

Reports To: Community Health Programs Manager
Effective Start Date: January 2nd, 2024
Job Title: PrEP Counselor

Position Summary: Through in person and web outreach, the PrEP Counselor engages individuals living and/or working within Jersey City and surrounding areas who are at high risk for acquiring HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STI) in order to first assess their HIV or HIV-risk status and then assist them in accessing the necessary health and social services appropriate to their status. For those identified as HIV-negative or who are of unknown HIV status, such services would include HIV prevention education and materials, linkage to HIV/STI testing and linkage to PrEP counseling services to support their efforts to remain HIV-negative. For those newly learning they have an HIV positive status, they will be linked to HIV medical care and social support services to help them attain and sustain both physical and emotional health. The PrEP Counselor is primarily responsible for working with individuals who belong to specifically assigned target group(s): Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) and Transgender Women; but may be asked to assist with outreach or counseling to secondarily assigned groups as needs and opportunities arise. This staff member is also responsible for delivering education on PrEP to both community groups, client support groups and with tracking and managing client data and with submitting reports to grant funders.

Key Responsibilities

- Accurately collect, record and update all client data necessary for intake and referral to care process;
- Conduct community outreach and PrEP community education activities among organizations, medical facilities, and local entities who work directly with our PrEP-eligible target populations as deemed appropriate
- Assess outreach-screened clients' suitability for PrEP initiation via provision of single EBI "Personalized Cognitive Counseling" (PCC) session
- Link appropriate clients to PrEP or other staff for HIV medical provider for medical evaluation
- Develop initial client PrEP adherence care plan, updating quarterly
- Deliver 20-40 min individual PrEP Adherence counseling sessions to clients medically approved for PrEP at either HPC or at the medical provider site
- Identify and address client challenges as it pertains to PrEP medication access
- Advocate on behalf of client's needs
- Maintain monthly communication with PrEP medical provider or clinic staff to discuss and address on-going adherence and/or other social service needs
- Maintain charting about client progress toward achieving care plan goals



- Assist the Community Health Programs Manager and other HPC Health-related Programs with planning community based events to increase client engagement and participation
- Assist with program quality management activities, including data collection, chart maintenance and timely provision of data to Community Health Programs Manager for monthly and quarterly reporting
- Network with community stakeholders, leaders and other service providers in order to create more cohesive services for persons on PrEP and persons living with HIV/AIDS;
- Attend weekly team planning meetings held by the Community Health Programs Manager to create outreach schedules (sites/calendars) that target areas that are frequented by persons within the assigned target groups who are at high risk for acquiring HIV, STI's and persons living with HIV/AIDS throughout Hudson County
- Work collaboratively with Hudson Pride Center's EHE & MAI Program staff members as part of the continuum of care service system
- Attend all HPC meetings, state quarterly meetings, committees, and development opportunities
- All other duties as assigned by the Community Health Programs Manager

Skills:

- Knowledge of HIV disease
- Advocacy and leadership skills
- Knowledge of bio-psycho-social risk factors for HIV infection impacting Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) and Transgender Women
- Able to travel for outreach activities, events, or trainings
- Ability to explain the goal of PrEP and importance of adherence.
- Ability to explain the research that has demonstrated the effectiveness of PrEP and all the client behavioral factors associated with both the highest rates and reduced rates of PrEP effectiveness.
- Ability to communicate with others empathetically and non-judgmentally.
- Ability to effectively communicate both orally and in writing with persons of multiple, diverse backgrounds.
- Ability to assess and address clients' knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and intentions, and readiness to initiate PrEP.
- Exceptional attention to detail and organizational skills.
- Functional knowledge of Microsoft & Google drive software, Salesforce software, databases, spreadsheets, smartphones/Apps, internet searches, social media, etc.).

Qualifications:

Preferred to have earned or entering final semester for Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Counseling, Psychology, or a related field, minimum of six-months of internship or professional experience specifically targeted to working with Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM) and/or Transgender Female communities and minimum of one years' experience as an HIV tester/counselor. Must be Bilingual (English / Spanish) – 100% fluent in both verbal and written forms.

Hours: This is a full time in-person position. The work hours will vary based on HPC and clients' needs. General weekday, night and weekend availability is needed

Location: Hudson County, and surrounding areas

HOW TO APPLY: Please send your resume and cover letter to Elvis Guiracochoa at elvis@hudsonpride.org

Hudson Pride Center is an equal opportunity employer and an inclusive organization. People of color, women, and LGBTQ+ people are strongly encouraged to apply.