

Reaching People with HIV (PWH) in Rural United States (U.S.)



Overall, rural residents are more likely to: ^{1,2}

live in poverty

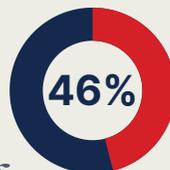
lack health insurance

have higher mortality rates

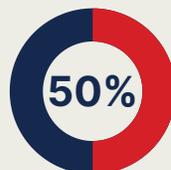


Rural residents are less likely to have been HIV tested and more likely to have progressed disease when diagnosed ^{3,4}

For PWH in rural communities



retained in care



virally suppressed



Barriers to accessing HIV care in rural communities ^{1,4,5}



Great distance to services and limited transportation



Limited HIV providers and support services



Cost of care



Stigma and discrimination



Confidentiality concerns



Limited access to substance use treatment and harm reduction services

Addressing barriers to HIV care in rural communities ^{6,7,8}

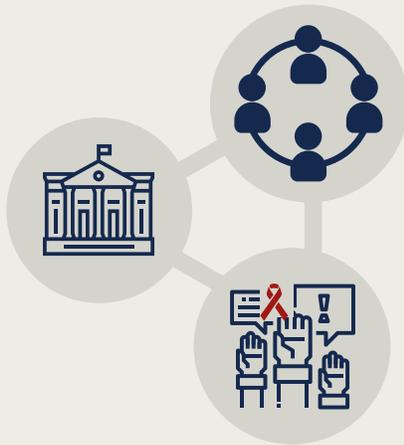
1

Telehealth can be key for delivering HIV care in rural communities. It connects PWH to providers by removing travel and stigma-related delays in care.



2

Transportation & Travel



- Utilize community planning groups to assess the need for transportation services.
- Tap into existing resources like social service agencies, faith groups, and local government funding support.
- Connect client to a Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program-funded clinic (<https://findhivcare.hrsa.gov/>).

3

Stigma & Denial

Integrate HIV care into primary care for all clients.



Make the clinic welcoming without use of HIV-specific identifiers.

Use a confidential form of communication agreed upon by the client.

Use client support programs to ease clients' feelings of anxiety and isolation.

4

AETC Program Free Clinical Training & Resources

- [national, regional and local training and technical assistance](#)
- [real-time clinician-clinician consultation](#)
- [self-directed curricula, apps, and more](#)



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