**Division of HIV Updates for July Meeting**

**Division Updates:**

* The Division has been looking into the utilization of digital platforms to reach and engage with people at risk or with a diagnosis of HIV through Clinician offices and health care provider networks. Division staff have been meeting with Health Monitor Network which is a content company at the point of care content with an emphasis on brand building, patient empowerment and informational channels for caregivers and physicians​ through world-class omnichannel content solutions ​that inform, educate and improve health outcomes.​ The Division is currently in the planning stages of this initiative but hope further updates on the progress of this project in the coming months.
* Division staff are continuing to meet monthly with all seven Regional Grantees to discuss the Harm Reduction Vending Machine project. Regions are continuing to move forward with this initiative as they have been working with vendors as well as providers to determine best fit and location for vending machines.
* We are also working with the DOH’s COVID-19 Response Team on a possible collaboration in an effort to expedite the implementation of vending machines into the community.
* PSU has also continued to provide updates on their machines that were implemented in Harrisburg and Reading. These machines are showing great success with feedback being overwhelmingly positive. Additional information on the Reading machine can be found at this link [‘Health To Go’ interactive vending machine launches in Berks County - Penn State Health News](https://pennstatehealthnews.org/2024/07/health-to-go-interactive-vending-machine-launches-in-berks-county/).

**Care Program:**

* HRSA HAB released a new program letter that provides guidance regarding how Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) funds may be used to provide expungement services for people with HIV who have had legal system involvement. The expungement of criminal records is an effective way to remove barriers to care and services, protect privacy, mitigate stigma, and support successful reentry into the community. This information has been provided to our Ryan White Providers as well as prevention providers for awareness.
* The Division just received final Communications approval for the updated Case Management and Program Standards. Final updates are being made based on internal feedback and these will be distributed as soon as we are able.
* The annual Progress Report documents were submitted to HRSA at the end of June. The Progress Report provides information on the services provided, people served, and grant funds expended during FY 2023. Once HRSA has approved our submission, the Division will be available to present on this report at an upcoming HPG meeting.

**Housing Opportunities for People living with AIDS (HOPWA):**

* The HOPWA Institute has been announced by HUD. The mandatory conference will take place October 20-232, 2024. HUD is requiring most grantees and sub-grantees to send three individuals.

**Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program (SPBP):**

* Remaining 2024 SPBP Advisory Council meeting dates:
  + - Thursday, July 25, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (teleconference)
    - Thursday, October 24, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (in-person – Penn Harris Hotel)
* Please welcome Jacqueline Brenner to the HIV Care Section. Jacqui will be working with SPBP and the Customer Service Line.
* The annual ADAP Data Report (ADR) for SPBP was submitted to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) on May 30, 2024. Upon acceptance by HRSA, the Division is available to present on this report at an upcoming HPG meeting.
* Some SPBP clients have encountered an eligibility error when applying for SPBP after being disenrolled from Medicaid. This issue was due to a system issue within the Medicaid system in which the individual was shown as still having prescription coverage through Medicaid, even though they do not. The data issue should be fixed with the next major update to Medicaid’s system in September 2024. If there are any individuals impacted by this when attempting to apply to SPBP, please call our customer service team at 800-922-9384 and an exception will be entered to bypass the data issue. SPBP is also manually reviewing all applications denied for MA enrollment to determine if coverage has actually ended or not.

**Monitoring & Evaluation:**

* M&E has completed PennWest’s monitoring and up next is North Central District Allied Connections (NCDAC) in July and Division of HIV Health (Philly) in August.

**Prevention Program:**

* Personal lubricant is now back in stock as of July 10. Please order through the “condom order form”.
* Please visit Capacity Building and Training | StopHIV.com for the updated Capacity Building calendar. If you need additional technical assistance, please reach out to Kendra Parry at [c-kparry@pa.gov](mailto:c-kparry@pa.gov).
* The Division will participate in a pilot of the “Truth About Stigma” training on July 17 and get it on the Capacity Building calendar soon after.
* REACCH, Co-County Wellness, Allentown HD and Bucks HD will be pilot providers for Status Neutral Navigation and Linkage Program (SNNLP).

**HIV Surveillance and Epidemiology:**

* The 2023 Annual HIV Surveillance Report is currently under review. We anticipate final approval will be received by end of the month or early August.
* We are conducting a statewide Laboratory Survey to assess laboratory compliance to current HIV reporting regulations.
* We recently participated in a national HIV Cluster Summit in Atlanta. The summit brought together representatives from all 50 states and major cities to share experiences and innovations. Pennsylvania was on the plenary panel and discussed about community engagement during HIV cluster response.