

ADVANCING CONNECTICUT TOGETHER (ACT)

SWOT/Gap Analysis from Presentation at Connecticut HIV Planning Consortium's
Needs Assessment Projects Committee

STRENGTHS



- **Strong coordination infrastructure:** HMIS administration, CAN coordination, hub for HIV-housing systems integration
- **Unique employment navigation model** that bridges Ryan White & HOPWA services. (Only program of its kind in U.S.)
- Practices **prioritizing direct referrals & follow-up** over cold handoffs
- **Comprehensive service portfolio** offers HIV prevention, case management, harm reduction, housing, financial education, reentry support, & peer programming
- **Effective local partnerships** throughout Hartford

WEAKNESSES



- **Limited prevention staffing** reduces ability for outreach, PrEP navigation, and implementing peer-based strategies
- **Restricted program geography** (e.g., employment navigation, HOPWA mortgage aid are available only in Hartford despite broader demand)
- **Barriers for undocumented clients:** Many referred services (e.g., workforce programs) are federally restricted, limiting impact
- **Underdeveloped peer support structure** due to limited internal infrastructure for clinical supervision & support

OPPORTUNITIES



- **Enhanced training & TA partnerships** including PrEP, peer work, harm reduction, and SNR implementation
- **Expand employment model statewide**
- **Formalize & scale peer programs** / build peer-led models across service areas
- **Deeper housing sector collaboration:** Expanding engagement with non-Ryan White housing agencies
- **Local & state policy advocacy** for flexible funding rules (expanding eligibility) and protections for undocumented clients

THREATS



- **Workforce turnover and burnout** especially among managers & front-line staff
- **Structural barriers for undocumented clients**
- **Fragmented coordination beyond Hartford**
- **Difficulties formalizing peer outreach models** (e.g., social network strategies) reduce HIV prevention reach
- **Policy & geographic funding constraints** creates gaps in service coverage and limits equitable access