

# HOME

*A Holistic Approach to HIV Prevention and  
Evaluation for YMCSM in New York City*



# HARLEM UNITED

## Introduction

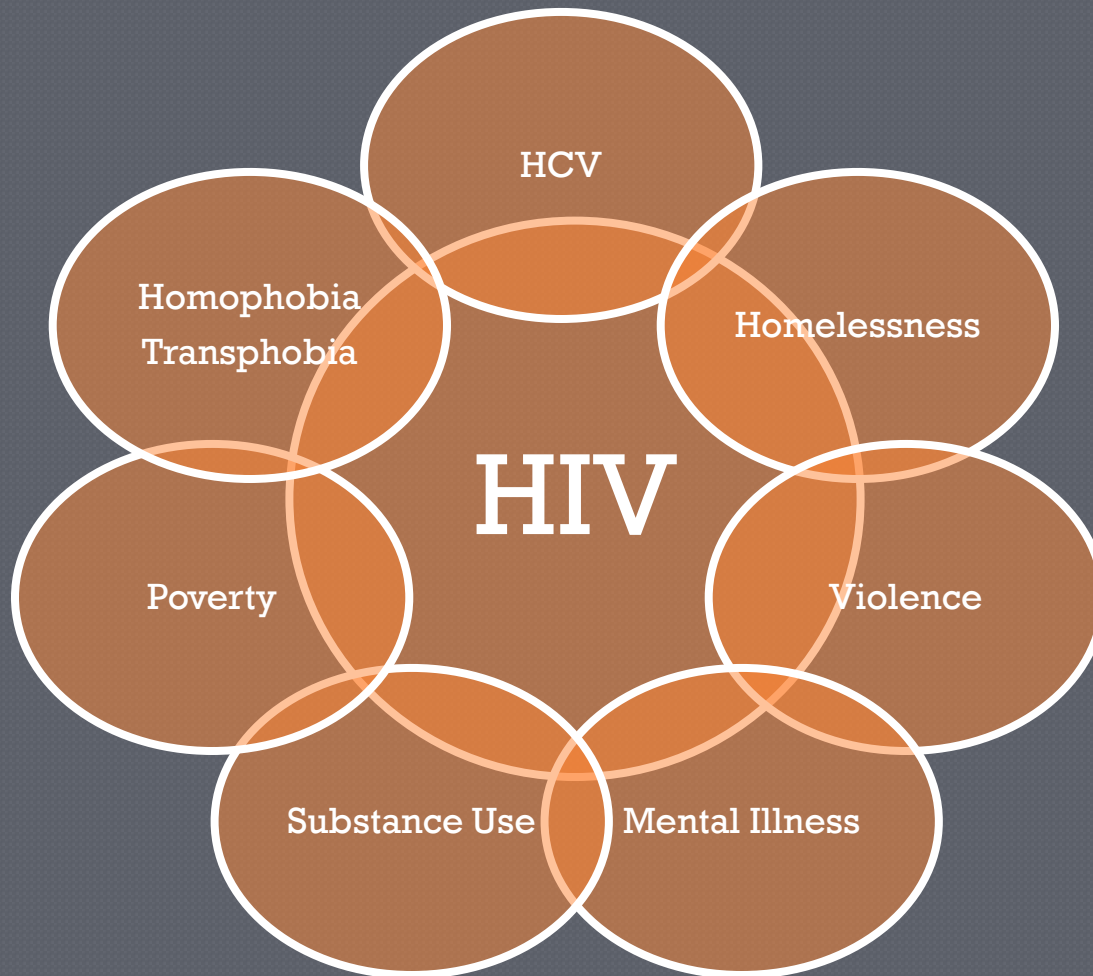
# Organizational Overview

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- Founded at the height of the AIDS epidemic in 1988
- Goal to serve people living with HIV/AIDS who were homeless or suffering from mental illness and/or substance use
  - Served as agency of last resort for medically under-served communities of color
  - Responded to the unique personal, social, and institutional barriers to care in Harlem

# SERVING COMPLEX POPULATIONS

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**BMI**

**BLACK MEN'S INITIATIVE**

at

**HARLEM UNITED**

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**WWW.BMIHU.ORG**



# Introduction

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- HOME meets the needs of Black and Latino gay, bisexual, transgender and non-identified men between the ages of 16 and 29 by:
  - Providing a drop-in space
  - Offering a range of HIV prevention interventions in a culturally-appropriate, socially accessible setting
  - Affirming self-identity
  - Increasing positive health-seeking behaviors
  - Building life skills

# Service Structure

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## **Visitor**

- Any MSM or TG of color 16-29 can enter the space every Friday to preview services
- Members are free to invite allies to attend social events

## **Member**

- Must undergo a comprehensive intake/assessment and service planning

## **Volunteer Leader**

- Must be an active member for a minimum of 3 months
- Must apply for the position



# Services

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- Individual Risk Reduction Counseling
  - RESPECT
  - CLEAR
- Risk Reduction Groups
  - Many Men Many Voices
  - SISTA
- Career Development
  - Volunteer Leadership Program
  - Project Work
- HIV+ Services
  - Healthy Relationships
  - Support Group

# Services Cont'd

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- Job Development
  - Volunteer Leadership Program
  - Project Work (in development)
- Psychotherapy
- HIV/STI Testing
- Support & Recreation Groups
- Linkage to Care

# Groups

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- Members Only Board
- GOLD (Giving Our Lives Direction)
- Dip Into Your Health
- What's the T? (Current Events)
- The Book Club
- Movie Night
- Cool Down Fridays
- Game Night
- Vogue Down
- ...And many more

# Barriers to Service Delivery

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- ◉ Homelessness
- ◉ Unemployment
- ◉ Mental health/developmental disorders
- ◉ Stigma
- ◉ Legal issues
- ◉ Immigration status
- ◉ Lack of education/knowledge

# Evaluation



Education



Employment



Income



Housing



Sexual Risk



Mental Health

	Education	Employment	Income	Housing	Sexual Risk	Mental Health
Thriving	10					
	9					
Safe	8					
	7					
Stable	6					
	5					
Vulnerable	4					
	3					
In Crisis	2					
	1					

# Development of Outcomes Matrix

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- Adapted from Family Outcomes Matrix\*, Center for Applied Management Practices
- Applications
  - As a clinical tool to aid service delivery and encourage client growth
  - To measure client outcomes as a whole to inform program development and continuous quality improvement efforts



# Education

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- 10 Post-graduate degree OR In HS, GPA 3.5 = A or above
- 9
- 8
- 7
- 6
- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1 No school or 8<sup>th</sup> grade or less



# Employment

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**10** Full-time, work above min wage OR student who always receives enough support -- with benefits

**8**

**6**

**5**

**4**

**3**

**2**

**1** Unemployed and not looking for work; disabled without benefits; or illegal/unsafe employment OR student who rarely receives enough support -- without benefits





# Income

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- 10** >200% over the poverty line
- 8** 176%-200%
- 6** 126%-175%
- 4** 101%-125%
- 2** 51%-100%
- 1** 0%-50%



# Housing

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- 10 Own safe and secure non-subsidized housing
- 9
- 8
- 7
- 6
- 4
- 3 Temporary shelter or institution; Living with relatives, partner, or friends – if unstable/unsafe
- 2
- 1 Homeless



# Sexual Risk

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- 10 No sexual partners in the past 3 months OR Have one known partner and always use protection for penetrative and oral sex
- 9
- 8
- 7
- 6 Have unknown partner(s) and always use protection for penetrative and oral sex OR Unprotected sex with primary partner, after 2 consecutive negative HIV tests (or one STI if both are positive)
- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1 Multiple or unknown partner(s) and use condoms for penetrative sex “sometimes” or “never” OR Shared injection drug equipment



# Mental Health

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**10** Feel "very good" about MH, no symptoms (Q63, intake, Q53 reassessment), and no psychiatric hospitalizations in P3M

**9**

**8**

**7**

**6**

**5**

**4**

**3**

**2**

**1**

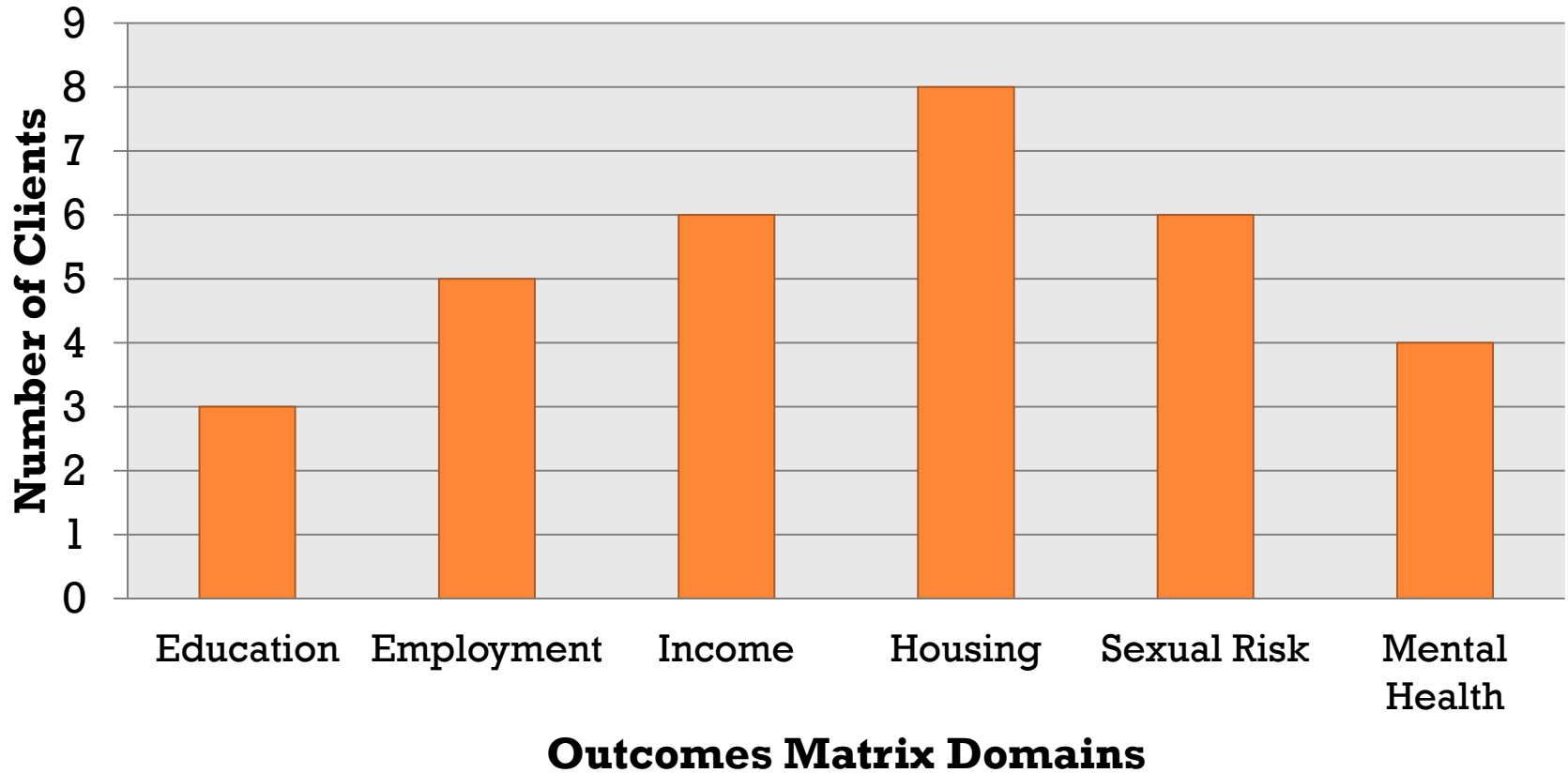
Suicidal or homicidal ideation in the past month OR Received psychiatric hospitalization in the past month OR Experienced hallucinations/mania in the past month (Q62 E/F) – not in or not adherent to treatment

# Steps to Implementation

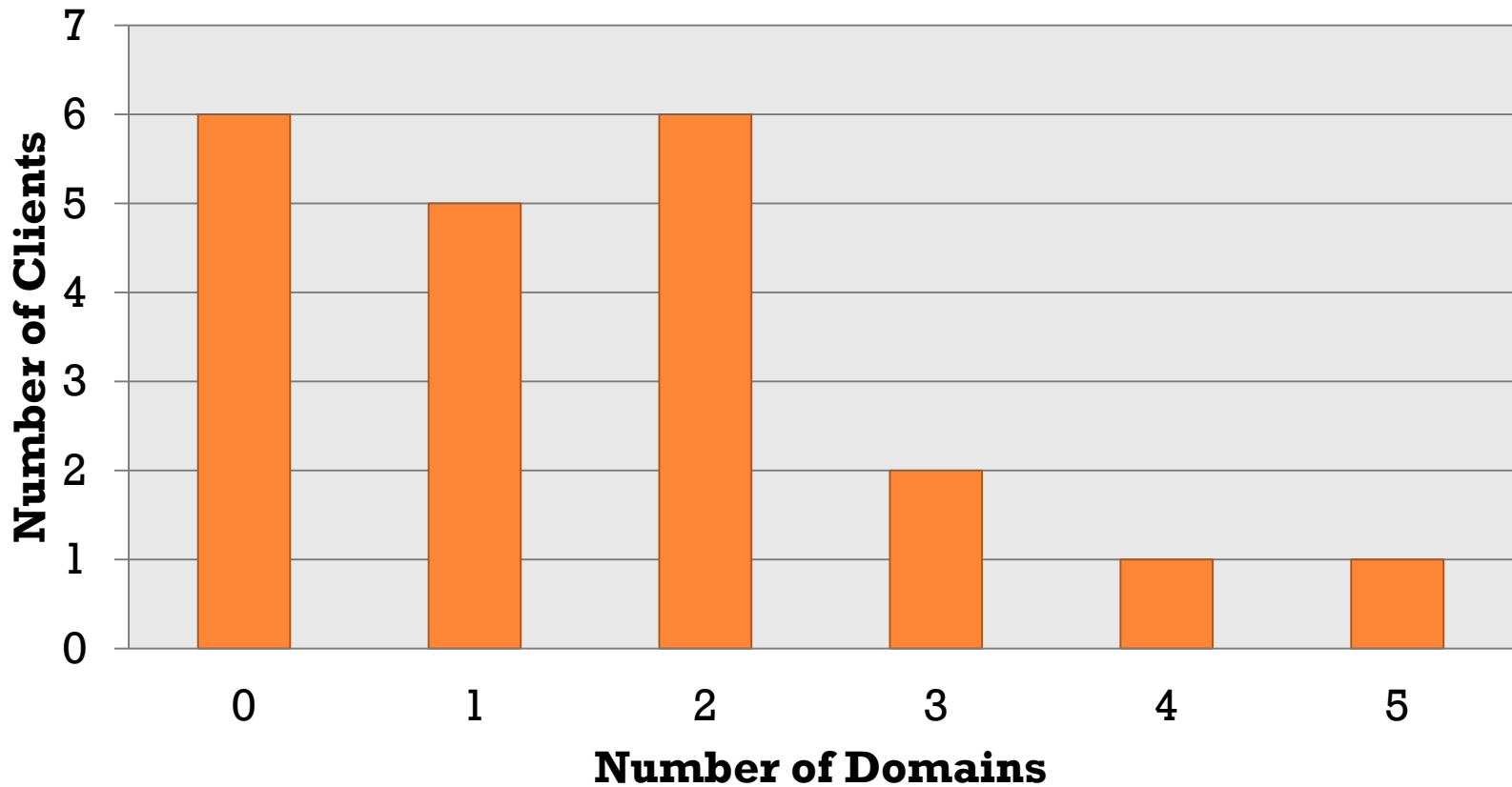
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- Ensuring benchmark definitions/values are true to life experiences of clients, while being easy for frontline staff to assess
- Staff feedback and buy-in
- Initial staff training
- Tracking matrix scores in client files
  - Reports
- Ensuring clinical connection and review

# Clients with Positive Benchmark Changes per Domain

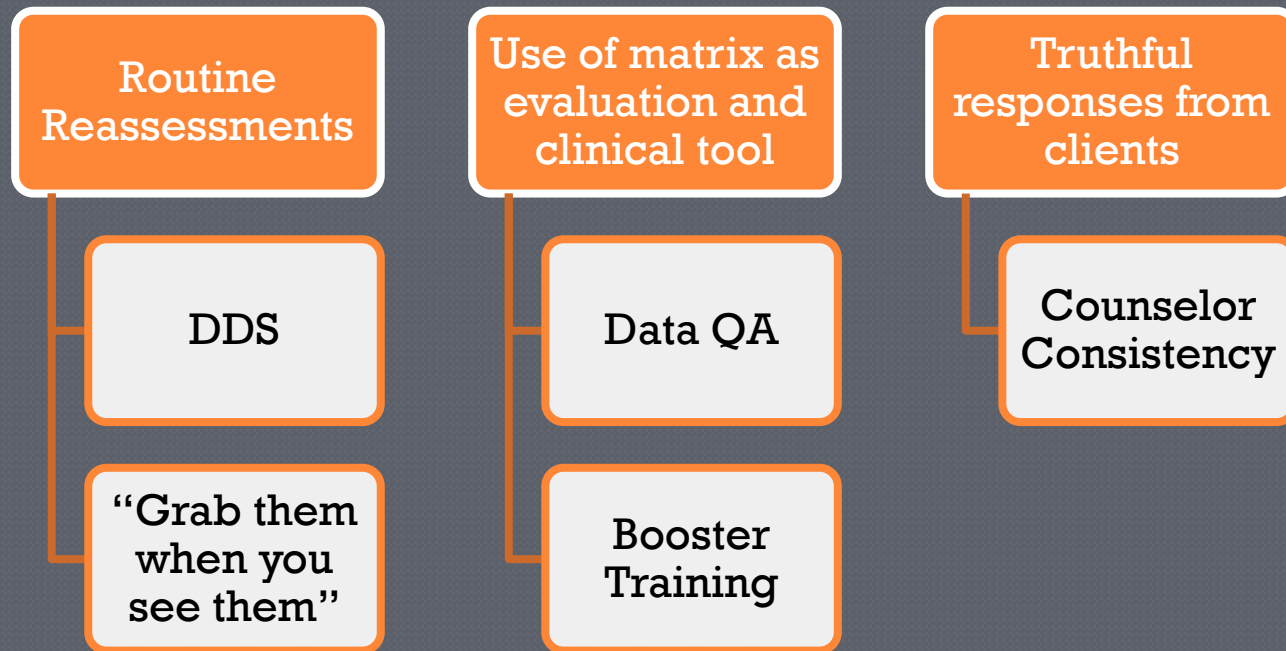


# Positive Benchmark Changes by Number of Domains



# Barriers

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# Acknowledgements

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## ○ Program Team

- Tamika Howell, MA, Sr. Director of Program Evaluation
- Sherry Estabrook, MA, Director of Program Evaluation
- Ben Parker, HOME Coordinator
- Trevoy Ross, Sr. Health Counselor

## ○ Funders

- New York State Department of Health
- New York City Department of Health
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

# Questions?

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