

ANNUAL REPORT

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA
HIV PREVENTION ACTIVITIES
AUGUST 1, 2015 – AUGUST 1, 2016**

Northern Virginia HIV Consortium

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PREFACE

What follows is the report on HIV Prevention Activities for Northern VA EMA, covering the August 1, 2015 to August 1, 2016 timeframe. Many people, agencies and partners have contributed to this document and the prevention work.

The prevention activities are reported in categories recommended in the six key areas outlined in the Northern VA HIV Regional Prevention Plan. I suggest you not focus on whether an activity is listed in the proper prevention key area category, as some prevention methods could fit in a few or different recommended categories. What is important is that the activities took place and were identified and reported.

Link to the Northern VA HIV Regional Prevention Plan:

<http://www.novaregion.org/DocumentCenter/View/10899>.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to both the massive HIV Prevention work and compilation of this document.

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Expanded HIV Testing		
Type	Agency	Notes
Outreach Testing	Inova/GMHC, ARE, FAHASS, and NOVASalud	Agencies provide HIV testing to individuals and communities with high HIV risk/prevalence. Testing accomplished both within and external to their facilities.
“In-reach” Testing	Health Departments, Walgreens	On-site HIV testing both/either on a walk-in or appointment basis. Available 5 days a week and anonymous at one site in Fairfax County. Alexandria Health Department initiated 4 th generation rapid testing.
Inmate testing	Inova/CHARLI	Provide rapid HIV testing to inmates at regional jails in Northern Virginia.
Emergency Department Testing	Inova	Provide rapid and conventional HIV tests at three Northern Virginia Hospital emergency departments.
Rainbow Tuesday	Alexandria Health Department, Inova/GMHC, NOVASalud	See Collaboration section.
HIV Testing roster	ARE, Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William Health Departments, FAHASS, Inova Juniper, NOVASalud and select Walgreens Pharmacies	Roster created and updated regularly containing sites for HIV and STD testing opportunities in Northern VA EMA. Widely distributed at many outreach events. Product of the Prevention & Education Committee of the NVHC.

Reduce Stigma		
Type	Agency	Notes
Inmate Education	Fairfax County Health Department, Inova/CHARLI	Agencies provide HIV/STD/hepatitis education to inmates pre-release.
Faith-based outreach	NVCCPHA	11/7/15 Hoops in Virginia. 12/6/15 Shiloh Baptist WAD. 12/12/15 Shiloh Baptist Youth Conference. Pastor’s sermon included HIV statistics aimed at ending stigma, especially within the church, spreading the message of love. Poetry reading. HIV experts present to answer any questions after service, informational table included. Real Talk event during Bible Study. See notes & acronyms. Participated in National Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS.
Faith-Based Outreach	Alexandria Health Department Alexandria Commission on HIV/AIDS	2/6/16 National Black HIV/AIDS Day Symposium in Alexandria.
Outreach Event	Alexandria Health Department Alexandria Commission on HIV/AIDS	11/30/15 Movie viewing & discussion of “25 to Life” in recognition of World AIDS Day.
Outreach Event	Alexandria Health Department Alexandria Commission on HIV/AIDS	6/27/16 Spoken Word/Poetry Event in recognition of National HIV Testing Day at Alley Cat in Alexandria.
Health Fair	Alexandria Health Department	7/10/16 display & Presentation at Kingdom Fellowship Church in Alexandria VA.
Online outreach	FAHASS, Inova/GMHC, NOVASalud, Fairfax County Health Department	Agencies maintain social media pages and conduct online outreach conversations to engage individuals in prevention.

Outreach Events	Inova/GMHC, NOVASalud	Agencies develop, market, and deliver educational and social events to engage at-risk individuals and communities. E.g. International Stigma Conference, It Takes a Village, Interview with Voice of America, PrEP updates, Game Nights, Open Mics, Picnics, etc.
Face-to-Face	NOVASalud	Educators and HIV-positive speakers present to high school students in Arlington regarding HIV.
Who Can You Tell? International Conference on Stigma	Howard University Hospital, Fairfax Health Dept. NVCCPHA and NOVASalud	11/20/2015: Presentations on stigma and stigma reduction, smaller breakout session on various approaches to reduce stigma.
Information Table	NVCCPHA	8/17/15 to 8/20/2015: Clergy Council display at NVBA Annual Session at their center in Gainesville, VA. Pastors and lay leaders in the Northern VA Baptist Assn attended.
Information Table	Neighborhood Health	9/26/15: Cora Kelly Recreation Center health fair; audience mostly residents of Alexandria. 10/09/2015: Feria de la Familia in Falls Church social gathering; audience mostly residents of Falls Church.

Access to Care and Medications		
Type	Agency	Notes
Community Health Workers	Inova, IPHI	CHWs provide case management and referral support for individuals living with HIV.
ADAP	Local health departments, Inova Juniper	Coordinate ADAP applications with VDH, involving local health departments and providers. Pharmacies in both Alexandria and Fairfax County Health Departments facilitate obtaining medications.
Medical Case Mangers and Non-Medical Case Managers	Neighborhood Health	Medical Case Managers and Non-Medical Case Managers actively facilitate entrance and retention into the continuum of care by persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Prevention Interventions		
Type	Agency	Notes
PrEP	Inova	Education, medications and care are provided to individuals at-risk for HIV, both insured and uninsured.
Condom Distribution	Alexandria and Fairfax County Health Departments, Inova, NOVASalud	Condoms are provided to individuals in need of HIV prevention as well at locations frequented by at-risk individuals.
Mpowerment	Inova/GMHC	CDC Intervention targeted to young MSM of color. See notes and acronyms.
RISE	Inova/GMHC, NovaSalud	Behavioral intervention, weekend retreats targeting MSM of color. See notes and acronyms.
Willow	Inova	4-session intervention for HIV-positive women to enhance their negotiation skills and self-empowerment. See Notes and Acronyms.
TSISTA	NOVASalud	See Notes and Acronyms.

CLEAR	Inova/CHARLI, NOVASalud	Individual Cognitive Behavioral Therapy intervention for health promotion with HIV-positive individuals. See notes and acronyms.
Personalized Cognitive Counseling	Inova, NOVASalud	Single-session counseling designed to reduce high-risk behaviors among MSM repeat HIV testers. See Notes and Acronyms.
World AIDS Day event	NVCC, Fairfax County Health Department, NOVASalud, GMHC	Informational table with condom distribution, testing at college campus.
MSM Provider Conference	NOVASalud	MSM provider conference held in Arlington.

Support Collaboration Among Providers		
Type	Agency	Notes
NoVAPride	Alexandria and Fairfax County Health Departments, Inova/GMHC, NOVASalud	10/3/2015: Outdoor event with large outreach, various booths associated with political reps, churches, LGBT focus including bands, entertainment and food trucks. Agencies partnered to market HIV and prevention services in Northern Virginia, provide education, conduct HIV syphilis, GC/CT testing and distribute condoms.
Hoops In Virginia	Alexandria and Fairfax County Health Departments, NVCCPHA	11/7/2015: 3-on-3 basketball tournament with HIV prevention message.
Rainbow Tuesday	Alexandria Health Department, Inova/GMHC, NOVASalud	Weekly clinic that provides HIV and STD testing, STD treatment, immunizations, counseling, referrals, condoms, and education to gay, bisexual, and same gender loving men and persons of trans experience. Welcoming, safe, and confidential. Originally held two Tuesday evenings a month, now every Tuesday.

Advocacy		
Name/Type	Agency	Notes
Fundraisers	Inova, NOVASalud	8/16/15 NovaSalud Fundraiser 10/24/15 AIDS Walk
Proclamation for World AIDS Day	Fairfax County, Inova, NVCCPHA	11/17/2015: Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting. Pastors were present for the reading of the Proclamation by NVCCPHA representative, pastor representing the NVCCPHA addressed the Board.
World AIDS Day	Arlington Health Department	Breakfast with speakers on the topic of HIV. Collaborated with NOVASalud to speak about their outreach to 10 th graders in Arlington schools via their Face-to-Face program. Included a panel focusing on transgender issues and resources.
Capital Pride	Inova/GMHC, NOVASalud	6/13/15: Saturday event - agencies participate in parade including condom distribution. 6/14/15: Sunday event - agencies display resources in Northern Virginia for those living with or at-risk for HIV.

NOTES & ACRONYMS

ARE: AIDS Response Effort, Inc. (ARE) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that provides crucial healthcare information and compassionate care for those impacted by HIV/AIDS, homelessness, and human service needs in the Northern Shenandoah Valley Region.

CLEAR: Choosing Life! Empowerment! Action! Results! Is an evidence-based, health promotion intervention for males and females ages 16 and older living with HIV/AIDS. **CLEAR** is a client-centered program delivered one-on-one using cognitive behavioral techniques to change behavior.

CSB: Community Services Board. In this usage, specifically refers to Fairfax County's CSB Merrifield location.

EMA: Eligible Metropolitan Area. Boundaries determined by the Census Bureau. The geographic area eligible to receive Part A CARE Act funds.

FAHASS: FAHASS is a private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to positively impact individual and community health by providing integrated wellness, prevention, and health navigation services. Serving the City of Fredericksburg and the Counties of Caroline, Culpeper, Fauquier, King George, Madison, Orange, Prince William, Rappahannock, Spotsylvania, Stafford and Westmoreland.

GMHC: Gay Men's Health Collaborative. Creates a safe, open space for the social, mental and sexual health of gay, bisexual and transgendered persons in Northern Virginia.

IJP: Inova Juniper Program is the largest provider of HIV/AIDS care in Northern Virginia. Main office is in Fairfax, VA. There are 6 other sites in Northern VA.

IPHI: Institute for Public Health Innovation. IPHI works toward community health improvement aiming to bring about better health and well-being for all people and communities throughout Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia

NVCCPHA: Northern Virginia Clergy Council for the Prevention of HIV/AIDS. Faith-based initiative for HIV prevention.

NVBA: Northern Virginia Baptist Association. Churches belonging to the Northern VA Baptist Association.

NVRC: Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) is a regional council of fourteen member local governments in the Northern Virginia suburbs of Washington DC. According to Virginia's Regional Cooperation Act, NVRC is a political subdivision (a government agency) within the Commonwealth.

PCC: Personalized Cognitive Counseling. Is a single session counseling intervention designed to reduce high-risk behaviors among men who have sex with men who are repeat testers for HIV.

Real Tea/Real Talk: series for African-American Gay and Bisexual Men Created to help support the recruitment efforts of the Social Networking Program to recruit AA Gay and Bisexual Men for HIV testing. Provides conversation and lunch, free HIV/STD screening and linkage to care as needed.

RISE: Rewriting Inner Scripts Everyday. Developed in Maryland, using a weekend retreat format, this activity targets black MSMs, helping them explore and make good decisions for HIV prevention and everyday wellness. RISE is an HIV prevention behavioral intervention supported by CDC and VDH.

Stigma Reduction Campaign: is a client group setting. There is a short talk, safer sex kit is distributed, including condoms, lube and instructions. Client education literature distributed. This campaign typically takes place at health fairs.

T-SISTA: Modeled after the SISTA Program, which is deemed by CDC as an Effective Intervention for HIV prevention. T-SISTA is for Trans women of color. Encouraging use of condoms. Five peer-led group sessions are conducted. Sessions focus on ethnic and gender pride, HIV knowledge and skills training around sexual risk reduction behaviors and decision making.

VDH: Virginia Department of Health.

WILLOW: Deemed an effective intervention by CDC, Women Involved in Life Learning from Other Women - is a social-skills building and educational intervention for adult women living with HIV. It consists of 4 four-hour sessions which are delivered by two trained adult female facilitators, one of whom is a woman living with HIV.