







The AIDS and Hepatitis C Programs, Provincial Programs Branch, Ministry of Health funds and oversees community-based HIV and hepatitis C services as well as the distribution of naloxone and harm reduction supplies to populations at risk of HIV, hepatitis C, and opioid overdose.

### \$64.39M

invested by the AIDS and hepatitis C Programs, Ministry of Health <sup>◇</sup>

### PROVIDES:

-  Prevention programs
-  Harm reduction services
-  Testing
-  Support
-  Care and treatment
-  Linkage to health, community, and social services

- 84** HIV-focused services
- 36** harm reduction outreach services
- 11** provincial HIV and hepatitis C sector support services
- 8** anonymous HIV testing sites
- 5** community-based HIV clinical services
- 4** province-wide HIV client services
- 22** hepatitis C programs (including 18 multi-disciplinary teams)

### TO POPULATIONS AT HIGHEST RISK

#### HIV

- Gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men
- African, Caribbean and Black communities
- People who use drugs
- Indigenous Peoples
- Women<sup>‡</sup>

#### Hepatitis C

- People who use drugs
- People involved with the correctional system
- Indigenous Peoples
- Street-involved youth
- People who are homeless or underhoused

### GOALS



**REDUCE**  
new HIV and hepatitis C transmissions



**INCREASE**  
number of people in care and on treatment



**MINIMIZE**  
the burden of HIV and hepatitis C on the health care system

Employs **574** staff  
Engages **5,714** volunteers who give \$4.7 million worth of time



Actively promotes the greater and more meaningful involvement of people with lived experience

**233** staff and **761** volunteers have lived experience of HIV

<sup>◇</sup> This amount does not include funding for the Ontario Naloxone Program.

<sup>\*</sup> Some organizations provide more than one of these services. Total number of funded organizations that report in OCHART: 93.

<sup>‡</sup> Cis and trans women, including women who are members of the other populations at highest risk, and other women who face systemic and social inequities, and are more likely to be exposed to HIV through a sexual or drug using partner.

# Preventing HIV

To prevent new HIV infections, organizations provide education, outreach, community development, as well as linkage to services that address factors that increase risk, such as mental health issues, addictions, poverty, unstable housing and stigma/discrimination.



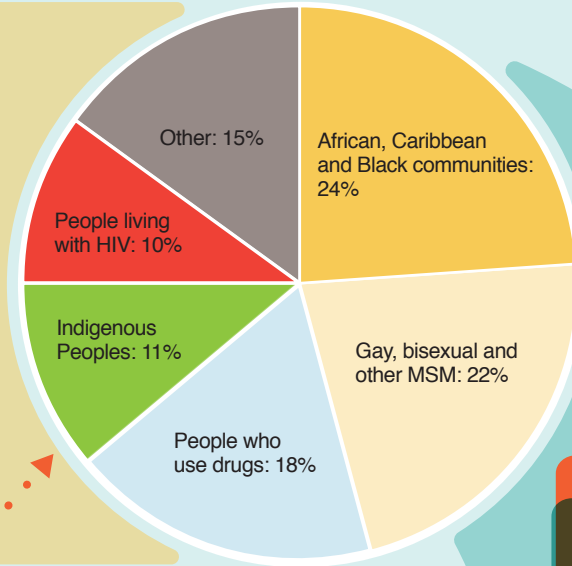
Targeted prevention interventions for populations most at risk in Ontario



**12,000** EVENTS

where **170,000** people received education to prevent HIV

**AIMED AT:**



**4,300**

capacity building workshops/consultations with **35,000** participants

## Top locations where people who use drugs are reached:

- Needle syringe programs
- Streets/parks
- Residences
- Mobile vans
- Community agencies
- Pharmacies
- Jails and detention centres
- Bars and nightclubs



**242,600** interactions with **>60,000** people who use drugs

## USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO REACH PEOPLE:

**>1 MILLION** website views

**>100,000** Facebook likes

**135,000** harm reduction teaching sessions

**>36,500,000** pieces of safer injection equipment distributed including **>10,000,000** needles (through both onsite and outreach services)

**>52,000** referrals to other health and social services

**3.2 M** pieces of safer inhalation equipment and nearly **300,000** crystal meth pipes

## SUPPORT SERVICES

## ANONYMOUS TESTING



**50**

HIV anonymous testing sites across Ontario, most providing rapid/point-of-care (POC) testing.



**8**

of 50 sites funded by the ministry provided

**11,800**

anonymous HIV tests

**>13,000\***



people received support services

**8,386**



referrals to HIV clinical and other social services

**650**



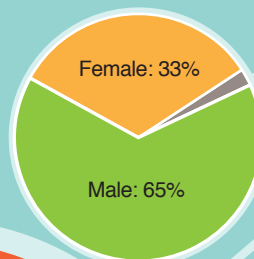
clients linked to other health and social services through case management

**55**

programs providing HIV support services

**8,363**

people living with HIV served



Clients identified as trans and other genders: 2%

**> 600**

clients received services to help them manage medications and symptoms



**34% (>4,000)**

of tests done in outreach locations like communities centres, other agencies, bathhouses, shelters

**1.08%** positivity rate

**127** people diagnosed with HIV and linked to care

**> 100,000**

sessions of counselling, support groups and practical supports provided

(e.g., assistance with applications or appointments)

## CLINICAL SERVICES

### Providing care and treatment

In addition to the hospital-based HIV clinics and primary care providers funded by the larger health care system, the AIDS and Hepatitis C Programs fund

**5** programs that deliver community-based HIV clinical care

that serve people who face barriers using traditional health services, such as people who use drugs, and who live in parts of the province with limited access to HIV care.

Provided care to

**>2,200**

patients who faced barriers using traditional health services



**4,500**

referrals to other health and social service providers



- Primary care
- Pharmacy services
- Treatment information
- Health promotion
- Counselling

\*Some people use services of more than one agency so this may not be unique clients.

# 22

PROGRAMS

## Preventing hepatitis C

To prevent new hepatitis C infections, agencies provide education and safer drug use equipment as well as services that address issues that increase risk, such as addiction, poverty, unstable housing and violence.



>1,200

education presentations that reached **22,000** people (service providers and priority populations)

**73,000**

outreach contacts with people

>1,300

meetings with other service providers to reach and improve services for people at risk

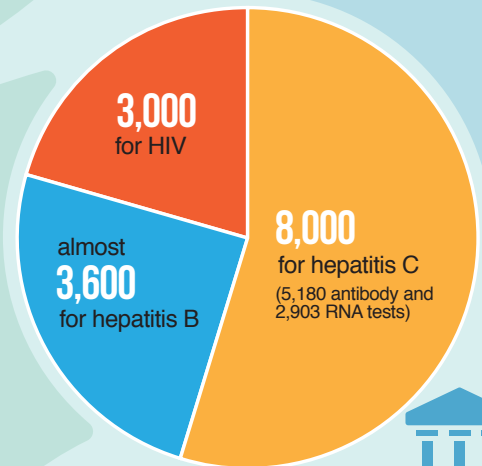
## Testing



People can live with hepatitis C for many years without symptoms. Testing is key to finding people with hepatitis C and engaging them in care.

The hepatitis C teams:

Performed over **14,600** tests



### Top locations where people who use drugs are reached:

- Mobile services
- Streets/parks
- Food banks
- Social gatherings
- Drop-in centres
- Other agencies

**70,000**

service sessions for

>6,900 patients, including

**3,175** who were living with HIV

**1,444**

clients who completed treatment

**96%**

had a sustained virologic response, which means they are effectively cured

## Treating hepatitis C

New hepatitis C treatments take only 8-12 weeks and, in most cases, result in people being cured.



**University Health Network** and **CATIE** provide expertise and resources to help hepatitis C programs:

- Stay up to date with the science
- Learn about best practices
- Train staff
- Network with other programs/teams

Provided **140** education presentations to **2,195** team members

Produced **8** resources and distributed **>155,000** copies