Unexpended funds:** If money is under-expended in any service category, due to insufficient service capacity or a lack of service providers, the Recipient is instructed to fund higher priority services within the county first, a neighboring county secondly, and lastly EMA wide.
- **Range:** The Recipient is expected to fund all service categories under direct care, treatment and support services as closely to the aforementioned percentages as possible. The Planning Council must be notified in the event that the Recipient is unable to expend a specific service category within a range of **(+/-25%)** of the Planning Council's priority percentage. An agreement between the Planning Council's Executive Committee and the Recipient must be reached before any funds are used to purchase services beyond this range. The Executive Committee will meet within two business days of a request from the Recipient.

The **(+/-25%)** is in respect to each and every line. For example, if "medical case management" is given a priority percentage of 15%, and that percentage equates to \$360,000, the Recipient is expected to spend \$360,000 but, under extraordinary conditions, may spend as little as 11.25% (\$270,000) or as much as 18.75% (\$450,000) of the direct care, treatment and support services dollars for "medical case management" without notifying the Planning Council.

- **NEMA-wide division of dollars:** In the initial allocation, the dollars for Direct Care, Treatment and Support Services (85% of the entire Ryan White Part A funding) will be distributed as follows:
The Recipient is advised that the allocation for the Morris, Sussex and Warren region shall not equal less than 8.9% of the EMA total allocation, the allocation for Union shall not equal less than 21.0% of the EMA total allocation and the allocation for Essex shall not equal less than 70.1%. All allocations are expected to be on target.
- **Allocation versus Re-allocation:** This Allocation Guidance is expected to be adhered to during the initial allocation of Part A dollars (March 1, 2018). This report is also expected to provide the Recipient with guidance through the first nine months of the fiscal year. In allocating any unexpended funds during the final quarter, it is understood that the Recipient will follow this report to the best of its ability and consultation with the Planning Council will not be necessary.