

## Connecticut

### AIDS Rate per 100,000

12.0\*

### State Funds for HIV Early Intervention Services

State Expenditures	
Required Base	SFY 2008 Expenditures Maintenance
\$208,481	\$300,380
SAPT EXPENDITURES	
FY 2006 HIV Set-Aside	FY 2009 Planned
\$837,356	\$840,445

### FY 2010 SAPT Reports

Provide HIV/AIDS education, risk reduction counseling, pre/post test counseling, HIV testing, develop individual treatment plans, HIV rapid testing in all methadone programs, and other HIV-related support services.

HIV Early Intervention Services Provided							
Rapid Testing	Funding Rapid Testing	Regular HIV Testing	Pre-Test and Post-Test Counseling	Referral Services	Risk Assessment	HIV/AIDS Education	Outreach
√		√	√		√	√	

### State Narrative Summary

In FY 2006, Connecticut focused on an array of HIV early intervention services, such as providing education for all applicants, clients, and staff on exposure to HIV; developing holistic risk-reduction plans for those currently at risk for HIV; developing individual-priority treatment plans for those identified as being HIV positive; and enhancing existing and developing new collaborations with others to provide the social, medical, psychological, and spiritual support that people with HIV require. In FY 2008, the State continued to develop relationships with community agencies and networks to reach at-risk individuals with culturally competent and relevant services; to this end, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) began to work with the Office of Multicultural Affairs to address cultural issues in reaching African American, Latino, and other ethnic groups. In FY 2009, the State anticipated fully integrating a rapid-testing protocol in all methadone programs and in other service areas for high-risk communities.

\*THE MOST RECENT DATA PUBLISHED PRIOR TO OCTOBER 1, 2008 BY THE CDC IS TABLE 14, REPORTED AIDS CASES AND ANNUAL RATES (PER 100,000 POPULATION), BY AREA OF RESIDENCE AND AGE CATEGORY, CUMULATIVE THROUGH 2005-UNITED STATES, HIV/AIDS SURVEILLANCE REPORT 2005 VOL. 17, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HIV, STD, AND TB PREVENTION, DIVISION OF HIV/AIDS, PREVENTION, SURVEILLANCE, AND EPIDEMIOLOGY. SINGLE COPIES OF THE REPORT ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE CDC NATIONAL PREVENTION INFORMATION NETWORK, 800-458-5231 OR 301-562-1098 OR [HTTP://WWW.CDC.GOV/HIV/TOPICS/SURVEILLANCE/RESOURCES/REPORTS/2006REPORT/TABLE14.HTM](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/surveillance/resources/reports/2006report/table14.htm).

## Full State Narrative

### FY 2006 (COMPLIANCE)

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Efforts continued in FY 2006 to provide HIV early intervention services to those populations in the State in greatest need as defined by the Department of Public Health (DPH). DMHAS HIV early intervention programs, located in areas clearly identified as having a substantial number of HIV cases, haven't changed over the course of the epidemic: Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Stamford, & Waterbury. These encompass four of the five service delivery regions that comprise DMHAS' service network. The department continues to offer and monitor services as parts of statewide and local teams.

In FY 2006, HIV early intervention services included: 1) education for all applicants both clients and staff on the ramifications of, exposure to, and infection of, HIV, HCV, & TB; 2) development of holistic risk reduction plans for those currently at risk for any of these conditions; 3) education and pre-test counseling; 4) testing options in program or in the community; 5) appropriate post-test education and counseling to deal with the results either seropositive or negative; 6) development of individual-priority treatment plans for seropositive conditions; 7) contacts for partner notification; and 8) enhancing existing, and developing new, collaborations with others to provide the needed social, medical, psychological, and spiritual support.

All programs, across the substance use treatment continuum, offered group and follow-up individual education sessions on the infectious diseases during FY 2006. Each program offered an additional behavior health promotion like acupuncture, herbs, massage, meditation, as well as others.

- Alcohol & Drug Recovery Center, Hartford (4)
- APT Foundation, New Haven (2)
- Chemical Abuse Service Agency, Bridgeport (2)/New Haven
- CT Counseling Centers, Norwalk/Waterbury
- Connection, New Haven/Middletown (4)
- Hartford Dispensary, Hartford (2)/Willimantic
- Hill Health Center, New Haven
- Liberation Programs, Stamford/Bridgeport (3)
- Regional Network of Programs, Bridgeport (2)

### FY 2008 (PROGRESS)

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DMHAS continues to establish relationships with community agencies and networks in areas that substance use treatment programs providing HIV early intervention services are located. Due to the fact that over 60% of Connecticut's HIV cases are comprised of persons who are black or Latino, and even higher when it is substance use related, cultural competence is an essential factor in providing these services. Collaboration within DMHAS has included the Office of Multicultural Affairs to increase awareness and sensitivity, and develop skills in dealing with the cultural issues surrounding the message, the environment, and the mores of African-American, Latino and other ethnic groups. The department offers eight full day trainings on various aspects of the people living with HIV or at risk for infection. These include cultural groups like older adults, women, men having sex with men, and pain management concepts.

Also in FY2008 DMHAS began to implement HIV Rapid Testing which has enhanced early intervention and caused more individuals at risk to opt for testing. DMHAS continues to work at eliminating waiting lists and to do pre-entry work with outreach initiatives in the community. The department works closely with DPH on disseminating information, testing resources, and available treatment for HCV. Additionally DMHAS works with DPH on making available, as resources allow, vaccines against hepatitis A and B. DPH supplies DMHAS with rapid test kits as well as counselor training so that all providers, both public health and behavior health, hear the same message and learn from each other's discipline.

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**FY 2009** (INTENDED USE)

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DMHAS anticipates fully integrating a Rapid Testing protocol in all methadone programs and in other service areas of high risk communities. The department is concerned that those at highest risk are not accessing treatment programs, so expansion of outreach into substance using communities is a major consideration. In conformity with CDC HIV routine testing guidelines, greater efforts will be made to test for HIV and concomitantly include TB and HCV in assessment and risk reduction plans. DMHAS will also rededicate efforts to intervene with the 700+ seropositives that are in these programs at any given time as well as the 325 who enter programs already tested seropositive for HIV. Statistics for the last five years shows about a 1.5% seropositive rate (DPH's community based sites have a rate of 1% over the same time period), in high risk urban areas. DMHAS will work more aggressively with other partners to change this picture. DMHAS hopes to increase HCV services through increased contacts with the health system as well as cultivating new partnerships. In an experiment, one multi-level program (methadone, outpatient, intensive residential, inpatient) will continue to train all their clinicians as HIV counselors and offer testing throughout their system.

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**HIV Early Intervention Services**

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Efforts continued in FFY 2006 to provide HIV early intervention services to those populations in the State in greatest need as defined by DPH. During this period, the majority of new Connecticut AIDS cases were reported in Connecticut five largest cities: Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Stamford and Waterbury. DMHAS continued to offer and monitor services in each of these areas. Connecticut was a HIV designated state according to the Center on Disease Control (CDC) for Calendar Year 2006 having an incidence rate of 12 per 100,000. HIV early Intervention services offered included: 1) education on the ramifications of exposure to, and infection from, HIV; 2) development of risk reduction plans for those currently at highrisk; 3) pretest counseling for HIV; 4) HIV testing; 5) appropriate post-test counseling including referrals to existing community health providers; 6) development of client-focused HIV treatment plans to build accepted intervention tools; 7) contracts with HIV positive individuals around partner identification; 8) collaboration among substance abuse treatment and other community service providers in the continued prevention, intervention and treatment of willing clients; 9) care coordinate of individuals who are HIV positive; and 10) development of medical adherence protocols for using combination medications in combating HIV infection. All programs across the substance abuse treatment continuum, in designated high-risk areas of the state, offered individual HIV education, counseling and testing during FFY 2006. A brief assessment of risk was included in the intake process, expediting the intervention. Also, the department added risk reduction and HIV treatment plans to the intervention process. DMHAS worked closely with the DPH's Partner Notification Program to identify all at-risk and drugusing partners to aid in the intervention.

HIV programs funded during this period included: Liberation Programs, APT Foundation, Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation Center, Regional Network of Programs, Hill Health Center, Hartford Dispensary, Connecticut Counseling Centers, Chemical Abuse Service Agency, Mercy Housing and Shelter, St Luke's and Connecticut Aids Residence. The total amount of Block Grant funds spent on HIV Early Intervention Services for SFY 2006 was \$208,481.

<b>HIV Early Intervention Programs Receiving Funds</b>				
<b>Program</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Funds</b>
Alcohol and Drug Recovery Centers HIV Counselors	N/A	500 Blue Hills Avenue, Hartford, CT 6112	860-714-3701	\$47,333
Chemical Abuse Services Agency HIV Counselors	N/A	690 Arctic Street, Bridgeport, CT 6608	203-339-4112	\$93,124
Connecticut AIDS Residence Program	A	254 College Street, Suite 205, New Haven, CT 6510	203-495-7600	\$66,707
Connecticut Counseling Centers Danbury Location	N/A	60 Beaver Brook Road, Danbury, CT 6810	203-743-4698	\$37,768
Connecticut Counseling Centers Inc., Waterbury Location	N/A	60 Beaver Brook Road, Danbury, CT 6810	203-743-4698	\$32,759
Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center HIV/AIDS Services	N/A	400-428 Columbus Avenue, New Haven, CT 6519	203-503-3252	\$44,133
Hartford Dispensary	N/A	335 Broad Street, Manchester, CT 6040	860-643-3200	\$118,088
Helping Hands Center	N/A	1124 Iranistan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 6605	203-336-4745	\$19,637
Liberation Program	N/A	4 Elmcrest Terrace, Norwalk, CT 6850	203-851-2077	\$70,031
Mercy Housing and Shelter Corporation	A	118 Main Street, Hartford, CT 6106	860-724-7988	\$40,200
Regional Network of Programs, Behavioral Health Services	N/A	2 Trap Falls Road, Suite 405, Shelton, CT 6484	203-929-1954	\$66,555
St. Luke's LifeWorks	S	20 Woodland Place , McKinney Residence, Stamford, CT 6902	203-388-0110	\$79,798
The APT Foundation	N/A	One Long Wharf Drive, Suite 321, New Haven, CT 6511	203-781-4600	\$60,621
The Connection, HIV Counselor	N/A	955 South Main Street, Middletown, Ct 6457	860-343-5503	\$60,602

**Status Key:** [A] Active, [I] Inactive, [n/a] Not available, [P] Facility physically closed, [S] No substance abuse services provided, [U] Closed as duplicate of another facility.