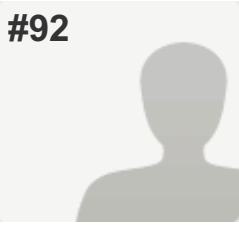


Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

#92



COMPLETE

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Q1: OPTIONAL: This recommendation was submitted by (please provide your first and last name, affiliation, and email address)

First Name	Christine C.
Last Name	Hunter
Affiliation	SASDC Member/ Nassau /Suffolk HIV Planning Council
Email Address	cchunter51@hotmail.com

Q2: Title of your recommendation Expanding Access to Employment and Employment Services for PLHIV

Q3: Please provide a description of your proposed recommendation

AIDS Institute funded linkage to and retention in care programs should newly support training, education, vocational rehabilitation and workforce development opportunities for PLWHA at all points of engagement. Specifically, we recommend the AIDS Institute to do the followings:

- Issue guidance on how providers would approach discussions with clients related to transition to work.
- Revise program policies and procedures to include assessment of employment needs of PLHIV from initial intake throughout service delivery, with responsive information and referral, or direct delivery of employment services, and required data collection tracking PLHIV employment needs and service delivery.
- Through the AIDS Institute Regional Training Center, provide overview training to all AIDS Institute-funded providers about 1) barriers and challenges for PLWHA to engage in employment, vocational training and rehabilitation services, and 2) availability of resources (e.g., ACCES-VR, Ticket-to-Work, NYESS, Dept. of Labor, Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs), OTDA, HRA – and community-based HIV employment programs).
- Increase funding for linkage to and retention in care programs to include a consumer education component on training, education, and vocational rehabilitation and workforce development opportunities for people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition, funded programs would make referrals to government and community-based programs such as ACCES-VR, Ticket to Work, NYESS, OASAS, Work Incentive Planning and Assistance (WIPA), Legal Action Center, American Job Centers (One Stops), the OTDA HIV/AIDS Employment Initiative and other community-based HIV employment programs.
- Identify and eliminate barriers/discouragement to work and increase incentives/encouragement to work.

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Q4: For which goal outlined in the Governor's plan to end the epidemic in New York State does this recommendation apply? (Select all that apply)

Linking and retaining persons diagnosed with HIV to health care and getting them on anti-HIV therapy to maximize HIV virus suppression so they remain healthy and prevent further transmission

Q5: This recommendation should be considered by the following Ending the Epidemic Task Force Committee (Select all that apply)

Prevention Committee: Develop recommendations for ensuring the effective implementation of biomedical advances in the prevention of HIV, (such as the use of Truvada as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)); for ensuring access for those most in need to keep them negative; and for expansion of syringe exchange, expanded partner services, and streamlined HIV testing by further implementing the universal offer of HIV testing in primary care, among others. The Committee will focus on continuing innovative and comprehensive prevention and harm reduction services targeted at key high risk populations, as well as grant-funded services that engage in both secondary and primary prevention.

Care Committee: Develop recommendations to support access to care and treatment in order to maximize the rate of HIV viral suppression. The Committee will promote linkages and retention in care to achieve viral suppression and promote the highest quality of life while significantly decreasing the risks of HIV transmission. Recommendations will also ensure a person centered approach is taken and that access to culturally and linguistically appropriate prevention and health care services is available.

Q6: Does this recommendation require a change to an existing policy or program, or the creation of a new policy or program?

Change to existing program

Q7: Would implementation of this recommendation be permitted under current laws or would a statutory change be required?

Permitted under current law

Q8: Is this recommendation something that could feasibly be implemented in the short-term (within the next year) or long-term (within the next three to six years)?

Within the next year

Q9: What are the perceived benefits of implementing this recommendation?

described in summary above

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Q10: Are there any concerns with implementing this recommendation that should be considered?

none

Q11: What is the estimated cost of implementing this recommendation and how was this estimate calculated?

some cost but rate ROI higher

Q12: What is the estimated return on investment (ROI) for this recommendation and how was the ROI calculated?

do not have exact estimates but have been established through data committee work and are available.

Q13: Who are the key individuals/stakeholders who would benefit from this recommendation?

affected individuals and community at large

Q14: Are there suggested measures to accompany this recommendation that would assist in monitoring its impact?

described in summary above

Q15: This recommendation was submitted by one of the following Advocate