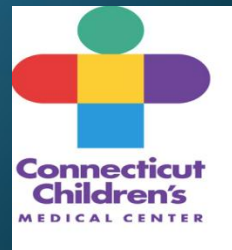


# Engaging Youth in HIV/STD Prevention

## Hartford Youth HIV Identification & Linkage (HYHIL) Model

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Danielle Warren-Dias, MSc.  
December 1, 2015



# In Recognition of World AIDS DAY



## FACING AIDS



# Connecticut Children's Medical Center

## CT Children's Mission/Vision

### Connecticut Children's Vision:

- We are making children in Connecticut the healthiest in the country

### Community Child Health Goal:

- Become the **national role model** for ensuring children and their families have access to a comprehensive system of **services and programs** designed to make the children of Connecticut the healthiest in the country

Connecticut Children's  
Office for Community Child Health



# Office of Community Child Health

## Vision

- × Be a community resource and a national leader in addressing critical health needs and challenges of children on the local, regional, state, national and global levels
- × Have a strong record of developing, supporting, and spreading innovative programs

## Approach

- × Strengthening Programs
  - Evaluation tools
  - Access to resources
- × Leveraging synergies across programs
  - Best practices
  - Promoting partnerships
- × Incubating new innovations

# Hartford Youth HIV Identification & Linkage Consortia Mission

TO prevent the transmission of HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) **among youth** through **innovative** outreach and preventive education, to enhance **youth-focused HIV/STI screenings** in **collaboration** with community agencies, to **identify** HIV/STI positive youth and **link** them into care, community resources and employment/career services.



# History of HYHIL

- × **In 1999 Identified Needs:**

- × Collaboration
- × Advocacy
- × Improve health outcomes for youth affected HIV Disease

- × **Got out of AIDS in order to prevent AIDS**

- × Community engagement
- × Convened roundtable discussions
- × Secured seed funding

- × **Established the Hartford Youth HIV Identification & Linkage Consortium**

# Vulnerable Populations Served

**10 million new yearly STD infections among 13-24 year olds** which are surrogate markers for future HIV infections

2013 CT STD cases reported:

Chlamydia - **68% among 15-24 year olds**

Gonorrhea - **49% among 10-24 year olds**

Syphilis - **30% among 20-24 year olds**

There are **10,637** current cases of HIV in CT as of 2013

**33%** Black

**32%** Hispanic

**28%** of new HIV cases in 2013 were **20-29 year olds**

**6%** of new HIV cases in 2013 were **under 20**

CT ranked **7<sup>th</sup>** in AIDS cases

Cost Effective - **\$16 Billion in health care costs/year**

# HYHIL Partners/Supporters

AIDS Connecticut  
Capital Area Substance Abuse Council  
Central CT Area Health Education Center  
Charter Oak Health Center  
City of Hartford Health & Human Services  
Community Health Services of Hartford  
Community Renewal Team  
Connecticut Children's Medical Center  
Connecticut Department of Public Health  
CT Kids Counsel  
Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund  
Greater Hartford Ryan White Planning Council  
Latino Community Services  
Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective  
Hispanic Health Council  
San Juan Center, Inc.  
Southside Institute Neighborhood Alliance  
The Mobile CPR Project (PENN Medicine)  
Trinity College  
UConn Health Center  
UConn School of Social Work





# Health Interactive Project (HIP)

- Targeted Intervention to students in schools with School-based Health Centers
- Stop AIDS Mobile Theater Presentations
  - 40,000 students received preventive education
- Health Screenings in school settings:
  - ~3000~HIV tests
  - ~3200~ STD tests
    - 1 HIV Positive (MSM)
    - 1 Positive – HIV & Syphilis
    - 1 newly diag. linked to Care
    - 10% positivity rate for Chlamydia
    - Seeing increase of GC



# Core Elements

## 1) Collaboration

- × Engage other stakeholders (*youth, community, CBOs*)
- × Leveraging Resources/funding
- × Innovative, Holistic approach to prevention

## 2) Outreach

- × Raise awareness
- × Prevent new transmissions
- × Advocacy

## 3) Early Detection of HIV/STI

- × Improved health outcomes for youth



# Core Elements

## 4) Linkage to Care and Community Resources

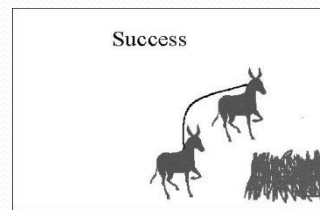
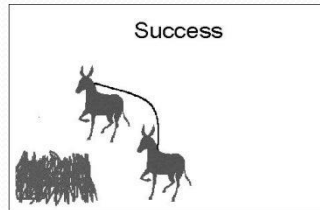
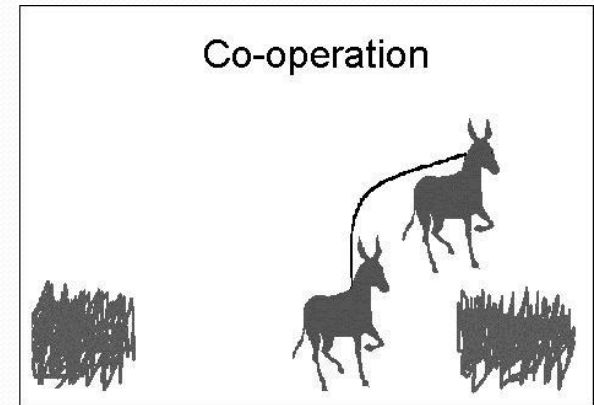
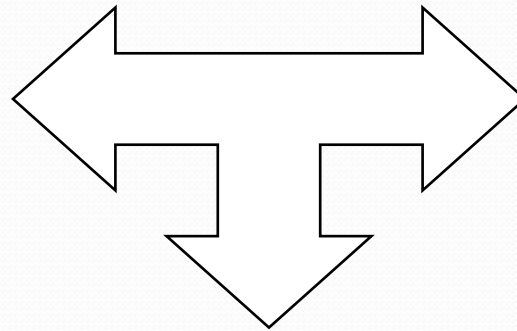
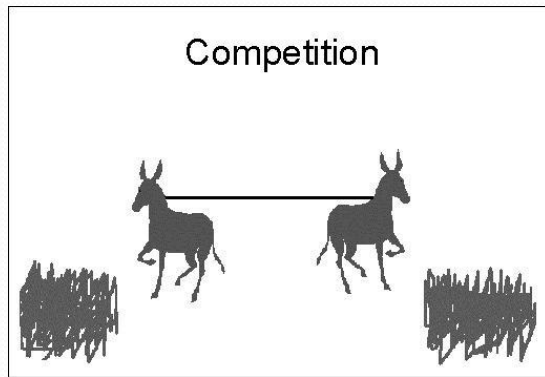
- Medical Case Management, Mental Health
- Employment, Education



## 5) Structural Components:

- Lead Agency
- Sustainability (Creative Strategies for Funding)
- Blending administrative resources among collaborators

# Collaboration is Key...



“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much,”  
Helen Keller

# Diffusion of the HYHIL Model

- × **5 Core Elements are adaptable**
- × **Technical Assistance**
  - × Collaboration drives Innovation
- × **Social Impact**
  - × Vulnerable Groups
  - × Business success based on collaboration -

*“...Coordinate efforts across public health and health care system is beyond disease siloes.” Julie Scofield, Executive Director, NASTAD*

# Process of Diffusion

## **Local Dissemination:**

- Ryan White Care Act- Parts A, B, D & Planning Consortium

## **Connecticut Dissemination:**

- CT HIV/AIDS Identification & Referral Task Force
- New England HIV Implementation Science Network 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Symposium

## **National Reach:**

- The White House's Office of National AIDS Policy - **National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day**

## **International Reach :**

- XIV International AIDS Conference, Barcelona, Spain 2002
- International Association for Social Workers in Group Symposium 2015
- OMICS 3<sup>rd</sup> International HIV, STD, STI Conference

# Challenges and Success

## Challenges:

Coordination –Lead Agency

Getting Buy-in from stakeholders

Overcoming Territorial

Ahead of our time

Advocacy

Sustainability

## Successes:

Pooling Resources

Effective Advocacy

**Effective: Reached over 40,000 youth**

Shared Best Practices

Evidence Informed Approach of Prevention

# Purpose of the Consortia:

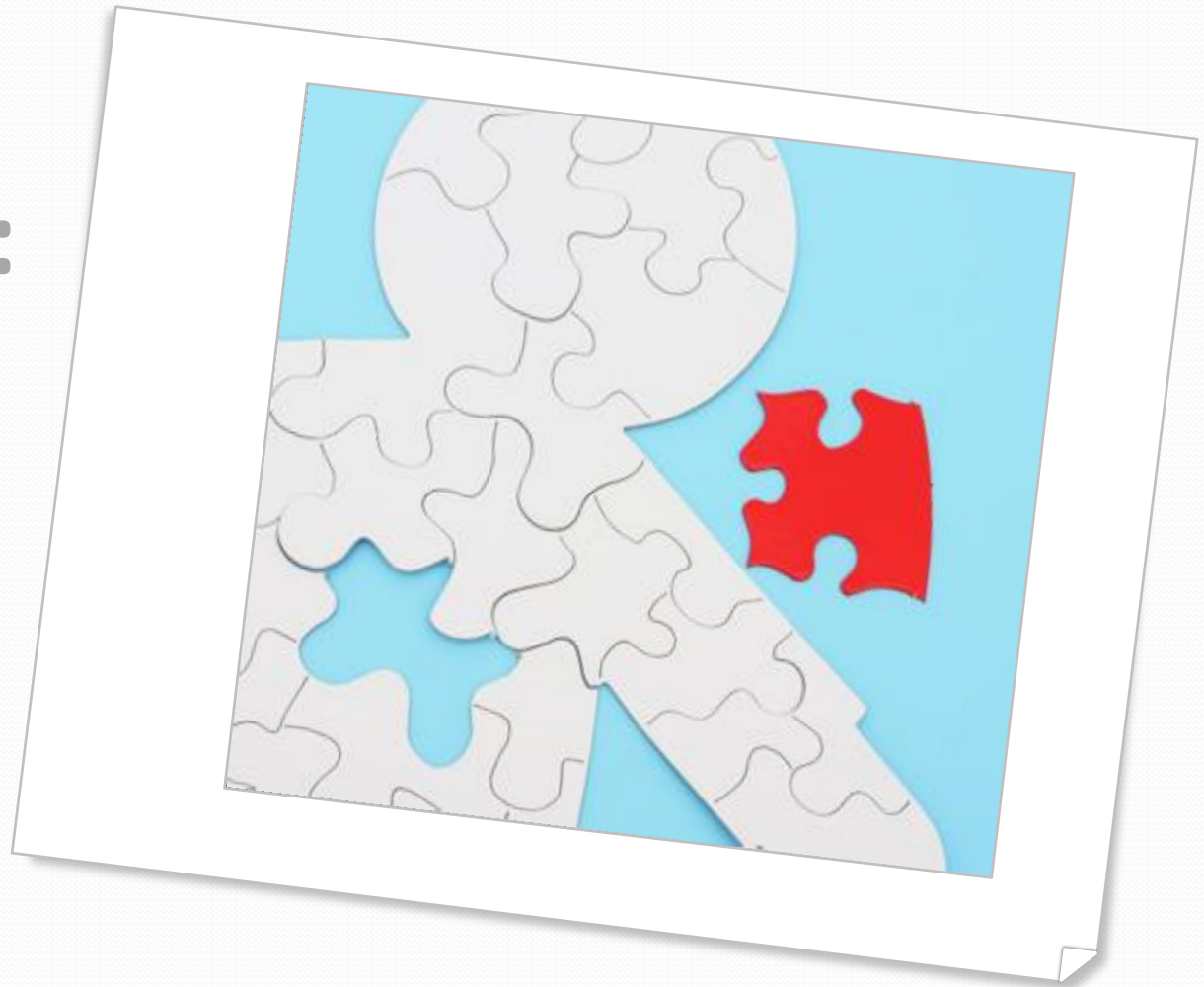
Go beyond AIDS to  
prevent AIDS

Collaboration

- × Pooling of  
Resources

Social Impact

- Getting to Zero  
AIDS Free  
Generation





# Resources

- × <http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content/SMA14-4884/SMA14-4884.pdf>
- × [www.Womenshealth.gov](http://www.Womenshealth.gov)
- × [www.WomensLaw.org](http://www.WomensLaw.org)
- × [www.hhs.gov/ash/oah](http://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah)
- × [www.plannedparenthood.org](http://www.plannedparenthood.org)
- × [www.NASTAD.org](http://www.NASTAD.org)
- × [www.Hartford.gov](http://www.Hartford.gov)
- × [\*\*National Resource Center on Domestic Violence\*\*](#)
  - × [www.nrcdv.org](http://www.nrcdv.org)



**Thank you!**

**Gracias!**

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