



PROGRAM SUMMARY REPORT

# Miami-Dade County

**PROGRAM:****Miami-Dade County - Strategy to End the HIV Epidemic**

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**INTRODUCTION:**

The Miami-Dade County (MDC) Strategy to End the HIV Epidemic addresses the needs of more than 28,000 people with HIV, aiming to engage those not consistently connected to medical care or not continuously virally suppressed. Through collaboration with various community partners, the program provides high-quality, ongoing care and essential support to people with HIV across the county.

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**TARGET POPULATION:**

The program serves diverse and key populations, ensuring that high-risk and underserved groups receive targeted interventions.

- Men who have sex with men (MSM)
  - Black/African American
  - Hispanic/Latinx
  - People who inject drugs
  - People living with HIV (PLWH)
  - Spanish Speakers
  - Women, youth, and aging population
  - Transgender and nonbinary individuals
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**KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND COLLABORATORS:**

The program was made possible through collaborations with several key stakeholders, including:

- Community- Based Organizations (CBOs)
  - Local Health Department
  - Social Service Agencies
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- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
  - Mental health and substance use treatment providers
  - Private healthcare providers
  - Hospitals
  - Aging and disability support services
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#### PROGRAM DURATION:

The Miami-Dade County Strategy to End the HIV Epidemic is designed to run for 3 to 5 years, to achieve improvements in HIV care and prevention outcomes across the county.

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#### PROGRAM GOALS AND KEY ACTIVITIES:

The Miami-Dade County Strategy to End the HIV Epidemic aims to improve health outcomes for all people with HIV by increasing access and engagement in high-quality HIV care. The program seeks to connect those not currently linked to care, ensure viral suppression for more clients, reduce barriers to treatment, and strengthen organizational capacity and data infrastructure. The strategy also emphasizes the importance of coordinated information sharing and system linkage to minimize duplication across funding sources and enhance program effectiveness.

Key activities include:

- **HealthTec:** Provides clients with technology that offers access to multiple disciplines, including mental health, case management, and other services, delivering a holistic approach to patient care for those who experience treatment adherence difficulties (transportation, stigma, etc.).
  - **Quick Connect:** facilitates linkage to care following the local Test & Treat/Rapid Access (TTRA) rapid start model for people with HIV diagnosed in clinics, doctors' offices, emergency rooms, hospitals, or urgent care centers.
  - **Housing Stability Services:** Supports clients with a housing first approach—with job training and placement services to help improve the employability and housing stability of people with HIV.
  - **Mobile GO Teams:** Support the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County's Disease Intervention Specialists to improve linkage to care efforts.
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**PROGRAM CHALLENGES:**

The program faced significant delays in implementation due to funding limitations, the COVID-19 pandemic, and obstacles in recruiting essential support staff. Additionally, approval processes for outreach materials and RFP language were slowed by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) requirements, and purchase of vehicles for Mobile GO Teams was postponed due to changing guidance on HRSA's approval procedures. Despite these challenges, the program team remains committed to improving coordination with federal partners and addressing administrative hurdles by potentially adding more support staff in future funding cycles.

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**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT:**

The initiative collaborates closely with local Ryan White Part A, the Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI), Part B and other stakeholders with HIV focused programs to optimize resources and care for people with HIV. The Miami Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership conducts annual needs assessments, which guides funding and services for the upcoming fiscal year. The Partnership's Prevention and Strategic Planning Committees also collaborates to develop and monitor the county's Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan. The initiative actively encourages participation from Partnership members, Ryan White Program clients, service providers, and community members to ensure services address community needs effectively.

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**DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING:**

The MDC program uses the PE Miami Management Information System (MIS) for data collection, supplemented by manual and electronic health records (EHR) submissions from subrecipients. With programming enhancements ongoing, the system currently tracks client engagement in services like HealthTec and Quick Connect, with further programming underway for Housing Stability Services and Mobile GO Teams.

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**KEY METRICS AND OUTCOMES:**

The program monitors its progress through the following metrics:

- Number of unduplicated clients linked to HIV-related care
  - Number of clients who continue to utilize/follow through with the processes
  - Number of clients retained in care
  - Number of clients achieving and maintaining viral suppression
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### CONCLUSION:

The Miami-Dade County Strategy to End the HIV Epidemic is a comprehensive effort to bridge gaps in care and improve health outcomes for people with HIV in the county. By addressing social determinants of health, expanding access to essential services, and engaging community, MDC is committed to achieving measurable and sustainable improvements in HIV care and prevention.