

Program Summary

Health Horizons of East Texas Inc., a nonprofit organization, located in Nacogdoches Texas, is making a request for an impact grant for the year of 2012. Health Horizons has provided HIV/AIDS clinical and non-clinical services to HIV positive clients in 12 counties of the Piney Wood section of East Texas since August, 1990. Recently, our Quality Management Committee observed from data collected on the female clients that only 29% of them were keeping their appointments for their annual Pap Smears. Currently there are 131 clients who are eligible for the annual Pap Smear. The Committee developed a program for 2012 that it believes will increase the number of Pap Smears for its agency that can also serve as a model for other rural AIDS Services Organization. Clients provided input on the program from a focus group that was held.

The Program will consist of a number of components including offering the Clinic in the office suite of Health Horizons prior to the regular clinic on Wednesdays as opposed to the office of a medical provider on another day of the week. Other components will consist of appointment cards and reminders, education by both the medical provider and the medical case managers, and an incentive. We believe that an additional 40% of the clients will keep their appointment in the first year. The results will be documented each month and compiled at the end of the year.

The Program will cost \$10,250 for 10 months of 2012 and we are asking the Texas Rural Communities to fund it.

Section I: Contact Information

- a. Dr. Wilbert Brown, Jr., P.O. Box 635022, Nacogdoches, Texas 75963, and e-mail address is drwilbertbrown@sbcglobal.net. *call 436-569-5836*
- b. Health Horizons of East Texas, Inc., P.O. Box 635022, Nacogdoches, Texas 75963.

Section II: Organizational Description

- a. Give a brief overview of your organization, including its mission, purpose, a short history, and any major accomplishments.

Health Horizons traces its beginning to two grieving mothers who had just lost their sons to AIDS in 1988. The first Director embraced these mothers and organized a grass roots effort to meet their needs and the other 15 HIV clients living in Nacogdoches, Angelina, San Augustine, Shelby and Sabine counties. One of the local professors at Stephen F. Austin University agreed to write a grant which was received and they began to meet both psycho-social and clinical needs mainly through referrals. Health Horizons was established on June 25, 1989 as the East Texas AIDS Project and received its non-profit status from the Internal Revenue Services on August 22, 1990. Its mission is to empower and serve the people of Deep East Texas with needs related to HIV/AIDS and other health issues. The purposes of our agency are to provide clinical care and supportive services for those who have the HIV virus and to provide prevention activities for those who are at risks of contracting HIV/AIDS. Current programs related to the purposes offered include primary outpatient medical care, medical transportation, medical case management, oral health, medication assistance, mental health counseling, utility and rental assistance, HIV counseling and testing, and a program designed to prevent expectant mothers from passing HIV to their unborn children.

Some of the major accomplishments have included a name change from the East Texas AIDS Project to Health Horizons of East Texas Inc. in 1996 to protect the confidentiality of those who are accessing services. Since 2000 Health Horizons has offered outpatient ambulatory medical care in the rented facility rather than transporting the clients 175 miles to Galveston for the same services. The agency has provided a wide array of HIV services including both clinical and psycho-social services that were named earlier for 1,000 HIV clients since its inception. The agency has also tested over 13,000 residents with 100 of these testing HIV positive. Those testing positive were linked into services and has possibly prevented large numbers of others from contracting HIV. For the past nine years financial audits conducted by external auditors have not revealed any findings and program reviews indicated limited issues to address.

Our agency employs 15 staff consisting of the Executive Director, one Administrative/Program Assistant, one Program Manager, one Client Services Coordinator, four Medical Case Managers, one Transportation Coordinator/Assistant Case Manager, one Prevention Services Coordinator, four Prevention specialists, and one Clinic Nurse. During 2010, we had 100 volunteers who donated 2,990 hours and their services were valued at \$29,900. They were involved in a number of projects and assignments including writing our quarterly newsletter, revising our Client Brochures, researching various issues such as Electronic Medical Records, matching clients with resources in the community, general office duties such as answering the telephone, developing our website, and assisting in our Annual Walk including manning the various stations and assisting with registration.

Section III: Program Description

- a. What community and/or constituency needs will your program meet. How did you identify the need?

The Program in which we are presenting serves the HIV female population in 12 counties of rural East Texas consisting of Nacogdoches, Angelina, Houston, Shelby, San Augustine, Sabine, Jasper, Newton, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, and Tyler. The Quality Management Committee of Health Horizons consisting of the Medical Director, Executive Director, Program Director, Clinic Nurse, Client Service Coordinator, Transportation Coordinator/Assistant Medical Case Manager, and Administrative/Medical Case Manager Assistant identified this need by reviewing the data in the Client Information System. The data indicated that less than 30 percent of the eligible clients were not getting their annual Pap Smears.

- b. Give a brief description of your Program? What are the primary goals? How will you accomplish them?

The Program will consist of an annual Pap Smear Clinic that will be held in the office suite of Health Horizons of east Texas. Prior to the initiation of the current program, the Medical Case Managers of Health Horizons would make referrals to the appropriate professionals in the community. Only 29% of those who were referred kept their appointments. Hence, the Quality Management Committee as defined above decided to develop a program that would increase the number of clients receiving their annual Pap smears. First, the 38 clients who missed their appointments were interviewed by the Medical Case Managers and they discovered that the clients missed their appointments for the most part because they did not understand the importance of an annual Pap smear. A Focus group was held on July 28, 2011 with five women who were HIV positive in attendance and it was discovered that the women did not receive pap smears because they did not understand why they needed it or what do be done during the procedure. Clients help produce this plan by brainstorming ideas the clinic could implement to ensure clients get their pap smears. The primary goals of the program will consist of the following:

70% of those clients who are eligible for PAP Smears and receiving them on-site will receive them by December 31, 2012.

100% of those clients who are eligible for the annual PAP Smears will be notified by their case managers when they are due.

100% of those clients who receive their PAP Smears in Health Horizons office will be documented in the client information system.

80% of those who receive their PAP Smears from other providers will be documented in the client information system.

100% of those clients required to have annual PAP smears and receiving them on-site will be educated on the importance of PAP Smears.

The primary goals stated will be accomplished by the following activities:

Pap clinic will be re-instated to be held on-site at the office of Health Horizons once each month on Wednesdays. It will be held prior to the regular clinic from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Appointment cards will be sent to all clients who are eligible for the scheduled Pap Clinic two weeks before the Clinic will be held by the Program Manager.

Medical Case Managers will assist clients to develop annual appointment calendars listing all exams and medical appointments in an effort to empower clients to be responsible for healthcare.

Medical Case Managers and the Program Manager will call each client the day before the Clinic to remind them of their appointment, make transportation arrangements, and let them know that they will be eligible for a drawing to win a \$25 gift certificate.

All of the 131 clients who are eligible for the Cervical Cancer Screening will be educated concerning the necessity of screen each time that have a Clinic appointment by the Medical Case Manager, the Clinic Nurse, and the Physician. In addition, pamphlets will be placed in the waiting room for their use, and a DVD will be played in the waiting room on importance of Cervical Cancer Screenings.

Medical Case Managers will document the results of the Pap Smears in the client information system and they will also request records of PAPS conducted by other providers and document them as well in the client information system.

- c. Describe the program participants or beneficiaries. Are you planning to serve people of a particular age group, ethnic background or income level? How many people will your program serve?

The participants of this program will be 131 HIV positive women. These women will range in age from 19-65. Of the women to be served 34% are White, 58% Black and 8% Hispanic. Lastly, 103 or 78% of the women are at or below federal poverty level.

- d. If you are requesting an impact grant, please describe aspects of your program that are unique or innovative. Is your program a model for other communities? How will you communicate your program's success to other communities?

We are requesting an impact grant for this program because Health Horizons of East Texas is the only agency of its kind in the twelve county areas listed above to provide services for Person Living with HIV/AIDS. Yes, our program will be a model for other communities. Health Horizons of East Texas will communicate the program's success through its newsletter, our monthly rural conference call with the Ryan White Rural Partners Network, and publish an article in a local newspaper with the results of our

Program.

- e. The Budget for the project will be \$10,250. TRC funds will be used to offset the expenses in the Budget which are given below. We would accept a smaller grant if TRC is unable to fund the entire Project.

Budget for the Cervical Cancer Screening Project

Contractual

Family Nurse Practitioner @ \$1,000 per visit X 10 Visits \$10,000

Other

\$25.00 gift card X 10 serve as incentive for women attending \$250

Total Budget \$10,250

- f. Describe the expected outcomes or accomplishments for your program. How will you measure these outcomes?

The outcomes or expectations for the program were discussed in paragraph b. above but they are restated here with the measurement strategy.

70% of those clients who are eligible for PAP Smears and receiving them on-site will receive them by June 30, 2012. This outcome will be measured by the Administrative assistant who keeps a record of all clients who come for Clinic. After each Pap Clinic she will give the is data to Clinic Nurse who will compare to number of appointments cards sent out and keep an accumulative number at end of Project.

100% of those clients who are eligible for the annual PAP Smears will be notified by their case managers when they are due. Program Manager will compare the number of appointment cards sent to the number of clients who are eligible.

100% of those clients who receive their PAP Smears in Health Horizons office will be documented in the client information system. The Client Services Coordinator will review the client information system after each Pap Clinic to ensure that all data is inserted in the client information system.

80% of those who receive their PAP Smears from other providers will be documented in the client information system. The Client Services Coordinator will review client information system after records are received to ensure that all data is inserted in the client information system.

100% of those clients required to have annual PAP smears and receiving them on-site will be educated on the importance of PAP Smears. The Program Manager will monitor the education form after each Pap Clinic to ensure that this requirement is met.

- g. Give a proposed timeline for your project or program and expenditures of proposed grant funds.

Timeline	Expenditures
3/7/12 Appointment Cards sent to Clients	\$1,025
3/20/12 Clients called reminder of appointment	
3/21/12 Clinic held	
3/21/12 Gift card given to client who wins drawing	
4/4/12 Appointment Cards sent to Clients	\$1,025
4/17/12 Clients called reminder of appointment	
4/18/12 Clinic held	
4/18 Gift card given to client who wins drawing	
5/2/12 Appointment Cards sent to Clients	\$1,025
5/15/12 Clients called reminder of appointment	
5/16/12 Clinic held	
5/16/12 Gift card given to client who wins drawing	
6/6/12 Appointment Cards sent to Clients	\$1,025
6/19/12 Clients called reminder of appointment	
6/20/12 Clinic held	
6/20/12 Gift card given to client who wins drawing	
7/4/12 Appointment Cards sent to Clients	\$1,025
7/17/12 Clients called reminder of appointment	
7/18/12 Clinic held	
7/18/12 Gift card given to client who wins drawing	

The timeline for August, September, October, November, and December will be the same as the first five months consisting of the Medical Case Managers sending the clients an appointment card for their Cervical Cancer Screening on the first Wednesday in each month, calling the clients on the Tuesday before the third Wednesday, and the Clinic and Drawing for the gift card will be held on the third Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. preceding the regular office visit at 10:20 a.m. The expenditures for the last five months will be \$1,025 each month for a total of \$5,125 and \$10,250 for the entire project.