

HIV Planning Group (HPG) Updates for March Meeting

Care Program:

- Stephen Elston and Sara Reyes, both Program Administrators for the Care Section, have assumed Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) activities since Michelle Schlegelmilch's departure in January.
- The Division applied for AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Emergency Relief Funds from HRSA for Ryan White FY 2026 beginning 4/1/2026. We applied for \$7,000,000, which is the maximum award amount for ADAP programs with no waiting lists. The minimum award is \$100,000. The Division has not received the determination of the award amount yet.

Special Pharmaceutical Benefits Program (SPBP):

- 2026 SPBP Advisory Council Meeting Dates
 - Thursday, April 30, 2026 – 10:00 a.m. – 12 p.m. (teleconference)
 - Thursday, July 30, 2026 – 10:00 a.m. – 12 p.m. (teleconference)
 - Thursday, October 22, 2026 – 10:00 a.m. – 12 p.m. (teleconference)
- Updates on the SPBP website (www.health.pa.gov/spbp)
 - Covered drug list updated 3/1/26
 - Income limits revised based on updated Federal Poverty Guidelines 1/13/26

Prevention Program:

- The HIV Prevention and Surveillance annual performance report, budget request, and data was submitted on 3/6.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

- No updates

HIV Surveillance and Epidemiology:

- We are in the middle of putting the HIV Medical Monitoring Project together after funds have been re-instated.
 - Two of the previous staff will be returning, and start date is slated for March 23, 2026
 - We are currently interviewing for a part-time position. We anticipate concluding with hiring the part-time person before the end of March.
 - Data collection will start June 1, 2026
 - Grant application for funding period beginning June 1, 2026 to May 31, 2027 is due April 15, 2026

- HIV Cluster –
 - ✓ No new cluster identified
 - ✓ Continue to follow active clusters

University of Pittsburgh HIV Prevention and Care Project (HPCP)

- The HPCP is looking for additional individuals living with HIV who are interested in sharing their stories as part of the HIV Friendly initiative's testimonial videos. We are particularly looking to include the perspectives of individuals who are:
 - Younger (under the age of 30)
 - More recently diagnosed (within the last five years)
 - Dandelions (People living with HIV since birth, infancy, or early childhood)

If you would like to participate in the HIV Friendly testimonial video, please reach out to Nayck Feliz nbf12@pitt.edu.