Maintaining Continuity of COVID-19 Pandemic-related HIV Services
Wendy Armstrong MD

Adherence 2022 • November 7-9 • Washington, DC
What did we **learn** from the COVID-19 pandemic

- or -

what **became easier** during the COVID-19 pandemic

that we should preserve to End the HIV Epidemic?

- 22 recommendations
  - Telehealth
  - HIV drug access
  - PrEP
  - Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program
  - Public Health Workforce
  - Housing as Healthcare

9 Oct, 2022, Clin Infect Dis
Lessons from the Pandemic

- Easier Access
- Trusted Messengers
- Housing
- Collaboration/Blueprints
- Investment/Political Will
Improving Access through alternative care models

Collins et al, AIDS 2020
Differentiated Service Delivery

- Adherence clubs
- Traditional Clinic
- Pharmacy
- "Fast-track"
- ART (3–6-month supply)
- Provider
- Mobile integrated health units
- Home visits
- Mail order
- Telehealth platforms
- Community distribution points

Collins et al, AIDS 2020
Decreasing Barriers and Bureaucracy for Patient Centered Care

Three month supplies, mail order medications w/o signatures required, and delivery to non-traditional sites like secure boxes

More flexible timing for RW/ADAP certifications, data-sharing agreements to limit redundant documentation and done by phone/telehealth

Self-swabbing for STI testing, home testing for PrEP
Funding flexibility

Eliminate Silos
• Between missions
• Between funding sources
• Within funding sources
Trusted Messengers

Cultural Awareness Series
Black History Month - The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Utilizing Trusted Messengers

February 10, 2022
Communication and Education:
Taking a page from COVID-19

At the Mexican consulate

Black and Hispanic Americans turn to doctors who look like them for reassurance on vaccinations.
Housing is Healthcare

COVID-19
Temporary Housing for Homeless Individuals with COVID-19

Every Santa Clara County homeless person who has tested positive for #COVID19 now has shelter.

To learn more, visit sccphd.org/cv19-homeless

Rates of VS among RWHAP clients in 2019
Collaboration and Blueprints

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE COVID-19 RESPONSE AND PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

JANUARY 21, 2021

STATELINE ARTICLE January 8, 2021 By: Matt Vasilogambros Topics: Federal Impact & Health Read time: 4 min

Pew Charitable Trust
While local solutions are often necessary, national guidance is required.

States must be expected to REDUCE barriers and streamline processes at a minimum.

Variability in state approaches and resources leads to widening of disparities.

This was obvious in COVID but has forever been true in HIV.
The Power of Investment

Federal spending for select initiatives

- U.S.-Mexico border wall (annual average, 2017-2019): $4.8B
- F-35 procurement (2020): $11.1B
- Farmer relief package (2018): $12B
- Operation Warp Speed (2020): $12.4B
- Natural disaster relief (annual average, 2017-2020): $13.8B

Note: Operation Warp Speed dollars allocated to pharmaceutical companies for vaccine-related costs.
Chart: Emily Barone for TIME • Get the data • Created with Datawrapper
END HIV
AS AN EPIDEMIC

PRINCIPLES FOR EXPANDING & IMPROVING
HEALTHCARE ACCESS & DELIVERY

Ensure access to healthcare for all
Address social determinants of health
Deliver healthcare where people are
Fund innovative care models

Promote fair prescription drug prices

Repeal HIV criminalization laws & policies

Treat Substance Use Disorder as a chronic, relapsing brain disease
Expand access to comprehensive, high quality mental health care
Support accurate & age-appropriate sexual health education
Foster a culturally competent & diverse HIV workforce