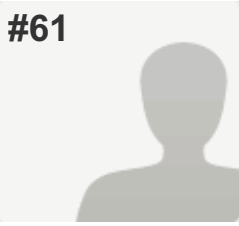


# Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

#61



**COMPLETE**

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PAGE 1

**Q2: Title of your recommendation**

Establish and Monitor Indicators of Living Well with HIV

**Q3: Please provide a description of your proposed recommendation**

Indicators of progress in the plan to end the AIDS epidemic in NYS must include evidence-based measures of key social determinants of HIV health outcomes, including housing status, food security and vocational opportunity among all New Yorkers living with HIV/AIDS. A substantial body of evidence demonstrates that efforts to extend and improve the lives of people living with HIV (PWH) and to reduce new infections simply will not succeed for persons who are unable to meet basic subsistence needs. (See supporting memorandum titled "Housing Supports and Other Basic Subsistence Benefits.") Tracking housing status and food security as part of medical records would also facilitate referrals to services as part of core HIV treatment planning.

Strategies to address social factors are increasingly recognized as core components of any effective HIV prevention and care strategies. Housing status is one of the seven Common Indicators for HHS-funded HIV Programs and Services, defined as the percentage of persons with an HIV diagnosis receiving services who were homeless or unstably housed in the 12-month measurement period (see <http://aids.gov/pdf/hhs-common-hiv-indicators.pdf>). Housing instability, food security and transportation needs are recognized as core indicators of mental health, substance abuse and supportive services in the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Monitoring HIV Care in the United States, Indicators and Data Systems, March 2012.

NYS has a wealth of experts to advise the Task Force and the AIDS Institute on selection and implementation appropriate validated measures, including Dr. Angela Aidala of the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. The development of these metrics should also track the development currently underway to establish similar measures for the NYS Health and Recovery Plan (HARP) process.

**Q4: For which goal outlined in the Governor's plan to end the epidemic in New York State does this recommendation apply? (Select all that apply)**

Identifying persons with HIV who remain undiagnosed and linking them to health care

Linking and retaining persons diagnosed with HIV to health care and getting them on anti-HIV therapy to maximize HIV virus suppression so they remain healthy and prevent further transmission

## Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

**Q5: This recommendation should be considered by the following Ending the Epidemic Task Force Committee (Select all that apply)**

Data Committee: Develop recommendations for metrics and identify data sources to assess the comprehensive statewide HIV strategy. The Committee will determine metrics that will measure effective community engagement/ownership, political leadership, and supportive services. It will also determine metrics that will measure quality of care, impact of interventions and outcomes across all populations, particularly identified sub populations such as transgender men and women, women of color, men who have sex with men and youth. In addition, the Committee will evaluate to determine optimal strategies for using data to identify infected persons who have not achieved viral suppression and address their support service, behavioral health, and adherence needs.

**Q6: Does this recommendation require a change to an existing policy or program, or the creation of a new policy or program?**

Change to existing policy

**Q7: Would implementation of this recommendation be permitted under current laws or would a statutory change be required?**

Permitted under current law

**Q8: Is this recommendation something that could feasibly be implemented in the short-term (within the next year) or long-term (within the next three to six years)?**

Within the next year

**Q9: What are the perceived benefits of implementing this recommendation?**

Setting goals and tracking progress towards the provision of housing, food and employment opportunities for PWH are key to achieving the goals of the plan to end AIDS in NYS and to addressing the stark disparities in HIV health outcomes.

For additional information see the supporting memorandum titled "Housing Supports and Other Basic Subsistence Benefits."

**Q10: Are there any concerns with implementing this recommendation that should be considered?**

Despite the evidence, medical providers and other key stakeholders may be resistant to tracking social determinants of HIV health outcomes.

**Q11: What is the estimated cost of implementing this recommendation and how was this estimate calculated?**

These measures would be incorporated into existing record keeping systems, so the only incremental costs would those associated with tracking and analysis by NYS.

## Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

**Q12: What is the estimated return on investment (ROI) for this recommendation and how was the ROI calculated?**

Investments in housing and other essential supports for PWH is an effective cost-containment strategy, as public dollars spent on these essential benefits produce offsetting public savings through improved health care utilization and prevented HIV infections. A growing evidence base of such cost analyses indicate that improved stability among persons with HIV or other chronic medical or behavioral health issues results in increased engagement in cost-effective health care and reduced use of avoidable crisis care and other publicly funded services, generating “savings” in outlays for other categories of public spending that offset all or part of the cost of housing services. (See supporting memorandum titled “Housing Supports and Other Basic Subsistence Benefits.”)

**Q13: Who are the key individuals/stakeholders who would benefit from this recommendation?**

PWH in need of referrals and assistance to secure housing, food, employment and other basic necessities for effective HIV treatment.

**Q14: Are there suggested measures to accompany this recommendation that would assist in monitoring its impact?**

Measures would be developed in consultation with NYS experts and in coordination with other ongoing processes such as the development of the HARPS.

**Q15: This recommendation was submitted by one of the following**

Ending the Epidemic Task Force member,

Other (please specify)

Submitted on behalf of the Ad Hoc End of AIDS Community Group: ACRIA, Amida Care, Correctional Association of New York, Jim Eigo (ACT UP/Prevention of HIV Action Group), GMHC, Harlem United, HIV Law Project, Housing Works, Latino Commission on AIDS, Legal Action Center, Peter Staley (activist), Terri L. Wilder (Spencer Cox Center for Health), Treatment Action Group, VOCAL New York