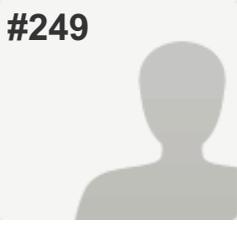


# Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

#249



**COMPLETE**

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**Q1: OPTIONAL: This recommendation was submitted by (please provide your first and last name, affiliation, and email address)**

First Name	Keith
Last Name	Brown
Affiliation	Catholic Charities Care Coordination Services
Email Address	keithb@ccalbany.org

**Q2: Title of your recommendation**

Provide All Low-Income Persons Living with HIV Infection in New York State Access to Essential Benefits and Social Services, Including Safe and Affordable Housing, Food and Transportation

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

Expand and update the existing HIV enhanced rental assistance program by changing medical eligibility for the program to include all low-income persons living with HIV infection (PWH) and by updating the amount of rental assistance available to be in line with fair market rental rates.

Protect rent-burdened PWH and their families by expanding the existing 30% rent cap affordable housing protection to make it available to all severely rent burdened PWH in New York State.

Provide transportation stipends/reimbursements to enable PWH to access medical and supportive care services, especially for people living in rural and suburban communities

Ensure coordinated access to these and other benefits for PHW through a single point of entry (SPE) in every local social service district (LSSD) in the State.

**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)**

Prevention Committee: Develop recommendations for ensuring the effective implementation of biomedical advances in the prevention of HIV, (such as the use of Truvada as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)); for ensuring access for those most in need to keep them negative; and for expansion of syringe exchange, expanded partner services, and streamlined HIV testing by further implementing the universal offer of HIV testing in primary care, among others. The Committee will focus on continuing innovative and comprehensive prevention and harm reduction services targeted at key high risk populations, as well as grant-funded services that engage in both secondary and primary prevention.

Care Committee: Develop recommendations to support access to care and treatment in order to maximize the rate of HIV viral suppression. The Committee will promote linkages and retention in care to achieve viral suppression and promote the highest quality of life while significantly decreasing the risks of HIV transmission. Recommendations will also ensure a person centered approach is taken and that access to culturally and linguistically appropriate prevention and health care services is available.

Housing and Supportive Services Committee: Develop recommendations that strengthen proven interventions enabling optimal engagement and linkage and retention in care for those most in need. This Committee will recommend interventions that effectively address complex and intersecting health and social conditions and reduce health disparities, particularly among New York's low-income and most vulnerable and marginalized residents. These interventions will diminish barriers to care and enhance access to care and treatment leaving no subpopulation behind.

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**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 program

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

Permitted under current law

## Ending the Epidemic Task Force Recommendation Form

**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?**

Safe housing, food and transportation are necessary to enable PWH to access and benefit from HIV treatment. We can't end the AIDS epidemic in NYS without meeting basic needs.

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

No

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

Unknown

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

Better health for PWH and fewer new HIV infections.

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

Low income PLWHA

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

No

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

Advocate