

Serving People Aging with HIV: Policy and Advocacy

The Greater Baltimore HIV Health Services
Planning Council

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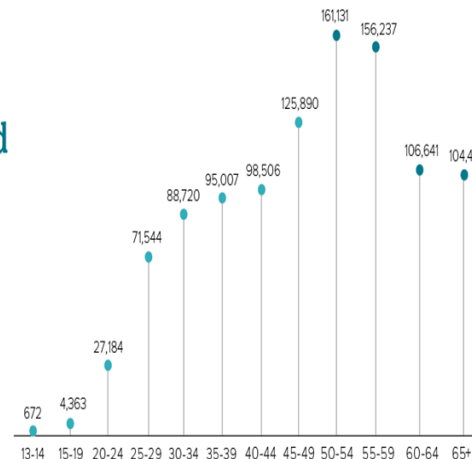
U.S People Living With HIV Caucus

People Aging with HIV

- In 2020, persons 50 years and older accounted for over 50% of all people living with HIV in the United States.
- The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP), projects that by 2030, 64% of people served will be 50 years or older.

Adults and Adolescents with Diagnosed HIV
in the US and Dependent Areas by Age, 2018

Over half of people with
diagnosed HIV were aged
50 and older.



Increased focus on HIV and aging over past four years

- We currently know a great deal about HIV & aging and about the needs of older adults living with HIV
- Policy papers and briefs
- Increased funding for HIV & aging: private and public
- Increased advocacy on HIV & aging and on behalf of older adults living with HIV and HIV long-term survivors

Much more needs to be done

- Difficulties in accessing and managing comprehensive and integrated health care
- Need for mental health programs and substance and alcohol use treatment programs
- Need for housing, food and nutrition, employment, and other socioeconomic support services
- Need for long-term care
- Need for programs that address loneliness and social isolation
- Need to dismantle stigma and discrimination

Federal response to HIV and aging



Objective 2.5: Expand capacity to provide **whole-person care to older adults with HIV and long-term survivors**

Federal response to HIV and aging: Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Fast Facts: Older Adult Clients

47.9%

OF ALL
RWHAP
CLIENTS
ARE AGED 50+



59.2%

LIVE AT
OR BELOW
100% of the
Federal Poverty Level



92.9%

ARE VIRALLY
SUPRESSED



3.6%

EXPERIENCE
UNSTABLE
HOUSING



Federal response to HIV and aging: Older Americans Act



...assures that preference will be given to providing services to older individuals with greatest economic need and older individuals with greatest social need with particular attention to low-income older individuals, including low-income minority older individuals, older individuals with limited English proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas.

Source: Edwin Walker, Dep. Assistant Secretary, Admin. On Aging, Dec. 2, 2021

Image source: [Older Americans Act \(nicoa.org\)](http://nicoa.org)

Federal response to HIV and aging: Older Americans Act

Administration for Community Living, Administration on Aging

- [New State Plan Guidance](#) issued August 2021
- Encouraged states to take a broad approach to ensuring services are reaching older adults in greatest social need in line with recent EOs by President Biden (e.g., LGBTQ+)
- **Requires states to include in future state plans how they are serving older adults living with HIV/AIDS**

Medicare

- Medicare is the second largest source of federal financing for the care and treatment of people with HIV
- The growing importance of Medicare for people aging with HIV
- Growing importance of coordination of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) with Medicare