

Visit us online: <a href="http://hiv.lacounty.gov">http://hiv.lacounty.gov</a>

Get in touch: hivcomm@lachiv.org

Subscribe to the Commission's Email List:

https://tinyurl.com/y83ynuzt



# **WOMEN'S CAUCUS**

Virtual Meeting Monday, May 19, 2025 2:00-3:00pm (PST)

Agenda and meeting materials will be posted on http://hiv.lacounty.gov/Meetings \*Other Meetings

REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED + SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION IN SPANISH AND OTHER LANGUAGES NOW AVAILABLE VIA CLOSED CAPTION FEATURE WHEN JOINING VIA WEBEX. CLICK  $\underline{\mathsf{HERE}}\ \mathsf{FOR}\ \mathsf{MORE}\ \mathsf{INFO}.$ 

#### TO JOIN BY COMPUTER:

https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/i.php?MTID=m337487b3c75372aa99af87eaeff1b7df

#### **TO JOIN BY PHONE:**

Dial +1-213-306-3065 Access Code: 2534 371 8552

Meeting Password: WOMEN

If you experience challenges in logging into the virtual meeting, please refer to the WebEx tutorial <u>HERE</u> or contact Commission staff at 213.509.9199 or <u>hivcomm@lachiv.org</u>.

### together.

WE CAN END HIV IN OUR COMMUNITIES ONCE & FOR ALL

Apply to become a Commission member at:



510 S. Vermont Avenue, 14th Floor • Los Angeles, CA 90020 • TEL (213) 738-2816 HIVCOMM@LACHIV.ORG • https://hiv.lacounty.gov

REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED + SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION IN SPANISH AND OTHER LANGUAGES NOW AVAILABLE VIA CLOSED CAPTION FEATURE WHEN JOINING VIA WEBEX. CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO.

#### **WOMEN'S CAUCUS**

#### **Meeting Agenda**

Monday, May 19, 2025 @ 2:00PM-3:00PM

#### To Join:

 $\frac{https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/j.ph}{p?MTID=m337487b3c75372aa99af87eaeff1b7df}$ 

Password: WOMEN

To Join by Phone Dial +1-213-306-3065 Access Code: 2534 371 8552

1.	WELCOME + INTRODUCTIONS + CHECK-IN	2:00 PM – 2:05 PM
2.	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT	2:05 PM – 2:15 PM
	<ul> <li>Operational and Programmatic Updates</li> </ul>	
3.	CO-CHAIR'S REPORT	2:15 PM – 2:20 PM
	<ul> <li>Medicare/Medicaid Dual Enrollment – Undocumented PLWH</li> </ul>	
	Listening Session Update	
4.	DISCUSSION	2:20 PM – 2:50 PM
	<ul> <li>DHSP HIV Care and Prevention Portfolio</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Ryan White Program Year 35 Allocations</li> </ul>	
5.	MEETING RECAP + NEXT MEETING AGENDA	2:50 PM – 2:55 PM
6.	PUBLIC COMMENT + ANNOUNCEMENTS	2:55 PM – 3:00 PM
7.	ADJOURNMENT	3:00 PM



#### **Los Angeles County Commission on HIV**

### **REVISED 2025 TRAINING SCHEDULE**

#### **\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

- ➤ All training topics listed below are mandatory for Commissioners and Alternates.
- > All trainings are open to the public.
- Click on the training topic to register.
- Certificates of Completion will be provided.
- ➤ All trainings are virtual via Webex.
- > For questions or assistance, contact: hivcomm@lachiv.org

Commission on HIV Overview	February 26, 2025 @ 12pm to 1:00pm
Ryan White Care Act Legislative Overview and Membership Structure and Responsibilities	March 26, 2025 @ 12pm to 1:00pm April 2, 2025
Priority Setting and Resource Allocations Process	April 23, 2025 @ 12pm to 1:00pm
Service Standards Development	May 21, 2025 @ 12pm to 1:00pm
Policy Priorities and Legislative  Docket Development Process	June 25, 2025 @ 12pm to 1:00pm
Bylaws Review	July 23, 2025 @ 12pm to 1:00pm

# TRANS WOMEN'S SEXUAL HEALTH LISTENING SESSION



#### YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

Join us for a safe, confidential space to share your experiences, concerns, and ideas about sexual health and HIV services in LA County. This session is designed specifically for transgender women living with HIV and aims to amplify your needs and perspectives.

#### WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Open, judgment-free discussions
- Opportunities to connect with others in the community
- \$25 gift card
- Space is limited; RSVP required



#### WHY ATTEND?

Your input will help shape better sexual health services and resources for women living a transgender experience. Together, we can create a more inclusive and supportive healthcare environment.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025 6:00PM – 8:00PM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE ONSITE.

LOCATION INFORMATION WILL BE DISCLOSED UPON CONFIRMED REGISTRATION.

SCAN OR CLICK LINK TO REGISTER. HTTPS://TINYURL. COM/43VFBNMJ





# Why should I call?

The Customer Support Line can assist you with accessing HIV or STD services and addressing concerns about the quality of services you have received.

# Will I be denied services for reporting a problem?

No. You will not be denied services. Your name and personal information can be kept confidential.

# Can I call anonymously?

Yes.

# Can I contact you through other ways?

Yes.

### By Email:

dhspsupport@ph.lacounty.gov

#### On the web:

http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp/QuestionServices.htm











# Estamos Samuel Escuchando

Comparta sus inquietudes con nosotros.

Servicios de VIH + ETS Línea de Atención al Cliente

(800) 260-8787

# ¿Por qué debería llamar?

La Línea de Atención al Cliente puede ayudarlo a acceder a los servicios de VIH o ETS y abordar las inquietudes sobre la calidad de los servicios que ha recibido.

# ¿Se me negarán los servicios por informar de un problema?

No. No se le negarán los servicios. Su nombre e información personal pueden mantenerse confidenciales.

# ¿Puedo llamar de forma anónima?

Si.

¿Puedo ponerme en contacto con usted a través de otras formas?

Si.

# Por correo electronico: dhspsupport@ph.lacounty.gov

### En el sitio web:

http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dhsp/QuestionServices.htm









### **Get More From the Ryan White Program**

Did you know that the Ryan White Program offers far more than HIV care? You may be surprised to know it could help you go to the dentist, access transportation, and so much more.

#### What is the Ryan White Program?

The Ryan White Program is a federal program that provides care and support services for uninsured or under-insured people with HIV. Los Angeles County distributes Ryan White Program funds to community providers to ensure access to essential care and support.



#### **Call Us to Find Out More**

Call to talk to a Benefits Specialist! They can tell you what's covered, answer any questions, and help guide you through the enrollment process.

#### What's Available

The Ryan White Program covers HIV-related care—and may help with so much more:



Medical care coordination



Dental care



Bus passes & rides to appointments



Nutrition services



Housing support



And more!

Plus, getting Ryan White Program benefits won't take away any other benefits you may get, like CalFresh.

#### **How to Get It**

Enrolling is easy!

- A team will help you with the application and guide you through every step of the process
- Connect with a Ryan White Program Benefits Specialist by phone, by email, or in person to get started

#### What You'll Need

You don't need any paperwork at all to get started. Our Benefits Specialists will guide you step by step, helping you get what you need to:

- Document your income
- Show that you live in LA County
- Confirm your HIV diagnosis

Our Benefits Specialists make the process stress-free and can help you in person, over the phone, or by email—whatever works best for you. Connect with a Benefits Specialist to get started.

#### What's Available?

The Ryan White Program may help you with access to:

	Housing Support
	What is a Transitional Residential Care Facility (TRCF)?
	What is Substance Use Disorder Transitional Housing (SUDTH)?
	What is a Residential Care Facility for the Chronically III (RCFCI)?
_	
	Case Management
	What is Medical Care Coordination (MCC)?
	What is Home Based Case Management?
	HIV-Related Medical Care
	Transportation
$\bigcirc$	Dental Care
	Nutrition Services
	Benefits Specialty
	Mental Health Services
	indical fidulation vides
	Legal Services

https://getprotectedla.com/impositivela/



#### Ryan White Program Year (PY) 35 Service Rankings and Allocations Table - Scenario #1 Full Funding

			FY 2025	(PY 35) <sup>(</sup>
	Service			
Service Type	Ranking	Service Category	Part A %	MAI
Core	6			
COIC		Medical Case Management (Medical Care Coordination)	29.00%	0.
Core	8	Oral Health	21.30%	0.
Core	20	Outpatient/Ambulatory Medical Health Services		
Core	20	(Ambulatory Outpatient Medical)	17.11%	0.
Core	11	Early Intervention Services (Testing Services)	0.00%	0.
Core	17	Home and Community-Based Health Services	6.50%	0.
Support	2	Emergency Financial Assistance	8.00%	0.
Support	7	Nutrition Support (Food Bank/Home-delivered Meals)	7.79%	0.
		Non-Medical Case Management		
Support	5	Patient Support Services	0.00%	0.
Support		Benefits Specialty Services	3.95%	0.
		Transitional Case Management - Jails	1.58%	0.
Support	10	Medical Transportation	1.84%	0.
Support	23	Legal Services	2.00%	0.
		Housing		
Support	1	Housing Services RCFCI/TRCF (Home-Based Case		
Support	1	Management)	0.91%	0.
		Housing for Health	0.00%	100.
Core	3	Mental Health Services	0.02%	0.
Core	9	AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Treatments	0.00%	0.
Core	22	Local AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (LPAP)	0.00%	0.
Core	15	Health Insurance Premium & Cost Sharing Assistance	0.00%	0.
Core	16	Home Health Care	0.00%	0.
Core	28	Hospice Services	0.00%	0.
Core	26	Medical Nutritional Therapy	0.00%	0.
Core	12	Substance Abuse Services Outpatient	0.00%	0.
Support	18	Child Care Services	0.00%	0.
Support	13	Health Education/Risk Reduction	0.00%	0.
Support	27	Linguistic Services (Language Services)	0.00%	0.
Support	14	Outreach Services (LRP)	0.00%	0.
Support			0.00%	0.
Support			0.00%	0.
Support	25	Rehabilitation	0.00%	0.
Support	21	Respite Care	0.00%	0
Support	19	Substance Abuse Residential	0.00%	0
		Overall Total	100.00%	

Footnotes

(1) Approved by PP&A Committee on 9/17/24; approved by Exec. Committee on 9/26/24: Exe. approved due to lack of quorum @ COH meeting on 9/12/24)



#### Ryan White Program Year (PY) 35 Service Rankings and Allocations Table - Scenario #2

\$8 million partial award for Part A and MAI plus \$5 million for Part B = \$13m Total (1)

							FY 2025 (PY 35) <sup>(2)</sup>
Service Type	Service Ranking	Service Category	Estimated Part A & MAI PY34 Expenditures \$		Estimated Part B PY34 Expenditures \$		Part A, MAI, & Part B %
Core	6	Medical Case Management (Medical Care					
		Coordination)	\$	11,660,438.00	\$	-	32.30%
Core	8	Oral Health	\$	8,751,232.00	\$	-	0.00%
Core	20	Outpatient/Ambulatory Medical Health Services (Ambulatory Outpatient Medical)	\$	6,860,111.00	\$	-	52.31%
Core	11	Early Intervention Services (Testing Services)	\$	2,332,127.00	\$	-	0.00%
Core	17	Home and Community-Based Health Services	\$	2,345,241.00	\$	-	0.00%
Support	2	Emergency Financial Assistance	\$	1,539,288.00	\$	-	0.00%
Support	7	Nutrition Support (Food Bank/Home-delivered Meals)	\$	2,783,905.00	\$	-	0.00%
		Non-Medical Case Management					
Support	5	Benefits Specialty Services	\$	1,517,835.00	\$	-	11.54%
		Transitional Case Management - Jails	\$	26,720.00	\$	-	0.00%
Support	10	Medical Transportation	\$	715,013.00	\$	-	3.85%
Support	23	Legal Services	\$	1,049,695.00	\$	-	0.00%
	1	Housing			\$	5,287,873.00	
Support		Housing Services RCFCI/TRCF (Home-Based Case					
		Management)	\$	571,410.00	\$	-	0.00%
	_	Housing for Health	\$	5,375,220.00	\$	-	0.00%
Core	3	Mental Health Services	\$	85,420.00	\$	-	0.00%
Core	9	AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Treatments	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Core	22	Local AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (LPAP)	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Core	15	Health Insurance Premium & Cost Sharing Assistance	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Core	16	Home Health Care	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Core	28	Hospice Services	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Core	26	Medical Nutritional Therapy	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Core	12	Substance Abuse Services Outpatient	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Support	18	Child Care Services	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Support	13	Health Education/Risk Reduction	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Support	27	Linguistic Services (Language Services)	\$	_	\$	-	0.00%
Support	14	Outreach Services (LRP)	\$	_	\$	-	0.00%
Support	4	Psychosocial Support Services	\$	_	\$	_	0.00%
Support	24	Referral	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Support	25	Rehabilitation	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%
Support	21	Respite Care	\$	_	\$	-	0.00%
Support	19	Substance Abuse Residential	\$		\$		0.00%
- 1-15-5-5	L			-		-	
		Overall Total	\$	45,613,655.00	\$	5,287,873.00	100.00%

#### Footnotes

(1) DHSP recommended PP&A Committee to consider \$5 million in Part B funds into allocations

(2) Factors taken into consideration for proposed allocations include:

- Expenditure Reports
- Utilization Reports greatest good for the greatest number of people
- Identification of other payor sources for various funded services
- Preservation of core services, namely those unique to the Ryan White Program
- Alignment with statutory requirement of 75% of program expenditures dedicated to core services and 25% of program expenditures dedicated to support services



Ryan White Program Year 35 (FY2025-2026) Service Rankings and Allocations Table - Scenario #3 (1)

#### Partial Award: \$24,448,952 in Part A funds and \$3,150,000 in MAI funds

Motion #4 - Approve the Ryan White Program Year 35 Allocation Contingency Plan (Scenario #3) and grant the Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP) the authority to adjust allocations by up to ten percent (10%) per service category, as needed —without returning to the full Commission for additional approval.

Priority Ranking	Core Service Categories	Part A %	MAI %	
9	AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Treatment	0%	0%	
22	AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance (LPAP)	Core	0%	0%
11	Early Intervention Services (Testing Services)	Core	0%	0%
15	Health Insurance Premium & Cost Sharing Assistance	Core	0%	0%
17	Home & Community Based Health Service (Intensive Case Management-Home Based)	Core	6.67%	0%
16	Home Health Care	Core	0%	0%
28	Hospice	Core	0%	0%
6	Medical Case Management (Medical Care Coordination)	Core	27.91%	0%
3	Mental Health Services	Core	0%	0%
8	Oral Health Care	Core	20.31%	0%
20	Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services	Core	0%	0%
12	Substance Abuse Outpatient Care	Core	0%	0%
	Core Services Total	Comico	54.89%	0%
Priority Ranking	Support Service Categories	Service Type	Part A %	MAI %
18	Child Care Services	Support	0%	0%
2	Emergency Financial Assistance (Emergency Rental Assistance)	Support	8.16%	0%
7	Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals	Support	8.82%	0%
3	Health Education/Risk Reduction	Support	0%	0%
1	Housing Services (RCFCI)	Support	8.33%	0%
1	Housing Services (TRCF)	Support	1.31%	0%
1	Housing Services (Rampart Mint/Transitional/Permanent)	Support	0%	84.13%
27	Linguistics Services	Support	0%	0%
10	Medical Transportation	Support	0%	15.87%
5	Non-Medical Case Management Services (Benefits Specialty Services)	Support	3.91%	0%
5	Non-Medical Case Management Services (Transitional Case Management - Support Jails)		0%	0%
5	on-Medical Case Management Services (Patient Support Service) Supp		12.58%	0%
23	Other Professional Services (Legal)		2.00%	0%
14	Outreach Services		0%	0%
4	Psychosocial Support Support		0%	0%
24	Referral For Health Care Supportive Services	Support	0%	0%
25	Rehabilitation Services Support		0%	0%
21	Respite Care	Support	0%	0%
19	Substance Abuse - Residential	Support	0%	0%
	Support Service Total		45.11%	100%
	Total		100.00%	100%

#### Footnotes

# Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Services: Eligible Individuals & Allowable Uses of Funds

Policy Clarification Notice (PCN) #16-02 (Revised 10/22/18) Replaces Policy #10-02

**Scope of Coverage:** Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) Parts A, B, C, and D, and Part F where funding supports direct care and treatment services.

#### **Purpose of PCN**

This policy clarification notice (PCN) replaces the HRSA HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) PCN 10-02: Eligible Individuals & Allowable Uses of Funds. This PCN defines and provides program guidance for each of the Core Medical and Support Services named in statute and defines individuals who are eligible to receive these HRSA RWHAP services.

#### **Background**

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has consolidated, in 2 CFR Part 200, the uniform grants administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements for all organization types (state and local governments, non-profit and educational institutions, and hospitals) receiving federal awards. These requirements, known as the "Uniform Guidance," are applicable to recipients and subrecipients of federal funds. The OMB Uniform Guidance has been codified by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in 45 CFR Part 75—Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards. HRSA RWHAP grant and cooperative agreement recipients and subrecipients should be thoroughly familiar with 45 CFR Part 75. Recipients are required to monitor the activities of its subrecipient to ensure the subaward is used for authorized purposes in compliance with applicable statute, regulations, policies, program requirements and the terms and conditions of the award (see 45 CFR §§ 75.351-352).

45 CFR Part 75, Subpart E—Cost Principles must be used in determining allowable costs that may be charged to a HRSA RWHAP award. Costs must be necessary and reasonable to carry out approved project activities, allocable to the funded project, and allowable under the Cost Principles, or otherwise authorized by the RWHAP statute. The treatment of costs must be consistent with recipient or subrecipient policies and procedures that apply uniformly to both federally-financed and other non-federally funded activities.

HRSA HAB has developed program policies that incorporate both HHS regulations

and program specific requirements set forth in the RWHAP statute. Recipients, planning bodies, and others are advised that independent auditors, auditors from the HHS' Office of the Inspector General, and auditors from the U.S. Government Accountability Office may assess and publicly report the extent to which an HRSA RWHAP award is being administered in a manner consistent with statute, regulation and program policies, such as these, and compliant with legislative and programmatic policies. Recipients can expect fiscal and programmatic oversight through HRSA monitoring and review of budgets, work plans, and subrecipient agreements. HRSA HAB is able to provide technical assistance to recipients and planning bodies, where assistance with compliance is needed.

Recipients are reminded that it is their responsibility to be fully cognizant of limitations on uses of funds as outlined in statute, 45 CFR Part 75, the <a href="HHS Grants Policy Statement">HHS Grants Policy Statement</a>, and applicable HRSA HAB PCNs. In the case of services being supported in violation of statute, regulation or programmatic policy, the use of RWHAP funds for such costs must be ceased immediately and recipients may be required to return already-spent funds to the Federal Government. Recipients who unknowingly continue such support are also liable for such expenditures.

## Further Guidance on Eligible Individuals and Allowable Uses of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Funds

The RWHAP statute, codified at title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act, stipulates that "funds received...will not be utilized to make payments for any item or service to the extent that payment has been made, or can reasonably be expected to be made under...an insurance policy, or under any Federal or State health benefits program" and other specified payment sources. At the individual client-level, this means recipients must assure that funded subrecipients make reasonable efforts to secure non-RWHAP funds whenever possible for services to eligible clients. In support of this intent, it is an appropriate use of HRSA RWHAP funds to provide case management (medical or non-medical) or other services that, as a central function, ensure that eligibility for other funding sources is vigorously and consistently pursued (e.g., Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Medicare, or State-funded HIV programs, and/or private sector funding, including private insurance).

In every instance, HRSA HAB expects that services supported with HRSA RWHAP funds will (1) fall within the legislatively-defined range of services, (2) as appropriate, within Part A, have been identified as a local priority by the HIV Health Services Planning Council/Body, and (3) in the case of allocation decisions made by a Part B State/Territory or by a local or regional consortium, meet documented needs and contribute to the establishment of a continuum of care.

HRSA RWHAP funds are intended to support only the HIV-related needs of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See sections 2605(a)(6), 2617(b)(7)(F), 2664(f)(1), and 2671(i) of the Public Health Service Act.

eligible individuals. Recipients and subrecipients must be able to make an explicit connection between any service supported with HRSA RWHAP funds and the intended client's HIV care and treatment, or care-giving relationship to a person living with HIV (PLWH).

#### Eligible Individuals:

The principal intent of the RWHAP statute is to provide services to PLWH, including those whose illness has progressed to the point of clinically defined AIDS. When setting and implementing priorities for the allocation of funds, recipients, Part A Planning Councils, community planning bodies, and Part B funded consortia may optionally define eligibility for certain services more precisely, but they may NOT broaden the definition of who is eligible for services. HRSA HAB expects all HRSA RWHAP recipients to establish and monitor procedures to ensure that all funded providers verify and document client eligibility.

Affected individuals (people not identified with HIV) may be eligible for HRSA RWHAP services in limited situations, but these services for affected individuals must always benefit PLWH. Funds awarded under the HRSA RWHAP may be used for services to individuals affected by HIV only in the circumstances described below:

- a. The primary purpose of the service is to enable the affected individual to participate in the care of a PLWH. Examples include caregiver training for in-home medical or support service; psychosocial support services, such as caregiver support groups; and/or respite care services that assist affected individuals with the stresses of providing daily care for a PLWH.
- b. The service directly enables a PLWH to receive needed medical or support services by removing an identified barrier to care. Examples include payment of a HRSA RWHAP client's portion of a family health insurance policy premium to ensure continuity of insurance coverage that client, or childcare for the client's children while they receive HIV-related medical care or support services.
- c. The service promotes family stability for coping with the unique challenges posed by HIV. Examples include psychosocial support services, including mental health services funded by RWHAP Part D only, that focus on equipping affected family members, and caregivers to manage the stress and loss associated with HIV.
- d. Services to affected individuals that meet these criteria may not continue subsequent to the death of the family member who was living with HIV.

#### Unallowable Costs:

HRSA RWHAP funds may not be used to make cash payments to intended clients of HRSA RWHAP-funded services. This prohibition includes cash incentives and

cash intended as payment for HRSA RWHAP core medical and support services. Where direct provision of the service is not possible or effective, store gift cards,<sup>2</sup> vouchers, coupons, or tickets that can be exchanged for a specific service or commodity (e.g., food or transportation) must be used.

HRSA RWHAP recipients are advised to administer voucher and store gift card programs in a manner which assures that vouchers and store gift cards cannot be exchanged for cash or used for anything other than the allowable goods or services, and that systems are in place to account for disbursed vouchers and store gift cards.<sup>3</sup>

#### Other unallowable costs include:

- Clothing
- Employment and Employment-Readiness Services, except in limited, specified instances (e.g., Non-Medical Case Management Services or Rehabilitation Services)
- Funeral and Burial Expenses
- Property Taxes
- Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)
- non-occupational Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (nPEP)
- Materials, designed to promote or encourage, directly, intravenous drug use or sexual activity, whether homosexual or heterosexual
- International travel
- The purchase or improvement of land
- The purchase, construction, or permanent improvement of any building or other facility

#### Allowable Costs:

The following service categories are allowable uses of HRSA RWHAP funds. The HRSA RWHAP recipient, along with respective planning bodies, will make the final decision regarding the specific services to be funded under their grant or cooperative agreement. As with all other allowable costs, HRSA RWHAP recipients are responsible for applicable accounting and reporting on the use of HRSA RWHAP funds.

#### **Service Category Descriptions and Program Guidance**

The following provides both a description of covered service categories and program guidance for HRSA RWHAP Part recipient implementation. These service category descriptions apply to the entire HRSA RWHAP. However, for some services, the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Store gift cards that can be redeemed at one merchant or an affiliated group of merchants for specific goods or services that further the goals and objectives of the HRSA RWHAP are allowable as incentives for eligible program participants.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> General-use prepaid cards are considered "cash equivalent" and are therefore unallowable. Such cards generally bear the logo of a payment network, such as Visa, MasterCard, or American Express, and are accepted by any merchant that accepts those credit or debit cards as payment. Gift cards that are cobranded with the logo of a payment network and the logo of a merchant or affiliated group of merchants are general-use prepaid cards, not store gift cards, and therefore are unallowable.

HRSA RWHAP Parts (i.e., A, B, C, and D) must determine what is feasible and justifiable with limited resources. There is no expectation that a HRSA RWHAP Part recipient would provide all services, but recipients and planning bodies are expected to coordinate service delivery across Parts to ensure that the entire jurisdiction/service area has access to services based on needs assessment.

The following core medical and support service categories are important to assist in the diagnosis of HIV infection, linkage to and entry into care for PLWH, retention in care, and the provision of HIV care and treatment. HRSA RWHAP recipients are encouraged to consider all methods or means by which they can provide services, including use of technology (e.g., telehealth). To be an allowable cost under the HRSA RWHAP, all services must:

- Relate to HIV diagnosis, care and support,
- Adhere to established HIV clinical practice standards consistent with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Clinical Guidelines for the Treatment of HIV<sup>4</sup> and other related or pertinent clinical guidelines, and
- Comply with state and local regulations, and provided by licensed or authorized providers, as applicable.

Recipients are required to work toward the development and adoption of service standards for all HRSA RWHAP-funded services to ensure consistent quality care is provided to all HRSA RWHAP-eligible clients. Service standards establish the minimal level of service or care that a HRSA RWHAP funded agency or provider may offer within a state, territory or jurisdiction. Service standards related to HRSA RWHAP Core Medical Services must be consistent with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Clinical Guidelines for the Treatment of HIV, as well as other pertinent clinical and professional standards. Service standards related to HRSA RWHAP Support Services may be developed using evidence-based or evidence-informed best practices, the most recent HRSA RWHAP Parts A and B National Monitoring Standards, and guidelines developed by the state and local government.

HRSA RWHAP recipients should also be familiar with implementation guidance HRSA HAB provides in program manuals, monitoring standards, and other recipient resources.

HRSA RWHAP clients must meet income and other eligibility criteria as established by HRSA RWHAP Part A, B, C, or D recipients.

#### **RWHAP Core Medical Services**

AIDS Drug Assistance Program Treatments

<sup>4</sup> https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/guidelines

AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance

Early Intervention Services (EIS)

Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance for Low-Income Individuals

Home and Community-Based Health Services

Home Health Care

Hospice

Medical Case Management, including Treatment Adherence Services

Medical Nutrition Therapy

Mental Health Services

Oral Health Care

Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services

Substance Abuse Outpatient Care

#### **RWHAP Support Services**

Child Care Services

**Emergency Financial Assistance** 

Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals

Health Education/Risk Reduction

Housing

Legal Services

Linguistic Services

Medical Transportation

Non-Medical Case Management Services

Other Professional Services

**Outreach Services** 

Permanency Planning

Psychosocial Support Services

Referral for Health Care and Support Services

Rehabilitation Services

Respite Care

Substance Abuse Services (residential)

#### **Effective Date**

This PCN is effective for HRSA RWHAP Parts A, B, C, D, and F awards issued on or after October 1, 2016. This includes competing continuations, new awards, and non-competing continuations.

#### **Summary of Changes**

**August 18, 2016** –Updated *Housing Service* category by removing the prohibition on HRSA RWHAP Part C recipients to use HRSA RWHAP funds for this service.

**December 12, 2016** – 1) Updated *Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance for Low-Income Individuals* service category by including standalone dental insurance as an allowable cost; 2) Updated *Substance Abuse Services (residential)* service category by removing the prohibition on HRSA RWHAP Parts C and D recipients to use HRSA RWHAP funds for this service; 3) Updated *Medical Transportation* service category by providing clarification on provider transportation; 4) Updated *AIDS Drug Assistance Program Treatments* service category by adding additional program guidance; and 5) Reorganized the service categories alphabetically and provided hyperlinks in the Appendix.

**October**, **22**, **2018** – updated to provide additional clarifications in the following service categories:

Core Medical Services: AIDS Drug Assistance Program Treatments; AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance; Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance for Low-income People Living with HIV; and Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services

Support Services: Emergency Financial Assistance; Housing; Non-Medical Case Management; Outreach; and Rehabilitation Services.

#### **Appendix**

#### RWHAP Legislation: Core Medical Services

#### **AIDS Drug Assistance Program Treatments**

#### Description:

The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) is a state-administered program authorized under RWHAP Part B to provide U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved medications to low-income clients living with HIV who have no coverage or limited health care coverage. HRSA RWHAP ADAP formularies must include at least one FDA-approved medicine in each drug class of core antiretroviral medicines from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Clinical Guidelines for the Treatment of HIV.<sup>5</sup> HRSA RWHAP ADAPs can also provide access to medications by using program funds to purchase health care coverage and through medication cost sharing for eligible clients. HRSA RWHAP ADAPs must assess and compare the aggregate cost of paying for the health care coverage versus paying for the full cost of medications to ensure that purchasing health care coverage is cost effective in the aggregate. HRSA RWHAP ADAPs may use a limited amount of program funds for activities that enhance access to, adherence to, and monitoring of antiretroviral therapy with prior approval.

#### Program Guidance:

HRSA RWHAP Parts A, C and D recipients may contribute RWHAP funds to the RWHAP Part B ADAP for the purchase of medication and/or health care coverage and medication cost sharing for ADAP-eligible clients.

See PCN 07-03: The Use of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, Part B AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Funds for Access, Adherence, and Monitoring Services

See PCN 18-01: Clarifications Regarding the use of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Funds for Health Care Coverage Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance

See also AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance and Emergency Financial Assistance

#### **AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance**

#### Description:

AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance may be provided through one of two programs, based on HRSA RWHAP Part funding.

 A Local Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (LPAP) is operated by a HRSA RWHAP Part A or B (non-ADAP) recipient or subrecipient as a supplemental means of providing ongoing medication assistance when an HRSA RWHAP ADAP

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/guidelines</u>

has a restricted formulary, waiting list and/or restricted financial eligibility criteria.

HRSA RWHAP Parts A or B recipients using the LPAP to provide AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance must establish the following:

- Uniform benefits for all enrolled clients throughout the service area
- A recordkeeping system for distributed medications
- An LPAP advisory board
- A drug formulary that is
  - o Approved by the local advisory committee/board, and
  - Consists of HIV-related medications not otherwise available to the clients due to the elements mentioned above
- A drug distribution system
- A client enrollment and eligibility determination process that includes screening for HRSA RWHAP ADAP and LPAP eligibility with rescreening at minimum of every six months
- Coordination with the state's HRSA RWHAP Part B ADAP
  - A statement of need should specify restrictions of the state HRSA RWHAP ADAP and the need for the LPAP
- Implementation in accordance with requirements of the HRSA 340B Drug Pricing Program (including the Prime Vendor Program)
- 2. A Community Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (CPAP) is provided by a HRSA RWHAP Part C or D recipient for the provision of ongoing medication assistance to eligible clients in the absence of any other resources.

HRSA RWHAP Parts C or D recipients using CPAP to provide AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance must establish the following:

- A financial eligibility criteria and determination process for this specific service category
- A drug formulary consisting of HIV-related medications not otherwise available to the clients
- Implementation in accordance with the requirements of the HRSA 340B
   Drug Pricing Program (including the Prime Vendor Program)

#### Program Guidance:

For LPAPs: HRSA RWHAP Part A or Part B (non-ADAP) funds may be used to support an LPAP. HRSA RWHAP ADAP funds may not be used for LPAP support. LPAP funds are not to be used for emergency or short-term financial assistance. The Emergency Financial Assistance service category may assist with short-term assistance for medications.

For CPAPs: HRSA RWHAP Part C or D funds may be used to support a CPAP to routinely refill medications. HRSA RWHAP Part C or D recipients should use the Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services or Emergency Financial Assistance service

categories for non-routine, short-term medication assistance.

See also AIDS Drug Assistance Program Treatments, Emergency Financial Assistance, and Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services

#### Early Intervention Services (EIS)

#### Description:

The RWHAP legislation defines EIS for Parts A, B, and C. See § 2651(e) of the Public Health Service Act.

#### Program Guidance:

The elements of EIS often overlap with other service category descriptions; however, EIS is the combination of such services rather than a stand-alone service. HRSA RWHAP Part recipients should be aware of programmatic expectations that stipulate the allocation of funds into specific service categories.

- HRSA RWHAP Parts A and B EIS services must include the following four components:
  - Targeted HIV testing to help the unaware learn of their HIV status and receive referral to HIV care and treatment services if found to be living with HIV
    - Recipients must coordinate these testing services with other HIV prevention and testing programs to avoid duplication of efforts
    - HIV testing paid for by EIS cannot supplant testing efforts paid for by other sources
  - Referral services to improve HIV care and treatment services at key points of entry
  - Access and linkage to HIV care and treatment services such as HIV Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services, Medical Case Management, and Substance Abuse Care
  - Outreach Services and Health Education/Risk Reduction related to HIV diagnosis
- HRSA RWHAP Part C EIS services must include the following four components:
  - Counseling individuals with respect to HIV
  - High risk targeted HIV testing (confirmation and diagnosis of the extent of immune deficiency)
    - Recipients must coordinate these testing services under HRSA RWHAP Part C EIS with other HIV prevention and testing programs to avoid duplication of efforts
    - The HIV testing services supported by HRSA RWHAP Part C EIS funds cannot supplant testing efforts covered by other sources
  - o Referral and linkage to care of PLWH to Outpatient/Ambulatory Health

Services, Medical Case Management, Substance Abuse Care, and other services as part of a comprehensive care system including a system for tracking and monitoring referrals

Other clinical and diagnostic services related to HIV diagnosis

### Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance for Low-Income Individuals

Description:

Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance provides financial assistance for eligible clients living with HIV to maintain continuity of health insurance or to receive medical and pharmacy benefits under a health care coverage program. For purposes of this service category, health insurance also includes standalone dental insurance. The service provision consists of the following:

- Paying health insurance premiums to provide comprehensive HIV
   Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services, and pharmacy benefits that provide
   a full range of HIV medications for eligible clients; and/or
- Paying standalone dental insurance premiums to provide comprehensive oral health care services for eligible clients; and/or
- Paying cost sharing on behalf of the client.

To use HRSA RWHAP funds for health insurance premium assistance (not standalone dental insurance assistance), an HRSA RWHAP Part recipient must implement a methodology that incorporates the following requirements:

- Clients obtain health care coverage that at a minimum, includes at least one
  U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved medicine in each drug class
  of core antiretroviral medicines outlined in the U.S. Department of Health and
  Human Services' Clinical Guidelines for the Treatment of HIV, as well as
  appropriate HIV outpatient/ambulatory health services; and
- The cost of paying for the health care coverage (including all other sources of premium and cost sharing assistance) is cost-effective in the aggregate versus paying for the full cost for medications and other appropriate HIV outpatient/ambulatory health services (HRSA RWHAP Part A, HRSA RWHAP Part B, HRSA RWHAP Part C, and HRSA RWHAP Part D).

To use HRSA RWHAP funds for standalone dental insurance premium assistance, an HRSA RWHAP Part recipient must implement a methodology that incorporates the following requirement:

HRSA RWHAP Part recipients must assess and compare the aggregate cost
of paying for the standalone dental insurance option versus paying for the
full cost of HIV oral health care services to ensure that purchasing
standalone dental insurance is cost effective in the aggregate, and allocate
funding to Health Insurance Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance only

when determined to be cost effective.

#### Program Guidance:

Traditionally, HRSA RWHAP Parts A and B recipients have supported paying for health insurance premiums and cost sharing assistance. If a HRSA RWHAP Part C or Part D recipient has the resources to provide this service, an equitable enrollment policy must be in place and it must be cost-effective.

HRSA RWHAP Parts A, B, C, and D recipients may consider providing their health insurance premiums and cost sharing resource allocation to their state HRSA RWHAP ADAP, particularly where the ADAP has the infrastructure to verify health care coverage status and process payments for public or private health care coverage premiums and medication cost sharing.

See PCN 14-01: <u>Clarifications Regarding the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and Reconciliation of Premium Tax Credits under the Affordable Care Act</u>

See PCN 18-01: Clarifications Regarding the use of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Funds for Health Care Coverage Premium and Cost Sharing Assistance

#### **Home and Community-Based Health Services**

#### Description:

Home and Community-Based Health Services are provided to an eligible client in an integrated setting appropriate to that client's needs, based on a written plan of care established by a medical care team under the direction of a licensed clinical provider. Services include:

- Appropriate mental health, developmental, and rehabilitation services
- Day treatment or other partial hospitalization services
- Durable medical equipment
- Home health aide services and personal care services in the home

#### Program Guidance:

Inpatient hospitals, nursing homes, and other long-term care facilities are not considered an integrated setting for the purposes of providing home and community-based health services.

#### **Home Health Care**

#### Description:

Home Health Care is the provision of services in the home that are appropriate to an eligible client's needs and are performed by licensed professionals. Activities provided under Home Health Care must relate to the client's HIV disease and may include:

- Administration of prescribed therapeutics (e.g. intravenous and aerosolized treatment, and parenteral feeding)
- Preventive and specialty care
- Wound care

- Routine diagnostics testing administered in the home
- Other medical therapies

#### Program Guidance:

The provision of Home Health Care is limited to clients that are homebound. Home settings do not include nursing facilities or inpatient mental health/substance abuse treatment facilities.

#### **Hospice Services**

#### Description:

Hospice Services are end-of-life care services provided to clients in the terminal stage of an HIV-related illness. Allowable services are:

- Mental health counseling
- Nursing care
- Palliative therapeutics
- Physician services
- Room and board

#### Program Guidance:

Hospice Services may be provided in a home or other residential setting, including a non-acute care section of a hospital that has been designated and staffed to provide hospice services. This service category does not extend to skilled nursing facilities or nursing homes.

To meet the need for Hospice Services, a physician must certify that a patient is terminally ill and has a defined life expectancy as established by the recipient. Counseling services provided in the context of hospice care must be consistent with the definition of mental health counseling. Palliative therapies must be consistent with those covered under respective state Medicaid programs.

## **Medical Case Management, including Treatment Adherence Services** *Description:*

Medical Case Management is the provision of a range of client-centered activities focused on improving health outcomes in support of the HIV care continuum.

Activities provided under this service category may be provided by an interdisciplinary team that includes other specialty care providers. Medical Case Management includes all types of case management encounters (e.g., face-to-face, phone contact, and any other forms of communication).

#### Key activities include:

- Initial assessment of service needs
- Development of a comprehensive, individualized care plan
- Timely and coordinated access to medically appropriate levels of health and support services and continuity of care
- Continuous client monitoring to assess the efficacy of the care plan

- Re-evaluation of the care plan at least every 6 months with adaptations as necessary
- Ongoing assessment of the client's and other key family members' needs and personal support systems
- Treatment adherence counseling to ensure readiness for and adherence to complex HIV treatments
- Client-specific advocacy and/or review of utilization of services

In addition to providing the medically oriented activities above, Medical Case Management may also provide benefits counseling by assisting eligible clients in obtaining access to other public and private programs for which they may be eligible (e.g., Medicaid, Medicare Part D, State Pharmacy Assistance Programs, Pharmaceutical Manufacturer's Patient Assistance Programs, other state or local health care and supportive services, and insurance plans through the health insurance Marketplaces/Exchanges).

#### Program Guidance:

Activities provided under the Medical Case Management service category have as their objective <u>improving health care outcomes</u> whereas those provided under the Non-Medical Case Management service category have as their objective providing guidance and assistance in <u>improving access</u> to needed services.

Visits to ensure readiness for, and adherence to, complex HIV treatments shall be considered Medical Case Management or Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services. Treatment Adherence services provided during a Medical Case Management visit should be reported in the Medical Case Management service category whereas Treatment Adherence services provided during an Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Service visit should be reported under the Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services category.

#### **Medical Nutrition Therapy**

Description:

Medical Nutrition Therapy includes:

- Nutrition assessment and screening
- Dietary/nutritional evaluation
- Food and/or nutritional supplements per medical provider's recommendation
- Nutrition education and/or counseling

These activities can be provided in individual and/or group settings and outside of HIV Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services.

#### Program Guidance:

All activities performed under this service category must be pursuant to a medical provider's referral and based on a nutritional plan developed by the registered dietitian or other licensed nutrition professional. Activities not provided by a

registered/licensed dietician should be considered Psychosocial Support Services under the HRSA RWHAP.

See also Food-Bank/Home Delivered Meals

#### **Mental Health Services**

#### Description:

Mental Health Services are the provision of outpatient psychological and psychiatric screening, assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and counseling services offered to clients living with HIV. Services are based on a treatment plan, conducted in an outpatient group or individual session, and provided by a mental health professional licensed or authorized within the state to render such services. Such professionals typically include psychiatrists, psychologists, and licensed clinical social workers.

#### Program Guidance:

Mental Health Services are allowable only for PLWH who are eligible to receive HRSA RWHAP services.

See also Psychosocial Support Services

#### **Oral Health Care**

#### Description:

Oral Health Care activities include outpatient diagnosis, prevention, and therapy provided by dental health care professionals, including general dental practitioners, dental specialists, dental hygienists, and licensed dental assistants.

#### Program Guidance:

None at this time.

#### **Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services**

#### Description:

Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services provide diagnostic and therapeutic-related activities directly to a client by a licensed healthcare provider in an outpatient medical setting. Outpatient medical settings may include: clinics, medical offices, mobile vans, using telehealth technology, and urgent care facilities for HIV-related visits.

#### Allowable activities include:

- Medical history taking
- Physical examination
- Diagnostic testing (including HIV confirmatory and viral load testing), as well as laboratory testing
- Treatment and management of physical and behavioral health conditions
- Behavioral risk assessment, subsequent counseling, and referral
- Preventive care and screening
- Pediatric developmental assessment
- Prescription and management of medication therapy

- Treatment adherence
- Education and counseling on health and prevention issues
- Referral to and provision of specialty care related to HIV diagnosis, including audiology and ophthalmology

#### Program Guidance:

Treatment adherence activities provided during an Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Service visit are considered Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services, whereas treatment adherence activities provided during a Medical Case Management visit are considered Medical Case Management services.

Non-HIV related visits to urgent care facilities are not allowable costs within the Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services Category.

Emergency room visits are not allowable costs within the Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services Category.

See PCN 13-04: Clarifications Regarding Clients Eligible for Private Insurance and Coverage of Services by Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

See also Early Intervention Services

#### **Substance Abuse Outpatient Care**

#### Description:

Substance Abuse Outpatient Care is the provision of outpatient services for the treatment of drug or alcohol use disorders. Activities under Substance Abuse Outpatient Care service category include:

- Screening
- Assessment
- Diagnosis, and/or
- Treatment of substance use disorder, including:
  - Pretreatment/recovery readiness programs
  - Harm reduction
  - o Behavioral health counseling associated with substance use disorder
  - o Outpatient drug-free treatment and counseling
  - Medication assisted therapy
  - Neuro-psychiatric pharmaceuticals
  - Relapse prevention

#### Program Guidance:

Acupuncture therapy may be allowable under this service category only when, as part of a substance use disorder treatment program funded under the HRSA RWHAP, it is included in a documented plan.

Syringe access services are allowable, to the extent that they comport with current appropriations law and applicable HHS guidance, including HRSA- or HAB-specific

guidance.

See also Substance Abuse Services (residential)

RWHAP Legislation: Support Services

#### **Child Care Services**

#### Description:

The HRSA RWHAP supports intermittent Child Care Services for the children living in the household of PLWH who are HRSA RWHAP-eligible clients for the purpose of enabling those clients to attend medical visits, related appointments, and/or HRSA RWHAP-related meetings, groups, or training sessions.

#### Allowable use of funds include:

- A licensed or registered child care provider to deliver intermittent care
- Informal child care provided by a neighbor, family member, or other person (with the understanding that existing federal restrictions prohibit giving cash to clients or primary caregivers to pay for these services)

#### Program Guidance:

The use of funds under this service category should be limited and carefully monitored. Direct cash payments to clients are not permitted.

Such arrangements may also raise liability issues for the funding source which should be carefully weighed in the decision process.

#### **Emergency Financial Assistance**

#### Description:

Emergency Financial Assistance provides limited one-time or short-term payments to assist an HRSA RWHAP client with an urgent need for essential items or services necessary to improve health outcomes, including: utilities, housing, food (including groceries and food vouchers), transportation, medication not covered by an AIDS Drug Assistance Program or AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance, or another HRSA RWHAP-allowable cost needed to improve health outcomes. Emergency Financial Assistance must occur as a direct payment to an agency or through a voucher program.

#### Program Guidance:

Emergency Financial Assistance funds used to pay for otherwise allowable HRSA RWHAP services must be accounted for under the Emergency Financial Assistance category. Direct cash payments to clients are not permitted.

Continuous provision of an allowable service to a client must not be funded through Emergency Financial Assistance.

#### Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals

Description:

Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals refers to the provision of actual food items, hot meals, or a voucher program to purchase food. This also includes the provision of essential non-food items that are limited to the following:

- Personal hygiene products
- Household cleaning supplies
- Water filtration/purification systems in communities where issues of water safety exist

#### Program Guidance:

Unallowable costs include household appliances, pet foods, and other non-essential products.

See Medical Nutrition Therapy. Nutritional services and nutritional supplements provided by a registered dietitian are considered a core medical service under the HRSA RWHAP.

#### Health Education/Risk Reduction

#### Description:

Health Education/Risk Reduction is the provision of education to clients living with HIV about HIV transmission and how to reduce the risk of HIV transmission. It includes sharing information about medical and psychosocial support services and counseling with clients to improve their health status. Topics covered may include:

- Education on risk reduction strategies to reduce transmission such as preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for clients' partners and treatment as prevention
- Education on health care coverage options (e.g., qualified health plans through the Marketplace, Medicaid coverage, Medicare coverage)
- Health literacy
- Treatment adherence education

#### Program Guidance:

Health Education/Risk Reduction services cannot be delivered anonymously.

See also Early Intervention Services

#### Housing

#### Description:

Housing provides transitional, short-term, or emergency housing assistance to enable a client or family to gain or maintain outpatient/ambulatory health services and treatment, including temporary assistance necessary to prevent homelessness and to gain or maintain access to medical care. Activities within the Housing category must also include the development of an individualized housing plan, updated annually, to guide the client's linkage to permanent housing. Housing may provide some type of core medical (e.g., mental health services) or support services (e.g., residential substance use disorder services).

Housing activities also include housing referral services, including assessment, search,

placement, and housing advocacy services on behalf of the eligible client, as well as fees associated with these activities.

#### Program Guidance:

HRSA RWHAP recipients and subrecipients that use funds to provide Housing must have mechanisms in place to assess and document the housing status and housing service needs of new clients, and at least annually for existing clients.

HRSA RWHAP recipients and subrecipients, along with local decision-making planning bodies, are strongly encouraged to institute duration limits to housing activities. HRSA HAB recommends recipients and subrecipients align duration limits with those definitions used by other housing programs, such as those administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, which currently uses 24 months for transitional housing.

Housing activities cannot be in the form of direct cash payments to clients and cannot be used for mortgage payments or rental deposits, <sup>6</sup> <u>although these may be allowable costs under the HUD Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS grant awards</u>.

Housing, as described here, replaces PCN 11-01.

#### Legal Services

See Other Professional Services

#### **Linguistic Services**

Description:

Linguistic Services include interpretation and translation activities, both oral and written, to eligible clients. These activities must be provided by qualified linguistic services providers as a component of HIV service delivery between the healthcare provider and the client. These services are to be provided when such services are necessary to facilitate communication between the provider and client and/or support delivery of HRSA RWHAP-eligible services.

#### Program Guidance:

Linguistic Services provided must comply with the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS).

#### **Medical Transportation**

Description:

Medical Transportation is the provision of nonemergency transportation that enables an eligible client to access or be retained in core medical and support services.

#### Program Guidance:

Medical transportation may be provided through:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See sections 2604(i), 2612(f), 2651(b), and 2671(a) of the Public Health Service Act.

- Contracts with providers of transportation services
- Mileage reimbursement (through a non-cash system) that enables clients to travel to needed medical or other support services, but should not in any case exceed the established rates for federal Programs (Federal Joint Travel Regulations provide further guidance on this subject)
- Purchase or lease of organizational vehicles for client transportation programs, provided the recipient receives prior approval for the purchase of a vehicle
- Organization and use of volunteer drivers (through programs with insurance and other liability issues specifically addressed)
- Voucher or token systems

Costs for transportation for medical providers to provide care should be categorized under the service category for the service being provided.

#### Unallowable costs include:

- Direct cash payments or cash reimbursements to clients
- Direct maintenance expenses (tires, repairs, etc.) of a privately-owned vehicle
- Any other costs associated with a privately-owned vehicle such as lease, loan payments, insurance, license, or registration fees.

#### **Non-Medical Case Management Services**

#### Description:

Non-Medical Case Management Services (NMCM) is the provision of a range of client-centered activities focused on improving access to and retention in needed core medical and support services. NMCM provides coordination, guidance, and assistance in accessing medical, social, community, legal, financial, employment, vocational, and/or other needed services. NMCM Services may also include assisting eligible clients to obtain access to other public and private programs for which they may be eligible, such as Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program, Medicare Part D, State Pharmacy Assistance Programs, Pharmaceutical Manufacturer's Patient Assistance Programs, Department of Labor or Education-funded services, other state or local health care and supportive services, or private health care coverage plans. NMCM Services includes all types of case management encounters (e.g., face-to-face, telehealth, phone contact, and any other forms of communication). Key activities include:

- Initial assessment of service needs
- Development of a comprehensive, individualized care plan
- Timely and coordinated access to medically appropriate levels of health and support services and continuity of care
- Client-specific advocacy and/or review of utilization of services
- Continuous client monitoring to assess the efficacy of the care plan

- Re-evaluation of the care plan at least every 6 months with adaptations as necessary
- Ongoing assessment of the client's and other key family members' needs and personal support systems

#### Program Guidance:

NMCM Services have as their objective providing coordination, guidance and assistance in <u>improving access</u> to and retention in needed medical and support services to mitigate and eliminate barriers to HIV care services, whereas Medical Case Management Services have as their objective <u>improving health care outcomes</u>.

#### **Other Professional Services**

#### Description:

Other Professional Services allow for the provision of professional and consultant services rendered by members of particular professions licensed and/or qualified to offer such services by local governing authorities. Such services may include:

- Legal services provided to and/or on behalf of the HRSA RWHAP-eligible PLWH and involving legal matters related to or arising from their HIV disease, including:
  - Assistance with public benefits such as Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
  - Interventions necessary to ensure access to eligible benefits, including discrimination or breach of confidentiality litigation as it relates to services eligible for funding under the HRSA RWHAP
  - o Preparation of:
    - Healthcare power of attorney
    - Durable powers of attorney
    - Living wills
- Permanency planning to help clients/families make decisions about the placement and care of minor children after their parents/caregivers are deceased or are no longer able to care for them, including:
  - Social service counseling or legal counsel regarding the drafting of wills or delegating powers of attorney
  - Preparation for custody options for legal dependents including standby guardianship, joint custody, or adoption
- Income tax preparation services to assist clients in filing Federal tax returns that are required by the Affordable Care Act for all individuals receiving premium tax credits.

#### Program Guidance:

Legal services exclude criminal defense and class-action suits unless related to access to services eligible for funding under the RWHAP.

#### See 45 CFR § 75.459

#### **Outreach Services**

#### Description:

The Outreach Services category has as its principal purpose identifying PLWH who either do not know their HIV status, or who know their status but are not currently in care. As such, Outreach Services provide the following activities: 1) identification of people who do not know their HIV status and/or 2) linkage or re-engagement of PLWH who know their status into HRSA RWHAP services, including provision of information about health care coverage options.

Because Outreach Services are often provided to people who do not know their HIV status, some activities within this service category will likely reach people who are HIV negative. When these activities identify someone living with HIV, eligible clients should be linked to HRSA RWHAP services.

#### Outreach Services must:

- 1) use data to target populations and places that have a high probability of reaching PLWH who
  - a. have never been tested and are undiagnosed,
  - b. have been tested, diagnosed as HIV positive, but have not received their test results, or
  - c. have been tested, know their HIV positive status, but are not in medical care:
- 2) be conducted at times and in places where there is a high probability that PLWH will be identified; and
- 3) be delivered in coordination with local and state HIV prevention outreach programs to avoid duplication of effort.

Outreach Services may be provided through community and public awareness activities (e.g., posters, flyers, billboards, social media, TV or radio announcements) that meet the requirements above and include explicit and clear links to and information about available HRSA RWHAP services. Ultimately, HIV-negative people may receive Outreach Services and should be referred to risk reduction activities. When these activities identify someone living with HIV, eligible clients should be linked to HRSA RWHAP services.

#### Program Guidance:

Outreach Services provided to an individual or in small group settings cannot be delivered anonymously, as some information is needed to facilitate any necessary follow-up and care.

Outreach Services must not include outreach activities that exclusively promote HIV prevention education. Recipients and subrecipients may use Outreach Services funds for HIV testing when HRSA RWHAP resources are available and where the testing would not supplant other existing funding.

Outreach Services, as described here, replaces PCN 12-01.

See also Early Intervention Services

#### Permanency Planning

See Other Professional Services

#### **Psychosocial Support Services**

#### Description:

Psychosocial Support Services provide group or individual support and counseling services to assist HRSA RWHAP-eligible PLWH to address behavioral and physical health concerns. Activities provided under the Psychosocial Support Services may include:

- Bereavement counseling
- Caregiver/respite support (HRSA RWHAP Part D)
- Child abuse and neglect counseling
- HIV support groups
- Nutrition counseling provided by a non-registered dietitian (see Medical Nutrition Therapy Services)
- Pastoral care/counseling services

#### Program Guidance:

Funds under this service category may not be used to provide nutritional supplements (See Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals).

HRSA RWHAP-funded pastoral counseling must be available to all eligible clients regardless of their religious denominational affiliation.

HRSA RWHAP Funds may not be used for social/recreational activities or to pay for a client's gym membership.

For HRSA RWHAP Part D recipients, outpatient mental health services provided to affected clients (people not identified with HIV) should be reported as Psychosocial Support Services; this is generally only a permissible expense under HRSA RWHAP Part D.

See also Respite Care Services

#### **Rehabilitation Services**

#### Description:

Rehabilitation Services provide HIV-related therapies intended to improve or maintain a client's quality of life and optimal capacity for self-care on an outpatient basis, and in accordance with an individualized plan of HIV care.

#### Program Guidance:

Allowable activities under this category include physical, occupational, speech, and

vocational therapy.

Rehabilitation services provided as part of <u>inpatient</u> hospital services, nursing homes, and other long-term care facilities are not allowable.

#### **Referral for Health Care and Support Services**

#### Description:

Referral for Health Care and Support Services directs a client to needed core medical or support services in person or through telephone, written, or other type of communication. Activities provided under this service category may include referrals to assist HRSA RWHAP-eligible clients to obtain access to other public and private programs for which they may be eligible (e.g., Medicaid, Medicare Part D, State Pharmacy Assistance Programs, Pharmaceutical Manufacturer's Patient Assistance Programs, and other state or local health care and supportive services, or health insurance Marketplace plans).

#### Program Guidance:

Referrals for Health Care and Support Services provided by outpatient/ambulatory health care providers should be reported under the Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services category.

Referrals for health care and support services provided by case managers (medical and non-medical) should be reported in the appropriate case management service category (i.e., Medical Case Management or Non-Medical Case Management).

See also Early Intervention Services

#### **Respite Care**

#### Description:

Respite Care is the provision of periodic respite care in community or home-based settings that includes non-medical assistance designed to provide care for an HRSA RWHAP-eligible client to relieve the primary caregiver responsible for their day-to-day care.

#### Program Guidance:

Recreational and social activities are allowable program activities as part of a Respite Care provided in a licensed or certified provider setting including drop-in centers within HIV Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services or satellite facilities.

Funds may be used to support informal, home-based Respite Care, but liability issues should be included in the consideration of this expenditure. Direct cash payments to clients are not permitted.

Funds may not be used for off premise social/recreational activities or to pay for a client's gym membership.

See also Psychosocial Support Services

#### **Substance Abuse Services (residential)**

#### Description:

Substance Abuse Services (residential) activities are those provided for the treatment of drug or alcohol use disorders in a residential setting to include screening, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of substance use disorder. Activities provided under the Substance Abuse Services (residential) service category include:

- Pretreatment/recovery readiness programs
- Harm reduction
- Behavioral health counseling associated with substance use disorder
- Medication assisted therapy
- Neuro-psychiatric pharmaceuticals
- Relapse prevention
- Detoxification, if offered in a separate licensed residential setting (including a separately-licensed detoxification facility within the walls of an inpatient medical or psychiatric hospital)

#### Program Guidance:

Substance Abuse Services (residential) is permitted only when the client has received a written referral from the clinical provider as part of a substance use disorder treatment program funded under the HRSA RWHAP.

Acupuncture therapy may be an allowable cost under this service category only when it is included in a documented plan as part of a substance use disorder treatment program funded under the HRSA RWHAP.

HRSA RWHAP funds may not be used for inpatient detoxification in a hospital setting, unless the detoxification facility has a separate license.