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## County of San Diego HIV/AIDS Care and Treatment

### Overview

The HIV, STD and Hepatitis Branch (HSHB) administers Federal and State funding to provide a range of health care and support services to people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH/A) in San Diego County.

Ryan White CARE Act (RWCA) Title I and II funding is used to provide medical care to uninsured or underinsured PLWH/A. San Diego County receives approximately \$9.3 million in RWCA Title I funding directly from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and \$880,000 in Title II funding through the California Office of AIDS.

The San Diego HIV Health Services Planning Council, required by HRSA, is responsible for allocating local RWCA Title I/II funds to services for PLWH/A. The 45-member Planning Council is appointed by the County Board of Supervisors. Planning Council support staff, out-stationed at the HSHB offices, assists the Planning Council in the community-based service planning, priority-setting and funding allocation processes. HSHB Grantee staff is responsible for selecting providers and ensuring that services are provided in accordance with Planning Council direction.

HRSA requires that RWCA funds are the payer of last resort for individuals with limited resources. Overarching goals for all funded programs are 100% access, 0% disparity and improved health outcomes for PLWH/A. Particular focus is given to (1) individuals with HIV disease who know their HIV status and are not receiving primary medical care; and (2) disparities in access and service utilization among affected subpopulations and historically under-served communities.

Local Ryan White CARE Act Title I/II services administered through HSHB include:

- Medical/health care services:
  - HIV primary medical care
  - Medical specialty care
  - HIV/AIDS medications (short-term)
  - Dental care
  - Mental health: counseling/therapy and psychiatric services
  - Alcohol/drug recovery services/treatment: residential and outpatient
  - Home health care (nurse, attendant, hospice, physical therapy)

- Assessment, follow-up, service coordination and linkages:
  - Case management and peer advocacy
  - Early intervention coordinated services centers (drop in at one place for many services), including:
    - Regional centers in Central San Diego, Southeast San Diego, North County and South Bay
    - Programs targeting people of color, homeless and substance abusers
    - One program targeting women, children and families
  
- Medical support services:
  - Housing/shelter services: emergency housing and partial rental assistance subsidy
  - Transportation assistance in getting to medical appointments
  - Home-delivered meals for individuals physically or mentally unable to prepare their own meals
  - Emergency financial assistance (utility payment, etc.)
  - Legal services
  - Representative payee (someone who manages client's money)
  
- Early intervention outreach services:
  - Field outreach to identify persons living with HIV and link to care
  - Information and referral (web-based access with downloadable directory)

Other State funds support:

- AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), which provides HIV/AIDS-related medications for people without insurance
- Therapeutic Monitoring Program (TMP), which provides important medical tests in the care of people living with HIV/AIDS
- Early Intervention Program (EIP) - designed to aggressively treat the newly infected

HSHB also collaborates with the County Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), which administers federal funding for Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA).

For information related to the San Diego HIV Planning Council and its committees, including meeting materials and reports, visit the Planning Council website at

[www.sdplanning.org](http://www.sdplanning.org)

### **More Information**

For more information about HIV/AIDS Care and Treatment, please call 619-293-4700 or email to [OAC.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:OAC.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov)