

## District of Columbia

### AIDS Rate per 100,000

146.7\*

### State Funds for HIV Early Intervention Services

State Expenditures	
Required Base	SFY 2008 Expenditures Maintenance
\$145,781	\$252,500
SAPT EXPENDITURES	
FY 2006 HIV Set-Aside	FY 2009 Planned
\$329,517	\$333,486

### FY 2010 SAPT Reports

Set-aside is used to support the following positions: supervisory AIDS information specialist, HIV public health analyst, and Public Health Analysts for Latinos and seniors. The District integrated infectious disease services addressing HIV, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted diseases into "Rapid Detection and Early Intervention Initiative." Through this new effort, the District has increased the availability of rapid HIV testing in substance abuse treatment facilities.

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

The Addiction Recovery and Prevention Administration (APRA) uses set-aside funds to support several positions, including that of a supervisory AIDS information specialist, an HIV public health analyst, and public health analysts for Latinos and older adults. In a new effort, the District integrated infectious disease services addressing HIV, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted diseases into the "Rapid Detection and Early Intervention Initiative" — RDEII or "Ready" program. In FY 2006, the District placed additional focus on reaching specific high-risk populations, including injecting drug users and men who have sex with men, as well as underserved populations, such as older adults. Counseling treatment services continued to be a primary focus for early intervention services as an entry point into clinical HIV disease management. APRA conducted a major initiative to train program staff on the use of the rapid test; more than 45 people, including counselors, nurses, managers and other staff, were trained in how to administer the test. In FY 2008, APRA continued its Ready efforts with an increased focus on client access to counseling treatment services and early intervention services through the use of rapid HIV testing. APRA plans to continue this approach in FY 2009. It

\*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).

projects that trained APRA counselors will be able to perform HIV screening and referral services; training and technical assistance activities will continue to be an important element of the overall program.

APRA also uses Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant set-aside funds to support HIV services through Project Orion. Project Orion is a medical mobile outreach project that targets female and male injection drug users and crack cocaine users, sex partners of intravenous drug users, sex industry workers, men who have sex with men; and APRA patients at risk or living with HIV infection. The mobile nature of Project Orion allows individuals to access services in locations most convenient to them. HIV testing and counseling is performed onsite and links clients to clinics for additional services.

## **Full State Narrative**

### **FY 2006 (COMPLIANCE)**

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In FY 2006, HIV Early Intervention Services (EIS) planned in FY 2005 were implemented, coordinated, and monitored through a central office to ensure competency, strategy, and integration of EIS approaches. Additional emphasis was placed on high risk populations; including IVDU, Men who have Sex with Men (MSM), and underserved special populations such as seniors. The primary EIS services included mobile medical outreach/ intake, client prevention and pre-test education, Ora-Quick Rapid HIV Testing (and blood-draw confirmatory testing), post-test counseling, and direct linkages to integrated primary medical care. At no cost to the Block Grant, APRA also continued funding targeted programs for lesbian women, gay men, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) persons through the Whitman Walker Clinic and the Psychiatric Institute of Washington's Lambda Center. APRA also increased its focus on crystal methamphetamine abuse prevention and intervention activities as a co-factor to HIV infection and disease progression. The funded LGBT programs had strong EIS services and co-located care, which supported integrated care.

Counseling Treatment Services (CTS) continued to be a primary focus for EIS as the entry point into clinical HIV disease management. Prevention education and CTS were provided at the Women's Services Center by community-based agencies such as Family and Medical Counseling Services, Inc. and at the medical detoxification center by HIV/AIDS Administration (HAA). The Block Grant funded the HIV Public Health Analyst and Project Orion (the APRA mobile medical outreach and intake unit). Direct linkages to primary medical care and case management services were provided through the Phoenix Center located on the grounds of DC General Hospital and the First Street Health Center (FSHC) co-located with the Assessment and Referral Center (ARC) and the Model Treatment Program.

APRA supported the implementation and coordination of HIV/ EIS through a combination of funding sources; including the Block Grant and in collaboration with the HIV/AIDS Administration (HAA). SAPT/BG HIV Set-Aside funds were used to support the following staff positions: Supervisory AIDS Information Specialist, HIV Public Health Analyst, and Public Health Analysts coordinating services for Latino(s) and persons over 60 years of age (seniors). Staff provided additional CTS support at the medical detoxification unit and as needed in other APRA treatment sites with the aim of ensuring ready access to CTS and EIS for APRA clients. The EIS model implemented by APRA supported low barrier access to CTS at multiple APRA sites; including curbside mobile CTS and basic primary medical care for active IVDU's and other substance abusers. The EIS model also supported ready access to HIV case management and primary medical care at the FSHC upon linkage to substance abuse treatment. The FSHC contracted with the APRA Assessment and Referral Center (ARC), the Model Treatment Program (a methadone treatment center), and is within one block of another APRA funded methadone program managed by the United Planning Organization (UPO). APRA infectious disease services addressing HIV, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted diseases were integrated into an overarching model called the "Rapid Detection and Early Intervention Initiative/RDEII (or "Ready")", which was formalized in an interagency MOU executed in FY 06. The implementation of the RDEII also lead to an increased effort to

educate clients and staff within the APRA treatment system and those associated with other providers of the need for HIV drug adherence and the concerns associated with viral mutation and drug resistance.

**FY 2008** (PROGRESS)

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In FY 2008, APRA continued the efforts initiated in the RDEII with increased focus on client access to CTS and EIS by using Ora-Quick Rapid HIV testing. The BG funded HIV Public Health Analyst administered additional Ora-Quick Rapid HIV testing and CTS at the ARC 2-3 days weekly. In previous BG grant submissions, the UPO methadone program was reported as a site for deploying CTS. However, in FY 2008, through technical assistance provided by the BG funded HIV Public Health Analyst, the UPO methadone treatment program is providing on-site group HIV pre-test counseling and referring all clients to APRA for HIV testing.

In FY 07, a major initiative to train APRA direct and contracted program staff on the use of the HIV Ora-Quick Rapid Test began. Over forty-five (45) individuals, including counselors, nurses, managers and other staff were trained by the BG funded HIV Public Health Analyst to administer the HIV Ora-Quick Rapid Test. This training was delivered through three (3) separate training sessions facilitated at APRA. The first session was held in FY 07 for all APRA staff, which included 45 participants. A second session held in FY 07 included both APRA-funded and non-APRA funded programs, and 50 participants were trained. The third session was took place in FY 08 and included 22 additional participants. All participants received Ora-Sure Certification provided by Ora-Sure Technologies. There training efforts were aimed at increasing CTS access at all points in the District SA treatment system using a "no-wrong-door" approach to increase timely access to EIS where risk of relapse and barriers recovery may occur. Providers trained included Community Based Organizations (CBO), AIDS Service Organizations (ASO), Latino(a) targeted provider's and others. The FY 07 efforts represented the first phase in the broad-scale integration of CTS as the cornerstone of effective EIS in the APRA treatment system and provided a sounding board into 2008. APRA continued the services of Project Orion and the FSHC. EIS Technical assistance (TA) on CTS and other aspects of EIS were provided to APRA staff as needed. These services were provided to other programs servicing substance abusers. APRA maximized implementation of EIS through partnerships with HAA and representation on the Ryan White Planning Council and the CDC Prevention Planning Committee. APRA has continued implementing programs to address emerging trends that impact substance abusers at risk of living with HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis. These include HIV/AIDS education, screening and vaccination initiatives; and a crystal methamphetamine social campaign funded by APRA and administered through the LGBT Community Center addressing HIV-related risks in the gay male and transgender communities.

Two additional staff within the APRA Office of Target and Emerging Populations (OTEP) were trained and certified in Rapid HIV Testing to increase resources within the coordinating office for APRA HIV Services. One of the staff trained included the coordinator of the Substance Abuse Awareness for Seniors Program.

**FY 2009** (INTENDED USE)

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In FY 2009, APRA plans to continue its efforts to increase access to HIV testing by using Ora-Quick Rapid HIV testing (and counseling) in the treatment sites as a component of the RDEII. In FY 07 and 08, technical capacity development was a major component of the implementation of rapid "no-wrong-door" CTS. In FY 09, efforts will be directed toward the application of these new skills by program staff. It is projected that trained APRA counselors will be able to perform HIV screening and referral services. This will require policy review to address the impact of incorporating these services into the duties of APRA counselors; which may require revision of position descriptions. Training will continue to be provided for the use of rapid CTS with other TA as needed to ensure EIS for APRA clients and support for this implementation. The BG funded HIV Public Health Analyst will continue to provide testing services at APRA and other sites as needed. APRA, through its OTEP officer, will provide enhanced training and education efforts focused on antiretroviral drug adherence and viral

resistance concerns. The Project Orion grant was advertised for re-competition in FY 08 and awarded to Andromeda, a substance abuse treatment facility in the District of Columbia with a focus on providing outreach to high risk IVDU. This grant is funded through the HIV set-aside and includes case management co-located within the FSHC. APRA plans to continue its partnership with HAA and Unity Health Care, Inc. to provide the FSHC supporting integrated HIV primary medical care located within the APRA system. APRA will also continue to fund the targeted LGBT programs that integrate EIS in programs serving MSM, and a new grant will be awarded to continue the crystal methamphetamine social campaign addressing HIV-related risks in the gay male and transgender communities. APRA was awarded an Access to Recovery (ATR) grant in FY 07. APRA will support the treatment and recovery needs of individuals using crystal methamphetamine through ATR's "Crystal Clean Recovery Network (CCRN)". As a component of the RDEII and the CCRN, the APRA/OTEP will partner with other agencies to use a systems "in-reach" design to identify MSM methamphetamine users appearing in syphilis treatment programs and refer them into treatment and HIV Early Intervention Services. Additionally, APRA has identified and is working towards certification for a community based substance abuse treatment program targeting transgendered individuals and those living with HIV.

### **HIV Early Intervention Services**

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In FY 2008 services were expanded to include those addressing viral hepatitis prevention, testing, and vaccination because IVDU's at risk for HIV infection or living with HIV are also at risk for these infections, which can compromise the effectiveness of HAART (HIV/AIDS treatment regimen of choice) if not addressed. Continued focus was also placed on resource leveraging and interagency partnerships to provide a comprehensive EIS system. In keeping with the original spending plan, the following city-wide EIS services were provided by, or coordinated through the Office of Target and Emerging Populations (formerly the Office of Special Population Services/ OSPS: 1) HIV counseling and testing services (CTS) located at multiple APRA sites; 2) HIV/ AIDS prevention/early intervention education, prevention case management, and healthcare alliance enrollments at intake, treatment, and detoxification sites; 3) HIV/AIDS education programs and technical assistance activities to direct-service staff; 4) routine HIV/AIDS orientations; 5) case management, primary care, and linkages and tracking through the First Street Clinic (FSHC); 6) case finding, case management, service linkage and tracking, assessment, treatment planning and referral services through a sub-grant funded case manager; 7) agency-wide HIV/AIDS service coordination, staff training, strategic planning and HIV Set-Aside monitoring, reporting activities, program expansion/ sustainability, interagency collaboration, and representation on the Ryan White Planning Council and CDC Community-Based Planning Committee; 8) continued the BG funded HIV Services Coordinator position that provided additional HIV testing services and improved access to and implementation of the HIV rapid testing services with emphasis on implementing the APRA Rapid Detection and Early Intervention Initiative/RDEII; 9) implemented HIV EIS education targeted to substance abusers over 60 years of age; 10) implemented scheduled satellite HIV testing services at the APRA medical detoxification center through the Project Orion and the FSHC; 11) mobile medical outreach providing HIV testing, counseling and direct linkages to the FSHC to support integrated co-management of HIV and substance use disorders.

In FY 2008, up to the third reporting quarter, "Project Orion", the mobile medical outreach intake unit, performed community outreach contacts to 6,959 individuals to encourage entry and facilitate access to substance abuse and HIV/AIDS treatment programs. A total of 897 clients were given individual sessions, where intake interviews were conducted, linking them to substance abuse service and HIV/AIDS treatment. The outreach workers provided targeted testing and screening for HIV to 1,458 clients.

The total amount of funds obligated for early intervention services for HIV in the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2009 will be \$225,000.00.

In FY 2009 APRA intends to continue to improve the Early Intervention System (EIS) for HIV coordinated through the Office of Target and Emerging Population and to improve community outreach through "Project Orion" which is now under Andromeda Transcultural Health Center.

<b>HIV Early Intervention Programs Receiving Funds</b>				
<b>Program</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Funds</b>
Special Populations	N/A	1300 First Street NE, 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20002	202-727-8857	\$329,517

**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.