

October 2023

**Miami-Dade County
2022-2026 Integrated HIV
Prevention and Care Plan**

**PROGRESS
REPORT**





Introduction

In 2022, the Partnership's Joint Integrated Plan Review Team – the Strategic Planning Committee and the Prevention Committee – developed the *Miami-Dade County 2022-2026 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan*.

The Partnership approved an evaluation workgroup - the Integrated Plan Evaluation Workgroup (IPEW) - and the workgroup began meeting in January 2023. Over the course of six meetings, the workgroup refined the Plan's activities and measurements, developed an evaluation template, developed a reporting template, identified baselines, established quarterly, annual, and end of Plan (December 31, 2026) targets, and, where available, reviewed data.

The Integrated Plan is structured around the National HIV/AIDS Strategy Goals:

- Goal 1: Prevent new HIV infections.
- Goal 2: Improve HIV-related health outcomes of people with HIV.
- Goal 3: Reduce HIV-related disparities and health inequities.
- Goal 4: Achieve integrated, coordinated efforts that address the HIV epidemic among all partners and stakeholders.

The progress on Integrated Plan development and evaluation could not have been achieved without the significant efforts of members of the Partnership, its committees, and its workgroups. All members of the community are invited and encouraged to be a part of the ongoing evaluation and review of the Integrated Plan.

This report includes our “Glows and Grows” - our progress and achievements, and our challenges to date - for which we have data. It is not intended to be comprehensive of all Integrated Plan strategies and activities.

The complete Integrated Plan is available online at www.aidsnet.org, however, the goals, objectives, and strategies should be reviewed with caution, as significant changes have been made by the IPEW and continue to be under review and development.

The Integrated Plan was submitted to HRSA and CDC in December 2022. A review by HRSA and CDC indicated no deficiencies, and a follow up virtual meeting resulted in clarifying some questions about the narrative but indicated no action items for the Partnership or stakeholders to address.

Please contact hiv-aidsinfo@behavioralscience.com for more information.

Acronyms and Terminology

Refer to this page for acronyms, symbols, and terminology used throughout this report.



- Indicates activities “On Target” for the reporting period.



- Indicates we’re making progress.



- Indicates an item for discussion.

- ARVs: Antiretroviral therapy medications
- BSR: Behavioral Science Research Corp.
- CQM: Clinical Quality Management
- HCV Viral hepatitis
- HOPWA: Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS Program
- HRSA: Health Resources and Services Administration
- IPEW: Integrated Plan Evaluation Workgroup
- FDOH: Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County
- MCM: Medical Case Management or Medical Case Manager
- MSM: Men Who Have Sex with Men (refers to people)
- MMSC: Male-to-Male Sexual Contact (refers to transmission)
- NHAS: National HIV/AIDS Strategy
- OAHS: Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services
- Partnership: The Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership
- QI: Quality Improvement
- RiMC: Retention in Medical Care
- RWP: Ryan White Program
- RWP FY: Ryan White Program Fiscal Year (March 1 through February 28)
- STI: Sexually Transmitted Infection
- TTRA: Test and Treat/Rapid Access protocol
- VL: Viral Load

Integrated Plan Progress

Prevention

Increase the percentage of people living in MDC who are aware of their HIV status from the national baseline of 87% in 2019 to 90% by December 31, 2026.

Successes & Challenges



- **41** healthcare facilities committed to conducting routine opt-out HIV testing, and **33** implementing routine opt-out HIV testing, from January 2023-June 2023.
- **199** licensed clinical providers educated on routine testing (HIV, HCV, STIs), from January 2023-June 2023.
- **19,708** people tested and **1,058** people with HIV identified through routine opt-out HIV testing, from January 2023-June 2023:
 - **231**: Jackson Memorial Hospital
 - **27**: Homestead Hospital
 - **58**: Other agencies
 - **742**: EHE team



How can we engage more facilities in routine opt-out testing?

Integrated Plan Progress

Prevention

Increase the percentage of people living in MDC who are aware of their HIV status from the national baseline of 87% in 2019 to 90% by December 31, 2026.

Successes & Challenges



- **9** healthcare organizations implementing STI testing from January 2023-June 2023.
- **7** community testing partners implementing HIV/STI testing at non-traditional settings from January 2023-June 2023.



- **12,827 HIV tests integrated with HCV tests** from January 2023-June 2023:
 - **12,289:** Jackson Memorial Hospital
 - **538:** Other agencies



- **3,055 HIV tests integrated with STI tests** from January 2023-June 2023:
 - **1,642:** Homestead Hospital
 - **1,413:** Other agencies



- **4,468 STI tests** done at healthcare organizations from January 2023-June 2023:
 - **3,055:** Homestead Hospital
 - **1,413:** Other agencies



How can we expand collection of data outside EHE?

Integrated Plan Progress

Prevention

Increase the percentage of people living in MDC who are aware of their HIV status from the national baseline of 87% in 2019 to 90% by December 31, 2026.

Successes & Challenges



- **398** people who received one or more HIV self-test kits from January 2023-June 2023.
- **84** people who confirmed taking the test from January 2023-June 2023.



How can we increase the use of home HIV self-testing kits as an alternative option for HIV testing?

Integrated Plan Progress

Prevention

Increase the number of free condoms distributed from 1,929,715 in 2021 to 2,026,200 by December 31, 2026.

Successes & Challenges



- **1,235,837** condoms distributed from January 2023-June 2023.
- **35** Business Responds to AIDS (BRTA) sites established from January 2023-June 2023.



How can we increase the number of condom distribution sites across the jurisdiction?

Integrated Plan Progress

Prevention



Ongoing Activities



- Maintain the number of infants born with HIV in Miami-Dade County each year at zero (0).
- Increase the percentage of persons screened for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) who are prescribed PrEP from 53% in 2021 to 75% by December 31, 2026.
- Increase the number of agencies offering nPEP (Non-occupational Post-Exposure Prophylaxis) in the community from 7 in 2021 to 10 by December 31, 2026.
- Support the local Syringe Service Program (SSP) – locally, the Infectious Disease Elimination Act (IDEA Exchange) – and ensure access to harm reduction services.
- Increase the number of advertisement types to expand culturally appropriate messaging concerning HIV prevention, testing, and treatment from four (4) in 2021, to six (6) by December 31, 2026.
- Improve HIV prevention and testing efforts toward youth (ages 13-18 and 19-24) who are at risk of or living with HIV.

Integrated Plan Progress

Linkage to Care

Increase the percentage of newly diagnosed persons with HIV who are linked to care through initial TTRA within seven (7) days, from 68% in 2021 to 80% by December 31, 2026.

Successes & Challenges



- **30** new testing sites were established by FDOH as of June 30, 2023.
- **123** people were newly diagnosed with HIV and entered RWP care through the TTRA protocol from January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023.
 - On target to add **246** new to care clients in 2023; a 4% increase over 2022.



- **1** RWP EHE HealthTec campaign for information was disseminated to people newly diagnosed with HIV.
- **2** trilingual - English, Spanish, and Creole - brochures for RWP EHE HealthTec were designed for the RWP EHE HealthTec campaign.



How can we increase the number of people with HIV who are using EHE HealthTec mobile units?



- **314** providers were educated on TTRA from January 1, 2022 - September 1, 2023.
- **79** providers are committed to providing immediate ARVs as of September 1, 2023.



38 providers did not agree to provide TTRA but agreed to refer clients to TTRA service providers.

Integrated Plan Progress

Retention in Care

Increase the percentage of people with HIV retained in RWP MCM care from 84% in December 2022 to 95% by December 31, 2026.

Successes & Challenges



- **93%** of clients were in contact with a RWP MCM within the past 90 days as of August 31, 2023; up from 84% in RWP FY 2022.



How can increased Peer involvement in client care improve client retention and viral load suppression?



- Ensure “whole person” holistic treatment approach by MCMs through a central resource hub to expand referral options for clients.
 - **BSR:** Reformatting www.aidsnet.org to serve as a resource hub.
 - **RWP EHE:** Developing a flow chart connected to the resource hub that will assist MCM in responding to social determinants of health.

Integrated Plan Progress

Disparities in Retention in Care

Increase RWP RiMC to 90% by December 31, 2026, among priority populations.

Successes & Challenges



- All MCM and OAHS service sites report semi-annual RiMC data to BSR CQM staff, the CQM Committee, and the Recipient for disparity populations. The following was reported as of August 31, 2023:

- **Black/African American Males**

- **81%:** 2021 RiMC baseline.
- **79%:** Integrated Plan RiMC rate in August 2023, losing ground relative to the Integrated Plan baseline.
- **Five** subrecipients have Part A or MAI QI projects underway for improving RiMC among Black/African American males.
 - **> 84%:** RiMC rates reported by two subrecipients with QI projects.

- **Black/African American Females**

- **88%:** 2021 RiMC baseline.
- **78%:** Integrated Plan RiMC rate in August 2023, losing ground relative to the Integrated Plan baseline.
- **Five** subrecipients have Part A or MAI QI projects underway for improving RiMC among Black/African American females.
 - **86%:** The highest rate reported by any subrecipient with a QI project.

- **Hispanic MSM**

- **85%:** 2021 RiMC baseline.
- **84%:** Integrated Plan RiMC rate in August 2023, no significant change since 2021
- **Eight** subrecipients have Part A or MAI QI projects underway for improving RiMC among Hispanic MSM.
 - **89%:** RiMC rates reported by four subrecipients with QI projects.



Should a program-wide RiMC effort be undertaken for Black/African American males and females, rather than program-specific QI initiatives?

Integrated Plan Progress

Disparities in Viral Load Suppression

Increase RWP VL suppression rates to 90% by December 31, 2026, among priority populations.

Successes & Challenges



- All MCM and OAHS service sites report semi-annual VL suppression data to BSR CQM staff, the CQM Committee, and the Recipient for priority populations. The following was reported as of August 31, 2023:
 - **Black/African American Males**
 - **81%:** 2021 VL suppression baseline.
 - **84%:** Integrated Plan VL suppression rate in August 2023, improved over Integrated Plan baseline.
 - **Five** subrecipients have Part A or MAI QI projects underway for improving VL suppression among Black/African American males.
 - **Black/African American Females**
 - **84%:** 2021 VL suppression baseline.
 - **88%:** Integrated Plan VL suppression rate in August 2023, improved over Integrated Plan baseline.
 - **Five** subrecipients have Part A or MAI QI projects underway for improving VL suppression among Black/African American females.
 - **Haitian Males and Females**
 - **86%:** 2021 VL suppression baseline.
 - **93%:** Integrated Plan VL suppression rate in August 2023, improved over Integrated Plan baseline.
 - **Five** subrecipients have Part A or MAI QI projects underway for improving VL suppression among Haitian males and females.



Should a program-wide VL suppression effort be undertaken, rather than program-specific QI initiatives?

Integrated Plan Progress

Special Populations

Improve health outcomes for women with HIV.

Successes & Challenges



- 2 RWP subrecipients have initiated QI projects for improving RiMC and VL suppression for women in care.



- 82% of female RWP clients were retained in medical care as of August 31, 2023.
 - An increase from 80% as of the close of RWP FY 2022, and
 - Greater than the 79% overall RWP RiMC average.



- 89% of female RWP clients were virally suppressed as of August 31, 2023
 - An increase from 85% as of the close of RWP FY 2022, and
 - Greater than the 87% overall RWP VL suppression average.



- BSR: A resources and service needs survey for RWP MCM and OAHS subrecipients is being developed to determine the range of childcare needs for women in care.

Integrated Plan Progress

Special Populations

Improve health outcomes for adults over age 50 with HIV.

Successes & Challenges



- **86%** of clients over 50 in MCM care were RiMC as of August 31, 2023.
 - **Greater than the 79%** overall RWP RiMC average.



- **93%** of clients over 50 in MCM care were virally suppressed as of August 31, 2023.
 - **Greater than the 87%** overall RWP VL suppression average.



- **BSR:** The FY 2023 Client Satisfaction Survey includes an “aging community needs assessment” component to measure levels of medical co-morbidities and other co-occurring conditions among this special population.
- **The Partnership’s Community Coalition Roundtable** reviewed an Aging with HIV Survey and provided significant feedback.
- **The CQM Committee** prioritized “HIV Clients Over 50” as a special population for Quality Improvement projects.



RWP clients who are transitioning to Medicare continue to be a concern.

- ***BSR will determine whether there are MCM protocols in place for assuring clients who are 64+ years of age have a smooth transition to Medicare.***
- ***BSR will draft an MCM protocol for review by the Partnership’s Care and Treatment Committee and the Recipient.***

Integrated Plan Progress

Special Populations

Improve health outcomes for transgender people with HIV.

Successes & Challenges



- The Recipient is evaluating:
 - appropriate training in transgender sensitivity, to be provided to direct service staff (front desk personnel, MCMs, physicians), and
 - the creation of a transgender-friendly audit for RWHAP subrecipients.



How can we expand existing programs and collaborations to address the needs of transgender people with HIV?

Integrated Plan Progress

Special Populations

Improve health outcomes for homeless or unstably housed people with HIV.

Successes & Challenges



- The most recent EHE funding cycle has recommended **three subrecipients** to provide **EHE Housing Stability Services** - transitional, short-term, and emergency housing assistance - to persons with HIV, totaling **\$2,250,000**:
 - Care Resource Community Health Centers;
 - Empower U Community Health Center; and
 - Health Council of South Florida.



- The **Partnership's Housing Committee** is tasked with reorganizing to identify housing assistance **beyond HOPWA**.
 - Integrated Plan activities need to **differentiate between persons experiencing "homelessness," and persons who are "unstably housed."** Depending on the circumstances, affected persons have different needs and access to different resources. This will be an ongoing activity of the Housing Committee and the IPEW.



How can we expand existing programs and collaborations to address the needs of people with HIV experiencing homelessness or housing instability?

Integrated Plan Progress

Special Populations

Improve health outcomes for RWP MSM clients with co-occurring STIs.

Successes & Challenges



- **Data-sharing agreements** between RWHAP and ADAP and Part B have been executed to allow a fuller definition of STIs in the RWP records of clients in OAHS care.



- Client outcome data indicate **RiMC and VL suppression** outcomes for MSM with STIs are **substantially higher** than the RWHAP program averages, and in fact are **above the client outcomes for any other special population or disparity population** mentioned in the Integrated Plan.
 - **88%**: RiMC rate for RWP MSM clients with co-occurring STIs in August 2023.
 - **93%**: VL suppression rate for RWP MSM clients with co-occurring STIs in August 2023.



Should this group be removed as a “Special Population”?

Integrated Plan Progress

Stigma

Reduce HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

Successes & Challenges



- **560 RWP clients** will complete the 2023 Client Satisfaction Survey which includes questions to identify areas of stigmatizing behavior by RWP personnel.



- A survey of health care provider attitudes toward persons with HIV will address issues identified in the Client Satisfaction Survey from the perspective of MCM and OAHS providers, and these data will be used to **develop a capacity-building curriculum**. *This activity was suggested during the HRSA evaluation of the Integrated Plan.*



- The Recipient has committed to creating a **“safe space hotline”** where instances of stigmatizing behavior may be reported confidentially, without fear of retribution or breach of confidentiality.

Integrated Plan Progress

Coordinated Efforts

Develop strong community partnerships to leverage available services and funding for ongoing HIV care and treatment, and to be able to respond quickly to HIV outbreaks.

Successes & Challenges



- [The Integrated Plan Evaluation Workgroup](#) consists of representatives from FDOHC, RWP, EHE, and GR, as well as community providers, however . . .



We continue to struggle with low participation/membership by persons with HIV. What can we do to engage people with HIV?



- Presenting this report to [stakeholder groups](#) who contributed to the development of the Integrated Plan is a primary activity of BSR staff throughout the end of 2023.



How do we engage other recommended stakeholder groups, such as faith-based groups, schools, and business leaders?