

Routine, Opt-Out Syphilis Screening of Women and Other Individuals of Childbearing Capacity in Jails

October 26, 2021

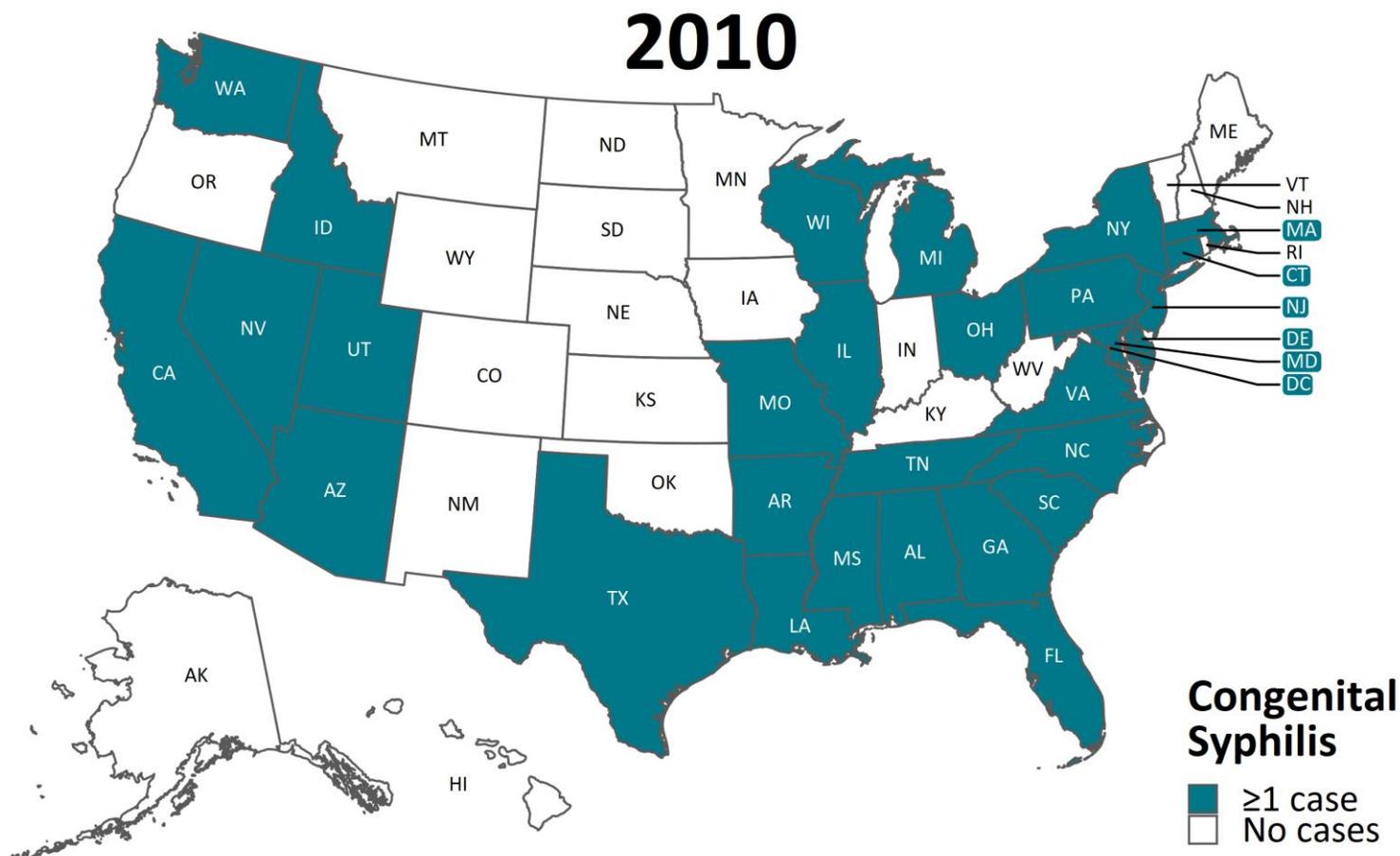
Shalesha Majors, MPH

National Association of County and City Health Officials

Presentation of Request for Proposals (RFP)

1. Background
2. Key Information
3. Specifics of RFP

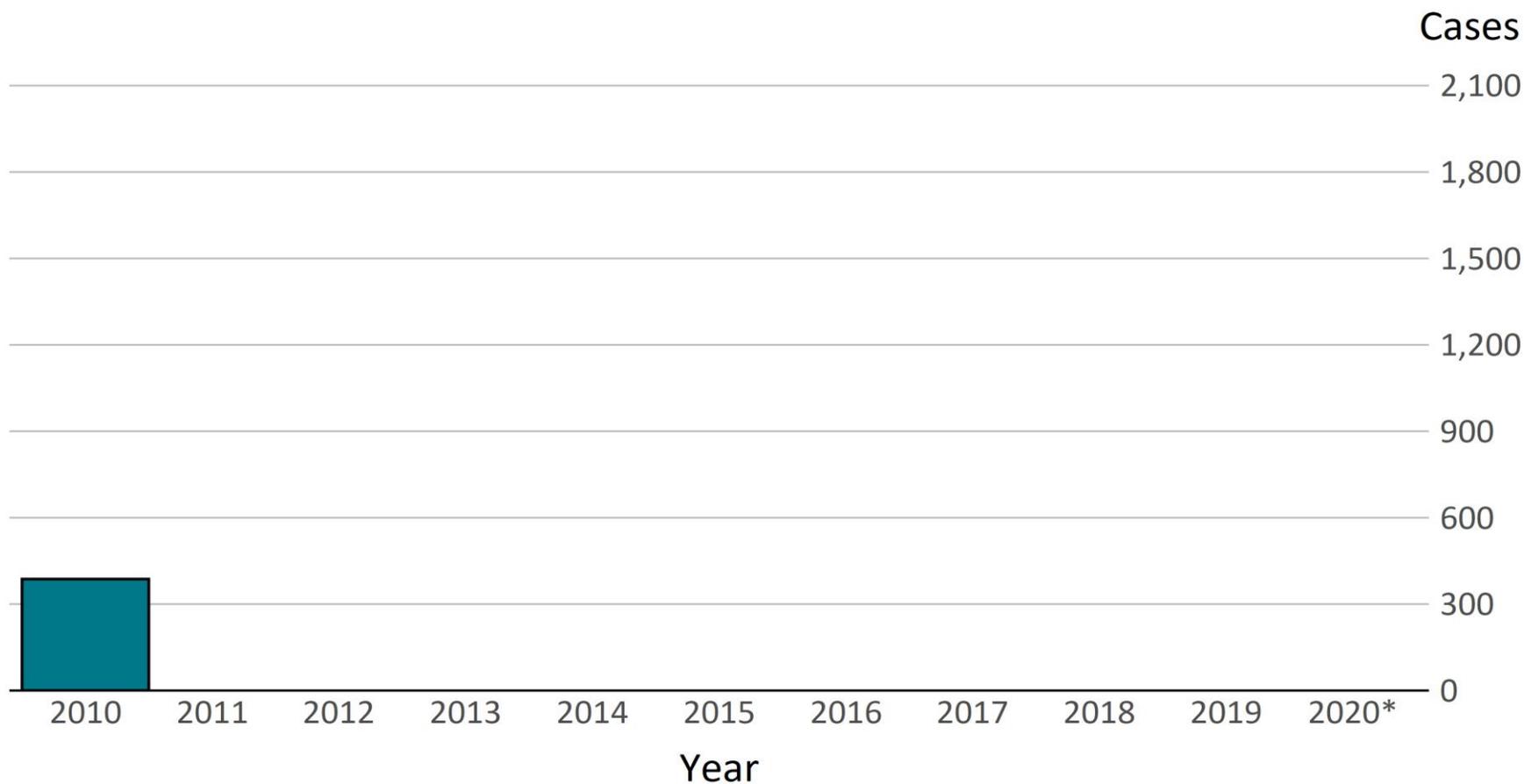
Over the last decade, congenital syphilis has diffused across the nation. By 2019, 43 states and D.C. reported at least one case.



Congenital Syphilis — Reported Cases by State, United States, 2010–2019

<https://www.cdc.gov/std/statistics/2020/Congenital-Syphilis-preliminaryData.htm>

Over 2,020 infants born in 2020 have already been reported as cases of congenital syphilis,* and this may increase to 2,100 before reporting closes.

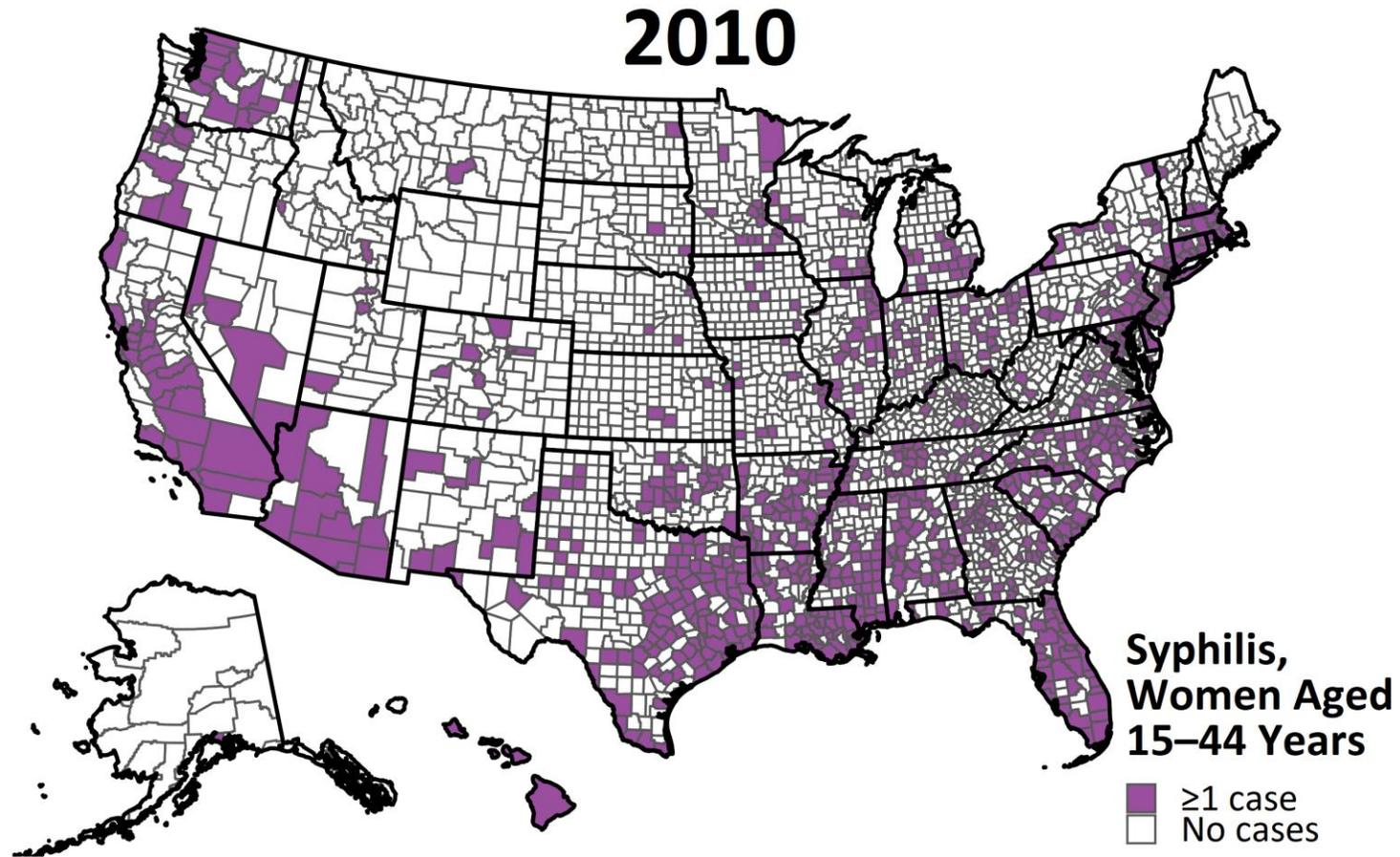


* Reported and projected 2020 congenital syphilis data are preliminary as of July 29, 2021.

Congenital Syphilis — Reported Cases by Year of Birth, United States, 2010–2020*

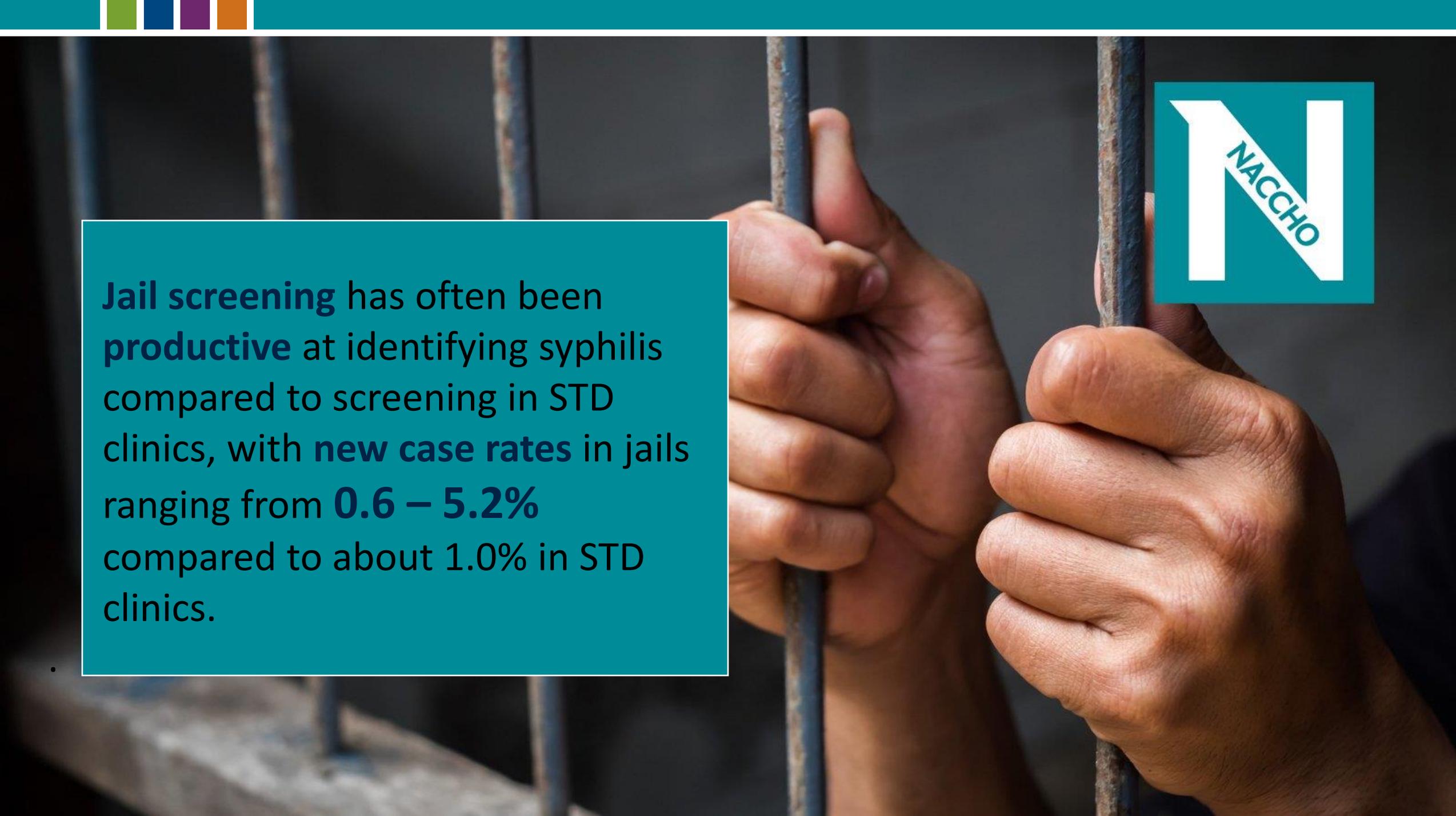
<https://www.cdc.gov/std/statistics/2020/Congenital-Syphilis-preliminaryData.htm>

In 2019, half of all counties reported syphilis among women of reproductive age—a doubling over the last decade.



Total Syphilis — Reported Cases Among Women Aged 15–44 Years by County, United States, 2010–2019

<https://www.cdc.gov/std/statistics/2020/Congenital-Syphilis-preliminaryData.htm>



Jail screening has often been **productive** at identifying syphilis compared to screening in STD clinics, with **new case rates** in jails ranging from **0.6 – 5.2%** compared to about 1.0% in STD clinics.

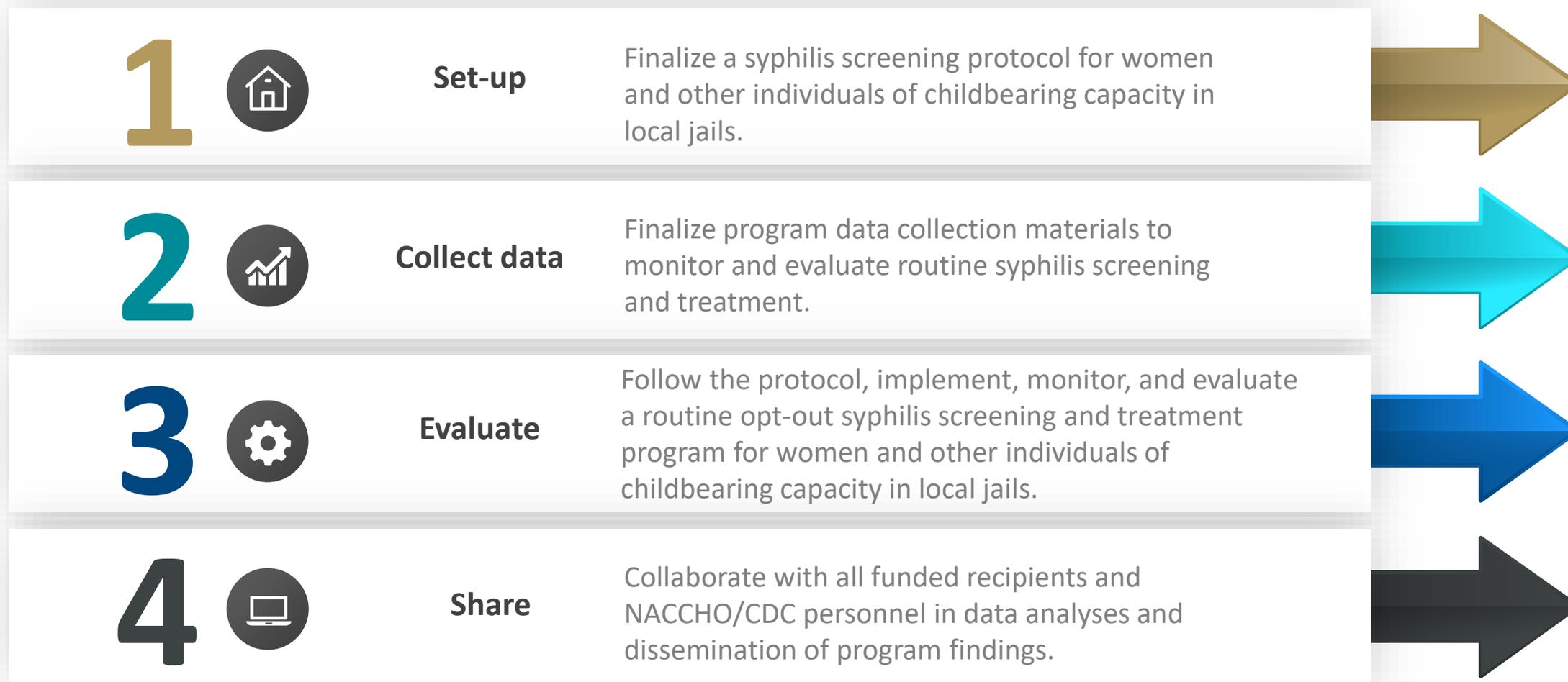


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Goals of the Project: Develop a multi-disciplinary team, which should include persons at the jail involved in the screening or treatment services. The team should have experience in conducting syphilis testing and referring syphilis-infected persons and persons at high risk of infection, to timely treatment.

The team will:



Funding

- Between **\$15,000-\$75,000** per site is available to fund up to **5 awards**.
- **Should be used to support costs for personnel, training, STI test kits and laboratory processing, and STI treatment.**
 - May be used to support a full-time employee with the organizational capacity to conduct and oversee program activities.
 - May be used only for reasonable program purposes, including personnel, travel, supplies, and services.
- Funding **may not** be used for research or clinical care (except as allowed by law) and generally, funding should not be used to purchase furniture and equipment.

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Eligibility

Priority will be given to applicants who meet the following criteria:

- ✓ **>100 syphilis cases** (all stages) among women, age 15-44, in 2019 or 2020.
- ✓ LHDs that have an **established relationship with a local jail** and where some form of **syphilis testing is already occurring**.
- ✓ LHDs that **propose routine, opt-out syphilis screening of women within 48 hours** of induction/booking at the local jail.
- ✓ LHDs where the **population of women** inducted/booked into the jail will **support a minimum of 2000 syphilis screening tests during the project**.

Applicants must include a local health department and should plan for approximately **12 months of project implementation**.

Projects will begin on the date of contract execution. NACCHO will pay the selected project areas upon receipt of deliverables per the payment schedule identified in the scope of work. Please note that NACCHO reserves the right to make changes to the project timeline and payment schedule if necessary.

Scope of Work

During the project period, awardees will:

- Ensure that relevant **local stakeholders** are **aware of the project, engaged, and informed** appropriately throughout the duration of the funding period.
- Finalize a **partnership and implementation model** with the local jail.
- Finalize a plan to evaluate implementation of the project with **process and outcome measures** to answer the primary evaluation questions stated in Section IV of RFP
- Collaborate with NACCHO/CDC to collect, **analyze, interpret, and synthesize findings**.
- Collaborate with NACCHO/CDC during and post-project period to **share ongoing lessons learned and findings** through reports, conference abstracts, webinars, and limited 1:1 technical assistance with other areas interested in learning more about the approach and lessons learned.
- Collaborate with NACCHO/CDC staff in **developing and implementing a protocol and data collection materials**, and dissemination of program evaluation findings.
- Participate in **project conference calls as well as site visit(s)** (virtual or in person) and any project dissemination meetings.
- Submit final project **deliverables**.

Summary of Key Project Deliverables

- ❑ Final **project model and implementation plan**
- ❑ Final **evaluation plan**
- ❑ Clean **summaries of all data collected** based on evaluation plan
- ❑ Minimum of **3 progress reports** summarizing project status, completed deliverables, and next steps
- ❑ Electronic **copies of any materials developed** to implement the model
(standard operating and reporting procedures, a referring patient and treatment algorithm, sample lab requisition forms, educational material for patients, training modules, sample MOUs, data sharing, cost sharing, and other legal agreements between the entities).
- ❑ Final **report documenting methods, results, conclusions, and lessons learned.**
This also should include documentation of the partnership development process

Evaluation

The awardees will be expected to answer the following evaluation questions using scientific methods:

- Was routine, opt-out screening in the local jail an effective intervention in identifying and treating women and other individuals of childbearing capacity with syphilis?
- How operationally feasible was it to expand syphilis services/referrals in the local jail setting?
- What barriers and facilitators affected implementation?
- How feasible and successful was the partnership itself?
- To what extent will the partnership be sustained beyond the funding period?

Applicants should propose a basic evaluation design in their application.

Proposal (1)

Background and Need. Describe:

1. Site population including **an overview of your service area and community, the epidemiology of congenital syphilis and syphilis among women in the jail population**, and any syphilis testing, treatment, and/or referral gaps and needs in your community that could be addressed by this joint initiative.
2. Current and past **experience with addressing congenital syphilis and syphilis** among individuals with childbearing capacity in the jurisdiction, including the current STI services offered by the local jail(s) and LHD in the jurisdiction and experience with screening for syphilis in local jails.
3. Jail(s) from which the **participants will be recruited** and the **proposed demonstration project** female population of the facility. Include Data that demonstrates that a minimum of 2000 syphilis screening tests can be conducted during the project period. Include information on how medical services are integrated into the induction/booking process. Include a description of any existing STD health services available to detainees and how these services are integrated into the jail system.
4. How this project will help **eliminate health disparities** in your community.

Proposal (2)

Project Design. Describe:

1. **Scope of work** with project goals, objectives, and proposed outcomes, including estimated timeline for deliverables and completion.
2. How you propose to **accomplish project objectives** and any specific determinations about what **patient population(s) will be reached may be included**. Provide a detailed 12-month timeline for the implementation of the proposed program.
3. How the funded health department, the jail, and any participating community-based organizations will **collaborate** in the demonstration project.
4. How **opt-out syphilis screening and any necessary treatment would be incorporated** into the routines at the facility.
5. **Data management** and **sharing processes** that will be used by the LHD and the jail, including the timeliness of access to data for proper monitoring and evaluation.
6. **Test technology** that will be used, and the **laboratory processing** that will occur to support the test technology selected.
7. Process for **ensuring that timely treatment** occurs, both within the facility and if released prior to treatment. Include who will be providing the medication and who will administer the treatment.
8. How training for **implementing routine rapid or serological testing** will occur and who will be trained.
9. How and with whom **project findings** will be **disseminated/shared**.

Proposal (3)

Monitoring and Evaluation

At a minimum, the following data variables are required to be collected and reported. The data for women and other individuals of childbearing capacity should be **reported by pregnancy status** (Pregnant, Not pregnant, Unknown)

Total Number of:

1. Booked (duplicated count)
2. Released prior to screening
3. Tested for syphilis (duplicated count)
4. Confirmed (non-treponemal and treponemal) positive syphilis results (i.e., suspected case)
5. Positive syphilis results later determined to be new cases
6. Positive syphilis results later determined to be previously treated cases
7. Positive syphilis results later determined to be unknown if they were new or previously treated case
8. Positive syphilis tests receiving treatment
9. New cases treated
10. Previously treated cases retreated
11. Cases unknown if they were new or previously treated cases

Proposal (4)

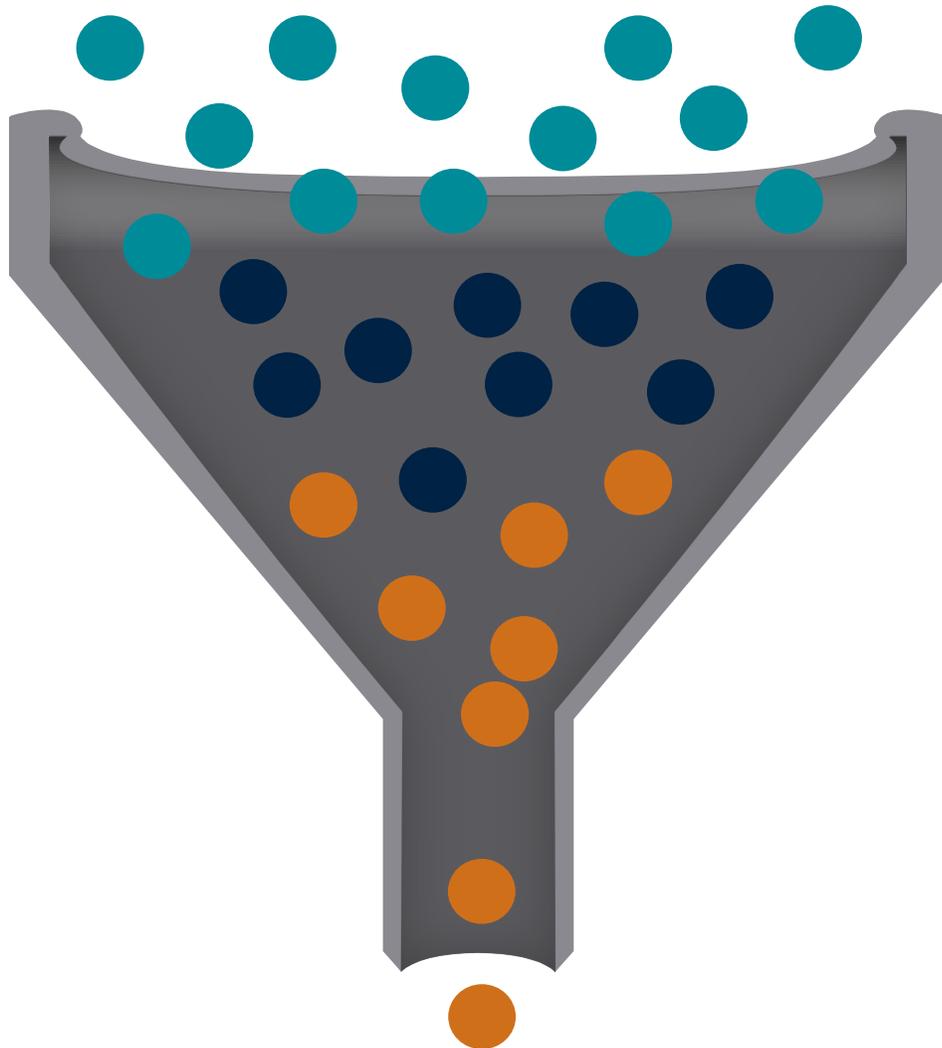
Monitoring and Evaluation.

How the program will be evaluated. At a minimum, this should include descriptions of activities to document program monitoring and quality assurance.

- Effectiveness component for assuring the established protocol is being followed and improved
- Evaluation of the routine, opt-out syphilis screening and treatment within 48 hours of induction/booking and subsequent treatment, for program evaluation.
- How data obtained for monitoring and evaluation purposes will be used to determine the effectiveness of the demonstration project
- Description of how monitoring and evaluation activities will be conducted.
- Detailed 12-month timeline for the proposed evaluation.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be reviewed and scored in accordance with the following criteria (out of 100 points):



Project Plan

60 points



Evaluation

30 points



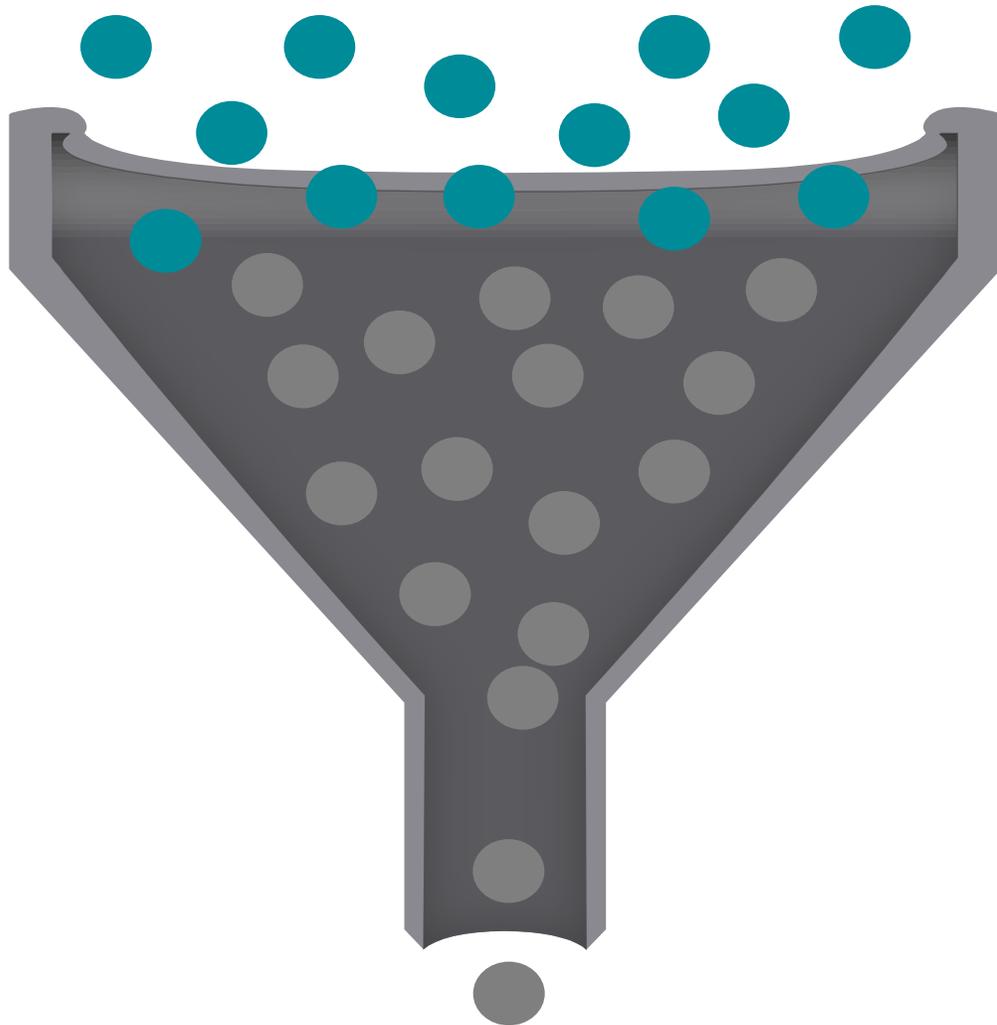
Budget

10 points



Project Plan

60 points



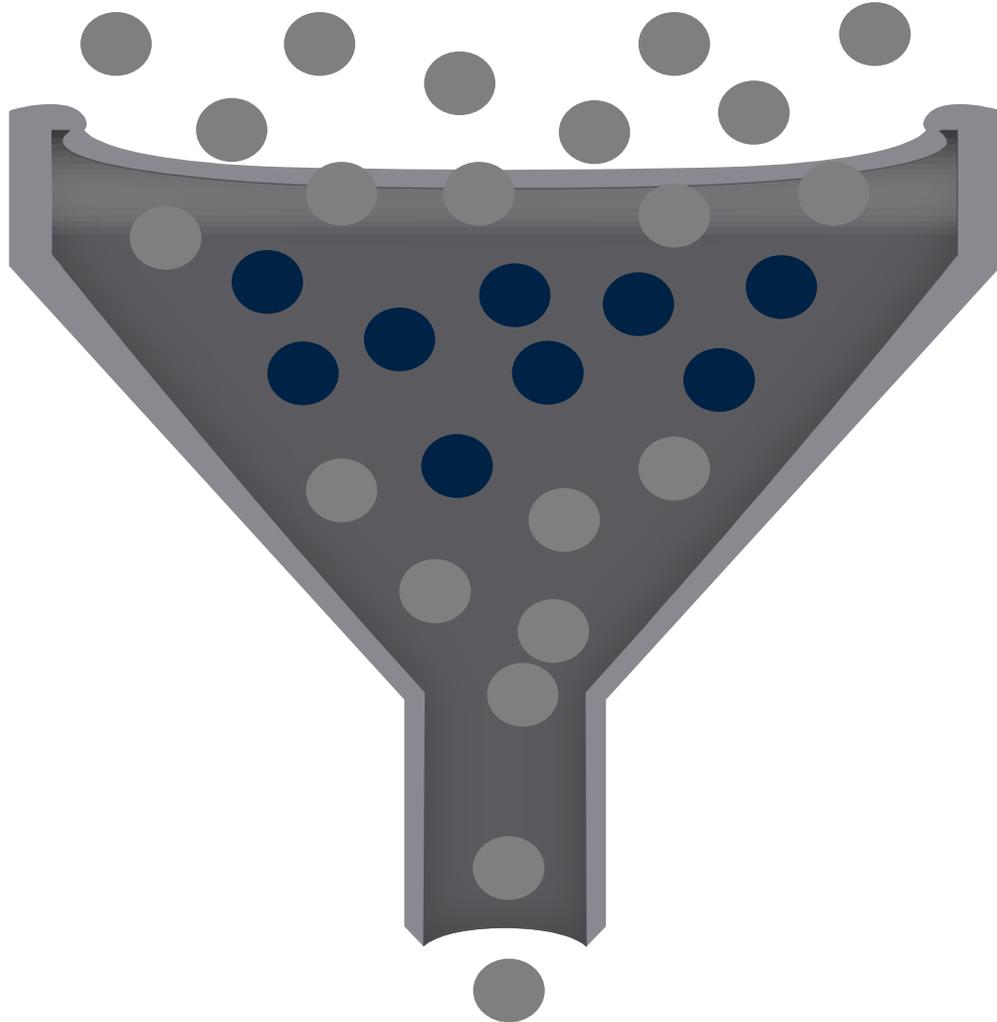
Degree to which the applicant:

- Meets or exceeds the minimum number and rate of syphilis cases needed for the project in their jurisdiction
- Discusses collaboration between themselves and the jail.
- Describes the jail from which participants will be recruited.
- Describes the medical evaluation process in the facility, and STD health services available to inmates, and how these services are integrated into the jail system.
- Describes how the proposed plan for the demonstration project will be implemented.
- Presents a statement that the team is willing to collaborate with CDC staff in developing and implementing a protocol and data collection materials, and dissemination of program evaluation findings.
- Describes the quality and experience of the proposed staff needed to conduct activities, and the appropriateness of the percentage of time each staff member will be assigned to the project.
- Describes duties and responsibilities of key personnel.



Evaluation

30 points



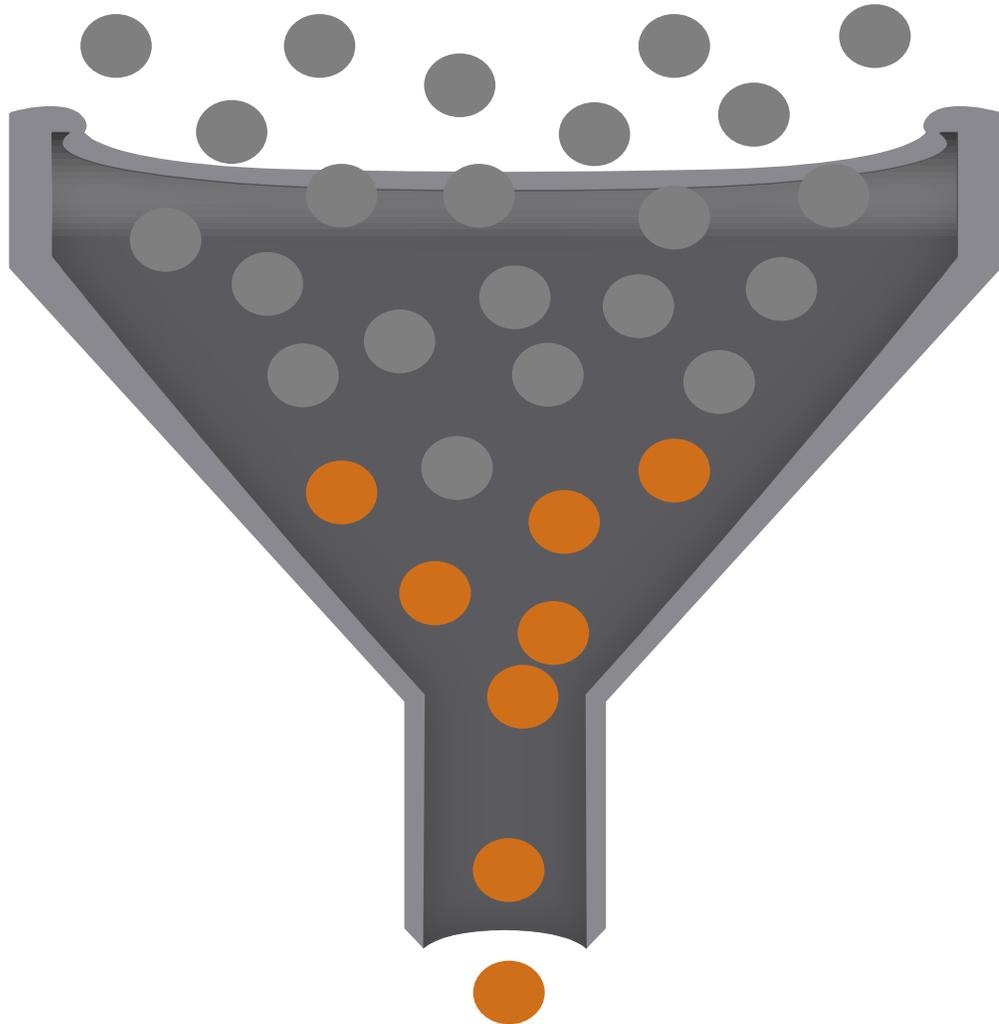
Degree to which the applicant has provided:

- A thorough description of how the program will be evaluated including, program monitoring, quality assurance, and an effectiveness of the program.
- Complete, detailed 12-month timeline for evaluation of the proposed project.
- Appropriateness of experience of key personnel and their capacity to carry-out the project.
- Complete description on how biological, behavioral, and referral data will be used to determine the effectiveness of the program.



Budget

30 points



The extent to which the applicant has prepared a budget that is reasonable, itemized, clearly justified, and consistent with the intended use of the funds.

Key Dates

Event	Date
Application Submission Deadline	November 24, 2021
Telephone Interviews with Finalists (if needed)	Week of December 6, 2021
Anticipated Award Notification	December 20, 2021
Anticipated Contract Execution	January 3, 2022
Implementation and Evaluation Period	12 months from start date
Dissemination of lessons learned	After Implementation

Questions

Submission Instructions

The deadline to submit applications is **November 24, 2021 by 11:59 PM** Pacific Time (PT).

Proposals should be submitted as a single PDF in an email to smajors@naccho.org with subject line:

“ROUTINE, OPT-OUT SYPHILIS SCREENING OF WOMEN AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS OF CHILDBEARING CAPACITY IN JAILS RFP.”