

CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH PRESENTS

HIV SERVICES NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022

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[HTTPS://WWW.CCBH.NET/RYAN-WHITE/](https://www.ccbh.net/ryan-white/)

WORLD AIDS DAY



DECEMBER 1, 2022

Each year on this date, we recognize and support those living with HIV, and those that have passed from AIDS-related illness. Together we can continue to raise awareness to the HIV/AIDS epidemic and celebrate treatment advances.

**UNITE IN
THE
FIGHT**

CCBH

The Cuyahoga County Board of Health has released a statement on HIV Criminalization, which is now live and available for view on our website. As we honor World AIDS Day, please know that CCBH stands in solidarity with all those who continue to advocate for change on this issue.



[Read the full statement here.](#)

RYAN WHITE PART A

UPDATES

As we are nearing the end of the 2022, the Cleveland TGA Part A Program is working hard to support all of its service providers and ensure that all service categories are well-represented throughout the most vulnerable communities. In doing so, the Request for Proposals (RFPs) were released to the community in October. We are excited to continue our work with previous service providers and welcome the opportunity to support the interest and promise of new service providers. **Proposals are due on December 20, 2022 and will be reviewed thereafter.**



STATEWIDE INTEGRATED PLAN

2022-2026 PLAN

The Statewide Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan for 2022-2026 has been carefully and thoughtfully crafted in coordination with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). Several Cleveland TGA Planning Council members participated in the development of this plan by engaging various local work groups in order to gather insight and input from local community members.



Members were able to collaborate ideas to establish relevant and impactful goals and objectives. The Cleveland Part A program looks forward to participating in the Integrated Plan activities and working with the Planning Council and local stakeholders to implement initiatives in the TGA.

NEW HIV STAFF

ANASTASSIA IDOV

RYAN WHITE PART A PROGRAM MANAGER

Anastassia has recently joined the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) as the Ryan White Part A Grant Program Manager. In her new role, she will be supporting the Ryan White Part A recipients in providing HIV care and support services to underserved and underinsured clients living in six-county Cleveland Transitional Grant Area (TGA). Anastassia is responsible for policy development, administrative reports, contracts, and Technical Assistance coordination with providers. She is excited to contribute to ending the HIV epidemic.



Prior to joining CCBH, Anastassia managed Family Empowerment, an Atlanta-based refugee resettlement agency. Through her work, she supported refugees on their parenting journey and helped victims of domestic violence free themselves from abuse. Anastassia holds a Bachelor of Science in Human Services from Kennesaw State University and a Master of Public Administration from Georgia State University.

NEW HIV STAFF



ALISHA CASSADY

HIV/STI EPIDEMIOLOGIST

Alisha has been with CCBH for a little over two years and joined the Epidemiology team in June 2022. She completed her Master's in Public Health at Kent State University with a concentration in Epidemiology, and received a Bachelor of Science with a major in Biology and minor in Chemistry from the University of Akron. Alisha loves looking at data to develop a “story” for that data to tell and to help inform policies and programs. She is looking forward to continuing the work on this important program.

BRIAN LUTZ

EHE CARE PROGRAM MANAGER

Brian brings work experience in HIV prevention, reproductive & sexual health, and LGBTQ+ services for 9 years in Northeast Ohio. Alongside Erin Lark and led by Gloria Agosto-Davis, Brian oversees both EHE Prevention and Care projects. Agencies Brian oversees are A Vision of Change, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland State University, Equality Ohio Education Fund, University Hospitals, University Settlement, and We Think 4 A Change.



CLINICAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

FY 2023

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

As many providers may know, the Clinical Quality Management (CQM) program under the Ryan White Part A grant has been “under construction” with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for most of the 2022 year. We are pleased to announce that we have completed the appropriate adjustments, and the upcoming 2023 year will bring a new perspective on quality improvement and how we can continue to build that the culture in the Cleveland TGA.



With new opportunities for capacity building, a service category collaborative approach to quality improvement projects, and our very own in-house Epidemiologist to support us in data needs, such as the Performance Measures, we are excited to unveil these new developments! An email regarding the upcoming kickoff meeting will be scheduled for the first quarter of 2023.



PLANNING COUNCIL CORNER

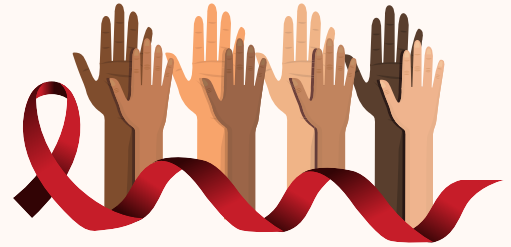
COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

DO YOU HAVE HIV?

**DO YOU NEED HELP
GETTING HIV-RELATED
MEDICAL CARE?**

If your answer is yes, then we have good news! Coming soon, the Planning Council's Community Liaison Committee (CLC) will host community HIV information sessions.

We want to hear about your HIV health care needs. We want to tell you about available services for people living with HIV/AIDS.



If you are a person living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, or Medina county, we are inviting you to join us to discuss a variety of free services, such as medical care, transportation services, housing assistance, and HIV support groups.

For more information and to participate in the HIV information sessions, contact:

Sharron Harris

sharris@promesacgi.com

Antionette Mallory

amallory@ccbh.net

ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC

NEW PROJECTS

CCBH is proud to introduce new programming and service providers for the Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) Program. These new projects will run for the duration of the FY2022 grant years for both Prevention and Care, with an opportunity to become renewed projects upon completion. The expanded programming was selected with the continued attention of filling gaps in the fight to end the epidemic.



EHE: CARE

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- **AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland:** Utility Debt Assistance for PLWHA (Fresh Start)
- **We Think 4 A Change:** Short-term Assistance for Basic Needs & Medical Transportation (Get in Care, Stay in Care, Thrive in Care)

EDUCATION & SUPPORT

- **Cleveland Treatment Center:** HIV Education for PLWHA with Substance Use Disorders (MPOWER Program)
- **Nueva Luz:** MSM of Color HIV+ Affinity Group
- **Equality Ohio Education Fund & The Sankofa HIV Initiative:** Intergenerational Healing Retreat

ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC

EHE: PREVENTION

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

- **AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland:** Youth-led (Y-CAB) Social Media PSA Creation
- **Beech Brook:** School-based HIV Education
- **Cleveland Treatment Center:** HIV Education for Youth with Substance Use Disorders (YUP! Program)
- **LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland:** Youth & Young Adult HIV Prevention Education & Outreach (POL Program)
- **I Care About My Life & I Care About Your Life:** HIV Prevention Advocacy Arts Project for Youth

TESTING & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- **The Centers:** At-home HIV testing
- **A Vision of Change:** Community Outreach to MSM (men who have sex with men) Population
- **University Hospitals:** Expanded Emergency Dept. HIV Testing & Linkage to Care
- **University Settlement:** Medical Vending Machines & Condom Distribution
- **We Think 4 A Change:** At-home HIV testing



ENDING THE HIV EPIDEMIC

TEST ME CAMPAIGN

Testing is the only way to know your status and keep yourself and your partner(s) safe.

The Test Me Campaign promotes HIV testing and the steps you can take after you get your test results, whether they are negative or positive.

The [Love Leads Here website](#) provides the community with great resources, such as an HIV testing site, care locator tool, FAQs, and a social media tool kit available to download and share. The social media tool kit and images are available to download at the bottom of the Test Me webpage.

This campaign is also available in Spanish. At the top of the Test Me webpage, you will see a button available to transition from English to Spanish.



COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

SAVE THE DATE!

January 11, 2023

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CCBH

(in person)

EHE is re-launching its Community Advisory Group (CAG). The EHE CAG will meet quarterly with a focus on one of the EHE pillars; January's focus will be the Diagnose Pillar.

Interested in being on the EHE CAG agenda? Please contact **Erin Lark** at elark@ccbh.net.

HIV PREVENTION

TEST



ME

Ask for the HIV test.
Take PrEP if you're negative.
Get treatment if you're positive.
Health for everybody.

[Love Leads Here.org/TestMe](https://LoveLeadsHere.org/TestMe)
Cuyahoga County Board of Health HIV Prevention & Care



love
leads
here.

FEEDBACK

**WE WANT TO
HEAR FROM YOU!**

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

- Which sections did you like in this issue of the HIV Services Newsletter?
- What would you like to continue to see in future newsletters?
- What content do you think could be added to the newsletter?

Email Danielle LeGallee at
dlegallee@ccbh.net.



Ryan White Part A
Cleveland TGA

CUYAHOGA COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION