

Evaluating the Integration of STI & Harm Reduction Services

Funding Opportunities – Informational Webinar

April 19, 2023

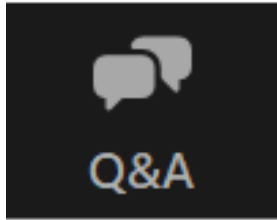
Rebekah Horowitz, JD/MPH



Agenda

- Background
- Goals
- Overview
- Components & Activities
- Application Process
- Selection Criteria
- Q&A

Questions will be answered at
the end of the presentation.

Click  to submit a
question at any time.

Introductions

- **Rebekah Horowitz** (she/her), Director – STI Programs
- **Kat Kelley** (she/her), Senior Program Analyst – HIV, STI, & Viral Hepatitis*

**Out of office today but primary point of contact for email-based questions*

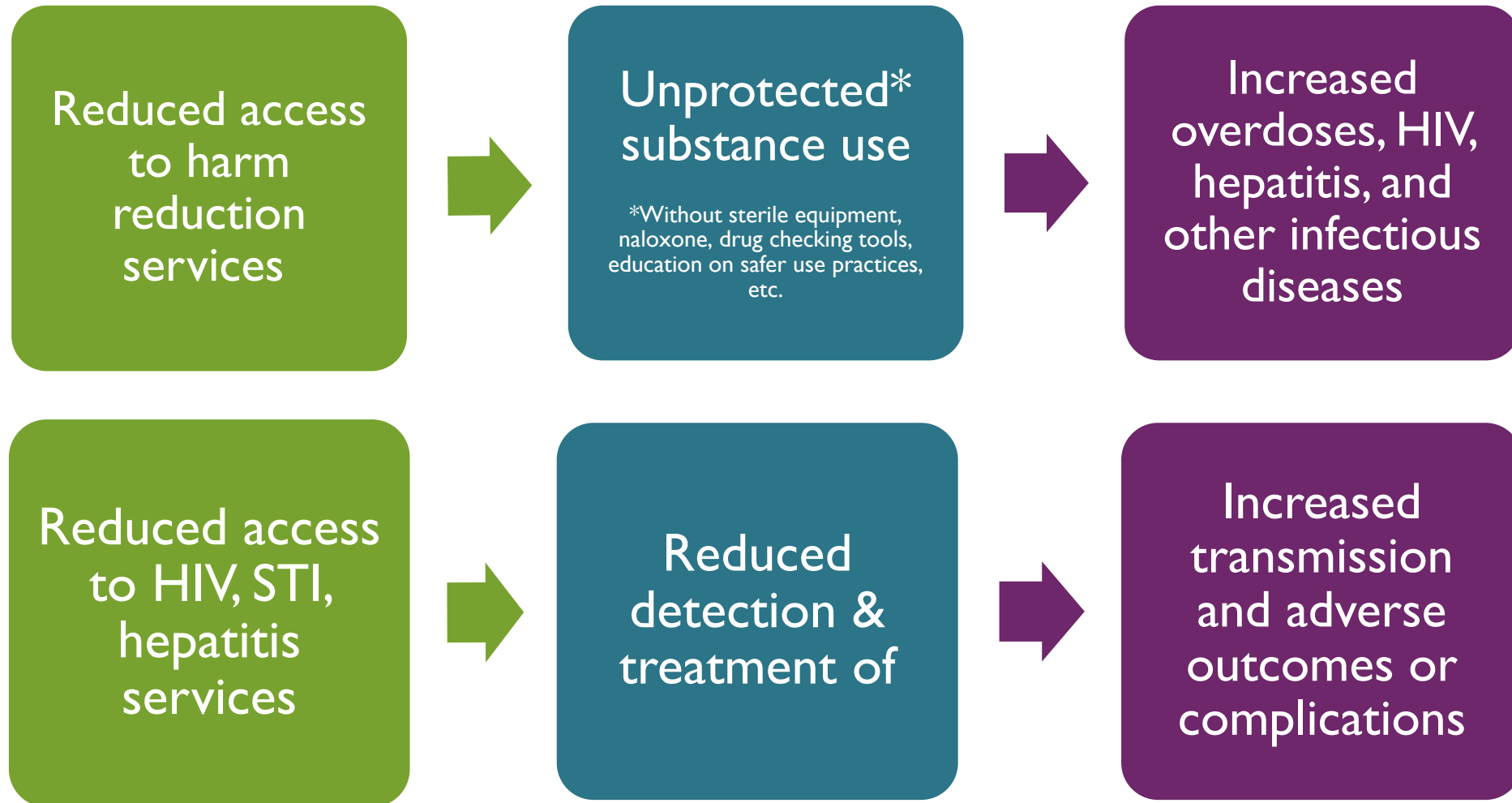
Background

- The United States is experiencing rising rates of STIs and substance-use related harms, inequitably impacting people who use drugs:
 - Record breaking STI rates—year after year
 - More than 100,000 overdose deaths in one year

Background

- These trends represent a **syndemic**—a population-level clustering of social and health problems.
- The criteria of a syndemic are:
 - **2+ diseases** or health conditions within a specific population
 - As a result of **contextual and social factors**
 - Resulting in **worse outcomes**—biological, social, behavioral

What happens when people can't get services?



Background

- As a result of this syndemic, we see:
 - High rates of substance use and substance use disorder among STI clinic clients
 - Worse pregnancy outcomes (e.g., congenital syphilis outcomes) among pregnant people who use drugs
- STI service providers reach people who would benefit from harm reduction (HR) services and vice versa
- Many priority populations for STI and overdose prevention have limited touchpoints with public health and healthcare

Integration of Services

- Integrating STI and HR services enables public health officials and providers to better address patient and population needs
- Common models for integration include:



One-stop shop: co-located services



Mobile or satellite services: STI services brought to HR facility or vice versa



Patient navigation, case management, referrals

Project Goals

- Evaluate the feasibility of STI/HR integration models and strategies and the factors that affect program operation and activities.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of STI/HR integration models and strategies and factors that affect program outcomes.

Overview

- NACCHO has released two requests for applications (RFAs) to fund the **evaluation of STI/harm reduction integration models**:
 - Up to 5 STI service providers will receive up to \$50,000 through *Evaluating the Integration of Harm Reduction Services in STI Settings* (STI Provider RFA)
 - Up to 5 HR service providers will receive up to \$50,000 through *Evaluating the Integration of STI Services in Harm Reduction Settings* (HR Provider RFA)

Which RFA should I apply for?

- Funding opportunities are the same—except for the intended applicants/grantees
- If your organization provides both STI and HR services, consider:
 - Service setting (e.g., if integrated services are located within the broader STI clinic vs. HR program)
 - Community perception (e.g., if you are perceived more as an STI vs HR provider in community)
 - Which program is more established (e.g., older, more services, more clients)
- If you are still unsure, contact NACCHO (kkelley@naccho.org)

Eligibility

- **Organization:** non-profit county, city, or tribal health departments, healthcare facilities, or community-based organizations
- **Integration model:** must currently provide or make available on-site at least one eligible STI and at least one eligible HR service.

Eligibility

- On-site includes:
 - The provision of services by a partner org
 - Full or part-time service provision (e.g., if integrated services are only available certain days of the week)
 - Provision of services in close proximity (e.g., in a mobile van or in parking lot of facility)
- Eligible services:
 - HR: must directly distribute sterile syringes and/or naloxone.
 - STI services: must offer chlamydia, gonorrhea, and/or syphilis testing and an associated treatment protocol (e.g., on-site administration of treatment, provision of a script for treatment, or referral and follow-up to a specific provider)

Key Application Dates

| Event | Date |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Application Deadline | May 17, 2023 |
| Anticipated Notification Date | June 16, 2023 |
| Project Period | 12 months, starting upon contract execution (approximately August 1, 2023) |

Components

- Participate in cross-site evaluations conducted by NACCHO and CDC
 - Quantitative: Grantees will be required to submit program data monthly. These “**standard indicators**” are outlined in RFA. *No client identifying data will be required.*
 - Mixed-methods: Grantees will participate in interviews, complete surveys, or synthesize program experience.
- Conduct or participate in site-specific evaluation activities
 - Can help grantees’ meet their own evaluation goals
 - NACCHO and CDC may work with sites to evaluate unique aspects of their integration model

Activities

- Prep for project implementation:
 - Develop work plan, evaluation plan, scope of work
 - Identify data sources or establish new data collection mechanisms to ensure you can provide NACCHO with **standard indicators**
- Implement project
 - Implement workplan, evaluation plan
 - Submit quarterly progress reports to NACCHO
- Participate in NACCHO/CDC-driven, cross-site evaluation activities:
 - Provide standard indicators
 - Participate in interviews, conduct surveys, or synthesize program experience

Support

- NACCHO and CDC will provide support including:
 - Technical assistance via conference calls and/or webinars to facilitate project planning, implementation, data collection and analysis, and reporting;
 - Review and discussion of project planning, as well as provision of technical assistance (as needed);
 - Input and feedback on workplan and evaluation plan;
 - Analysis and evaluation of data/findings;
 - Provision of templates for workplan, evaluation plan, and reports.

Benefits

- Project will provide insights for broader public health field
- Project findings can also be used by funded sites to:
 - Identify opportunities for program improvement
 - Demonstrate program impact
 - Inform or influence funders, partners, policymakers

Selection Criteria

- Appropriateness of Program, Model, and Population (25 points, 50% of score)
- Readiness and Feasibility of Project (15 points, 30% of score)
- Impact & Other Considerations (10 points, 20% of score)

Selection Criteria

- Appropriateness of Program, Model, and Population (25 points, 50% of score)
 - Volume/nature of STI and HR services provided
 - Organization mission (e.g., for HR providers – does org mission and model reflect harm reduction principles)
 - Model (i.e., extent to which service provision reflects meaningful integration)
 - Population served would benefit from STI/HR integration

Selection Criteria

- Readiness and Feasibility of Project (15 points, 30% of score)
 - Applicant is already collecting standard indicators or details how they can quickly stand-up collection mechanisms
 - Applicant has commitment to and capacity (including staff, partners) to participate
 - Proposed project and evaluation can be conducted with available funding and within project period

Selection Criteria

- Impact & Other Considerations (10 points, 20% of score)
 - Integration model is relevant to and replicable in other settings
 - Evaluation will provide relevant insights into feasibility and effectiveness of HR/STI integration and factors that affect implementation and effectiveness
 - Other considerations *may* be considered:
 - Diversity of applications in terms of geography, organization type/setting, proposed integration model and strategies
 - Meaningful engagement of, inclusion of, and/or ability to reach priority populations for the prevention of STIs and substance use–related harms
 - Innovation

Application Instructions

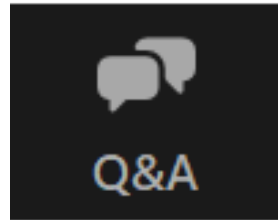
- Submit the following items to STI@naccho.org by 11:59 PM PT on May 17, 2023:
 - Application form
 - Budget and budget narrative
 - Contracting package

Application Form

- Brief descriptions of organization, services, staff and partners
- Description of need for STI and HR services in your community and among your clients/participants
- Description of integration model and experience
- Description of evaluation goals, capacity, plan (e.g., data sources and processes, staff and partner roles, what do you hope to learn)

Questions?

Click



to submit a question

Thank You!

Contact Kat Kelley (kkelley@naccho.org) with questions!