

## Glossary of Terms

**ADAP:** AIDS Drug Assistance Program funded through Part B. Congress “earmarks” funds that must be used for ADAP, an important distinction since other Part B spending decisions are made locally.

**AIDS:** Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome. A clinical definition of illnesses caused by HIV: a CD4 count less than or equal to 200 or one of more diagnosed opportunistic infections.

**Allocations:** Refers to the distribution of dollar amounts or percentages of funding to established priorities – service categories, geographic areas, populations, or subpopulations. It does NOT involve contracting with or giving money to specific service providers.

**ART:** Antiretroviral therapy medication for treatment of HIV disease.

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):** The CDC is a Federal agency of the Department of Health and Human Services. Their mission is to promote health and quality of life by preventing and controlling disease, injury, and disability. The CDC is the Federal agency responsible for tracking diseases that endanger public health, such as HIV.

**CDC:** See Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**CMV:** Cytomegalovirus.

**COBRA:** The federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act gives workers and their families who lose their health benefits the right to choose to continue group health benefits provided by their group health plan for limited periods of time under certain circumstances such as voluntary or involuntary job loss, reduction in the hours worked, transition between jobs, death, divorce, and other life events.

**Commercial Sex Worker:** Self-reported as having received money, drugs or favors in exchange for sex.

**Community Planning:** Steps taken and methods used by a community to gather information, interpret it, and produce a plan for rational decision-making.

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**Comorbid Condition:** Non-HIV related health problem. A disease/condition, such as mental illness, substance abuse or hepatitis, co-existing with HIV.

**DSHS:** Texas Department of State Health Services, formerly the Texas Department of Health (TDH).

**EIS:** Early Intervention Services.

**EFA:** Emergency Financial Assistance.

**Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA):** A designation used by the Ryan White CARE Act to identify an area eligible for funds under Part A. It is aid to metropolitan areas hardest hit by HIV. The Houston EMA consists of the following six counties: Chambers, Fort Bend, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller.

**EMA:** See Eligible Metropolitan Area

**Epidemic:** A disease that has spread rapidly among a large number of people within a short period of time.

**Epidemiological Profile:** A description of the status, distribution, and impact of an infectious disease or other health-related condition in a specific geographic area.

**Epidemiology:** The study of the distribution and determinants of health-related states or events in specified populations and the application of this study to the control of health problems.

**Ethnicity:** A group of people who share the same place of origin, language or cultural ties.

**GED:** General Educational Development: high school equivalency diploma.

**HCV:** Hepatitis-C virus.

**Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA):** HRSA directs national health programs that improve the nation's health by assuring equitable access to comprehensive, quality healthcare for all. HRSA works to improve and extend life for people living with HIV, provide primary health care to medically underserved people, serve women and children through state programs, and train a healthy

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workforce that is diverse and motivated to work in underserved communities. HRSA is responsible for administering the Ryan White CARE Act.

**HIPAA:** Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

**HIV:** Human Immunodeficiency Virus, the virus that damages the immune system and causes AIDS.

**HIV Services Delivery Area:** A designation used by the Ryan White CARE Act to identify an area eligible for funds under Part B (formula funding to states and territories). There are six HSDAs in the East Texas Planning Area: Beaumont-Port Arthur (covering 3 counties), Galveston (covering 3 counties), Houston (covering 10 counties), Lufkin (covering 12 counties), Texarkana (covering 9 counties), and Tyler (covering 14 counties).

**Homeless:** Not having a stable residence in one's name. The term homeless applies equally to a person who has a temporary hotel room paid by a city program for indigents, a person sleeping in a shelter or in a car, and a person who is staying with a relative because she or he cannot afford to pay rent. It also refers to someone in temporary or transitional housing for substance abuse or other types of treatment.

**HOPWA:** Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS.

**HRSA:** See Health Resources and Services Administration.

**HSDA:** See HIV Service Delivery Area.

**IDU:** Injection drug use(r), the term used to refer to the people who or the act of injecting drugs using a needle or syringe.

**In-Care:** Self-reported as having had a CD4 test, viral load test or antiretroviral medication during the last 12 months.

**Indigenous:** A person currently living or working in the EMA and similar to the population studied.

**Latino:** Self-reported as Latino or Hispanic.

**Mental Health Condition:** Self-reported as having been treated for a mental disorder (such as depression, dementia or anxiety) in the

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past 12 months or unable to get needed services due to being “mentally impaired”.

**MCSM:** Men of color who have sex with men exposure category.

**MSM:** Men who have sex with men exposure category.

**NA:** Narcotics Anonymous.

**Needs Assessment:** A process of collecting information about the needs of people and families at risk for or living with HIV (both receiving care and not in care), identifying current resources available to meet those needs and determining what gaps in care exist.

**OB/GYN:** Obstetrical/Gynecological services for women.

**Out-of-Care:** Self-reported as not having had a CD4 test, viral load test or antiretroviral medication during the last 12 months.

**Part A:** Under the Ryan White CARE Act, funding is given to eligible metropolitan areas hardest hit by the HIV epidemic. In the Houston EMA, Part A funding is given to the Harris County Judge, administered by the Harris County Health Department (HIV Services). The planning body for these funds is the Houston Area HIV Services Ryan White Planning Council.

**Part B:** Under the Ryan White CARE Act, funding is given by formula to States and territories to improve the quality, availability, and organization of health care and support services for people and families living with HIV/AIDS. There is an emphasis on rural populations. In Texas, funding is given to the Department of State Health Services.

**Part C:** Under the Ryan White CARE Act, funding is given to community-based organizations for outpatient early intervention services.

**Part D:** Under the Ryan White CARE Act, funding is given to public and non-profit entities to coordinate services to, and improve access to research for, children, youth, women, and families.

**PLWHA:** Person(s) Living with HIV or AIDS.

**Prevalence:** The rate or percentage of people living with an illness.

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**Primary Medical Care:** Medical evaluation and clinical care that is consistent with U.S. Public Health Service guidelines for the treatment of HIV/AIDS.

**Priorities:** Refers to the formation of numerical priorities among various categories of services, such as primary care, case management, transportation, and among geographic areas, populations, or subpopulations if needed. The number one priority should reflect the service category or community considered the most critical for the use of funds.

**Recently Released:** Self-reported as having been released from jail/prison after being incarcerated during the past year.

**Ryan White CARE Act:** On August 18, 1990, Congress enacted the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act. Reauthorized in 1996 and 2000, the CARE Act is designed to improve the quality and availability of care for individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS. The CARE Act includes the following major programs: Part A, Part B, Part C, Part AV, and Part F. The CARE Act is now the largest sole source of HIV funding in the Nation.

**SAMHSA:** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

**SCSN:** Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need.

**Section 8:** Federal housing assistance program.

**Service Gap:** All service needs not currently being met for all PLWHA, except for the need for primary health care, for individuals who know their status but are not in care. Service gaps include additional need for primary health care for those already receiving primary medical care ("in care"). They also include the need for supportive services for individuals not receiving primary medical care ("not in care").

**Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI):** Also known as Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD). An infection that is spread through intimate sexual contact. HIV, herpes, syphilis, and gonorrhea are commonly known STIs.

**State Services:** Formula funding from the State to support the care of people with HIV/AIDS. State-appropriated funds are used as partial matching for Ryan White Part B grants and are used for the same purposes.

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**STD:** Sexually Transmitted Disease; see Sexually Transmitted Infection.

**STI:** See Sexually Transmitted Infection.

**Substance Abuser:** Self-reported as ever having a drug or alcohol problem.

**Support Services:** Those services that enable PLWHA to access and/or remain in primary medical care.

**TB:** Tuberculosis.

**TDH:** Texas Department of Health. See DSHS.

**Unmet need:** HRSA/HAB defines unmet need as the need for HIV-related health services by individuals with HIV who know their HIV status and are not receiving regular primary health care. Note: This definition differs from HRSA's definition of only primary medical care, defined as CD4 count, viral load test/HAART for those who know their HIV status.

**VA:** Department of Veterans Affairs.

**WICY:** Women, Infants, Children and Youth.

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