







WOMEN'S CAUCUS Virtual Meeting

Monday, October 18, 2021

2:00PM-4:00PM (PST)

*Meeting Agenda + Packet will be available on our website at: http://hiv.lacounty.gov/Meetings

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

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https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/j.php?MTID=m2aebf7 40fe6950f3efd0da3290b8df31

Passcode: WOMFN

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1-213-306-3065 Access Code: 2596 534 4678

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment is an opportunity for members of the public to comment on an agenda item, or any item of interest to the public, before or during the Commission's consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission.

To submit Public Comment, you may join the virtual meeting via your smart device and post your Public Comment in the Chat box -or- email your Public Comment to hivcomm@lachiv.org or-submit your Public Comment electronically via

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PUBLIC COMMENTS.

All Public Comments will be made part of the official record.

LIKE WHAT WE DO?



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WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Virtual Meeting Agenda

Monday, October 18, 2021 @ 2:00PM - 4:00PM

To Join by Computer on Day/Time of Meeting:

https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/j.php?MTID=m2 aebf740fe6950f3efd0da3290b8df31

Password: WOMEN

To Join by phone: +1-213-306-3065 Access code: 2596 534 4678

1. Welcome + Introductions + Check-In2:00PM - 2:05PM2. Executive Director/Staff Report2:05PM - 2:10PM

2:10PM - 2:30PM

- Co-Chair Open Nominations & Election
- 2021 Work Plan | Review + Updates
- Legal Service Focus Group

3. Co-Chair Report

- September 20th Special Panel Presentation Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the HIV Epidemic | Follow Up + Feedback
- Holiday Meeting Schedule

4. DISCUSSION: 2:30PM – 3:50PM

 Women & HIV Prevention, Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) and Take Me Home (TMH) Test Kits

5. Meeting Recap + Agenda 3:50PM - 3:55PM

6. Public Comments + Announcements 3:55PM - 4:00PM

7. Adjournment 4:00PM



Unpacking the Process:

HOW TO ENGAGE IN FEDERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ADVOCACY

The executive branch of the federal government can often be a confusing space for both new and experienced advocates. Both the ways to participate in the regulatory process and the agencies making decisions about the lives of people living with HIV are complicated, making the process hard to navigate.

This fact sheet will provide a primer on what the executive branch and administrative agencies do, what the main agencies and policies affecting the lives of people living with HIV are, and what steps advocates can take to influence executive agency decision making.

BACKGROUND: THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

What does it do?

The executive branch "executes" the laws: putting what Congress passes into action. This includes enforcement.

Who's in charge?

The President is the head of the executive branch and the Vice President (VP) is second in command.

Below the President and VP are the Cabinet officials who serve as advisors to the president and the heads of the 15 main executive (or administrative) agencies. The executive branch is made up of various departments, independent agencies, boards, commissions and committees.

A few administrative agencies that affect HIV policy are the Department of Health and Human Services which is in charge of the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control and the Health and Human Services Administration, which manages the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program.

President of the U.S.



Vice President of the U.S.



Cabinet (advisors to the President; heads of executive agencies)

Secretary of Agriculture

Secretary of Defense

Secretary of Energy

Secretary of Homeland Security

Secretary of the Interior

Secretary of State

Secretary of the Treasury

Secretary of Commerce

Secretary of Education

Secretary of Health & Human Services

Secretary of Housing & Urban Development

Secretary of Labor

Secretary of Transportation

Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Attorney General

How do agencies make policies?

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Rules are generally applicable, meaning they apply to everyone, and have a future effect.

They are designed to implement or interpret law or policy.

Orders

Orders are final dispositions in any matter other than rule-making and usually affect individual rights or the rights of very small groups.

They are created by a process called adjudication.

Guidance

Also called "interpretive rules," these are intended to help the public understand how a rule applies to them.

They may explain how an agency interprets a rule or a law, how a rule may apply in a given instance, and what a person or organization must do to comply.

Guidance cannot set new legal standards or impose new requirements.

HIV AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

White House Domestic Policy Council

Office of National AIDS Policy (ONAP)

This office has provided overall guidance and coordination of the domestic HIV response. ONAP is situated on the White House Domestic Policy Council, which advises the President on all domestic policy matters. ONAP became defunct under the Trump administration, but was reestablished by the Biden administration in 2021. Harold Phillips currently serves as director of ONAP.

Executive agencies that create or influence policies that affect people living with HIV

Department of Health & Human Services

Social Security Administration

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Department of Justice

Department of Agriculture

Advisory bodies

The Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA) and the CDC/HRSA Advisory Committee on HIV, Viral Hepatitis and STD Prevention and Treatment (CHAC) are both governed by a charter.

The charter mandates everything about the advisory body, from who is included on the body (like if people living with HIV must be included) to how many times it meets per year.

PACHA is rechartered by each new presidential administration. At the time of publication of this fact sheet, President Biden has not yet rechartered PACHA.

Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA)

Advises HHS on programs, policies, and research on the treatment, prevention, and cure of HIV, including comment and advice on the EHE and HNSP programs.

- The current PACHA charter specifies a maximum of 25 members who serve for 4-year terms and meet 3 times per fiscal year. There is no requirement that any of these members be people living with HIV.
- For example, following its last meeting in March 2021, PACHA recommended that HHS eliminate administrative barriers to eligibility and recertification process for services that could be creating and perpetuating systemic racism and to examine additional incentives to encourage states that have not expanded Medicaid to do so, among other things.

CDC/HRSA Advisory Committee on HIV, Viral Hepatitis and STD Prevention and Treatment (CHAC)

Advises HHS, the CDC, and HRSA on objectives, strategies, policies, and priorities for HIV, viral hepatitis, and STD prevention and treatment efforts.

- Comprised of 18 members, at least 4 of which must be people living with HIV, and meets about 2 times per year. As it is currently chartered, members can serve for up to 4 years and can serve for an additional 180 days until their successor takes office. Their terms overlap with one another, so not all members terms will expire at one time.
- For example, CHAC will write letters to the heads of HHS, the CDC, and HRSA, like one it wrote to the Secretary of HHS in June 2020 asking HHS to prioritize young people in the Ending the Epidemic Plan and activities that are known to be linked to prevention of HIV in young people.

Government-wide HIV policies

Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE): A Plan for America

An operational plan developed by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) agencies which aims to end the HIV epidemic by 2030.

It focuses on prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and outbreak response.

Opportunities to influence the implementation of EHE exist at the state & local level, when budgets are being developed, and at PACHA and CHAC meetings.

HIV National Strategic Plan (HNSP)

A road map for ending the HIV epidemic in the United States by 2030.

The current iteration covers 2021-2025.

Opportunities to influence the HNSP implementation exist when budgets are being developed, and at PACHA and CHAC meetings.

Executive agencies, cont.

Department of Health & Human Services

The Office of Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)

Manages HHS's response to HIV

Minority HIV/AIDS Fund

Funds different programs and activities designed to improve prevention, care, and treatment for racial and ethnic minorities.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP)

Department of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP)

Focuses on prevention through public health surveillance, scientific research, prevention public education campaigns, programs to prevent and control HIV/AIDS and promoting school-based health and disease prevention among youth.

Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy (OIDP)

Formerly known as the HIV/AIDS and Infectious Disease Policy (OHAIDP) before it was combined with the National Vaccine Program Office in April 2019.

- Leads EHE project coordination and management;
- Monitors EHE progress;
- Delivers information through hiv.gov.

Office of AIDS Research (OAR)

Coordinates HIV/AIDS research across National Institutes of Health (NIH), which provides the largest public investment in HIV/AIDS research globally.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Health Center Program

- Grant program in which grants are given to health centers which deliver primary health services to low-income and underserved communities
- Health centers often test for and treat HIV and increase access to PrEP and PEP

HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB)

AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP)

- Funds are managed by states and territories, but the programs are intended to provide certain approved medications to low-income people living with HIV who have limited or no health coverage from private insurance, Medicaid, or Medicare.
- Funds may also be used to purchase health insurance for clients and for services that enhance access to, adherence to, and monitoring of drug treatments.

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

- A funded initiative to provide healthcare, treatment, and related services to people living with HIV. Focuses on linking people living with HIV who are either newly diagnosed or are not in care, to the HIV care, treatment, and support services by granting funds to states, cities, counties, and local community-based organizations.
- Jurisdictional planning councils are supposed to be comprised of at least 33% people living with HIV and decide how to allocate these resources at the local level.

Executive agencies, cont.

Department of Health & Human Services, cont.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

Medicaid

Single largest source of health care for U.S. people living with HIV; represents 30% of all federal spending on HIV care.

It is the second largest source of public financing for HIV care in the U.S.

Medicare

Federal health insurance program for people age 65 and older and younger adults with permanent disabilities.

About ¼ of people living with HIV get their healthcare through Medicare.

The primary pathway to get onto Medicare is through Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI).

Administration for Children and Families (ACF)

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Time-limited program that assists families with children when the parents or other guardians cannot provide for the family's basic needs.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

Grants to local communities, states, and nonprofit organizations for projects that provide housing for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

Social Security Administration

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Financial support for people with disabilities and low income and resources.

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

Provides benefits for people with disabilities, including HIV.

Department of Agriculture

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Federal program helping low- and no-income people, those receiving public benefits, the elderly or disabled, or unhoused people purchase food.

Department of Justice

Conducts new investigations of HIV/AIDS discrimination under the Barrier-Free Health Care Initiative, the Fair Housing Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Released the <u>Best Practices Guide to Reform HIV-Specific Criminal Laws to Align with Scientifically Supported Factors in 2014.</u>

How Do You Make Changes in Administrative Policies?

Join and/or attend the meeting of state or local working groups (Ryan White, Ending the Epidemic, ADAPs).

Join an advisory body, attend the meetings, and submit comments.

<u>Join Positive Women's Network - USA</u> or another network of people living with HIV.

Submit public comments on rules and regulations.

Disrupt by contacting the media, rallies, direct actions, and demonstrations. You can be creative with how you disrupt the process and different actions are better suited for different issues.

How to find policies and other agency actions

- Rules and Regulations: <u>FederalRegister.</u> gov OR <u>Regulations.gov</u>
- Calendar of planned and ongoing rulemaking: <u>RegInfo.gov</u>

How to Write an Effective Comment

- 1. Read the Rule or at least the summary.
- 2. Outline the questions being asked from the agency and other areas where comment will be useful.
- 3. Give yourself time to write, and to review.
- 4. Submit comment online by the deadline.

TIPS:

- Share personal stories and/or stories of how the proposed rule will impact you and/or your community.
- Can address all of the proposed rule or only a part.
- Can be as simple as a sentence or as many pages and points as you want to make.
- Constructive comments hold more weight.
- If you have particular expertise because of your work or life experience, make sure to put that up front.
- Support your comment with facts and data if you have it; you may be considered an expert, and your opinion matters.
- If you can think of an alternative to the rule, include it!
- Form letters: Many organizations create form letters

 if you don't personalize them up front or add your opinion, it is not taken as seriously.

Want to learn more? Or ready to get started?

Go to pwn-usa.org/advocacy-guide

Claim Your Seat at the Table: A How-To Guide to Advocacy for People Living with HIV has tons of multimedia resources for advocates, from the newest to the most seasoned, to give you the knowledge, skills, tools and templates, and pro tips you need to make a difference for people living with HIV and our communities.





Unfinished Conversations: Continuing the Commitment to End HIV

Virtual Annual Meeting
Thursday, November 18, 2021
9AM- 3PM
Featured Session Topics

Listening without Judgement

Robert Sowell and April Johnson
Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission

Division of HIV and STD Programs Report and Ending the HIV Epidemic Steering Committee Special Presentations

Mario Perez, MPH, Director, Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP), Los Angeles County

Department of Public Health

Julie Tolentino, MPH, EHE Program Manager, DHSP
Zelenne Cardenas, Senior Director, Social Model Recovery Systems
Tyreik Gaffney-Smith, Outreach Coordinator, APLA Health
Robbie Rodriguez, Managing Director of Operations, Equality California
Bridget Rogala, MPH, Faculty, California State University, Long Beach

Cluster Detection and Response

Philip Peters, MD, Medical Officer, California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS Kathleen Poortinga, MPH, Epidemiologist, HIV Surveillance, DHSP

Street Medicine

Brett J. Feldman, MSPAS, PA-C and Corinne T. Feldman, MMS, PA-C University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine

HIV, Aging, and Stigma

Dr. Paul Nash CPsychol AFBPsS FHEA University of Southern California, Leonard Davis School of Gerontology

REGISTER NOW @ https://tinyurl.com/7cmraps
To join by phone, dial 1-415-655-0001
Access Code: 2596 251 7617



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV 2021 WOMEN'S CAUCUS WORKPLAN

(Updates in Red Italics)

Caucus Name: Women's Caucus	Co-Chairs: Shary Alonzo & Dr. LaShonda Spencer
Caucus Adoption Date: 1.26.21	Revision(s) Date: 8.30.21; 10.18.21

Purpose of Work Plan: To focus and prioritize key activities for COH Committees and subgroups for 2021.

Prioritization Criteria: Select activities that 1) represent the core functions of the COH and Committee; 2) advance the goals of the Comprehensive HIV Plan and Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Plan; and 3) align with COH staff and member capacities and time commitment.

#	TASK/ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	STATUS/NOTES/OTHER COMMITTEES INVOLVED
1	Child Care Services Standards of Care	Ensure the service meets the needs of parents; follow up on how to include non-licensed childcare providers.	Ongoing	RFP pending per Mario Perez (DHSP) @ Oct COH meeting. Standards of Care approved July 8 th and forwarded to DHSP for implementation. Identify strategies in supporting non-licensed childcare providers.
2	Take Me Home (TMH) HIV Tests	Ensure service is inclusive of women, to include how and to whom TMH is marketed.	Ongoing	Paulina Zamudio (DHSP) to provide updates at Oct WC meeting. DHSP reported @ June COH meeting, over 4000 kits have been distributed and efforts are underway to ensure women are reflected in the marketing and that kits are made available to women. Ongoing monitoring of program.
3	Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) Service	Ensure unfettered access to EFA by those who need it most.	Ongoing	Paulina Zamudio (DHSP) to provide updates at Oct WC meeting. DHSP continues to provide ongoing updates on the progress of the EFA. Per DHSP @ August COH meeting, over \$600k has been distributed in EFA funding, serving over 272 people living with HIV. Additional funding will need to be allocated and will need to develop a stronger link for those who are at risk with those who become housing insecure.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV 2021 WOMEN'S CAUCUS WORKPLAN

(Updates in Red Italics)

				Ongoing monitoring of service to ensure effective roll out, ability to access, and the number of individuals who have submitted applications vs accepted.
4	Plan topical discussions via Virtual Lunch & Learns, special Caucus meetings and in collaboration with other working groups. Topics to include: - Advocacy 101 (March) - U=U + STDs + Reproductive Justice (April; reproductive justice addressed during 2020 series) - Coping w/ Stress + Social Support (May - Trauma + IPV *previously addressed via 11/10/21 VLL - Women + Aging - Women Giving Birth to Babies w/ & w/out HIV - Demo/Geo Epi Data	Follow up to 2020 VLL series in addressing barriers and social determinants of health of women living with and impacted by HIV through community engagement activities.	2021	Advocacy 101: March 15 Coping w/ Stress: May 26 Women & Aging: July 19 40th Anniversary of HIV Epidemic: Women & HIV, Mother to Child Transmission, COVID-19+HIV pandemic similarities: September 20th Women of Color & Prevention Planning & Data w/ the Prevention Planning Workgroup: August 23 Legal Services Focus Group for PLWH: November 15th
5	Address technical challenges among consumers especially monolingual Spanish speakers	Identify solutions to mitigate challenges in accessing virtual meetings.		No registration and virtual simultaneous translation feature now available. Suggestions expressed include eliminate registration, research potential translation feature on WebEx, develop a "cheat sheet" or tutorial.
6	Coordinate w/ D2 to partner on policy priorities involving women living with HIV.	Partners with D2 on matters involving women living with HIV.		COH leadership & COH D2 representative met w/ D2 on June 16 & August 18. Meeting scheduled w/ D2 and COH Co-Chairs and D2 COH rep; staff will provide updates.

BE HEARD.

The Los Angeles County Commission on HIV in partnership with the Legal Needs Assessment Team* invite People Living with HIV (PLWH) to share their experiences in an online focus group to discuss legal issues faced and any problems or barriers encountered in receiving help to inform and reform legal services for PLWH in Los Angeles County

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2021 5:00-6:30PM (PST)

REGISTER @ HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/IYBTHHFBUEOZ1CB59

PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A \$25 VISA GIFT CARD AND AN ADDITIONAL \$15 FOR COMPLETING AN ONLINE SURVEY

Questions?
Contact Laurie Aronoff at laronoff@lacba.org or 213-833-6776

*This effort is funded by the Los Angeles County
Department of Public Health, Division of HIV and STD
Programs. Our team includes Laurie Aronoff (LACBA AIDS
Legal Services Project), Ayako Miyashita Ochoa (UCLA
Luskin School of Public Affairs) and Tai Glen (Inner City
Law Center)









HIV COMMISION WOMEN'S CAUCUS MEETING

October 18, 2021





Agenda

- Women & HIV Prevention
 - PrEP
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- HIV Self-Test Kit
 - DHSP Program
 - Take Me Home



Women and HIV Prevention

- DHSP-funded programs
 - Asian American Drug Abuse Programs (SPA 6)
 - East LA Women's Center (SPA 7)
 - Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness (SPAs 1-8)
 - JWCH Institute (SPA 4)
 - Tarzana Treatment Centers (SPA 2)
 - El Centro del Pueblo (SPA 4)



Women and HIV Prevention

- July December 2021:
 - 2,023 women were served
 - Age:
 - 39% 30-45
 - 31% 46+
 - 14% 24-29
 - Ethnicity/Race:
 - 26% African-American
 - 53% Latina
 - 57% reported substance use
 - 42,151 condoms distributed; 871 insertive condoms distributed



Women and HIV Prevention

- PrEP Discussion
 - Small group met and discussed current performance indicators for HIV Testing contractors
 - Group to submit recommendations to DHSP



Emergency Financial Assistance

- March 1, 2021 to present
 - 444 applications
 - 250 for rental assistance
 - 59 for utilities
 - 5 for food
 - 70 applications from women

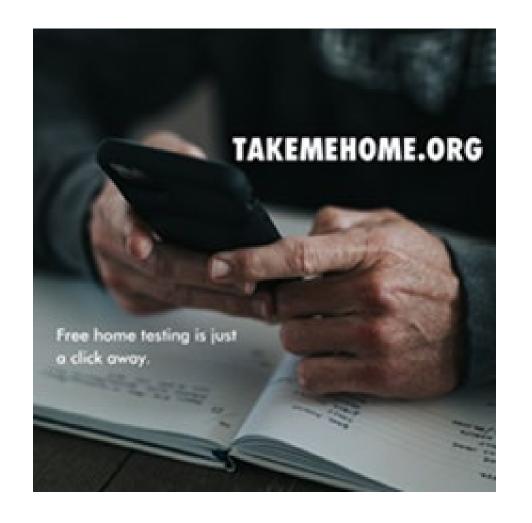


HIV Home Test Kit

- Two programs:
 - DHSP distribution of kits to HIV testing contractors and HERR contractors
 - Event distribution
- Take me Home



TakeMeHome Overview



Take Me Home Program: DHSP is collaborating with TakeMeHome – a partnership between Building Healthy Online Communities, NASTAD, and Emory University – to provide free HIV self-tests to community members who request them online.

Eligibility criteria includes being 18 & older, not having tested in at least a year, & living in LA county.

Visit takemehome.org for more information.



TakeMeHome Updates & Promotion

- Emerged in part in response to <u>eSTAMP</u> project data
- Promoted nationally through dating apps and a partnership with the CDC
- Locally-TMH is listed on getprotectedla.com, sent out to the EHE listserv, promoted among community partners & coalitions, & through street outreach
- ~1,400 HIV tests have been ordered online from Aug 2020- August 2021
 - 37% reported having never tested
 - ~55% participants were under 30





TMH Orders from August 2020 to August 2021



132

140

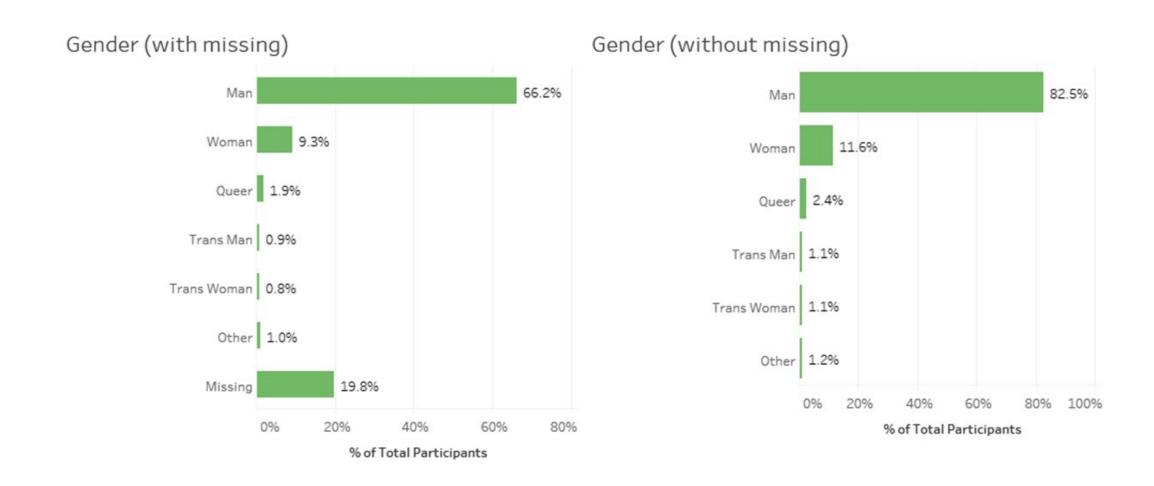
Number of Kits Ordered

Count of client-level_tableau for each Date Ordered (MY).

August 2021

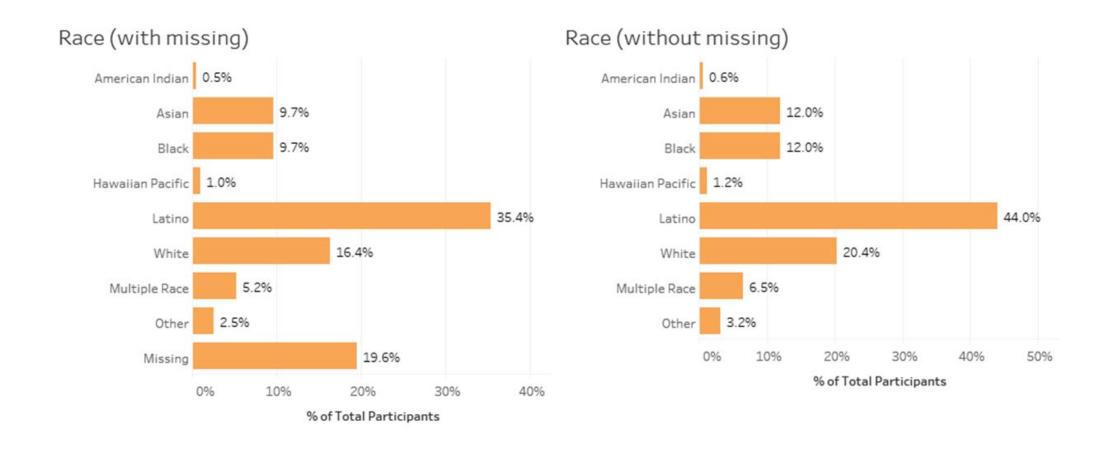


TMH Orders from August 2020 to August 2021 – By Gender





TMH Orders from August 2020 to August 2021 – By Race





Promoting TakeMeHome

- Use the <u>TMH Social Media</u> <u>Toolkit</u> to promote on your social media pages
 - Library of Images
 - Example captions & alt texts
 - Posts of the month
- Spread the word w/ clients that trust you
- Reach out to us for TMH promo cards



Download the full-size IG Story graphic

ALT TEXT: [A young Black queer couple are wrapped up in each other. The person on top is laughing and poking the partner's face. They are both smiling. TakeMeHome.org is printed in gray on the bottom.]





Example Tweets:

- Get free & discreet testing, right at home 🛕 Order your HIV and STI test kit at TakeMeHome.org.
- 🔹 You've got mail! Order your HIV home-test kit right to your door from TakeMeHome.org. 💌
- Shelter-in-place doesn't mean our sexual health needs to be in lock down

 . TakeMeHome kits are an innovative way to test for HIV from the comfort of home. Sign up for your free kit at TakeMeHome.org.

Resources



- FREE HIV self-test kits available. https://takemehome.org/
- U=U resources
- Ryan White Fact Sheets for Mental Health and Oral Health services in English and Spanish.
- Emergency Financial Assistance Program: Email <u>EHEInitiative@ph.laounty.gov</u> for flyer.
- HIV, STD, and sexual health info and resources in LA County
- AHEAD dashboard for data across all EHE jurisdictions.
- Email EHEInitiative@ph.lacounty.gov to sign up for the EHE listserv.
- EHE website: www.LACounty.HIV





Adjournment

