

The background of the top section is a vibrant blue with several overlapping circular shapes. Some circles are solid light blue, some are solid white, and some are filled with a pattern of fine, parallel white lines. The circles vary in size and are positioned across the top half of the page.

PROGRAM SUMMARY REPORT

Missouri/Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

PROGRAM:**EHE Services**

INTRODUCTION:

The EHE Services program, established by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, provides financial support to people living with HIV (PLWH) in Missouri who either do not qualify for or choose not to utilize Ryan White Program Services. The program addresses a critical need, as Missouri's income eligibility threshold for Ryan White services is 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), leaving some PLWH struggling to afford necessary HIV care. The EHE Service program aims to re-engage and retain clients in HIV medical care, support them in achieving viral suppression, and improve health outcomes and reduce HIV transmission.

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:

- Missouri state health department
 - Local health departments
 - Private healthcare providers
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PROGRAM DURATION:

The EHE Services program is currently set to run for 1-2 years.

PROGRAM GOALS AND KEY ACTIVITIES:

The program's primary goal is to improve health outcomes for PLWH by re-engaging them in HIV medical care, maintaining their viral suppression, and ultimately reducing HIV transmission.

The program uses a data-to-care model, where the Office of Epidemiology provides EHE Coordinators with a list of clients who have not engaged in HIV care for 13-36 months. Additionally, former Ryan White clients who exited case management within the last two years are referred for re-engagement in HIV medical care within thirty days after being determined out of care. Once re-engaged, clients receive support through their first medical appointment and up to viral suppression, utilizing either Ryan White program services or EHE financial assistance.

PROGRAM CHALLENGES:

The EHE Services program has faced significant challenges with data-sharing limitations. The lack of interoperability among systems, including eHARs, Websurv, and SCOUT, hinders effective communication and data sharing. The Office of Epidemiology is addressing these issues by developing quality assurance parameters and launching a new data management system in 2025 to improve data sharing and communication.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT:

Prior to the development of the EHE Services program, a statewide needs assessment survey called "Hear Your Voice" gathered feedback from PLWH not in care, using virtual surveys and marketing campaign. Following the survey, the program held two virtual community forums and three in-person listening sessions. These efforts have facilitated ongoing dialogue with the community, supporting the development of a program that responds directly to the needs of PLWH in Missouri.

DATA COLLECTION AND MONITORING:

Data collection for EHE Services is managed through the REDCap database and the SCOUT referral, focusing on clients who are presumed or confirmed to be out of care and tracking their outcomes. The program data collection methods are being refined based on the findings from the first review by the EHE Coordinators and the Lost Retention Peer Navigation contractors.

KEY METRICS AND OUTCOMES:

The program monitors its progress through the following key metrics:

- Number of clients re-engaged in HIV medical care
 - Number of clients determined to reside out of state
 - Number of clients deceased
 - Number of clients using each of the EHE financial assistance categories: medication, ambulatory care, associated HIV lab costs, and transportation reimbursement
 - Number of clients enrolled in Ryan White
 - Number of clients who achieve viral suppression and the number of months to viral suppression
 - Viral suppression rate of EHE clients
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CONCLUSION:

The Missouri EHE Service program is a vital initiative supporting PLWH who lack access to affordable HIV care. By re-engaging clients in medical care and offering financial support where needed, the program aims to improve individual health outcomes and prevent further transmission of HIV. Despite data integration challenges, the program's continuous efforts in community engagement and planned data system enhancements reflect its commitment to effectively serving the community in Missouri.