

# How FoundCare Changed Its Clinical Culture



## FOUNDCARE FACTS

- FoundCare is a Federally Qualified Health Center that offers pediatric and adult primary care, chronic disease management, behavioral health counseling, laboratory services, X-rays and dentistry.
- FoundCare (formerly Comprehensive AIDS Program of Palm Beach County) is the oldest and largest community organization providing HIV/AIDS services in Palm Beach County.
- FoundCare is the Palm Beach County Health Department's first choice for hepatitis C linkage to care referrals.

## COMMUNITY CONCERNS

- Palm Beach County has one of the most severe opioid epidemics in the United States, resulting in one of the highest rates of deaths attributed to opioid overdoses.
- Increased intravenous drug use has led to Palm Beach County having the highest rates of hepatitis C virus cases in the State of Florida.
- In addition to the rise of local hepatitis c cases, Palm Beach County remains fifth in the State of Florida for HIV infections.
- Uninsured and underserved populations lack access to affordable quality hepatitis C care.

## SUCCESSFUL SOLUTIONS

- Implemented an agency-wide HIV and hepatitis C virus testing initiative to identify undiagnosed individuals and linked those individuals to care.
- Created one of Palm Beach County's most comprehensive hepatitis c linkage to care programs.
- Integrated Behavioral Health into the linkage to care process with the agency's medical providers to assist in alleviating any potential barriers to care.



## RESULTS

03/01/2017 –  
02/28/2018



## CONDUCTED

7,018 HIV Tests  
5,958 HCV Tests



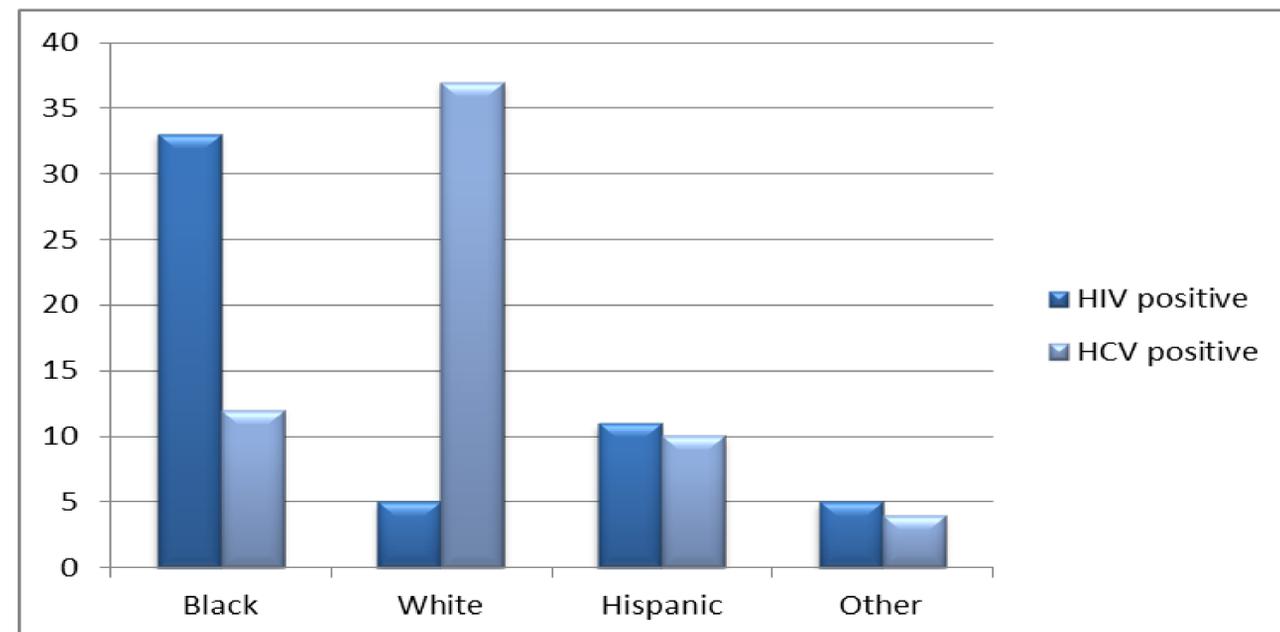
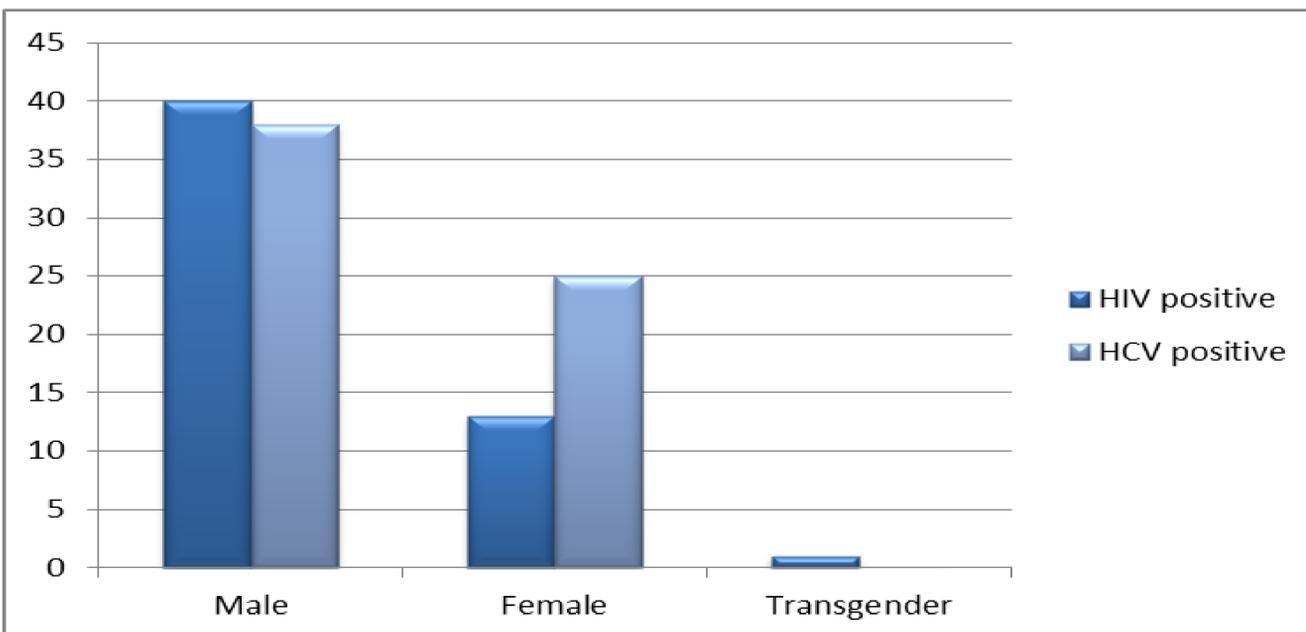
## IDENTIFIED

69 New HIV Positives  
73 New HCV Positives



## LINKED TO CARE

95% HIV-Positive Patients  
92% HCV-Positive Patients



## CONCLUSION AND FUTURE GOALS

- FoundCare proved the importance of routine screenings in a clinical setting by identifying newly diagnosed individuals who normally would not have been tested.
- Thanks to additional training for, and involvement by, the medical team, FoundCare was able to provide more risk reduction counseling, which increased testing buy-in.
- FoundCare plans to expand its Health Center's hepatitis C clinic and explore resource options for individuals with hepatitis C in order to link patients to care more efficiently.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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