

AIDS Free Pittsburgh
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AN ALLEGHENY COUNTY INITIATIVE

2018 Annual Report

***MISSION.** Our mission is to achieve an AIDS-free County and reduce the rate of new HIV infections by 75% by 2020.*

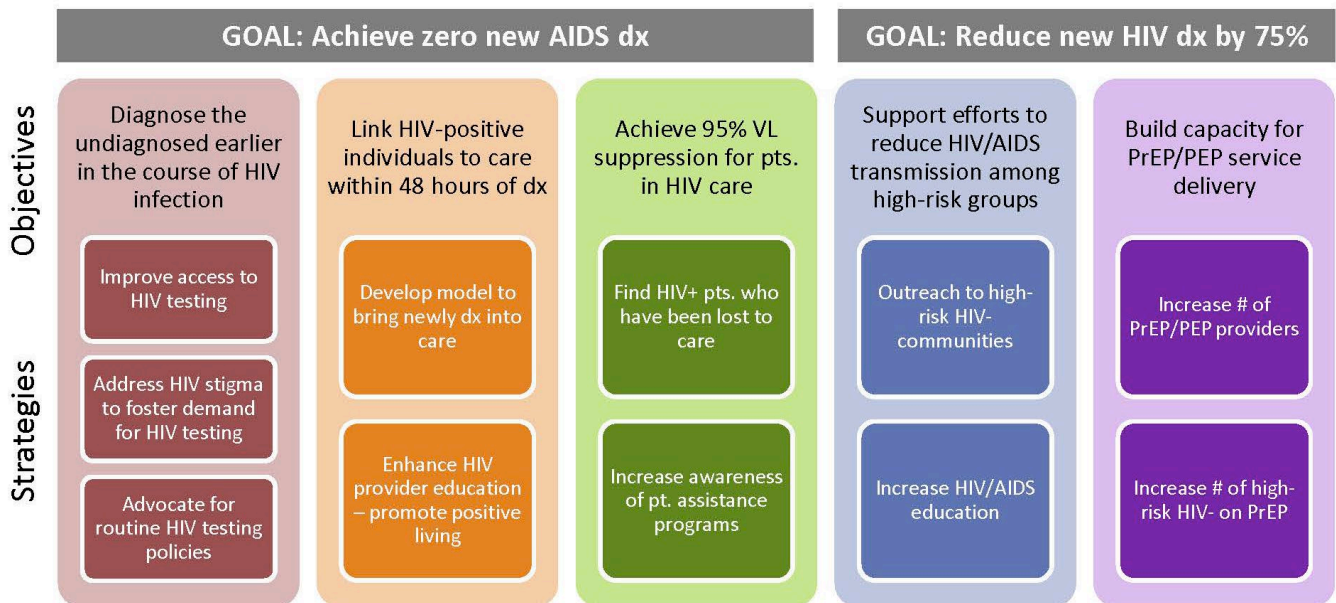
***VISION.** We envision a community where new HIV infections are rare, people living with HIV receive the care they need and young people can grow up in a world without AIDS.*

ABOUT US

Partners

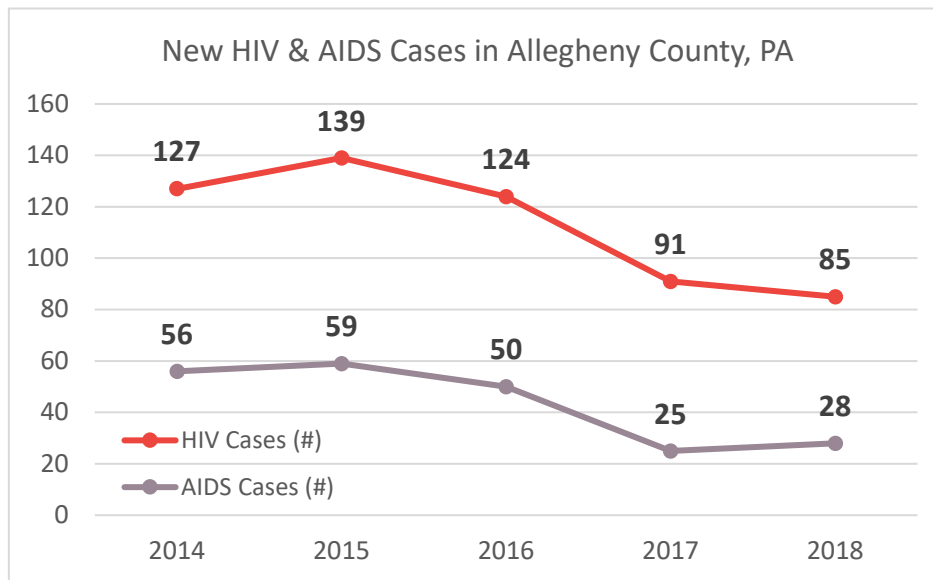


Strategic Plan



HIV/AIDS IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Progress to Date



Since AIDS Free Pittsburgh launched on December 1, 2015, the number of new HIV cases in Allegheny County has declined by 39%. This is the lowest number of new documented HIV cases in Allegheny County over the past decade. This downward trend is promising and indicates the successful collective impact of more than twenty different AIDS Free Pittsburgh organizational partners and stakeholders.

HIV Surveillance and Epidemiology Section - Bureau of Epidemiology | Pennsylvania Dept. of Health

Goal	What This Measures	Data Source	2015 (Baseline)	2018 (Year 3)	Trend
Reduce new HIV cases by 75%	Rate of HIV transmission in Allegheny County	PADOH Epi Data	139	85	38.8% ↓
Eliminate new AIDS diagnoses	HIV detected earlier; people living with HIV are healthier	PADOH Epi Data	59	28	52.5% ↓
Increase awareness of PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis)	Community members' knowledge of PrEP	PrEP Survey	27.1%*	43.1%	16.0% ↑
Increase PrEP utilization to prevent HIV transmission	Number of health plan members starting PrEP	Health Plans/ Labs	606	1,658	174.0% ↑
Increase the rate of routine HIV screening	Normalizing HIV screening as a routine part of healthcare	Health Plans/ Labs	3.3%	3.6%	0.3% ↑
Increase linkage to care (within one month of diagnosis)	Quickly linking those newly diagnosed with HIV to care	Ryan White HRSA	44.4%	90.6%	46.2% ↑
Increase retention in care (within one month)	May improve health outcomes (e.g. viral load suppression)	Ryan White HRSA	80.5%	77.4%	3.1% ↓
Increase viral load suppression among those in care	Reduces community viral load and HIV transmission	Ryan White HRSA	86.9%	91.1%	4.2% ↑
Increase the % of health plan members with at least one viral load test in the calendar year	Another way to measure retention in care among people living with HIV	Health Plans/ Labs	59.8%	72.0%	12.2% ↑

*2016 data

2018 ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Normalize Routine HIV Screening



- **5,068 HIV screenings** conducted and **12 people** identified as HIV-positive (new cases and persons lost to care) by the AHN Center for Inclusion Health and UPMC Montefiore through the expanded HIV screening efforts of the Gilead Science FOCUS Program.
- **13,640 HIV screenings** conducted and **105 people** identified as HIV-positive through testing programs supported by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.
- Embarked on the second phase of an assessment to measure HIV stigma among healthcare providers in Allegheny County. The results of this assessment will be used to inform HIV awareness messaging strategies in Allegheny County.
- Launched multi-channel HIV awareness campaigns, including billboards, bus shelters, and digital media.

Increase Access to PrEP for HIV Prevention



- Connected **4,563 users** to the [PrEP Pittsburgh](#) website through print and digital advertising campaigns, resulting in **7,480 page views**.
- Surveyed **1,253 community members** about PrEP awareness.
- Provided financial assistance to support **62 PrEP-related office visits** and **285 PrEP-related laboratory services** at local providers.
- Coordinated PrEP grand rounds events for family medicine residents and ob-gyn healthcare providers at local hospitals including Allegheny General, Forbes, Magee-Women's, and West Penn.
- Hired a Health Services Coordinator to facilitate centralized biomedical HIV prevention outreach & navigation in collaboration with the Allegheny County Health Department STD/HIV Clinic.
- Developed PrEP educational materials for women and Spanish-speaking populations.

Standardize Early Linkage to Care



- Convened two day-long Community of Practice events where clinical and administrative champions from local HIV primary care clinics shared their experiences developing and implementing RAPID linkage to care protocols. The [MidAtlantic AIDS Education and Training Center](#) at the University of Pittsburgh provided continuing education credits.
- The two largest HIV care clinics in Pittsburgh observed:
 - Average 30-day **linkage to care rate increased** from 44.4% in 2015 to 90.6% in 2018.
 - Average **viral load suppression rate increased** from 86.9% in 2015 to 91.1% in 2018.

2018 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2018 Expenditures

A total of \$439,388.50 in expenses were incurred to support AIDS Free Pittsburgh collective impact project activities during calendar year 2018. A carryover balance of \$91,841.76 was used to support project costs during calendar year 2019.

Below are a few snapshots of AIDS Free Pittsburgh funding in action throughout the year. The committed funds have enabled AIDS Free Pittsburgh partners and stakeholders to plan and implement quality improvement strategies, community outreach initiatives, continuing education events and HIV/AIDS awareness media campaigns focused in Allegheny County.



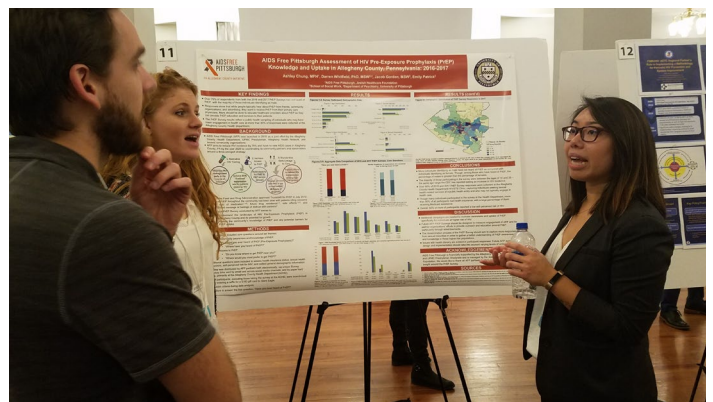
June 2018: Local youth and Project Silk staff pose with author, journalist, and activist Dan Savage after “Savage Love Live” at the New Hazlett Theater.



July 2018: AIDS Free Pittsburgh coordinates “Hotter Than July” – a free HIV awareness community celebration featuring a health fair, free food, live music, and a vogue dance competition.



October 2018: More than 270 walkers raise a record \$10,800 at the 17th Annual HIV/AIDS Awareness Walk organized by the Mon Valley Providers Council in McKeesport, PA.



November 2018: AIDS Free Pittsburgh staff present a poster about community awareness of PrEP at the Annual Pittsburgh World AIDS Day Conference at the University of Pittsburgh.