



INTEGRATED HIV/AIDS PLANNING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

WEBINAR TRANSCRIPT:

Lights, Camera, Action: Introducing an Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Planning Online Course

Julie Hook:

My name is Julie Hook from the Integrated HIV/Aids Planning Technical Assistance Center, or the IHAP TAC. Thank you for joining us today. We're excited to launch our new online course and introduction to integrated HIV prevention and care planning, which is an integrated planning 101 course. The course introduces the fundamentals of integrated planning, and is really meant for anyone who is new to integrated planning, any new staff that you may have or planning body staff. Or anyone who just wants to refresher on the basics or an orientation.

Julie Hook:

So my IHAP TAC colleagues will provide a brief overview of integrated planning, demo the course, and then answer any questions that you have about the course. We'll be answering as many questions at the end of the call, and if you have questions, please submit them through the Q&A feature. And I also just wanted to mention at the end of the webinar, an evaluation will pop up and we thank you in advance for filling that out, as it helps us to inform future trainings.

Julie Hook:

So hopefully you know who the IHAP TAC is, but we are HRSA-HAB funded technical assistance center to support Ryan White program Parts A and B recipients and their respective planning bodies with their overall integrated planning efforts, as well as the implementation and monitoring of the plans. We provide both a national TA such as larger trainings and webinars such as this, but also some targeted one-on-one TA with jurisdictions. And we are led by JSI with our partner HealthHIV.

Julie Hook:

So we hope at the end of the webinar, you'll be able to summarize the content and the purpose of the new online course, describe who will benefit from taking it and know how to access the online course on our website, which is on TargetHIV.

Julie Hook:

I know that many of you have probably seen, but on June 30th HRSA and CDC jointly released the integrated HIV prevention and care plan guidance, including the state-wide coordinated statement of need for calendar year 2022 through 2026, which outlines the planning requirements for Ryan White Parts A and B recipients and all CDC to top funded state and local health departments. I did want to note here that this particular webinar is not providing specifics of the guidance, but really to provide an overall framework for the ongoing cyclical integrated planning process of which plan development is a part of. So we are currently working on some TA offerings that we're going to launch really soon, so please stay tuned.

Julie Hook:

So that being said, I did want to briefly go over a high level with the goals of what the integrated plan guidance outlines. The integrated plan guidance is designed to coordinate HIV prevention and care activities by accessing services and service delivery gaps and needs across the HIV care and treatment systems to ensure prevention and treatment systems, to ensure the allocation of resource that it's based on the need and the data that's found. Address requirements for planning, community engagement in coordination, established by both the Ryan White legislation, as well as community engagement requirements and other programmatic, perennial requirements established by both HRSA and CDC. Improve health outcomes along the HIV care continuum by using data to prioritize those populations where systems of care are not adequately addressing HIV morbidity or a lower than average viral suppression rates. Next slide, please.

Julie Hook:

Promote a status neutral approach where testing serves as an entry point to services, regardless of a positive or a negative result to improve HIV prevention and care outcomes. HRSA and CDC hope that they'll be reducing recipient burden by allowing recipients to submit portions of other significant planning documents. Those that are funded to do EHE plans or those 90 EHE jurisdictions that have Fast-Track Cities are getting to zero plans. To use those portions of those plans that are also duplicated and integrated plan requirements to reduce some of those efforts. And then really importantly, to advance health equity and racial justice by ensuring that these programs from an equitable delivery of services and engaging people with lived experience in both service delivery system design and implementation. Next slide, please.

Julie Hook:

So HRSA and CDC with the, the late 2020 date for the integrated plan submission, HRSA and CDC expect that the Part A and Part B recipients and the CDC funded state and local health departments continue to use existing integrated point, their existing integrated plans and other jurisdictional roadmaps such as the, as I mentioned, EHE or Fast-Track Cities. So many of you have already developed these plans and HRSA and CDC really encouraged jurisdictions to use the appendices and checklists and other sort of documentation, including the new guidance on how to leverage those existing EHE documents to satisfy requirements. Next slide please.

Julie Hook:

So just let you know, we are compiling a FAQ document on the updated guidance and a cross checklist for the guidance. So if you have any specific questions, please submit them to us. Next slide please.

Julie Hook:

So we are here to help. We are available to provide training and technical assistance, and as I mentioned before, we'll be launching some new assistance opportunities and training resources and materials soon to help you develop your integrated plan, so please stay tuned. Now I'd like to hand the presentation over and the demonstration of the new online course to my colleagues, Molly Tasso, who is a training and technical assistance coordinator on our team, and Jamal Refuge, who is our webinar and communications lead. I'd like to hand it over to Molly now.

Molly Tasso:

Great, thanks so much, Julie. So before we dive into a presentation of the new online course, we just wanted to provide a very quick refresher of the integrated planning process, starting with sort of the rationale behind this approach to HIV prevention and care planning.

Molly Tasso:

So broadly speaking, integrated planning is important because it supports a more coordinated, creative, and efficient approach to providing HIV prevention and treatment services. More specifically, you can see on the slide there, it fosters new approaches to addressing barriers to HIV prevention care and treatment, serves as a jurisdictional roadmap, leverages existing resources, and again, improves efficiency and coordination of service delivery, promotes collaboration and coordination around data use, resource allocation and evaluation, and continuous QI, quality improvement efforts. And it also establishes ongoing mechanisms for stakeholder engagement, which is incredibly important in both the development and also the implementation of integrated plans.

Molly Tasso:

So we know why it's important, but what does integrated planning actually mean, and what does this look like in practice? So first off. We really feel it's important to establish from the onset here that we just want to make sure folks understand that there's really no one size fits all approach to integrated planning and the idea of a fully integrated treatment and prevention like planning bodies is not sort of the gold standard. There's no gold star for that. It looks different in each jurisdiction and can take place across several different domains, which include, as you can see on the slide, planning groups; specific planning activities such as need assessments or plan development; the physical integration of recipient services, so actually housing folks within the same building; co-location and prevention and treatment administration; recipients staff, so integrating roles and responsibilities across prevention and care for certain staff; and then also integration of the process of procurement for prevention and care services.

Molly Tasso:

And finally, before I hand it over to Jamal, I just want to give a preview of the framework that we've developed that sort of guides the integrated planning process as we understand it. So you'll see here on this slide, we see integrated plan as a continuous process, really with five main sort of stages involved. So the first being organizing and preparing, the second is prioritizing activities and developing the actual integrated plan. Stage three is the implementation of the plan. Stage four is the monitor and improvements portion of the plan, which also sort of is a continuous activity that should be going on. And then stage five is communicating and sharing progress of the progress towards implementation with the community and stakeholders. I want to know in the middle here of the graph, you'll see ongoing stakeholder engagement as a continuous activity that should be taking place at every stage. It's not specific to one of these stages. We know that engaging stakeholders and the community and making sure that the integrated plans are developed in response to needs on the ground that will be a successful endeavor if ongoing stakeholder engagement is really a meaningful part of the plan development process.

Molly Tasso:

So with that, I'm going to hand it over to Jamal, who's going to introduce us to the new online integrated planning 101 course and also provide a live demonstration for us.

Jamal Refuge:

Thank you so much, Molly. I really appreciate that wonderful introduction. Hello everyone. My name is Jamal. I am responsible for the new course that we have, Introduction to Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Planning. So I'm going to talk a little bit about the who, what, when, where and why of the course.

Jamal Refuge:

So on the next slide, you will find information of who the course is designed for. So it's designed for folks who are new to integrated planning services. If this is your first time learning about integrated planning, this course is for you. If you are someone who is receiving training or being oriented to integrated planning, this course is also for you. If you've been involved in integrated planning for a little bit of time, you kind of need a refresher to retrain your brain, this course is also for you. So those are pretty much our primary audiences with the integrated planning course.

Jamal Refuge:

So on the next slide, you'll find some information about how the course works. So the course is self-paced, so you can go at your own pace. You can go as fast or as slow as you want to go. The course provides real-time updates on your progress. So it lets you know how many lessons you've completed and how much further you have left to go. As Molly mentioned that framework earlier about the five stages of integrated planning, so that's the format that the course was designed based upon. Users who are in the course, I think they cycle through the stages at their own leisure. So let's say for example, you are interested in only stage number three or stage number four, you can dive directly into that stage and into the information that you need.

Jamal Refuge:

To all the nerds out there who are curious about the way that the course was designed. So we used what was called RISE, which would be a curriculum development software. What's really great about the course and about RISE as well, they don't need a user account. I know folks sometimes get annoyed when you get a lot of those marketing emails and all those sorts of things, but you don't have to have an account to be able to take the course.

Jamal Refuge:

I do recommend it because you don't have to have an account, you can complete the course in one sitting. Because again, with there being no account, you can't just kind of log in, log out. If you close your browser, you'll have to start all over again. So to avoid that, we really want to get the full experience and take that course from beginning to end, I recommend that you do it in one sitting. It'll take you about maybe an hour or so to complete everything. And I also recommend that even if you do one stage versus all five scenes that you complete the course evaluation. So that myself and Molly and Julie and everyone else know what's working, what's not working, and how we can improve it going forward. Next slide, please.

Jamal Refuge:

So what are some of the benefits of taking this course? Well, the course offers strategies and tools and resources to help folks who are Part A, Part B recipients. And so with the course, there are what we call reflection exercises that are built within the course. So maybe to a certain point in the course, we actually think about how you are doing integrated planning activities. So that's just something to kind of get your mind going, but we also have what's called "In Action". So these "In Actions" are just small descriptions of strategies or tools or resources that you can click on and download and save for your own personal needs.

Jamal Refuge:

One of the other great benefits of the course, it helps you to develop your plan. As Julie mentioned earlier, the guidance is out, and so some folks may need to kind of go back and find integrated planning skills and ultimately develop the integrated plan. Next slide, please.

Jamal Refuge:

So how can you access the course? So you can go to TargetHIV.org/ihap. Click on that online resource guide, and then you can also click on the course and get started.

Jamal Refuge:

And so on the next slide, I am going to take a little bit of a sharing of the screen break quickly. Give you guys some demonstrations and kind of get a feel for the course and see how it works what you can get from it. So one second.

Jamal Refuge:

All right, so I'm hoping you guys can see my screen. So as you can see, I am on the IHAP TAC website. If you haven't checked out our website, please do so. We have tons of fun and exciting resources on here. So again, you go to TargetHIV.org/ihap. Go ahead and click to the right and you click on the online resource guide. Maybe scroll down just a tad little bit, and you'll see that we have the link to the course right here. Can you go ahead and click on that for me? And now you're in the course. Then you click on start course to begin.

Jamal Refuge:

So, as I mentioned earlier. So on the left hand side, you have the completion bar. It lets you know what your progress has been within the course. At the top, you have the number of lessons that you have. So this course has 16 lessons. I mean, it sounded like a lot, but it's really not. Again, you can complete this in probably about an hour. So I wanted to kind of just skip ahead just a tiny little bit, and I'm going to start with stage number one. So kind of just get a feel for what we have going on. So at the beginning of each stage, there will always be that framework that we talked about it that began the course is designed into the five stages of integrated planning.

Jamal Refuge:

So with this demonstration, you'll see to the left side, that there's that little graphic that we have lets you know immediately that you are in stage number one. So all the content that's associated with stage number one would be your organizing and preparing integrated planning.

Jamal Refuge:

So what's also graded here is we have a couple of features that are built in to kind of help make it fun and exciting, that's not all texts. So we have some fun little boxes here that include more information as well as links. That when you can click on. You'll be able to go to those links and get those resources as well.

Jamal Refuge:

If you keep scrolling down a little bit, you can immediately go, I'm using either this bottom arrow down at the bottom here or to the left-hand side to skip to the next lesson in the course. So I'm going to do that right now.

Jamal Refuge:

So as you can see, we have the images here, as well as some texts, but we also have, as I mentioned earlier, those "in actions" and those reflection exercises. So this particular in action is an excerpt from Arizona. We highlight the integrated plan. If you click on the resource, it gives you that resource just like that. If you want to download it, you can go ahead and download it onto your computer. Same thing here with our resource that we're putting out right here called cultural competence, you can click on it, download it. As I've mentioned earlier, the reflection exercises are here, so if you find one of these exercises in your particular lesson, please go ahead and just read it, take some time, digest it and figure out what are some ways that you can use it creatively to help you develop and engineer the plan. And as I mentioned earlier, it's important that you complete the evaluation, and the evaluation of the course is all the way at the end.

Jamal Refuge:

So again, it doesn't matter if you do one state or all five stages, please give us that feedback because we really, really need it in order to make sure that the course hits everything that you guys need and that you guys want, and we'll be able to try our best to help satisfy those needs.

Jamal Refuge:

And that's it! That's pretty much how the course goes. Again, it's super easy to use. Very user-friendly, you don't have to be an expert, and I encourage you to take the course as early as you can. I'm going to share a link to the course in the chat so when the webinar's over, you got to get started and have a good time, have at it. So I'm going to turn it back over to my colleague, Julie, she's going to moderate our Q&A. And take it away, Julie

Julie Hook:

So there were a number of questions. Thanks for that demo and that overview, Molly and Jamal. So there were a number of questions just about how can people access the training, and so we've put the, you can access the course directly from our website on TargetHIV. And I've shared it a couple of times, both in the chat, and I believe others have as well. We did also have a question, I've had a couple of questions around slides. It's not a huge slide deck, but we will have the slides and this video recording up on our website again on Target probably by the end of the week.

Julie Hook:

There was one question that came in around specific, not to the online course, but specific to the integrated plan guidance, and so someone had a question around whether the integrated plan was required for each state or do each need to develop their own. And so the answer to that is that all funded jurisdictions, funded by both CDC and HRSA, must submit an integrated plan, responsive to the guidance. And so while all plans need to include both HIV prevention and care, HRSA and CDC are flexible with respect to the type of plan submitted. So in states where there is a Part A recipient, you can submit an integrated state and city county prevention and care plan, or the Part A can submit their own integrated prevention and care only care plan separate from the Part B recipient. And then the states, the part B recipients as well can submit a state-only prevention and care plan. Even if they are a state that does have a Part A in their jurisdiction. And that information is on page eight of the guidance.

Julie Hook:

Great. So there was a question about how long it takes to typically complete the course. So we piloted, and it's about an hour total of content, but I think as Jamal mentioned, there is very nice... You don't have to take it all at once. There are different modules, and each one has a different length in content. And then another thing that, part of the reason why we developed it, the way that we did is that maybe you want a refresher on kind of the plan development section or you want to look specifically at the dissemination section. So we definitely encourage folks to use it as a refresher if they only want to take a look at one section.

Julie Hook:

Great. Another question is, can you return to the course we've left off if you don't do it all at once? So Jamal, can I hand that question off to you?

Jamal Refuge:

Yeah. So as I mentioned earlier, so if you want to go through the entire course from beginning to end, I encourage you to do it all in one sitting. I went through the course myself and I got to a certain point and I was like, "Oh, I want to come back later." And I closed out the browser and came back and I had to start all over again. So if you can do it that way, I highly recommended. As Julie mentioned, if you are interested in a specific stage in the course, you can do that from beginning to end. Each stage will take roughly 30, 35 minutes or so to get through so that we can do it that way, I think it would be probably be most beneficial to do it in one sitting.

Julie Hook:

Great. I see that someone added in the chat can you earn CEUs? So we haven't set it up that way since it's not set up to earn any credits.

Julie Hook:

There is a question about the guidance. So how long were well, the Alchemer, which is our survey gizmo, once more we'll add some questions for the integrated planning guidance FAQ's. And you know, right now we don't have any plans to shut it down because we've, like we said, we know that folks when the guidance came out and the plans are due in December of 2022. So we know that the jurisdictions, well, Part A, Part B jurisdictions will probably spend some time needing to look through it. And we also are thinking that it might be something similar to the HRSA COVID FAQ, they put together so that they will update it kind of over time, if people are familiar with their COVID FAQ, that they developed the response to the pandemic. So Cynthia, to your point, you aren't meeting as a group till August. I have a feeling you're probably not alone, and so I will definitely keep the questions open through August, but we actually haven't even really talked about shutting it down.

Julie Hook:

So another question on the course is, do you receive a certificate upon completion? And I'll hand that to you, Jamal.

Jamal Refuge:

Yes. And also just wanted to clarify my response to one of the previous questions. So when you return to the course where you left off if you don't do it all at once. Yes, so that issue will return you back to that main menu.

Jamal Refuge:

And there is no certificate at the end to course, but I know that sometimes folks have to submit things to management to say, "Hey, I completed this course." So what you'll get at the end, which will lead to this print out, that final piece that says, "Hey, you completed the course. Thank you

for going through." And I'll have that completion bar at the top, and it'll tell you that you 100% completed the course. It'll say that you took 16 out of 16 lessons, and that should very well be enough to just, again, you have to show it to us under and the management, just to verify that you took the course.

Julie Hook:

There's also a question in the chat... is someone saying something? No. There's also a question in the chat, just asking if we can send the online course link in a follow up email, and so we'll definitely do that. We usually send an email to all participants with the slides and the recording, and we'll definitely send the course link as well. So that is definitely available.

Julie Hook:

So in another question about the guidance, when are the plans expected to be completed? So right now I believe the plans are due, I think it's December 9th, 2022. Obviously, there's a lot of stuff that has to happen before then, and including plan development, all this stuff, and then getting the plans signed off by the planning body and the planning council. So one of the things that we're also going to be working on as a resource is kind of thinking through what a sample kind of template or a sample kind of work plan on timeline of when you should expect to be doing things because it's a cyclical process.

Julie Hook:

Great. Let's see if there are any other questions that have popped in.

Stewart Landers:

Julie, I can just add-

Julie Hook:

Sorry, go ahead.

Stewart Landers:

This is Stewart Landers from JSI, with respect to the last question, probably over the next five or six months, people will be doing epidemiologic profiles and needs assessments. And then for the six months after that, there'll be really working on the goals and objectives. But as Julie said, we'll put out kind of a sample work plan with respect to that. But just to give you sort of a broad idea. And then yeah, the last six months really finishing it up and getting the sign offs that you need.

Julie Hook:

Great. So folks have any other questions, please put them into the Q&A document. I did, as we sort of said before, we'll be archiving the materials for today on our website, on TargetHIV. But also wanted to let you know, we have another webinar that we'd like to invite you to next month around fostering equity and planning, and so we'd love for you to all join us. This one will be led

by our partner, HealthHIV, in a discussion with presenters from Colorado and Los Angeles County to learn more about strategies promoting equity within HIV planning bodies.

Julie Hook:

Just want to double check to see if there are more questions. That was answered. Great. So I want to thank everyone today for being part of this webinar. I know it was short, but we really were excited to launch the course to be able to answer any question that folks have. So if any other things come up, please contact us at ihaptac@jsi.com, and we're happy to answer any questions. If you have specific TA needs around integrated plan development or any other things, any other requests related to integrated planning, we'd love to hear them. And we really hope that you'll take the online course and provide feedback. As Jamal said, we're always looking to improve upon our offerings, and we may be adding modules to the online course as we think through other TA needs. So thanks so much, everyone. I hope you have a great afternoon.