

Assessment of the Ryan White Program Recipient Administrative Mechanism March 1, 2023 – February 29, 2024 Final Report

Approved by the Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership, September 16, 2024 Amended with Groupware Technologies, LLC's responses, November 1, 2024



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Introduction

The Assessment of the Recipient Administrative Mechanism (AAM) is a Ryan White Program (RWP) Part A/Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) legislative requirement and responsibility of the local Ryan White Planning Council, the Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership (Partnership). Aggregated responses are used to evaluate the performance of the Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA)'s Recipient, the Miami-Dade County Office of Management and Budget-Grants Coordination. Selected responses are included in the annual Ryan White Part A/MAI Program grant application and non-competing continuation reports. All data and reports are reviewed and published without information identifying any Partnership member or Part A/MAI subrecipient as the respondent.

The Partnership's Strategic Planning Committee reviewed this report at their September 13, 2024, meeting, including responses from the Recipient which members discussed with the Recipient at that meeting. The process of inviting the Recipient to provide comments has been ongoing and provides the opportunity for a comprehensive and thoughtful response to identified areas of concern. The Recipient shared the relevant Provide® Enterprise Miami (PE Miami) responses with Groupware Technologies, LLC and additional feedback was incorporated into this final report. The Partnership approved the draft report on September 16, 2024, with the understanding that Groupware Technologies, LLC responses would be incorporated into the final report.

This report will guide improvements in planning council administration, and will guide the Recipient in enhancements in administrative functions. The final report will be sent to all subrecipient agencies and to Partnership members.

For questions or clarification, please contact Behavioral Science Research Corp.: Robert Ladner, <u>rladner@behavioralscience.com</u>, or Christina Bontempo, <u>cbontempo@behavioralscience.com</u>.

Special thanks to all those who made this report possible: Strategic Planning Committee Members for survey design and review of this report; Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership Members and Miami-Dade County Ryan White Program Part A/MAI Subrecipients for survey responses; and the Recipient and Groupware Technologies for review and feedback.

Methodology

Data collection for the AAM was done via two Survey Monkey surveys: one administered to Partnership members; and one administered to RWP Part A/MAI subrecipients (subrecipients). While the surveys have been refined in small measures over the history of this activity, evaluative statements on this year's surveys represent a thorough review and related revision by the Strategic Planning Committee. Survey statements were formatted to allow more opportunities for feedback, including required feedback for negative responses of "Disagree" and "Strongly Disagree," and subrecipient surveys required more specific answers on contract execution in response to 2024 HRSA site visit feedback. Where previous statements have been updated, the previous statement is marked by an "*".

Both surveys were updated by the Strategic Planning Committee and drafted by Behavioral Science Research Corporation (BSR).

Survey links were sent separately to each Partnership member and subrecipient via email or text, with a URL and QR code option. Respondents were also given the option to receive a paper copy; however, no paper copies were requested. Both surveys were self-administered, and programmed so that if a respondent was unable to complete the survey in one sitting, the respondent could pause in taking the survey, save the partially completed survey, and return to it later. Both surveys allowed respondents to make comments on each question, and, as noted above, required additional comments on negative responses. A general comments field, unrelated to specific questions, was also included at the end of each survey.

THE PARTNERSHIP SURVEY

The Partnership AAM Survey was distributed via email and text on June 27, 2024, with a July 12, 2024, due date. Partnership members who are also subrecipients were instructed to complete both the Partnership and Subrecipient surveys.

The Partnership AAM Survey:

- 1. Evaluated how well the Recipient responds to the funding priorities and directives set by the Partnership;
- 2. Evaluated whether the Recipient disburses Part A and MAI funds to subrecipients in a timely manner consistent with Partnership recommendations;
- 3. Evaluated the overall performance of the Recipient and the administrative subrecipient;
- 4. Allowed for open-ended comments and suggestions for each statement;
- 5. Required respondents to "explain your concern and suggest a solution to the problem" for ratings of "Disagree" or "Strongly Disagree;" and
- 6. Included an optional general comments field, "Additional comments or suggestions regarding the Recipient, BSR, and/or other matters."

THE SUBRECIPIENT SURVEY

Subrecipient AAM Surveys were emailed directly to one or more subrecipient representatives at each subrecipient organization. Their version allowed for more than one respondent from the organization to answer, if appropriate, and to record their name(s) as co-respondents. Subrecipients who were also Partnership members were instructed to complete both the Subrecipient and the Partnership surveys.

Beginning in 2023, the choice "Not applicable" was included on all statements. Where the option was not included in previous years, the corresponding row or column is blank. In 2024, respondents were asked how many years they have been with their organization; results of this question are included in the Subrecipient Survey Results, below.

In October 2024, Groupware Technologies, LLC submitted feedback to the Data Management System responses. Those responses are incorporated here and constitute the final version of this report.

Regarding Data Management System statements:

- □ In 2019, statements are related to Automated Case Management System's (ACMS) Service Delivery Information System (SDIS), which was the data management system used during that year;
- □ In 2020, statements were removed while the ACMS data management system was in the process of being replaced by the Provide® Enterprise Miami (PE Miami) data management system; and
- □ Responses for years 2021 through 2024 are related to the PE Miami data management system.

The Subrecipient AAM Survey:

- 1. Evaluated whether the Recipient disburses Part A and Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) funds to Ryan White Program service providers (subrecipients) in a timely manner, consistent with Partnership recommendations;
- 2. Evaluated how the Recipient manages contracts with Ryan White Program Part A/MAI subrecipients;
- 3. Evaluated the overall performance of the Recipient and the contracted subrecipient for planning council staff support and clinical quality management services;
- 4. Evaluated Groupware Technologies, LLC's (GTL) Provide® Enterprise Miami (PE Miami) data management system;
- 5. Collected specific contract execution dates;
- 6. Evaluated the factors leading to delayed contract execution (if applicable);
- 7. Evaluated the impacts of delayed contract execution (if applicable);
- 8. Allowed for open-ended comments and suggestions for each statement; and
- 9. Required respondents to "explain your concern and suggest a solution to the problem" for ratings of "Disagree" or "Strongly Disagree;" and
- 10. Included an optional general comments field, "Additional comments or suggestions regarding the Recipient, BSR, PE Miami, Groupware Technologies, and/or other matters."

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF AAM RESULTS 2019-2021 AND 2023-2024

BSR has historically provided the Recipient and the Partnership a five-year longitudinal analysis of the AAM results to identify ongoing challenges, if any, and to document progress made toward improving the administrative agent's functions. This report contains data from the 2019, 2020, 2021, 2023, and 2024 AAM surveys. In 2022 (for FY 2021-2022 administrative functions), no survey was distributed because the Strategic Planning Committee, the Partnership, and the Recipient were solely focused on development of the 2022-2026 Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan, and on meeting the Plan submission deadline.

Surveys from 2019-2020 evaluated the responses of 13 subrecipients, the total number of contracted subrecipients at that time. Surveys in 2021 and 2023 evaluated the responses of 16 subrecipients. Note that Care Resource and Food for Life Network were recorded as one entry in 2021 and 2023. The survey distribution was corrected this year to 17 funded subrecipients since those two entities are funded under separate contracts. All subrecipient results are reported by percentages, separated by reporting year.

Partnership responses have varied year to year based on the number of active members on the roster. In 2024, all 15 active Partnership members completed the survey. All Partnership results are reported by percentages, separated by reporting year.

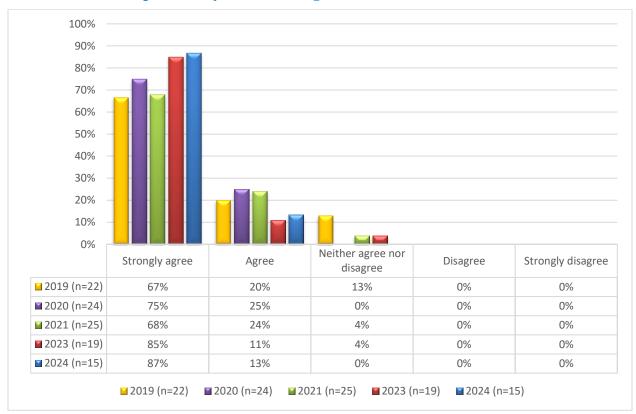
Survey questions related to the COVID-19 response were dropped in 2023 and those results are no longer being tracked.

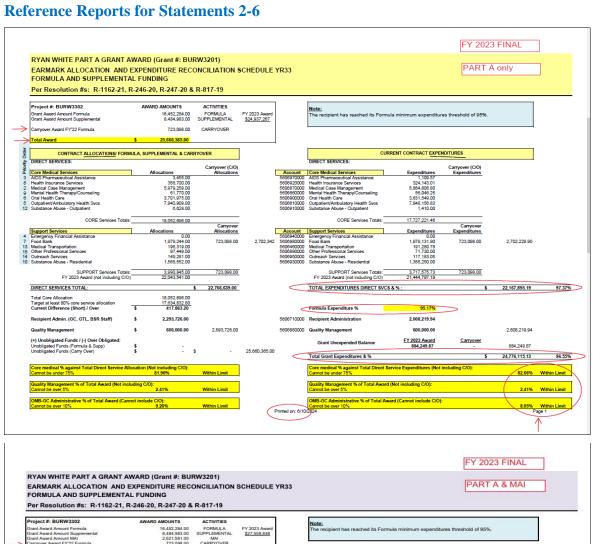
2024 PARTNERSHIP AAM SURVEY RESULTS

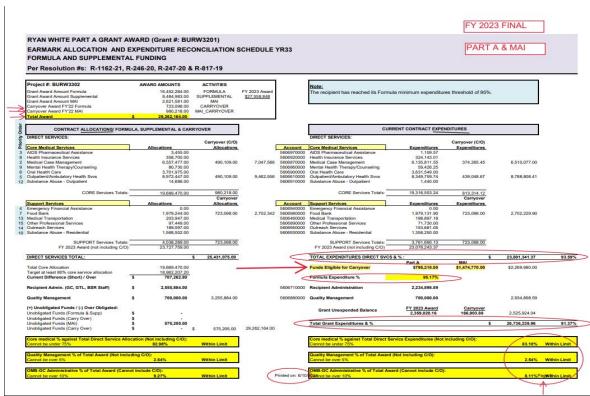
2024 GENERAL COMMENTS

- The voice of every member is at all times respected.
 - Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback! We're glad to hear that you feel respected and valued. We believe that listening to and honoring each member's voice is crucial to our collective success and well-being. If you have any suggestions on how we can continue to foster this professional and respectful environment or improve further, please let us know. Your input is always welcome and appreciated!
- Thanks for the support.
 - □ Recipient response: We appreciate the response! We strive to be supportive to planning council members and our subrecipients. If you have any suggestions on how we can continue to foster this supportive environment or improve further, please let us know. Your input is always welcome and appreciated!
- BSR always provides great information & is always very willing to help in any way possible for meetings to go smoothly. All documents needed are always ready & available on the website to review ahead of any meeting.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback! We are pleased to see that the BSR team has been prepared and helpful in advance of, during, and after meetings, as well as on various projects.
- I'm crying out for Housing. (Regarding this comment, BSR staff contacted the respondent directly.)
 - □ Recipient response: Housing resources are currently available from several sources, including but not limited to the County's Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Program. This information has been shared with the Partnership, subrecipients, and local Ryan White Program medical case management staff. We will work with BSR staff to ensure this information is prominently locatable in the resource pages for people with HIV on the Partnership's website (www.aidsnet.org).
- Always a pleasure working with Dan Wall and Carla Valle-Schwenk.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback! Our County's motto is "Delivering excellence every day!" We aim to follow that motto in all our interactions with Partnership members, clients, subrecipient staff, and the public.

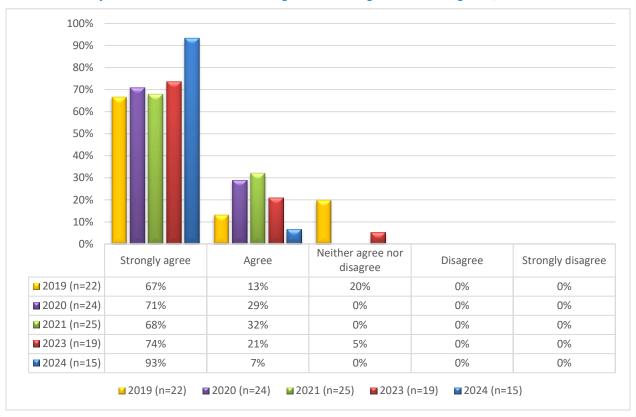
1. The Miami-Dade County Office of Management and Budget-Grants Coordination ("the Recipient") kept the Partnership well informed of policies, procedures, and updates from HRSA which impact the Ryan White Program.





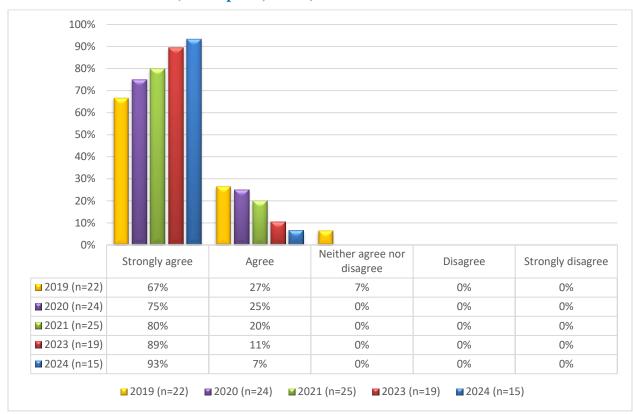


2. I understand the information presented on the Recipient's Ryan White Program Part A/Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) expenditure reports (See Reports, above).

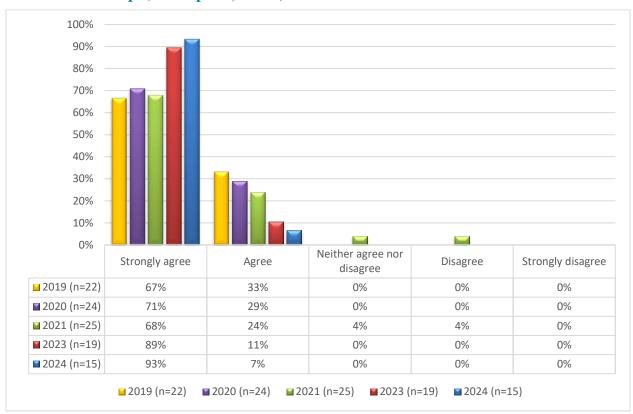


- It gives me the initiative to speak concerning funds being given.
 - □ Recipient response: We appreciate the feedback and hope the report remains useful to all members to enhance their meeting experience and involvement.
- I understand some things but not all.
 - □ Recipient response: At any time the information is not clear, please reach out to BSR staff or to Recipient staff for assistance in better understanding the information presented. We also welcome suggestions on how we can make the reports more user friendly. We also provide BSR with Top Line Summaries (highlights) of the information presented that they post on the Partnership's website (www.aidsnet.org) under meeting documents.

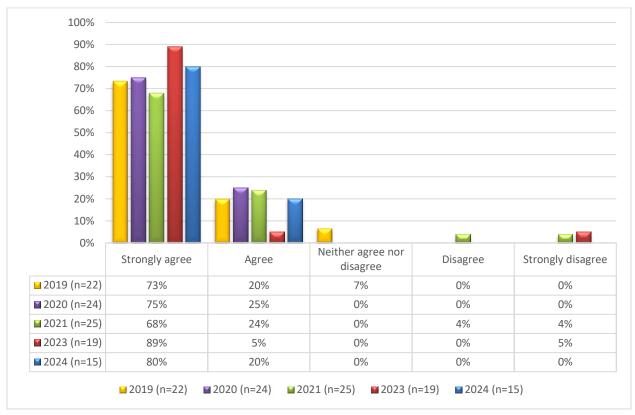
3. The Recipient followed the Partnership's recommendations for service priorities and resource allocations. (See Reports, above).



4. The Recipient effectively administered Part A/MAI funds according to priorities set by the Partnership. (See Reports, above).

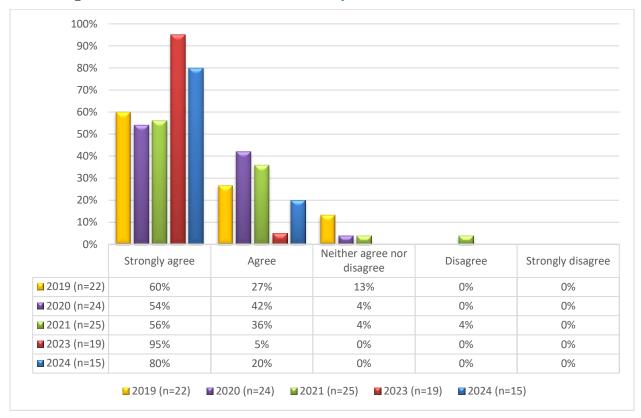


5. The Recipient communicated clearly to the Partnership on expenditure changes related to the Part A/MAI sweeps/reallocation process. (See Reports, above).



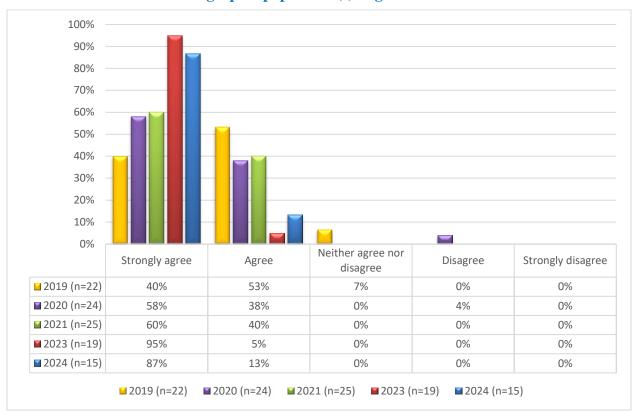
- I'm grateful knowing that My opinion counts.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback! We're glad to hear that you feel your opinions are respected and valued. Remember that everyone's input is welcome and appreciated!
- Don't understand all of this for Recipients.
 - Recipient response: Please let us know what we can do better to ensure all members understand the Reallocations/Sweeps process. This process helps our program provide quality services to address medical and supportive needs of program-eligible people with HIV in our community, while utilizing all resources within our purview and maximizing expenditures.

6. The Recipient responded to inquiries, requests, and problem-solving needs from the Partnership, including those related to the Partnership's Needs Assessment (Priority Setting and Resource Allocations)* in a timely manner.

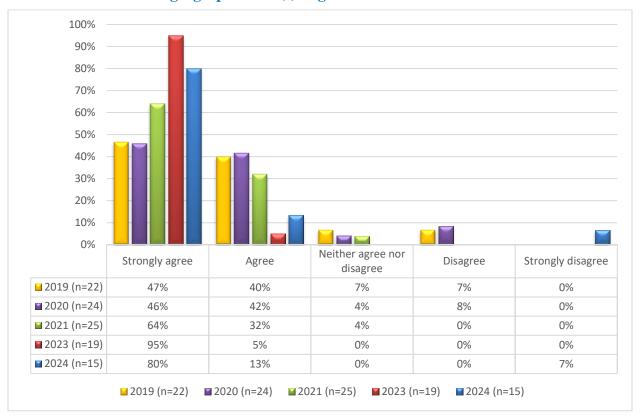


^{*} Language added in 2024.

7. Based on Needs Assessment data, HIV/AIDS services funded by Part A/MAI were directed toward the demographic population(s) of greatest need.



8. Based on Needs Assessment data, HIV/AIDS services funded by Part A/MAI were directed toward the geographic area(s) of greatest need.



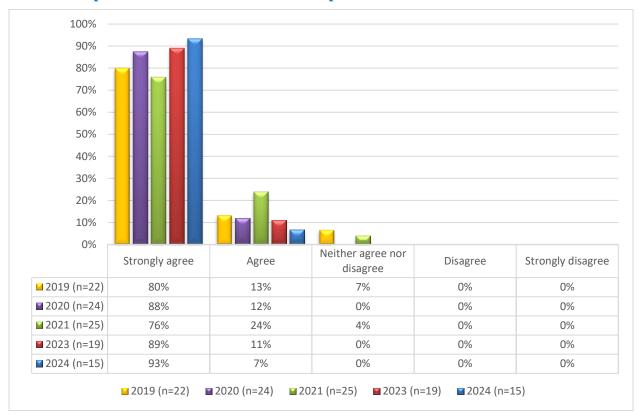
2024 COMMENTS

- The money was helpful for many people.
 - □ Recipient response: We appreciate the comment. We strive to ensure that more than 9,000 clients have access to quality care from a network of service providers (subrecipients) throughout the county.

2024 CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RATINGS OF "DISAGREE" OR "STRONGLY DISAGREE"

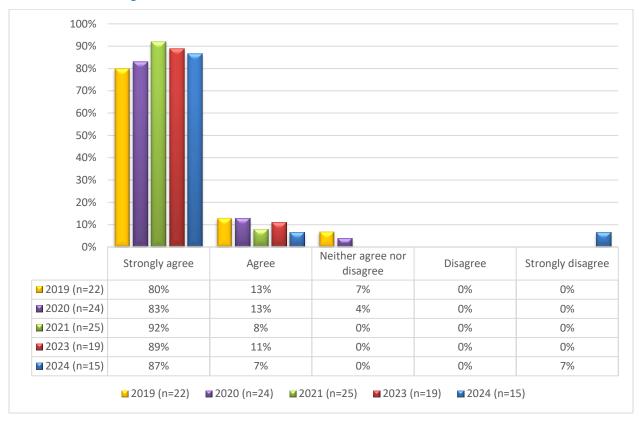
- Need to move need Help some that meets my income monthly [sic]. (Regarding this comment, BSR staff contacted the respondent directly.)
 - □ Recipient response: Local Ryan White Part A and Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Program-funded services are available to people with HIV who live in Miami-Dade County and have household income below 400% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). For example, in 2024, the income limit for a household of one person is \$60,390. Connecting with a Ryan White Program medical case management staff can assess client needs and identify what benefits programs are available to help meet those needs. For people with HIV whose income is above 400% of FPL, some health care, medication, and housing support resources are available through the County's Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) funding.

9. The Recipient's staff was courteous and respectful.



- I agree.
 - □ Recipient response: We appreciate the comment.
- Very respectful and informative.
 - □ Recipient response: We appreciate the comment.

10. Behavioral Science Research Corp. (BSR), the Recipient's HIV planning council staff support contractor, responded to inquiries, requests, and problem-solving needs from the Partnership.



2024 COMMENTS

- Everything was made clear and understandable.
 - □ Recipient response: We are pleased to see the mostly favorable responses relating to interaction between BSR, the contracted planning council staff support provider, and members of the Partnership and its committees.

2024 CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RATINGS OF "DISAGREE" OR "STRONGLY DISAGREE"

- I been going through Housing for the longest with applying for years and not being accepted going back to a back round something I had sealed in the past not being chosen waiting for years on waiting list being so patient and Humble I need Housing Please Help. (Regarding this comment, BSR staff contacted the respondent directly.)
 - □ Recipient response: We see that BSR staff has reached out to this respondent for more information or to connect this person with resources to assist with their housing needs. If information is still needed, please contact the Ryan White Program Administrator, by phone (305-375-3546) or by email (Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov).

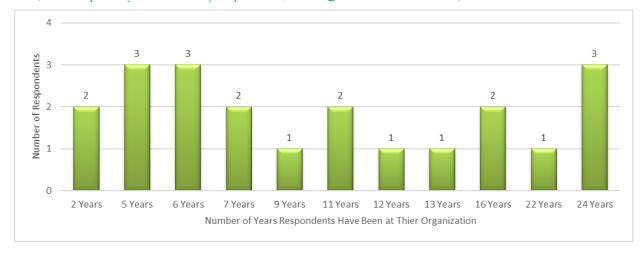
PART A/MAI SUBRECIPIENT SURVEY RESULTS

2024 GENERAL COMMENTS

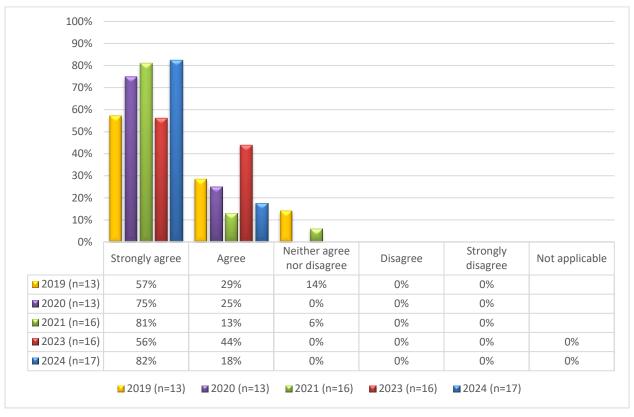
- The four entities collaborate together to ensure processes and procedures are in place in delivery of services.
 - □ Recipient response: We appreciate the comment.
- The Recipient's office is always very helpful, responsive, and easy to communicate with.
 - □ Recipient response: On behalf of our entire Recipient team, we appreciate the comment.
- I am glad to have access to a product like PE, but all systems are imperfect.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your comment. If you have suggestions to improve the PE Miami data management system, please send comments by email to Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov.
- It is often difficult to communicate with managed care plans that serve our mutual patients/clients. Perhaps the Recipient or BSR can facilitate conversations with these managed care plans so organizations have a point of contact. For managed care plans that we are not in-network with, it also difficult to substantiate payer of last resort without a relationship with that payer. This has led to services that are not billable to the Recipient. We suggest clarifying how to handle these situations to establish the Recipient as payor of last resort.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback. Please contact the Program Administrator by phone (305-375-3546) or by email (<u>Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov</u>) to provide additional context for this issue and to discuss possible next steps.
- The Recipient has a longstanding relationship with [subrecipient] and has always met expectations.
 - □ Recipient response: We appreciate the comment.
- The Recipient is always open to support the agencies, and has an open door policy. BSR is always wanting to support agencies, and understand the challenges to serve our community.
 - □ Recipient response: On behalf of our entire Recipient team and BSR staff, we appreciate the comment. In navigating the complexities of this program, it is a true partnership between our office, the planning council, subrecipients (from top level managers to front-line staff), BSR, and other stakeholders to provide quality care to our program clients. Team effort always!
- None or N/A (4 responses).

1. How many years have you been with your organization?

(Includes primary and secondary respondents; n=17. Question added in 2024.)

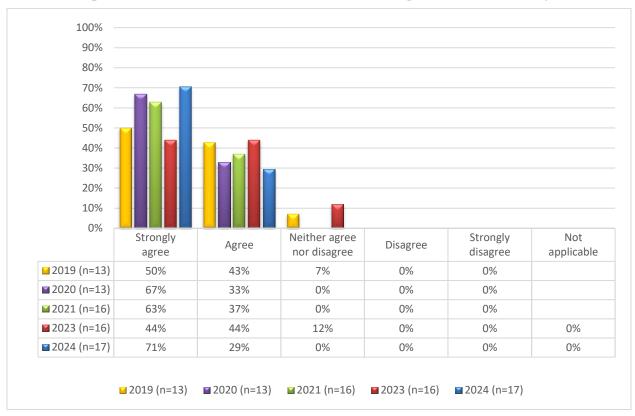


2. The Miami-Dade County Office of Management and Budget-Grants Coordination ("the Recipient") conducted a fair contract negotiation process with our organization.



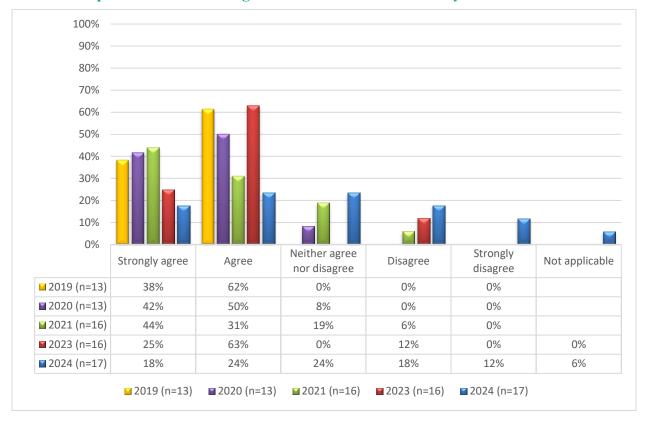
- Performs a great job to include the needs of the community to provide contracts in a fair fashion.
 - □ Recipient response: We appreciate the comment. Thank you.

3. The Recipient sent award notifications/letters to our organization in a timely manner.



- Award notifications are sent on a timely manner, maybe it would be interesting when awards are sent and documents are needed to send to the recipients a calendar invite on the deadline?
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for the suggestion. We will review the feasibility of including this recommendation in the next round of award notifications and reporting requirements.

4. The Recipient executed our organization's contract in a timely manner.



2024 COMMENTS

- Our FY23 was not executed until December 2023.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for the comment. Several competing assignments affected timely execution of contracts in FY 2023. Fourteen of 18 FY 2023 contracts were executed by October 31st; with only two executed in July. One subrecipient received their contract documents to be signed at the end of September but did not return the signed documents until January 2024, even after multiple inquiries and reminders. Please also see below.

• Much improved over previous years!

□ Recipient response: Thank you for acknowledging the improvements – streamlining internal processes, using a 100% electronic process, using templates, etc. However, we still need to do better. It is important to note that through our improvement efforts thus far, in FY 2024, 12 of 18 contracts were executed by July 31, 2024. One contract remains on hold because the agency has not passed the due diligence review. As the most needed component to ensure improvement in this area, our office anticipates hiring new staff by the end of this calendar year to focus on more timely contract development and execution for FY 2025. Until then, we will review and approve the remaining FY 2024 contracts as soon as possible.

- We appreciate the fact that the contracts are executed as timely as possible, sometimes, subrecipients delay returning documents which also delays the process. I would suggest if there is a delay as an agreement between parties, that billing and sweeps, should be re-considered and re-scheduled, otherwise this also causes confusion and additional delays.
 - Recipient response: Thank you for acknowledging the challenges. Continuing to submit monthly invoices in a timely manner, even while contract execution is pending, helps with our expenditure projections to determine if we will be able to spend down our Part A and MAI awards by the end of the grant fiscal year, as well as for determining if we have available resources to address unmet needs and service gaps. Prior year expenditure patterns are also reviewed. Before making any reductions to contract amounts, our fiscal team communicates directly with subrecipient program and fiscal staff to share recommended reduction amounts and give the subrecipient the opportunity to agree to the proposed reduction or to provide justification for another reduction amount or no reduction. Results of this analysis (in the aggregate by service category) are provided to the planning council to make decisions on reallocations/sweeps by service category and funding type to address unmet needs and service gaps.

2024 CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RATINGS OF "DISAGREE" OR "STRONGLY DISAGREE"

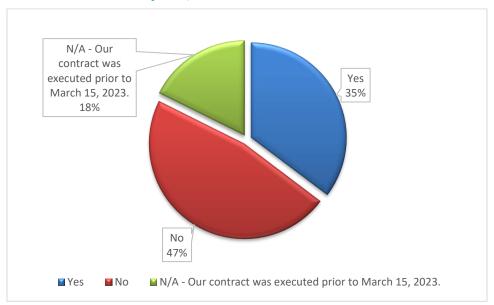
- June 10, 2024.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for the response. See also the comments above.
- For FY 2023-2024, the contract execution was completed on 07/26/2023, five months after the beginning of program services. The Recipient was open to communications and our concerns and rectified for FY 24-25.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for the response. See also the comments above.
- Our FY23 contract was not executed until December 2023. This impacted payments and our finance operations. Suggestion to execute earlier in the FY.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for the response. See also the comments above.
- "Concern" assumes too much. Municipal contracting is normally arduous.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for the comment. Unfortunately, this is indeed an arduous process. There are numerous local, state, and federal requirements to address before a contract can be approved for execution. We continuously look for ways to improve and streamline the processes.
- Contract executed far beyond fiscal year start date.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for the response. See also the comments above.

5. Please indicate the date of your FY 2023-2024 contract execution. (Question added in 2024.)

The dates submitted as answers are available for review, but are not included in this report since they did not align with the dates on record with the Recipient. The Recipient provided FY 2023 and FY 2024 contract execution dates as of August 2024, as noted in the table below. Note, there are 18 contracts indicated because this table includes the Administration/Clinical Quality Management contract, which does not count toward the survey responses.

Contract Execution Dates in Chronological Order FY 2023 and FY 2024				
#	FY 2023		#	FY 2024
1	July 26, 2023		1	April 26, 2024
2	July 26, 2023		2	May 16, 2024
3	August 8, 2023		3	May 30, 2024
4	August 16, 2023		4	June 10, 2024
5	August 16, 2023		5	June 10, 2024
6	August 25, 2023		6	June 10, 2024
7	September 13, 2023		7	June 10, 2024
8	September 13, 2023		8	July 12, 2024
9	September 13, 2023		9	July 22, 2024
10	September 13, 2023		10	July 25, 2024
11	October 19, 2023		11	July 25, 2024
12	October 26, 2023		12	August 1, 2024
13	November 21, 2023		13	August 15, 2024
14	October 16, 2023		14	August 21, 2024
15	October 20, 2023		15	Pending
16	December 22, 2023		16	Pending
17	December 26, 2023		17	Pending
18	January 26, 2024 (contract		18	Pending
	sent to agency to sign at the			
	end of September; returned			
	signed in January)			

6. For contract execution later than March 15, 2023, were there internal factors within your organization that led to delays? (Question added in 2024.)

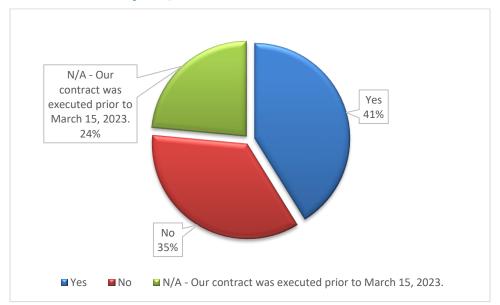


Responses as submitted are shown in this chart, however, as noted in the *Contract Execution Dates in Chronological Order* table, above, it should be noted that contract execution dates submitted by subrecipients did not match the Recipient's official record of contract execution dates. Rewording of this statement and/or further instructions may be necessary for future surveys.

7. Please explain the internal factors within your organization that led to delays of contract execution. (*Question added in 2024.*)

- Board minutes accepting contract and corporate resolution delays submission of paperwork.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. This item is needed annually. To help mitigate delays, we will include a reminder in the provisional award letter rather than waiting to request it during the due diligence review and contract execution steps.
- Trying to obtain all of the necessary documents.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.
- Due to the internal routing process for documents, everything requested was submitted 2 days after the due date.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.
- Obtaining required signatures
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.
- Close-out of fiscal year 23-24 and program site monitoring response tasks were all required around the same time as contract execution. Additionally, we had another site monitoring from another agency during this period of time.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.
- Office of Research Administration has several checks prior to executing a contract.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.

8. For contract execution later than March 15, 2023, were there external factors with the Recipient that led to delays? (Question added in 2024.)



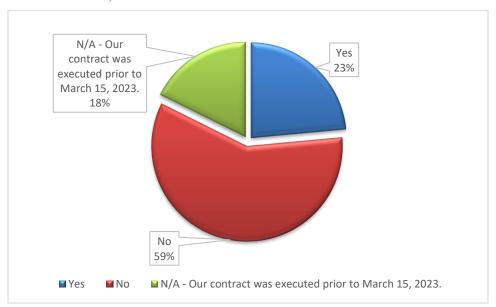
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9. Please explain the external factors with the Recipient that led to delays of contract execution. (Question added in 2024.)

- We received renewal documents via email on 9/17/2023.
 - □ Recipient response: This comment is not clear to us. Please provide additional context and clarity by email to <u>Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov</u>, or to remain anonymous please provide more detail through BSR. Thank you.
- I am able to describe, not explain, external factors. These relate to delays in obtaining approval for the allocated amounts assigned to our agency and municipal leadership signoff. Based on communications received at the time (updates) OMB seemed to be on top of their portion of the process.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.
- 1. NoA [Notice of Award] was received late; 2. The due diligence tasks takes time to be completed.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. For context, the FY 2023 provisional award letters for the local contracting process were issued February 17, 2023. The corresponding final Notice of Award (NoA) from HRSA was received on April 5, 2023. For FY 2024, the provisional award letters were issued January 5, 2024, but the final NoA was not received until May 23, 2024. The due diligence review process is lengthy. We must ensure the organization is in good standing after reviewing several local, state, and federal contracting requirements. To assist in this process, we will consider including the review templates with the provisional award letters for transparency and for subrecipients to address potential issues in advance.

- Revisions to the contract language after 3/15/24.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. We will try to ensure the contract template is reviewed and approved by the County Attorney's Office prior to March 1st each year. Necessary changes would then be addressed through amendments.
- As mentioned before, delays from subrecipients delays the flow as well. In addition, we know County staff is limited.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. We are working on increasing staffing in this area.
- Unspecified (2 responses).
 - □ Recipient response: No comment.

10. Did delays in contract execution cause service disruptions or organizational disruptions? (*Question added in 2024.*)



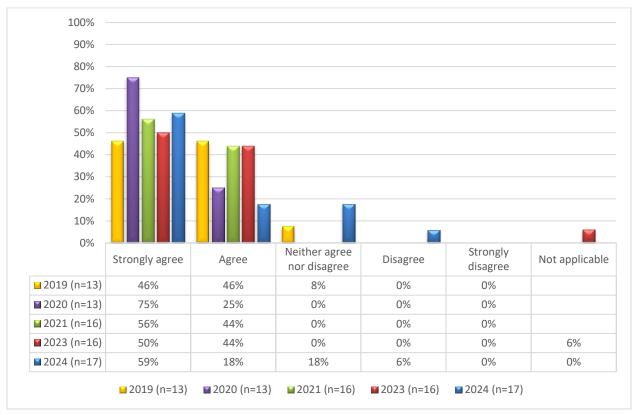
Responses as submitted are shown in this chart, however, as noted in the *Contract Execution Dates in Chronological Order* table, above, it should be noted that contract execution dates submitted by subrecipients did not match the Recipient's official record of contract execution dates. Rewording of this statement and/or further instructions may be necessary for future surveys.

11. Please detail service disruptions or organizational disruptions resulting from delayed contract execution. (Question added in 2024.)

- Organizationally, we needed to make sure funding allocations were available for operational needs and keep reserves in place while expansions were also being implemented.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. We appreciate your team's patience and willingness to continue providing services to clients. We sincerely apologize for the related organizational disruptions.
- Ryan White CM Supervisor trying to complete Quarterly report for Broward. Clients calling and/or stopping by the office. Numerous documents to be completed by both counties.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Notably, there are staffing constraints at the Recipient and Subrecipient levels. We will keep this in mind as our requests and reporting deadlines are communicated.
- The organization required having financial reserves to carry programs while completing expansions
 of facilities affecting budgetary constraints.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. We appreciate your team's patience and willingness to continue providing services to clients. We sincerely apologize for the related organizational disruptions.

- There were no service disruptions. We had disruptions in properly recording our finances for providing RW Part A services.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. We appreciate your team's patience and willingness to continue providing services to clients. We sincerely apologize for the related organizational disruptions.

12. There were no significant differences between billed versus reimbursed amounts for our organization that were not discussed prior to any disallowance.



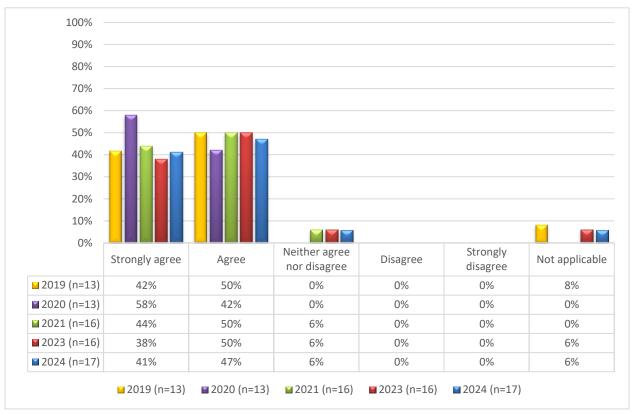
2024 COMMENTS

- Notification from OMB regarding items are reviewed and confirmed prior to disallowance.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.
- The process is normally to disallow line items first and then allow organization to contest the disallowance.
 - Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. It is recommended that subrecipients review program requirements and limitations then review previous disallowances to identify and/or understand reoccurring issues to prevent future disallowances. As required by the federal Uniform Guidance and as reflected in the signed certification on each invoice, it is the subrecipient's responsibility to review invoices thoroughly for completeness and accuracy before submitting them for reimbursement.
- Recipient communicates openly for resolutions prior to any disallowance.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. We aim to always maintain clear and continuous lines of communication.

2024 CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RATINGS OF "DISAGREE" OR "STRONGLY DISAGREE"

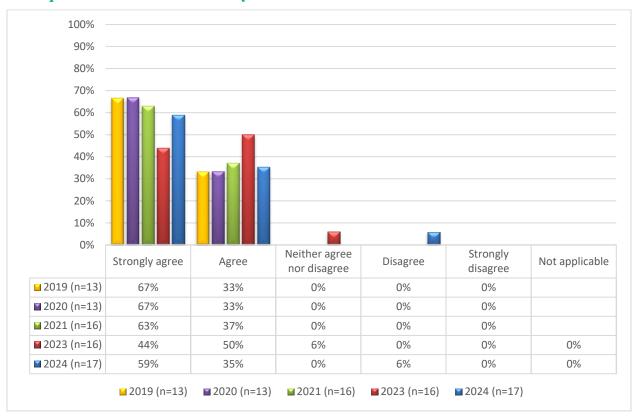
- There were differences.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.

13. The Recipient contacted our organization to review utilization and expenditures that were not on target.



- We were notified of proposed sweeps.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.
- We are contacted to reduce spending, but discussion about utilization and expenditures occur only when sub-recipient reaches out. Maybe reviewing patient volume and un-billables, with the agencies to provide additional support.
 - Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback. Our team will review this comment further to determine ways to provide additional support in this area. Subrecipient program and/or fiscal staff who are authorized with a Contract Management role in PE Miami should be regularly reviewing the unbillables report to determine if items are truly unbillable (i.e., do not meet program guidelines) or if an override request is warranted.

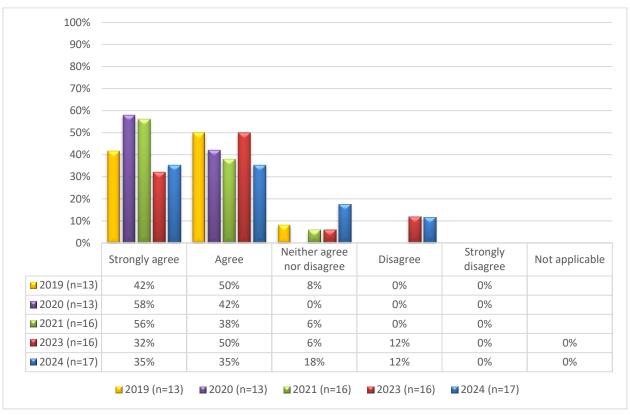
14. The Recipient reviewed our organization's service utilization and reimbursement requests submissions in a timely manner.



2024 CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RATINGS OF "DISAGREE" OR "STRONGLY DISAGREE"

- Reimbursements not timely.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. For context, please note that reimbursement requests can only be processed once the contract is executed. Once we have an executed contract, more than 90% of the reimbursement requests are processed in 25 days or less.

15. The Recipient provided payment to our organization within 30 days of submission of complete and accurate invoices.



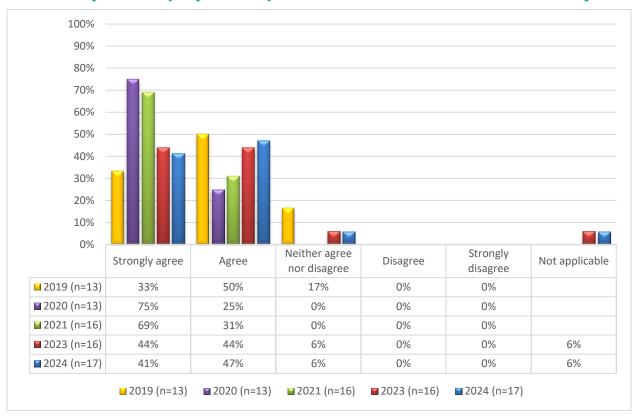
2024 COMMENTS

- We did not receive payment until the contract was executed, which was delayed.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. For context, please note that reimbursement requests can only be processed once the contract is executed. Once we have an executed contract, more than 90% of the reimbursement requests are processed in 25 days or less.

2024 CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RATINGS OF "DISAGREE" OR "STRONGLY DISAGREE"

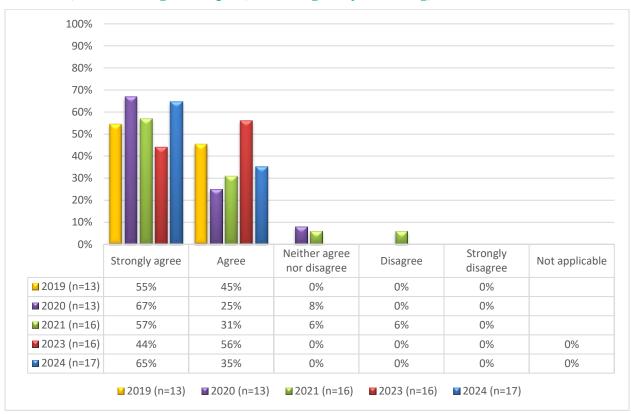
- Payment process takes more than 30 days, often.
 - ☐ Recipient response: Comment noted. Please see above. Thank you.
- We were not paid for invoices until our contract was executed, which was delayed until December 26, 2023.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. We are striving to execute contracts in a more timely manner.

16. The Recipient clearly explained any holds or disallowances on reimbursement requests.



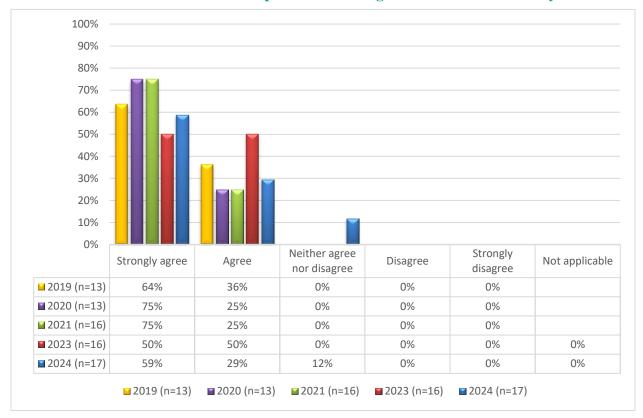
- Very clear.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.

17. The Recipient provided our organization with a clear explanation of Ryan White Program reporting requirements (i.e., Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Services Report (RSR), Annual Progress Report, client eligibility screening, etc.).



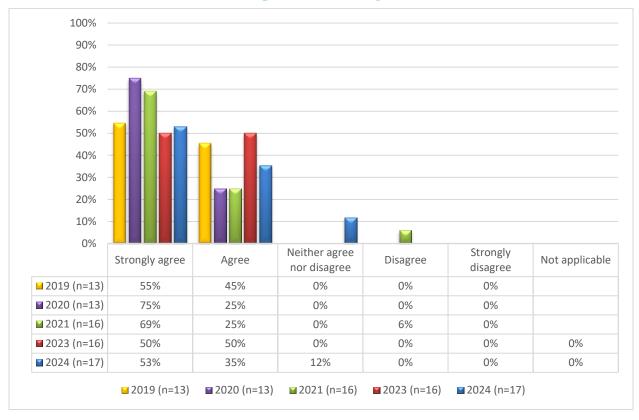
- Open communications and updates were provided.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.
- Recipient communicates openly and timely notifications.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.

18. Communication between the Recipient and our organization has been timely.



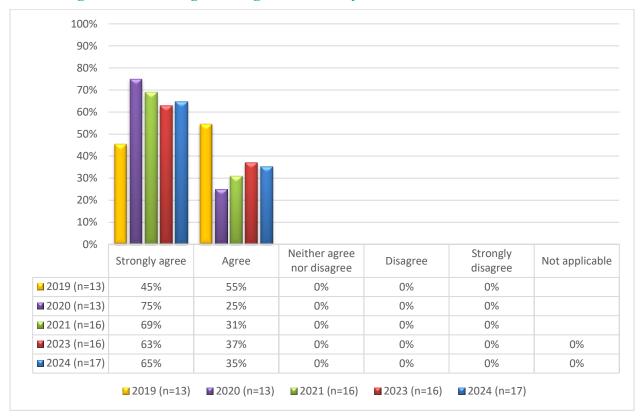
- We have a great communication and always available.
 - □ Recipient response: We appreciate the comment. Thank you.

19. Communication between the Recipient and our organization has been effective.



- Received conflicting instructions on reporting completion.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Additional context is requested so that we may improve in this area, ensuring that our instructions are clear and timely. Please send a related email to Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov, or to remain anonymous please provide more detail through BSR. Thank you.
- Sometimes with staff turnover at our agency, we have to repeat sometimes the same questions, maybe having a FAQ on their website could allow to avoid some of that repetition that puts the recipient to answer similar concerns multiple times.
 - □ Recipient response: Excellent suggestion. We will work to develop a related Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) resource for our County webpage. It would be helpful if the person who made the comment provided some questions to get the FAQ started. Please send a related email to Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov, or to remain anonymous please provide the questions through BSR. Thank you.

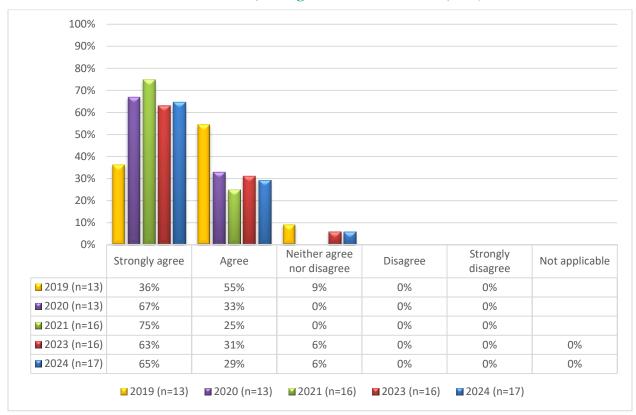
20. The Recipient informed our organization of reallocation processes (sweeps) to identify unmet needs or service gaps*, and the requirements of a spending plan in order to adjust our organization's budget during the contract year.



- As mentioned before, if there is a delay in contract execution, sweeps should also be delayed, as agencies might have a lag in billing and agencies might lose an opportunity
 - Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. However, with multiple tasks related to addressing unmet need and maximizing resources, it is not always feasible to delay the reallocations/sweeps process. Our improvement in this area will need to come from completing the contract execution process timelier; in which, as noted above, we have made significant progress.

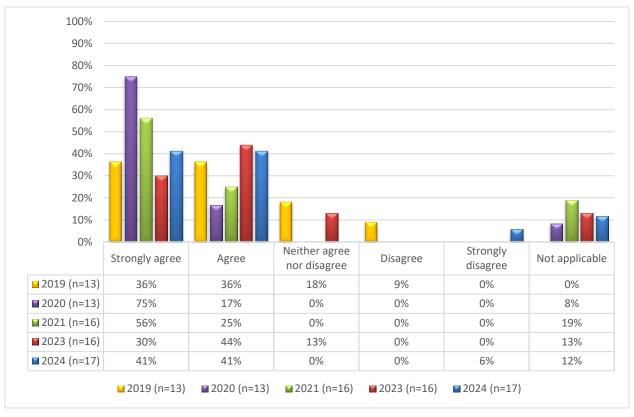
^{*} Language added in 2024.

21. The Recipient kept our organization well informed of Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership decisions that impact Ryan White Program subrecipients (e.g., approval of or changes to service definitions, notice of Prescription Drug Formulary changes, updates to Allowable Medical Conditions, changes to billable services, etc.).



- The website needs to be updated, although emails and information is on-going, sometimes is easier to go on the website and look at updated information.
 - □ Recipient response: Noted and agreed. Once contracts are fully executed, we will work on updating the website. Thank you.

22. When contract non-compliance issues were raised, the Recipient provided adequate time for remediation specific to the issue.



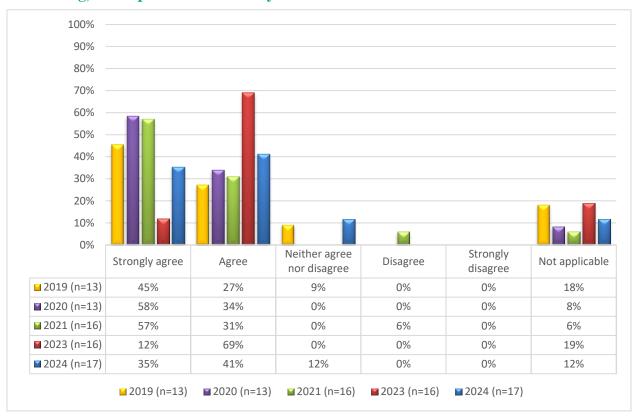
2024 COMMENTS

- We did not have any compliance issues.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted.

2024 CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RATINGS OF "DISAGREE" OR "STRONGLY DISAGREE"

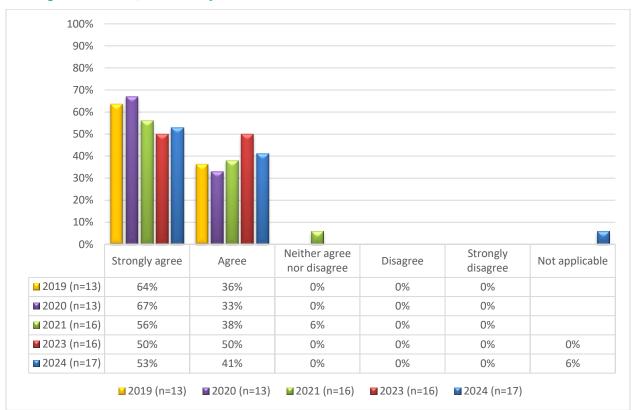
- Not allowed adequate time and unreasonable requests during monitoring.
 - Recipient response: Comment noted. However, it would be helpful to know what the task was, what the deadline was, and what amount of time would be recommended as adequate. Also, it would be helpful to know what requests were unreasonable during the required monitoring process. As previously noted, this is a complex system with many local, state, and federal requirements. Sometimes requests or due dates (especially for federal reporting or annual monitoring requirements) cannot be waived or delayed. However, we can do better in communicating the requirements and any urgencies. Please send additional comments or suggestions by email to Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov; or to remain anonymous please provide more detail through BSR. Thank you.

23. When/if our organization requested programmatic and/or fiscal technical assistance or training, it was provided in a timely manner.

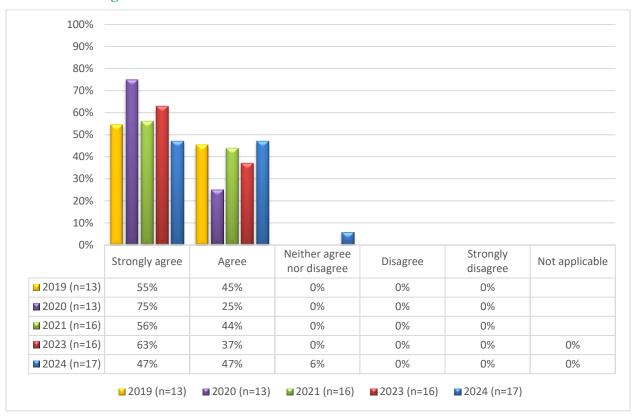


- It would be great if virtual workshops or TA meetings were held to discuss changes in HHS/HRSA guidelines.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. Please contact Carla Valle-Schwenk, Program Administrator (by email to <u>Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov</u>), or your assigned Contracts Officer to request technical assistance. We will develop a TA session or connect you with an appropriate external TA provider or workshop.
- They are always available.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.

24. In response to our requests, the Recipient provided guidance and clarification to our organization for any program-related document, reporting requirement, or other requested items, in a timely manner.

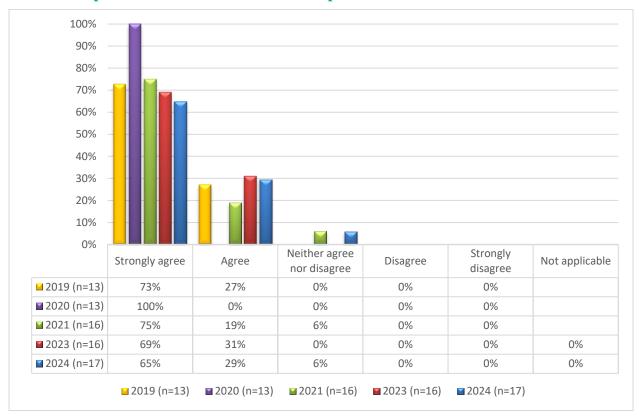


25. The Recipient responded adequately to inquiries, requests, and problem-solving needs from our organization.



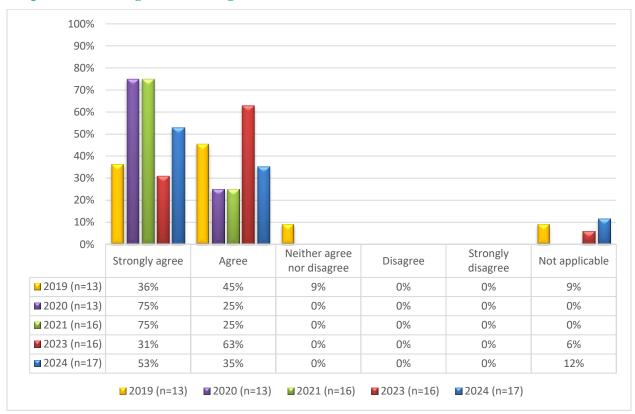
- Ms. Valle-Schwenk is very responsive to our organization's requests and inquires [sic].
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.

26. The Recipient's staff was courteous and respectful.

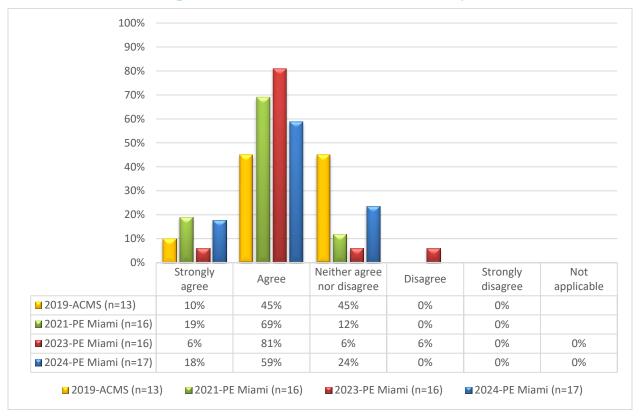


- Very knowledgeable recipient team members.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your kind words about our team. We take pride in our team's expertise with Ryan White Program experience ranging from 8 years to 34 years and are pleased to know it was evident in our interactions.
- One of the biggest strengths.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for recognizing our staff's courteousness and respectfulness. We strive to create a positive and professional environment, and it's great to hear that our efforts are making an impact.

27. Behavioral Science Research Corp. (BSR), the Recipient's Ryan White Program Clinical Quality Management contractor, responded adequately to inquiries, requests, and problem-solving from our organization.

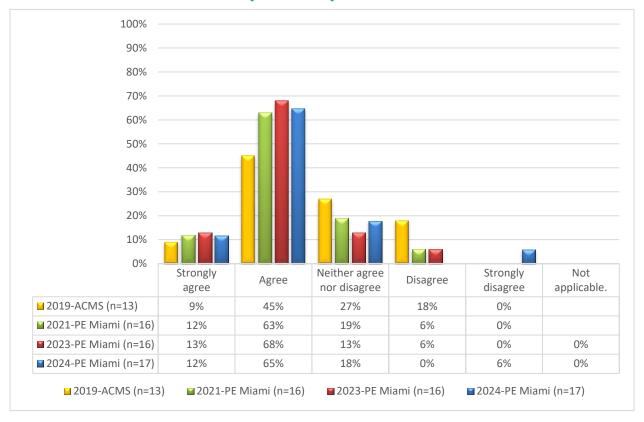


28. The Provide® Enterprise Miami (PE Miami) client database system is reliable.



- The system has a robust platform, but reporting from it, is not reliable and is needed for agencies to track utilization and billing, which also requires access. Is a great billing tool, but not an effective system.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. We are regularly making improvements to PE Miami. Please send specific recommendations or suggestions by email to <u>Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov</u>, or to remain anonymous please provide feedback through BSR. Thank you.
 - □ Groupware Technologies response: We appreciate your comments about Provide Enterprise and ways the system can be improved upon. We look forward to working through this feedback with Miami-Dade County to further enhance the system to meet the needs of our users. Thank you!

29. The PE Miami client database system is easy to use.



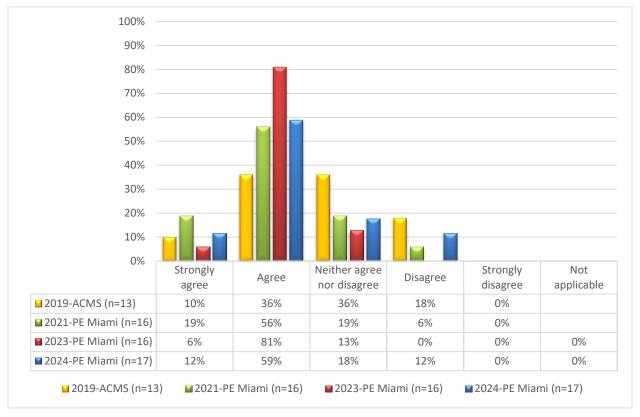
- For example the client acuity assessment is poorly worded and once completed does not have meaningful use. Another example is you can rewrite a progress note, you can change the minutes, but you cannot change the code.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback. We will review this further in our regular meetings with Groupware Technologies LLC's programming and support team.
 - Groupware Technologies response: Thank you for your feedback! Keep in mind that any time you run into items in Provide that do not seem to meet your expectations or could be improved upon, we would always encourage users to reach out to Miami-Dade County or our Help Desk team (Provide.Help@grouptech.com), who we work with regularly to make the system better for all. Any and all feedback is welcomed!

- It is not user-friendly, data reporting is limited, and information requires roles to have access, not to mention, that in certain instances data entered can't be validated.
 - Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback. We will review this further in our regular meetings with Groupware Technologies LLC's programming and support team. However, as a security feature of the system, some user access features are restricted or limited and require special functions or roles. If any system user feels they should have access to other features, they should communicate that to their supervisor who can in turn contact the County Ryan White Program Administrator for possible updates to the user's profile.
 - □ Groupware Technologies response: We appreciate your feedback in regards to reporting and the security roles within Provide. As mentioned by Miami-Dade County in their response, many sections of the Provide system are restricted based on roles due to the sensitive nature of the data housed within the database. If you run into a scenario where you feel you should have access to a particular section in Provide, but do not, feel free to reach out to our Help Desk (Provide.Help@grouptech.com). They are always willing to help with these cases and work regularly with Miami-Dade County to ensure the process is smooth and effective.

2024 CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RATINGS OF "DISAGREE" OR "STRONGLY DISAGREE"

- Is a system that not only it requires staff to follow to many steps, but also is only a billing tool, which needs an extra training for staff to fully understand how to follow each step. It is not user friendly. The only solution would be to streamline data entry and ensure that based on the role, it ensures to work in a seamless flow. Example Case Manager should be able to have an initial quick view to see eligibility, then when saved, intake or documentation, then, document provides with a checkbox to click on billing and then a review of the notes and submits. It should have a flow to limit errors and support the documentation or actions performed.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback. We will review the comments and suggestions further during our regular calls with Groupware Technologies LLC.
 - □ Groupware Technologies response: Thank you for your valuable feedback! We're always looking for ways to improve the system to make it easy-to-use, yet highly effective. Groupware Technologies and Miami-Dade County are constantly working toward that goal and encourage you to share any and all feedback with the county and with us (Provide.Help@grouptech.com).

30. The PE Miami client database system generates organization-specific data in an efficient and user-friendly manner.



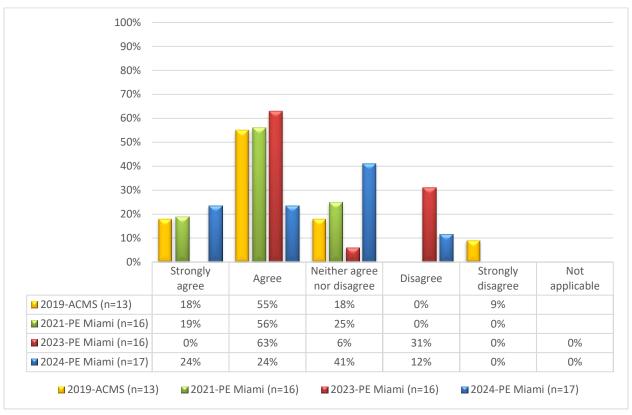
- It generates specific data but is not user friendly.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback. We will review the comment and previous suggestions further during our regular calls with Groupware Technologies LLC.
 - □ Groupware Technologies response: We appreciate your feedback! We're always looking for ways to improve the system to be more user friendly to our user base. We would encourage you to share your specific feedback with Miami-Dade County or with us directly at Provide.Help@grouptech.com.
- Efficient and user-friendly are separate characteristics. It is efficient, but less user friendly.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback. We will work on improving efficiency and use of the system.
 - □ Groupware Technologies response: Thank you for your feedback! If you have any thoughts or ideas on ways we can improve the system to be more user friendly, I would recommend reaching out to Miami-Dade County or us directly at Provide.Help@grouptech.com. Thanks!

- Reports are not easy to obtain.
 - Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback. We will review the comment further during our regular calls with Groupware Technologies LLC. Please provide further details of the reports you are trying to run and what challenges you are encountering while running the report. Send these comments by email to Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov or through BSR, if you wish to remain anonymous.
 - ☐ Groupware Technologies response: Thank you for your feedback! We look forward to working with Carla at Miami-Dade County to better serve you and your reporting needs in Provide!

2024 CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RATINGS OF "DISAGREE" OR "STRONGLY DISAGREE"

- Process is cumbersome and lacks option for organization to pull individual reports.
 - □ Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback. We will review the comment further during our regular calls with Groupware Technologies LLC. Please provide further details of the reports you are trying to run and what challenges you are encountering while running the report. Send these comments by email to Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov or through BSR, if you wish to remain anonymous.
 - □ Groupware Technologies response: Thank you for your response. We're always looking for ways to improve our system to better meet the needs of our users. Groupware Technologies and Miami-Dade County meet regularly to discuss these matters and we look forward to working through your feedback.
- Is not user friendly, which is why, the recipient and BSR allocate a staff to have full access and run reports in SqUEL [SQL or Sequel], that requires experience. Need to allow for a better access to reporting.
 - Recipient response: Thank you for your feedback. Please note that BSR allocates a staff person to analyze data for the planning council and for the clinical quality management process. BSR's analyst is doing special queries using raw data. PE Miami has many report templates but understanding the best template to use for the data you need can be challenging. It is also important to note that reports are based on point-in-time data: a report run today could be different from the report results from yesterday, as the system updates the data nightly. We will review the comment further during our regular calls with Groupware Technologies LLC. Please provide further details of the reports you are trying to write and what challenges you are encountering while running the report. Send these comments by email to Carla.ValleSchwenk@miamidade.gov or through BSR, if you wish to remain anonymous.
 - Groupware Technologies response: Thank you for sharing your feedback and we look forward to working with Miami-Dade County to further meet your reporting needs. If you ever have questions about running reports or need assistance with finding specific information in the system, please feel free to reach out to us directly at Provide.Help@grouptech.com. Our Help Desk team is always willing to help in any way we can and to provide feedback to the County if new functionality or reports are needed.

31. The PE Miami client database system vendor, Groupware Technologies, responds promptly and adequately to inquiries, data requests, and system trouble-shooting.



- This is variable.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.
 - ☐ Groupware Technologies response: Thanks for your response! We are always working to improve our Help Desk experience and hope to continue to better serve you into the future.
- They take too long to respond and sometimes solutions are not proper, so another request needs to be asked.
 - □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. We will discuss the comment with Groupware Technologies LLC's programming and support team to identify where they can improve in this area.
 - □ Groupware Technologies response: Thank you for your feedback and we apologize for any negative experience you may have had reaching out to us for assistance. We are always working towards improving our Help Desk experience and we hope to improve upon your interactions with us into the future.

2024 CONCERNS AND SOLUTIONS FOR RATINGS OF "DISAGREE" OR "STRONGLY DISAGREE"

Disagree.

- □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you.
- □ Groupware Technologies response: Thank you for your feedback and we apologize for the negative experience you may have had with our Help Desk. We are always looking for ways to improve our Help Desk experiences and welcome any additional feedback you may have. Feel free to reach out to Provide. Help@grouptech.com with you feedback and we will be happy to work with you.

Tickets take a long time to process or respond.

- □ Recipient response: Comment noted. Thank you. We will discuss the comment with Groupware Technologies LLC's programming and support team to identify where they can improve in this area.
- □ Groupware Technologies response: Thank you for your feedback and we apologize for the negative experience! We do our absolute best to respond to and resolve Help Desk Tickets as fast as possible, and we are always working toward improving the Help Desk experience at Groupware Technologies. We hope to better serve you in the future with any requests you send our way!