HIV, STI, & Viral Hepatitis Sentinel Network

Virtual Meeting

September 24, 2018

Audio:
1-866-740-1260
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Agenda

• Introductions
• Impact of Budget Cuts Survey Results
• Discussion
• Wrap Up
Introductions
Introductions

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HIV, STI, & Viral Hepatitis Sentinel Network

Purpose:
- Assess local health department (LHD) efforts, needs, challenges, and successes
- Advance NACCHO's ability to fulfill its mission to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice for LHDs

Membership:
- Open to all LHDs
- Currently more than 100 LHDs from over 40 states

Member Responsibilities:
- Complete brief surveys on an approximately quarterly basis
Impact of Budget Cuts Survey

Purpose

• To assess the impact of experienced and potential budget cuts on local HIV, STI, and hepatitis programs

Respondents

• 71 LHDs out of 114 Sentinel Network members (62% response rate)
• 35 states represented in results
Survey Results
Impact of Experienced and Potential Budget Cuts on Local Health Department HIV, STI, and Hepatitis Activities and Related Health Outcomes
Program Integration

Most LHDs (83%) integrate HIV and STI activities

59% of LHDs integrate HIV, STI, and hepatitis activities

- 59%
- 24%
- 16%
- 1%

HIV, STI, and hepatitis activities are integrated
HIV and STI activities are integrated
HIV and hepatitis activities are integrated
No integration
STI Clinics

83% of respondent LHDs operate STI clinics
Availability of HIV, STI, & Hepatitis Services

Most LHDs provide or conduct:

- Condom distribution (99%)
- HIV testing (87%)
- STI testing (87%)
- STI treatment (87%)
- STI partner services (86%)
- HIV/STI prevention counseling (86%)
- HBV vaccination (86%)
Availability of HIV, STI, & Hepatitis Services

Less than half of LHDs provide or conduct:
- HIV treatment (12%)
- Syringe exchange (16%)
- PrEP clinical services (17%)
- Data to Care for HIV (37%)
- HBV testing (41%)
- PrEP education and referral (41%)
Funding for HIV, STI, & Hepatitis

Current Fiscal Year Budget
Compared to Previous Fiscal Year

Overall
- Less than previous year: 22%
- Approximately the same as previous year: 59%
- Greater than previous year: 19%

HIV
- Less than previous year: 13%
- Approximately the same as previous year: 58%
- Greater than previous year: 15%
- No specific funding for service area: 12%

STI
- Less than previous year: 16%
- Approximately the same as previous year: 44%
- Greater than previous year: 4%
- No specific funding for service area: 18%

Hepatitis
- Less than previous year: 7%
- Approximately the same as previous year: 31%
- Greater than previous year: 7%
- No specific funding for service area: 18%
- Unsure: 37%
\( \frac{1}{3} \) of LHDs reporting budget cuts reduced HIV, STI, hepatitis services or activities.

**Activities or Services Reduced Over Past Year Due to Funding Cuts**

- Disease surveillance: 14%
- STI partner services: 11%
- HIV testing: 11%
- Hepatitis B vaccination: 11%
- HIV/STI counseling*: 8%
- STI treatment: 8%
- STI testing: 8%
- PrEP education and referral: 7%
- HIV partner services: 6%
- Condom distribution: 5%
43% of LHDs experiencing budget cuts reduced HIV, STI, or hepatitis staffing levels.

### Staff Roles Eliminated or Reduced Over Past Year Due to Budget Cuts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Position complete eliminated</th>
<th>Staff reductions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public health nurses</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach and education staff</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other nurse or mid-level clinical staff</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease Intervention Specialists</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case managers</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linkage to care specialists</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community health workers</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epidemiologists</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physicians</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient navigators</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*“Every time there are cuts I lose staff who are notifying our community of diseases.”*
Impact of Budget Cuts

Activities, services, and staff roles most likely to be reduced or eliminated in response to future budget cuts:

**Activities and services**
HIV/STI prevention counseling and/or behavioral interventions (47%)
Condom distribution (40%)
HBV vaccination (33%)
STI partner services (32%)
HIV screening (30%)

**Staff roles**
Outreach and education staff (60%)
Public health nurses (53%)
Other nurse or mid-level clinical staff (33%)

“The rural area already has limited workforce and the potential budget cuts will increase the unemployment rates and decrease the access to care of the community.”
Conclusions

- Most LHDs report stagnant or declining funding levels for HIV, STI, and hepatitis activities and services.

- Of LHDs reporting funding cuts:
  - 1 in 3 reduced HIV, STI, and/or viral hepatitis services or activities, including disease surveillance, HIV testing, STI partner services, and HBV vaccination
  - 43% reduced or completely eliminated staff roles, including public health nurses, outreach and education staff, and DIS
Discussion
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