



Biomedical Prevention  
Integrated into Routine Care via Rapid HIV Testing

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# Disclosures

We have no conflicts of interest to report  
regarding this presentation



# Objectives

1. Brief description of agency history to get us all on the same page
2. Discuss successful HIV testing and linkage models for program collaboration among distinct service areas (clinical, prevention, social services).
3. Review 22 month interim data from pilot study at CrescentCare
4. Identify the various elements of routine testing and how buy-in across all FQHC Services is integral
5. Conclusion/Discussion

# CrescentCare's History

#ADHERENCE2018



# Current Services

#ADHERENCE2018



Primary Medical Care

Dental Care

Behavioral Health

Medical Nutrition Therapy

PrEP and PEP Services

LGBTQ Health and Wellness

Additional HIV Support Services

Hepatitis C Services

Insurance Enrollment & Paying for Care

Partner Pharmacies

Transgender Health Services

STI Testing and Treatment

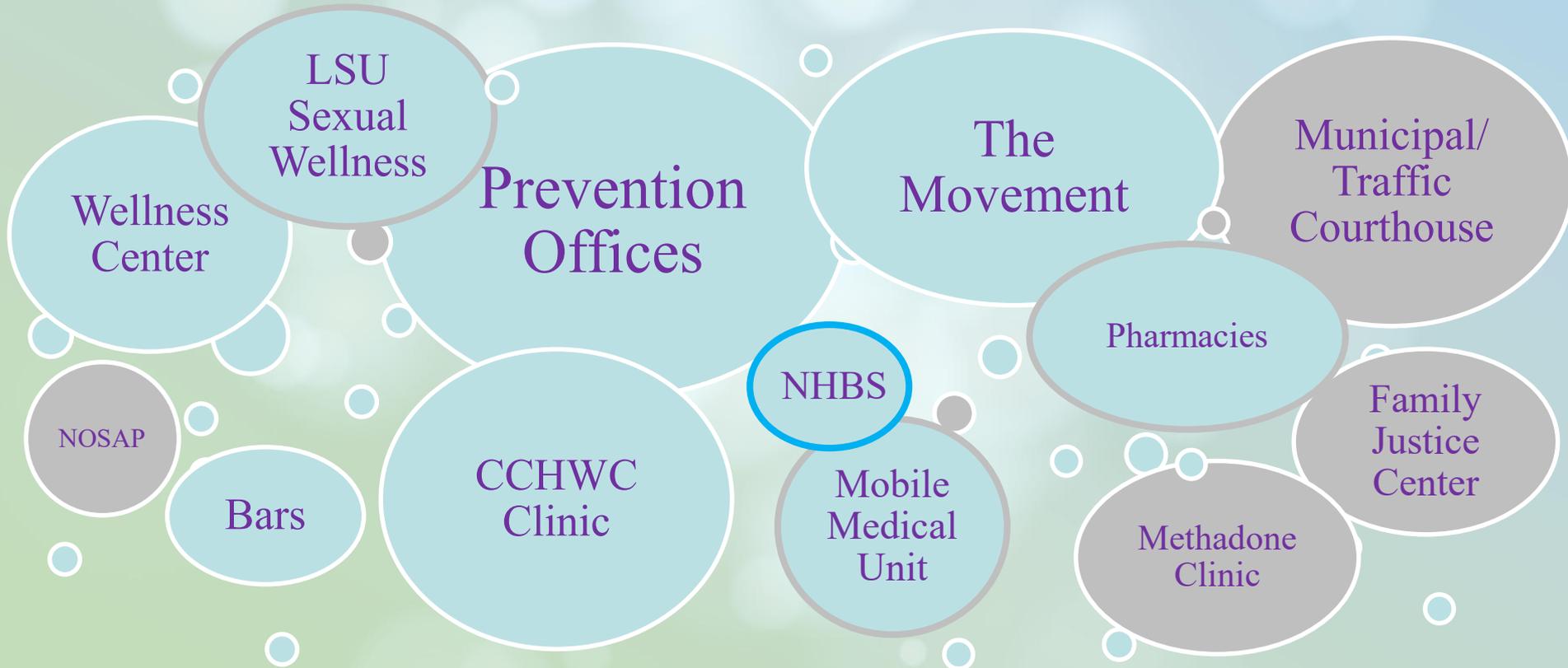
Financial Coaching

Health Education

Legal Services



# Diverse HIV Screening Settings





# Diverse HIV Screening Settings

- After becoming a Federally Qualified Health Center we integrated free rapid third-and-fourth generation HIV testing into routine care appointments.
- Aiming to reduce stigma and increase screening and viral suppression among positive individuals.
- Clinics operate a rapid/rapid screening model; if both rapid tests are reactive, the client is linked to HIV care same day, given a 30 day supply of antiretroviral medication, and their first dose is directly observed by the medical provider.



# Routine Screening

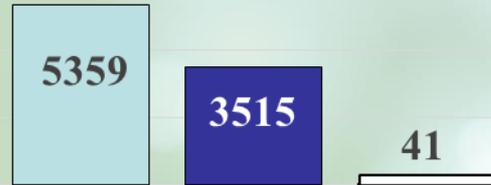
## Clients are offered a test in their routine appointment:

- If no HIV test in “X” months OR no previous HIV test ever
- If client mentions “unprotected anal sex”
- If client “symptoms of flu” or “night sweats”
- If client is at high risk (or tests reactive for) other STIs
- If they ask about PrEP
- If his appointment included follow up testing for PrEP
- If it is requested
- **If a recent exposure was identified**



# Testing Snapshot:

In the First 22 Months  
of the Program...



- Total FQHC Clients
- Total Clients Accepting Free HIV Test
- Clients Who Tested HIV Positive

## Breakdown

1.2% Positivity Rate (41 of 3515)

93% Identify as Male (38 of 41)

79% Identified as MSM (30 of 38)

71% Identified as Black (29 of 41)

22% Identified as White (9 of 41)

7% Identified as Other (3 of 41)



# A Quick Comparison

## CrescentCare's *Routine* HIV Testing Calendar Year 2017

2,464 Rapid HIV Tests Provided  
47 Positive HIV Tests  
1.9% Positivity Rate

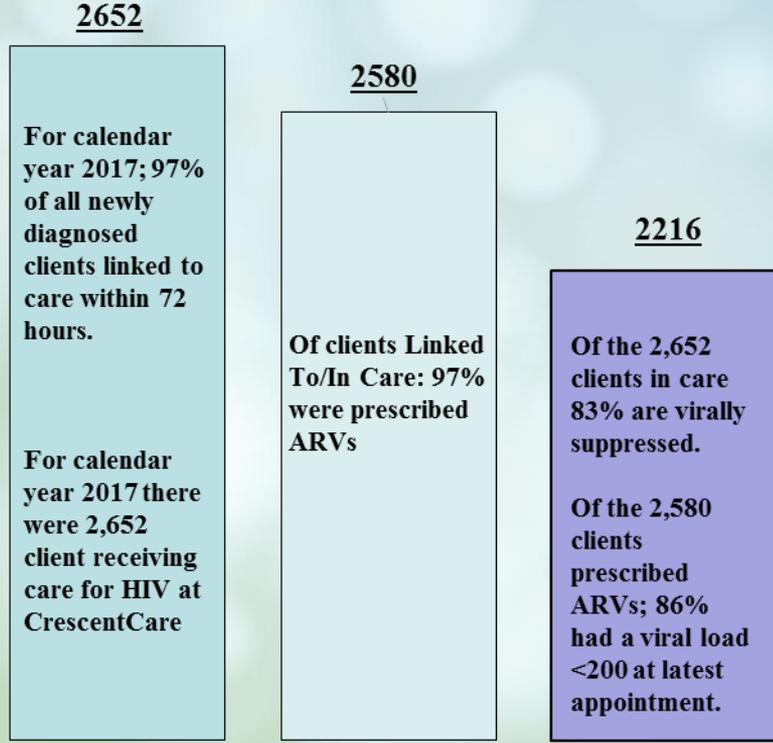
## CrescentCare's *Community Based* HIV Testing Calendar Year 2017

3,895 Rapid HIV Tests  
84 Positive HIV Tests  
2.2% Positivity Rate

\*Disclaimer: some HIV Testing (including non-rapid) was excluded for clarity and comparability of data.  
This did not change the general outcome on positivity rate or linkage to care rate.



# CrescentCare's Continuum of HIV Care



□ Linked To/In Care    ■ Prescribed ARVs    ■ Virally Suppressed



# Benefits of Routine HIV Testing at a FQHC

- ✓ HIV testing often leads to discussion of and linkage to PrEP
- ✓ Reduces burden of seeing multiple providers at multiple locations
- ✓ Reduces stigma around HIV testing and treatment
- ✓ Quick and easy linkage-to-care (National HIV/AIDS Strategy 2020)



# Significant Time/Coordination

- **Senior leadership and planning council**
  - HRSA/Ryan White Part A support
- **Operations/structure**
  - Organize scheduling, logistics, coordinate efforts
- **Prevention**
  - Testing, linkage, transportation (Uber)
- **Marketing- to encourage linkage and connection**
- **Client Services**
  - Insurance, housing, co-morbid issues
  - Behavioral Health support
- **Clinic Site Directors & Linkage**
  - On-call coordinator
  - Same-day & urgent appointment slots
- **Patient access & IT**
  - Train front desk for appointment types (change to RW)
  - Expedite appointment
- **Nursing and Providers**
  - Education
  - Dispensing permits



# Additional STI Information

- 22.1% of clients had a diagnosis of Syphilis at the time of entry into care
- 48.4% were diagnosed with Gonorrhea or Chlamydia at one or more sites
- 1 client (4%) newly diagnosed with Hepatitis C



# Conclusions

The rationale for providing free rapid routine testing is to offer HIV screening services to individuals who, while healthcare seeking, have not considered HIV screening specifically.

With testing taking place within routine care we saw high linkage, retention, medication adherence, and viral suppression for clients who tested positive.

Strategically using resources for rapid HIV testing to partner with local clinics and provide routine screening may be a worthwhile endeavor especially in high-risk geographical areas.