



VIRTUAL
**2020 NATIONAL
RYAN WHITE
CONFERENCE ON
HIV CARE & TREATMENT**

The Development of a Housing Program to Adapt to HOPWA Modernization to Meet the Needs of PLWH

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Learning Objectives



1. Identify ways to develop individualized housing plans for clients, taking into account psychosocial barriers, such as substance abuse, and mental health stability, to provide safe and stable housing.
2. Describe methods used to adapt to the changes of HOPWA modernization.
3. Discuss ways to leverage funding to source housing case management positions and housing programs to meet the need of the population.

Resources, Education, and Comprehensive Care for HIV (REACCH)



- Part of UPMC Pinnacle, the leading hospital and healthcare system in Central Pennsylvania
- Located in uptown Harrisburg
- Founded in 2000 to provide HIV care to pregnant women
- Provides comprehensive care and treatment to 700 PLWH including specialty HIV care and embedded primary care, case management, support services, and HIV testing



UPMC Pinnacle. Polyclinic Campus. Harrisburg, PA.

The mission of the UPMC Pinnacle REACCH Program is to serve as a comprehensive medical care program for all people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) within the South Central Pennsylvania region.

On-site Clinical Services



- HIV treatment and education
- Primary medical care and referrals to other specialists as needed
- Specialty Care to Pregnant Women at Maternity Fetal Medicine
 - Of the 115 children born in the past 18 years, zero vertical transmissions
- Nutrition counseling
- Full dental care
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)
- Medication-assisted treatment (suboxone and vivitrol)
- Behavioral health counseling
- Confidential, free, and rapid HIV testing with results in 1 minute
 - Walk-in and Community testing – expansion of services coming in 2020

On-site Support Services



- Medical case management services
- Anti-retroviral Treatment and Access to Services (ARTAS)
- Housing case management
- Housing assistance – HOPWA, Ryan White Housing Program
- Linkage to care and outreach to those who have fallen out of care
- Insurance/ADAP enrollment
- Hygiene pantry – to come in 2020
- GLO Harrisburg – off-site center which serves as a safe space for transgender women of color (TWOC) & MSM of color ages 14-29

New Initiatives – 2020



- HIV Testing and Outreach Expansion
 - Hire a dedicated staff person to lead these efforts
 - Ensure REACCH is connected with community providers
 - Provide testing in the community to priority populations
 - Reduce stigma and increase awareness of HIV and REACCH services
- Hygiene Pantry
 - Provide basic hygiene items on-site to clients unable to access or afford them.
 - Provide ethnic hair and skin products for BIPOC clients.

Who We Serve



- **Race & ethnicity:**

- Black – 47%
- White – 53%
- LatinX – 13%
- Other/Multiple Races – 2%
- Did not report - <1%

- **Age:**

- 13-24 years: 2%
- 25-44 years: 29%
- 45-64 years: 59%
- 65 and older: 9%

- **Insurance Status:**

- Medicaid – 35%
- Medicare – 29%
- Private – 28%
- Uninsured – 7%
- Did not report – 1%

- **Gender:**

- Female – 33%
- Male – 66%
- Transgender – 1%

- **HIV Risk Factor:**

- MSM - 44%
- Heterosexual Contact – 48%
- IDU – 16%
- Transfusion - 2%
- Perinatal – 1%

Identifying the Need - Within the REACCH Program

Step 1: Develop the business case and review data.

- Review the program's data!
- Steep increase in MCM clients in need of housing services
- Case managers were spending much of their time on housing-related tasks, taking away from ability to meet other needs such as treatment adherence and risk reduction

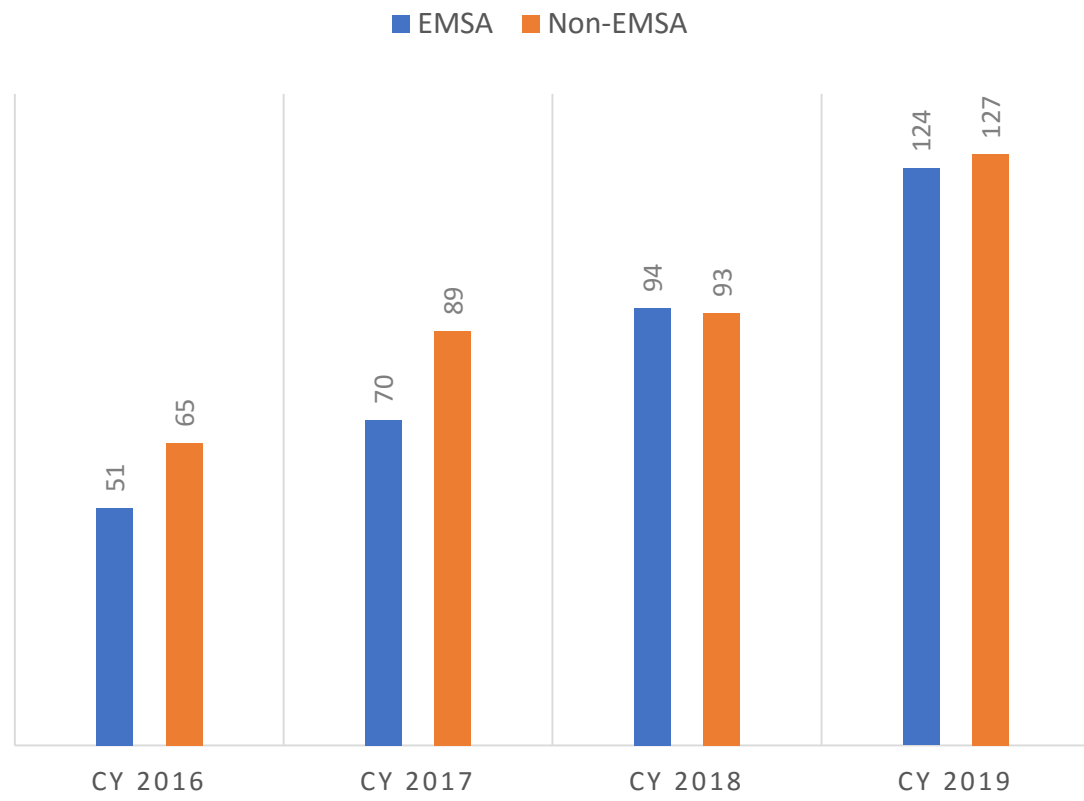
	CY 2016	CY 2017	CY 2018	CY 2019	Projected FY 2020-2021
Clients receiving a Ryan White housing services	22	27	41	30	10
Clients receiving an EFA housing service	0	0	0	0	0
Clients receiving a HOPWA service	18	33	50	69	75
Clients receiving a housing service through 340B funds	0	0	24	83	120
TOTAL PER YEAR	40	60	115	182	205



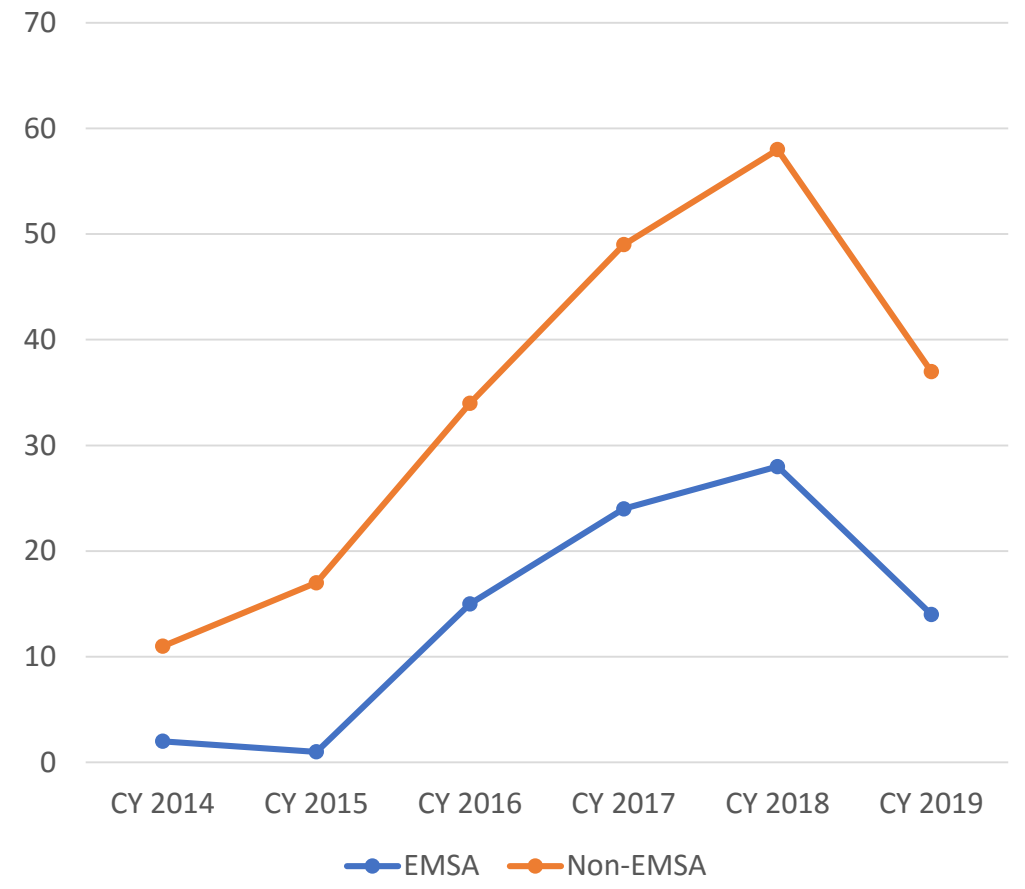
Identifying the Need – Within the Service Area



TBRA GROWTH



TBRA Waiting List Growth



Development of the Position



Step 2: Draft a job description

- Coordinate with Ryan White Part B fiscal intermediary for planning purposes
 - Do other Ryan White programs in the service area have a similar position?
 - Do other non-profit or community agencies have a similar position?
- Brainstorm and draft job duties with the case management team
 - Ideas include:
 - Assist clients in connecting to HOPWA housing services and applying for subsidized housing options
 - Attends the region's Coalition Against Homelessness meetings
 - Serve as the point person for housing, landlord/tenant issues, and search for housing that meets Fair Market Rent (FMR) standards
 - Meet clients in the community and conducts housing inspections

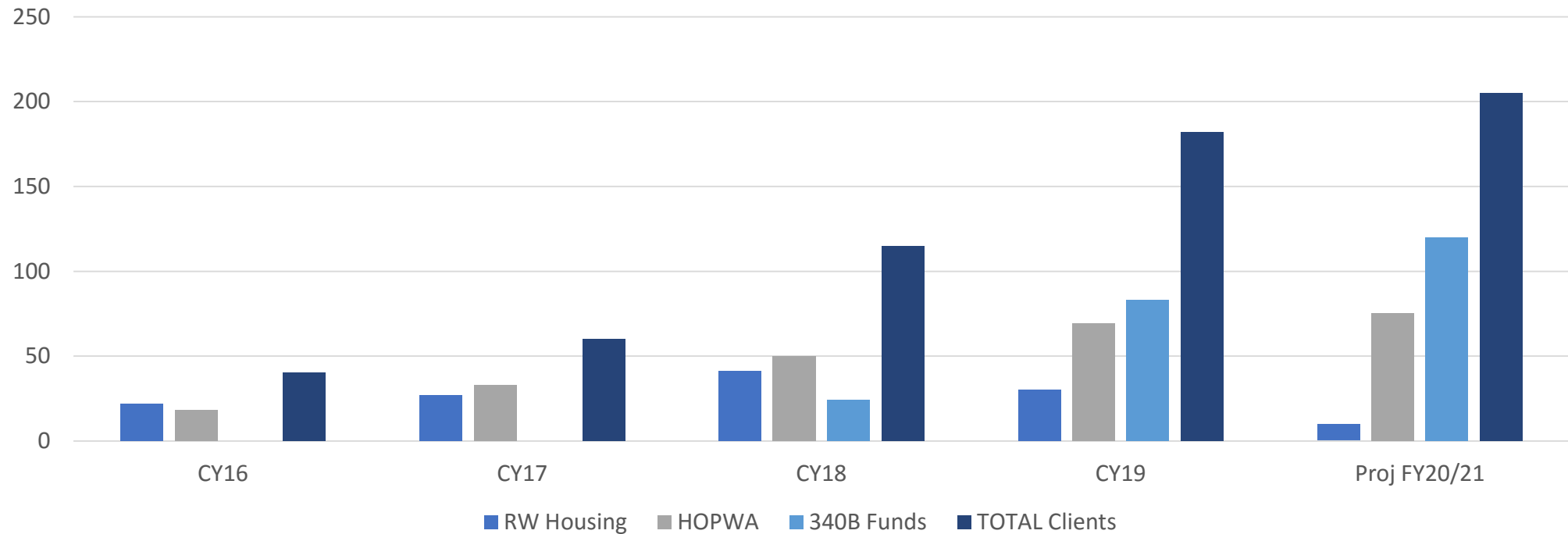
Step 3: Leverage funding and explore opportunities for your program:

- Ryan White Part B
 - For MCM staff time, EFA/RW Housing, EFA Utilities
- Part C Capacity Development grants
 - REACCH has used this funding source for other new initiatives
- 340(B) - Program income
 - REACCH uses to supplement Part B Housing funds
 - REACCH also uses this for new REACCH Housing Program
 - Refer to PCN 16-02; p. 18-19 – Housing Support Services
 - Up to 24 consecutive months

Housing Trends by Funding Source



Housing Trends by Funding Source



Changes to HOPWA/TBRA in PA



- Sunstrata Data based is launched
- Waiting list was closed for 6 months in 2019.
- Time limits for program will be enforced.
- Once waiting list reopened; Guidelines changed for adding clients to the waiting list. Clients must apply for subsidized and low income housing options prior to being placed on the waiting list.
- MCM are required to report homeless clients to their county's coalition against homelessness.

Development of the REACCH Ryan White Housing Program



- Mirrored REACCH RW Housing Program to HOPWA TBRA App and process including rent calculation, housing inspections, documentation needed
- 2 year time limit, temporary program – TBRA waiting & subsidized housing lists at same time
- Eligibility criteria, selective and give priority
- Many changes within the TBRA program that would become a barrier for clients to receive housing assistance.
- Identified client’s who could not utilize TBRA funding due to prior evictions, suspensions, or incarceration.
- Clients who were “on the street homeless” would not immediately qualify for TBRA assistance.

COVID-19 & Homelessness



- RW Housing program was already implemented.
- REACCH could accommodate client's who were in need of housing assistance.
- Utilities assistance.

Homelessness in Dauphin County



- POINT IN TIME SURVEY conducted in 2018 showed 650 Homeless individuals living in Dauphin County.
 - Socioeconomic barriers
 - Mental Health
 - Substance abuse (Harm reduction implemented)
 - Loss of Employment
 - Domestic Violence

Individuals migrate to the inner city:

- More housing resources
- Affordable housing
- Better access to food pantries and free meals
- There is no waiting list for PA's ADAP/SPBP

Record the Impact



Step 4: Track your work and outcomes!

- 59 clients received a Housing Case Management Services between 09/01/2019 – 06/30/2020
- 5 clients have been served through the REACCH Ryan White Housing Program from 01/01/2020 – 6/30/2020:
 - If program not offered, 4 out of 5 would have returned to prison, and/or be lost to care, impacting HIV RNA & CD4 counts
 - Case studies & client testimonials –
 - Successes – Client on Megan’s law, Halfway house, zero income, could not get home plan
 - Challenges– One family with repeat housing/landlord issues

Obtaining CME/CE Credit



- If you would like to receive continuing education credit for this activity, please visit:
- <http://ryanwhite.cds.pesgce.com>

References



- HIV/AIDS Bureau: Ryan White HIV/AIDS program services: Eligible individuals & allowable use of funds: https://hab.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hab/program-grants-management/ServiceCategoryPCN_16-02Final.pdf
- http://cachpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2019_PIT_REPORTand10YR_FINAL.pdf



Q&A Session

Additional Questions?



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