

HIV Planning Group Announcements and Other Information

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27 AND THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Wireless Internet Log-on Instructions

1. On your smartphone or smart device, open your settings app.

2. Click on the Wi-Fi icon 

3. Under “choose a network”, click on “Hilton Honors”.

4. A splash page should automatically generate. If it does not, Open

your Safari app 

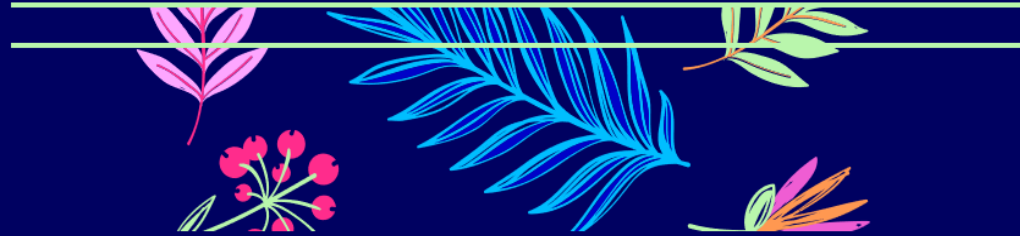
5. By pass the Guest Log in by clicking the link “I have a Promotional code”

6. Type in the Hilton secured wifi passcode: **Shamrock24**

7. The splash page should automatically disappear if the passcode was entered properly.

HIV Conference

Pennsylvania Department of Health
Division of HIV Health



• **June 26, 2024** •

• **8:30am to 4:00pm** •

• **7:30am to 8:30am Registration and Breakfast** •

• **Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel at Station Square** •

300 W. Station Square Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

More information to come!



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



March 2024 HPG Meeting Announcements

Division Updates:

- **The University of Pittsburgh Purchase Order (PO) was signed and went into effect on March 18, 2024. Given the timing of the PO, the Division and University staff will work together to facilitate the HPG this month. As always, we ask for your understanding and patience as we co-facilitate.**
- **The Division has been asked to share the Integrated Plan work plan template with the Integrated HIV/AIDS Planning Technical Assistance Center (IHAP-TAC). We were also asked to participate in a virtual panel to discuss our process for the Integrated Plan, including Stakeholder Engagement. At this time PA does not have an approved Stakeholder Engagement Plan so we can speak to what has been done in the past.**
- **The Division provided a sponsorship for the Pennsylvania Health Equity Summit to be held in Harrisburg on April 4-5, 2024.**

Division Updates Continued:

- **Division staff met with staff from the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse to discuss collaborations. Preliminary discussions include sharing of resources, trainings, and doing presentations. More to come on this as we continue our discussions.**
- **Division staff met with the Division of Cancer Control to discuss ways to collaborate. Initial discussions include Division of Cancer Control providing materials/resources to us for distribution at events such as the HPG, townhalls and HIV conferences.**
- **The Division was asked to do opening remarks at the Mid Atlantic AIDS Education and Training Center (MAAETC) HIV Prevention and Care Summit in Harrisburg in April. Moira Foster will be doing the opening remarks.**

Care Program:

- **Case Management trainings through Mid-Atlantic AIDS Education Training Center (MAAETC) are happening now. More information on sessions and registration is available at <https://www.maaetc.org/p/pacase-management-training> also, see attached flyers for further details.**
- **Updated Ryan White Part B Program Standards final revisions continue. The Medical Case Management workgroup has been providing input on this document advising the updates. Minor changes were made to the subservice taxonomy (the definition and calculation of units of service within CareWare).**
- **The division is working on a Ryan White Part B Handbook. When completed, this will be a resource for regions, providers, and program participants.**

Care Program Continued:

- **We are working on filling the Public Health Program Administrator position that will work with SPBP. This is the new position created after the retirement of our former SPBP Customer Service Line Supervisor.**
- **Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will be conducting a Ryan White Part B site visit with the division in May.**
- **Meetings have been held with regional grantees to plan for the rollout of the Harm Reduction Vending Machine Project. The plan is for one machine to be placed in each region with products provided through various funding streams.**

Housing Opportunities for People living with AIDS (HOPWA):

- **The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) is due to HUD by March 31, 2024. All regional data has been collected from the regions and the report has gone through the internal approval process and the submission was completed on March 14, 2024.**

Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program (SPBP):

- **2024 SPBP Advisory Council meeting dates:**
 - **Thursday, April 25, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (in-person – Penn Harris Hotel)**
 - **Thursday, July 25, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (teleconference)**
 - **Thursday, October 24, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (in-person – Penn Harris Hotel)**
- **SPBP website updates www.health.pa.gov/spbp**
 - **Pharmacy Network List – updated 3/1/24**
- **Some SPBP clients have encountered an eligibility error when applying for SPBP after being disenrolled from Medicaid. This issue was due to a system issue within the Medicaid system in which the individual was shown as still having prescription coverage through Medicaid, even though they do not. A system fix was implemented December 19, 2023, but we recently found out there is still an issue with the data and incorrect Medicaid enrollment end dates are being provided for some individuals. If there are any individuals impacted by this when attempting to apply to SPBP, please call our customer service team at 800-922-9384 and an exception will be entered to bypass the data issue.**
- **SPBP implemented a process to allow overflow calls during high volume times in our customer service phone line queue to be transferred to Magellan for assistance. A dedicated phone line at Magellan for SPBP transferred calls has been established. Callers now have the option to be transferred for immediate assistance or continue to wait for our SPBP customer service staff.**

Monitoring & Evaluation:

- **The CMHDs were provided an opportunity to request additional funding for innovated projects or need. Awards were made and these Subsequent Available Funds for innovated projects at the CMHDs are going through the approval process.**
- **The reclassification of a Project Officer position for Ryan White Part B sub-recipients has been completed. It was moved from a Public Health Program Associate 2 (PHPA2) to a Public Health Program Administrator (PHPA), as part of reorganization of the Division. This position will be posted and filled in the coming weeks.**
- **The CMHD Quality Improvement Collaborative continues to meet on a monthly basis. To date, we have revised guidance for partner services, Data 2 Care and HNS as a result of discussions. These documents are available on the CMHD Share Point site as part of our guidance for HIV Prevention Grant activities. The last two meetings have focused on HIV Testing in their STD Clinics, with discussions about barriers to expanding services, and supporting community testing activities within their jurisdictions. That conversation is ongoing.**

Prevention Program:

- **The prevention team continues to work on the Notice of Funding Opportunity application for the Integrated HIV prevention and surveillance grant. This application is due April 29, 2024. Once submitted we will receive feedback and make changes as needed. We will also be submitting a work plan and an evaluation plan, as required, within six months of the start of the grant.**
- **It is our expectation to resume SNNLP activities now that the University of Pittsburgh PO is signed. Cameron Schatz will be in contact with the workgroup to discuss next steps.**
- **We have been limiting our condom distribution due to low supplies. We have now received notification that our condom order purchase order has been approved. As soon as we receive them, we will lift the restrictions on the condom order site.**
- **The prevention team coordinated a pilot outreach training with Savage Sisters out of Philadelphia. Division staff and some HPG members will be asked to attend the pilot training.**

HIV Surveillance and Epidemiology:

- **The vacant HIV Surveillance and Epidemiology Data Manager position has been filled. Mr. Matthew Ringel has accepted the job offer and will be starting April 8, 2024. He is highly skilled in data management and analysis and will be a great addition to the HIV surveillance team. We look forward to him joining our program.**
- **No new HIV clusters since the last HPG meeting, but we continue to conduct follow up activities on existing active clusters.**

Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH)/Division of HIV Health (DHH):

- DHH just completed a successful in-person Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. (EHE) Comprehensive Site Visit (CSV) the week of March 18th.**
- DHH in the process of applying for CDC NOFO PS24-0047 for HIV prevention, surveillance, and EHE funding.**
- DHH is also preparing another application (C-CORE) to further expand HIV Cluster Detection and Response activities.**

Mid Atlantic AIDS Education Training Center (MAAETC):

Upcoming Trainings (See training flyers for full details):

- **Chronic Mental Health Issues & Substance Use Disorders in HIV Care-Wednesday, April 3rd, 2:00pm-3:00pm**
- **Spring Conference: Building Access to HIV Prevention & Treatment: Current Issues and Approaches-Thursday, April 18 8:00am-5:15pm**
- **Substance Use Disorder Screening, Prevention & Treatment in People with HIV-Wednesday, April 24th 12:00pm-1:00pm**
- **PrEP Uptake in Black Women: A Larger Scope-Tuesday, May 7th 2:00pm-3:00pm**
- **HIV Care, Treatment and Prevention in the Aging Population-Wednesday, May 22nd 12:00pm-1:00pm**
- **Sexual Health, HIV & Disabilities-Thursday, June 6th 2:00pm-3:00pm**
- **HIV Care Continuum for Individuals Who Were Formerly Incarcerated-Friday, June 14th 12:00pm-1:00pm**
- **Meeting the Challenges to Prevent and Treat HIV-Wednesday, June 12th 4:30pm-8:15pm**