

Moving Towards a Stigma Free Louisiana, A Holistic Approach to Addressing Layered Stigma and Discrimination to Enhance Access to HIV/STI Services in the Southern United States

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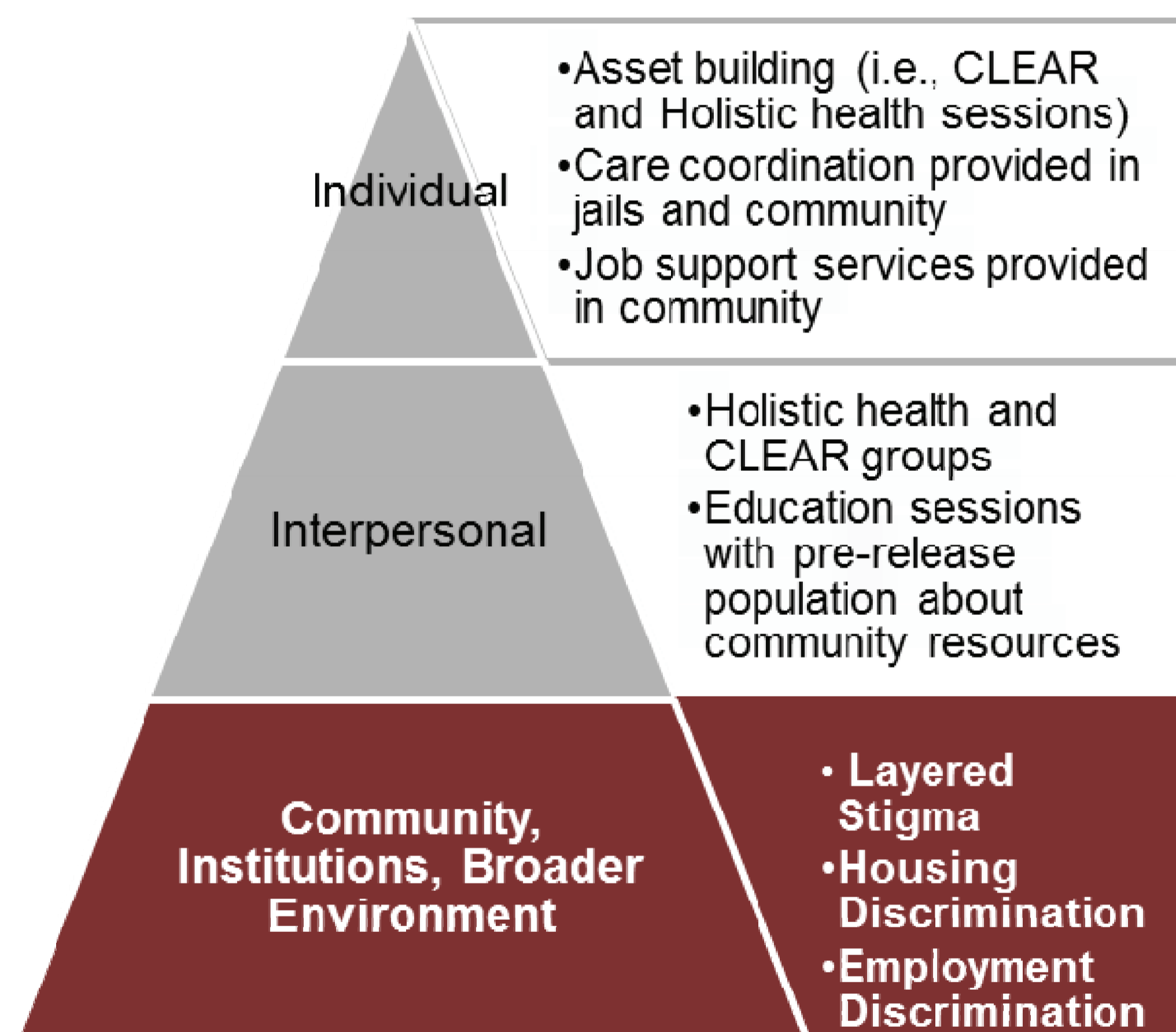
KEY ISSUE

How do we address the layered stigma associated with HIV status, race, sexual orientation, social economic status, and incarceration history in order to enhance access to HIV/STI services?

BACKGROUND

- Create the Louisiana Integrated Centers for Care, Supportive Services, and Community Health (LA ICCSSCH) in New Orleans and Baton Rouge
- Enhance access to HIV/STI care and supportive services
- Strengthen collaboration and coordination among the 13 integrated center partners
- Document the impact of stigma and discrimination among people living with HIV infection
- Address the social and economic determinants of health (e.g., layered stigma, income disparities, housing, and employment discrimination)
- Focus on young Black men including young Black men who have sex with men (YBMSM) living with and at risk for HIV infection
- Funded from 2014-2017

HOLISTIC HEALTH MODEL



LOUISIANA INTEGRATED CENTER PARTNERS & ROLES

- Louisiana Public Health Institute, (lead agency)
- Louisiana Office of Public Health, STD/HIV Program (data collection)
- NO/AIDS Taskforce d/b/a Crescent Care (pre/post release case management and social services support)
- Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center (identifying and responding to housing discrimination)
- New Orleans Regional AIDS Planning Council (community advisory board [CAB])
- Priority Health Care (job supportive services)
- Capitol Area Reentry Program (health navigation, job supportive services, and asset building)
- Southern University (HBCU engagement)
- HIV/AIDS Alliance for Region 2 (CLEAR and CAB)
- Caring Clinic (HIV medical care)
- AIDSLaw (creating inclusive work environments and responding to employment discrimination)
- Odyssey House Louisiana (provide behavioral health services)
- Frontline Legal Services (conduct jail/prison pre-release education about community resources)

LAYERED STIGMA & CLINICAL OUTCOMES

- Increased % of young Black men living with HIV infection who are linked to HIV care, retained in HIV care, and achieve viral suppression
- Increased referrals for STI and supportive services
- Increased % of young Black men that receive job supportive services and/or are employed
- Increased % of young Black men who are stably housed
- Increased % of young Black men who report one or more assets (individual and community)
- Increased number of large employers with inclusive policies
- Increased number of HBCUs conducting HIV/STI awareness and stigma reduction efforts
- Increased number of young Black men who are aware of their housing rights and access fair housing services

LAYERED STIGMA APPROACHES

Reduce Employment Discrimination and Income Disparities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct trainings with large employers on creating a safe and inclusive environment for all • Job coordinators build relationships with employers and link young Black men to skills building and educational opportunities
HIV Stigma Reduction	<p>HIV Stigma Index</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-based research, action, and empowerment project • Document impact of stigma and discrimination experienced by PLWH in New Orleans and Baton Rouge • Peers conduct interviews with 300 PLWH • Led by PLWH • Link PLWH to HIV care and supportive services <p>Engage HBCUs in HIV/STI Efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund pilot projects on HBCU campuses <p>Care Coordination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide case management and health navigation services for formerly incarcerated young Black men living with and at risk for HIV infection
Reduce Housing Discrimination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct mystery shopping in New Orleans and Baton Rouge with housing providers • Conduct communications campaign on the signs of housing discrimination and where to go for help
Build Statewide Support for Stigma Reduction Efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted second statewide stigma summit in February 2016 with 150 attendees from various sectors
Creating safe spaces for YBMSM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Out of the box" holistic health groups

SUMMARY/CONCLUSION

- Job coordinators have built relationships with employers and job training programs
- Important to include non-traditional integrated center partners such as attorneys, civil rights organizations, and HBCUs
- Built research and leadership capacity of PLWH in both New Orleans and Baton Rouge via CAB and HIV Stigma Index Project
- 235 of 300 interviews have been completed for the HIV Stigma Index Project
- Mystery shopping with housing providers will be completed by August 2016
- Housing communications campaign will be launched in January 2017
- HBCU pilot projects will be funded in the fall of 2016
- Employment discrimination trainings have been conducted with 2 large employers
- Other Louisiana cities have expressed interest in conducting the HIV Stigma Index Project
- Submitted funding proposals to create a permanent safe space for YBMSM, to integrate PrEP education and navigation, and expand the housing communications campaign in Baton Rouge