



Evaluation Quality Assurance & Planning Committee Meeting

August 13, 2026 | 11:00 AM | Zoom

Facilitator(s): Jackie Clarke, Co-Chair, Natasha Ramalagan, Co-Chair, & Saundra Rangel, Co-Chair

Attendees: Carrie Hollinger, Charlotte Kiehn, Kelsey Baird, Michelle Peaslee, Myra Howie, Natasha Ramalagan, Nicholas Stein Snyder, Saundra Rangel, Sherry Gizzarelli, Yenichel Ruan, Tiffany Canate (HCSEF)

Excused Absences: Channel Bonner, Eric Martinez, Jackie Clarke

Minutes

Introductions & Moment of Silence

- S. Rangel called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM and welcomed the group.
- T. Canate conducted roll call, and then N. Ramalagan led a moment of silence.

Evaluation Quality Assurance Updates *led by Saundra Rangel, Co-Chair*

Review and approval of EQA agenda and previous meeting minutes

- C. Hollinger motioned to approve the EQA agenda as distributed, and M. Howie seconded the motion. Y. Ruan motioned to approve the previous meeting minutes as distributed, and C. Hollinger seconded the motion.

EQA Discussion

- **Review and Update of Quality Assurance Plan Goals and Performance Indicators and Ryan White Report**
 - T. Canate screenshared a summary report regarding key performance indicators developed by C. Hollinger.
 - C. Hollinger noted that a summary report with quarter two progress had been submitted to the state. She recapped progress on the four indicators:
 - Viral load suppression increased from 59% in Q1 to 63% by the end of Q2.
 - Antiretroviral therapy (ART) use increased from 80% in Q1 to 84% by the end of Q2.
 - Medical visit frequency increased from 6.5% in Q1 to 27% by the end of Q2.
 - Annual syphilis screening increased from 3.6% in Q1 to 8% by the end of Q2.
- **Ryan White Services Report (RSR)**
 - The Ryan White reporting year runs from January through December.
 - Clients included in the RSR had received at least one core service during the reporting period.
 - Staff continue manually updating data while addressing electronic health record data upload issues.
 - S. Rangel shared the following data updates:
 - Total clients increased from 592 in June to 646 in July.
 - Outpatient Ambulatory Health Services increased from 370 clients in June to 409 clients in July.
 - Medical Case Management increased from 384 clients to 469 clients.

- **Linkage to Care Updates**

- T. Canate screenshared a summary report for the June 2026 Linkage to Care data created by Y. Ruan. Linkage to Care data is determined by residents' ZIP Code, regardless of where the diagnosis was made. T. Canate reported:
 - Five newly diagnosed individuals, all living in St. Lucie County, were successfully linked into care.
 - Of 14 previously diagnosed individuals, eight were retained in care, two were re-engaged in care, one was incarcerated, and one was unable to be located.
 - Additionally, 17 individuals had positive HIV status, two individuals were in AIDS status, and 10 individuals had suppressed viral loads.
 - Y. Ruan recapped additional metrics by sex, race, and age groupings. No further questions were raised.

- **Open Discussion**

- No items were shared for the EQA open discussion.

Planning Updates *led by Natasha Ramalga, Co-Chair*

- **Review and approval of the Planning agenda and previous meeting minutes**

- C. Hollinger motioned to approve the Planning agenda and meeting minutes as previously distributed, and S. Rangel seconded.

- **Planning Discussion**

- **Needs Assessment Updates**

- T. Canate announced that the survey portal will officially close at midnight on Monday, August 31, 2026, and that HCSEF continues Needs Assessment outreach.
- T. Canate reported that approximately 300 surveys had been submitted, including partial responses. Based on the target of 310 completed surveys, an estimated 40 additional responses are still needed to meet the participation goal. All paper and scanned surveys received to date had been entered into the data portal.
- T. Canate reported that HCSEF continued outreach efforts with provider agencies to support survey collection and encourage focus group participation. Recent activities included tabling and community outreach at the Indiantown Community Health Fair.
- T. Canate announced two upcoming virtual focus groups scheduled for August 19 (English) and August 20 (Spanish). She noted that sessions are open to individuals who live in or receive care in Area 15 and outlined measures to protect participant anonymity during the discussions.
- T. Canate recapped Needs Assessment updates shared at previous meetings:
 - A focus group was conducted in June in partnership with In the Image of Christ with 10 participants, and an in-person session was held in July at DOH-St. Lucie with six participants. No participants attended the Spanish-language session.
 - Secondary data collection and analysis have been completed using publicly available sources, including Florida Health CHARTS and local epidemiologic profiles.
 - Analysis of the five key informant interviews was completed to understand provider perspectives on the HIV prevention and care system in Area 15.
 - The final report will include secondary data and summarized findings from the survey, focus groups, and key informant interviews. The completed Needs Assessment will be shared with partners to support planning and service delivery.

- T. Canate emphasized the importance of survey and focus group participation in ensuring that the experiences and perspectives of residents living with HIV are reflected in future planning and service improvement efforts.
- T. Canate opened the floor to questions regarding the Needs Assessment updates or process.
- N. Ramalgan commended HCSEF for its ongoing efforts to increase awareness and promote the Needs Assessment through COSA and community outreach activities.
- T. Canate thanked N. Ramalgan for the feedback and screenshared the Area 15 CPN website, highlighting available outreach materials, including printable survey PDFs and promotional flyers for partner distribution.
- **HIV Prevention Activities**
 - Members finalized planning for the upcoming virtual informational session to recruit new Consortium members. N. Ramalgan noted excitement about briefly sharing the community work Jackson Drugs has been doing.
 - T. Canate shared the promotional flyer in the chat and encouraged the group to help promote the event widely.
 - Regular after-hours testing is available through DOH-St. Lucie and DOH-Martin:
 - 1st Tuesday of the month from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM (16401 SW Farm Rd, Indiantown, FL 34956)
 - 3rd Monday of the month from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM (3441 SE Willoughby, Stuart, FL 34997)
 - 4th Friday of the month from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM (1701 S. 23rd Street, Fort Pierce, FL 34950)
- **Provider Updates**
 - N.S. Snyder reported on behalf of New Horizons of the Treasure Coast that they are working with DOH-St. Lucie to establish their Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and acquire HIV tests to expand HIV prevention programming in the community. He explained that they hope to offer PrEP, PEP, and treatment.
 - No additional provider updates were shared.
- **Open Discussion**
 - T. Canate shared information about an upcoming virtual webinar for healthcare professionals, "Behind the Science: Ultra-Long-Acting Approaches to Severe Asthma and Treatment Decision-Making," scheduled for August 20, 2026. She noted that the webinar may be a valuable resource for providers and organizations serving individuals with asthma and other chronic health conditions.

Closing and Adjourn

- N. Ramalgan motioned to adjourn, and C. Kiehn seconded.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:40 PM.