

PROYECTO JUNTOS

**An Integrated Service Delivery Model for Persons
Living with HIV/AIDS Along the South
Texas/Mexico Border**

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A South Texas Border Partnership

The Partners

Valley AIDS Council
Brownsville Community Health Center
Nuestra Clinica Del Valle
United Medical Center

Local Evaluation

The University of Texas Health Science Center at
San Antonio, Department of Pediatrics, Division of
Community Pediatrics

GOAL 1

To Increase Access To Locally Delivered Primary Health Care For Persons Living With HIV In The Lower Rio Grande Valley Of The U.S. – Texas – Mexico Border

Objective 1.1 By May 2001, Proyecto Juntos will be fully operationalized and implemented

Objective 1.2 By May 2001, there will be increased clinical capacity at each of the participating community health centers to provide culturally competent HIV health care to the target population (progress to be tracked for each year around sets of measures and indicators)

Objective 1.3 By the end of each year (2002 – 2005), the number of persons receiving HIV primary care from participating community health centers will reflect an upward trend

GOAL 2

To Organize Health Care Networks With Capacity To Provide A Comprehensive Array Of Health And Enabling Services To Persons Living With HIV Along The U.S. – Texas – Mexico Border

Objective 2 By the end of YEAR 2, convene a meeting of Project Partners and key health and enabling services providers and stakeholders to guide Project in action planning activities required for continued comprehensive network development

Strategies for Accessing and Recruiting Proyecto Juntos Population

- Clients are identified through existing Outreach, Counseling and Testing Programs, hospitals, private providers, and self referrals
- Clients are educated on how physicians providing HIV primary care locally and physicians providing HIV specialized care will work together to provide comprehensive care
- Clients are advised of project service locations and encouraged to select a provider close to where they live to minimize potential barriers to access

Problems

- **SPNS Physician announced pending separation.**
- **CHC Medical and Clinical staff members express fears of HIV transmission**
- **SPNS Project Physicians' time is not protected.**
- **Newly diagnosed clients have opportunistic infections.**
- **SPNS Project staff at CHC's feel "out of loop" with Administration**
- **SPNS Project Physicians displayed signs of low confidence levels**

Solutions

- **SPNS Physician interim began training in April.**
- **VAC Education Department provided AIDS 101 training with concurrent training from AETC with Medical Staff.**
- **VAC Executive Director/SPNS Project Director to meet with CHC Administration**
- **Development of CHC case finding skills and on site HIV testing is proposed.**
- **Memo's, Announcements and Correspondence will include all SPNS Project Staff for distribution. Frequent contact.**
- **Consultant network is established between SPNS Physicians, Dr. Garcia, VAC Medical Director and Dr. Sinclair, AETC**

Quarterly Highlights

Year One 2000 - 2001

July, August, September

Established catchments areas, Contract revisions, Grantee meeting, AETC secured for providing physician training

October, November, December

Proyecto Juntos Partnership meeting, Contracts signed, SPNS LVN Case manager and Data Collection employees are hired, AETC training session, HRSA site visit, Added "Outreach Interventionist", SPNS Physicians and Nurses attend 3 day AIDS Conference

January, February, March

Grantee meeting, National Data Collection Training, SPNS Project Coordinator interviews/changes, Feb. 22nd first two SPNS patients begin intake process, Hired SPNS Case Profiler, VAC Director of Finance met with CHC accounting employees, MD's request more training,

April, May, June

AETC Training Session, Continuation Application Completed, USMBHA Conference, OU Site Visit with HRSA Teleconference, Proyecto Juntos Partnership meeting (April & June – respectively)

Activities Planned

- Quarterly Reports from SPNS Partners
- Quarterly Partners Meetings
- Quarterly SPNS Physician training
- Quarterly SPNS Partner Newsletter
- HIV Training for Project Nurses
- SPNS Nurse HIV Training & development of VAC Client services knowledge

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