

THE RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM

PROGRAM FACT SHEETS: JANUARY 2013

PART F: AIDS EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTERS PROGRAM

The AIDS Education and Training Centers (AETC) Program of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program supports a network of 11 regional centers (and more than 130 local affiliated sites) that conduct targeted, multidisciplinary education and training programs for health-care providers treating people with HIV/AIDS. AETCs serve all 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and the six U.S. Pacific jurisdictions. The AETC Program increases the number of health-care providers who are educated and motivated to counsel, diagnose, treat, and medically manage people with HIV disease and to help prevent high-risk behaviors that lead to HIV transmission.

PROVIDER TRAINING

Training focuses on providers who serve minority populations, the homeless, rural communities, incarcerated persons, and sites funded under other components of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program. AETCs focus on training primary health-care clinicians (i.e., physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, dentists, and pharmacists); training activities are based on assessed local needs. Trainings emphasize interactive, hands-on training and clinical consultation to assist providers with complex issues related to the management of highly active antiretroviral therapy.

AETCs collaborate with other Ryan White-funded organizations, community-based HIV/AIDS organizations, other U.S. Department of Health and Human Services-funded training centers, health departments, and medical and health professional organizations.

NATIONAL CENTERS

Several national, crosscutting components of the AETC Program support and complement the regional training centers:

THE RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM WORKS WITH CITIES, STATES, AND LOCAL COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO AN ESTIMATED 529,000 PEOPLE EACH YEAR WHO DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT HEALTH-CARE COVERAGE OR FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO COPE WITH HIV DISEASE. THE MAJORITY OF RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM FUNDS SUPPORT PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE AND ESSENTIAL SUPPORT SERVICES. A SMALLER BUT EQUALLY CRITICAL PORTION IS USED TO FUND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, CLINICAL TRAINING, AND RESEARCH ON INNOVATIVE MODELS OF CARE. THE RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM, FIRST AUTHORIZED IN 1990, IS CURRENTLY FUNDED AT \$2.35 BILLION.

 **The AETC National Resource Center** (www.aidsetc.org) is a Web-based HIV/AIDS educational resource that supports the needs of regional AETCs through coordination and development of HIV/AIDS training materials and curricula, rapid dissemination of late-breaking advances in treatment and changes to treatment guidelines, and critical review of patient education materials.

 **The AETC National Evaluation Center** (aetnec.ucsf.edu) provides leadership in the development, design, testing, and dissemination of effective evaluation models for AETC training across the United States. The Center works with AETC clinical education and training programs to assess the impact of training activities on provider behavior and clinical practice, including changes in knowledge, skills, clinical practice behavior, and improved patient outcomes.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Health Resources and Services Administration, HIV/AIDS Bureau
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 7-05, Rockville, MD 20857
Tel.: 301.443.1993 Web: hab.hrsa.gov

❖ **The AETC National HIV/AIDS Clinicians' Consultation Center** (www.nccc.ucsf.edu) gives health-care providers the following resources for timely and accurate responses to clinicians' questions about treatment:

- National HIV Telephone Consultation Service (Warm-line): 800-933-3413, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–8 p.m. E.S.T., for questions about HIV/AIDS, including antiretroviral therapy, HIV clinical manifestations, comorbidities, laboratory evaluation, etc.
- National Clinicians' Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Hotline (PEPline): 888-HIV-4911 (888-448-4911), for questions about occupational exposures (e.g., needle sticks, splashes) to HIV and other bloodborne pathogens. The PEPline is available daily 9 a.m.–2 a.m. E.S.T.
- National Perinatal HIV Consultation and Referral Services (Perinatal Hotline): 888-HIV-8765 (888-448-8765), for questions about the care of HIV-infected pregnant women, as well as indications and interpretations of rapid and standard HIV tests. The Perinatal HIV Hotline is available daily 24/7.

❖ **The AETC National Multicultural Center** serves as the national resource for training clinicians and providers in multicultural HIV/AIDS care. The Center develops and refines curricula and tools to improve the effectiveness of clinicians and organizations providing care to HIV patients from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds. It also provides cultural awareness and competency training and technical assistance to clinicians and other health-care professionals who treat people living with HIV/AIDS.

❖ **The AETC National Center for HIV Care in Minority Communities project** improves, develops, and enhances the organizational capacity of Community Health Centers that are not Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program grantees to provide primary medical care and treatment to racial and ethnic minorities living with or affected by HIV/AIDS.

❖ **The AETC Telehealth Training Centers Program (TTCP)** expands access to and improves health-care and health outcomes through telehealth technology for hard-to-reach HIV-positive persons in medical care residing in historically underserved communities. The efforts of the TTCP enhance the capacity of health-care providers engaged in HIV/AIDS health-care delivery systems within a region or State through utilization of telehealth technology for:

- Clinical consultation, which may include the use of case presentations and patient comanagement;
- Other education and training modalities that result in a continuum of longitudinal learning opportunities for trainees; and
- Development of an informed support system for trainees.

❖ **The AETC Expanding HIV Training into Graduate Medical Education program** supports developmental work to expand existing accredited primary care residency programs to include an HIV focus, and community-based ambulatory patient care centers to expand training opportunities for medical residents in HIV/AIDS care and treatment.

QUICK FACTS

- ❖ During the 2010–2011 grant year, AETCs conducted more than 15,887 trainings. Attendance totaled 133,061 participants.
- ❖ Clinicians trained by AETCs have been shown to be more competent with regard to HIV/AIDS issues and more willing than other primary care providers to treat people living with HIV disease.
- ❖ The FY 2012 appropriation for the AETC program was \$34.6 million.