Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

The Kentucky HIV/AIDS Planning and Advisory Council (KHPAC) in collaboration with the Kentucky Department for Public Health supports continued education, prevention, screening, early diagnosis and treatment efforts that are accessible to all that request it, and reflects the diversity of the Commonwealth’s HIV-infected populations.

KHPAC supports continued activities and strategies that will increase coordination across HIV programs (i.e., prevention, linkage to care, and surveillance) throughout the state, to reduce rates of new HIV infections among high risk negative individuals and to enhance services for people living with HIV. These include the following priority areas:

- High-impact prevention activities that focuses on targeting individuals who are unaware of their status and engaging in highest risk. These activities will focus on reaching individuals living with HIV who are not aware of their status through a continued collaboration with health departments and enhanced HIV testing in non-healthcare settings.

- Ongoing support for condom distribution focusing on the most vulnerable populations and improving access to condoms.

- Support comprehensive syringe access for people who inject drugs throughout the Commonwealth especially in rural communities where local resources are limited and vulnerability to HIV and hepatitis C is high.

- Collaborating with the HIV/AIDS Branch at the KDPH and the Kentucky Department of Education to develop and implement a policy for incorporating comprehensive sexual health education in school settings and assist schools in developing initiatives that build parental knowledge and skills, and reduce stigma designed to facilitate effective parent-child discussions around sexual health.

- Promote policy that would increase HIV testing in KY correctional settings. This activity is believed to result in identification of individuals unaware of their HIV status.

- Continue to propose mandatory testing of pregnant women.

- Support prevention methods such as Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) is an effective way of reducing HIV exposure risk of people who are HIV-negative and at very high risk for HIV infection.