



Department  
of Health

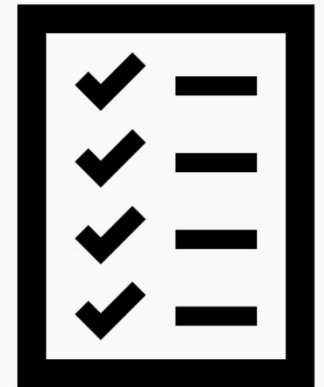
# New York State Public Health Corps Fellowship Program

**Collaboration is Key: The Role of Engaging a Multidisciplinary Team in  
Increasing HIV Care and Prevention**

MARCH 11TH, 2026 | ZOOM

# AGENDA

- Welcome!
- Session Learning Objectives
- Presentation: Collaboration is Key: The Role of Engaging a Multidisciplinary Team in Increasing HIV Care and Prevention
- Question & Answer
- Closing Remarks



**WELCOME,  
CATHERINE FARQUHARSON!**



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# Collaboration is Key: The Role of Engaging a Multidisciplinary Team in Increasing HIV Care and Prevention

Catherine Farquharson, MPH

# Learning Objectives

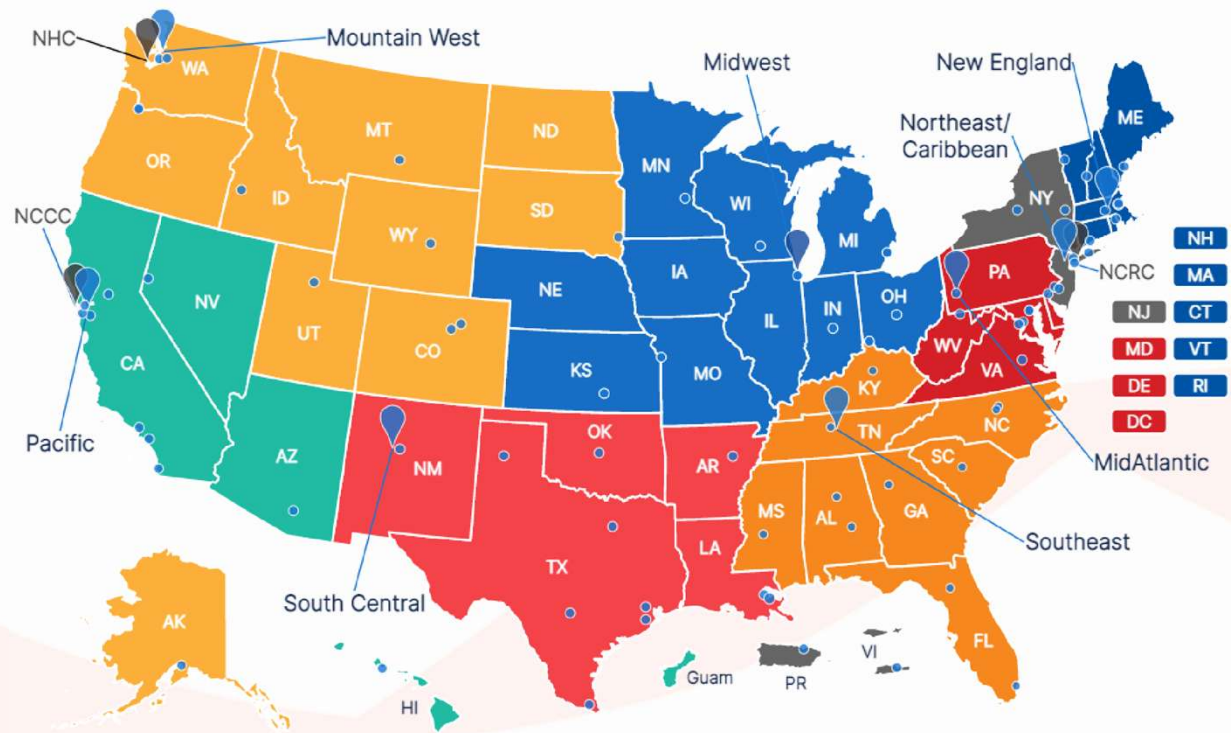
**By the end of this training, learners will be able to..**

- Understand the effectiveness of collaboration building in HIV care and prevention
- Recognize the importance of engaging a multidisciplinary team in improving health outcomes
- Identify successful strategies for fostering engagement across teams



# Who are we?

# AETC Regions



# NECA AETC

**The Northeast/Caribbean Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Education and Training Center (NECA AETC)** is part of a national network of 8 regional and 2 national AETCs. The NECA AETC works with individual health care providers, teams and clinical sites in **New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands** to provide targeted, multi-disciplinary education and training programs and capacity building assistance to improve care along the HIV Care Continuum.

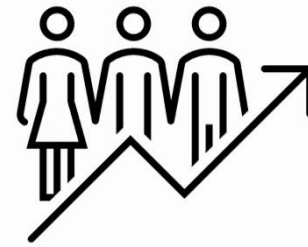
# The NECA AETC Region

- Aligns with US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Region II
- New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico and the USVI
- Home to over 32.8 million people, nearly 10% of the US population
- Yet nearly 1 in 5 people with HIV in the US live in the NECA AETC region

Rank	Jurisdiction	Diagnosed HIV per 100,000 (2023)
1	District of Columbia	2,285.7
2	New York	752.7
3	Georgia	667.4
4	Maryland	650.8
5	U.S. Virgin Islands	635.9
6	Florida	631.1
7	Louisiana	582.0
8	Puerto Rico	534.5
9	Nevada	449.2
10	New Jersey	447.4

# Partnerships

- Regional Partners
- Health care providers, administrators and teams
- Community members
- Professional Associations
- Other Educational/Training Partners
- Academic Medical Centers



*Strength of a regional program with local presence and national reach!*

# Regional Partners



# Our Work

# Programs

## Practice Transformation

- Individualized coaching for clinics to improve outcomes along the Continuum of Care
- Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHCs) and Ryan White settings

## Interprofessional Education

- Integrating HIV and Interprofessional Education into health profession schools: medical, nursing, pharmacy, behavioral health

## Core Training/Technical Assistance

- Increasing knowledge, skills and behavior
- Enhancing workforce and quality of HIV care
- Along the continuum and comorbidities

## MAI Training/Technical Assistance

- Increasing the capacity of minority providers and minority-serving providers

## Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE)

- Addressing the workforce development needs of new and experienced HIV care professionals in the EHE geographic jurisdictions

**All programs utilize a collaborative approach across various stakeholders and team members!**

# Who?

Multidisciplinary teams and team members in...

- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program centers
- Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHCs)
- Sexually Transmitted Infection (Sexual health) clinics
- Hospitals
- Community-based organizations
- Health departments
- Mental health and addiction treatment facilities
- Other health care facilities

# Cross Sectional Partnerships

# EHE

## ***AETC EHE Charge....***

*To Increase numbers of health professionals:*

- 1) competently deploy prevention strategies, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (**PrEP**)
- 2) competently **provide care and treatment** throughout the phases of the HIV care continuum;
- 3) who are well versed in the **social, cultural, and economic** factors that determine the health outcomes
- 4) Increase **viral suppression**

# Regional EHE Workgroup



Creation of working groups based on overlapping barriers and needs that existed



Working cross sectionally to develop and deliver new content relevant to our communities

# Peer Inclusion

Individuals with lived experience

Active participants in monthly meetings

Guide and inform trainings

Inform faculty development and trainings

# Workgroup Process



The Northeast/Caribbean AETC Ending the HIV Epidemic Testing Workgroup presents

## Making Strides Toward Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE): A Panel Presentation on Successes, Barriers and Strategies to Increase HIV Testing

+ LIVE WEBINAR!

FRIDAY, JUNE 24TH 11AM-12:15PM

### This webinar will be of interest to ...

Providers, physicians, care teams, community health workers and peers who advocate for and can conduct HIV testing across New York, New Jersey, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico

#### SPEAKERS

- **JULIE M. HARRIS**  
Director, Division of HIV/STD/HCV Prevention:  
New York State Department of Health, AIDS Institute
- **JASON HENRY**  
Territorial Director, Communicable Disease  
Division: Virgin Islands Department of Health
- **AIXA IRIZARRY**  
Director, Division of HIV/ Hepatitis/ STD  
Prevention: Puerto Rico Department of  
Health
- **Jessica Diaz**  
HIV Counseling and Testing Manager:  
Hyacinth Foundation, New Jersey

**Questions?** Contact Catherine Farquharson at cf2863@cumc.columbia.edu



#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Cite HIV testing numbers across four diverse regions.
- Summarize barriers to HIV testing described by regional experts.
- Describe and evaluate three strategies used to increase HIV testing for hard to reach populations.

**REGISTER**

CME Accreditation and Credit Designation Statements:  
Weill Cornell Medical College is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Weill Cornell Medical College designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

# Primary Care HIV Prevention (PCHP): Peer to Peer Work



- Provide technical and implementation assistance to sites via a “Twinning Program”
- Match FQHCs with Twin mentor sites
- Twin mentor sites: clinical sites that have achieved the highest standards of excellence in **HIV Testing and PrEP**
  - offer **guidance, trouble shooting, and mentorship**
  - We **facilitated and evaluated** twinning as an innovative training modality

# Best Practices Shared

- Mentors discussed their best practices
- Implementing guidelines
- Patient clinical follow-up
- Insurance solutions
- Workforce training
- Eliminate a lot of trial and error





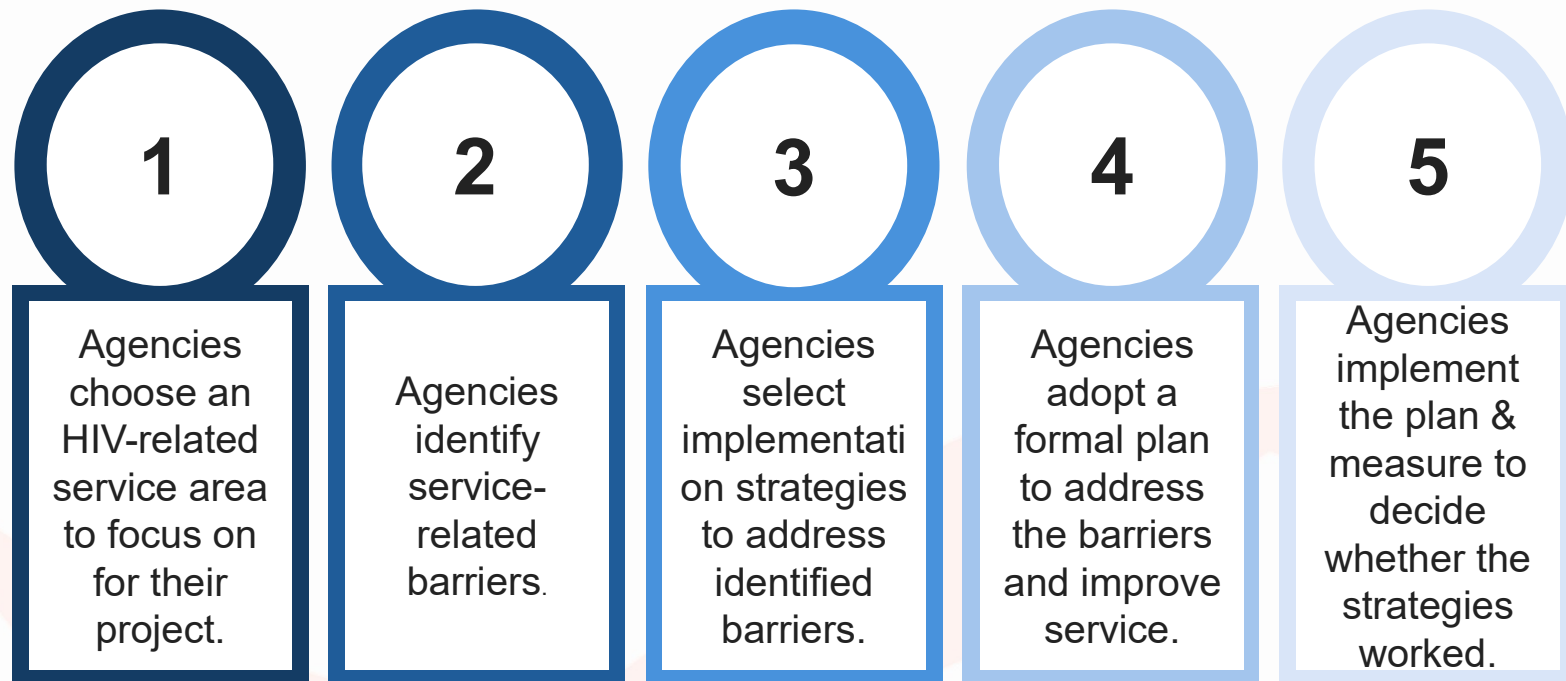
# Practice Transformation (PT)

Our Practice Transformation program, supports eligible FQHCs, Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funded clinics, and Indian Health Services and Tribal Health Facilities to **increase the capability of their systems to deliver high-quality HIV-related care, treatment and prevention.**

We support teams to **improve services** using a suite of practical tools, informed by implementation science research and improvement methodologies.

Agencies receive individualized technical assistance to ensure teams have the necessary ingredients to successfully achieve their HIV service delivery and outcome goals.

# PT Process



# PT Implementation Support

*Participating agencies have:*

- An assigned Implementation Support Coordinator and Implementation Support Coach
- Monthly coaching to identify challenges and support the implementation of the agency plan
- Access to expert speakers, trainers, and peer agencies
- Access to additional resources to address challenges during implementation



# Agency PT storyboard example



## Finger Lakes Community Health Center

| Upstate, NY | Improving Routine Opt-Out HIV Screening in a Multi-Site Federally Qualified Health Center



Agency Team

### Aim Statements

- 1 Ovid Community Health Center will increase the number of HIV tests per month from 3 to 30 by June 30, 2022
- 2 Penn Yan Community Health Center will increase the number of HIV tests per month from 10 to 100 by June 30, 2022.

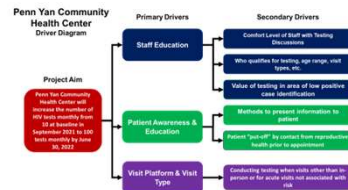
### Change Ideas Implemented

- Structured Fields for Screening in EMR (2021)
- Adoption of Site Champion Model (2021)
- Placement of "Expect the Test" Posters (2021)
- Role Plays for Responding to Hesitancy (2020)
- Using Routine Staff Meetings to Provide Education & Resources (2020)
- Review of Clinic-level Performance Data (2021)
- Utilization of Mini-Residency Program (2019-present)
- Provider-level Performance Reports (2022)

### Site-Level SWOT Analysis Reports



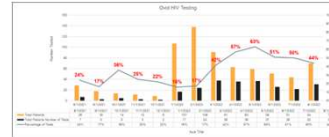
### Site-Level Driver Diagrams



### Site-Specific Performance Reporting

Site	2021-01	2021-02	2021-03	2021-04	2021-05	2021-06	2021-07	2021-08	2021-09	2021-10	2021-11	2021-12	2022-01	2022-02	2022-03	2022-04	2022-05	2022-06
Ovid Community Health Center	3	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85
Penn Yan Community Health Center	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95

### Monthly Performance Reports



### Expect the Test Posters & Stickers

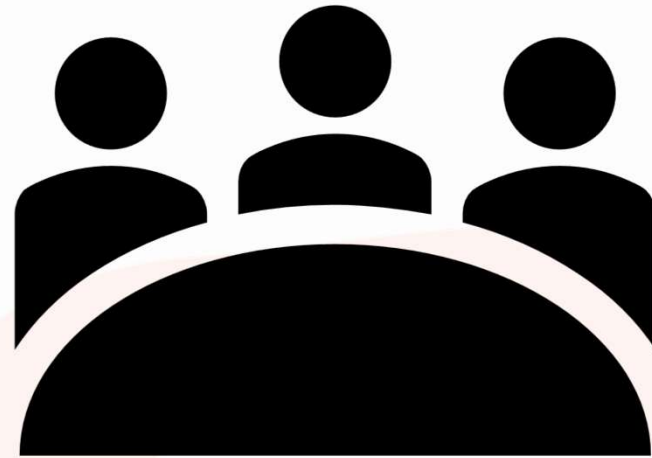


### Lessons Learned

- Awareness of the frequency follow-up needed with agency staff
- Importance of staying updated about policies and processes
- Maintaining awareness of clinic operations (and changes to it) is critical
- Monthly meetings are important touch points
- Ongoing education as needed is important
- Use of performance data to lead discussions on current progress and improvement opportunities
- Introducing recommendations for potential interventions, strategies, and partners can help to address barriers
- Understanding of the community served can serve the project well

# Practice Transformation Summit

- Annual convening of PT Leadership, Implementation Support (IS) Coordinators, and site champions
- Opportunity for PT Implementation sites to share project storyboards and lessons learned
- Collaborative problem solving and barrier prioritization
- Training sessions on PT tools, evaluation and intervention planning
- Networking opportunities to strength partnership across sites



# Community of Practice (CoP)

- Quarterly webinars
- Discussion of challenges
- Distribution of PrEP policies and procedures, PrEP & HIV testing workflows, payment information, outreach materials, social media education and more

“This was a great presentation that really should be the start of ongoing trainings for community engagement!”

We are “looking forward to incorporating what we learned into our PrEP program.”

## PCHP Community of Practice Webinars

- The Patient Experience of Being on PrEP: A Panel Discussion
- PrEP for Cisgender Women: A Provider and Patient Perspective
- Community Outreach Strategies for Hard-to-Reach Populations
- Beyond the Prescription: The Programmatic Side of a PrEP Program

# Benefits of CoP

- Clinical guidance
- Strategies for implementation of PrEP, HIV testing and outreach
- Peer learning

Let's talk  
about PrEP!



- Networking opportunities
- Pathway to additional AETC programming

# Wrap up

# Strategies for Engagement

- Convene stakeholders for monthly discussions
- Research local organizations for partnerships
- Attend local and national committee meetings
- Consider involving those impacted in the work
- Launch a Community of Practice
- Network, network, network!

## For further information

- Northeast/ Caribbean AIDS Education Training Center  
<https://www.necaaetc.org/>
- National AIDS Education Training Center Support Center  
<https://aidsetc.org/>
- New York State Department of Health's AIDS Institute  
<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/>

# CLOSING REMARKS



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# NYSPHC FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM SUMMIT 2026

- The 2026 NYSPHC Fellowship Program Summit will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, in conjunction with the 2026 Public Health Partnership Conference in Lake Placid, NY.
- Fellows will attend the NYSPHC Summit on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, and are invited to attend the Public Health Partnership Conference on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.



# OFFBOARDING CHECKLIST FOR FELLOWS

## NYSPHC Training and Resources Website



# NYSPHC LINKEDIN GROUP

- Stay connected with NYSPHC on LinkedIn
  - Stay updated on public health events
  - Engage with polls and share your insights
  - Keep the conversation going from today's session



# REMINDER: EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



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## Help for what matters most

### Your employee assistance program

Our Employee Assistance Program offers services to help promote well-being and enhance the quality of life for you and your family.

Support and guidance is available for assistance with family and personal issues online at [worklife.uprisehealth.com](http://worklife.uprisehealth.com) and by phone at 1-800-386-7055.

Help with health	Help with family	Help with legal and financial
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy living</li> <li>• Stress management</li> <li>• Mental health</li> <li>• Diet and fitness</li> <li>• Overall wellness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parenting support</li> <li>• Child and elder care</li> <li>• Learning programs</li> <li>• Special needs help</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal issues</li> <li>• Will preparation</li> <li>• Taxes and debt</li> <li>• ID theft services</li> <li>• Financial tools and assistance</li> <li>• Medical bill negotiation tools</li> </ul>

### Connect to a counselor for complimentary support services:

**Email:** [eapcounselor@uprisehealth.com](mailto:eapcounselor@uprisehealth.com)

**Phone:** 1-800-386-7055  
Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week\*

**Web:** [worklife.uprisehealth.com](http://worklife.uprisehealth.com)  
(Access code: [worklife](http://worklife))

**When calling for assistance please use the following information**

**Employer - Staffing Solutions Organization**

**Group Number - G-540112**

\*Office hours Monday-Friday 8am-5pm EST. Live answer exchange available after hours. The Employee Assistance Program services are provided by Guardian Health, and its contractors. Guardian does not provide any part of the Employee Assistance Program. Guardian is not responsible or liable for care or advice given by any provider or resource under the program. This information is for illustrative purposes only. It is not a contract. Only the Administration Agreement can provide for actual benefits, services, limitations and exclusions. Guardian and Uprise Health reserve the right to discontinue the Employee Assistance Program program at any time without notice. Legal services provided through the Employee Assistance Program will not be provided in connection with or preparation for any action against Guardian, its affiliates or any employee. The Employee Assistance Program is not an insurance benefit and may not be available in all states. If you have communications may be in English only. The Guardian Insurance Company of America, New York, NY. Uprise Health, Laguna Hills, CA. Guardian is a registered trademark of The Guardian Insurance Company of America and used with express written permission. © Copyright 2022 The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America.

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