

HIV ELIMINATION TASK FORCE

Ending HIV will be done **BY** the community, **FOR** the community and **IN** the community

PROBLEM



According to the state Enhanced HIV/AIDS Reporting System, Arkansas had 291 new cases of HIV in 2017, ranking it 20th in the nation. More than 61,000 HIV tests were administered, however, 15 percent of HIV positive people still do not know their HIV status. This means that roughly 900 individuals are not in care. In addition, Arkansas is one of the seven states where there is a high proportion of new HIV cases in rural areas.

Source: AIDSvu (www.aidsvu.org) Emory University, Rollins School of Public Health

INTERVENTION

With the goal to reduce new HIV infections by 90 percent within 10 years, the Arkansas Department of Health established a workgroup in July 2018 to work toward achieving health equity and eliminating HIV in the state. This group was renamed the HIV Elimination Task Force in 2019 and now convenes representatives from the medical, public health, public policy, governmental, faith-based and grassroots communities.

75%
reduction
in new HIV
infections
in 5 years
and at least
90%
reduction
in 10 years.

PLAN



The overall goal of the Task Force is to identify a community workforce that will assist in the development of an **INNOVATIVE** plan to diagnose, treat, protect and respond to the HIV epidemic in Arkansas. Members are responsible for identifying barriers or gaps in resources and working collaboratively to implement individualized strategies to reduce these barriers. These efforts are designed to create optimal conditions that can reach people where they are and facilitate the elimination of new HIV infections in our state.

For more information about how you can join the HIV Elimination Task Force, contact the Infectious Disease Branch at the Arkansas Department of Health at 501.661.2408 or email tiffany.vance@arkansas.gov