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Ending the HIV Epidemic

HIV LINKAGE & PREVENTION NETWORKS: IMPROVING COLLABORATIONS

APRIL 29, 2021

Plan for our workshop

Intentions:

1. **Share best practices in collaborations**
2. **Improve our contacts, directory, warm hand-offs**

Intros, healing practice, background → **Breakout groups on collaborative practices** → **Improve contacts, directory, warm hand-offs**

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0 HIV STIGMA
HEALTH DISPARITIES
HIV TRANSMISSIONS

ADVANCING HEALTH EQUITY & HEALING

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OUR HISTORY OF COLLABORATIONS

2011-12: First linkage meeting and data analysis

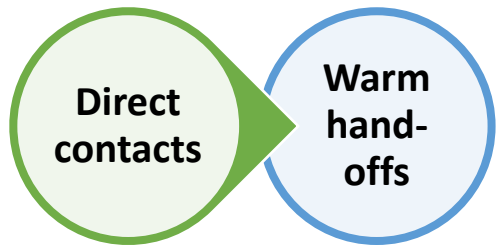
2013: First network meeting; contact list, warm hand-offs

2014-16: Universal testing and PrEP launched

2017: EBGTZ, Rapid linkages and Rapid ART launched

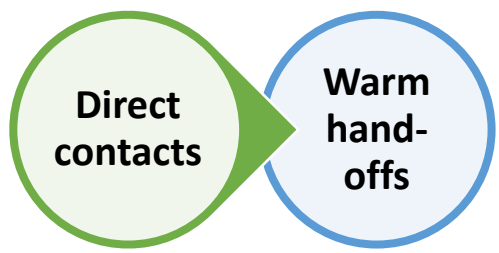
2018-19: Trainings on racial bias, sex positivity, MI, trauma

IMPROVEMENTS IN LINKAGES 2012 TO 2017:



- Alameda County 90-day linkages: 70% → **79% (+9%)**
- Contra Costa 90-day linkages: 82% → **92% (+10%)**

IMPROVEMENTS IN LINKAGES 2017 TO 2020:



- Community Health Center 30-day linkages: 93% → **97%**
- Highland Hospital ED 30-day linkages: 51% → **58%**

IMPROVEMENTS IN VIRAL SUPPRESSION & RAPID ART 2013 TO 2020:

Rapid linkages & ART

- Alameda County viral suppression: 40% → **72%**
- Contra Costa viral suppression: 65% → **75%**
- HIV ACCESS Rapid ART: 56% → **75%**

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EAST BAY HIV STRATEGIC PRIORITIES (2021-2025)

OUR MISSION IS ADVANCING HEALTH EQUITY AND HEALING THROUGH:

EAST BAY GETTING TO ZERO EBGTZ.ORG

- COMMUNITY MESSAGING
- IMPROVING COLLABORATIONS
- INNOVATIVE MODELS
- YOUTH ENGAGEMENT
- HOUSING INITIATIVES

CORE VALUES & EQUITY

Core Values:

- People-first
- Anti-racist
- Sex positive
- Trauma-informed
- Healing-engaged
- Community-driven
- Data & science-driven
- Adaptive and resilient

Key Communities:

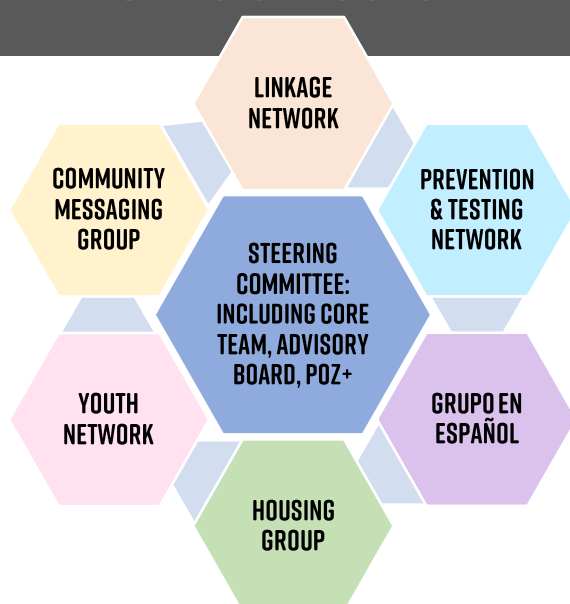
Race/Ethnicity:
People of color (non-white identified)

Age:
Youth & Older Adults

Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity:
MSM & Cis/Trans Women

Life Experience
Drug use, incarceration, homelessness, mental health conditions, lack of insurance, HIV diagnosis in the Emergency Room

EBGTZ'S STRUCTURE



IMPROVING COLLABORATIONS

Vision: A collaborative community of HIV service organizations, advocates and community members who work together on common goals and amplify each other's work.

Top priorities:

1. **Build EBGTZ.org to become an easy place to find** services and contacts, local events, resources and resource guides. Include materials created in Spanish.

2. **Hold quarterly collaborative meetings** to discuss shared goals, service directory, resources, strengthen warm handoffs & referrals, collaborative funding and events.

BREAKOUT GROUPS: BEST PRACTICES FOR COLLABORATION

- Introductions
- Think of someone who's an excellent collaborator or an experience of a good collaboration.
  1. What made them or that process work so well around collaborations?
  2. What qualities of that person or experience do we want to embrace in our own work?
- Group share: What makes a great collaboration?

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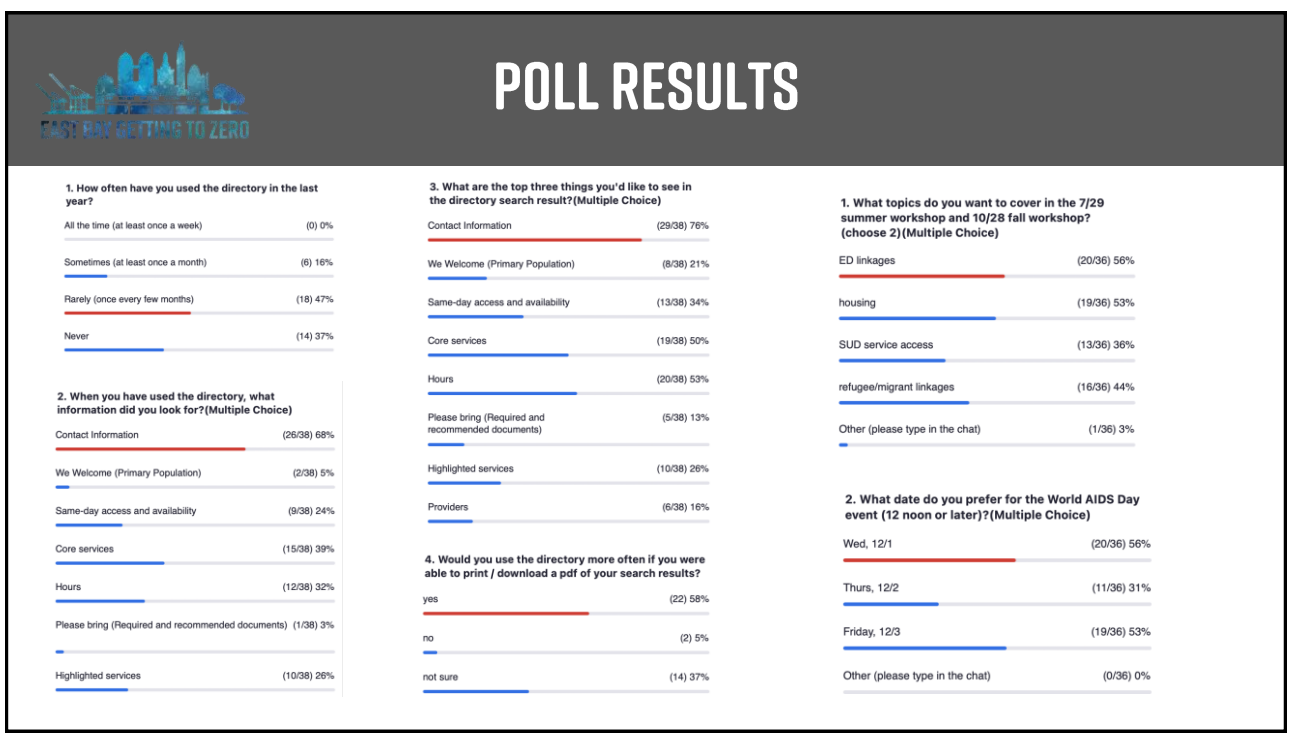
What makes a great collaboration?
In some ways virtual working groups have allowed new people to come to the table, attend more meetings, collaborate across large geographic range
Stepping outside the box/interrupting the norm when needed
non-judgement
Show mutual respect
Lifting each other up
being a good listener
Flexibility!!!
open-minded with a positive mindset
Good communicator
manage difficult situations
Getting to know the community you work with through in-person meetings and activities
Not afraid to do the work, and even more than they signed up for.
Taking active responsibility for your piece
Sharing goals from the beginning. Investing time into sharing institutional knowledge.
Responsiveness is KEY, Issues are often time-sensitive, it's really important to communicate in a timely manner.
Regular meetings led by community members. Leader stepping back and giving members of the group ownership of the work activities
ability to think outside box
Reliability, consistency
Mentors who help identify collaborators to build a network
clear communication of roles in collaborations
When we are asking someone to spend their time and energy on something, it's important to be super clear and organized about what the ask is.
Pitching in and taking ownership helps collaborations.
safe place where I am being understood (active listener)
Everybody has share goals (everyone equal)
ongoing and clear communication
honesty and respect
Remember and center the purpose of the collaboration - put the patient at the center. It's not about us taking credit. Important to be humble.
Good listening skills strengthen collaborations and outcomes
Self-starters, people that create situations that make collaborations possible.
ability to connect promptly even in there isn't a pre-scheduled meeting
Knowing one another; being able to pick up the phone and call people you know
Talented in knowing strengths and weaknesses of each team member
asking the right question creates inclusion and openness
accountability of individuals within a collaboration
maintaining personal relationships with community partners makes warm hand offs more affective
community outreach events
Focus on common goals
Being proactive and leveraging our power/skills
maintain relationships and familiarity with community partners so that you can make great referrals and collaborations
clear communications of what each of us offers and sharing strengths and challenges
Get out in the community, be visible and accessible to community and community partners
Bars that are open to evens facilitate collaborations with other organizations.
work smarter not harder
expertise organizational balance
Positive attitude.
SLACK is a useful tool in collaboration
regular meetings between collaborators
Everybody knew their strength
Accessible people and make everyone feel like they win.
Groundwork of collaborators getting to know each other as people and colleagues; getting a clear understanding of who does what. People are more likely to reach out
Checking back with clients/patients after initial interactions and services, to find out their perspective on how helpful we were
Openness to linking clients to most culturally sensitive community resources available, even if it isn't your org
being able to call on people from multiple orgs to work together because "sometimes it takes a village."
having meetings like these to get to know each other
Flexibility is essential - sometimes have to step outside of what the institution is able/willing to do to make a great connection.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POLL RESULTS
1. How often have you used the directory in the last year?
All the time (at least once a week) (0) 0%
Sometimes (at least once a month) (6) 16%
Rarely (once every few months) (18) 47%
Never (14) 37%
2. When you have used the directory, what information did you look for?(Multiple Choice)
Contact Information (26/38) 68%
We Welcome (Primary Population) (2/38) 5%
Same-day access and availability (9/38) 24%
Core services (15/38) 39%
Hours (12/38) 32%
Please bring (Required and recommended documents) (1/38) 3%
Highlighted services (10/38) 26%
3. What are the top three things you'd like to see in the directory search result?(Multiple Choice)
Contact Information (29/38) 76%
We Welcome (Primary Population) (8/38) 21%
Same-day access and availability (13/38) 34%
Core services (19/38) 50%
Hours (20/38) 53%
Please bring (Required and recommended documents) (5/38) 13%
Highlighted services (10/38) 26%
Providers (6/38) 16%
4. Would you use the directory more often if you were able to print / download a pdf of your search results?
yes (22) 58%
no (2) 5%
not sure (14) 37%
1. What topics do you want to cover in the 7/29 summer workshop and 10/28 fall workshop? (choose 2)(Multiple Choice)
ED linkages (20/36) 56%
housing (19/36) 53%
SUD service access (13/36) 36%
refugee/migrant linkages (16/36) 44%
Other (please type in the chat) (1/36) 3%
2. What date do you prefer for the World AIDS Day event (12 noon or later)?(Multiple Choice)
Wed, 12/1 (20/36) 56%
Thurs, 12/2 (11/36) 31%
Friday, 12/3 (19/36) 53%
Other (please type in the chat) (0/36) 0%

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NEXT STEPS:

Directory (ebgtz.org/services): make it more user-friendly and useful!

- **Everyone, please**:
  - Check your organization's listing
  - Contact Jessica with any additions or updates: Jessica.Price@ucsf.edu
- EBGTZ/AETC team will:
  - Simplify search results to: contacts, hours, core/highlighted services
  - Add print/PDF search results feature

July and October linkage workshops will cover:

- ED linkages
- Housing

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JOIN US AT OUR NEXT MEETINGS!

★ **May 21st Prevention meeting**

★ **Future linkage workshops: July 29th and October 28th linkage workshops and World AIDS Day in December!**

★ **More trainings here: EBGTZ.org/resources**

★ **Find updates online: EBGTZ.org**

★ **Join our email lists or working groups: contact yamini@ebgtz.org**