



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

# AAA: Assessment, Alignment, Action

Presented by Hailey de Anda, Akeshia Johnson Smothers, and Jaseudia Killion

# AGENDA

- Learning objectives
- Introduction of presenters
- Overview of the Austin/Travis County; HIV Planning Council and Fast-Track Cities
- Techniques to ensuring local alignment
- Leveraging local alignment for Ending the HIV Epidemic application and grants
- Next steps and Lessons Learned

# Learning Objectives

- Demonstrate an understanding of models to structure a HIV Planning Council/Fast Track Cities/ Ending the Epidemic collaboration;
- Identify plan alignment techniques;
- List Plan Alignment tools to strategically parallel efforts and identify priorities; and
- Identify first steps toward creating a locally tailored Ending the Epidemic initiative.



# Akeshia Johnson Smothers

- Austin Area HIV Planning Council Member
- Interim Social Services Policy Unit Manager with Austin Public Health (APH)
- Three year managing the HIV/STI Prevention services at APH
- Over 13 years of work in Public Health Follow up (Disease Intervention)
- Over 25 years of HIV/STI work/experience
- Masters of Social Work from Southern University New Orleans



# Hailey de Anda

- Interim Manager, Planning and Evaluation Unit, Austin Public Health
- Two years with the Office of Support for Ryan White Part A
- Eight years conducting health assessments and creating improvement plans based on
- Ten years in the public health field
- MPH from Texas A&M Health Science Center, School of Public Health



# Jaseudia S. Killion

- Ryan White Part A Public Health Planner II, Austin Public Health
- 2015 CDC's Public Health Associate Program (PHAP) Cohort
- Ten Years of Public Health Experience in Infectious Disease, Violence & Injury Prevention, and Maternal & Child Health
- Master of Public Administration from the University of Memphis
- The George Washington School of Public Health, Master of Public Health



# Community driven efforts to end HIV in Austin, Travis County and surrounding areas

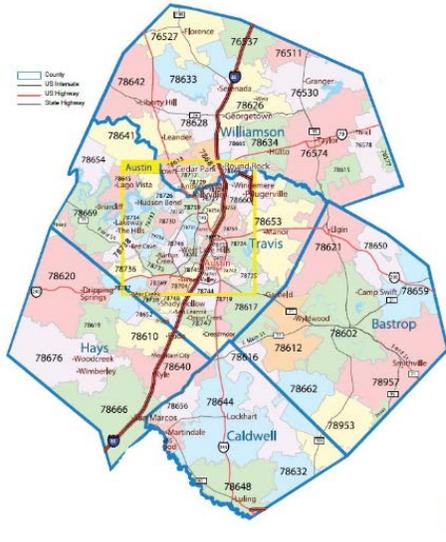
- HIV Planning Council
- Fast-Track Cities



# Austin Transitional Grant Area



The Austin TGA utilizes over \$5 Million in Ryan White Part A funds to provide services in five counties.



## Executive Committee Members



## Planning Council Members



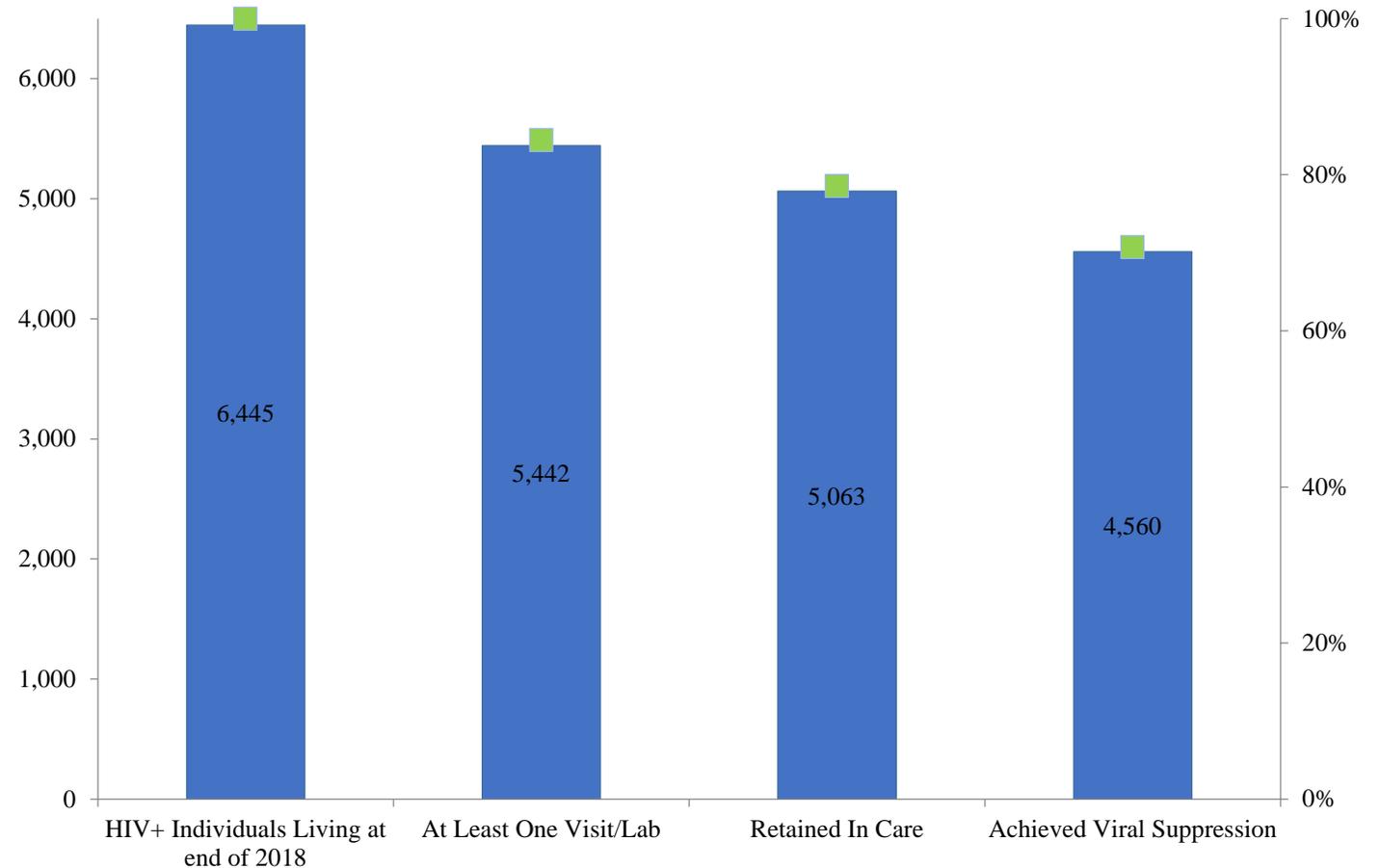
- The Austin TGA has a population over 2 million people
- Most of the TGA population is White (51%) followed by Hispanic (34%). African Americans make up 7% of the Austin TGA
- The largest city, Austin, lies in Travis County, where the majority (80%) of People Living with HIV (PLWH) reside



# HIV Population-Based Care Continuum for Austin Area, 2018



- 276 new HIV diagnoses in 2018.
- 1,513 HIV cases are estimated to be undiagnosed, making the estimated HIV/AIDS prevalence to be 7,958.
- Disproportionately impacted populations include:
  - Transgender Women,
  - Latinx MSM,
  - African American MSM, and
  - African American Women.



(Source: 2019 Ryan White Part A grant application – Health Service Delivery Area)

# Austin and Travis County Fast Track Cities



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On June 20th, 2018, Austin Mayor Steve Adler and Travis County Judge Sara Eckhardt signed the Paris Declaration on Fast-Track Cities



# Current Status of FTC Goals in Travis County

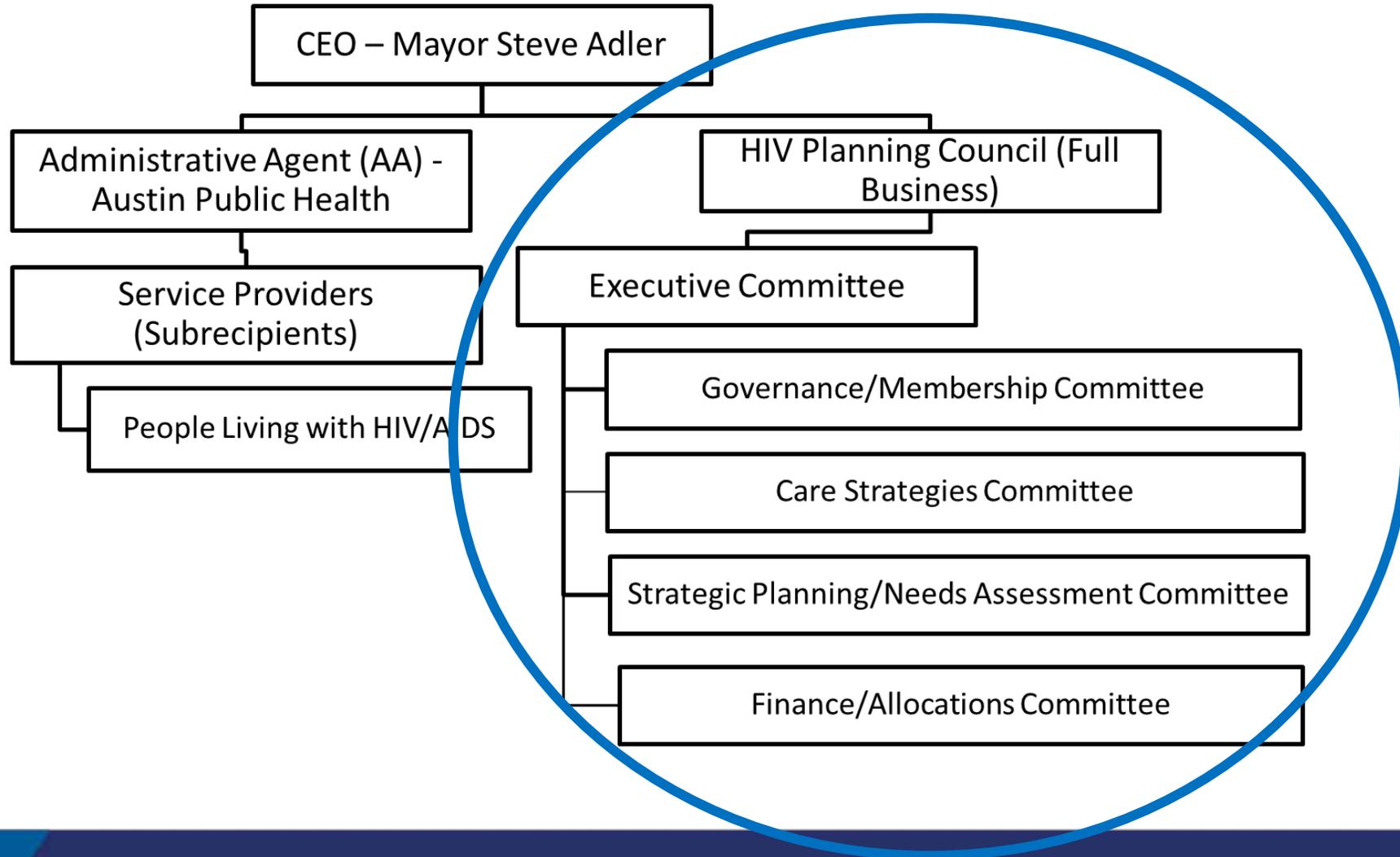


GOAL	CURRENT STATUS	GAP
Goal 1: 90% of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status.	Estimated 83% of Travis County residents living with HIV know their status	7%
Goal 2: 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV infection will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy.	80% of people diagnosed with HIV are retained in care	10%
Goal 3: 90% of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy will have viral suppression.	90% of people who are retained in care are virally suppressed	Goal Met
Goal 4: 50% reduction in new infections	There were 242 new diagnoses of HIV in Travis County. A 50% reduction would mean 121 new diagnoses.	50%
Goal 5: End stigma related to HIV	77% said stigma or fear of discrimination had not kept them from obtaining care	23%

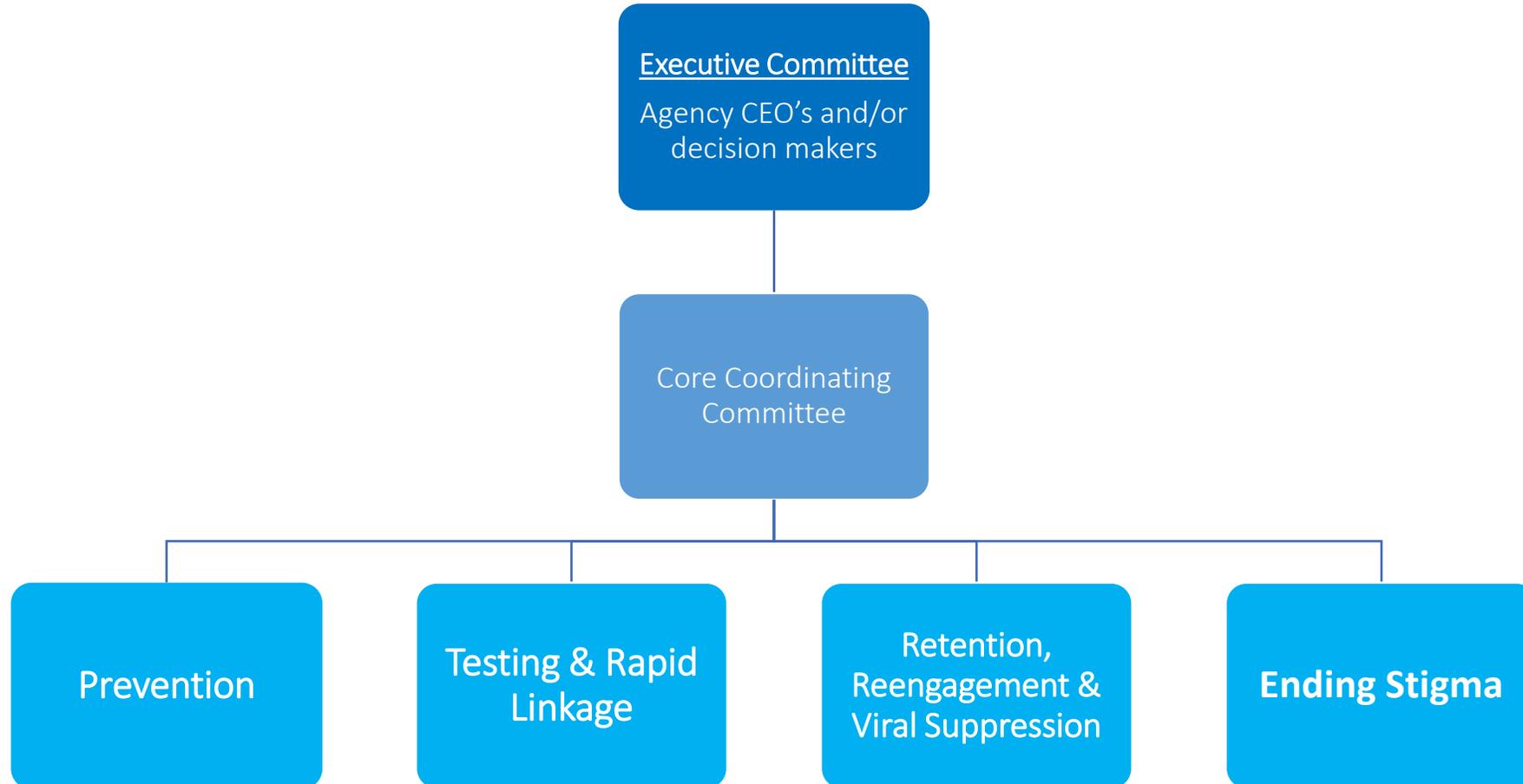
# How to leverage HIV Planning Council and Fast-Track Cities for collaboration

- Structure of HIV Planning Council and Fast-Track Cities
- Alignment of the HIV planning council

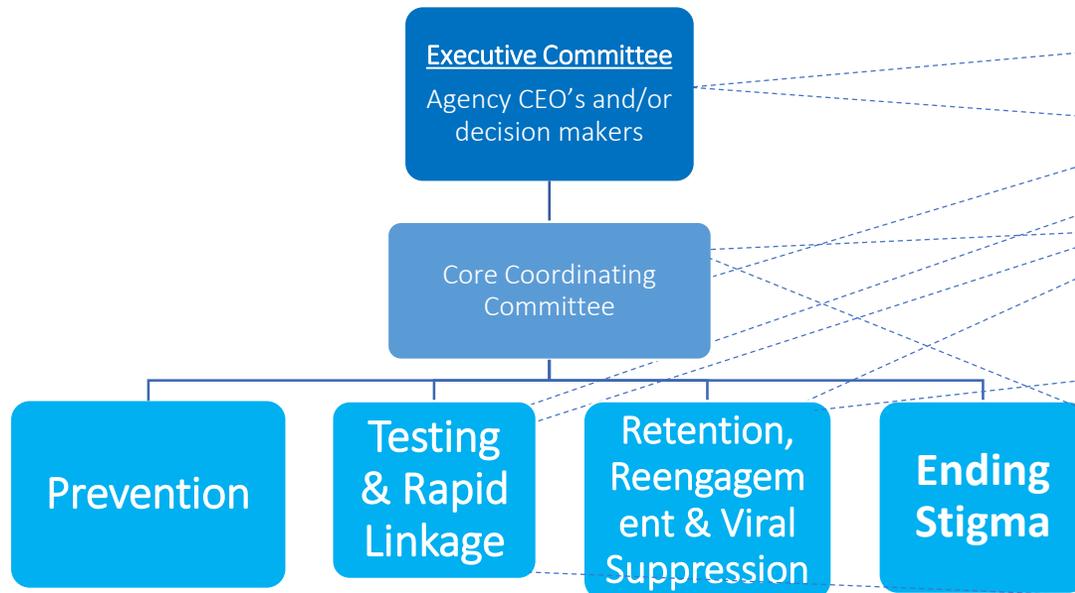
# HIV Planning Council Structure



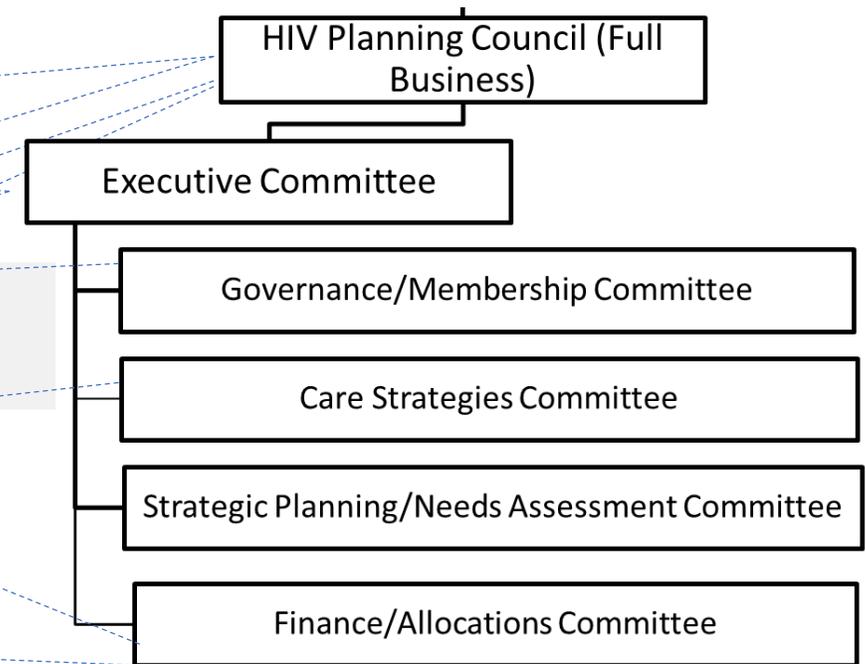
# Fast-Track Cities Structure



## Fast-Track Cities



## HIV Planning Council



# Techniques to build consensus and broad support

- Alignment of plans
- Transparent and open processes for HIV Planning Council and Fast-Track Cities
- Reconciling data



# Cultivate a Stigma-Free Climate



Strategy	Activity	Achieving Together	Fast Track Cities	HIV Planning Council
Accurate Messages	Coordinated social marketing campaign	✓	✓	✓
	U=U messaging	✓	✓	
	Oral History		✓	✓
Shared Language	Define Stigma	✓	✓	
	Develop Language Guide	✓	✓	
Normalize HIV Testing	Expand Opt-Out HIV Testing	✓	✓	✓
Policy and Advocacy	Advocate for Comprehensive Sex Education	✓	✓	✓
	World AIDS Day		✓	✓

# Fast Track Cities Goal Alignment



Goal Alignment				
	Fast Track Cities- Austin	Integrate Plan-HIV Planning Council	Achieving Together- State	Alignment
<b>Prevention</b>	Priority Area 1: Prevention 50% reduction in the number of new persons with HIV by 2020	Goal 1: Reduce New HIV Infections	Goal 1: Reduce HIV transmission and acquisition	✓
<b>Testing and Rapid Linkage</b>	Priority Area 2: Testing and Rapid Linkage			Partial @ objective level- Integrate Plan missing rapid linkage component
<b>Retention, Reengagement and Viral Suppression</b>	Priority Area 3: Retention, Reengagement and Viral Suppression	Goal 2: Increase access to care and improve health outcomes for people living with HIV	Goal 2: Increase viral suppression	✓
<b>Eliminate Health Disparities</b>	Woven throughout at strategies level	Goal 3: Reduce HIV - related disparities and health inequities	Goal 3: Eliminate Health Disparities	✓ - FTC addresses disparities @strategy level
<b>End Stigma</b>	Priority Area 4: End Stigma		Goal 4: Cultivate Stigma-Free Climate	Partial- Integrated Plan does not address stigma @ goal or objective level.
<b>Coordination</b>		Goal 4: Achieve a more coordinated local response to the HIV epidemic	[Focus Area 3: Collaborate, cooperate and coordinate across systems]	Partial- not explicit in FTC plan

# Open and Transparent Meeting



## HIV Planning Council

- Open application process for new members
- Open meetings
- Meeting materials publicly accessible
- Public comment allowed

## Fast-Track Cities

- Workgroups open to anyone who is interested in participating
- Quarterly consortiums where the general public can learn about FTC efforts

# Reinforcement of efforts



- Findings from FTC and HIV Planning Council start to align and overlap
- Conflicted PC members can participate in FTC meetings with local AA and have dialogue without creating a conflict of interest
- Assessment efforts complement each other and support each other's findings
- Variable opportunities for interested parties to become a part of local efforts through either FTC or HIV Planning Council
  - Some community members are interested in being on the Council
  - Some can attend consortiums

# Reconciling Data

## Fast Track Cities:

- Austin
- Travis County

**FAST TRACK**  
CITIES  **AUSTIN**



## Austin TGA:

- Bastrop
- Caldwell
- Hays
- Travis
- Williamson



## Delivery Area (HSDA):

- Travis,
- Williamson
- Bastrop
- Caldwell
- Hays
- Blanco
- Fayette
- Lee
- Llano



# Using federal funds to implement local plans

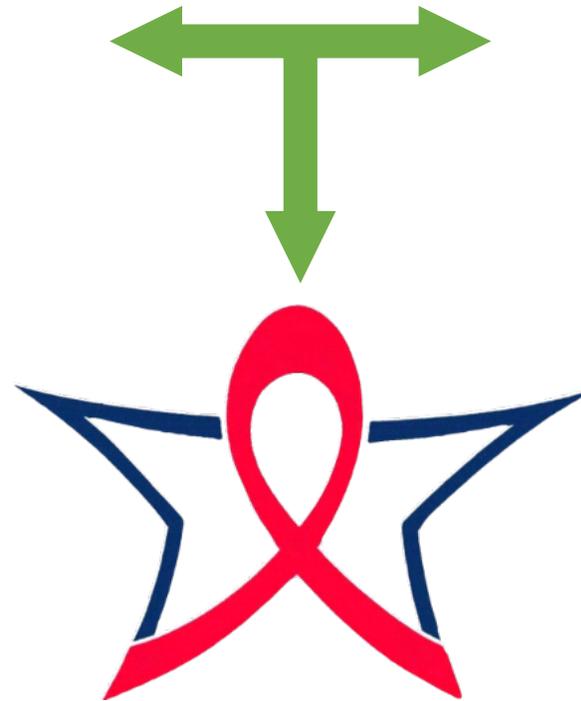
- Overview of Ending the HIV Epidemic
- Ending the HIV Epidemic Funds were used to promote local planning efforts

# Leveraging alignment for grant applications



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Ending  
the  
HIV  
Epidemic



HIV Planning Council



# Ending the HIV Epidemic

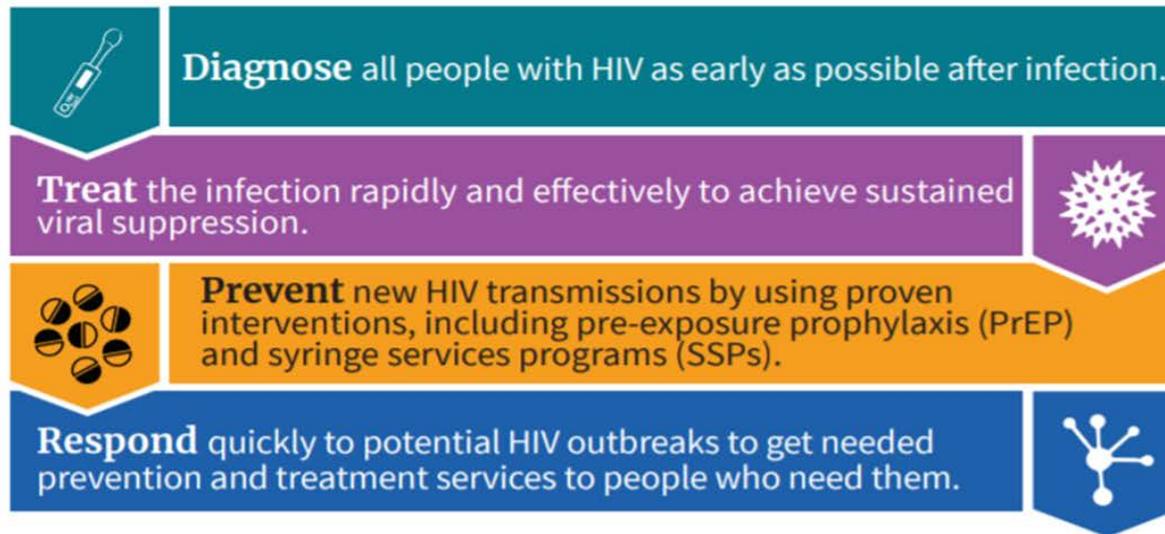
Several funding opportunities were released related to Ending the HIV Epidemic.

## GOAL:

reaching  
**75%**  
reduction  
in new HIV  
infections  
by 2025  
and at least  
**90%**  
reduction  
by 2030.



HHS will work with each community to establish local teams on the ground to tailor and implement strategies to:



Ending  
the  
HIV  
Epidemic



# Ending the HIV Epidemic Grant #1



## Planning Grant: STD Control Grant

- Funder: CDC through Texas Department of State Health Services
- Purpose or role of funds: This funding is intended to support the development of a community plan that will role-up into a state plan for Texas. The funds support FTC support staff, printing of FTC books and facilitation service to help us prioritize and do deep dives into the FTC's plan.

**Funding Amount:** \$80,000 for FTC

**Time Frame:** October 2019-September 2020



# Ending the HIV Epidemic Grant #2



## Funding Amount:

Award for Year 1:  
\$750,000. Remaining 4  
years may range from  
\$750,000 - \$2 000, 000

## Time Frame:

March 2020-February 2025

## Ending the HIV Epidemic: Direct Services Grant: A Plan for America-Ryan White HIV/AIDS Programs Parts A and B

- Funder: Health Resources and Services Administration
- Purpose or role of funds: A portion of these funds will be used to support the FastTrack Cities plan. The AA staff responsible for contracting out these funds will review Fast-Track Cities plan to identify what objectives and strategies will make appropriate funding opportunities for funds.



# Ending the HIV Epidemic Grant #3



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## Programming Grant: Integrated HIV Programs for Health Departments to Support Ending the Epidemic

- Funder: CDC through Texas Department of State Health Services
- Purpose or role of funds: A portion of these funds will be contracted out by the AA staff in alignment with grant's action plan. A portion of the funds will pay for Fast-Track Cities staff support. Picking up where the Planning grant left off. This grant will also support contact tracking.



### Funding Amount:

Grant Awards delayed due to COVID-19 (expectant announcement August 2020)

### Time Frame:

October 1, 2020-TBD

# In Closing

- Lessons Learned
- Next Steps



# Lessons Learned



- Frequent updates at HIV Planning Council and Fast-Track Cities meetings regarding activities and meetings of the other group.
- Overlap in membership between groups
- Open process for development of all deliverables with lots of opportunities for input from all organizations
- Identify similarities while also acknowledging differences between the two efforts
- Eliminate competition between planning efforts through alignment and collaboration

# Next Steps



- Developing a better understanding and alignment with other Ending the HIV Epidemic grants in the community.
- Ensuring alignment and updates between grant work plan and community action plans.
- Identifications of gaps in participation and recruitment to fill gaps.
- Continue regular meetings and alignment.

