

i. Project Abstract: HIV Emergency Relief Grant Program Part A: Atlanta Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA). H89HA00007 Fulton County Government, 141 Pryor Street, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303. Jeff Cheek, Director. Phone: 404/612-0789, Jeff.Cheek@fultoncountyga.gov. www.ryanwhiteatl.org
Funds Requested: \$26,806,415

Overview of Atlanta EMA: The Atlanta EMA is comprised of 20 counties: Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Rockdale, Spalding and Walton covering 6,209 square miles. The EMA has a population of 5,772,120, which represents 56% of the State's population of 10,310,371. The median population is 141,375, Race: White 53%; Black/African American 35%; Asian 7%; and, other races 5%; 11% of EMA residents are of Hispanic ethnicity.

Epidemiologic and Demographic overview of HIV epidemic: In 2016, the prevalence was 39,210 people, an increase of 9% from 2014. Of the 39,210, 80% (31,195) were male, 20% (7,940) were female, 0.2% were other or unknown; 64% of cases had MSM exposure category, 22% had High Risk Heterosexual exposure, 6% had injection drug use exposure; 4% had unknown exposure; and, 43% were 25-44 and 42% were 45-64, 4% were among the 13-24 age group.

Geographic Information: In 2016, 93% of the EMA's prevalent cases were located in the urban core of the EMA with Fulton at 42.1% (16,524), DeKalb at 24.4% (9,580), Cobb 8.4% (3,297), Gwinnett 8.2% (3,217), Clayton 6.3% (2,417), Henry 1.7% (685) and Douglas with 1.4% (551). The HIV epidemic in metro Atlanta is concentrated primarily in one downtown section of Fulton and DeKalb Counties. This area, consisting of 157 census tracts, has 60 percent of the metropolitan area's HIV cases. The prevalence rate within the cluster is 1.34% and is compatible with what the World Health Organization would describe as a "generalized epidemic". The Atlanta EMA funded 16 service providers in FY17 including one agency with Minority AIDS Initiative funding. While the majority of service providers are located in Fulton and DeKalb Counties, HIV/AIDS core and support services are geographically dispersed and accessible to HIV/AIDS clients throughout the EMA.

The Comprehensive System of Care: During 2016 the EMA served 15,610 Ryan White Part A clients. Funding supports the continuum of care through a comprehensive range of core services including: 1) outpatient ambulatory health services through 11 healthcare facilities and 2 satellite clinics; 2) preventative and restorative oral health; 3) medical case management services 4) mental health services and medications; 5) substance abuse services; and, 6) medical nutrition therapy. Other essential support services which facilitate primary care access and retention include: non-medical case management; referrals to health care and support services (including insurance navigation); psychosocial support (including patient navigation); medical transportation; other professional services (for legal services), food, and child care. These various core and support services are often co-located within the primary care facilities. Minority AIDS Initiative funds are directed to outpatient ambulatory health services to improve health outcomes for persons of color with a particular emphasis on African American MSM (13-24 and 25-44), African American Women, and transgender individuals.

Overall viral suppression rate: CY 2016 population-based data show 53% of Persons Living with HIV (PLWH) in the Atlanta EMA as virally suppressed. Viral suppression rates among PLWH subpopulations of the Atlanta EMA were 52% among Black/AA MSM 13-24, 49% among Black/ AA MSM 25-44, 51% among Black/AA Women, and 40% among transgender.