

The End of the NYS HIV Epidemic Is Within Our Reach EtE NYS FY25 Budget and Policy Priorities

October 2023

Community and government collaboration has yielded progress in implementing the 2015 [Ending the Epidemic \(EtE\) Blueprint](#). Our EtE efforts “bent the curve” as of 2019, yet disparities persist in HIV’s impact on Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) communities, transgender New Yorkers, and young men who have sex with men.

Additional investments and policy changes are needed to end AIDS as an epidemic in NYS. Below are five budget and legislative priorities for FY25.

Provide Equal Access to Meaningful HIV Housing Supports Across NYS PA expenditure

Every low-income New Yorker with HIV experiencing homelessness or housing instability should have access to the existing NYS public HIV rental assistance program. Housing is necessary to benefit from HIV treatments, reduce new HIV transmissions, and address persistent HIV health inequities.

Require HIV testing on an Opt-Out Basis in All Licensed Art. 28, 31, and 32 Facilities \$1M

Rates of concurrent HIV and AIDS diagnoses remain high among New Yorkers who only interact with the health system in ERs or institutional health settings. We must amend the HIV testing law to facilitate opt-out testing protocols with patient education and the opportunity to decline testing.

Advance PrEP Equity \$5M

PrEP uptake has been slow among persons of color, women and among New Yorkers over 50. While achieving equality in PrEP utilization will not alone reduce the disparity in new HIV diagnoses, resources are needed for tailored and culturally competent PrEP outreach and services to reduce disparities and disease burden ultimately to achieve health equity.

Support Older New Yorkers Living with HIV \$10M

New Yorkers over the age of 50 make up the majority of New Yorkers with HIV and are estimated to be 70% of the population by 2030 due to medical advances, the overall aging of our state, and new HIV diagnoses. NYS must act now to address the medical and social needs of long-term survivors and older New Yorkers with HIV.

Approve and Fund Overdose Prevention Centers (OPCs) \$10M

The EtE Community Coalition supports **S603/A224** (Safer Consumption Services Act) and strongly urges the Governor and Legislature to authorize and fund Overdose Prevention Centers (OPCs) co-located with Syringe Service Programs across NYS using Opioid Settlement Funds.

The **End AIDS NY Community Coalition** is a group of 90+ healthcare centers, hospitals, and community-based organizations across NYS that are committed to realizing the goals of our historic *Blueprint for Ending the Epidemic (EtE)* for all New Yorkers.

If you have questions, or to get involved with the Community Coalition’s work, please contact:
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