GETTING TO ZERO: ENDING HIV TRANSMISSION

THE GOAL

“In recent years we have made remarkable progress in the fight against HIV and AIDS. Scientific breakthroughs have brought a once-distant dream within reach. My budget will ask Democrats and Republicans to make the needed commitment to eliminate the HIV epidemic in the United States within 10 years.” – President Trump

- Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America
- Reduce new HIV infections by 75 percent in the next 5 years
- Reduce new HIV infections by 90 percent in the next 10 years
THE BASICS: WHAT IS HIV?

- HIV = Human Immunodeficiency Virus
  - HIV is a virus spread through certain body fluids that attacks the body’s immune system, specifically the CD4 cells, often called T cells, reducing the body’s ability to fight off certain infections.

- AIDS = Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
  - Advanced stage of HIV infection
  - When the number of your CD4 cells falls below 200 cells per cubic millimeter of blood
  - Or after diagnoses with an opportunistic infection associated with HIV

FACTS ABOUT HIV IN THE UNITED STATES

- Approximately 1.1 million people in the U.S. are living with HIV today. About 15 percent of them (1 in 7) are unaware they are infected.

- The annual number of new HIV diagnoses in the U.S. remained stable from 2012 to 2016, after declining the years prior.

- An estimated 38,700 Americans became newly infected with HIV in 2016.

- Geographic disparities exist with the southern states and some urban areas seeing the highest rate of new infections.
MORE FACTS ABOUT HIV

Between 2010 and 2016:

- **By age group**, HIV infections decreased among persons aged 13–24 and 45–54 but increased among persons aged 25–34.

- **By race/ethnicity**, HIV infections decreased among blacks/African Americans, whites, and persons of multiple races, stable for Asians and Hispanics/Latinos.

- **By sex**, the annual number of new HIV infections decreased among females but remained stable among males.

NEW HIV INFECTIONS BY RACE AND TRANSMISSION GROUP, U.S. 2010 VS. 2016

(Source: CDC)
NEW HIV INFECTIONS AND THE OPIOID CRISIS

- In 2015, opioid use resulted in an HIV outbreak in Scott County, Indiana.

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identified 220 jurisdictions particularly vulnerable to a similar type of outbreak.

THE CURRENT APPROACH

- Identify Individuals with HIV Infection
  - People unaware of their HIV status are at high risk.

- Connect People with HIV to Care
  - Extends life and improves health outcomes for people with HIV.
  - Undetectable viral loads prevents sexual transmission of HIV.
  - Medicaid and Ryan White Care Act provide assistance to states and individuals to cover costs of treatment.
WHY NOW?

- Advances in Data
  - Most new infections occur in a limited number of counties and among specific populations.
  - We can now pinpoint where HIV infections are spreading most rapidly.

- Advances in Treatment
  - Individuals with HIV who take their medicine as prescribed can maintain an “undetectable viral load,” live healthy lives and have effectively no risk of sexually transmitting HIV to a partner.

- Advances in Prevention
  - Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

NCSL HIV/AIDS STATE-FEDERAL UPDATE

HALEY NICHOLSON-POLICY DIRECTOR, HEALTH
NCSL, WASHINGTON D.C.
OVERVIEW:

- Administration Announcement
- Call to Action
- Federal Partners Involved
- State and Local Involvement
- Priority Areas
- Future Work

ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENT:
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- State of the Union, the President announced a proposed $291 million in funding for Fiscal Year 2020 for Health and Human Services (HHS) budget to focus on ending the HIV epidemic in America by 2030

- Aiming to reduce new HIV infections by 75 percent in the 5 years and by 90 percent in the next ten years

- This would look to reduce more than 250,000 HIV infections

CALL TO ACTION:

- New HIV diagnoses have gone down since their peak but stall in reducing them with around 40,000 Americans newly being diagnosed over 10 years despite prevention efforts

- U.S. government spends $20 billion in annual direct health expenditures and care on HIV
CALL TO ACTION:

- Estimated 1 million Americans at risk for HIV could be using PrEP but less than 1 in 4 are using it

- HHS and Gilead Sciences announced in May the company will donate PrEP medication for up to 200,000 individuals for up to 11 years

- Provide to individuals at risk for HIV and who are uninsured and not able to access or afford care
FEDERAL PARTNERS:

- HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health is coordinating this cross-agency plan with:
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
  - Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
  - Indian Health Service (HIS)
  - National Institutes of Health (NIH)
  - Office of the HHS Assistant Secretary for Health and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

STATE AND LOCAL INVOLVEMENT:

- Along with these federal agencies, key component of the work is active participation with city, county, tribal and state providers, associations, clinics, etc.
PRIORITY AREAS:

Investments in geographic hotspots through existing programs like Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and community health centers providing PrEP.

Geographic hotspots make up more than 50 percent of new HIV diagnoses in 2016 and 2017 in 48 counties, Washington D.C. and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

As well as seven states with high occurrences of HIV in rural areas.
PRIORITY AREAS:

- Inform where HIV is spreading most rapidly and deciding where to prioritize: prevention, care and treatment needs at the local level.

- Establishment of local HIV HealthForce in targeted areas focusing on prevention and treatment.

- All known as Phase 1 and will take place over five years.
FUTURE WORK:

- Phases II and III- wider dissemination across the nation to reduce new infections by 90 percent by 2030

- Phase III will implement case management to maintain the number of new infections at fewer than 3,000 per year.

RESOURCES:

- https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/end-hiv/index.html
- https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2724455
THANK YOU!

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RYAN WHITE CARE ACT

- Part A - provides assistance to Eligible Metropolitan Areas (EMAs) and Transitional Grant Areas (TGAs) that are most severely impacted by the HIV epidemic.

- Part B - provides grants to states and territories to improve the quality, availability, and organization of HIV health care and support services.

- Ending HIV/AIDS Initiative - from the President’s SOTU address and it is a 10 year effort starting in 2020 to reduced new HIV infections to less than 3,000/year by 2030.

RYAN WHITE FUNDING ($ ARE IN THE THOUSANDS)

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HRSA RESOURCE- HIV PREVENTION AND CARE INFORMATION FROM YOUR STATE


THANK YOU!

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