



HIVandMe

GETTING TO ZERO

A Collaborative Plan
to End HIV in Utah

GETTING TO ZERO

A multi-agency, multi-year effort, Getting to Zero is **a collaborative initiative that aims to reduce new HIV infections and HIV-related stigma**, with the ultimate goal of **zero HIV-related deaths in Utah**.

Getting to Zero will focus on four key domains: **Test, Treat, Prevent, and Respond**. With focused **goals, strategies, and actions** in these areas, we can address the **immediate and systemic factors affecting communities and individuals** disproportionately impacted by HIV.



TEST



TREAT



PREVENT



RESPOND



TEST

Ending HIV infections and deaths in Utah starts with more people getting tested and knowing their status.

LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

By end of year 2025

- 30% of Utahns know their HIV status
- 90% of people living with HIV have received a diagnosis



STRATEGY

Technology

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

ACTIONS

➤ Implement one new technology that will aid in increased HIV testing

➤ Conduct needs assessment to identify technology gaps & opportunities

➤ Explore solutions for partner notifications, testing reminders, & contact tracing

➤ Implement technology to aid in increased HIV testing



STRATEGY

Provider Capacity

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

ACTIONS

- Increase the number of providers reached by educational activities.
- Disseminate HIV screening guidelines to health care providers statewide
- The AIDS Education Training Center (AETC) & Utah Department of Health (UDOH) present at annual UMA conference
- The AETC/UDOH present on HIV screening guidelines at grand rounds of major medical systems
- The AETC provides public health detailing consultations to increase testing among targeted providers
- Increase provider knowledge of the AETC resources and services



STRATEGY

Provider Capacity

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2023

ACTIONS

➤ Enact two systematic changes to promote HIV testing

➤ The UDOH will meet with healthcare systems to discuss electronic medical record (EMR) prompts for HIV testing

➤ Increase the number of healthcare systems utilizing EMR HIV testing prompts

➤ The UDOH will meet with Medicaid to discuss promotional strategies for HIV screening

➤ Engage three new healthcare systems or clinics to discuss building capacity around integrated HIV/STD/Hepatitis C testing



STRATEGY

Testing Access

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

ACTIONS

➤ Increase HIV screening among priority populations

➤ The Utah AIDS Foundation (UAF) will increase the number of HIV tests they administer throughout the state

➤ Syringe Service Programs (SSPs) will provide HIV and HCV testing or referrals to all participants

➤ The UAF will implement home testing for HIV to increase availability of HIV tests



STRATEGY

Testing Access

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

ACTIONS

- Promote one non-traditional HIV testing mechanism
- Convene workgroup to identify innovative testing approaches
- Workgroup supports adoption or expansion of an innovative testing approach for HIV



TREAT

Ensuring people living with HIV have access to the care they need will prevent new infections and reduce HIV-related deaths.

LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

By end of year 2025

- > 95% of people living with HIV are in care and on antiretrovirals (ARV)
- > 90% of people living with HIV are virally suppressed



STRATEGY

Engagement to Care

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2023

ACTIONS

- 90% of people with diagnosed HIV are linked to care within 30 days
- Local health departments (LHDs) will provide linkage to care services for all new HIV diagnoses
- The UDOH and Clinic 1A will train peer navigators in holistic case management, and work with all groups vulnerable to HIV, including commercial and situational sex workers, trans individuals, women, and people who use drugs (PWUD)
- Ensure a peer navigator is available in all jurisdictions to assist in linking people to care
- Case management will be accessible to all Utahns through the Ryan White Part B Program and its contracted agencies



STRATEGY

Engagement to Care

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2024

- > 90% of people living with HIV are prescribed appropriate ARVs

ACTIONS

- > The AETC will educate providers on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) guidelines for HIV care
- > Implement rule requiring all ARV prescriptions be reported to the UDOH
- > The UDOH will examine prescription reports to ensure ARV regimens meet DHHS guidelines



STRATEGY

Core Medical & Support Services

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2023

- 95% of people enrolled in the Ryan White Program utilize services within each calendar year

ACTIONS

- The UDOH will assess education & enrollment needs to guide staff who assist people living with HIV
- The UDOH will convene focus groups to better understand challenges associated with educating and enrolling clients in appropriate services
- Peer navigators will be identified and receive appropriate training to work with HIV clients
- The UDOH will identify non-utilizing clients and refer them for peer navigation services
- Utah's major healthcare systems will include evaluation for Ryan White eligibility as an EMR prompt for people living with HIV.
- The UDOH will support systems and services to ensure people living with HIV can access medication and medical care



STRATEGY

Core Medical & Support Services

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By mid-year 2023

- Medical care and support services will be available via technology, or within 50 miles of all Utah cities.

ACTIONS

- The AETC will provide outreach education on engagement and retention for two providers identified as potential HIV service providers
- The UDOH will facilitate an in-service on best practices for engagement & re-engagement to core medical and support services
- The UDOH and the AETC will partner with at least three new healthcare systems or clinics to explore and implement new care models such as telemedicine



STRATEGY

Core Medical & Support Services

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2023

- 80% of all Utahns living with HIV (and 95% of Utahns enrolled in Ryan White Part B) are virally suppressed

ACTIONS

- The UAF and other Community-Based Organizations (CBO) will implement advocacy and education efforts surrounding policies that inhibit retention and engagement to care
- Clinicians, UT AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), and community partners will develop and implement adherence strategies
- The UDOH staff will coordinate with regulators to ensure proper lab reporting and utilize quality improvement strategies where necessary
- Conduct interdisciplinary case review of Ryan White Part B clients with viral load <200 copies, to identify barriers and establish treatment adherence plans



STRATEGY

Early ARV Initiation

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By mid-year 2022

- Existing HIV providers will be able to initiate ARVs at diagnosis

ACTIONS

- The Prevention, Treatment, and Care provider workgroup will develop clinical protocols for day-of-diagnosis appointments
- The AETC will increase educational efforts to inform providers of early ARV initiation resources
- Utah ADAP will determine eligibility during medical visits occurring within business hours



STRATEGY

Early ARV Initiation

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2024

- > 95% of people newly diagnosed with HIV will start ARVs the same day

ACTIONS

- > The AETC will educate providers on DHHS guidelines for HIV care
- > The AETC will identify and build capacity of new providers for people living with HIV



STRATEGY

Early ARV Initiation

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2025

ACTIONS

> Testing sites will be able to initiate ARVs at diagnosis

> The Prevention, Treatment, and Care provider workgroup will develop same-day ARV initiation protocols for Utah, including standing orders



PREVENT

By increasing access to PrEP, nPEP, and other resources, we can prevent many new HIV infections from ever occurring.

LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

By end of year 2025

- Increase the number of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) users in Utah by 50%.
- Increase the availability of data-driven sexual health and harm reduction programming

STRATEGY

PrEP Access

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2023

- Increase funding mechanisms that support PrEP

ACTIONS

- Identify two potential funding sources for the Free PrEP Clinic to add PrEP delivery and telePrEP
- The UDOH will explore how 340B could generate revenue for PrEP services

STRATEGY

PrEP Access

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

- Increase access to PrEP education

ACTIONS

- Add additional PrEP resources and provider locator to HIVandMe.com
- Add PrEP educational component to the UDOH activities, training, and resources
- PrEP subcommittee consisting of the the UDOH staff and community members will meet every other month
- The UDOH and PrEP subcommittee will expand representation in PrEP educational materials

STRATEGY

nPEP Access

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

- Increase non-occupational post-exposure prophylaxis (nPEP) resources and education statewide

ACTIONS

- Gather statewide resources for nPEP
- The UDOH will identify nPEP providers and other nPEP access points throughout Utah
- The UDOH and the AETC will provide nPEP education and resources to PrEP providers and prescribers
- The UDOH will explore alternative cost options for nPEP, including starter packs from pharmaceutical companies

STRATEGY

Provider Capacity

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2023

- Increase the number of providers prescribing PrEP

ACTIONS

- The AETC will train providers on PrEP via conference, public health detailing, and speakers bureau
- The UDOH will work with Medicaid to promote PrEP among contracted providers
- The UDOH executive leadership will release a statewide letter encouraging PrEP usage

STRATEGY

Data Utilization

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2023

- Publish a report on PrEP and nPEP utilization and usage barriers

ACTIONS

- The UDOH will establish a baseline number of PrEP users, and establish targets for increasing utilization rates
- The UDOH will examine gaps in PrEP referral and linkage data, and meet with the PrEP sub-committee to explore solutions
- Hold focus groups to better understand the barriers that prevent people from utilizing PrEP or nPEP

STRATEGY

Data Utilization

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2023

- Increase the quality and availability of sexual health data

ACTIONS

- Release a report on the state of sexual health in Utah
- The UDOH will increase data collection related to sexual orientation and gender identity
- Include sexual health questions in the Utah Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

STRATEGY

Community Engagement

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

- Increase representation of impacted communities in the Utah HIV Planning Group

ACTIONS

- Utilize Capacity Building Assistance resources to learn how best to engage people living with HIV and at-risk populations

STRATEGY

Community Engagement

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

- Develop two new sexual health initiatives

ACTIONS

- Revise statewide HIV Prevention Counseling Training to be more client focused and sex-positive
- Participate in Leadership Exchange for Adolescent Health Promotion (LEAHP) initiative to engage families and communities in sexual health promotion

STRATEGY

Community Engagement

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

- Increase harm reduction programming for people living with HIV who use drugs

ACTIONS

- Better integrate the UDOH systems by participating in the Workgroup for Integrated Substance User Health (WISH)
- Participate in Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) with JSI and NASTAD to improve care for people with HIV and Opioid Use Disorder



RESPOND

With rapid access to care and cohesive efforts to identify potential exposures, we can prevent new HIV clusters and outbreaks.

LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

By end of year 2025

- > 95% of people living with HIV are in care and on antiretrovirals (ARVs)
- > 90% of people living with HIV have received a diagnosis



STRATEGY

Disease Intervention Specialists

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

- > 90% of people diagnosed with HIV are linked to care within 30 days

ACTIONS

- > Provide linkage to care services for all people newly diagnosed with HIV
- > Conduct a quarterly cohort review of new diagnoses



STRATEGY

Disease Intervention Specialists

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

- > Increase contacts elicited from new HIV diagnoses by 10%

ACTIONS

- > Interview all people newly diagnosed with HIV
- > Provide partner notification services to people newly diagnosed with HIV



STRATEGY

Reengagement to Care

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2023

- 25% of individuals identified as not in care (NIC) will be reengaged in core medical and support services

ACTIONS

- The UDOH will batch search Lexus-Nexus to determine if people are still Utah residents
- The UDOH will generate prioritized NIC lists for investigation
- Case managers and peer navigators contact individuals and reengage in care



STRATEGY

Outbreak & Cluster Response

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

- Increase the number of contacts tested and referred for PrEP by 20%

ACTIONS

- Establish an Outbreak and Cluster Response Plan
- Create materials to be shared with providers and people living with diagnosed HIV
- Identify and respond to outbreaks and clusters



STRATEGY

Perinatal HIV Prevention

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE

By end of year 2022

- Investigate 100% of perinatal exposures in Utah

ACTIONS

- The UDOH will identify perinatal exposures through Vital Records match
- The UDOH will develop pregnancy and perinatal HIV report forms
- The UDOH will issue guidance on perinatal exposure investigation best practices

GET INVOLVED

Getting to Zero is possible—but only with the support of the community.
Here's how you can become a part of ending HIV in Utah.



RYAN WHITE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Consisting of Ryan White enrollees and their loved ones, plus caregivers and community volunteers, the CAC offers input to improve the quality of support services provided by Utah's Ryan White Part B Program. Committee members are asked to commit to monthly meetings for at least one year.

To get involved, contact Misty Thompson:
mistythompson@utah.gov or (385) 282-8440



UTAH HIV PLANNING GROUP (UHPG)

The UHPG is an open group where people affected by HIV in Utah can collaborate with service providers for people living with HIV (or at risk for HIV).. The UHPG meets quarterly, and meetings are always open to the public.

To get involved, contact Sydney Bowen:
snbowen@utah.com or (801) 538-9906



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Consider volunteering with one of these organizations, where you'll connect with other dedicated individuals working to end HIV in Utah.



Learn more about HIV in Utah at: HIVandMe.com/resources