

Local Health Departments Prevent and Treat HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections, and Viral Hepatitis

Local health departments play an important role in the prevention, care, and treatment of HIV, sexually transmitted infections/diseases (STIs/STDs), and viral hepatitis. They diagnose, monitor, and prevent new infections; raise awareness; and facilitate the delivery of care, treatment, and support services. Local health departments also work to decrease health disparities across groups affected by HIV, STIs, and viral hepatitis.

According to the CDC, “there are about 20 million new STIs every year, costing the U.S. healthcare system \$16 billion in direct medical care costs alone.”

NACCHO Recommendations

To ensure the public’s safety, the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) recommends the following in fiscal year (FY) 2018:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION

FY18: \$789 million

FY19: President’s Budget: \$749 million

FY19: NACCHO Request: \$873 million

Within the total FY2017 budget, HIV prevention by health departments is funded at \$397 million. CDC funds 50 state, nine local, and two territorial health departments for HIV prevention, testing, surveillance, and linkage to care. Despite progress over the 36 years since the start of the epidemic, there is still a great disparity in the prevalence of HIV based on region, race, and ethnicity. Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men continue to be the most impacted, accounting for 82% of HIV diagnoses among males and 67% of all diagnoses in 2015.

STD PREVENTION

FY18: \$157 million

FY19: President’s Budget: \$152 million

FY19: NACCHO Request: \$227 million

CDC funds 50 state, seven local, and two territorial health departments for screening, treatment, surveillance, education, outbreak response, and the provision of training to health professionals. CDC is the only federal agency that supports prevention and control of STIs at the state and local level. Funding also supports Disease Intervention Specialists, who play a critical role in HIV and STI prevention and control at health departments.

VIRAL HEPATITIS PREVENTION

FY18: \$39 million

FY19: President’s Budget: \$34 million

FY19: NACCHO Request: \$134 million

CDC funds 46 state and four local health departments to perform testing, promote early detection, provide hepatitis A and B vaccinations, and educate affected communities. Recent advances in curative treatment

continued on next page

for the hepatitis C virus, along with recognition of our ability to eliminate hepatitis C (and hepatitis B) as public health threats, make identifying infections and linking people to care and treatment a top priority.

Health Resources and Services Administration

RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM – PART A

FY18: \$656 million

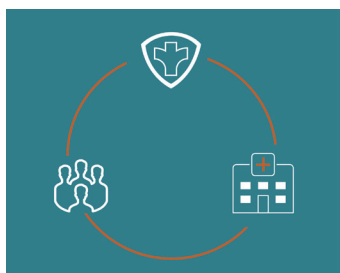
FY19: President’s Budget: \$656 million

FY19: NACCHO Request: \$687 million

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program works with cities, states, and local community-based organizations to provide services to people with HIV who do not have sufficient healthcare coverage or financial resources. Part A provides grants to 52 local health departments in Eligible Metropolitan Areas and Transitional Grant Areas—locales that are most severely affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The majority of Ryan White funds support primary medical care and essential support services to maintain people in care. The program has made great strides moving clients along the HIV care continuum: 81% of program clients were retained in care and more than 83% of those clients achieved viral suppression in 2015.

Syringe Services Programs

NACCHO supports the continuation of appropriations language to allow use of federal funds for the operational components of syringe services programs in communities with a demonstrated need, consistent with the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 (P.L. 114-113, Sec. 520). NACCHO also supports future action to eliminate restrictions on the use of federal funds to purchase sterile needles or syringes for the purposes of hypodermic injection of any illegal drug. Syringe services programs support the health of people who inject drugs and help curb transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis, and other blood-borne diseases. In addition to providing sterile syringes and other injecting equipment, these programs provide medical and social services, overdose prevention training, referrals to social services and housing, and linkages to medical care, mental health care, and substance use treatment. Given increasing trends in injection drug use fueled by the opioid epidemic, syringe services programs are critically important.



Local health departments are on the frontlines of HIV, STI, and viral hepatitis prevention, care, and treatment, and new opportunities to improve health outcomes, particularly among communities that are disproportionately impacted.

About NACCHO

The National Association of County and City Health Officials is the voice of more than 3,000 local health departments across the country. These city, county, metropolitan, district, and tribal departments work every day to ensure the safety of the water we drink, the food we eat, and the air we breathe.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Ian Goldstein
Government Affairs Specialist
202.507.4273
igoldstein@naccho.org

NACCHO

National Association of County & City Health Officials

The National Connection for Local Public Health



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice with local health departments.

1201 Eye Street NW Suite 400 Washington, DC 20005

P 202.783.5550 F 202.783.1583

© 2018. National Association of County and City Health Officials

www.naccho.org