



# 2015 – 2016 AIDS SERVICES CENTER (ASC) INITIATIVES

## SUMMARY

The National HIV/AIDS Strategy has four primary goals

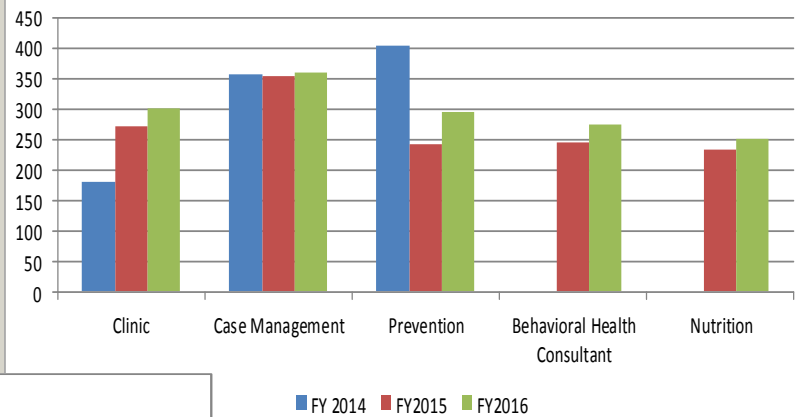
1. Reduce new HIV infections.
2. Increase access to care and improve health outcomes for people living with HIV.
3. Reduce HIV-related disparities and health inequities.
4. Achieve a more coordinated national response to the HIV epidemic.

The new vision of the Strategy states that the United States will become a place where new HIV infections are rare, and when they do occur, every person, regardless of age, gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socio-economic circumstance, will have unfettered access to high quality, life-extending care, free from stigma and discrimination. At ASC, staff strives to meet the national vision by providing rapid HIV testing and prevention services, comprehensive primary and specialty care, case management and social support services, housing case management services and integrated behavioral health services to HIV+ or high-risk individuals. This past year, services were funded by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services through its Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Ryan White grant program, AIDSNET, and the PA Dept. of Health. ASC provided clinical care and case management services to 402 unduplicated clients in FY16. Services were provided to people in Northampton, Lehigh, Monroe, Carbon, Berks, Pike, Lebanon and Bucks Counties in Pennsylvania and Warren County in New Jersey.

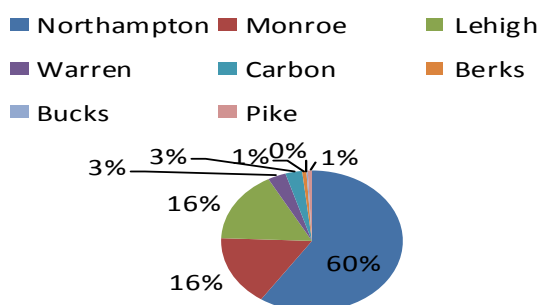
## HIGHLIGHTS

- Provided comprehensive clinical care and case management services to a total of 402 unduplicated patients.
- Ryan White Part C grant funding was extended until 2018 to support our clinics in Bethlehem and Easton.
- Health Economic benefits of moving patients from unsuppressed viral loads to suppressed in the past year indicate total medical costs averted due to ASC care was \$229,100.

Total Clients Served by Service Category, FY 2014-FY 2016

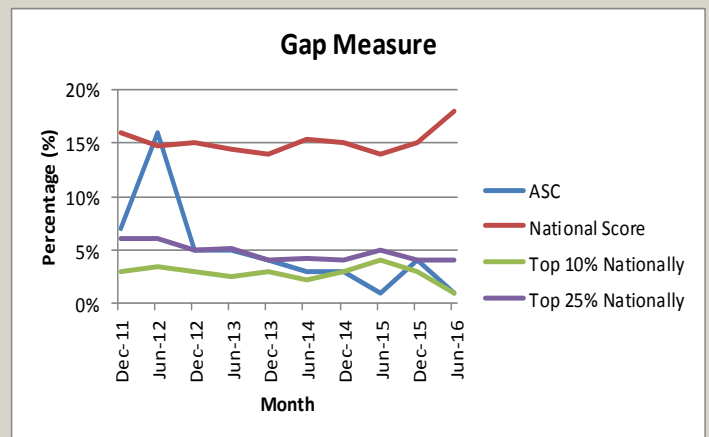
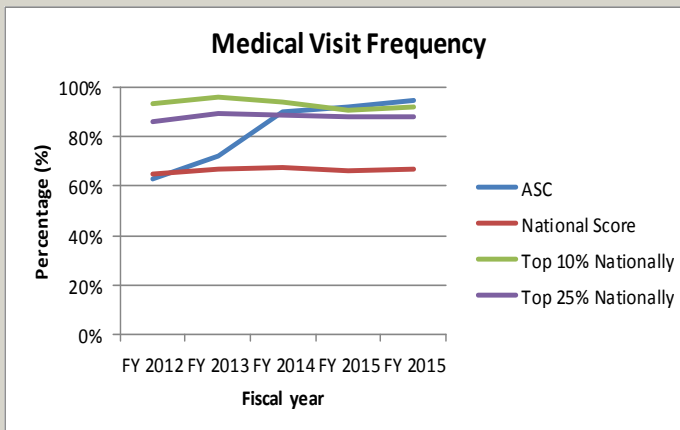
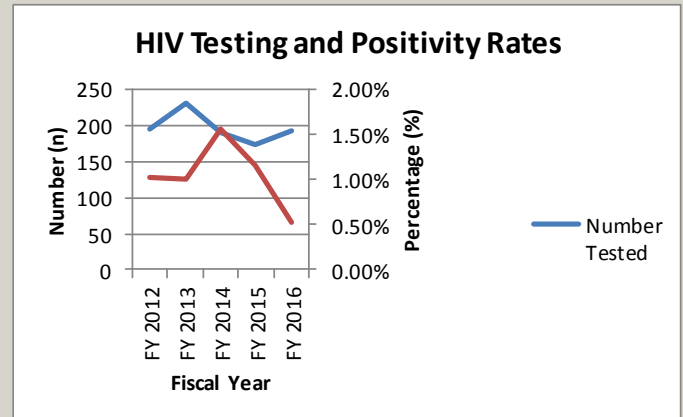
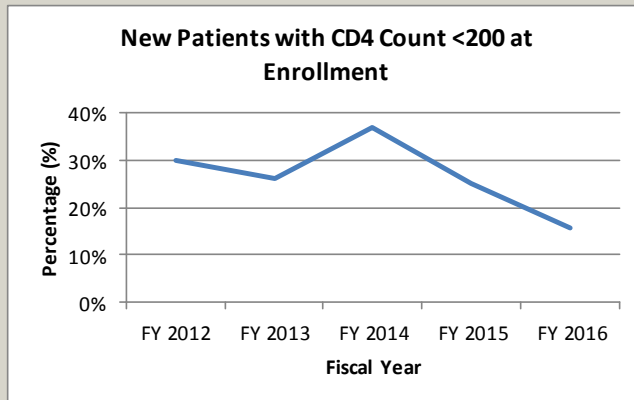


## % Served By County



## SUCCESSSES

- 99 HIV+ patients were seen at our new Easton Clinic at the end of FY16, an increase of 20 from FY15.
- 70 new patients enrolled in our comprehensive HIV clinical services – 40 in Easton and 30 in Bethlehem.
- 90% of our patients have a suppressed viral load.
- Our 1% gap measure rate equaled the Top 10% national rate.
- Our 95% patient retention rate exceeded the Top 10% national rate of 92%.
- The percentage of new patients with a CD4 count of <200 (indicating an AIDS diagnosis) decreased to a 5-year low of 16%.
- Tobacco cessation counseling was at 87%, a 10% increase over last year and more than double the 39.5% counseled in FY14.
- Through educating Primary Care Providers at the Southside Medical Clinic, 6 new HIV-positive patients were identified and linked to care.



## CHALLENGES & NEXT STEPS

- A Prevention Coordinator position was filled, and an HIV Prevention Strategy was in development to address several areas:
  1. 193 people participated in HIV testing, and only one positive was found. Targeted testing is a top priority in the new Strategy.
  2. Primary Care Provider education will target all SLPG PCPs to deliver information regarding the need to test their patients for HIV as best practice.
  3. Community partnerships – The Strategy addresses new partnerships in order to better educate and test high-risk individuals in our service area.
  4. Social media – The Strategy will address better use of social media to deliver better education and testing results.
- Provider vacancy: A search is on to secure another provider for the Easton Clinic. Currently, the Medical Director and ID provider in Bethlehem is providing care for patients at both clinics.

