Health Department HIV Prevention Programs That Support the National HIV/AIDS Strategy: The Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning Project, 2010–2013

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ABSTRACT

Objective. The Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning project was the first initiative of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address the goals of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS). Health departments in 12 U.S. cities with a high prevalence of AIDS conducted comprehensive program planning and implemented cost-effective, scalable HIV prevention interventions that targeted high-risk populations. We examined trends in health department HIV prevention programs in these cities during the project.

Methods. We analyzed the number of people who received partner services, condoms distributed, and people tested for HIV, as well as funding allocations for selected HIV prevention programs by year and by site from October 2010 through September 2013. We assessed trends in the proportional change in services and allocations during the project period using generalized estimating equations. We also conducted thematic coding of program activities that targeted people living with HIV infection (PLWH).

Results. We found significant increases in funding allocations for HIV testing and condom distribution. All HIV partner services indicators, condom distribution, and HIV testing of African American and Hispanic/Latino populations significantly increased. HIV tests associated with a new diagnosis increased significantly among those self-identifying as Hispanic/Latino but significantly decreased among African Americans. For programs targeting PLWH, health department activities included implementing new program models, improving local data use, and building local capacity to enhance linkage to HIV medical care, retention in care, and treatment adherence.

Conclusions. Overall, these findings indicate that health departments in areas with a high burden of AIDS successfully shifted their HIV prevention resources to scale up important HIV programs and make progress toward NHAS goals.

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The National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS), established in 2010, set clear priorities for public health officials to refocus their response to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and realign prevention resources for high-impact prevention. Four main goals of the NHAS are to reduce new HIV infections, increase access to care and optimal health outcomes for people living with HIV infection (PLWH), reduce HIV-related health disparites, and achieve a more coordinated response to the HIV/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) epidemic. Health departments have an important role in NHAS implementation because they are responsible for implementing publicly funded prevention programs and making decisions about the optimal combination of programs for their jurisdictions.

In support of the NHAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provided funding to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to implement the Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning (ECHPP) project (2010–2013) in 12 U.S. metropolitan statistical areas with a high prevalence of AIDS.² Through the ECHPP project, health departments engaged in comprehensive planning to reprioritize their HIV-related activities across all funding sources and leverage existing resources to align programs with NHAS goals. Where appropriate, these health departments scaled up selected activities in their HIV prevention programs to attain NHAS goals for 2015.

We describe trends in HIV program funding allocations and services implemented by ECHPP-funded health departments during the ECHPP project period and after the release of the NHAS. We report data on program outcomes related to NHAS goals: partner services, condom distribution among high-risk populations, and HIV testing (to prevent new infections); HIV testing among African Americans and those self-identifying as Hispanic/Latino (to reduce HIV-related disparities); and linkage to HIV medical care, retention and reengagement in care, and treatment adherence (to increase access to care and improve health outcomes for PLWH).

METHODS

Twelve health departments participated in the ECHPP project: Chicago Department of Public Health (Chicago, Illinois); District of Columbia Department of Health (Washington, D.C.); Florida Department of Health (Miami, Florida); Georgia Department of Public Health (Atlanta, Georgia); Houston Health Department (Houston, Texas); Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Los Angeles, California);

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Baltimore, Maryland); New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (New York, New York); Philadelphia Department of Public Health (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania); Puerto Rico Department of Health (San Juan, Puerto Rico); San Francisco Department of Public Health (San Francisco, California); and Texas Department of State Health Services (Dallas, Texas). We used the term ECHPP "site" for the geographic area in which the health department implemented its programs in its metropolitan statistical area. Four health departments implemented programs in their entire metropolitan statistical area; eight health departments implemented programs in selected counties in their metropolitan statistical area (according to disease burden and local resources).

Health department ECHPP plans included HIV testing in clinical and community settings, condom distribution among high-risk populations, and programs that targeted PLWH. Programs that targeted PLWH included HIV partner services (confidential, voluntary services to help PLWH notify their sex and drug-injecting partners of possible HIV exposure so partners can receive testing for HIV and sexually transmitted diseases [STDs] and related services), linkage to HIV medical care within three months of new diagnosis, retention and reengagement in HIV medical care for previously diagnosed people not in care, and treatment adherence activities. Details of the ECHPP project and its evaluation are provided in this issue of *Public Health Reports*.^{2,3}

Data collection

The ECHPP project represents the first time that CDC requested that health department grantees consider their entire portfolio of HIV programs during project planning and implementation and report programmatic information for both CDC and non-CDC funding sources. Thus, no comparable data for the pre- or post-ECHPP years are available. Although comprehensive planning and integration of HIV prevention and HIV care activities by health departments have been encouraged by CDC and other federal agencies in recent years, data on integrated programs or programs funded by non-CDC sources are not routinely shared with CDC. Each ECHPP health department reported quantitative and qualitative data on programs and funding allocation annually to CDC using standardized ECHPP progress reports, unless otherwise noted. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) provided CDC with allocation data for Ryan White Part A Programs implemented by health departments in these metropolitan areas. Ryan White Part A Program

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allocations are reported annually by the seven city or county ECHPP health departments and represent programs that target PLWH.⁴ For the five state ECHPP health departments, Part A allocations are allocations made by a local county health department that partnered with the state health department to conduct ECHPP activities. Allocation data for all other funding (i.e., other federal agency, state, local, or private sources) were submitted directly to CDC. Other federal agencies included the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Funding allocations were defined as the amount of money health departments planned to spend on ECHPP programs. Allocation data were used as a proxy for actual funds spent because data on actual expenditures were not available. Data on allocations and HIV testing data were reported by calendar year. Other data were reported by project year (i.e., year 1, October 2010-September 2011; year 2, October 2011-September 2012; and year 3, October 2012–September 2013).

Data on partner services reported in aggregate by health departments in progress reports included the following: the number of newly diagnosed HIV-positive people interviewed for partner services, the number of notified partners tested for HIV, the number of previously undiagnosed partners who tested HIV-positive, and the number of people who received their test results. Data on partner services for two sites (Atlanta and Los Angeles) were excluded from analysis because the local data systems could not distinguish between new and previously diagnosed HIV-positive people. Data on condom distribution reported in aggregate by health departments in progress reports included the number of condoms distributed when targeting highrisk populations at specific venues (i.e., distribution at venues frequented by PLWH and high-risk people who are HIV-negative or do not know their HIV status).

For each calendar year and each ECHPP site, we examined the number of HIV tests and number of HIV-positive tests that indicated a new diagnosis of HIV infection (hereinafter referred to as "newly diagnosed"), overall and separately for African Americans and those self-identifying as Hispanic/Latino. HIV testing data were obtained from two sources: CDC's National HIV Prevention Program Monitoring and Evaluation system for CDC-funded HIV testing 5 and ECHPP progress reports for HIV testing activities funded by other sources. Using ZIP Code of testing venue, we extracted testing data for the 12 ECHPP sites from the National HIV Prevention Program Monitoring and Evaluation system, which included HIV testing data from all health department testing

programs funded by CDC. Previous self-reported HIV test results and current HIV test results were used to calculate the number of newly diagnosed people (i.e., those who did not report a previous HIV-positive test). Six health departments reported data in aggregate on tests supported by other funding sources in progress reports (Washington, D.C., Houston, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco). For all testing data for each year, we computed the percentage of tests resulting in a new HIV diagnosis (i.e., positivity). Health departments also described activities that enhanced linkage to care, retention or reengagement in care, and treatment adherence among PLWH in their progress reports.

Data analysis

We reviewed ECHPP plans and local objectives to identify health departments that planned to scale up program activities. To assess trends in allocations and program outcomes for all 12 ECHPP sites, we generated weights to treat each site equally. We assessed trends for numerators and not proportions (e.g., number of named partners tested instead of proportion of named partners tested) because we wanted to assess the extent to which these health departments scaled up their programs to increase the overall number of people reached. Weights serve to estimate the trend using data from each site equally without the results being disproportionately influenced by the few ECHPP sites that have higher populations of people at risk for and living with diagnosed HIV. For each outcome, weights were calculated by dividing the mean first-year value by the first-year value for each site. For example, a site with half the HIV tests during 2011 than the average would be assigned a weight of 2 to compensate for the smaller number of observations. We analyzed trends during the three years using generalized estimating equations with a negative binomial distribution,⁶ producing rate ratios (RRs). This test for trends assessed the average proportional change from 2011 to 2012 to 2013 for funding allocation and HIV testing data, and project year 1 to project year 2 to project year 3 data for all other data; it did not assess whether the total number increased or decreased. Empirical (robust) standard errors and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were applied.⁷

Two ECHPP sites (New York and Washington, D.C.) participated in the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) 065 Study during our assessment. To account for the additional programmatic activities of HPTN 065, we assessed trends in partner services, condom distribution, and HIV testing after omitting data from these two sites from analysis. San Juan data on race/

ethnicity were excluded from analyses because data were not uniformly available, and data on funding allocations, partner services, and condom distribution were excluded from analyses because final data were not available.

Two coders conducted a content analysis for linkage to care, retention or reengagement in care, and treatment adherence activities. Each coder reviewed progress reports for half of the health departments, summarized activities, and created broad activity categories. Next, they discussed all categories and agreed on a final set. We focused on the five most frequently reported activity categories for each intervention.

RESULTS

Among 11 ECHPP sites in 2010 (Table 1), 45% of PLWH were African American (range 13% in San Francisco to 78% in Baltimore) and 27% self-identified as Hispanic/Latino (range 3% in Baltimore to 41% in Los Angeles); African American and Hispanic/Latino participants constituted the majority of PLWH in all ECHPP sites except in San Francisco, where 62% of PLWH were white.

Among 11 ECHPP sites from 2011 to 2013, HIV testing allocations increased from \$45.2 million to \$59.0 million (RR=1.29; 95% CI 1.07, 1.55), and allocations for condom distribution to high-risk groups increased from \$2.7 million to \$3.8 million (RR=1.81; 95% CI 1.53, 2.14). Overall allocations for programs that target PLWH did not significantly change (Figure). However, Ryan White Part A Program funding allocations decreased from \$325.1 million to \$292.8 million (RR=0.97; 95% CI 0.94, 0.99), and other allocations for programs that target PLWH (e.g., HIV partner services programs, activities that connect clients to HIV medical care) increased from \$26.8 million to \$43.5 million (RR=1.36; 95% CI 1.14, 1.61).

Trends for all indicators for partner services from year 1 to year 3 were significant for the nine sites included in analysis (Table 2). The number of people newly diagnosed with HIV interviewed for partner services increased from 3,294 to 5,063 (RR=1.70; 95% CI 1.29, 2.24). The number of named partners tested increased from 1,664 to 1,778 (RR=1.27; 95% CI 1.15, 1.40). The number of newly diagnosed HIV-positive partners who received their test results increased from 117 to 195 (RR=1.68; 95% CI 1.14, 2.47). The number

Table 1. Adults and adolescents living with diagnosed HIV infection at year-end 2010, by race/ethnicity, 12 Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning project sites^a

	Estimated ^c number of adults and adolescents (aged ≥13 years) living with HIV infection (percent)							
Site ^b	African American	Hispanic/Latino ^d	White	Other races/ ethnicities	Total			
New York	43,588 (42)	35,883 (35)	18,024 (17)	5,990 (6)	103,485			
Los Angeles	8,231 (20)	17,264 (41)	14,071 (34)	2,345 (6)	41,911			
Miami	11,940 (47)	10,013 (39)	3,054 (12)	544 (2)	25,551			
Chicago	11,807 (50)	4,317 (18)	6,145 (26)	1,500 (6)	23,769			
Atlanta	13,725 (66)	2,157 (10)	4,085 (20)	970 (5)	20,937			
Houston	9,427 (48)	4,842 (25)	4,742 (24)	705 (4)	19,716			
Baltimore	13,354 (78)	513 (3)	2,500 (15)	831 (5)	17,198			
Philadelphia	10,224 (63)	2,262 (14)	2,988 (19)	638 (4)	16,112			
San Francisco	1,852 (13)	2,525 (17)	9,021 (62)	1,151 (8)	14,549			
Dallas	5,259 (38)	2,911 (21)	4,986 (36)	638 (5)	13,794			
Washington, D.C.	10,242 (75)	869 (6)	2,182 (16)	440 (3)	13,733			
Subtotal	139,649 (45)	83,556 (27)	71,798 (23)	15,752 (5)	310,755			
San Juan, Puerto Rico ^e	NA	NA	NA	NA	12,774			
Total	NA	NA	NA	NA	323,529			

^aData include people aged ≥13 years living with a diagnosed HIV infection, regardless of stage of disease at diagnosis, at year-end 2010, reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as of June 30, 2014. Age is based on the person's age as of December 31, 2010. Percentages may not total to 100 because of rounding.

bSites are listed in order of HIV prevalence (number of people living with a diagnosed HIV infection at year-end 2010), from high to low.

Estimated numbers resulted from statistical adjustment that accounted for reporting delays but not for incomplete reporting.

dHispanic/Latino people can be of any race.

eRace/ethnicity data are not provided for San Juan, Puerto Rico, because these data were not uniformly available.

HIV = human immunodeficiency virus

NA = not available

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Figure. Health department funding allocations for programs that target people living with HIV infection, 11 Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning project sites, January 2011–January 2013

^aThe HRSA Funding Source (Ryan White Part A) data were provided by HRSA to CDC. The CDC, other federal, state, local, and private funding sources were reported to CDC by Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning (ECHPP) grantees through ECHPP grantee progress

2012

^bThe sites were located in Chicago, Illinois; Washington, D.C.; Miami, Florida; Atlanta, Georgia; Houston, Texas; Los Angeles, California; Baltimore, Maryland; New York, New York; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; San Francisco, California; and Dallas, Texas. San Juan, Puerto Rico, was excluded because of missing data.

^cStatistically significant trend, p=0.01

dStatistically significant trend, p<0.001

HIV = human immunodeficiency virus

HRSA = Health Resources and Services Administration

CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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2011

HRSA funding source (Ryan White Part A)^c

of condoms distributed also increased from 19,159,054 to 41,708,387 (RR=2.24; 95% CI 1.89, 2.67).

Overall HIV testing trends were not significant (Table 3). A total of 1,018,135 HIV tests were conducted in 2011 and 1,135,421 HIV tests were conducted in 2013. People newly diagnosed with HIV through testing events totaled 7,474 in 2011 and 7,053 in 2013. The number of HIV tests among African Americans increased from 494,849 to 524,057 (RR=1.04; 95% CI 1.01, 1.07) from 2011 to 2013, but the number of African Americans who were newly diagnosed decreased from 3,917 to 3,627 (RR=0.94; 95% CI 0.90, 0.98). The number of HIV tests among those self-identifying as Hispanic/Latino increased from 287,848 to 309,497 (RR=1.10; 95% CI 1.03, 1.17) during this time period. Although the trend for newly diagnosed Hispanic/ Latino participants increased (RR=1.15; 95% CI 1.04, 1.28), the number of newly diagnosed Hispanic/Latino participants decreased slightly, from 1,770 in 2011 to 1,692 in 2013. This discrepancy occurred because the trend test assessed average proportional change for all sites, rather than change in the number.

After removing data for New York and Washington,

D.C., from our analysis because of the cities' participation in HPTN 065, the direction and significance of our results did not change. We also report on the top five most frequently reported activities for linkage to care, retention or reengagement in care, and treatment adherence activities (Table 4).

2013

CDC, other federal, state, local, and private funding sources

DISCUSSION

The ECHPP project was the first CDC initiative to support health department implementation of NHAS and encourage high-impact prevention in areas with a high prevalence of AIDS. Funding allocation trends for 2011–2013 showed that health departments in 12 U.S. cities with the highest HIV burden increased program dollars to support HIV testing, condom distribution, and non-Ryan White Part A Programs that target PLWH. Trends showed that these health departments supported the goal to reduce new HIV infections by increasing the number of people served by partner services and condom distribution programs. Health departments supported the goal to reduce HIV-related disparities by increasing testing of African

American and Hispanic/Latino populations. In support of improving service access and health outcomes for PLWH, health departments piloted new program models and enhanced their infrastructure, capacity, local partnerships, and data use, which should ultimately improve outcomes related to linkage, retention in care, and treatment adherence.

HIV partner services and condom distribution programs are important strategies to reduce new HIV infections.^{8,9} During the ECHPP project, all indicators of partner services increased, suggesting overall success at these health departments in expansion of services, program integration, building of staff capacity, and new partnerships. However, not all health departments reported increases for all indicators, which may reflect differences in local priorities and resources. The number of condoms distributed to PLWH and high-risk populations doubled from the first year to the last year of the ECHPP project, and nine sites reported increasing distribution. This shift is supported by evidence that shows condom distribution programs to be cost-effective, cost saving, and perhaps easier to implement than other programs.

Although these data do not directly address racial/

ethnic disparities in HIV testing, the increased testing of African Americans and those self-identifying as Hispanic/Latino suggests that health department testing programs in high-burden areas are increasing their reach among racial/ethnic minority groups and increasing the proportion of people who know their status. An increasing trend in newly diagnosed people self-identifying as Hispanic/Latino is an important finding because this group is the largest ethnic minority population in the United States; although they comprise 16% of the population,10 they account for 21% of new HIV diagnoses.11 We found an overall decrease in new diagnoses among African Americans; several reasons may explain this decrease. HIV incidence among African American women has decreased in recent years (by 21% from 2008 to 201012) and, in some communities, incidence could be decreasing among men as well. We found increases in the number of newly diagnosed African Americans in some ECHPP sites but not in others; differences in local targeting efforts or levels of HIV infection in these communities may explain this variation. Nationally, the percentage of HIV-infected African Americans who are unaware of their HIV infection is decreasing, 13 suggesting that

Table 2. Number of people newly diagnosed with HIV and interviewed for partner services, named partners tested for HIV, and newly diagnosed HIV-positive partners who received their test results, Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning (ECHPP) project sites,^a October 2010–September 2013

	Planned to increase partner services	Number of people newly diagnosed with HIV who were interviewed for partner services ^b		Number of named partners tested for HIV ⁶			Number of partners newly diagnosed with HIV ^e who received their test results ^d			
Site		Year 1 ^e	Year 2 ^e	Year 3 ^e	Year 1 ^e	Year 2 ^e	Year 3 ^e	Year 1 ^e	Year 2 ^e	Year 3 ^e
Baltimore	Yes	218	297	352	80	132	157	10	24	22
Chicago	Yes	125	114	153	105	71	100	6	<5	5
Dallas	No	713	662	572	411	436	268	32	20	15
Washington, D.C.	Yes	95	88	178	90	42	90	<5	<5	5
Houston	No	1,011	972	972	574	447	398	19	33	17
Miami	Yes	171	526	524	64	180	155	5	41	46
New York	Yes	824	1,641	1,888	243	639	455	34	70	63
Philadelphia	No	86	131	143	53	82	85	0	0	10
San Francisco	Yes	51	164	281	44	52	70	7	6	12
Total		3,294	4,595	5,063	1,664	2,081	1,778	117	198	195

^aThree sites (Atlanta, Los Angeles, and San Juan, Puerto Rico) were excluded from analysis; Atlanta and Los Angeles lacked data on the number of newly diagnosed people interviewed for partner services, and San Juan lacked final data. Data were obtained from ECHPP grantee progress reports.

^bSignificant trend during three years, p<0.001

Across these nine sites, among those tested for HIV, the number of partners who were newly diagnosed with HIV was 145 (9%) in year 1, 214 (10%) in year 2, and 202 (11%) in year 3.

^dSignificant trend during three years, p=0.009

^eReporting periods represent ECHPP project years: year 1, October 1, 2010–September 30, 2011; year 2, October 1, 2011–September 30, 2012; and year 3, October 1, 2012–September 30, 2013.

HIV = human immunodeficiency virus

Table 3. Number of HIV tests and people newly diagnosed with HIV, Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning project sites, January 2011–December 2013

		Nı	ımber of HIV te	ests	with HIV (pe	Number of people newly diagnosed with HIV (percentage of tests resulting in new HIV diagnoses)		
Site	Planned to increase testing ^a	January– December 2011	January– December 2012	January– December 2013	January– December 2011	January– December 2012	January– December 2013	
Atlanta ^b	Yes	45,628	48,951	51,468	531 (1.2)	701 (1.4)	715 (1.4)	
Baltimore ^b	Yes	69,807	74,539	66,163	601 (0.9)	540 (0.7)	493 (0.8)	
Chicago ^b	Yes	52,204	64,255	57,264	292 (0.6)	372 (0.6)	290 (0.5)	
Dallas ^b	Yes	25,783	23,597	21,948	392 (1.5)	255 (1.1)	276 (1.3)	
Washington, D.C. ^c	Yes	129,418	113,789	123,693	699 (0.5)	659 (0.6)	479 (0.4)	
Houston ^c	Yes	114,256	118,043	119,157	248 (0.2)	230 (0.2)	191 (0.2)	
Los Angeles ^d	Yes	91,160	116,256	158,303	887 (1.0)	1,029 (0.9)	1,099 (0.7)	
Miami ^b	Yes	74,042	78,739	89,055	768 (1.0)	781 (1.0)	675 (0.8)	
New York ^c	Yes	243,852	184,627	250,656	1,687 (0.7)	1,020 (0.6)	1,458 (0.6)	
Philadelphia ^c	No	98,752	116,078	119,329	691 (0.7)	732 (0.6)	765 (0.6)	
San Francisco ^c	Yes	45,908	51,807	55,416	353 (0.8)	376 (0.7)	365 (0.7)	
San Juan, Puerto Ricob	Yes	27,325	20,199	22,969	325 (1.2)	378 (1.9)	248 (1.1)	
Overall total ^e		1,018,135	1,010,880	1,135,421	7,474 (0.7)	6,696 (0.7)	7,053 (0.6)	
African American total ^{f,g}		494,849	497,635	524,057	3,917 (0.8)	3,809 (0.8)	3,627 (0.7)	
Hispanic/Latino total ^{f,h}		287,848	267,393	309,497	1,770 (0.6)	1,650 (0.6)	1,692 (0.5)	

Planned to increase their HIV testing activities or increase the number of newly diagnosed HIV-positive people found through testing CDC-funded tests only

current testing strategies are generally successful. However, more innovative strategies may be needed to reach the small percentage of African Americans who are still unaware of their HIV infection.

Our qualitative findings indicate these health departments are devoting considerable effort to implementing activities that support linkage, retention and reengagement in care, and medication adherence. Their programmatic strategies may serve as models for jurisdictions with a low or medium burden of HIV/AIDS; the health departments in these jurisdictions may need more time to scale up services to reach NHAS goals. The total number of PLWH in the ECHPP sites who have been linked and retained in care during the project period are not yet available from CDC's National HIV Surveillance System.¹⁴ However, health

departments can compute these indicators by using their local surveillance data to assess the extent to which they are improving continuum-of-care outcomes.

At the start of the ECHPP project, health departments conducted a local analysis to identify service gaps and develop strategies to increase coordination of services, realign resources, and increase local impact, using existing resources where possible. CDC's largest HIV prevention cooperative agreement and HRSA's overall Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program represent a substantial proportion of health departments' existing resources and, thus, influence prevention program activity. Beginning in 2012, CDC required all CDC-funded health department grantees to direct 75% of their flagship funds to core HIV prevention programs—HIV testing, condom distribution among

Both CDC-funded tests and tests funded by other sources (i.e., other federal, state, local, or private funds)

^dFor Los Angeles, CDC-funded tests only are reported for 2011 and 2012. Both CDC-funded tests and privately funded tests are reported for 2013. In 2013, 59 of the 1,099 newly identified HIV-positive test results in Los Angeles represented newly diagnosed confirmed HIV-positive tests only (preliminary HIV-positive tests not included).

eTrend results for overall totals were not significant: number of HIV tests (p=0.47), number of people newly diagnosed with HIV (p=0.12)

¹San Juan, Puerto Rico, data were excluded from racial/ethnic totals because most HIV testing in San Juan is conducted among Hispanic/Latino people.

 $^{^{9}}$ Significant increasing trend for number of HIV tests (p=0.008); significant decreasing trend for number of people newly diagnosed with HIV (p=0.009)

 $^{^{}h}$ Significant increasing trends for number of HIV tests (p=0.004) and number of people newly diagnosed with HIV (p=0.009)

HIV = human immunodeficiency virus

CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Table 4. The top five most frequently reported activities for each of three interventions, 12 Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning project sites,^a October 2010–September 2013

Health department intervention and activity	Number of sites reporting activity
Linkage to HIV medical care	
Piloted new linkage program models (e.g., client-centered, health-care navigation programs; programs targeting specific populations; programs offering incentives to make linkage targets)	11
• Improved capacity of health department/community providers to link people to care (e.g., training, sharing of best practices, hiring new staff, designating linkage specialists)	10
• Improved local data integration or methods for tracking linkage (e.g., routinized matching of surveillance and HIV testing data to identify not-in-care PLWH)	8
• Created partnerships within and outside health department to enhance linkage activities (e.g., partnerships with staff members of HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and health-care providers)	8
• Emphasized enhanced linkage activities in health department–funded program announcements Retention and reengagement in HIV medical care	6
 Provided comprehensive HIV care and support services to PLWH (e.g., medical care coordination, medical homes, continued support of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program) 	7
 Improved health department and community capacity to retain and reengage PLWH (e.g., provided motivational interviewing training to providers, hired peer support advocates) 	7
 Improved data integration methods to identify people not in care (e.g., integrated HIV case surveillance systems, laboratory databases, Ryan White data systems, HIV testing databases) 	7
 Created partnerships within and outside health department to enhance retention and reengagement (e.g., partnerships with local hospitals, Ryan White staff members, health-care providers) 	6
Gathered data from providers and consumers on how to improve retention and reengagement Treatment adherence	5
 Improved capacity of providers, case managers, and care coordination staff to support adherence through training sessions 	9
 Used clinical and laboratory data to monitor adherence and identify clients with suboptimal adherence (e.g., disseminated report cards that summarized performance indicators for providers; developed tools to identify providers whose clients have low viral suppression rates) 	6
Provided adherence information, services, or tools directly to PLWH (e.g., electronic reminders to re-enroll in financial assistance programs, adherence counseling)	5
Developed or participated in integrated HIV prevention and care workgroups to improve adherence strategies	5
• Implemented evidence-based interventions that included adherence components or otherwise supported medication adherence	4

^aThe sites were located in Chicago, Illinois; Washington, D.C.; Miami, Florida; Atlanta, Georgia; Houston, Texas; Los Angeles, California; Baltimore, Maryland; New York, New York; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; San Juan, Puerto Rico; San Francisco, California; and Dallas, Texas.

HIV = human immunodeficiency virus

PLWH = people living with HIV infection

HRSA = Health Resources and Services Administration

AIDS = acquired immunodeficiency syndrome

high-risk populations, programs that target PLWH, and policy and structural interventions.¹⁵ This change was the first time that CDC's flagship program required that dollars be allocated to programs that target PLWH. HRSA's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program supports most of the publicly funded programs for PLWH, such as case management, pharmaceutical financial assistance, and treatment adherence counseling.⁴ Our findings indicate that some prevention programs, such as testing and condom distribution, can be scaled up with existing federal resources, but additional information is needed to understand how local resources can support scale-up of programs that target PLWH.

Many ECHPP plans involved development of new data systems, statistical modeling to identify optimal program combinations, creation of new partnerships, and implementation of new data and program protocols, all of which can be time-consuming and costly.² Despite this investment, these health departments increased service delivery of important HIV prevention programs. Overall allocations for programs targeting PLWH were relatively flat from 2011 to 2013, despite growing emphasis at different levels of public health on "prevention for positives" and "treatment as prevention." Total Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program awards decreased during this time period, ¹⁶ which could have

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limited health departments' ability to increase allocations. On the other hand, some health departments reported leveraging other federal resources (e.g., Medicaid) to pay for programs and offset a decrease in funds. Also, additional monies may not have been needed if the number of new infections in the jurisdiction was declining or if the health department successfully shifted to higher-impact programs or policies at no additional cost.

Limitations

Several limitations should be noted. First, without additional years of data (for pre- and post-ECHPP periods) and without data from non-ECHPP comparison sites, it was difficult to draw inferences about the extent to which the ECHPP project contributed to the trends. However, because the ECHPP project focused on planning initially, we would expect some increase in services as sites began to implement new ECHPP strategies and program models. Second, although the overarching project goals were the same, local objectives, priorities, and program implementation varied. Thus, program scale-up may look different across cities, and broad interpretations about why trends exist should be limited. Third, causal inferences about the ECHPP project or any specific program and its impact are not appropriate, because results summarize programs funded across different sources, and other initiatives implemented during these years may have influenced findings. Fourth, the number of newly diagnosed people may be overestimated given that HIV testing program data, which rely on self-report rather than HIV case surveillance data, were analyzed. Finally, although the increasing trends are believed to be due to a true scale-up in services, changes in data systems could have contributed to some trends.

CONCLUSION

Overall, these data support the conclusion that ECHPP jurisdictions implemented large-scale shifts in HIV prevention programs to meet NHAS goals.

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