

Success Stories

"I am a 53-year-old white gay male and I have been HIV positive for 18 years. I have been in and out of care during that time. I lost 3 classes of medications because I was not in care. I was dealing with the stigma of being HIV positive, which led me to start using drugs, then eventually harder drugs, including meth. I have been clean and back into care now for 3 years. I am now undetectable. I am a Peer Educator and a voting member on the South Carolina HIV Planning Council. I have been testing others and providing prevention services at Careteam+ for about 4 months now. It was a hard road but I am grateful for where I am today. I realized HIV wasn't killing me. The shame, the stigma within myself was what was killing me, but if my story helps at least one person get back into care, then I am happy."

Kelly J.

"I was diagnosed with HIV in December 2009 and that brought me many fears as a young college student. One fear was that I would have to take medication every day. I could not fathom having to take one or more medications each day for the rest of my life. Could I truly commit to it? Due to this fear I did not begin taking medication until 2013. I was advised by my doctor to stay on my medication and that missing doses could build up resistance to the drug I was taking at the time. I fell out of care because I started missing my doctors appointments, stopped getting my prescriptions, and fell out of case management. I was out of care for at least a year until one of my mutual friends realized that I was not seeing a doctor. He talked me into coming to the center where he worked so I could get back into case management. His persistence is why I am back in case management, back seeing my doctor, and now on medication."

W.H.



For more information, call
the SC AIDS/STD Hotline at
1-800-322-AIDS (2437)



Are You or Someone You Know HIV Positive & Not In Care?



Let us help you
complete the puzzle.

HIV Medical Care
Medical Financial Assistance
Social Support
HIV Case Management
Other Resources

www.scdhec.gov/HIV

The TRICE Program

Targeting Re-engagement in Care Efficiently

For various reasons, people living with HIV/AIDS fall out of care. The Targeting Re-engagement in Care Efficiently (TRICE) Program aims to link and re-engage persons living in South Carolina (SC) who are not receiving HIV medical care and treatment back into care. If you or someone you know is HIV positive and has not seen an HIV medical provider for treatment, assistance is available.

The Goals for TRICE are to:

- Increase the number of people living with HIV/AIDS engaged in care;
- Increase the number of people living with HIV/AIDS with an undetectable viral load; and,
- Decrease HIV transmissions.

Benefits of TRICE

The goal of the TRICE Program is to ensure a seamless and rapid transition to HIV medical services for persons that are HIV positive. People living with HIV/AIDS who have not received services from an HIV medical provider in 9 months or more are deemed not in care by TRICE definition. The TRICE program's mission is to get persons back into care by:

- Reaching out to not in care clients
- Assisting with gaining HIV medical services
- Referrals to behavioral and community resources
- Medication adherence activities/interventions
- Short-term support for health care visits

Regional Service Coordinators (RSCs)

HIV linkage and re-engagement activities are provided by RSCs located across South Carolina. There is one in each region (Upstate, Midlands, Pee Dee, and Lowcountry).

RSCs assist with linkage services and reduce barriers that may limit a person's ability to seek HIV medical services. This process ensures people living with HIV achieve a better quality of life through HIV medical care, medical financial assistance, social support, and HIV case management.

DHEC works with Community Organizations and HIV Medical Providers across South Carolina

This collaborative partnership plays an important role in making sure that all South Carolinians are linked to care after testing positive for HIV. DHEC is the public health authority which allows staff the ability to document and identify persons who are HIV positive and not in care. DHEC works with HIV providers to:

- Ensure linkage has taken place
- Assist with locating their patients
- Provide the most up-to-date client level information
- Confirm their not in care patients
- Keep their patients healthy

In accordance with state laws and national security guidelines, DHEC can only share the minimal amount of information necessary with designated health care and public health professionals for the purpose of improving the health and well-being of people living with HIV.

Regional HIV Medical Providers*

Pee Dee

CARETEAM+
843-234-0005

HopeHealth Florence and surrounding counties
803-667-9414

Little River Medical Center
843-663-8249

Sandhills Medical Foundation, Inc
803-778-2442

Sumter Family Health
803-774-4534

Midlands

Affinity Health Center
803-909-6363

Augusta University
706-721-4463

Eau Claire Cooperative
803-754-0151

Grace Medical Group
803-933-0288 x 208

Hispanic Outreach
803-419-5112

HopeHealth – Lower Savannah Region
803-643-1977

Kershaw Health
803-424-8284

Low Country Health Care System, Inc – Barnwell:
803-259-5762

Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services (PALSS)
803-779-2757

Palmetto Health USC – School of Medicine Immunology Center
803-545-5350

Joseph H. Neal Wellness Center (SC HIV Council)
803-254-6644

Upstate

AID Upstate
864-250-0607 or
864-232-2310

AnMed Health/AID Upstate
864-423-0069 or
864-226-9144

New Horizon Family Health Services
864-729-8330

Piedmont Care, Inc
864-582-7773 or
866-454-7773

Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System
864-560-6800

Upper Savannah Care Services
864-229-9029 or
800-604-4045

Lowcountry

Beaufort Jasper Hampton Comprehensive Health Services
843-987-7559

Caresouth Carolina, Inc.
843-378-3441

HopeHealth – Edisto Region
803-535-2272

Palmetto Community Care
843-747-2273

Lowcountry Health Care System, Inc – Allendale
803-631-2533 x 1150

Medical University of South Carolina
843-792-7485

Roper St. Francis Healthcare
843-402-1067 or
843-402-3094