



Providing comprehensive outreach and treatment to people who are experiencing homelessness and living with HIV wherever they prefer to receive care

Project Hi-5 Harris Health System, Houston, Texas

GEOGRAPHIC LANDSCAPE

Encompasses Harris County including the City of Houston, Texas

THE CHALLENGE

Fragmented system of services for people living with HIV who are experiencing homelessness and dealing with substance use or mental health challenges

FOCUS POPULATION

Adults in the greater Houston area who are experiencing homelessness, living with HIV, and with mental health and/or substance use disorders

THE MODEL

- Primary and specialty HIV care, case management, behavioral health, substance use treatment all provided through Harris Health System, including shelter-based clinics operated by its Health Care for the Homeless Program
- Case managers and service linkage workers are involved in all aspects of client management from initial assessment through developing housing and care plans, accompanying clients to visits and long-term follow-up

PARTNERS and LINKAGES

- **The Beacon** – Day homeless shelter which facilitates HIV-testing among individuals experiencing homelessness
- **Houston Healthcare for the Homeless** – Bus transportation services
- **Houston Food Bank** – Food stamp enrollment on site at clinic
- **Houston Police Department Homeless Outreach Team** – Obtaining temporary IDs
- **Salvation Army** – Emergency beds for clients who are experiencing homelessness

IMPACTS

240 clients served

- **Improved health status and housing stability for program participants**
- **Greater understanding and empathy for patients experiencing homelessness among HIV clinic staff; greater expertise in providing basic HIV care among Health Care for the Homeless staff**

Learn more: <http://cahpp.org/project/medheart>

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