

May 2023 BOH Updates

Clinical

- 32 client visits between Mansfield and Galion STI test sites
- 18 client visits at the Tuesday Marion Public Health STI test site
- 37 active PrEP/HIV prevention clients. These individuals live in and travel from the following counties: Richland, Marion, Crawford, Hancock, Seneca, Erie, and Ashland.
- **Weekly testing has been going very well in Marion.** Our interactions with the staff and clients have been positive and the flow of testing, referrals to local providers and treatment centers has become seamless. The Marion community is hard hit by illicit drug use and we know that STIs, namely syphilis at present, are seen in this social circle. I am confident that weekly services at this location will continue to foster trust, increase testing and disease identification and treatment.

Region 2 HIV and Syphilis tracking

Crawford, Marion, Richland, Ashland, Knox, Erie, Wyandot, Seneca, & Huron Counties

- Syphilis cases are again on the uptick.
- Many cases of syphilis are seen in individuals using illicit drugs, namely fentanyl, "Ice," cocaine. This makes disease investigation and partner notification more difficult due to factors such as homelessness/transience, high number of sex contacts and needle shares, anonymous contacts, safety concerns for staff and more.
- We have continued to offer syphilis testing with all rapid HIV test encounters
- We were able to complete outreach testing and education services throughout May at two Knox Recovery locations (May 19th and May 25th).

Grant Management/Budget

- We continue to be on track with spending for 2023.
- A large media advertising/education campaign will roll out in later June Re: HIV prevention, syphilis awareness. This will be via radio, TV and billboard
- An LGBTQ+ focused campaign has been successful at reaching individuals that use certain media platforms and apps. We have received positive feedback and clinic leads as a result.

Respectfully Submitted,

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