

PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

HRSA Description (2-1-2016)

Psychosocial Support Services provide group or individual support and counseling services to assist eligible people living with HIV to address behavioral and physical health concerns.

These services may include:

- Bereavement counseling
- Caregiver/respite support (RWHAP Part D)
- Child abuse and neglect counseling
- HIV support groups
- Nutrition counseling provided by a non-registered dietitian (*see* Medical Nutrition Therapy Services)
- Pastoral care/counseling services

Key Service Component

Psychosocial services are a systematic provision of supportive interventions that enable people living with HIV to achieve optimal health outcomes. All counseling sessions should be structured and should support clients in achieving self-identified, attainable goals.

HIV support groups should follow a curriculum and may be facilitated by para-professionals and peers who receive training necessary to facilitate support groups. These individuals must receive supervision under a licensed mental health professional (e.g. LCSW-C, LCSW, LGSW, LCPC, LGPC, Psy D, etc.)

Funds under this service category may not be used to provide nutritional supplements (*See* Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals). Pastoral counseling must be available to all eligible clients regardless of their religious denominational affiliation. Funds may not be used for social/recreational activities or to pay for a client's gym membership.

Qualifications

Competencies, Knowledge and Skills	Evaluation/Documentation
Staff persons should demonstrate competency, knowledge and skills in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HIV counseling skills; and• Referral sources, particularly for HIV medical care and Medical Case Management	Demonstrated competencies, knowledge and skills must be available upon request (e.g. participation in training, formal supervisory review, direct observation, case review, etc.). Documentation of client goals and steps taken to achieve them