

## **Ryan White HIV Care Network Lead Agency Contracts**

### ***Issue***

Due to substantial cuts in the State's Ryan White Part B grant, the AIDS Institute cannot continue funding the HIV care network lead agencies. The network lead agency contracts will end on December 31, 2010.

### ***Reductions in Funding***

- The AIDS Institute's State funding for HIV/AIDS services and activities has been reduced by \$19.4 million since 2008.
- The State's Ryan White Part B grant has seen a cumulative loss of more than \$30 million in formula funds since 2006. In 2010 alone, the Ryan White Part B grant was cut by \$14.2 million.

### ***Actions Taken***

- The AIDS Institute requested \$14.2 million in Part B supplemental funds from HRSA.
- The AIDS Institute has prioritized the uninsured care programs and has shifted resources toward those programs to address cuts in both the ADAP and base portions of the grant.
- The AIDS Institute has requested increased Part A funding from New York City to support the uninsured care programs (ADAP).
- To date, cuts have been absorbed internally through shifting funds throughout the grant year, redirecting unexpended funds to programs, eliminating one-time outreach and awareness projects, reducing other than personal services costs including reducing travel, eliminating positions on the grant, instituting a hiring freeze, and maximizing carryforward funds.

### ***Current Circumstances***

- HRSA notified the AIDS Institute that we will receive only \$2.9 million in Part B supplemental funding. This leaves an \$11.3 million gap in our Ryan White Part B budget this year, including a \$3 million gap in the base (i.e., non-ADAP) portion of the grant.
- Given continuing substantial losses, the AIDS Institute can no longer absorb the cuts, and we are forced to cut grant-funded programs and services.

### ***Required Actions***

- A principle that has been employed in making cuts – both State and federal – is to prioritize and preserve direct services for persons living with HIV/AIDS to the extent possible.
- The AIDS Institute will be unable to continue funding the HIV care network lead agency contracts. The contracts will continue through December 31, 2010 and will end on that

date. This is an unfortunate result of substantial losses in Ryan White Part B funding. The only alternative is to cut \$2 million in direct services.

- This action alone will not address the budget deficit. Cuts in services will be necessary as well.
- Through the years, the AIDS Institute has used many mechanisms to gather community and consumer input, including the networks. We must develop an alternative means of obtaining valuable input from regional experts, providers and consumers. Just as we did with the PPG years ago, we are going to have to change from a regional approach involving contracts to a more centralized approach involving regional input. The plan is to re-structure the SASDC advisory body to incorporate regional provider and consumer input.

### ***Conclusion***

- The Ryan White HIV care network lead agency contracts will end on December 31, 2010.
- The Ryan White HIV care networks in New York State have done valuable work and provided important input on regional HIV/AIDS needs and issues. The elimination of grant funding for the network lead agencies is unfortunate but is necessary in order to avoid cuts in the provision of direct services.