Dear AA and Planning staff, see below for four (4) important announcements:

1) Ryan White funds to cover standalone dental insurance premiums
2) Clarification on overtime pay for data entry
3) State Funding update
4) Clinical Updates over Hepatitis vaccinations and adequate vaccine storage per CDC guidelines

Programmatic News Flash

1. Ryan White to cover Standalone dental insurance premiums – as of April 1, 2017

The HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) has updated Policy Clarification Notice (PCN) #16-02 Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Services: *Eligible Individuals and Allowable Uses of Funds* to include the use of RWHAP resources to support standalone dental insurance premiums and/or cost sharing assistance under the Health Insurance Premiums and Cost Sharing Assistance for Low-Income Individuals service category.

Key Updates on Revision
The revised Health Insurance Premiums and Cost Sharing Assistance for Low-Income Individuals service provision consists of the following:
- Paying health insurance premiums to provide comprehensive HIV Outpatient/ Ambulatory Health Services and pharmacy benefits that provide a full range of HIV medications; and/or
- Paying standalone dental insurance premiums to provide comprehensive oral health care services for eligible clients; and/or
- Paying cost sharing on behalf of the client.

Other Updates to PCN #16-02
- Removes the prohibition on RWHAP Parts C and D recipients to use RWHAP funds for Substance Abuse Services (residential);
- Clarifies how RWHAP funds can be used for provider transportation in the Program Guidance for Medical Transportation;
- Provides additional Program Guidance for RWHAP Parts A, C, and D recipients related to AIDS Drug Assistance Program Treatments;
- Adds a section describing updates; and
- Organizes the service categories in alphabetical order for easier reference.

Please email your Care Services Consultant for any clarification on this update.
Reference:
#16-02 Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Services: Eligible Individuals and Allowable Uses of Funds

2. **Clarification on overtime pay for data entry**

No additional funding will be made available to cover the cost of overtime pay for providers doing data entry. Though it is understood that providers are working on assigned times to complete data entry, it is highly encouraged for providers to flex their schedules as much as possible. Additionally, the time for data entry is not to be included in the 10% admin cap. Please refer to HRSA PCN 15-01 on the detailed clarification over this topic. To summarize the PCN, costs can be covered under the direct services that the provider is funded for. A letter that serves as prior approval was provided to the AA's at the end of November 2016.

Please email your Care Services Consultant for any clarification on this update.
Reference:
15-01 Treatment of Costs under the 10% Administrative Cap for Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Part A, B, C, and D

3. **State Funding Update**
DSHS Care Services group has released the renewal documents for state contract year 9/1/17/ to 8/31/18 with a due date of January 6, 2017. Note the revisions made to the Table 1 and the additional funds allocated to each HIV Service Delivery Area (HSDA) in Table A. You can access these documents at the DSHS website below.

Please email your Consultant for any clarification or guidance

Reference: http://www.dshs.texas.gov/hivstd/funding/default.shtm

Clinical News Flash

4.   **Hepatitis vaccination and refrigeration guidance**
When you vaccinate for Hep A/B you need to do a post vaccination titer about 1 to 2 month later.
- The CDC states that no provider who purchases vaccine with federal funds can use a dormitory refrigerator. Agencies can use their supplemental or OAHS funds to purchase an appropriate refrigerator. Contact DSHS for some guidance.

Please email Nurse Consultant Brian Rosemond for any clarification or guidance over this material.
References
CDC's *Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit*, http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/storage/toolkit/
        storage-handling-toolkit.pdf

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Guide
        for HIV/AIDS Clinical Care – 2014 Edition. Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human
        Services, 2014 https://hab.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hab/clinical-quality-
        management/2014guide.pdf