



Hudson County, New Jersey
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ADMINISTRATION ANNEX
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Immediate Release

Hudson County Board of Commissioners authorize 2022 budget amendment The United States Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration for Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America – Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Parts A and B for \$963,750.00

Jersey City-The Hudson County Board of Commissioners authorize 2022 budget amendment The United States Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration for Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America – Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Parts A and B for \$963,750.00.

The grant period will start March 1, 2022 and will run through February 28, 2023.

The funding for this award will be used for the following initiatives:

- Positive Links Cares – A clinic-centered HIV linkage and engagement in care tool that is facilitated by two (2) existing Ryan White clinically affiliated care teams to track client adherence and wellness behaviors. As of June 30, 2022, there are 21 clients enrolled in the Positive Links Cares app with nine (9) individuals new to care and twelve (12) individuals returning to medical care. Funding recommendations include a Non-Medical Case Manager position and Emergency Financial Assistance for rapid antiretroviral (ART) medication.
- Peer Housing Navigator – A short-term housing and/or utility services program to support housing needs and retention in HIV medical care for persons living with HIV.
- Marketing Campaign – An EHE marketing campaign to reach tart populations that include Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) of Color and Latinx communities, including undocumented individuals in North Hudson.
- Rapid Start ART – Rapid initiation to Antiretroviral (ART) protocol designed to expedite entry into HIV medical care for people with HIV who are newly diagnosed and diagnosed but out of care. Funding recommendations also include a Community Health Worker and Emergency Financial Assistance for rapid antiretroviral (ART) in the form of transportation and medical prescription vouchers.
- North Hudson EHE Services Expansion in Northern Hudson County provided at an established location including outreach and non-medical case management services for persons newly diagnosed with HIV and persons with HIV transitioning into HIV care.

The Department of Health and Human Services recommends allocating the EHE FY22 three (3) final award as detailed below:

| Subrecipient | Contracts | Initial Allocation | Final Allocation | Total Year 3 Award |
|---|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Care Point Hoboken University Medical Center | Primary Medical Services – Positive Links | \$16,000 | \$97,000 | \$113,000 |
| Robert Wood Johnson Barnabas Health Jersey City Medical Center (JCMC) | Primary Medical Services – Positive Links | \$16,000 | \$54,000 | \$70,000 |
| Hyacinth AIDS Foundation (HAF) | Peer Housing Navigator | \$44,375 | \$217,825 | \$262,000 |
| Hyacinth AIDS Foundation (HAF) | Rapid Start Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) | \$51,369 | \$163,631 | \$215,000 |
| Hyacinth AIDS Foundation (HAF) | North Hudson Expansion | \$62,702 | \$152,298 | \$215,000 |
| Hyacinth AIDS Foundation (HAF) | EHE Marketing Campaign | \$22,179 | \$77,821 | \$100,000 |
| Hudson County Administration | | \$23,625 | \$86,175 | \$109,800 |
| Unallocated | | \$0 | \$115,000 | \$115,000 |
| FY22 Ending the HIV Epidemic Award Totals | | \$236,250.00 | \$963,750.00 | \$1,200,000.00 |

The unallocated portion of funds is earmarked for additional resources as detailed below:

- Infrastructure support and expertise for the deployment of the Positive Links App. This includes IT support and modifications of the PL Cares application and administrative portal, monitoring and report management of the PL Cares app, and additional training as needed for the medical providers for further improvements of client enrollment and application customization (\$35,000)
- Hudson EHE e2QM suite data system dashboard for data management and data analysis that will enable Hudson County Ryan White staff to aggregate, view and monitor EHE data in real time (\$55,000)
- Program Associate/Community Engagement Worker to conduct targeted community engagement including outreach to community based organizations and other local community gatekeepers and stakeholders in Hudson County to promote EHE, enhance awareness and recruit participation in the Hudson EHE Task Force from non-traditional partners including faith based organizations and community programs serving EHE target populations (\$25,000).

Chairman Anthony Vainieri and the Board of Commissioners are committed to providing the tools necessary for residents of Hudson County in need of HIV/AIDS related programs.