



KAREN L. SMITH, MD, MPH  
Director and State Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Governor

May 4, 2015

Dear Ryan White Colleagues,

In February 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) released a joint letter announcing the two agencies were working together to align the guidance(s) for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) Parts A and B Comprehensive Plans and the CDC Jurisdictional HIV Prevention Plan ([RWHAP Comprehensive Plans/SCSN and CDC Jurisdictional Plan Submissions](#)). In February 2015, HRSA released a table summarizing some examples of integrated planning activities ([HRSA / CDC Examples of Integrated Planning Activities](#)). As the examples highlight, the expected guidance will allow states to submit a single Integrated HIV Statewide Coordinated Statement of Need (SCSN)/Comprehensive Plan that would fulfill the legislative and programmatic requirements for Part A and B Ryan White HIV/AIDS Programs and all three CDC HIV Prevention grantees within California (the California Department of Public Health, Los Angeles, and San Francisco). However, we also recognize and support the benefits of local planning and know that some local jurisdictions may opt to continue to create local prevention, care, and/or integrated prevention and care plans which can delve into a greater level of local detail.

In anticipation of this integrated guidance, the California Office of AIDS will be conducting a comprehensive statewide needs assessment for HIV-related services. The needs assessment will examine epidemiology, identify the service needs of people living with HIV and those at high-risk of becoming infected, inventory resources and assess provider capacity, and determine where service gaps exist. OA's goal is that this needs assessment will be a joint effort with Ryan White Part A recipients and the Los Angeles and San Francisco HIV Prevention programs, and will be useful for both OA and our partners in guiding future planning activities.

The data collection and analytic activities related to the comprehensive needs assessment will be conducted throughout 2015 and early 2016, while the gap analysis and development of a statewide integrated plan will occur in 2016. The needs assessments and integrated plan are due to HRSA and CDC in September 2016. Local providers, consumers, state officials, and other key stakeholders will be engaged throughout the process.

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In order to keep stakeholders informed, OA will be organizing webinars and conference calls. We look forward to receiving your input and working together. If you have any questions please email [OfficeofAIDS@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:OfficeofAIDS@cdph.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "K. Mark".

Karen Mark, MD, PhD  
Chief, Office of AIDS  
California Department of Public Health