An Update on HCV Services

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End Hep C SF in 2020: Persistence

- Testing and direct service programs swiftly incorporated policies to limit the risks of COVID and support the health of community and staff.
- End Hep C SF transitioned work group and coordinating committee meetings to Zoom. Groups convened throughout the pandemic
- ♦ HCV treatment, harm reduction and healthcare at SIP hotels
- Published <u>Evaluation Dashboard data</u> and <u>2020-2022 Strategic Plan</u>

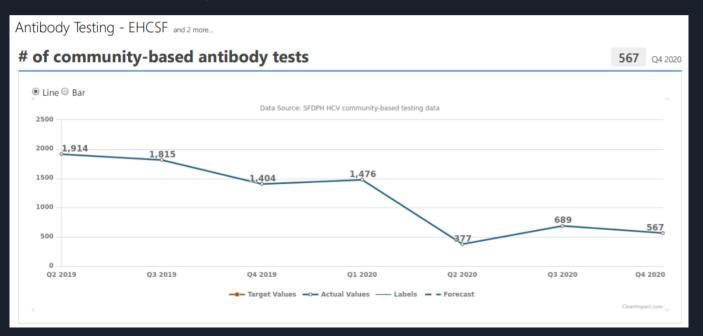
End Hep C SF is a collective impact initiative. It consists of three workgroups, a coordinating committee and an executive advisory committee.

End Hep C SF in 2020: Challenges

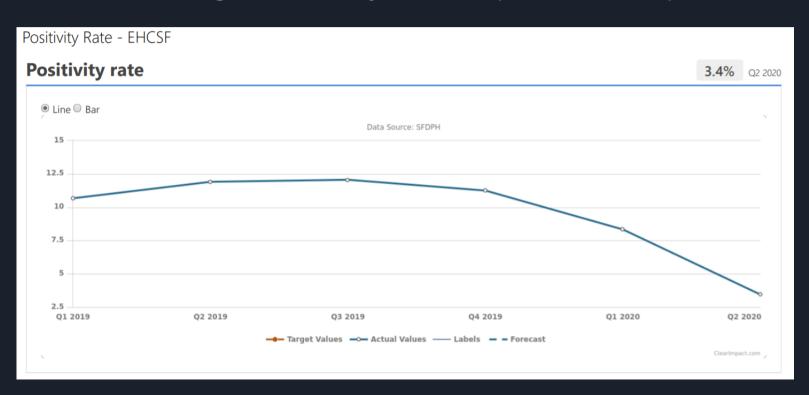
- Communities of San Franciscans in need of support and connection experienced the fragmentation of their resource systems and health-related risks
- ♦ DPH staff were activated as disaster workers
- Community testing efforts were impacted by the pandemic
- Staff at community based organizations experienced disruptions in work, including difficulty maintaining connection with the communities they serve, short-staffing and layoffs
- Some epidemiologists and medical doctors were assigned to projects related to COVID

HCV Testing and Data

- Between 2017-2020 more than 11,500 people were tested for HCV
- In the second quarter of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the number of tests performed



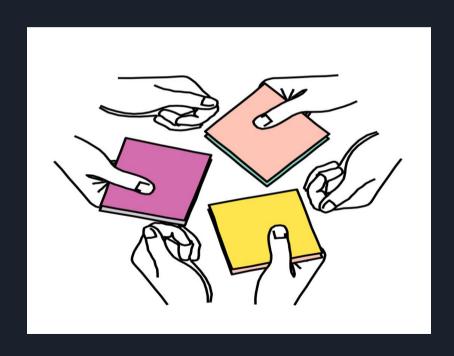
HCV Testing Positivity Rates (2019, 2020)



HCV Navigation Services at Shanti

- Clients receive 1-on-1 support from CN
- Care navigation includes treatment readiness, adherence, reinfection, and related psychosocial support
- Advocacy to assist with navigation of the system of care
- Services are client-led and based in the principles of harm reduction
- Navigation often includes: appointment accompaniment, pharmacy assistance, emotional support, HCV education, and psychosocial support (e.g. linkage to behavioral health, assistance with Coordinated Entry, applying for benefits)

Reengaging and Rethinking



Reengaging and Rethinking

- ❖ What have we learned?
 - Example: Community resiliency
- How can we apply what we have learned to improve services?
 - Example: Relaunching HCV peer navigator programs
- Can we identify novel opportunities for collaboration and outreach?
 - Example: End Hep C SF's public community meetings

