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This newsletter is organized to align with the six Social Determinants of Health found in the [Ending the Epidemics Integrated Statewide Strategic Plan](#), addressing the syndemic of HIV, HCV, and STIs in California. More about the *Strategic Plan* is available on the [Office of AIDS \(OA\) website](#).

STAFF HIGHLIGHT

➤ **Jenna Koontz**

Please join OA in congratulating **Jenna Koontz** on their promotion from Analyst I to Analyst II in the Eligibility and Operations Section of the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP).

Jenna brings a strong background in public health, quality assurance, training development, and customer-focused program support. With a Bachelor of Science in Public Health and extensive experience across healthcare, state service, and program operations, they have consistently demonstrated professionalism, innovation, and a commitment to excellence. Since joining OA in 2020, Jenna has provided critical support in eligibility analysis, program operations, and administrative coordination. Her work has included supporting leadership teams, improving communication processes, ensuring compliance standards, and assisting enrollment workers with maintaining high-quality eligibility determinations for ADAP and related programs.

Prior to state service, Jenna gained extensive experience in training and workforce development with Centene by Health Net, where she designed and facilitated onboarding and training programs during a large organizational merger. Her ability to develop engaging learning materials that accommodate diverse learning styles, while fostering teamwork and adaptability,



has been a defining strength throughout her career.

In addition, Jenna has experience in quality assurance, patient education, emergency medical services, and customer service, bringing a well-rounded perspective to problem-solving and operational improvement. Her leadership, communication skills, and dedication to service make them an asset to the Analyst II role. We look forward to their continued contributions and leadership in supporting our mission.

Outside of work, Jenna likes to travel with her

wife and 2 children. They are in the process of buying a new home and making their dreams come true! This summer they plan to make time for the beach for relaxation after the big move.

Congratulations on this well-deserved promotion, Jenna!

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

➤ Essential Access Health

OA has partnered with Essential Access Health to support their **Condom Availability Program (CAP)** over a two-year period. The CAP will advance youth health equity and safety by removing barriers to prevention, risk of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, and unintended pregnancies for young people by supporting free condom access in public high schools statewide.

Essential Access (EA) developed a strategic plan to implement a condom availability program in public and charter high schools throughout California. EA gathered feedback from key stakeholders, including youth, school staff, and the California Department of Education to create an outreach plan, identify sites, and establish a plan for site participation. Through CAP, participating high schools may request safe sex kits that include latex and non-latex external condoms, internal condoms, lubricant, and health education pamphlets.

On February 23rd, EA officially launched the program! To date, 10 schools have already begun receiving condoms with more in the registration process!

In February, EA staff exhibited at the California School Nurses Organization annual conference to share information and recruit potential sites for the new Condom Availability Program. Staff spoke with over 300 nurses throughout the



The Condom Availability Program (CAP) provides free condoms and safer sex supplies to eligible California high schools.

Through CAP, schools may request safer sex kits including:

- Latex and non-latex external condoms
- Internal condoms (FC®)
- Lubricant
- Health education pamphlets
- Demonstrators and additional supplies

In 2023, California youth ages 15–19 accounted for:

- 15% of reported chlamydia cases
- 7% of reported gonorrhea cases
- 3% of newly diagnosed HIV infections
- 2% of reported total early syphilis cases

To learn more about CAP eligibility and training, scan the QR code!

For CAP-related questions and interest, email rrosales-castro@essentialaccess.org.

state who were excited to learn more about this program. Essential Access was able to not only promote the program but also gather information about potential pushback on program implementation as well as additional support that school nurses may need to advocate for condoms at their school.

In April, EA staff exhibited at the California School Based Health Alliance annual conference where they spoke with over 400 staff from California school districts, schools, and clinics about the CAP. In addition to exhibiting, an announcement about this program was made at a keynote presentation. EA was able to connect with interested schools, answer questions about the program, and continue to gather information about potential pushback. For [more information about CAP](#) email rrosales-castro@essentialaccess.org.

➤ **Pride Season**

June is Pride Month and it kicks-off the **Pride Season** that lasts into November. During this time, various events are held to recognize the influence Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Ally (LGBTQIA+) people have made around the world. We celebrate diversity, allyship, and reflect on the progress made in the fight for social justice, equity, inclusion, and the freedom to be exactly who you are! It's also an opportunity to raise awareness of current attacks and criminalization laws on the LGBTQIA+ community worldwide. Pride is a positive stance and resistance against discrimination, social stigma, violence and injustice.

Check out our [Celebrate Pride webpage](#) for a calendar of Pride events near you.

For the third year in a row, OA and the Office of STIs and HCV (OSH) will proudly march in the Sacramento Pride parade on Sunday, June 14th. This year we will be joining California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) along with other state departments with a loud and proud contingent! Staff, allies, friends and family are encouraged to join us as we show our support for the community and celebrate inclusion across state government. For more information on Sacramento Pride Weekend visit their [PRIDE MARCH webpage](#).

OA is also happy to share various resources, like our 2026 Pride Toolkit to help event organizers share messaging and educate attendees about sexual health services in their communities, located on our [LGBTQ+ Health webpage](#).

HIV AWARENESS

➤ **HIV Long-Term Survivors Awareness Day**

On **June 5, we recognize HIV Long-Term Survivors Awareness Day (HLTSAD)**, which

celebrates and honors long-term survivors of the epidemic. Long term survivors include people who have had HIV for 10 years or more, adults who acquired the virus as babies, and people who were diagnosed before the availability of antiretroviral therapy (ART) in 1996. Due to the decades of successful HIV research and the advancement of many new treatments, people with HIV are living longer lives and are aging with HIV.

HLTSAD is a day of remembrance and reflection, and a day to raise awareness of the continued needs, support, and care long term survivors face.

➤ **National HIV Testing Day**

On **June 27, we observe National HIV Testing Day**, a day meant to encourage people to get tested for HIV and know their status. Knowing your status provides the opportunity to make decisions to prevent getting or transmitting, HIV. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) outlines the following benchmarks for routine testing:

- **General Population:** Everyone between ages 13 and 64 should test at least once as part of routine health care.
- **Active Individuals:** Annual or more frequent testing is recommended for sexually active individuals or those with specific risk factors.
- **Current Landscape:** Close to 1.2 million people in the U.S. live with HIV, but roughly 13%-15% are unaware of their status.

Take advantage of OA's Building Healthy Online Communities (BHOC) self-testing program and [order your free HIV home test kit](#) for yourself and your partner at <https://takemehome.org/>.

GENERAL UPDATES

➤ Mpox

OA continues its commitment to providing updated information related to mpox. We have partnered with the Division of Communicable Disease Control (DCDC), a program within the Center of Infectious Diseases and have disseminated a number of documents in an effort to keep our clients and stakeholders informed.

Mpox digital assets continue to be available for LHJs and CBOs on DCDC's [Campaign Toolkits](#) website.

Also, please refer to the [DCDC website](#) to stay informed of mpox updates.

➤ OA's HIV Laws Webpage

We wanted to mention again that OA has updated its [HIV Laws webpage](#). This page

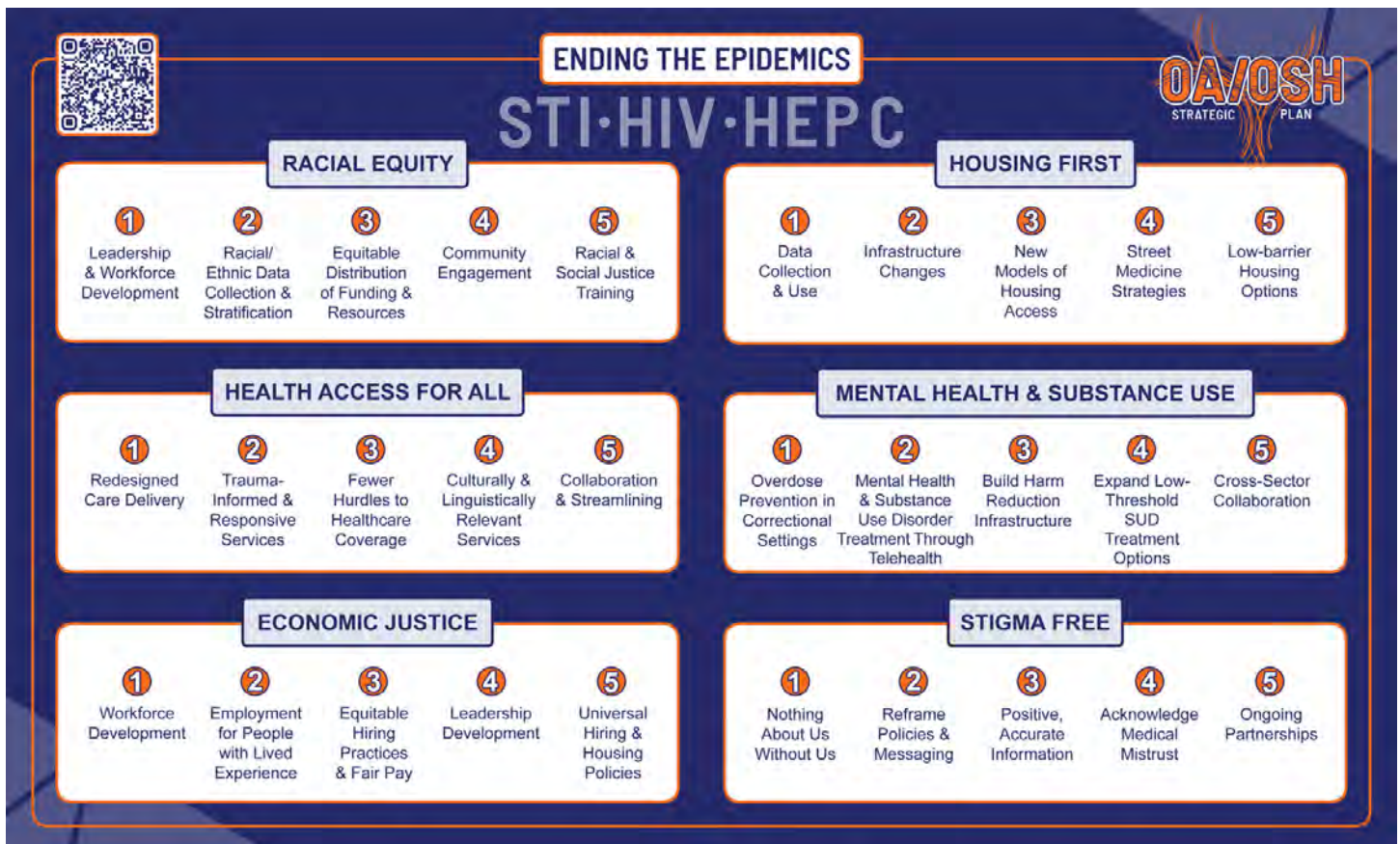
contains organized links to state laws and regulations, as well as associated fact sheets and letters, all relating to OA's programs on HIV prevention, treatment, care, surveillance, and harm reduction.

➤ HIV/STI/HCV Integration

As we await word on the new Chief of the Division of HIV, HCV, and STIs position, we continue to align our services in a coordinated syndemic manner to better serve individuals at risk of acquiring HIV, STIs, and HCV. We will continue to keep you updated as we learn more.

ENDING THE EPIDEMICS STRATEGIC PLAN OA/OSH

The **visual below** is a high-level summary of our *Strategic Plan* that organizes 30 Strategies across six Social Determinants of Health.



OA and OSH would like you to continue to use and share the [Strategic Plan](#) and the [Implementation Blueprint](#). These documents address HIV as a syndemic with HCV and other STIs, through a Social Determinants of Health lens.

For technical assistance in implementing the [Strategic Plan](#), California LHJs and CBOs can visit [Facente Consulting's webpage](#).

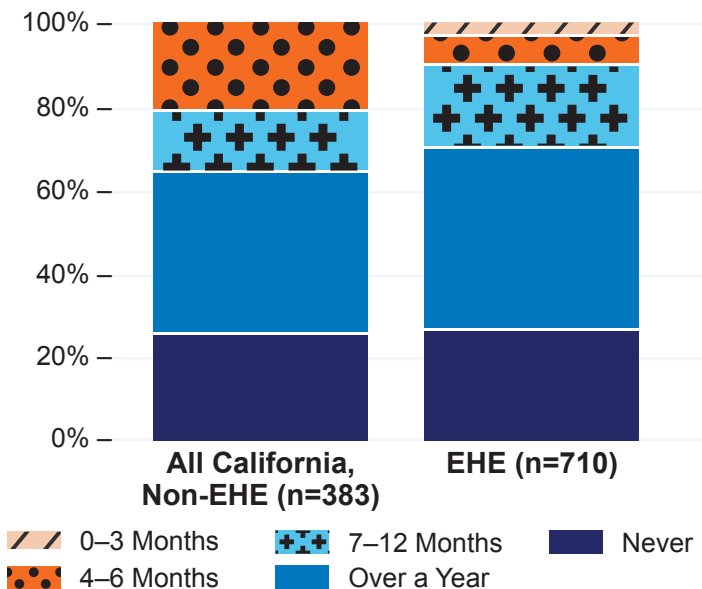
HEALTH ACCESS FOR ALL

➤ Strategy 1: Redesigned Care Delivery

OA continues to implement its **Building Healthy Online Communities (BHOC)** self-testing program to allow for rapid OraQuick test orders in all jurisdictions in California. The program, [TakeMeHome](#) (TMH) is advertised on gay dating apps, where users see an ad for home testing and are offered a free HIV-home test kit.



HIV Test History Among Individuals Who Ordered TakeMeHome Kits, April 2026



In April, 383 individuals in 38 counties ordered self-test kits, with 279 (72.9%) individuals ordering 2 tests. Additionally, OA's existing TakeMeHome Program continues in the six California Consortium Phase I Ending the HIV Epidemic in America counties. Between the program's initiation in September 1, 2020, and April 30, 2026, 23,338 tests have been distributed. This month, mail-in lab tests (including dried blood spot tests for syphilis, and Hepatitis C, as well as 3-site tests for gonorrhea and chlamydia) accounted for 443 (62.4%) of the 710 total tests distributed in EHE counties. Of those ordering rapid tests, 198 (74.2%) ordered 2 tests.

Additional Key Characteristics	EHE	All California, Non-EHE
Of those sharing their gender, were cisgender men	48.9%	55.3%
Of those sharing their race or ethnicity, identify as Hispanic or Latinx	40.6%	43.9%
Were 17-29 years old	39.0%	37.3%
Of those sharing their number of sex partners, reported 3 or more in the past year	44.6%	56.2%

Take Me Home Survey Highlights	EHE	All California, Non-EHE
Would recommend TakeMeHome to a friend	95.2%	94.6%
Identify as a man who has sex with other men	44.5%	48.6%
Reported having been diagnosed with an STI in the past year	7.8%	9.1%

Since September 2020, 2,402 TakeMeHome test kit recipients have completed the anonymous follow-up survey from EHE counties. There have been 1,078 responses from the California expansion since January 2023.



HEALTH ACCESS FOR ALL

➤ Strategy 3: Fewer Hurdles to Healthcare Coverage

As of May 31, 2026, there are 335 PrEP-AP enrollment sites and 248 clinical provider sites that currently make up the [PrEP-AP Provider network](#).

[Data on active PrEP-AP clients](#) can be found in the three tables displayed on the next page.

As of May 31, 2026, the number of ADAP clients enrolled in each respective ADAP Insurance Assistance Program are shown in the [table below](#).

RACIAL EQUITY

➤ Strategy 4: Community Engagement

The California Planning Group (CPG) and OA hosted a successful [Spring In-Person CPG](#)

Meeting from May 12–14! Our deepest thanks to all CPG members who shared feedback in the Fall meeting survey, which helped to shape this meaningful meeting. We appreciate your participation, insights, and help in creating a safe space for sharing and learning. We hope you found the meeting informative to our CPG and collective work.

A special thank you to the Host Committee for their stellar planning and facilitation and to the Steering Committee for their continued support. We’re also grateful to the OA Liaisons and OSH Liaisons, who continuously support CPG members through the monthly committee meetings leading up to and during this event. We’d like to extend appreciation to Dr. Marisa Ramos for taking time out of her busy schedule to attend and provide candid open forum updates. We also want to express a huge thanks to Community Co-Chair Vivian Gallardo and to outgoing Community Co-Chair John Paul Soto

(continued on page 8)

ADAP Insurance Assistance Program	Number of Clients Enrolled	Percentage Change from April
Employer Based Health Insurance Premium Payment (EB-HIPP) Program	578	3.21%
Office of AIDS Health Insurance Premium Payment (OA-HIPP) Program	6,300	0.40%
Medicare Premium Payment Program (MPPP)	2,657	0.72%
Total	9,535	4.33%

Source: ADAP Enrollment System

Active PrEP-AP Clients by Age and Insurance Coverage:

Current Age	PrEP-AP Only		PrEP-AP With Medi-Cal		PrEP-AP With Medicare		PrEP-AP With Private Insurance		TOTAL	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
18 - 24	269	10%	---	---	---	---	5	0%	274	10%
25 - 34	875	33%	---	---	---	---	90	3%	965	37%
35 - 44	764	29%	1	0%	---	---	77	3%	842	32%
45 - 64	388	15%	---	---	3	0%	73	3%	464	18%
65+	20	1%	---	---	63	2%	6	0%	89	3%
TOTAL	2,316	88%	1	0%	66	3%	251	10%	2,634	100%

Active PrEP-AP Clients by Age and Race/Ethnicity:

Current Age	Latinx		American Indian or Alaskan Native		Asian		Black or African American		Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		White		More Than One Race Reported		Decline to Provide		TOTAL	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
18 - 24	153	6%	---	---	34	1%	18	1%	---	---	42	2%	4	0%	23	1%	274	10%
25 - 34	596	23%	2	0%	83	3%	62	2%	4	0%	156	6%	9	0%	53	2%	965	37%
35 - 44	551	21%	5	0%	54	2%	58	2%	1	0%	134	5%	3	0%	36	1%	842	32%
45 - 64	295	11%	1	0%	27	1%	17	1%	---	---	108	4%	---	---	16	1%	464	18%
65+	15	1%	---	---	4	0%	3	0%	---	---	63	2%	---	---	4	0%	89	3%
TOTAL	1,610	61%	8	0%	202	8%	158	6%	5	0%	503	19%	16	1%	132	5%	2,634	100%

Active PrEP-AP Clients by Gender and Race/Ethnicity:

Gender	Latinx		American Indian or Alaskan Native		Asian		Black or African American		Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander		White		More Than One Race Reported		Decline to Provide		TOTAL	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Female	40	2%	---	---	1	0%	10	0%	1	0%	9	0%	---	---	11	0%	72	3%
Male	1,489	57%	6	0%	183	7%	144	5%	4	0%	463	18%	13	0%	100	4%	2,402	91%
Trans	73	3%	1	0%	14	1%	2	0%	---	---	21	1%	2	0%	5	0%	118	4%
Unknown	8	0%	1	0%	4	0%	2	0%	---	---	10	0%	1	0%	16	1%	42	2%
TOTAL	1,610	61%	8	0%	202	8%	158	6%	5	0%	503	19%	16	1%	132	5%	2,634	100%

All PrEP-AP charts prepared by: ADAP Fiscal Forecasting Evaluation and Monitoring (AFFEM) Section, ADAP and Care Evaluation and Informatics Branch, Office of AIDS. Client was eligible for PrEP-AP as of run date: 05/31/2026 at 12:01:26 AM
Data source: ADAP Enrollment System. Site assignments are based on the site that submitted the most recent application.

for their incredible leadership in planning this meeting. We celebrate Danielle Campbell's new role as a Community Co-Chair.

Meeting highlights included a capacity-building session on navigating change by NASTAD, a state-led presentation on access to and coverage of long-acting injectables, and dedicated time for committee work, breakouts, and team-building activities. The meeting concluded with election of a new Community Co-Chair, committee report backs, and recognition of members who are terming out. Much appreciation to all presenters for sharing their time and expertise with CPG!

For more information, visit our [CPG webpage](#).

RACIAL EQUITY

➤ Strategy 5: Racial and Social Justice Training

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers free capacity building assistance (CBA) through training, technical assistance, and other resources to reduce HIV infection and improve health outcomes for people with HIV in the United States. Its CBA Provider Network provides CBA on a vast variety of HIV prevention related topics! To submit a CBA request, please contact the Local Capacity Building and Program Development Unit at CBA@cdph.ca.gov.

MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE USE

➤ Strategy 4: Expand Low-Threshold SUD Treatment Options

PrEP-AP Expands Access to Long-Acting Injectable Medications for Substance Use Disorder

OA is pleased to share updates to the [PrEP-AP formulary](#) that strengthen access to evidence-based substance use disorder (SUD) treatment options:

- **Sublocade** (extended-release buprenorphine): Sublocade, a once-monthly injectable medication used in the treatment of opioid use disorder, has now been added to the PrEP-AP formulary. This addition supports clients who may benefit from long-acting buprenorphine therapy and aligns with broader formulary review efforts.
- **Vivitrol** (extended-release injectable naltrexone): Vivitrol remains available on the PrEP-AP formulary. Initially added as part of the 2023 formulary updates, Vivitrol continues to appear as its own line item—separate from oral naltrexone—to reflect its distinct clinical use and administration. This ensures clarity for providers and supports streamlined access for clients needing long-acting naltrexone as part of opioid or alcohol use disorder treatment.

These updates reinforce OA's commitment to supporting comprehensive harm-reduction services and ensuring that Californians have access to the full spectrum of effective SUD treatment options through PrEP-AP.

For [questions regarding formulary coverage, prescribing requirements, or medication access](#), please contact PrEP.Support@cdph.ca.gov.

For [questions regarding *The OA Voice*](#), please send an e-mail to angelique.skinner@cdph.ca.gov.
