

# Become a Model Site for Routine HIV Screening

Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago (PHIMC) is seeking five healthcare organizations across Illinois to develop and implement a routine HIV screening and affirming care initiative in the areas of highest HIV incidence.



## Routine HIV Screening and Affirming Care Initiative

The Routine HIV Screening and Affirming Care initiative supports implementation of routine HIV screening in general healthcare settings, links people who are diagnosed as HIV positive to medical care and other post-diagnostic services, supports implementation of an affirming care program, and provides a web portal for online resources and engagement.

## Benefits of Providing Routine HIV Screening

Routine HIV screening reduces barriers to HIV testing by making it part of routine health care for everyone ages 13 to 64 regardless of any known risk factors or symptoms. Nearly 40% of new HIV infections are transmitted by people who don't know they have the virus. Routine HIV screening is a critical step in diagnosing people with HIV and getting them into care to prevent HIV transmission and to improve their quality of life.



## Benefits of Providing Affirming Care

Affirming care is vital to the success of a routine HIV screening initiative. Affirming care decreases experiences with discrimination and stigma and increases the number of people who access and remain in care. More than half, 56%, of LGBTQ+ individuals have encountered discrimination while seeking medical treatment, whether it is the absence of proper gender on intake forms or blatant denial of services.

## Implementation Support

Participating healthcare organizations will receive implementation support in the form of:

- Routine HIV screening readiness assessments
- Customized implementation plans and technical assistance
- Access to evidence based training modules and expert facilitators
- Access to promotional materials, experiences, and incentives
- Sustainability planning



## Funding Structure for Participation

Through a contractual relationship with PHIMC, participating healthcare organizations will receive multi-year funding to both implement routine HIV screening and participate in the affirming care program. Funding for the initiative is provided by Illinois Department of Public Health.

If your organization serves one of the targeted areas and is interested in more information about participating in the Routine HIV Screening and Affirming Care initiative, please contact [katie.morin@phimc.org](mailto:katie.morin@phimc.org).

[Click here for a map of the targeted areas.](#)