

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Health Resources and Services Administration

HIV/AIDS Bureau

## SEP 3 0 2015

Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Colleagues:

In June 2015, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP) released guidance for the Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan, a legislative requirement for Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) Part A and B recipients. This guidance is provided for health departments and HIV planning groups funded by DHAP and HAB for the development of an Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan. This new guidance format will allow jurisdictions to submit one Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan, including the Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need (SCSN), to CDC and HRSA by September 30, 2016, covering calendar years 2017 - 2021. Submission of the Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan not only meets the legislative and programmatic requirements of CDC and HRSA, but also serves as a jurisdictional HIV/AIDS Strategy or roadmap.

RWHAP recipients (Parts A-F which includes the AIDS Education and Training Centers [AETCs]) are required to participate in the development of the SCSN as facilitated by the RWHAP Part B recipient. The RWHAP Part B recipient will provide details about how to participate in this process. As the <u>HRSA guidance for the Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan</u> at <u>http://hab.hrsa.gov/manageyourgrant/hivpreventionplan062015.pdf</u> indicates, the SCSN is a component of the Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan.

The requirement that all RWHAP recipients participate in the SCSN is consistent with the statutory provisions for recipients of funding under Part A [section 2605(a)(8) of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act], Part C [section 2664(g)(4) of the PHS Act], Part D [sections 2671(c)(2) and (3) of the PHS Act], and Part F/SPNS [section 2691(c) of the PHS Act]. The participation of all recipients, including AETCs, is supported by section 2617(b)(6) of the PHS Act which requires that the State "will periodically convene a meeting of . . . representatives of grantees under each part under this title. . . ." and section 2681(d) of the PHS Act which requires, "as a condition of receipt of funds under this title, . . . a local government or private nonprofit entity shall provide assurances . . . that services funded under this title will be integrated with other such services, that programs will be coordinated with other available programs . . . ."

Good planning, collaboration, and community engagement is imperative for effective local and state decision making to develop comprehensive systems of prevention and care that are responsive to the needs of persons at risk for HIV infection and People Living With HIV (PLWH). HRSA looks forward to continued work with all RWHAP recipients and stakeholders involved in HIV prevention and care planning to accomplish the goals of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy.

## Sincerely,

/Laura W. Cheever/ Laura W. Cheever, MD, ScM Associate Administrator and Chief Medical Officer HIV/AIDS Bureau