

1. What are the strengths and weaknesses/limitations of our community that will support our success with achieving improved linkage, retention and VLS goals and Ending the Epidemic in Nassau County?

Regional Group Traits, Structure, Leadership

Strengths

Limitations

Great providers
 Understanding our communities
 Good collaboration and referrals among HIV professionals
 More centralized (i.e. than Suffolk)
 Passionate leaders
 More bilingual counselors
 Taking action
 Professionals who are fearless
 Tight knit community
 Collaborations
 History
 Strong faith communities
 Dedication of the activists
 Willingness of some patients
 Diversity

Staff turnover
 Burnout
 Time
 Documentation requirements
 Confidentiality concerns
 Language barriers
 Funding restraints
 Visibility

PLWHA and Psycho/Social Issues

Limitations

Fear/ignorance/stigma
 Uninsured/underinsured
 Patient reluctance
 Homelessness
 Provider and consumer apathy
 Homophobia/transphobia
 Youth thinking they are invincible
 Lack of cultural competency towards transgender
 Undocumented access to care
 Racial segregation
 Poverty
 Patient reluctance

Data	
<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Limitations</u>
Targeted evidence-based	Research specific to Long Island
City State Support	
<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Limitations</u>
DACs Funding for programs (more programs) Some schools want education-seek agency help	Working in Silos Transportation Immigrant population access to services Accessing support services (drug assistance, housing, mental health) Syringe exchange Lack of resources for mentally ill and substance abusers Location/geography Lack of enforced of routine testing
Regional Services, Networks and Systems	
<u>Strengths</u>	<u>Limitations</u>
Word of mouth Social media Working with uninsured Working with undocumented Peer programs Testing vans Many agencies/services with funding Specialized services HIV services prioritized New transgender center Different tests-rapid, free, anonymous, confidential Centralized programs (i.e. Hempstead) Outreach efforts Abundant resources Good access to care	Lack of clinical participation Lack of advertisement Lack of enforcement of routine testing Non HIV agencies/services engagement in efforts Trans community needs assessment and services Specialized dental care under-utilization Navigating health insurance Lack of education Not connecting with the highest need/risk population Transgender community needs assessment services Accessing supportive services (drug assistance, housing, mental health) Specialized dental care under utilization Navigating health insurance Syringe exchange

2. What opportunities can be leveraged within Nassau County to help us achieve linkage, retention and VLS goals across the region to contribute to ETE? What are the threats to our success?

<u>Opportunities</u>	<u>Threats</u>
<p>Collaborating with supportive services/agencies Bring in→ AA meetings, mental health, HIV testing through oasis Promote PrEP/PEP More visibility Action driven Funding Grants Long Island specific research/partnerships Trans center training Transportation Insurance process Create peer-led education and support Expanding PEP services to urgent care centers Peer training Expand social media and advertisements PrEP promotion More needle exchange Connection to NY Knows Improve focus on substance abuse agencies and harm reduction Increasing clinical provider participation Availability Networking Enforcement of routine testing Education (more in middle/high school New locations/more locations</p>	<p>Competition among agencies Limited and too specific funding Lack of funding for supportive services Lack of knowledge and willingness to learn Cost Time Media Title 9 funding schools education Long Island political culture (conservative) No standardized curriculum Political environment Laws to support youth getting PrEP Physical proximity to NYC Crystal meth re-emerged Positive patients that decline care, long term adherence Criminalization of sex work HIV criminalization is not in NY Losing support Decrease in volumes of patients Not finding people Protestors Lack of participation from providers Hospital politics Funding restrictions affect collaboration Lack of research/data</p>

Critical Issues

- Research
- Funding
- Education-providers and public
- Buy in from community “Doesn’t affect me”/ Long Island Culture
- Immigrant population services/access
- Non HIV agency collaboration
- Transportation
- Housing
- Changes to SSI/SSD eligibility
- Lack of jobs
- Public awareness
- Cultural competency
- Lack of understanding of heavily affected populations
- Time
- Lack of integrated system that could streamline work interagency
- Physician participation and buy-in
- Balancing quantity and quality
- Mental health stigma
- Basic needs