

Why Wait? Start Now!

What Jurisdictions Can Do to Support Adoption of Rapid Start

July 19, 2023

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM EST
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM CST
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM MST
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM PST



Cooperative Agreement Award # U69HA33964

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of the Year 4 award with 0% financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

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Strengthen & support implementation of jurisdiction
Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. (EHE) Plans to
contribute to the achievement of a reduction in new
reported HIV cases by 90% by 2030

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Tip: Get TAP-in TA and Training by Contacting TAP-in@caiglobal.org



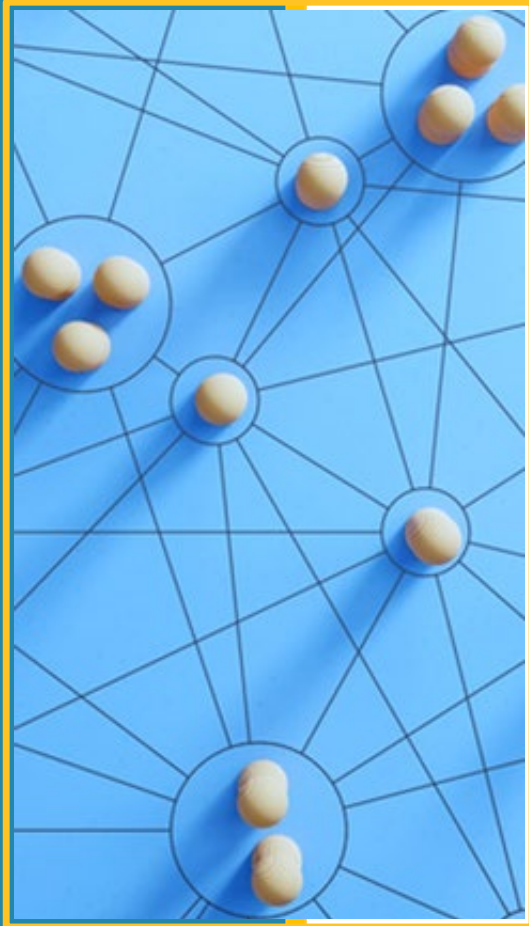
Funding Acknowledgement HRSA-20-076

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA-20-076) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$3,000,000 with 100 percent funding by HRSA/HHS and \$0 amount and 0 percentage funded by non-government source(s). The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA/HHS, or the U.S. Government.



Agenda

1. What is Rapid Start and Why Rapid Start?
2. DAP Project Goals and Activities
3. Jurisdiction-level Facilitators of Rapid Start
4. DAP Jurisdiction Learning Community Overview
5. Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program-Funded
Jurisdiction Panel and Q&A
6. DAP Resources Available
7. Evaluation & Closing



Moderators

Dawn Middleton

Senior Vice President, CAI

Kendall Brooks, MSW

Rapid ART DAP Project Manager

Speakers

Portland Jurisdiction

City of Austin Public Health

Columbus Public Health & Ohio Department of Health



Learning Objectives

1. Define rapid antiretroviral therapy (Rapid Start), its importance for clients, and the Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. (EHE) initiative.
2. Identify what Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) funded Jurisdictions can do to promote the adoption of Rapid Start throughout their service area.
3. Explore Jurisdiction experiences in taking steps to support the adoption of Rapid Start as a standard of care.



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What is Rapid Start?

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What is Rapid Start?

- Health and Human Services (HHS) ARV guidelines recommend antiretroviral therapy (ART) for all people with HIV, including those with early HIV infection, as soon as possible after HIV diagnosis
- For this initiative, Rapid Start is defined as the provision of antiretroviral therapy to persons with HIV within 7 days of diagnosis or re-engagement in care



Client's Perception of Rapid Start



To view/hear this video on YouTube visit:
[Rapid ART: Ramirez Brown - Patient Perspective on Rapid START](#)





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Dissemination Assistance Provider (DAP) Initiative

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Rapid ART DAP Partners



Cicitelli Associates Inc. (CAI)



Mission Analytics Group



University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

NACCHO
National Association of County & City Health Officials

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

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 **RapidART**
Dissemination Assistance Provider

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Project Goals & Objectives

Goal:

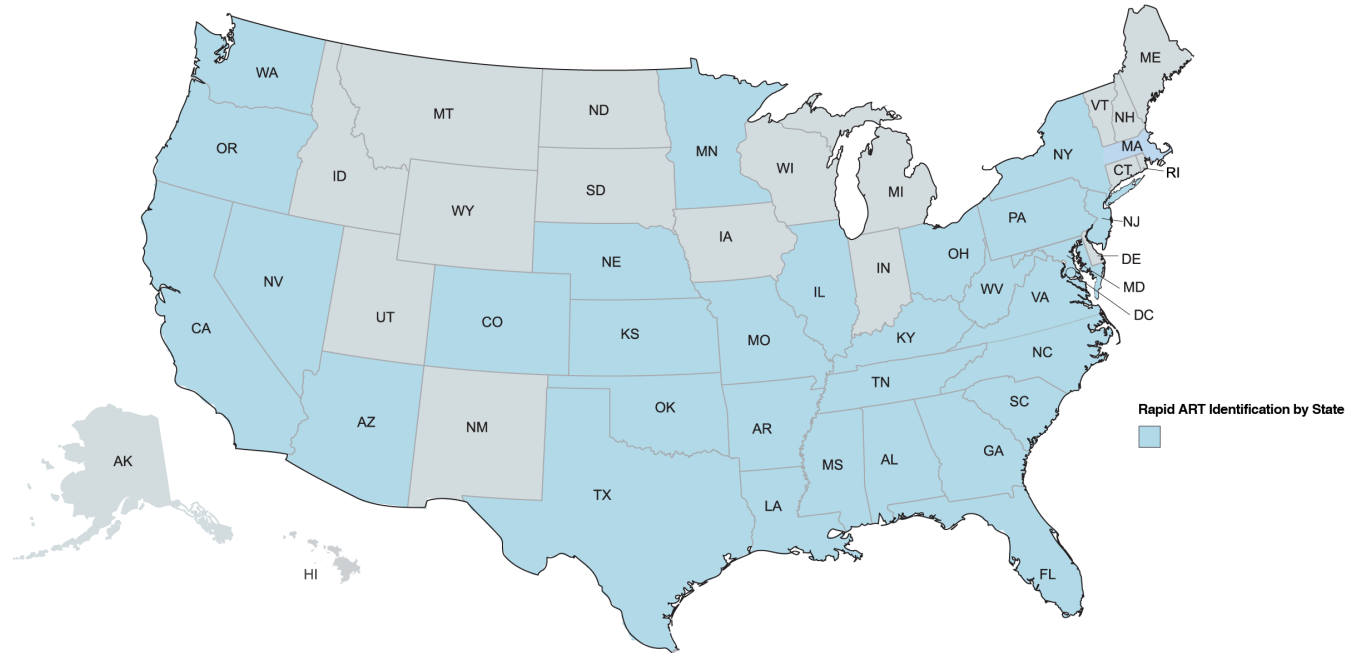
To make Rapid Start the standard of care in RWHAP provider settings across the U.S.

Objectives:

- Identify effective Rapid Start models in a variety of settings in the U.S.
- Develop and disseminate a compendium of these models
- Support replication of effective Rapid Start models by developing materials and resources, and delivering training and technical assistance



Methods



- Comprehensive environmental scan to identify a range of Rapid Start practices and models (**128** Rapid Start programs in **32** states)
- 18 virtual field visits with Rapid Start provider sites demonstrating positive client outcomes
- Included speaking to 159 staff members in total, and 12 Rapid Start clients



Our Findings

Rapid Start has been shown to improve HIV outcomes across the care continuum, including:

- Reduces time to linkage to care
- Reduces time to viral suppression
- Improves viral suppression rates 12 months post-HIV diagnosis
- Improves retention in care



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Jurisdiction-Level Facilitators of Rapid Start Provision

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Jurisdiction Leadership to Establish Rapid Start as Standard of Care

Vision and Goals for Rapid Start Services

Administrative Practices

Financing

Medication Access

Rapid Referral and Linkage Systems

Trained Workforce



Jurisdiction Leadership to Establish Rapid Start as Standard of Care

Follow-up and Supportive Services

Monitoring and Evaluation

Communication

Community and Stakeholder Engagement



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Learning Community Overview

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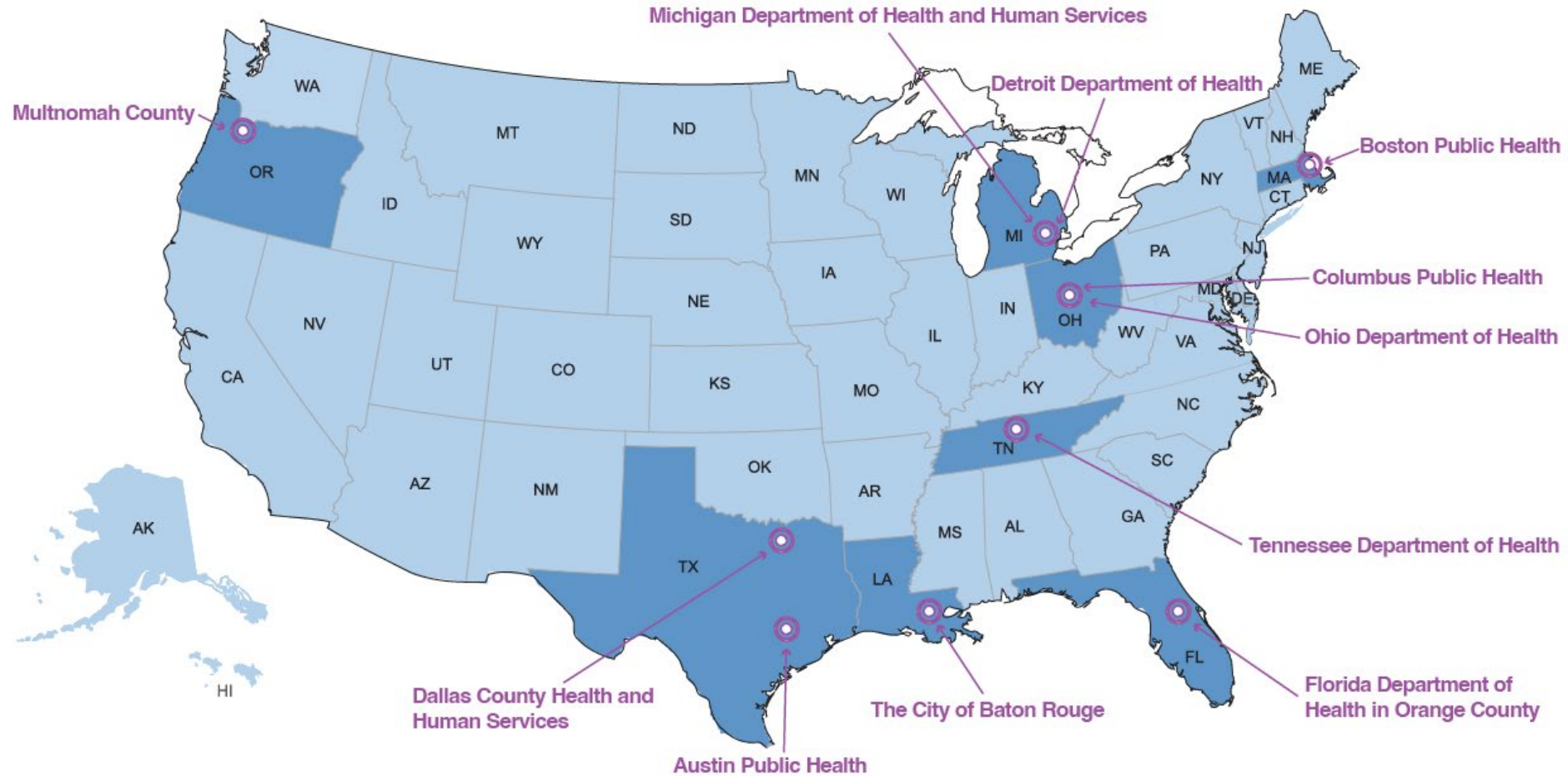
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Learning Community Goal

Strengthen Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP)-funded Jurisdictions' capacity to create a context that promotes and sustains rapid initiation of HIV antiretroviral medications (Rapid Start) as the standard of care throughout their service area.



Jurisdiction Learning Community Teams





Jurisdiction Learning Community Timeline

Activity	Month
Learning Community Orientation Webinar	January 12, 2023
Learning Session #1	February 14-15, 2023
Action Period Webinar #1	March 30, 2023
Learning Session #2	April 2023
Action Period Webinar #2	May 2023
Learning Session #3	June 2023
Action Period Webinar #3	July 2023
Learning Community Closing Session	August 2023
Monthly Pro-active TA Coaching Calls	January – August 2023

We Are Here



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Jurisdiction Learning Community: Panel Presentation

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Portland Jurisdiction



Portland TGA Ryan White Part A:
Amanda Hurley

Oregon Health & Sciences University (OHSU):
Chris Evans, MD/MPH AAHIVS
Devon Flynn, Pharm D, MPH, BCPS, AAHIVP

OHSU Partnership Project:
Julia Lager-Mesulam, LCSW
Lauren Nathe, RN, BSN, MNE, HIV Grant





Rapid Start Minimum Standards

- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Worked with RWHAP Part C/D Clinic, and other clinics that provide HIV treatment services to review their Rapid Start policies and procedures
- **Jurisdiction Rapid Start Minimum Standards** will include:
 - Definition and goal of Rapid Start (**completed**)
 - Standards for RWHAP Part A funded entities (**in process**)
 - Recommendations for non-funded entities (**in process**)
 - Performance measures/evaluation aligned with statewide efforts (**in process**)



Access to ART Medication

- **Pharma:** Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) have partnered with pharmaceutical representatives to ensure access to ART medication
 - Currently OHSU-specific, working to expand to additional providers
- **ADAP:** Strengthening relationship with Oregon ADAP
 - Working to remove every 6-month re-eligibility screening for ADAP
 - Working to identify “who” cannot immediately access ADAP and “what” barriers exist
- **Part A:** Use of carryover to pay for meds



Statewide Integrated Plan

- Presenting at the Statewide Integrated Planning Group meeting
 - Buy-in from consumers, providers, and momentum to move toward statewide efforts
 - Follow up meeting with State HIV/STD Director to discuss real or perceived challenges
- Participating in Statewide Quality Management Committee
 - Align performance measures across RWHAP Part A, B, C, and D
 - Consistent evaluation



Adoption of Rapid ART in the Austin Area



Kim Nguyen, EHE Grants Coordinator
Raju Ghimire, EHE Research Analyst





Rapid Start Minimum Standards

Stakeholder Engagement:

- Review of providers' Rapid Start policies and procedures
- Presentation at the sub-recipient meeting
- Community Advisory Board (CAB)



Rapid Start Minimum Standards

APH Rapid Start Minimum Standards include:

- Reaching the goal of 95% of the priority population
- 90% of newly diagnosed clients will be linked to Rapid ART medication within 72 hours of HIV diagnosis
- 90% of those diagnosed with HIV will be linked to long-term care within 30 days
- Displaying Rapid ART Best-practices and/or Process Map in a visible place
- Appointing a designated Rapid Linkage Coordinator/Champion
- Establishing a designated Rapid ART phone line
- Conducting client follow-up



Access to ART Medication

- **Pharma and ADAP**
 - Partnerships with pharmaceutical companies: Gilead, Jansen & ViiV
 - Engaging ADAP representatives
 - The Fast-Track Cities' Testing and Rapid Linkage Workgroup has documented local organizations' Rapid ART protocols and working on providing a best-practice document for all HIV-testing facilities regarding access to ART starter packs



HIV Testing and Rapid Start



- Identifying and working to standardize HIV confirmatory testing requirements before the provision of ART
- Linkage to Care Process



Columbus Public Health & Ohio Department of Health



Marc D. McPherson

Program Manager, Columbus Public Health





Rapid Start Minimum Standards

Stakeholder Engagement:

- Working with providers to identify who is providing Rapid Start and gathering Rapid Start policies and protocols
- Working with academic institutions that are providing Rapid Start and have excellent protocols
- State and Columbus TGA Part A are working collaboratively to foster alignment with information that is being distributed on a state-wide and jurisdiction-level



Access to ART Medication

Pharma: Met with Gilead to discuss distributing ART starter packs to partners and providers

- Determining what is allowable
- Not all providers can accept and/or store meds on-site (e.g., starter packs)
- Still exploring a “Rapid” Ohio HIV Drug Assistance Program (OHDAP) application process.



Leveraging Funding and Other Initiatives

- Exploring opportunity to leverage existing Syphilis “Warmline” to facilitate Rapid Start linkage to care
 - Run out of the University of Toledo
- Leveraging prevention funding and staff to implement Rapid Start
 - For example, linkage to care staff and DIS staff



Questions?



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What's Next?

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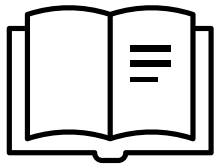
Kerry Kay Video



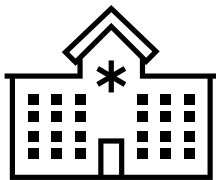
To view/hear this video on YouTube visit:
[Rapid ART: Clinician Perspective – Dr. Kerry Kay](#)



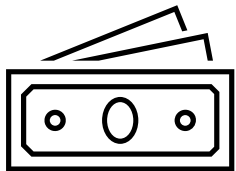
DAP Resources Available



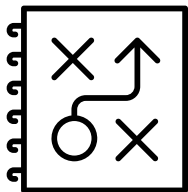
Rapid Start Compendium of Best Practices



Rapid Start Model Site Profiles



Rapid Start Cost Estimation Tools



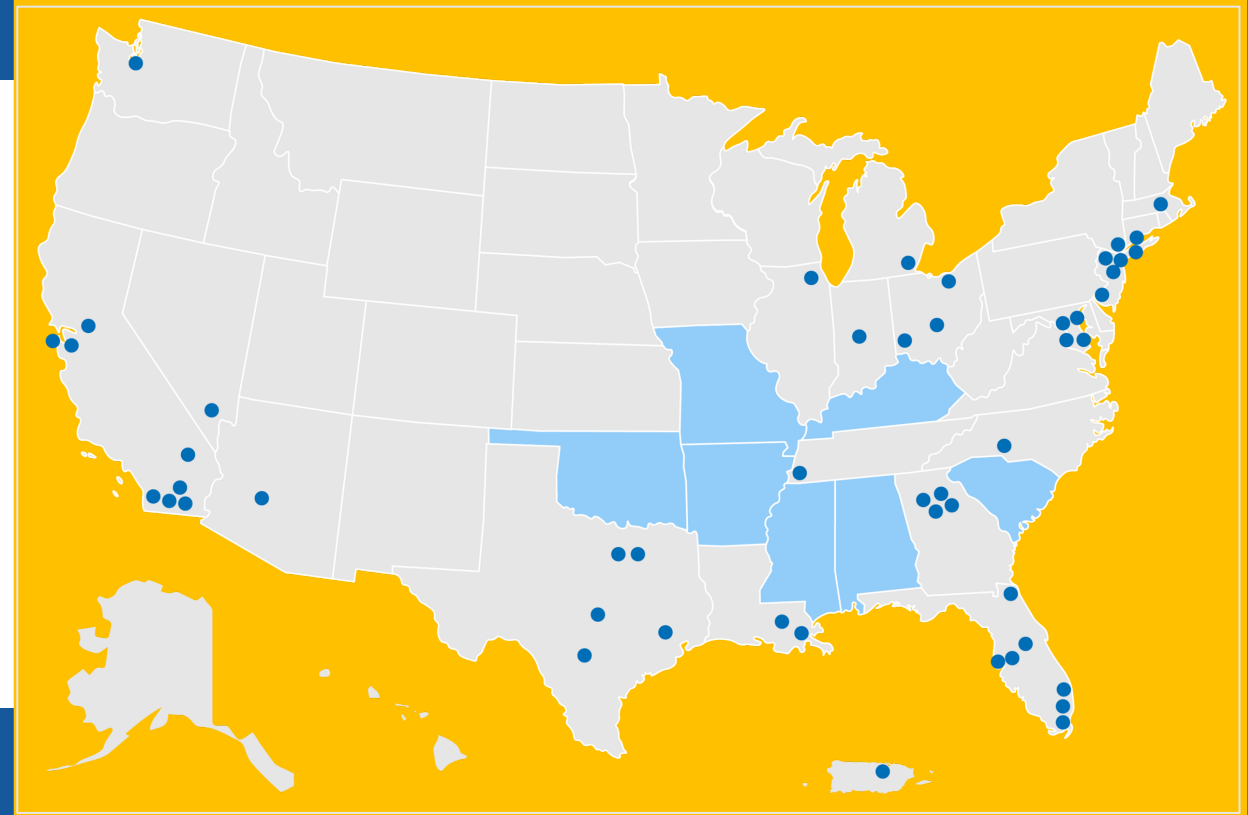
Rapid Start Jurisdiction Playbook *(Coming Soon)*

For more information on the DAP initiative, please visit:

<https://targethiv.org/ta-org/rapid-art-dap>

TAP-in

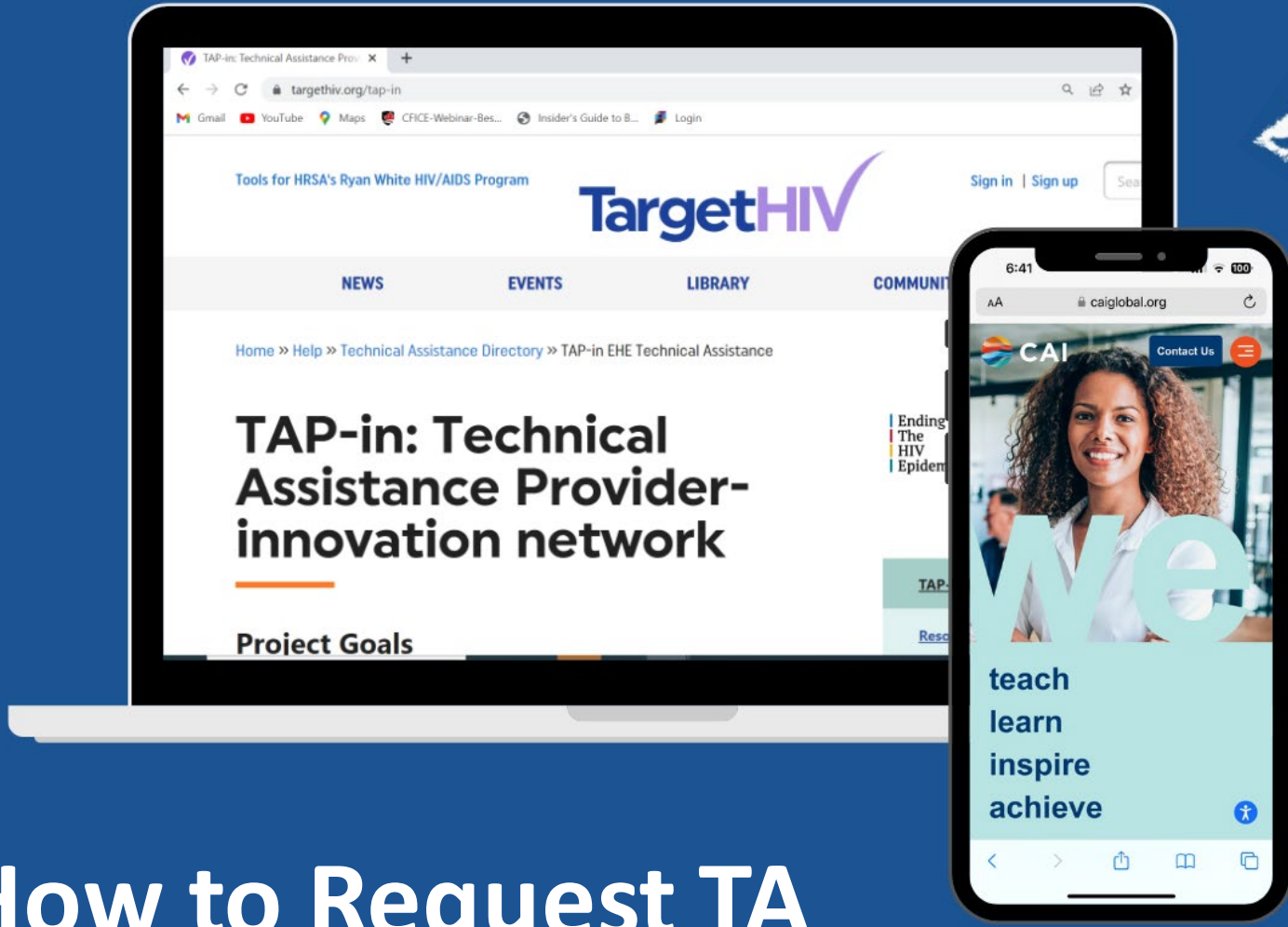
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What We Can Do For You TA for Rapid Start

- Review and offer ways to strengthen your Rapid Start Plan
- Facilitate understanding of staff roles
- Provide tools
 - *Rapid ART: An Essential Strategy for EHE* available on <https://targethiv.org/tap-in>
- Support Learning Collaboratives



Check us out!

How to Request TA

Email: TAP-in@caiglobal.org

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Thank You

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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If you have not registered, please register using the link in the chat.

