

# PHHS BLOCK GRANT SUCCESS STORY 2016

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## OFFICE OF AIDS: RE-ENGAGEMENT IN HIV CARE AND PARTNER SERVICES USING HIV SURVEILLANCE DATA

### ORANGE COUNTY USES HIV SURVEILLANCE DATA TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES.

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**Issue:** HIV Data to Care (DtC) activities are new to California's local health jurisdictions (LHJs). Statute updates Assembly Bill 2541

(Portantino, Chapter 470, Statutes of 2010) allow LHJs to use HIV surveillance data to assist people living with HIV (PLWH) who are not in appropriate HIV care to return to HIV care, treatment, and prevention services. These new activities require LHJs to assess whether existing infrastructure allows them to provide adequate services and maintain data security and confidentiality. This level of systems review for program integration is usually not available due to funding restrictions and staff shortages. The California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS (OA) is responsible for the security and confidentiality of HIV surveillance data at the state level. The Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant provide needed staffing in LHJs to provide DtC implementation and activities.

**Intervention:** Danielle Farias joined the County of Orange Healthcare Agency as a Data-to-Care Specialist in early 2016. Her responsibilities have included (1) assessment and mapping of activities that could be related to using HIV surveillance data to assist patients into HIV care, treatment and prevention services, (2) making sure a PLWH is receiving HIV care and treatment, and (3) participating in prevention interventions. This has included interviewing and/or job-shadowing employees at the Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Clinic, Public Health Laboratory, and County HIV clinic as well as community health workers, Partner Services interviewers, and other service providers. From these observations, Danielle has developed patient and data flow charts that graphically explain how the systems work together and improvements that can be made.

**Impact:** Danielle has completed assessment and mapping of patient and data flows for processes within the HIV prevention, care, and treatment activities at the County of Orange Health Department. She and her managers are assessing the information to determine the best ways to implement more efficient work flows throughout the county's health system. This will be especially helpful when the County of Orange Health Care Agency implements electronic health records in Spring 2017.